

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, June 16, is paper. Put appropriate items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Retreat ceremony set for June 14

In commemoration of the 224th birthday of the U.S. Army, the 143rd Ordnance Battalion will host the Edgewood Area Army Birthday Retreat Ceremony on June 14, 4:45 p.m. on McBride Field. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call Capt. Odessa Maxwell, 410-436-2236.

Russell Gym closing June 14

Russell Gym is going to be closed and renovated into office space starting Monday, June 14.

"The only 'gym' items left in the facility will be the racquetball and basketball courts, which will be used for special functions," said Marni Allison, APG sports director.

The equipment from Russell Gym eventually will be moved to APG Athletic Center, or new equipment will be purchased, following renovations at the center. Some areas of the gym will be used for storage, she added.

The squash court at the APG Athletic Center will be closed and renovated into a circuit weight training area sometime this summer. The project is estimated to run from late June and should be completed by early August.

"Squash courts are being converted into fitness areas at facilities throughout the Army. Squash is not as popular a sport as it once was," Allison said.

For more information about these projects or other sports issues, call the APG Sports Office at 410-278-4497.

Burger King to get new system

On June 14 the new Burger King Drive-Thru Speed of Service System will be installed. This requires the complete removal of the original 11-year-old system and installation with the new system. This will need trench

See SHORTS, page 2



Fact of the Week
For every ton of paper recycled, we can save 17 trees.

For more information on pollution prevention, call Michelle Guitard, 410-306-2265, of the APG Pollution Prevention Program.



Statistics provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of the Environment, Recycling Division.



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

D-Day and other military veterans and family members take a look at a display of historic military equipment following the ceremony to honor the veterans on the 55th anniversary of the D-Day Invasion of Normandy.

APG honors D-Day veterans

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

When you asked most of the veterans present at the Post Theater Sunday if they knew exactly what they were doing 55 years ago, their first question was, "What time is it now?"

The date June 6, 1944, the invasion of Normandy, has been etched not only in their memories, but in the annals of history as one of the most significant dates of humankind.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, noted that the veterans before him "changed the world."

He recalled visiting the battlefield at Normandy as a young lieutenant, and reflecting on the great sacrifices made there.

"I had a moment that I felt that I could never measure up to you," he said.

See D-DAY, page 14

Route 24 dedicated to Vietnam veterans

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

It was a day that brought back bittersweet memories of a tumultuous era. Tears, laughter and patriotic pride marked the event, attended by veterans, soldiers, survivors, civilians and dignitaries. They all came together Sunday to remember the 31 Harford County residents who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

After years of planning and months of labor, they dedicated the Vietnam Veterans Memorial highway sign in memory of those fallen service members.

The sun shone brightly on the crowd gathered at the Route 24 and Interstate 95 interchange on the Edgewood end of the road. Under the direction of Maj. Norman Boskind of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 588, the ceremony began with the placing of the colors by a large contingent of honor guards. Bearing U.S. flags and unit banners, members of VVA Chapters 588, 451

See VIETNAM, page 6



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

A contingent of honor guards prepare to place the colors during the Vietnam Veterans Memorial highway sign dedication ceremony. Honor guards participating in the ceremony came from Vietnam Veterans of America chapters 588, 451 and 722; American Legion Post 39; Korean War Veterans of Maryland; the Harford County Sheriff's Department; and the Maryland Transportation Authority.

Italians glean environmental lessons from U.S.

By Lori Davis
USAEC Public Affairs Office

Since the mid-1960s, the U.S. Defense Department has responded to an increasing number of environmental laws and regulations. Not only have the Army, Air Force and Navy increased their knowledge of environmental restoration, they have gleaned technical expertise in effective pollution prevention, land management, and conservation of natural and cultural resources.

As this awareness of sound environmental stewardship rises across the globe, many foreign militaries turn to the environmental successes of U.S. forces. From May 9-15, a delegation of 20 members of the Italian Ministry of Defense visited several U.S. mili-

tary installations and environmental organizations to take these lessons home and use them to build their own stewardship programs.

"Recent changes in Italian law require Italian Ministry of Defense operations to address [new] environmental criteria," said Air Force Maj. Gen. Eugene A. Lupia, deputy chief of staff for installations and logistics, Department of the Air Force. "As our Italian counterparts begin to face similar challenges, the U.S. military hopes to help pave their road to success."

To that end, the U.S. Army Environmental Center, APG Garrison Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, and U.S. Army Center for Health

Promotion and Preventive Medicine representatives explained their roles in environmental education and training to the Italian delegates May 13 at APG's Edgewood Area.

Following an introduction by Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, representatives from the three Army organizations discussed how their environmental, health and safety efforts contribute to the mission of the overall force.

After the overview, American and Italian representatives toured key environmental facilities to discuss technical issues. The Italian delegates learned about the

See VISIT, page 4

Winner of initial CA decision to visit APG today

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison employees will get their first chance to hear from the contractor that won the initial decision for the Installation Operations and Community/Family Activities Commercial Activities package, during work force briefings on Thursday, June 10.

The first briefing will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810; the second will be held at

1:30 p.m. at the Post Theater.

The information provided by Aberdeen Technical Services, a joint venture between DynCorp and Roy F. Weston, will be general pending the final contract decision following the appeal period, which ends June 24, said Tom Reth, program manager for DynCorp, who will manage the contract at APG.

"We will offer information about why we formed a joint venture, who our subcontractors are, our hiring philosophy and will

See CA, page 7

APG to celebrate Army birthday

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground will celebrate the Army's 224th birthday with a ceremony on June 11, 4-6 p.m., at Top of the Bay.

Hosted by APG Garrison, the speaker will be Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command.

A tribute to soldiers past and present will be held during the Streamer Ceremony and the Fallen Comrade Ceremony.

Doesburg and Command Sgt.

Maj. Carlos Estronza, SBCCOM and installation command sergeant major, will cut the Army's "birthday cake" with the youngest soldier present, signifying the Army's complete chain of command.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) will perform throughout the ceremony, and a reception will follow the event, which is open to the entire post community.

For details, call Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Kolker, 410-278-1509, or SSgt. Steven Burton, 410-278-5225.

Volunteer for summer concerts

If you want to listen to great music and help the post community, all at no cost, consider signing up as a volunteer.

Volunteers are needed for ticket sales, merchandise sales, gate workers, and food and beverage concessions, said Chris Lockhart, chief of Aberdeen Proving Ground's Information, Ticketing and Registration Office.

The volunteers can work at the July 17 concert with Lynyrd

See CONCERTS, page 4

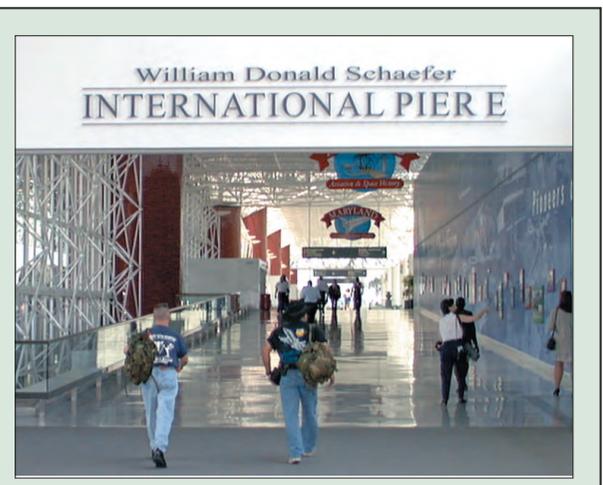


Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Gateway to the world

More than 200,000 military travelers per year pass through the international gateway at Baltimore-Washington International Airport. For story and details on "Space A" travel, see page 5.



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

John Wrobel, right, an environmental engineer with the APG Garrison Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, discusses Army restoration initiatives for former training sites with Italian Ministry of Defense delegates.

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

cutting of the drive-thru to pull the old equipment out and install the new. This will be an all-day process with the drive-thru closed except for lunchtime hours. The drive-thru will be closed again until about 5 p.m., when the work is scheduled to be completed.

Education Center offers counseling

The Edgewood Area Education Center is open for counseling on Tuesdays from noon-9 p.m., and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Testing services include CLEP, DSST, GT Predictor, GED and more, available Tuesdays, 4-8 p.m.

The Edgewood Area Army Learning Center has computers with Internet access and study material for the tests available to check out. Additional reference materials are available for myriad subject areas. The Learning Center is open Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; and Fridays, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Visit Dori Lawton, education counselor, and Chris Hollingshead, Learning Center monitor, in building E-4410. For information call the center at 410-436-2166.

Sheriff's office has job openings

The Army Community Service Career Focus Center is sponsoring an employer showcase on Thursday, June 24, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3325, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The event will feature the Harford County Sheriff's Department, which is recruiting for positions, including deputy sheriff recruit, correctional officer recruit, records clerk and temporary security guard. To register, call Del Roberts or Don DeGavio at the Career Focus Center, 410-278-9669.

Pediatric Clinic summer hours

The Pediatric Clinic will not have evening hours on Monday beginning in June. For more information, call SSgt. Michael Jackson, 410-278-1717/1777.

Garrison plans sports events

As in the past, there will be sports competitions held during the APG Garrison Organizational Day, which still is scheduled for June 30 at CAPA Field in the Edgewood Area. Competitions will be volleyball, softball, horseshoes, golf and a hole-in-one contest. For information or to register for events, contact Tommy Vincenti, co-ed volleyball, 410-306-1131; Ralph Cuomo, co-ed softball, 410-278-4056; Joe Sims, horseshoes, 410-278-4993; Gene Harris, golf, 410-436-2213; and Bob Silcox, hole-in-one contest, 410-278-5494. Entry deadline for softball, volleyball and golf is June 19.

Buy savings bonds throughout June

The post's U.S. Savings Bond Campaign will be held through June 30, and offers military and civilian personnel a chance to diversify their savings plan with government-backed bonds. Campaign coordinators met Tuesday and will be distributing information on how as little as \$5 can be deducted from your paycheck to purchase bonds. For more information about the campaign, or to find out who your representative is, call Vicki Singleton, APG's campaign coordinator, 410-278-0764.

Recruiters to visit APG July 12, 13

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command will send a "Recruit the Recruiter" team to APG July 12 and 13, with sessions at the Post Theater both days at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentations. The purpose is to brief NCOs about opportunities as recruiters, and to encourage qualified NCOs who have more than 12 months of time on station to volunteer for recruiting duty. All NCOs interested are encouraged to attend. Spouses also are welcome to attend. For more information, call (800) 223-3735, ext. 6-0234/0215, or DSN 536-0234/0215. The post point of contact is Sfc. Stanley Edwards, 410-278-ARMY.

Red Cross classes available in June

Teens looking for extra money this summer can attend a two-day Baby-sitting Class from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 5, and Saturday, June 12, in the Red Cross, building 2477. The class costs \$10 with an ID card, thanks to the APG Thrift Shops with their generous scholarships. Teens ages 13 and older are welcome. Upon completion, you will be certified as an American Red Cross baby-sitter. You must attend both days.

The APG American Red Cross will hold the next Community First Aid and Safety Course on Saturday, June 26, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., in building 2477. Upon completion you will be certified in first aid for

three years and community CPR for one year. You also will be eligible to be registered for the Instructor's Candidate Course. Cost is \$25.

For information on both classes, call 410-278-2087..

Apply for Officer Candidate School

Applications are being accepted for the next board and must be received by June 21 at U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Headquarters, ATTN: AMSTE-RP-P. This date is firm. Applicants will be scheduled to appear before the OCS board convened at Fort Meade. For details, call Barb Tarczynski, 410-278-1172, or Connie Garcia, 410-278-1175.

Aberdeen Library closed through June 20

The Harford County Public Library Aberdeen Branch is closed through June 20 for renovation. Materials checked out from the Aberdeen Branch and due back to the library between May 19 and June 20 will be exempt from fines and may be returned to any branch or to the Aberdeen Branch after June 20.

The library's Board of Trustees encourages library customers to visit the system's other eight branches while Aberdeen is closed. For more information and branch service hours, call 410-638-INFO.

Harford County Public Library's catalog, on-line databases and other information can be accessed from the library's Web site at www.harf.lib.md.us. Text only computer access to the Harford County Knowledge Network and the library's catalog may be reached by dialing 410-638-5669.

Community yard sale planned

The Community Life Mayoral Program will sponsor a community yard sale in housing areas in the Edgewood Area Saturday and Sunday, June 19 and 20. Participating housing areas include Lee Court, Mobile Home Park, Everette Road, Scully Road, Grant Court, Skippers Point, Clearview Drive and Austin Road.

Yard sales can be held weekends between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Signs announcing the sale may be erected in the vicinity the day of the sale; they should be placed on wooden stakes and placed in the ground. Residents must remove signs and police the area. Advertise for a sale on bulletin boards at the PX, Commissary, Shopette (contact manager for approval), or off-post publications.

Boating and water safety offered

Lawrence G. Kaye of the Red Cross Office is available to speak about boating and water safety to any military or civilian group at APG. For information or to schedule an appointment, call the Red Cross Office, 410-278-2087.

Red Cross needs volunteers

The Red Cross is still looking for a few good volunteers. A volunteer is needed at the Logistics Office at the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic to assist with property and at the main office of the Red Cross to assist with clerical duties. Youth volunteers will be needed soon to fill numerous positions on APG. For more information, call Carolyn Lerwill, 410-278-2087.

FEGLI Open Season runs until June 30

Materials for FEGLI Open Season, which started April 24 and continues through June 30, have been received in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center for distribution to activities. Information also is available at the Office of Personnel Management web site, www.opm.gov/insure/life/fegli99/index.htm. The 1999 FEGLI Open Enrollment brochure and form is available on the web site. FEGLI 99 Open Enrollment Period Election forms downloaded from this web site have four pages employees must complete. Completed forms should be submitted to: APG CPAC, ATTN: STEAP-CP-P/FEGLI OS, building 305, room B-15. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Get your TRICARE enrollment cards

Have you received your TRICARE Prime enrollment card? If not, contact the TRICARE Service Center at 1-888-999-5195 and speak to an enrollment representative. It is imperative that your DEERS be up-to-date with all your pertinent data. Any incorrect or missing information in DEERS may cause a delay in receiving your enrollment card. If you plan to enroll in TRICARE Prime or if this is a permanent change of station to Aberdeen Proving Ground, remember to stop at Military Personnel in building 305 and update your information. Correct information on DEERS will provide you with "has-sle free" TRICARE enrollment.

Toastmasters offers four county clubs

The HARCO Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at Giovanni's Restaurant, at 7 p.m. Giovanni's Restaurant is located on 2101 Pulaski Highway (Route 40), Edgewood. This is a world-wide program devoted exclusively to training in better speaking, listening, evaluating and leadership skills. For more information, call 410-272-5128 or 410-679-8453. Upcoming meetings will be held June 3 and 17.

Toastmasters International has four great clubs in Harford County. Harco's Toastmasters meets first and third Thursdays, 7 p.m. at Giovanni's Restaurant, 2101 Pulaski Highway (Route 40), Edgewood. For information, call Lauren Sheriff, 410-575-7648. Fallston Toastmasters meets second and fourth Tuesdays, 7:15 p.m. at Prudential Preferred Properties, 312 South Main Street, Bel Air. For information, call Mary Finegan, 410-879-1753. Gunpowder Toastmasters meets second and fourth Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. at The Gunpowder, Edgewood Area of APG. For information, call Paul Josephson, 410-436-1205 (work), or 410-539-0454 (home). Susquehanna Toastmasters, first and third Mondays, 11:45 a.m. at the Top of the Bay, building 30. For information, call Mary K. Peck, 410-278-4584 (work), or 410-658-5549 (home). For information on Toastmasters throughout Maryland and Delaware, call toll free: 1-888-TOAST18; or visit <http://www.erols.com/toastmas>.

Block leave set for band

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) will not be available for commitments from July 6-22 because of training and summer leave. For questions regarding scheduling, call Judy Michalski, 410-278-2711.

Pizza delivery offered in EA

Anthony's Pizza in the Edgewood Area delivers to homes and barracks on post (Edgewood Area only) Monday-Friday, 5-7 p.m. To place an order, call 410-671-6198.

Scouting offers disabled children adventures

The Baltimore Area Council Boy Scouts of America would like to offer new opportunities for children with disabilities and their families to get involved in the adventures of Scouting. Army Community Service is seeking interested families to see if such a group should be started on post. Scouting gives parents the opportunity to see their children grow and interact with other children while helping parents to create the capacity for their children's accomplishments. Children can develop a sense of teamwork and belonging through one of the greatest experiences of their lives. If you have a boy at least 7 years old or in first grade, or a girl who has completed eighth grade and is at least 14 years old, call Peggy Horne at ACS, 410-278-7474/7478

Free depression screening offered

Sheppard Pratt at Riverside offers free depression screening Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. No appointment is necessary. Sheppard Pratt at Riverside is located in Belcamp at 1250 Brass Mill Road, Suite E. For more information, call 410-272-6100.

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.

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 participates in the compressed work schedule, with every other Friday off. For more information call 410-306-2010.

AA meeting held at chapel

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

Give up nicotine

Nicotine Anonymous, a 12-step program to help you quit, 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.

Red Cross has toll-free number

The American Red Cross toll-free number for emergency communications is (877) 272-7337. For all non-emergency matters, continue

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.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the TECOM Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Aberdeen Proving Ground. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

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>.

STAFF

APG CommanderMaj. Gen. John C. Doesburg
Public Affairs OfficerGary A. Holloway
EditorKaren Jolley Drewen
Editorial assistantMarguerite Towson
Contract staff writersMeghan Heimbach
.....Yvonne Johnson
.....Sheila Little
Graphic design assistantDavid Mayor

CID UPDATE

Buyer beware: A 'great offer' can turn into a large expense

By Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jim Powlen
Criminal Investigation Command

It's that time of year again when the mail frauds start coming in force. The military – particularly lower enlisted and junior NCO's – are routinely targeted by these people, and here is how you recognize and avoid these frauds.

The initial solicitation will come by either telephone or mail. The company usually is based in Chicago and will use "Educators," "Educational," "Learning" or something to that effect in their company name. The solicitation will tell you that you have either won a premium or that "your pre-paid order is ready for delivery." It will have either a telephone number you are urged to call, or a postage paid card that you are urged to return.

The solicitation will stress that both husband and wife need to be present to claim the prize or merchandise. When you respond, you will be contacted, usually by phone, and invited to either attend a free dinner at a local restaurant, or to schedule a time when a company representative can deliver your prize in person. Again, you will be asked to ensure both husband and wife are present.

So far, none of this is much of a problem for anyone because they get some type of free gift and possibly a free meal out of it. It's what comes next that taps your wallet. When you meet with the representative, whether in your home or at a local hotel or restaurant, in a group or individually, you will be subjected to a

high-pressure sales pitch trying to sell you everything from a film processing club, wholesale buyers club, coupon service, or some type of educational system for your child. You will have to execute the contract on the spot to take advantage of the "deal."

The pitch will start with a large enrollment fee, \$200 to \$300, but by the end of the pitch, that fee will be waived for everyone signing up that night. Once the con men and women have separated the takers from the non-takers, the paperwork begins. You will be asked to fill out the contracts and either a Direct Deposit Form or an allotment for the "low monthly payment," usually about \$60.

Now here's the hook. You believe you are getting a payment plan for joining the club, what you are actually doing is executing a loan with another company, supposedly not affiliated with the folks who sold you this package. What happens is the package does not live up to its hype and you are left dissatisfied wanting to terminate your association and get your money back. The problem is, the loan company will tell you they don't know anything about the package, all they did was give you a signature loan, which they will say is a legally enforceable debt and they will aggressively pursue collection of the money. The easiest way to save yourself the grief is just say "NO" at the outset. Buyer beware.

Anyone with questions, or who feels they have been victimized is encouraged to notify the CID office at 410-278-5261.

FRIDAY JUNE 11 TAKE A TEST DRIVE

The Main Post Exchange, the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund and Plymouth/Dodge Dealers are teaming up for a special event today and June 12 at the PX parking lot. If you take a test drive in a new Plymouth/Dodge Neon on those dates, you will receive a \$5 gift certificate to be used at the PX. Plymouth/Dodge also will donate \$4 to the Army Youth Sports Program for every test drive taken. Everyone taking a Neon test drive will be given a free movie pass for the Post Theater and a free "Go Large" coupon from Burger King. She added that the offer will be repeated in the Edgewood Area on Aug. 27-28. For more information, call 410-272-6828.

COUNTRY DANCING

The Harford County County/Western Dance Association will hold country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, located in Parke Street in Aberdeen, from 7:30-11:30 p.m. No lessons will be given. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members. Price includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels.

MONDAY JUNE 14 RETREAT CEREMONY

In commemoration of the 224th birthday of the U.S. Army, the 143rd Ordnance Battalion will host the 229th Maryland Army Birthday Retreat Ceremony at 4:45 p.m. on McBride Field. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call Capt. Odessa Maxwell, 410-436-2236.

FLAG DAY

The 20th annual National Pause for the Pledge will be held at Fort McHenry in Baltimore at 6 p.m. This free event will feature a concert by the 229th Maryland Army National Guard Band, the Heart of Maryland Chorus, the Monumental City Ancient Fire and Drum Corps, and a flyover by A-10 jets of the Maryland Army National Guard. The Pause for the Pledge will be held at 7 p.m., followed by fireworks. For

more information, call Pat Perlake, 410-836-9295.

TUESDAY JUNE 15 CHUCK BAKER

The Chuck Baker Orchestra will perform at 7 p.m., at the Aberdeen Festival Park located on Howard Street, Aberdeen. In the event of rain, concert will be held at Aberdeen High School Auditorium. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Office at 410-939-6767.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 16 REAL LIFE 101

"Real Life 101: Your Summer Job and You" for teens and young adults will be held at 7 p.m., at the Bel Air Branch, Harford County Public Library. This program, presented by APG Federal Credit Union, will highlight money management as it pertains to teens and includes savings alternatives, checking account management, automated banking services, credit basics and investing. For information call the Bel Air Branch at 410-638-3151.

SATURDAY JUNE 19 SURPLUS SALE

The EA Thrift Shop will be open from 10 a.m.-noon for sales for patrons of the EA yard sale. Surplus yard sale items will be accepted for donation; no consignments will be taken. Consignments may be made up to one hour prior to closing on Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month.

BENEFIT CONCERT

The Aberdeen Chamber Orchestra will hold a summer benefit concert at 7 p.m. at the Havre de Grace High School Auditorium. The program will feature classical music, soloists, hymns, patriotic, gospel and popular music and "sing-along" selections. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children ages 12-18, \$3 for children under age 12. For details, call 410-272-5640.

PX CONCERT

The Main PX will feature the Baltimore-based jazz/funk group "Citilites" performing at the PX from noon-2 p.m. The group will have compact discs available for sale at the PX. For information, call 410-272-6828.

SATURDAY JUNE 26 COMMUNITY FIRST AID

The American Red Cross will hold a Community First Aid and CPR class from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at building 2477. Cost is \$25 and is payable by check to the American Red Cross. Students will be certified for three years in First Aid and one year in Community CPR. Call Carolyn Lerwill, 410-278-2087.

TUESDAY JUNE 29 HOW SWEET IT IS

The Sweet Adelines will perform at 7 p.m., at the Aberdeen Festival Park located on Howard Street, Aberdeen. In the event of rain, the concert will be held at the Aberdeen High School Auditorium. For details, call 410-939-6767.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 30 ORGANIZATION DAY

The 8th annual APG Garrison Organization Day will be held from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at CAPA Field. Games and entertainment will be provided for the whole family. For tickets, call 410-278-3000; cost is \$10 for adults, \$4 for children ages 6-12.

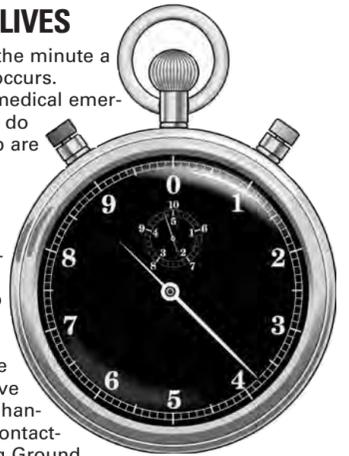
TUESDAY JULY 6 CHORUS CONCERT

The Harford Choral Society will perform at 7 p.m., at the Aberdeen Festival Park located on Howard Street, Aberdeen. In the event of rain, concert will be held at Aberdeen High School Auditorium. For information, call the Parks and Recreation Office at 410-939-6767.

SAFETY AWARENESS

SECONDS SAVES LIVES

The clock begins ticking the minute a serious illness or injury occurs. Seconds save lives in a medical emergency. Knowing what to do and how to turn to for help are life-saving decisions that paramedics, nurses, and physicians make every day. The fact is, seconds count the moment a serious illness or injury occurs. That's why it's so important for you to know what to do in case of an emergency because the fact is seconds do save lives. Learn more about handling an emergency by contacting the Aberdeen Proving Ground Division of Fire and Emergency Services at 410-306-0562



WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled on WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, from June 10-16:

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Mapping Ozone Air Pollution (10 min.)

MONDAY, JUNE 14

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

10 a.m., 7 p.m., Mapping Ozone Air Pollution (10 min.)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

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

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

MOVIES

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children

THE MATRIX

Friday, June 11, 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 12, 9 p.m.

Starring: Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne

In a universe run by computers, human beings are used as batteries, to provide bio-electrical energy to fuel the artificial intelligence known as the Matrix. The Matrix has created a virtual reality, to make its inhabitants think they are living happy, creative, productive lives. (Rated R)

ANALYZE THIS

Saturday, June 12, 7 p.m.

Starring: Billy Crystal, Robert De Niro

A New York mob boss is having anxiety attacks and secretly seeks out a psychologist for help. The therapist can't resist taking on this most challenging case. Ultimately, the two men offer unexpected help to each other. (Rated R)

LEAVE DONATION

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

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
Joan Bond (stroke);
John Boyle (surgery);
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Alberta Brown (mother ill);
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
Linda Brown (diabetic);
Melda Callendar;
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
William Edwards (back surgery);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Lilly "Kitty" Johnson (surgery);
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
Sharen Kaylor (eye surgery);
Jennifer Keetley (maternity);
Tracey Kerney (surgery);
Beverly King (caring for husband);
Sherrie Laury (heart problems);
Dolores "Dee" McGrogan (back problems);
Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);
Lesley Parker (daughter has seizures);
Cathleen (Higgins) Perry;
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery);
Michael Reynolds;
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
Sherry Schaffer;
Walter Taylor (auto accident);
Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
Joseph Walker (Wife has cancer)
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
Kenneth Weathers (medical);
Frank Winters (surgery).

MWR UPDATE

Aberdeen Area Health and Fitness Center

Kick Box Aerobics run each Wednesday from 5-6 p.m. at the AA Health and Fitness Center in building 320. This class will be a basic beginners class taught by a certified instructor. This is a great way to get in shape. The first class is free and all other classes are included in the price of a Fitness Pass. The center has step aerobics, toning and tae/step. This full-service facility has state-of-the-art equipment and personal training, and is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For details, call 410-278-9725/9759.

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park

Enjoy a day at the park! Try your skill in the batting cages; a variety of baseball pitching speeds range from Little League to Major League. Softball cages offer slow pitching in four cages and fast pitch in one cage. For golf fans, the park has an 18-Hole miniature golf course. Challenge a friend on the course to see who will have bragging rights at the end. For the race car driver in everyone, try the go-karts. Safety is the number-one priority. Drivers must 54 inches tall or taller. For those who are not tall enough we offer two seaters so the small ones can enjoy the fun. The cost is \$3 for five minutes. Batting cages cost 50 cents for one token, good for 12 balls. A round of golf costs \$3 per person, \$1 for age 5 and under. Look for the upcoming special for Fathers Day. Parents play for half off a round of golf, just \$1.50. The snack bar offers nachos, jumbo hot dogs, sodas, chips and sno-balls. The arcade room is open for the pinball and video fans. The park is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30-10 p.m., Friday, 5:30 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, 1 p.m.-midnight, and Sunday and holidays, 1-8 p.m. Times will change once the kids are out of school, and the park will open at 11 a.m. Monday-Friday. If you wish to schedule a party, office outing, or have a group, call 410-278-9920 for group rates.

Play bingo on post

The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center has bingo on Wednesdays starting at 7 p.m. There are six \$500 games and a progressive jackpot this week at 53# and \$2,300. Sunday has earlybirds at 2:30 p.m. and bingo starts at 3 p.m. There are eight \$500 games and a progressive jackpot at 50# and \$2,000. We had a lucky winner this week so it's time to start over. For more information, call 410-278-2621

Swimming Pools are open

Olympic Pool at building 3325 and Bayside Pool at building E-4656 are open. Monthly and seasonal pool passes are on sale at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, building 2407, and the Edgewood Area Health and Fitness Center, building E-4210. Shore Pool at building 2031 opens June 19. The daily fee is still \$3 per person; monthly individual passes cost \$25 and monthly family passes cost \$35. The season pass for individuals costs \$50, and the family season pass costs \$80. Lap swimming is available at Olympic and Bayside pools Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124, for details.

Swimming lesson registration

Registration for Pre-School Aquatics and Youth "Learn to Swim" swimming lessons continues for all eligible MWR personnel. Registration is conducted at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, building 2407, and the EA Health and Fitness Center, building E-4210. Lessons will be conducted July 12-23 at both the Shore and Bayside pools. Pre-School Aquatics are offered for children between ages 3-5, from 10-10:50 a.m. A parent or guardian will be required to accompany the child in the water during lessons. "Learn to Swim" lessons will be conducted from 9-9:50 a.m. for children ages 6 and older. The fee is \$20

per student. For details, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

APG Boat Docks open

The Aberdeen and Edgewood area boat docks are open for the season. Motor boats, rowboats, canoes, sailboats and wind-surfers are available for rent by the hour or by the day. The AA Boat Dock is located off Old Cut Road, building 2040; the EA Boat Dock is located on Skipper's Point Road in building E-1473. Both facilities are open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. For details, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

Hunter Safety Classes

Hunter Safety classes are scheduled for the Aberdeen Area in building 5445, room 213, the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Training Building:

Monday, June 21, 6 a.m.-10 p.m.;

Friday, June 25, 6 a.m.-10 p.m.;

Sunday, June 27, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.;

Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 21 and 22, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10, 6-10 p.m.;

Saturday, Sept. 11, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

In the Edgewood area classes will be given in building E-4733 (the Deer Station) as follows:

Monday, Aug. 23, 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 25, 6-9 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 27, 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 27, 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 29, 6-9 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 1, 6-9 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The cost of the class is \$5. Call 410-278-4124 to register.

Edgewood Arts & Crafts

Ceramic Class: A beginning ceramic class will be held June 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$7 plus supplies. The craft shop has more than 500 ceramic molds to pour and a wide selection of bisqueware, greenware, paints and brushes for sale.

Stained Glass Class: A beginning Stained Glass Class will be held Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Students will make a suncatcher using the copper foil method. This basic method teaches the skill you need to make larger projects. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

Framing Class: A beginning Matting and Framing class will be held Thursday, June 24, 5:30-9 p.m. Students must bring an 8x10-inch picture to frame. Cost is \$15 plus supplies. Students must register in advance as space is limited.

For information on classes call 410-436-2153 on Thursdays, 1-9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., or visit the center in building E-4440.

Equipment Resource Center

The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center offers 20x20-foot and 20x30-foot canopies and party tents, padded folding chairs, eight-foot rectangular folding tables, and new this year, 70-inch round folding tables, to help outfit graduation parties, weddings, receptions, family reunions or any outdoor function. Reserve your equipment now to ensure availability by paying the daily fee in advance. Active duty military and family members may reserve equipment up to 60 days in advance; all others may make reservations up to 30 days in advance. Fees are reasonable, and reservations are accepted over the telephone when paying by credit card. The center offers supergrills (trailed charcoal grills), ice chests in assorted sizes, insulated drink coolers, camping equipment, outdoor sports and games, canoes, kayaks and boats. The center has new camping tents, sleeping cots, internal frame backpacks, stoves, lanterns, camping chairs and more! Visit the center in building 2407 or call 410-278-4124 for details.

Johnston takes command of garrison's HST

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

APG Garrison formally recognized the passage of command of Headquarters Support Troops, U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground, from Maj. Earl J. Teeter to Maj. Clifton R. Johnston in a ceremony June 3 at Fanshaw Field.

As a brisk wind whipped the Color Guard's flags, Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, noted his sadness at losing a great officer, while celebrating Johnston's arrival.

In the ceremonial passage of command, Sgt. Maj. Sherry L. Smith passed the HST colors to Teeter, who then passed them to Spidel, symbolizing relinquishment of command. Spidel then passed the colors to Johnston, signifying the beginning of his command. Johnston completed the cycle by passing the colors back to Smith, signifying the Noncommissioned Officer Corps' "continual stewardship of the organization's mission and the welfare of its soldiers."

"Major Teeter commanded HST during, what I might add, was a very difficult period of transition," Spidel said, noting the smooth introduction of the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) during that time.

He also noted the transfer of the Salute Battery from HST to the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, a mission that would have been dropped had OC&S not been there to provide the service.

"It's a tribute to Earl and a tribute to the support we get from OC&S," Spidel said.

He also noted that Teeter rejuvenated the "Dining Out" tradition, and organized staff rides to Gettysburg and Antietam battlefields, calling him "a master at training" who understands the need to impress the lessons of the past on today's soldier.

"Those battlefields were significant because had either battle turned out differently, we would not be here today," Spidel said.

As Teeter, his wife, Catherine, and their sons, Sean, Kevin and Dennis, depart for the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y., Spidel said "APG's loss will be Fort Drum's gain."

Teeter, who received the Meritorious Service Medal for his service at APG, will deploy to Bosnia with his new unit in mid-July.

"I'm grateful for having had the privilege of being your commander for the past two years," Teeter said to the troops assembled on Fanshaw Field. "I thank you soldiers, for all you've done and continue to do to make the garrison run. Our mission accomplishment and any success I've enjoyed are because of you."

He thanked the many noncommissioned officers, soldiers, officers and civilian personnel who made his time here a success, including former APG Garrison commander, Col. Roslyn (Glantz) Trojan; current garrison commander Spidel; former APG commander Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Edward L. Andrews; current APG commander Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg; APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Kolker; and the employees in the garrison commander's office, including Pat Shires, Spidel's secretary.

He recognized Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jerry Stanridge and 1st Sgt. Enrique Alcaraz-Lopez of the 389th Army Band; Sfc. William Harrison, HST operations sergeant and "the best soldier I've ever met"; the headquarters section staff; his secretary, Inez Matthews; and the Headquarters Company first sergeants, Master Sgt. Richard Perry and 1st Sgt. Dennis Robinson.

He also thanked Pastor Wayne Uhlhorn for his "support, spiritual guidance and example."

Finally, he thanked his family, calling his three sons "the joys of my life" and thanking his wife, Cathy, for her "sacrifices to make our house a home."

"It's been a pleasure to work with all you Army professionals,"



Photo by RALPH BROTH

From left, outgoing Headquarters Support Troops Commander Maj. Earl J. Teeter, APG Garrison Commander Col. Robert J. Spidel and new HST Commander Maj. Clifton R. Johnston salute during the June 3 change of command ceremony.

he said. "Until we see each other again, God bless you all."

Johnston thanked all those who made the ceremony a success, and offered a "shameless plug" for a June 14 concert by the 389th Army Band at Havre de Grace's Lockhouse Museum.

His father, Bob, returned to APG for the first time since he attended school here from 1959-1960 to watch his son take command of HST.

Johnston and his wife, Vicki, have three children, Kimberly, Jessica and Nicholas. A native of Borger, Texas, he graduated from Southern Nazarene University in 1988 as a distinguished military graduate with a bachelor's degree in biology. He later received a master's degree in environmental science from the University of Oklahoma.

Upon graduation he received a regular Army commission as a second lieutenant in the Chemical Corps. His assignments have included: battalion chemical offi-

cer, 2nd Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion (PATRIOT) in Hanau, Germany; platoon leader and executive officer of the 555th Maintenance Company (PATRIOT); brigade chemical officer, 5th Infantry Division and 2nd Armored Division, DISCOM; commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 89th Military Police Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas; and a deployment to Cuba as part of Task Force 160.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Medal, the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Citation, Overseas Service Medal, Parachutist's Badge and the German Military Efficiency Badge in Bronze.

APG hosts Italian visitors, offers environmental ideas

VISIT, from front page

storage and controlled distribution of potentially hazardous materials at a "HAZMART" facility; land restoration practices in place at Edgewood Area's former weapons storage facilities such as the Lauderick Creek Area; and innovative technologies that use biological organisms to remove contaminants from two former training sites.

The Italian delegation, led by Maj. Gen. Valter Sini, chief of

logistics and infrastructure of the Italian Defense General Staff, was joined by Brig. Gen. Vittorio Colucci of the Italian Defense General Staff and team of Italian Army, Air Force and Navy technical experts. Their visit followed on the heels of a prior visit by Italy's Defense General Staff in April 1998 and reflects an ongoing international partnership to promote sound environmental stewardship.

As he toured environmental

facilities at the Edgewood Area, Sini explained the situation at home.

"In Italy, we are facing new challenges. We have military depots for containing ammunition and petrol and personnel who operate these processes, but we have limited units, not like here at Aberdeen Proving Ground," he said.

Although the Italian military differs from U.S. forces in its current management of environmental issues, the two nations face the same challenges: reducing costs and increasing community involvement.

"We're dismantling a lot of infrastructure because of increased maintenance and

increased control over costs," Sini said. "We are also taking into account that the civic community gives more attention to the environment [than before]. We understand the problems we have to face and solve."

"[Interaction] with the U.S. Department of Defense gives us technical support and advice. This visit is very interesting in this sense, since we can now define lines of guidance to build [Italian military] infrastructure and define priorities."

The Italian Defense Ministry will host U.S. Defense Department environmental experts during a reciprocal visit to Italy beginning June 12.

Volunteer to help at summer concerts scheduled on post

CONCERT, from front page

Skynyrd, The Marshall Tucker Band and Great Train Robbery, and the Aug. 21 Dog Days of Summer concert, featuring country music star Clay Walker with special guests David Ball, Chad Brock and Claudia Church.

"We had a lot of volunteers for last year's show, and we're hoping to get at least as many this year," said Lockhart, adding that a free appreciation party will be held for those who volunteer for the concerts.

Volunteers must be 18 years old, and must attend one training session on a date to be announced.

If you are interested in volunteering for ticket or merchandise sales, call Cheryl Roark at 410-278-4124/5789 or send an email to outdoor-rec@mwr.apg.army.mil.

If you are interested in volunteering for food and beverage concessions or working in the warehouse, call Chuck Hamilton at 410-278-4041/2084, or send an email to bowling@mwr.apg.army.mil.

Tickets for both shows are

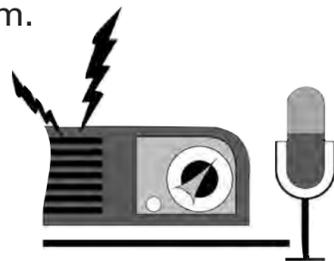
available at ITR weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. More than 6,200 Lynyrd Skynyrd tickets already have been sold at both ITR and through Ticketmaster as of Wednesday. The Lynyrd Skynyrd concert begins at 7 p.m.; gates open at 5 p.m. Tickets for the Dog Days of Summer Concert cost \$10; gates open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m.

For details on the concerts, call the ITR Office at 410-278-4011. Tickets also are available at the APG Bowling Center, 410-278-4041; Outdoor Recreation in building 2407, 410-278-4124; the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-2621; Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452; the Edgewood Area's Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140, 410-671-2713; and the Edgewood Area's Exton Golf Course, 410-436-2213. You also can purchase tickets through Ticketmaster; call 1-800-551-SEAT or 410-481-SEAT.

The concerts are general admission, lawn seating, no refunds, rain or shine. No food, coolers, recording devices, cameras or pets will be admitted.

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.



Traveling 'Space A' Flexibility needed for low-cost travel around the world

By Sheila Little
APG News

Half a dozen balloons highlighted the arrival gate at Baltimore-Washington International Airport's international gateway Monday, as Deanna Haskell waited for her son, his wife and their children to arrive from Turkey.

"We had a dress rehearsal yesterday," said Haskell, who also waited at the gate with her daughter, Michelle Pallotta, on Sunday.

Her son, Air Force Sgt. Shawn Garbraith, and his wife, Senior Airman Erin Garbraith, did not make a Space Available flight that day for their visit home with their sons, Caleb, 5, and the newest addition to their family, Andrew, 6 months, making his first trip to meet the stateside part of his family.

While flying "Space A" is one of the perks of military life, it's not a guarantee. And while it may take time to get a flight, on the long list of positives is a chance to travel around the world at little cost, improved customer service - and seeing your grandson for the first time, as Haskell did when the family arrived moments later.

That's just one of the hundreds of reunions that take place daily at the busy gateway, where the Air Force's Air Mobility Command has made its home since January 1998, after moving from Philadelphia. Providing outstanding customer service is a mission the AMC members take seriously, said Chief Master Sgt. Randy Finney, who heads the 14-member Air Force detachment that coordinates flights for military travel at the airport.

"We try to provide the highest quality service to our customers," Finney said. "We never want people to feel like it's not high-quality travel because it's military travel. Our mission is customer service."

They are spreading the word about that mission. In April, AMC's Air Force Tech. Sgt. Harvey Davis spoke to the Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club about who is eligible to take the flights, how to register and where you can go.

Davis, whose detachment reports to McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., arrived at the international gateway shortly after it opened 18 months ago. Describing the facility at BWI as "customer-oriented" and "user-friendly," he praised the design of the airport, remarking on the ease of the passenger and vehicular traffic patterns, and encouraged those eligible to use the new gateway.

"The BWI facility moves more aircraft and passengers than any other gateway in the U.S.," he said, with more than 200,000 military passengers passing through annually. AMC handles 99 percent of all Department of Defense travelers to and from the

European, Mediterranean and Southwest Asian theaters of operation.

He added that the aircraft using the facility are all commercial planes - 747's, DC-10's, and the DC-8 combination passenger/cargo carriers.

The difference with military flights, he said, is that while a commercial carrier may whisk patrons off for a week or two of vacation, AMC frequently helps personnel move overseas.

"You have people with a lot of bags, pets, children," he said. "There are different requirements, and they need lot of attention to detail."

Retired Army Col. John Moscato is an avid supporter of the AMC terminal at BWI. A veteran of "between 20 to 50 Space A flights," he has returned on a regularly scheduled commercial flight just once.

"I've been really spoiled by the people at BWI," he said. "They treat you wonderfully, and the airline service is comparable to or better than what you receive on commercial airlines."

The Potomac, Md., resident has flown out of the terminals in Philadelphia, Norfolk Naval Air Station, Va., McGuire AFB and Dover AFB, Del. He said he prefers the proximity, convenience, helpful personnel and commercial aircraft available at the Baltimore location.

"I do all my booking by fax," Moscato said, noting that he picks up a copy of the monthly schedule, which lists departures on one side and arrivals on the other, and calls 24 hours in advance to find out how many seats may be available.

He encouraged potential patrons to show up for flights that may appear full.

"At least 10 percent of those listed on the manifest are no-shows," he explained, adding that the secret to a successful Space A experience is "to hang loose and be flexible."

Moscato said that AMC flights often are more convenient because the flights generally are more direct, and can be expected to leave on time or even a bit early.

"They stick to their schedule," he said.

Moscato has had many years of experience flying Space A, and has visited Germany, England, Italy, Turkey, Iceland and the Azores courtesy of AMC. He also flies to Charleston, S.C., "about once a month" to visit friends.

"No country in the world has the commitment and resources that we have," said Moscato, speaking of the many locations available through Space A travel. "I'm pleased to have the privilege to see the world at such little cost."

When not flying the friendly skies, he is a graduate school instructor, teaching courses in leadership and organizational



Photos by DAVE MAYOR

Passengers walk through the international gateway at BWI Airport, where the Air Mobility Command serves thousands of DoD travelers each year.

behavior, and global strategic management for Johns Hopkins University.

Bel Air resident Cindy Van Prooyen, wife of retired Army Maj. Gen. Jan Van Prooyen, has taken several Space A flights, mostly from the West Coast and Europe.

"We flew Space A to Hawaii for our honeymoon," she said, calling the inexpensive flights "one of the best benefits" for those in the military.

Departing from Travis Air Force Base in California, she and her husband flew to Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia for their 10th wedding anniversary. While stationed in Germany, the family, which then numbered five, visited Greece, Crete and Turkey.

"Being flexible is the key," she said, adding that she is interested in trying the BWI gateway now that she and her husband have returned to the East Coast.

Davis reviewed the six categories of those eligible to use the facility, noting that those living in the United States generally are eligible under one of three categories.

Category I is an emergency leave category, open to active duty personnel and their families.

Category III covers active duty personnel and their families on ordinary leave.

Category VI is for retired service members and their dependents. Those in the Reserves and students of military programs such as the Reserve Officer's Training Corps also are eligible in this category with certain travel restrictions.

Categories II, IV, and V generally deal with U. S. citizens and government employees stationed overseas and their families.

Davis said a priority system determines who gets on a flight, based on the sponsor's category and the date and time of sign-up within the category. The sponsor and anyone traveling with him must physically be present at the pre-flight roll call to qualify to board.

Branch of service is not a consideration, and "rank does not determine priority," he added. "It is on a first-come, first-served basis."

Family members wishing to travel Space A must be accompanied by their sponsor.

Registration is done by the sponsor, who must be in a leave status at the time of sign-up. The sponsor may register in person, by facsimile transmission, via electronic mail or by regular mail. Interested passengers may remain on the roster for up to 60 days, or for the duration of their leave. Registrants are encouraged to list up to five destinations on their application, including "all" as the fifth choice, to increase their chance of becoming a Space A passenger.

Passengers are asked to be at the terminal at least two hours ahead of scheduled boarding time, and arrive with paperwork such as identification cards, immunization records, leave orders, and passports or visas to expedite the boarding process.

International destinations frequented from the BWI facility and popular with travelers include: Frankfurt, Germany; Mildenhall, England; Aviano, Italy; and Incirlik, Turkey. Lesser-known destinations include: Keflavik, Iceland; Thule, Greenland; and Lajes, Azores.

The BWI facility offers European destinations. Those

who wish to travel to the Pacific or South America should check with Dover Air Force Base or Andrews AFB for flight information.

Davis encouraged travelers to plan their travel from mid-January through the end of March, the "low period" where travelers get out faster and have better luck in securing their first destination choices.

"Be travel ready," he said, adding that staying in the terminal area after the passenger list is complete can be helpful for those who did not make the cut.

"Occasionally passengers will

decide not to board," he said, which frees up space for those who remain in the roll-call area.

Those who remain near the terminal are more likely to hear of unscheduled flights, considered especially helpful to those in a low-priority category.

"Be flexible," Davis said. "Prepare for delays, and have extra cash."

Qualifying for a particular flight, especially to popular destinations during peak travel times, can be difficult. He suggested interested parties have funds available to finance contingency plans, which may include additional food expenses, lodging, or commercial airfare.

Passengers are allowed to check two suitcases, neither of which can exceed 70 pounds or 62 linear inches, and hand-carry two bags.

Those leaving from the United States are charged \$12 tax per person per flight. Overseas Space A passengers using an international terminal pay an additional \$11 customs tax, bringing the cost of the return flight to \$23 per person.

Several books on Space A travel are available at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Published by Military Living, the books list the gateways, phone numbers, and a complete "how-to" guide.

A full-time United Services Organization (USO) lounge, based at BWI and staffed by volunteers, is opening adjacent to the AMC gateway this summer.

For details on eligibility, flights, and registration, call the AMC terminal at BWI, 410-918-6900, DSN 243-6900, or see the web site, <http://amcbwi.mcguire.af.mil>.



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Deanna Haskell of Ashburn, Va., greets her 6-month-old grandson, Andrew, for the first time, at the international arrivals terminal at BWI Airport. Haskell's son, Shawn, arrived in Baltimore with his wife and two sons aboard a Space Available flight from Turkey.

Home away from home

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

In the evening, before she goes home, Adrienne Schultz often wanders down to the new USO Center at BWI Airport. By then the workers are gone, although the paint smell lingers and plastic covers the floors.

For those who said construction of the new center would never happen, it is a miracle. For Schultz, director of the BWI USO Center, it's exactly what she hoped for.

The new center, located next to BWI's international gateway at Pier E, is likely to be "the best USO Center in the world." "This is one of the few airport centers that have been designed specifically to be a USO," she said, showing off the 5,000-square-foot center's amenities, which include a computer room, sleeping lounge, snack bar, movie area and even a nursery. "Usually, they're located in renovated areas."

It's a far cry from the old USO center, where the volunteer staff often did not have room to store bags for military personnel who were traveling. In fact, just

the storage area of the new center is the size of an old location for the entire USO office.

The center, which is handicap-accessible, was made possible by an in-kind donation of \$1 million for the design, construction and many new furnishings for the center. Theodore Mathison, executive director of the Maryland Aviation Administration, said BWI Airport "is delighted to be the site of such a first-rate USO facility."

"We know how important the services of the USO are to the more than 150,000 Air Mobility Command passengers who come through BWI," he said. "For many service personnel, the USO is their link to home."

Until the new center opens July 4, the all-volunteer staff is working in a room between Piers C and D on the upper level, a site that many think is one of the nicer locations.

"This is the best spot we've had in the 10 years I've been here," said volunteer Marian Ries, who said she has worked in five locations at the airport. But when a large group en route to Kuwait stopped by



Monday and asked to store bags, even that large room could not handle their needs.

At the new center, personnel will enter through glass doors, arriving at a reception desk where they can make phone calls and leave a return phone number so family or friends can contact them. A DSN line is in the works, Schultz said, one of the most-requested services at the center. A large storage area can accommodate hundreds of bags, to meet another one of the most requested needs of the military traveler. The snack bar will offer cafe-style seating for 32 people, and a television area will have a 72-inch projection television, a VCR, movies, seating for 24, and even a spot to plug in your

laptop computer and check your e-mail.

Not traveling with a computer? Step around the corner to the Technology Center, where three computer stations and a printer enables travelers to check out information on their destination.

"We have a lot of young military personnel who haven't traveled much," Schultz said, noting that one volunteer regularly gives impromptu "geography lessons" at the center, using maps on the wall. "We can answer a lot of the questions they have about where they're going."

Volunteers also offer flight scheduling information, research transportation options, help to find overnight accommodations and provide information about airport services and things to do in the local area.

"Some people may come in and have a three-day layover. They're looking for a place to stay and something to do," she said.

The new center even has a washer and dryer for those emergency laundry needs.

Military travel through BWI Airport will get much easier with July 4 opening of new USO Center

Both the men's and women's restrooms have baby-changing stations, and the nursery will have three cribs, toys, children's movies and a place for adults to sit.

"When children are unhappy, it affects everyone traveling," she said. "It's tough enough traveling with kids. Here, they can have a place to go and relax, play and have fun."

The center's design reflects the mission of the USO as it has changed since its inception in 1941 to meet the needs of the military.

"When the USO first opened, it catered mostly to young, single men, because that's who was in the military then," Schultz said. "Now, we know that military life is family life. We have to be prepared for people traveling with children, spouses, pets and their entire household."

The snack bar mainly will be stocked with simple-to-prepare foods and microwaveable items, and the eating area will offer enough room for those who want to bring in food for a "real meal."

And, just outside the center's entrance is an oversized elevator, to take the often

Vietnam Memorial dedication assures remembrance of the fallen

VIETNAM, from front page
and 722, American Legion Post 39, the Korean War Veterans of Maryland, the Harford County Sheriff's Department and the Maryland Transportation Authority, solemnly marched into place. They flanked the rear in a seemingly protective semi-circle, shielding them from the noise of the passing traffic.

Ken Tipton, pastor of the Oak Grove Baptist Church, led a moving prayer in which he asked blessings for those who died in the war, and gave thanks for all who were spared and for all those who were able to attend this "tribute to their comrades."

Maryland Del. Joanne Parrott invited all the delegates from Harford County to the stage to recognize Frank Stacey, president of VVA chapter 588, for helping to make the memorial a reality and for assisting in the establishment of a representative for veterans within the state legislature.

"As a result of his actions the Senate and the House have enacted a bill to make Veterans Affairs a part of the Glendening cabinet," Parrott said. "I offer my heartfelt congratulations to chapter 588."

Richard Marciniak, founder of 588, reminded the crowd that the memorial sign was just an idea when the chapter was formed nine years ago.

"I had an idea to form the chapter, but I never dreamed we'd really be standing here doing this nine years later," he said.

He choked back tears, adding that although it was an emotional day it also was a happy day for him to be extending this tribute with his family by his side.

Boskind explained that the memorial would not have happened without donated services from local citizens and financial support through donations and corporate sponsors.

"The construction collaboration between city, state, students, teachers and vendors was just unbelievable," he said.

Boskind thanked Don Fortney owner of The Sign Design, Inc., who supervised the artwork, and Harford Technical High School, whose masonry and horticultural classes created the foundation and landscaping.

He singled out Gary Siler, a member of chapter 588 and the bricklaying instructor at Harford Tech whose students did the stonework.

"As those students grow up they will remember they had something to do with those signs," Boskind said. "They will regard themselves as having had a piece of the rock."

Siler called the project "a learning process for all of us."

"We very rarely get a chance to do stonework in class, but now those kids have something perma-

nent and special to show their grandkids," he said.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was Col. Walter Mueller, commander of American Legion Post 39 and member of VVA chapter 588. Stacey introduced Mueller as a veteran who distinguished himself as a medical evacuation pilot who flew more than 590 missions in Vietnam. After leaving the Army in 1969, Mueller joined the Tennessee National Guard, then moved to Bel Air in 1973, and transferred to the Maryland National Guard, where he serves as the property and fiscal officer with the 29th Aviation Brigade, 29th Light Infantry Division.

In his speech, Mueller took the audience on an emotional journey through the last 24 years, citing

the many phases American society had to go through to accept Vietnam veterans.

"Back 24 years ago we did our duty, but the country wasn't ready to accept us," Mueller said.

To reach the phase of acceptance, the country first had to transition through "the patient years," Mueller said.

"That's when we learned about Agent Orange, Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, and that we lost more than the 58,000 on the wall," Mueller said.

America then moved through the "healing years," when Mueller said everyone healed emotionally, together.

"We were not welcomed as others before us because we came back as individuals," Mueller asserted. America learned, he added, because the next time troops were called out, they were welcomed back home.

"We, as a country, learned to honor those who fight for our country," Mueller said, fighting back tears. "We will never forget that."

He attributed the strides the country has taken toward honoring Vietnam veterans to the perseverance of the American fighting force.

"A team put this together," Mueller said. "From the city and state politicians to vendors, to the two ladies who cleaned graffiti off the monument, to everyone standing here today."

Mueller concluded by observing that it all means we share the same sense of pride in America and in the 58,000 who did not return.

"Duty, honor and country," Mueller declared. "We did our duty back then, now we appreciate those who fell for our country — the greatest on the Earth. As many scars as we may have, I don't think there's anyone out there who wouldn't do it again."

The crowd, many of whom were visibly touched by Mueller's words, gave him a standing ovation.



Col. Walter Mueller, commander of American Legion Post 39, delivers the address at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway dedication ceremony.

"I don't think there's anything I can say after that," Boskind said.

Ernie Fair, a local gospel and country artist and native of Harford County, thanked all the veterans present and commended "everyone who played a part" in the day's ceremony, before he delivered a stirring rendition of "God Bless the U.S.A." in a soft, melodious baritone that quivered with emotion, and that many people said left them with lumps in their throats.

The crowd stood while Marciniak read the names of the 31 Harford County residents who died in Vietnam, and the program concluded with the laying of wreaths by representatives of VVA chapters 588 and 722 and the Maryland Gold Star Mothers.

"May we go from here," Pastor Tipton concluded, "stronger and better because of those who came before us."

Guests mingled in the meadow beside the monument and reflected on the significance of the event. Parrott said it was moving to see the dream become a reality.

"It's been their goal for years to

have this section of Route 24 in Harford County designated as a memorial highway," Parrott said. "They remind us that it's important to remember those who fought in wars to keep our country great."

Guests at the ceremony included U.S. Rep. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., State Sens. Nancy Jacobs and J. Robert Hooper, and State Dels. Mary-Dulany James, B. Daniel Riley, Charles R. Boutin, Barry T. Glassman and Joanne S. Parrot. Representing the Maryland Veterans' Commission was Blair Cross, and Kathryn Manio represented the Gold Star Mothers. Harford County Sheriff Joseph P. Meadows was in attendance as well as Larry Harmel, chief of Maryland Transportation Police, and executive secretary Thomas Osborne from the Maryland Transportation Authority. From the Harford County Council were Michael Geppi and Susan Heselton, and Joe Kosie, director of Planning and Zoning for Harford County, and Col. Ron Eaton, director of safety and aviation for the Maryland Army National Guard.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Gary Siler stands next to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway sign. A bricklaying instructor at Harford Tech, Siler suggested his students do the stonework for the memorial.

Winner of initial decision in CA to visit APG Thursday

CA from front page

explain the right of first refusal process," Reth said. "We cannot answer questions, but I can tell them after we have a signed contract, we will welcome questions."

A retired Army colonel who has been in the public works business for 15 years, he said he understands the feelings of the garrison employees.

"When I was on active duty, we lost an outsourcing competition at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri," he said. "I know what they're going through, because I was in their position, with the work force leaving me and a contractor coming in."

He said that loss in 1987 was difficult, and "everybody was disappointed."

"That's to be expected," he said.

He added that he is looking forward to talking to the garrison work force.

"I think it's a great opportunity and I look forward to meeting and working with the people there," he said.

All APG Garrison employees are invited to attend the briefings. A sign language interpreter will be available at both briefings.

The Public Review Period for the Information Services CA package closed May 12 with one appeal submitted. The Appeals Board has rendered a decision regarding that appeal and has determined that the decision to retain the work in-house stands. A final decision will be announced pending the outcome of the protest period.

Questions about the CA process have been received through the CA Hotline. Recent questions and answers are:

Q: What authority, law, or regulation says that the government cannot appeal?

A: To be a valid appeal, a mistake affecting the outcome must have occurred. If at any time APG (as a government entity) uncovers a mistake of any kind we have the authority to correct it. Additionally the government, as an entity, is not an "interested party." DA 5-20, Commercial Activities Study Guide, paragraph 7-13, provides "interested

parties" the right to appeal. Para 7-13c defines interested parties as "employees of the activity under study, unions and other employee organizations representing affected federal employees, and interested contractors and non-DoD Intra-Government Support (IGS) providers. Any of these persons may review the study documentation and submit an appeal if they feel it is warranted."

Q: Was the 10 percent differential between the government's bid and the contractor's bid supposed to be based upon the in-house personnel cost or the total MEO cost?

A: The 10 percent differential between the government's bid and the contractor's bid was based on 10 percent of personnel costs (line 1 of the Cost Comparison form).

Q: Will non-appropriated fund (NAF) employees be eligible for VERA/VSIP? If not, what happens to those of us who have given APG 20-30 years of our life and are not ready to retire?

A: NAF employees are not eligible for VERA or VSIP. If NAF employees are separated and not ready to retire, they may participate in several programs and services which were discussed in recent work-force briefings. The Work Force Transition Plan offers free counseling services, assistance in resume preparation, a job fair in October, and the APG Career Focus Lab located in building 2752.

Q: If a VSIP is offered and an employee is away on leave or TDY, how will they be notified to ensure they have ample opportunity and not miss the cut off window?

A: Employees who plan to be absent from the worksite during the VSIP window should inform their supervisor in advance that they wish to apply for VSIP. As a backup, absentee employees may call the CA Hotline (410-278-9461) or visit the CA Update on our web page (www.apg.army.mil/ca.html) to find out if the window is open.

For CA updates go to the web page at www.apg.army.mil/ca.html, or call the CA Hotline at 410-278-9461.

New USO at BWI Airport to offer many features for military travelers

USO, from page 5

luggage-laden military traveler to the departure area.

"They really put a lot of thought into the new USO," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Harvey Davis, who works with the Air Mobility Command at the international gateway, located just a few steps from the center. "We work closely with the USO, and this new center definitely will make traveling more pleasant for our military travelers."

You never know what the next challenge will be, Schultz said. One military member called to ask for help for his wife, who was joining him at his duty station. Arriving with her were their 19-month-old twins, their 3-year-old, two large dogs, three car seats and "a mountain of luggage."

"We really worked to help her make her flight. Skycaps from the airport helped with the luggage, and she made her flight," Schultz said. "I don't know what they would have done without a USO here."

The center is useful not only for soldiers arriving at APG for training, but also for the annual EXODUS leave, when Advanced Individual Training students go on leave for the holidays in December.

"The new center is great, and we're going to need it this year," said SSgt. Ray Watson, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and

School's EXODUS coordinator.

About 1,200 AIT students left from BWI in an eight-hour period last year, starting in the early hours of the morning. With Carlson-Wagonlit Travel personnel traveling to the airport with the students, their mission is to get soldiers on flights as quickly as possible.

The USO helps by offering directions, food, support and even volunteers dressed as Santa, Schultz said.

The center is open seven days a week, and with the opening of the new facility hopes to expand its hours. Currently, the USO is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. That schedule is based on the availability of volunteers, and more always are welcome. Schultz said free parking at BWI is provided. Volunteers, who must be 18 years old, usually work four- to eight-hour shifts, as often as twice a week to perhaps once a month.

"We have a couple who travels down from Pennsylvania twice a month to volunteer," she said.

While the center is slated to open July 4, a grand opening is scheduled for later in the summer.

For more information about the center or if you are interested in volunteering, contact Schultz at 410-859-1117, or send an e-mail to usobwi@aol.com.

DoD's top research director to address high-performance computing workshop

An impressive slate of speakers led by Dr. Hans Mark, the Department of Defense's director for defense research and engineering, will visit Aberdeen Proving Ground to assist in a High Performance Computing Workshop June 28-July 1.

Mark will share his views on more effective applications of high performance computing. He will be joined by other national leaders in the computer and testing fields who will participate in the workshop. In addition to featured speakers, the agenda includes papers from HPC organizations, test centers, and ranges across national major range and test facility base.

Sponsors are working on this second annual workshop on HPC which will address real-time computer applications to solve urgent testing, analysis, and evaluation problems. The workshop is hosted by the International Test and Evaluation Association's (ITEA) Francis Scott Key Chapter in partnership with DoD's High Performance Computer Modernization Office, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation

Command and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

Organizers said last year's inaugural workshop established a vital link between the HPC community and the testers in the field. The success of the initial meeting prompted a follow-on session to continue expansion and utilization of information age technologies.

The site for the 1999 workshop will be the Richlin Ballroom/ Comfort Inn in Edgewood. Work sessions will feature papers on computer technology for signal and image processing, high-level architecture applied to distributed simulation for force modeling, data acquisition and smart instrumentation, and synthetic environments.

This year's theme, "High Performance Computing for Real Time Applications," is designed to bring the latest computer science to the user in the field. Army, Air Force and Navy users will describe their computer applications which are making the test and evaluation job more efficient and effective.

They also will have the opportunity to seek solutions to "real world" problems related to their test projects. Among these user agencies are the testers who require advanced computer technology to support "Virtual Proving Ground" methods.

The 1998 workshop brought together key people from the HPC and testing communities who shared ideas and laid the cornerstone for a bridge linking these communities. Appropriately, the logo for the workshop uses a suspension bridge (similar to the Susquehanna River bridge) with the sponsoring agencies linked around it. The '99 Workshop will further build and strengthen this bridge by stressing real-time high performance computing applications.

The formal program will be supported by one-day tutorials at Harford County's Higher Education and Applied Technology (HEAT) Center in Aberdeen.

For workshop information, contact Jeff Highland at TECOM, 410-278-1269 or visit the web site at: <http://vt-gate.apg.army.mil/itea>.

CHPPM sponsors special needs students for work experience

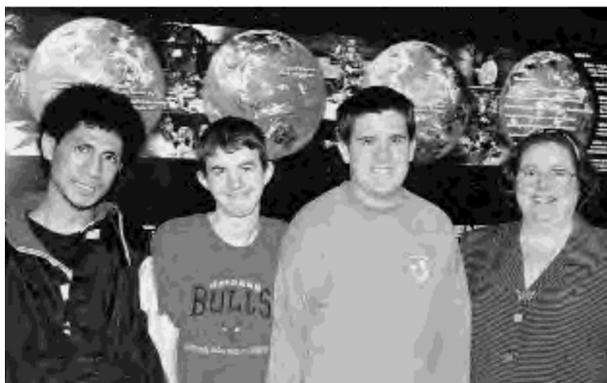


Photo by W. BEN BUNGER III

From left, Brad Shiffett, Andrew Strain and Greg Bageant pose for a photo with their instructional assistant, Gail Kuester.

By Laura L. Ryan
USACHPPM Public Affairs Office

Every Wednesday from April 2 through June 2, Brad Shiffett, Andrew Strain, and Greg Bageant worked at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine through a special work experience program.

Sponsored by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Disability Program and CHPPM Disability Coordinator Shirley Macon, special education students from Fallston High School are getting on-the-job experience through Harford County's Work Experience Program for Students with Special Needs.

"CHPPM personnel have reached out to these boys and, as a result, have gone away with smiles on their faces, being touched by the experience."

— CHPPM Disability Coordinator Shirley Macon

"The experience has been good, and we are doing some pretty fun stuff," Greg said.

"It's an opportunity to get some experience that might lead to a job," said Andrew. "Hopefully leading to a professional job," agreed Brad.

The boys work on Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. They have worked in several USACHPPM buildings, copying or shredding documents and assembling tick testing kits.

"These guys were a big help," said Ellen Stromdahl of the

Entomological Sciences Program. "They have great attitudes. They got right to work and produced more than 750 vials and 250 envelopes on their first day."

Gail Kuester, an instruction assistant at Fallston, accompanies the boys and supervises them while they work.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to be here and we appreciate the experience," she said.

"Reaching out and helping others actually helps us," Macon said. "CHPPM personnel have reached out to these boys and, as a result, have gone away with smiles on their faces, being touched by the experience."

CHPPM participates in laser safety conference

By Stephen DiDomenico
CHPPM Laser/Optical Radiation Program

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine is helping to ensure the safety of American troops by spreading the word about laser safety. To meet that goal, members of CHPPM's Laser/Optical Radiation Program participated in the 1999 International Laser Safety Conference Orlando, Fla., in March.

The Laser Institute of America sponsored the conference, held every two years to assemble representatives from foreign governments, nations, standards committees, industries and educational institutions to exchange information on recent developments in the laser safety field.

The conference covers the broad spectrum of laser safety issues, ranging from evolutions in the knowledge of the biophysical interactions of laser radiation with tissue; implications of physiological and behavioral factors; the current thinking in the standards world; and the application of protective measures in the medical,

industrial, educational, business and home environments.

The LORP contributed substantially to the success of the conference. Dr. David Sliney, James Franks, Wesley Marshall and Jeffrey Pfoutz presented lectures. Stephen DiDomenico set up the display and led LORP in promoting CHPPM's services and capabilities. LORP's informational fact sheets on laser safety and non-ionizing radiation protection were very popular.

Other LORP personnel also participated in the conference.

"I cannot emphasize enough the importance of participating in events like these," said Stephen L. Kistner, deputy for technical services. "This is the path toward scientific and technological excellence. At the foundation of this process is the step-by-step exchange and collaboration of information from international experts. Every major scientific development usually begins with another's work that evolves until a breakthrough or major advancement emerges."



Photo by STEPHEN DIDOMENICO

Capt. Francis Hoin examines a laser rangefinder which is Yugoslavian-made, Iraqi-used and U.S.-captured.

He noted that the program continually contributes to state-of-the-art issues in the laser/optical field.

"It is my opinion that the LORP is at the cutting edge of becoming a worldwide center of expertise within their professional discipline," he said. "This type of initiative epitomizes the scientific

leadership role that this organization needs to support into the 21st century."

While the laser rangefinder is an important battlefield tool, personnel can and have been injured by laser rangefinders. The LORP is consulted to educate personnel on laser safety and to minimize the risk of injury.

Staff sergeant promotion initiative gets 'green light'

By Gerry J. Gilmore
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (May 28, 1999) - More sergeants will sew on staff sergeant's chevrons thanks to a personnel policy change signed May 27 by Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera.

Under the new policy, effective June 1, qualified sergeants can be conditionally promoted to staff sergeant without first graduating from the Basic Noncommissioned Officers' Course, said Sgt. Maj. William T. Hursh, the enlisted promotions sergeant major in the Pentagon's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

"This policy change should result in 1,400 additional staff sergeant promotions on June 1; those promotions will represent soldiers whose promotions were delayed previously [because they hadn't yet attended BNCOC]," said Hursh.

Hursh said about 2,200 soldiers now will receive promotions to staff sergeant effective June 1. Those promotions, he said, include 800 soldiers who had already attended BNCOC.

However, sergeants who are conditionally promoted to staff sergeant will still need to graduate from BNCOC, or lose their "rockers," said Hursh.

"The promotions are contingent upon soldiers completing BNCOC within one year or as scheduled by PERSCOM (U.S. Total Army Personnel Command)," he said.

Under previous policy, said Hursh, sergeants had to complete BNCOC prior to promotion to staff sergeant.

The new policy is part of Army initiatives to obtain more NCOs, said Hursh, who noted the Army needs more sergeants and NCOs at all grades to replace departing soldiers on a "one-for-one" basis in a post-drawdown, steady-state Army.

SPORTS

Intramural Softball League starts season

The following results were reported in the Intramural Softball League for the week ending June 4:

American Division

Results

June 2
HHC 16th, 18; HHC 61st, 1
NCOA, 10; HST, 4
KUSAHC, 10; HHC 143rd, 7

Standings

NCOA1-0
HHC 16th1-0
KUSAHC1-0
HHC 61st0-1
HST0-1
HHC 143rd0-1

Schedule

June 14

6 p.m., KUSAHC vs. HHC 16th
7 p.m., NCOA vs. HHC 61st
8 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. HST

June 16

6 p.m., HHC 61st vs. HHC 143rd
7 p.m., HHC 16th vs. . . .NCOA
8 p.m., HST vs. KUSAHC

National Division

Results

June 3

B Co. 143rd, 11; A Co. 143rd, 9
E Co. 16th, 21; CHPPM, 1
SBCCOM, 11; USAF, 0
USMC, 27; B Co. 16th, 10

Standings

B Co 143rd1-0
E Co 16th1-0
USMC1-0
SBCCOM1-0
CHPPM0-1
A Co 143rd0-1
B Co 16th0-1
USAF0-1

Schedule

June 10

6:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd vs. USMC
6:30 p.m., E Co. 16th vs. B Co
16th
7:30 p.m., SBCCOM vs. CHPPM
7:30 p.m., USAF vs. B Co. 143rd

June 15

6:30 p.m., SBCCOM vs. B Co
143rd
6:30 p.m., USAF vs. CHPPM
7:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd vs. B Co.
16th
7:30 p.m., USMC vs. E Co. 16th

June 17

6:30 p.m., CHPPM vs. A Co. 143rd
6:30 p.m., USMC vs. USAF
7:30 p.m., B Co. 16th vs. E Co.
16th
7:30 p.m., SBCCOM vs. B Co.
16th

SPORTS SHORTS

Intramural Track Meet postponed

The Intramural Track Meet scheduled for June 26 has been postponed; the date will be announced soon. For information on this schedule change, contact Earlene Allen at 410-278-7934.

Golf tournament format changed

The APG Military Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday only, June 12, and the format has been changed from 36 to 18 holes. This tournament is for active duty military only. Register by Thursday, June 10. Handicaps must be reported at registration. For information, contact Harold Smith at 410-436-3375 or Marc Williams at 410-278-9452.

Tennis tourney starts next week

The Intramural Tennis Tournament will be held June 14-24 in both the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas. Play will be held in the Men's Open, Men's Senior (34-39), Men's Masters (40 and over) and a Women's Open categories. Active duty military who are interested in playing in this tournament need to register at their area gymnasium by close of business Thursday, June 10.

Civilian can compete in tennis

The Intramural Sports Office is sponsoring an open tennis tournament in conjunction with the Intramural Tennis Tournament June 14-24, for all family members of active duty military, retirees and their family members, and civilian employees of APG who are age 18 or older. The intramural winners and the open winners will compete for the Post Tennis Championship on June 30. For more information, contact your area gymnasium or the Intramural Sports Office at 410-278-7933. Register at any MWR gymnasium by close of business Thursday, June 10.

Play for post teams

Any active duty soldier interested in playing on the post volleyball or softball team should call Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

Intramural Golf League teams continue play

The following results were reported in the Intramural Golf League for the week ending June 3:

American Division

Results

CHPPM defeated USAF
USMC #1 defeated HHC 143rd

Standings

CHPPM3-0
USMC #12-0
203rd #12-0
HHC 16th #11-0
KUSAHC #11-1
HHC 143rd1-2
E Co 16th #10-2
NCOA #10-2
USAF0-3

Schedule

June 10

NCOA #1 vs. E Co 16th
USAF vs. HHC 143rd
203rd #1 vs. HHC 16th #1
USMC #1 vs. KUSAHC #1

National Division

Results

KUSAHC #2 defeated NCOA #2
USMC #2 defeated HHC 16th #3
HHC 16th #2 defeated E Co 16th
#2
NCOA #2 vs. E Co 16th #1
rescheduled

Standings

KUSAHC #23-0
USMC #22-0-1
HHC 16th #21-1-1
E Co 16th #21-1-1
203rd #21-1-1
HHC 16th #31-1-1
A Co 16th0-2
NCOA #20-3

Schedule

June 10

A Co 16th vs. HHC 16th #3
203rd #2 vs. HHC 16th #2
NCOA #2 vs. USMC #2
E Co 16th #2 vs. KUSAHC #2

\$300.00 REWARD

Information is sought by the Aberdeen Proving Ground CID, pertaining to the theft of twelve pieces of sheet metal, property of the U.S. Government, valued at \$3,012.00. Between 24 Nov 98 and 7 Jan 99, person(s) unknown entered Building 347, APG, MD, and stole 12 sheets of copper, brass and aluminum sheet metal.

A \$300.00 reward is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator(s) responsible for the theft.

Anyone having information pertaining to this incident, please contact the Aberdeen Proving Ground CID Office at (410) 278-5261/63, DSN 298-5261/63 or the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Department at (410) 306-0565/64 or (on post dial) 4-0565/64. All information will be handled confidentially.

Reward authorization is IAW 195-4 (3-20). Termination of this reward will be 17 Jul 99.

ITR has Orioles tickets

Baltimore Orioles Baseball tickets are still available at the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office for the following games:

Date	Cost	Purchase by
July 7, 7:35 p.m. Section 75 Lower Box (Toronto)	\$20	June 15
July 16, 7:35 p.m. Section 75 Lower Box (Montreal)	\$20	June 15
July 18, 8:05 p.m. Section 75 Lower Reserve (New York Mets)	\$15	June 15
July 24, 4:05 p.m. Section 79 Lower Reserve (Anaheim)	\$15	June 15
Aug. 5, 7:35 p.m. Section 75 LF Lower Box (Detroit)	\$20	July 13
Aug. 21, 7:05 p.m. Section 83 Lower Reserve (Chicago)	\$15	July 27
Aug. 31, 7:35 p.m. Section 354 Upper Reserve (Tampa)	\$15	July 27
Sept. 10, 7:05 p.m. Section 79 Lower Reserve (Seattle)	\$15	Aug. 3
Sept. 15, 7:05 p.m. Section 322 Upper Reserve (Oakland)	\$10	Aug. 17
Sept. 28, 7:05 p.m. Section 79 Lower Reserve (New York)	\$15	Aug. 24
Oct. 1, 7:05 p.m. Section 79 Lower Reserve (Boston)	\$15	Aug. 24

Call the Orioles to check game times and rain-out information at 410-685-9800. For details about tickets, call the ITR Office at 410-278-4011.

APG honors those who defended freedom in WWII

As Brig. Gen. H. Steven Blum, soon to be commander of the 29th Infantry Division, looked out at the faces in the audience, his predecessors in the division, he told them, "you make me feel humble every time I'm around you."

"This is a bittersweet day," he said. "Bitter, because of the tremendous sacrifices the 29th made.... The sweet part is going to events like today."

He noted that ceremonies like this were occurring "all around the state and all around the country."

"I'm very glad that General Doesburg and Aberdeen Proving Ground are taking time to honor these great Americans," Blum said.

The 1 p.m. ceremony honored the members of the 29th Infantry Division, a National Guard unit made up of Maryland and Virginia residents. The division, in existence since 1917 except for a 17-year hiatus from 1968-1985, is known as the "Blue and Gray Division" because its component units originally were drawn from regiments that had fought against one another during the Civil War. During World War II, Maryland and Virginia natives traveled to England and were joined by troops from around the nation to prepare for the massive invasion "Operation Overlord," now known to most Americans simply as "D-Day."

The 29th landed on Omaha Beach on June 6, under the merciless fire of German troops positioned on the bluffs above. Despite taking numerous casualties, the 29th was part of the force that captured the beach and pushed into France, ultimately leading to Germany's surrender on May 7, 1945.

On Sunday, those who survived remembered their comrades who did not, and recalled the confusion, horror and even the humorous moments of that day.

APG Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James E. May, who was lauded for organizing the event, noted that he was "deeply moved, tremendously thrilled and blessed" to be in the presence of the veterans. After the ceremony, May said he thought both the ceremony and the earlier chapel service at the Aberdeen Area Post Theater "were a very fitting tribute to the veterans, and especially the 29th Infantry Division."

The event featured musical selections by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), with the APG Protestant Choir singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and Chaplain John Murdoch performing "America the Beautiful."

Chaplain (Col.) Paul Grant, state area command chaplain for the Maryland National Guard and pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Aberdeen, noted that he

still recalls his service with the 29th.

"The spirit of the 29th still is with me and will always be with me," he said.

He, too, visited the graveyards of fallen veterans as a young officer, recalling the 9,386 headstones on Omaha Beach.

"As we remember the invasion that was certainly the beginning of the end of ethnic cleansing at its fullest, we say 'Thanks be to God' that you were there," he said.

The ceremony ended with the 389th performing tunes familiar to the veterans - "Dog Face Soldier," "Old Soldiers" and "Auld Lang Syne" - and the Armed Forces Medley of the services' songs. Spc. Ryan Kenny ended the ceremony by playing "Taps," bringing tears to the eyes of many of those present.

It was a day to remember lost loved ones. Warrant G. Sody parachuted into the battle. On June 14, he heard from a friend that his brother, Lt. John Sody, was fine. He wrote to his mother that day and passed on that information; later that day, his brother was killed.

"I didn't know about it until



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

John Heins and Nancy Mason join friends and veterans as they enjoy the music of the D-Day ceremony held at the Post Theater Sunday.

September. She didn't want to tell me," he said.

His corporal was killed right next to him, he added.

It also was a day to meet new friends. James Lockhart, who

retired as APG's commissary officer in 1987, discovered at a dinner for the veterans Saturday night that the man sitting next to him, John Heins, was wounded at about the same time and they

recuperated in the same hospital together. The two had never met.

"I was the first one off the LCI in the second wave," Lockhart recalled of the landing at Normandy. "The beach was littered with wounded when I arrived."

Despite the devastation, he said their mission remained at the front of his mind.

"If you didn't do what you were supposed to do, the next guy couldn't do his job," he said. "We got through okay."

Now a resident of North East, Md., he lives with his wife, Jessie, whom he met at that hospital in England. His wife recalled how the hospital "was overrun" by wounded soldiers.

"We had to find somewhere else to go for medical treatment," she said.

They married and she returned to the United States with him. Their daughter, Christina, is chief of the APG Leisure Travel Center.

Heins, who attended with friend Nancy Mason, recalled exactly what he was thinking 55 years ago - "I was wishing I was anywhere but where I was," he said with a laugh.

The Havre de Grace native,

who now lives in Media, Pa., said he finds the movie "Saving Private Ryan" particularly distasteful.

"If they could have seen what we saw on that beach, they would think differently," he said of what he considers the commercialization of the invasion. "I wouldn't take a million dollars to miss what I experienced. But I wouldn't pay 15 cents to make the trip over again."

After the ceremony, the veterans and their families looked at military equipment from the era, provided from a private collection.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," said Todd Ross, a military historian and author, who brought many of his personal items for the display.

The participants also listened to more music performed by the 389th Army Band, and enjoyed refreshments provided courtesy of the APG Commissary, Burger King, Dunkin Donuts and Pepsi.

The food and drinks were served by members of the Military Youth Corps Challenge Program, a training program for high-school age teens run by the National Guard.