

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, March 24, is paper. Put appropriate items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Town Hall Meeting set for April 6

The Town Hall Meeting will be held April 6, 10:30 a.m.-noon, AA Recreation Center. Col. Robert Spidel, APG Garrison commander, and his staff will answer questions. All APG military, civilians, retirees and family members are invited to share ideas or offer suggestions on how to improve quality of life at APG. For more information, call 410-278-5469.

### RAB meeting set for Thursday

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting March 25, 7-9:45, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topics will be the J-Field and Carroll Island Study Areas. Meetings are open to the public. For details, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

### Everyone can learn self-defense

The APG Committee for the disabled will sponsor a self-defense demonstration March 25, 3 p.m., Top of the Bay, by martial arts instructor David T. Bish. He will address the best ways to avoid dangerous situations and techniques to protect yourself, whether you are disabled or non-disabled. The program is open to all civilians and military.

### Lady Bombers win; next game Sunday

The Lady Bombers post-level basketball team defeated the McGuire Air Force Base Ladies team on March 14, 61-38. In addition to this game, three of the Lady Bombers were selected to play on the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference Women's All Star Team. The team played one game against the All Army Team on Friday at Fort Meade. The All Stars lost the game, but the three ladies represented APG well. Sara Chatman scored 20 points and Tara Mattison and Tawana Perkins added six each.

The Bombers play this weekend at home against Fort Myer on Sunday, 1 p.m., at the APG Athletic Center.

### Workshop helps with transition

The next Transition Workshop for ETS and retiring military personnel will be held April 6-8, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day, in building 2752, conference room 212. To register, call Don DelGavio at 410-278-9669. There is limited seating.

### MDIPA health plan visit is March 30

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the MDIPA Health Plan to visit APG on March 30, from 10 a.m.-noon in building 305, room B-14 (lower level), to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

See SHORTS, page 2

## Army chief of staff visits proving ground

### Reimer talk emphasizes support for guard, reserve by employers

By Karen Jolley Drewen  
APG News

The Army chief of staff made a visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground March 6, to discuss changes in the Army, the increasing role of the Reserve and National Guard, and the future of America's fighting force.

"Thank you for your support to America and America's Army," Gen. Dennis J. Reimer said to members of Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, a 25-year-old Department

of Defense organization that fosters positive relationships between businesses that employ Reservists and Guardsmen and the Army.

Reimer, who noted the "great contribution" APG has made to the military, was the first four-star general to speak at an ESGR training conference. The conference was held at APG for the first time March 5-7, with employers and their Reserve- and Guard-member employees attending from across the northeast. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of

APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, met Reimer before the breakfast meeting, and spoke the following day about APG, SBCCOM and the changing needs of the world.

Reimer first addressed Army issues such as the size of the Army. He noted that physically, the Army has reduced by 600,000 people.

"No other institution in the world has taken a 600,000-person cut in the past 10 years and

See REIMER, page 3

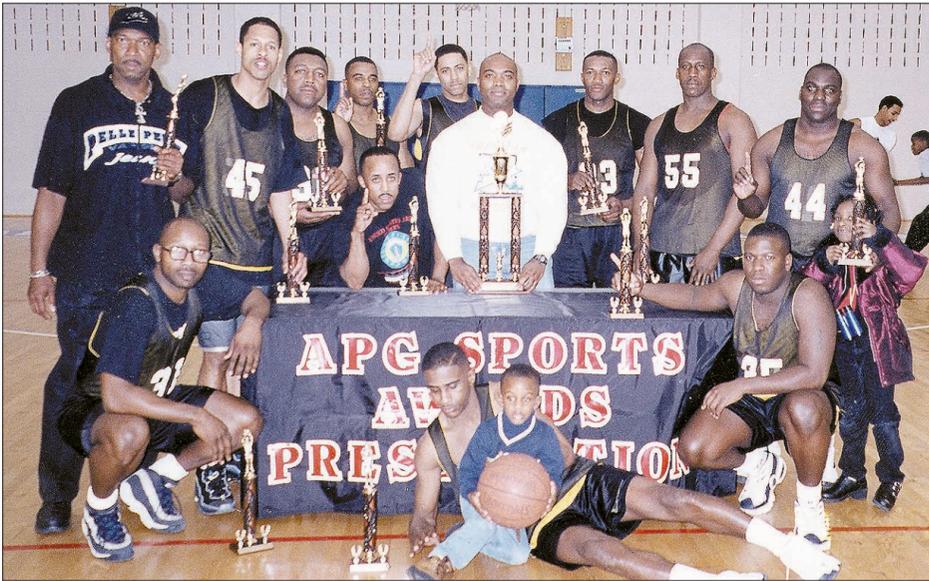


Photo by RODERICK PALMER

Aberdeen Proving Ground Intramural Basketball Champions HHC 16th pose with their winning trophy after a championship victory against NCOA Monday at the APG Athletic Center. Players and supporters are, back row, from left, are Derek St. Louis, Keith Hinton, Coach Gregory Dingle, Timothy Switzer, James Burrell, Dwyane Washington, Charles Wilson, Terry Fortson, Ricky Coleman and Arthur Collins. Front, from left, are Joe W. Jefferson, Dwahn Harrell (with Dwahn Harrell Jr.), Gregory Pitts and Kathrina Collins.

## HHC 16th wins intramural basketball championship

By Karen Jolley Drewen  
and Meghan Heimbach  
APG News

Monday night marked a first for the HHC 16th basketball team. It lost for the first time in the intramural basketball championship tournament, then came back to defeat NCOA to win the championship.

The double-elimination championship game required a second game if HHC 16th lost. That put NCOA in position avenge Sunday's loss to HHC 16th, the game that sent them to the loser's bracket. NCOA won the first game, 40-29. In the second game, HHC 16th rallied and won the championship, 38-34.

"It was a hard series," said Gregory Dingle, coach for HHC 16th, which was runner-up last year, and last won the championship in 1996. "We knew we had a good team. Little, simple errors in the regular season didn't upset us. We knew we had a chance to win the playoffs."

See CHAMPS, page 8

## APG invites public comment on plan for controlled burns

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison invites the public to review and comment on its finding of no significant environmental impact and the accompanying Environmental Assessment for conducting several controlled burns. The 30-day comment period begins March 12 and continues through April 10.

"Our Restoration Advisory Board and other citizens expressed concern about smoke from range fires at APG, particularly fires which occur in areas where soil has been found to contain solvents or other chemicals," said Donald Green, an environmental scientist in APG's Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment. "After discussions with citizens and a computer modeling study, we developed a plan to have several controlled burns during which we can monitor the air and determine if any contaminants are in the smoke."

To receive a fact sheet, citizens may call APG's Environmental Information Line at 410-272-8842 or (800) APG-9998. Written comments must be post-marked by April 10 and can be sent to Ken Stachiw, Directorate of Safety, Health, and Environment, ATTN: STEAP-SH-ER, APG, MD, 21010.

Green said the computer modeling study concluded the potential for significant human health risks from range fires is low. After discussions with community members, APG chose to pursue options for better management of test ranges and an additional study.

"In the Environmental Assessment, we analyzed at several alternatives," said Green. "We looked at conducting the air monitoring during an accidental fire, simulating a burn in a laboratory setting, and

See BURN, page 4

## USAEC, Edgewood school team up for science

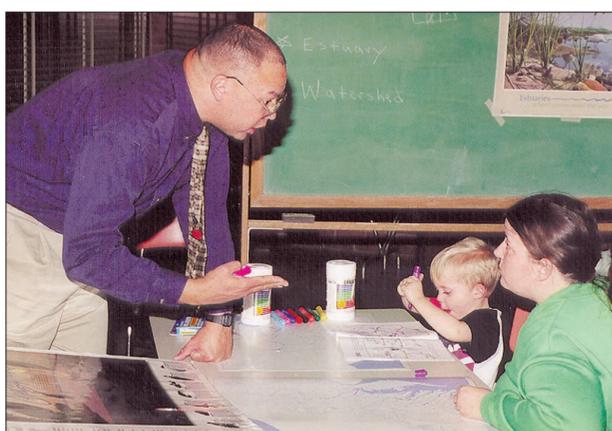


Photo by MIKE CAST

Janmichael Graine of the U.S. Army Environmental Center Operations Branch discusses the Chesapeake Bay watershed with Vickie Fiala, as her son, Shawn, plays with his handout on the Chesapeake Bay.

By Mike Cast  
USAEC Public Affairs Office

As part of an ongoing educational partnership between Edgewood Elementary School and the U.S. Army Environmental Center, about a dozen volunteers from the center came to the school Feb. 25 to staff learning stations and help young minds explore the world of science and the environment.

To prepare for the school's annual Family Science Night, USAEC volunteers developed eight interactive environmental/science stations in support of the school's educational goals. They then joined Edgewood pupils and their parents for the evening event in the school's cafeteria and gymnasium. The eight stations ranged from a presentation on the Chesapeake Bay, its watershed and the flora and fauna important to the bay's ecosystem, to a display by USAEC's Forest Service liaison staff that helped children understand how tree rings are used to determine the growth patterns and ages of trees and forests.

Edgewood Elementary School and USAEC have had a formal educational partnership since October

1997, when the commander of the center at that time and principal Allyn Watson signed an agreement pledging to support the school's children and its curriculum through various volunteer activities.

The center's partnership with the Edgewood school includes jointly sponsored activities throughout the school year. The intent is to help students and members of the local community understand the military mission and to promote environmental science and awareness of environmentally related professions among students, teachers and parents.

In addition to this second science night, the center helped the school sponsor a combined Earth Day and Arbor Day observance last April. USAEC volunteers also have supported the school's educational enrichment program by reading to students in class on a regular basis, by conducting a "mock trial" last year to help students understand the U.S. legal system, and by providing classroom presentations about the Chesapeake Bay and similar environmental topics.

According to some of the parents in attendance Feb. 25, their children greatly enjoyed this year's

See USAEC, page 14

## Garrison will honor wishes of family

By Col. Robert J. Spidel  
Commander, APG Garrison

APG Garrison suffered a loss last week with the death of one of our employees. Out of respect for the family's wishes, we will not publish anything in the newspaper or hold a memorial service.

While we want to respect the family's wishes, this decision was not easy to make. It is natural for people to want to express their feelings for those who have died, as part of their grieving process. I understand that everyone needs some type of closure. That's why I encourage you to pay your respects in your own way, perhaps through prayer or by reminiscing with your friends and co-workers. The APG Chapel also is available for anyone who would like a place for contemplation and remembrance.

But I ask you to join me in respecting the wishes of the family. Gossip and speculation will not help anyone, and may hurt those who have enough to bear right now. I know our APG family is caring enough to be a source of sympathy and encouragement for all its members.

## Friday's seminar will offer community information on ticks

By Sheila Little  
APG News

While this week's last blast of wintry weather may have put thoughts of spring on hold, warm weather is approaching. That means people will be spending more time outside, and will be exposed to the most active time of the year for ticks.

You can learn about ways to prevent tick-borne diseases on Friday, 9:30 a.m., at the Post Theater, sponsored by Aberdeen Test Center. The meeting will focus on the four tick-borne diseases most prevalent in this area and DoD policy for administering the Lyme disease vaccine, said Ann Carney, occupational health nurse at ATC.

"The meeting is not to alarm anybody," Carney said. "It is just a public information forum."

Sandra Evans, a biologist with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, will address local tick-borne diseases and how to avoid infection.

While "Lyme disease is by far the most prevalent in this area," she said other diseases that can be present in area ticks are Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Human granulocytic ehrlichiosis (Hge) and Human monocytic ehrlichiosis (Hme).

The three types of ticks found locally are the black-legged or deer tick, the Lone Star tick and the American dog tick. Each can carry one or more of the diseases, but she emphasized "disease is found in only 20-25 percent of ticks."

"There were nearly 500 reported and confirmed cases of Lyme disease in Maryland in 1997," she added. "Harford County had 67 of those cases."

Statistics from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene show that Harford County ranks second in the state in the number of reported cases. Neighboring Baltimore County is number one. Most tick-borne diseases can be safely treated in their early stages with antibiotics.

"One of the best things you can do is check yourself," Evans said.

She encourages wearing proper clothing such as long-sleeved shirts and long pants, and tucking shirts in waistbands and pants in boots. Evans added that repellents also are effective. Permethrin is used to treat clothing and DEET is recommended for exposed skin.

"If you find a tick, remove it promptly," she said, adding that it takes several hours before infection.

See TICKS, page 3

## In memory: Services planned for Eldon Jerome James

Eldon Jerome James, a photographer at the Directorate of Information Management, died on Sunday, March 14. He was 51 years old.

A viewing will be held from 9 a.m.-noon, followed by the funeral, at Helping Hands Ministry, 3237 Level Rd., Churchville. Burial will be at St. James Cemetery in Havre de Grace, with the Rev. Roger L. Tatuem officiating. An honor guard will officiate at the ceremony.

James was born May 15, 1947, in Havre de Grace. The oldest of 14 children, he graduated from Havre de Grace Consolidated High School and attended the University of Maryland. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in July 1987. He returned to Havre de Grace and worked at Ames before joining the APG work force in 1990.

In addition to photography, he loved to travel, entertain, fish, and meet people.

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Yvonne; a son, Eldon Jerome James II; and four stepchildren, Sharon L. Sorrell, Robert D. Smith, Katherynne A. Draper and Michael K. Smith, all of Rome, N.Y.; nine grandchildren; his parents, Elsworth and Hortense B. James of Havre de Grace; three brothers, John C. James of Edgewood and Rudolph S. James and Curtis James of Havre de Grace; and nine sisters, Selena C. Williams of Radcliff, Ky.; Linda D. Wilson of El Paso, Texas; Cindy L. Western of Laurel, Md.; and Evetta L. Tardy, Wixie A. Bliesener, Adrian O. Mayo, Bridget O. Parrish, Althea D. James and Gretchen Y. James, all of Havre de Grace. He was preceded in death by his sister, Zenelia D. James, in 1983.



## Enter USO's Mother of the Year contest

Service members who enter the USO-Metro's 17th annual Mother of the Year essay contest may win a trip for his/her mother and a guest to Washington, DC and a \$300 cash prize.

Each participant must write an essay of 500 words or less entitled, "Why My Mother Should be Honored on Mother's Day."

The contest is open to all active duty enlisted personnel permanently assigned to the greater Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area. Essays will be judged on originality, thoughtfulness and content. All entries must include participant's name, rank, home and work telephone numbers.

Submit entries by April 15, to: USO-Metro, Attn: Mother's Day Essay, Bldg. 59, room B-6, 204 Lee Ave., Fort Myer, VA 22211.

In the event that your essay does not win and you would like your essay to be forwarded to your mother, include her home address on your entry.

The winner of the contest will be awarded a \$300 cash prize and receive two round-trip airfare tickets to the Washington-Baltimore area from any major airport in the continental U.S., for the mother and her guest. On Sunday, May 9, the winner, mother and guest will be recognized at the annual USO-Metro Mother's Day celebration. Accommodations will be provided by the Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City. Limousine transportation to the event will also be provided for the mother and her guest by Fanta Limousine Service. The winner will be notified on April 19.

For more information, call Dale Jovero or Dawn Ruth at the USO-Metro Family Support Services Office, 703-696-3279.

## POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

### Blood drive set for April 6

Sign up for the Red Cross blood drive on April 6, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel. Call 410-278-2087 to make an appointment. Platelet donors are needed at the Red Cross Apheresis Center on APG. When you give platelets, you give a child with leukemia another birthday - another chance at life. Call 410-278-9125 to make an appointment, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Are you ready to PCS?

Army Community Service Relocation Office will offer a free PCS Germany workshop for military, civilian personnel, retirees and family members, taught by an instructor from Harford Community College. The workshop will be held Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., March 31-May 26, at the ACS classroom, building 2754, Rodman Road. Learn the basics of German I-German II, the basic vocabulary, grammar, and expression of German. Students will also learn about German culture, history, food and customs.

To register, call Marilyn Howard, relocation manager, ACS Office, 410-278-3137. Space is limited.

Videos are available at ACS during normal duty hours for loan or viewing at ACS. Availability of tapes are limited. PCS tapes show what to expect from an assignment and provides information for soldiers and families who are relocating.

The 30-minute tapes include Germany, Korea, Alaska, Hawaii, Japan, Italy, Johnston Island, Malmstrom AFB, Carlisle Barracks, and Peterson AFB. "Families in Transition" explains common areas of stress during a PCS move and recommends ways to reduce that stress. SITES computerized information booklets are available for many CONUS and OCONUS installations.

### Refresher training for CORs set

Many changes in Federal Acquisition Regulations have taken effect in the last few years due to the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994. All contracting officer's representatives (CORs) need to be aware of these changes. The U.S. Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center will conduct mandatory contracting officer's representative refresher training at both areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground in April.

There is no cost for attendance. All CORs should attend this refresher training. This is not a certification course like the Army Logistics Management College or the Department of the Navy Contracting Officer's Representative Course. This is only refresher training for CORs. However, it will provide Continuous Learning Points for members of the Defense Acquisition Workforce.

It is important to know the approximate number of CORs attending so that enough booklets can be printed to give one to each attendee. If you need to attend this refresher training, notify your

training coordinator.

### Block leave set for band

The 389th Army Band will not be available for commitments from July 6-22, because of training and summer leave. Any questions regarding scheduling should be referred to 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.

### AA meeting held at chapel

An Alcoholics Anonymous support meeting is held Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel Center in the Social Hall.

### Unsung Heroes sought

The Harford Council of Community Services is seeking nominations for a deserving person to receive the Unsung Hero Award during its annual meeting in June. The nominee must be from a Harford County based agency working to meet a human service need that benefits the Harford County community. If you would like to receive a nomination form, call 410-692-5827.

### Scout Troop seeks former members

Former members of APG Scout Troop 429 are invited to the troop's 50th anniversary celebration on April 30. Those interested in attending should supply an address to Dean Kolker, 410-273-0985. The troop will welcome photos and memorabilia from earlier years.

### Ordnance Ball set at Redstone

Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., will host the 1999 Ordnance Ball at the arsenal's Redstone Club on March 19, 6 p.m. For tickets and information, call (256) 876-6697, DSN 746-6697.

### Summer program for youth planned

The Child Development Center and Youth Services are accepting pre-registration for the full-day summer program, which will operate for eight weeks from June 28 through Aug. 20. Children enrolled in grades 1-9 are eligible for the program. Pre-registration forms are available at both Youth Centers and Child Development Centers. The AA CDC is located in building 2485; the EA CDC is located in building E-1901. The AA Youth Center is located in building 2522; the EA Youth Center is located in building E-1902. The CDC and Youth Center priority for care policy is in effect for the summer program. Patrons on this list who turn down a position (when it is

offered) will be removed from this list. Activities planned include swimming, sports, skating, movies and field trips. For questions, call Rita Wilkins, director, School-Age Services, 410-278-2572.

### Apply for scholarships by April 2

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop will present two \$500 scholarships for high school seniors this spring. Candidates must be the dependent of either an active duty, retired or deceased service member, or the child of a Department of Defense civilian. Application forms may be obtained during thrift shop on Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., in building E-1633, or by contacting the shop at 410-676-4733. Application deadline is April 2.

### MCSC plans to donate funds

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club will donate funds to organizations and charities this spring. Groups interested in receiving funds should submit requests in writing and include the organization to receive the funds, the manner in which the funds will be used, and a contact person for the organization (name, address, and telephone number). Submit requests by April 1 to Marlys Wallman, 3801 Hazel Ct., Abingdon, MD 21009.

### EAOWC offers scholarships

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club will offer a \$1,000 youth scholarship on behalf of the USPA and IRA Educational Foundation. The EAOWC also will offer \$500 scholarships, two to high school seniors and one to a currently enrolled full-time college student. Applicants must be the child of an active-duty, retired or deceased service member who will attend college during the 1999-2000 school year. Pick up applications at Harford County high schools, the EA Thrift Shop, the EA Library, or by calling Evelyn Atchison, 410-297-8558. The EAOWC will donate a \$500 scholarship for a spouse of active duty, retired, or deceased military members. Apply by April 2. Winners will be notified by early May.

### MCSC to offer scholarships

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club (MCSC) will award three higher education scholarships this spring. A \$1,000 college education scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an active duty, retired, or deceased service member or DoD civilian. A scholarship from the USPA&IRA educational foundation will give \$1,000 to a service member's child who is entering or continuing education in an undergraduate college program. The recipient will be determined by the MCSC. The club also will award \$500 to a military spouse entering or continuing a college education. Applications are available in the Aberdeen Area library, Post Office and Thrift Shop, and through the local high school guidance office. For more information, contact Ellen May, MCSC scholarship chairperson, 410-297-8387. Application deadline is April 1.

## 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.

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### STAFF

Commanding General . . . . .Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg  
Public Affairs Officer . . . . .Gary A. Holloway  
Editor . . . . .Karen Jolley Drewen  
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. . . . .Sheila Little  
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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# SBCCOM team is ready to help

The Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM) disAbility Awareness Committee recently initiated a truly unique program at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. SBCCOM has formed a volunteer team of employees (engineers, scientists and other employees) to work for the Volunteers for Medical Engineering (VME).

VME is a Maryland charitable non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of volunteers set up to serve the entire state of Maryland. The mission of VME is "to improve the independence of individuals with disabilities through the use of innovative engineering." John Staehlin, P.E., founded VME in about 1982. Mr. Staehlin worked for Westinghouse Defense Electronics in Linthicum, Md. John and other defense contractor engineers began volunteering their time and talents by inventing solutions to individual challenges and serving the needs of individuals with disabilities throughout Maryland.

The goal of the SBCCOM team is to serve the needs of the entire North Eastern Maryland community by designing and manufacturing assistive medical devices for local residents with disabilities and the elderly. SBCCOM held an introductory meeting in November 1998 and a kick-off meeting in December 1998 where about 30 employees and interested members of the community were trained as VME volunteers.

What makes the SBCCOM effort unique is that the team can provide "cradle to grave" type service for the design and manufacture of innovative medical assistive devices to the entire community. If the SBCCOM effort is successful, it might be used as a model for other governmental agencies wishing to start volunteer or cooperative efforts with VME to serve their communities.

It should be stressed that the design and manufacture of these devices by the SBCCOM team in no way competes with private industry where many devices are available "over-the-counter." Assistive devices made by the team are unique and personalized (not available commercially for what ever the reason might be).

Since the introductory meeting, the team has begun work on several projects, including one new and three projects begun for VME by other agencies. The "normal" VME project cycle works as follows: A VME referral is made to the VME project coordinator. The project coordinator and members of the Client Service Team (CST) meet with the client to assess the client's need. Usually, the CST consists of an engineer familiar with the problem/area, a medical community representative and the VME project coordinator. After the CST visit to the client, a written report is submitted to the VME Project Review and Approval Committee (PRAC). Then the project may be turned over to one of the volunteer groups to brainstorm design/manufacturing ideas. Should a workable design result, the project is again reviewed by the PRAC prior to manufacturing and release of the item to the client.

It is hoped that this article will raise the awareness of the program in the Harford/Cecil county area and encourage local residents to make their medical assistive device needs known to the team.

To contact an SBCCOM VME representative, call the SBCCOM Employee Assistance Office at 410-436-3477/2328 or contact the main VME office in Baltimore at 410-243-7495.

By Bill Coen  
SBCCOM VME Team

# Reimer speaks to organization that supports Guard, Reserve

**REIMER, from front page**  
still exists," he said. "But we must make sure we can meet the demands."

Savings since 1989 total \$750 billion, he said.

"Americans spend more on beer and pizza each year than they do running the Army," Reimer said.

The 37-year Army veteran said times have changed dramatically since he joined the Army.

"When I came in the Army more than 30 years ago, it was a simple Army - containment of the Soviet threat," he said. "It was a very dangerous world, but a very predictable world."

Today, the "new world order," he added, is "long on new, and short on order."

With the development of "The Army After Next," Reimer said the goal is to determine what will be needed in the year 2020.

"We project out into the 2020 timeframe and look around the world," he said, considering threats and weapons of mass destruction. "Given that, what does our nation need? What is the role of the Army?"

Whatever the answer, a vital piece of the Army will require realistic training and "Total Army Integration."

In describing the Army, he said knowledge - "the ability to see the battlefield" - speed - "moving faster than the enemy can" - and power - "overwhelming power so

the enemy figures 'I don't have a chance' - were vital for success.

Reimer spent even more time answering questions from the group, including the misconception of the "one weekend a month, two weeks per year" recruiting message for the Reserve and Guard. Reimer noted that 54 percent of the Army today is in the Reserve Component, the highest percentage since World War II.

"Thirty-nine days of duty is a misnomer," he said. "We have to use them more. The challenge and commitment to you is to give you as much notice as we can."

The goal of military service, he added, is to "take people in from society and turn them back to society even better."

"In some cases, we do that in three or four years. In cases like mine, it takes 37 years," he joked.

He emphasized the need for ESGR to help the story about military service and "tell the Army story."

"Employers have always stepped forward," he said, offering a story about Ken Oliver of Waco, Texas, who, during Operation Desert Storm, loaded more than 70 heavy-equipment tires in a truck and drove all night to deliver them to an Air Force base when the word went out that the tires were needed by the military.

He said many employers "proudly stand up and say 'I'm making a contribution'" by sup-

porting the Reserve and Guard.

After the talk, Reimer discussed how technology on the battlefield will be part of a "more seamless force."

"You can't continue to live in the past," he said. "We're learning the battle rhythm of this new world."

Part of that new world is the continued "intellectual support" from organizations such as APG.

"APG has certainly made a great contribution in the past and will continue to make a great contribution," he said.

He added that the Army carefully manages its reserve force, striving to keep deployments under 120 days, and "intensely managing" deployments of 120-180 days. One reason is that the type of person who joins the Army has changed.

"When I came in it was maybe 30 percent married, mostly officers," he said. "Now, two-thirds are married."

Quality of life programs are important, he noted, to help soldiers deploy confidently "because they know their families are being taken care of."

The relationship between the active Army and the Reserve and National Guard is "not what it should be, but better than it used to be."

"We're much better than we were a couple of years ago, and we're heading in the right direction."

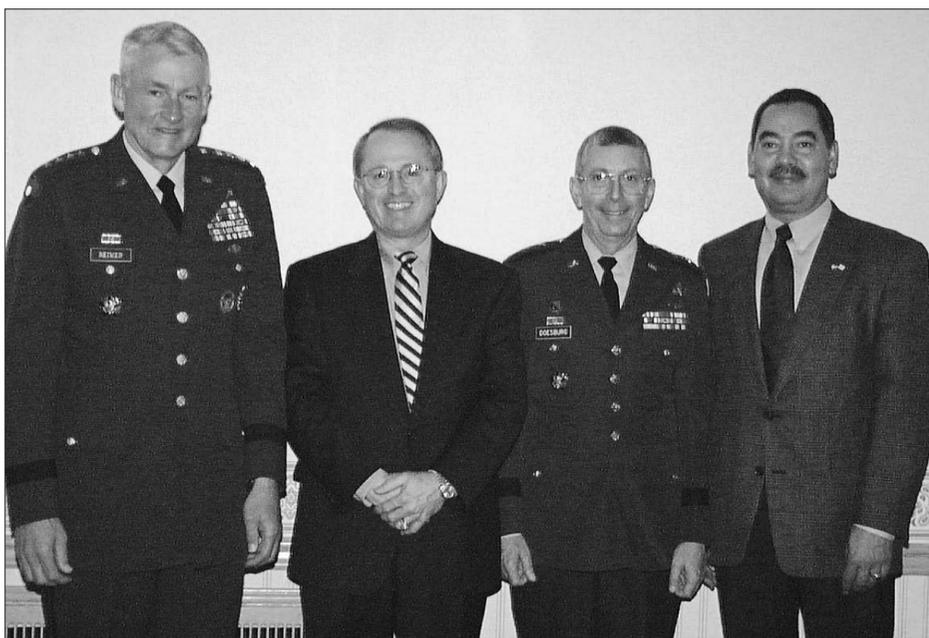


Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

**Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, Army chief of staff, left, stands with, from left, the Hon. Charles Cragin, acting assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs; Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command; and Kenneth Jordan, executive director for the National Committee for Employer Support for Guard and Reserve.**

Maj. Jennifer Curry, conference coordinator, praised the support from APG for the conference.

"I thought it was probably one of the best supported conferences we've held," she said. "The installation was spectacular in its cooperation."

She specifically noted outstanding support from Carol

Lamp and Barbara Adams of the Swan Creek Inn, APG's billeting facility; Doris Reitzle and Louise Glose of Top of the Bay; Bill Roberge of the Directorate of Information Management's Visual Information Division, who provided audio-visual support; and Butch Grzanka, Skip Glascock and the team from the Plans and

Operations Division, and Bob Silcox, director of the Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization.

"Without them it would not have been as productive," she said. "They were all pleasant to work with and really supportive."

For information about ESGR, see the web site at [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org).

## Community can learn about tick diseases, prevention

**TICKS, from front page**

tion occurs.  
Ticks are removed by grasping the tick behind the head and pulling with a sustained but gentle pressure. After removal, wash the area and apply an antiseptic. Home remedies such as applying nail polish, polish remover or a lit match to the tick while still attached to the skin are discouraged and characterized as ineffective or agitating to the tick. Tick agitation can lead to an increased chance of infection.

It is recommended that the tick be saved for one month by placing it in a jar of alcohol, or by freezing it in a plastic bag. If symptoms develop, health authorities may wish to test the tick for disease.

Flu-like symptoms, such as fever, headache, muscle aches and fatigue are characteristic of infection with any of the tick-borne diseases, and generally manifest themselves sometime within the first two weeks of exposure.

The bulls-eye, a symptom of Lyme disease, is present in only 40 percent of diagnosed cases. Red spots, starting on the extremities and spreading to the trunk, are characteristic of Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

This year, a Lyme disease vaccine is available.

Dr. Donald Wallace of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will present information regarding those considered likely candidates for the vaccine and the DoD administration policy.

Wallace said the vaccine "targets the high risk person experiencing daily exposure."

He described high-risk individuals as those whose occupation requires "walking through tall grass or a wooded area on a regular basis."

Wallace said the vaccine is administered in three separate injections given over a 12-month period. Maximum effectiveness, 78 percent, is reached in one year. The vaccine is for Lyme disease only, and is not effective in preventing the other tick-borne diseases.

Further information is available at the seminar on March 19, or by contacting Ann Carney, 410-278-8806.

# CHPPM employee receives top engineering award

**By Evelyn B. Riley**  
CHPPM Public Affairs Office

James D. Wood, P.E., a supervisory chemical engineer with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine has been selected as the 1999 Federal Engineer of the Year. Wood was honored at the 20th Annual Federal Engineer of the Year Awards Luncheon on Feb. 25.

The Federal Engineer of the Year Awards Program is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) during National Engineers Week to recognize the contribution of engineers employed by the federal government.

Wood, one of 33 Federal engineers under consideration for this award, was presented the Federal Engineer of the Year Founder's Medallion by NSPE President, Robert L. Sylar. He also received a plaque as the U.S. Army Medical Command Engineer of the Year.

"This award is a great honor," Wood said. "However, it represents more than just my personal accomplishment. It also represents the accomplishments of my coworkers and the support of USACHPPM's leadership."

A resident of Abingdon, he is program manager for Ambient Air Quality Management. He has world-wide responsibility for resolving complex health-related air quality issues at Department of Defense installations. Under his leadership and direction, engineers and scientists have performed quick response ambient air sam-



James D. Wood

pling in locations such as Bosnia, Malaysia, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Italy, Belgium and Kwajalein. Wood's technical skills and those of his staff have also been instrumental in supporting installation commanders with respect to numerous Clean

Air Act compliance requirements.

Wood, one of the Army's foremost authorities on environmental auditing, manages the CHPPM Environmental Compliance Assessment System Program support to various Major Army Commands throughout the continental United States. He also manages ECAS support efforts to the U.S. Army Pacific, Eighth U.S. Army (Korea), and Third U.S. Army (Kuwait and Saudi Arabia). Certified in 1998 by the Registrar Accreditation Board as an Environmental Management Systems lead auditor, Wood has been instrumental in integrating the International Organization for Standardization's ISO 14001 standard into ECAS Program support.

During the past 15 years, Wood has served in various key leadership and committee roles in the MSPE, and currently serves on the Board of Directors. At the local level, Wood has held every leader position in MSPE's Susquehanna Chapter.

He has also worked to promote engineering awareness to high school students over the past decade through the Susquehanna Chapter's Engineer-for-a-Day

Program.

Wood graduated cum laude from the University of Missouri-Rolla with a bachelor's degree chemical engineering, a master's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla, a master's degree in environmental engineering from the Johns Hopkins University, and a master's degree in engineering management from the Florida Institute of Technology. His military education as a U.S. Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel includes the Army Medical Department Officers Advanced Course, Civil Affairs Officer Advanced Course and the Command and General Staff Officer Course.

Wood has been a licensed professional engineer in Maryland since 1983. He has been a certified hazardous materials manager since 1984. In 1997, he received a three-year limited license (project permit) to practice professional engineering in New York supporting the U.S. Military Academy Title V Permit Project. His other awards include MSPE Young Engineer of the Year (1988) and U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency Master Consultant (1990). From 1984 to 1989, Wood served on the Maryland Air Quality Control Advisory Council. He has been the author or co-author of more than 100 technical reports and has presented several technical papers.

This is the second year in a row CHPPM has won this award. In 1998, Jerry A. Valcik, program manager for Water Supply Management, was selected.

# Runners face winter weather for Polar Bear Run

**By Meghan Heimbach**  
APG News

Runners bundled up and took their mark on Feb. 27 for the Annual Polar Bear 10K Road Race.

The race, sponsored by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School and APG Garrison's Community Recreation Division, had 118 runners participate said Donna Coyne, race coordinator,



Photo by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN

with 51 registering the day of the race.

Coyne said the turnout was "great," and said last-minute participants are not unusual, adding that it "all depends on the weather."

"The weather was pretty good for the Polar Bear Run," said Coyne of the race that traditionally takes place in one of Maryland's coldest months.

Medals were awarded to each winner by Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, commander of OC&S.

Becky Strobel was the only runner in the female age 19 and under category. Juan Feliciano won first in the male age 19 and under category, with Garth Richardson in second and Marlon Pinnock in third.

The three top runners in the female age 20-29 category were Rachel Rosenbaum, first place, Laura Cicero, second, and Barbara Robinson, third.

**The Noncommissioned Officer Academy begins the Polar Bear 10K Road Race.**

Eric Estrada took first place in the male age 20-29 category, with Dave Brown in second and Boz Wing in third.

First-place winner in the female age 30-39 category was Nancy Blomquist. Mary Cochran came in second, and Valerie Elliott won third.

In the male age 30-39 category, Wilson Gorrell took first, Alexander Alviarez took second and Scott Smith won third.

The top three runners in the female age 40-49 category were Cathleen Bartholomew, first place, Bonnie Schaffer, second place, and Margaret Cohn, third place.

The top three runners in the male age 40-49 category were James Pryde, first place, N.L. Murphy, second place, and Offie Clark, third place.

In the female age 50-59 category, Marge Rosasco took first, with Anna Hinojosa in second and Bernadette Soldunius in third.

In the male age 50-59 category, John Sullivan took first, Tim Eder took second and Billy Fell

came in third.

Bertha Flens was only runner in the female age 60 and over category. Steve Rosasco won first in the male age 60 and over category, followed by Robert Flens in second and John Fleckenstein in third.

The 16th Ordnance Brigade also participated in the race for its battalion run, with male and female military teams consisting of three runners per team.

Team results in the male division brought E Co. 16th #2 in first, with runners Wade Barnes, Brandon Harris and James Turner. E Co. 16th #3 won second place, with runners James Slocum, Michael Smith and Jay Schroeder.

In the female team division, E Co. 16 #1 came in first, with runners Jeanne Cook, Nicole Enriquez and Rachel Rosenbaum. E Co. 16th #2 won second place, with runners Constance Spiegel, Kim Hayes and Sherri Rodriguez.

Trophies were awarded to the top two teams in each division by Jackson.

# DoD's top research director to be featured at June computer workshop

An impressive slate of speakers led by Dr. Hans Mark, DoD's director for Defense Research and Engineering, will visit the Aberdeen Area at the end of June to assist in a High Performance Computer workshop.

Mark, who will share his views on more-effective applications of high-performance computing, will be joined by other national leaders. The agenda also will include papers from High Performance Computing organizations and test centers and ranges across the national major range and test facility base (MRTFB).

Sponsors are working on this second annual workshop on High Performance Computing which will address applications to solve urgent testing, analysis and evaluation problems. The workshop will convene June 28- July 1, 1999, in Edgewood, at the Richlin Ballroom and Comfort Inn.

Topics include current status of computer technology for signal and image processing, high level architecture applied to distributed simulation for force modeling, data acquisition and smart instrumentation, and synthetic environ-

ments.

Last year's inaugural workshop, which was held at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel in Aberdeen, received high praise from both conference leaders and attendees.

The workshop is being hosted by the International Test and Evaluation Association's (ITEA) Francis Scott Key Chapter in partnership with the Department of Defense's High Performance Computer Modernization Office, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

The theme, High Performance Computing for Real Time Applications, is intended to bring together people with the goal of melding the rapid advances in the computer research community with the real time needs of user agencies operating in the field. Key among these user agencies are the testers who require the most advanced computer technology to support "Virtual Proving Ground" methods. The '98 workshop brought together key people from the HPC and testing communities who shared ideas and laid

the cornerstone for a bridge linking these communities. The '99 Workshop will further build and strengthen this bridge by stressing real-time-applications for high performance computing.

An formal program is supported by one-day tutorials at Harford County's Higher Education Applied Technology (HEAT) center in Aberdeen. There is room on the agenda; if you are working in this field and want to share your best and brightest ideas, the committee would like to hear from you. Send your abstract (500 words or less) to Jeff Highland at email [itea@vt-gate.apg.army.mil](mailto:itea@vt-gate.apg.army.mil); telephone 410-278-1269. You can also send a PC compatible diskette and hard copy to Commander U.S. Army T&E Command, Attn: AMSTE-TM-T, 314 Longs Corner Rd., APG, MD 21005-5055.

Organizers said the workshop offers a great opportunity for learning the "ins and outs" of the high performance computing world, and encouraged participation by all who are interested, whether or not you have a current paper.

## Public can comment on APG plan for controlled burning

**BURN, from front page**  
conducting controlled burns. Conducting controlled burns is our preferred alternative as it allows us to select the weather conditions and to set up the monitoring equipment in advance at specific locations."

The Army proposes to conduct the burns at the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas. Extensive health and safety measures will be in place including ensuring appropriate weather conditions to have the least impact on the community, using fire breaks and having trained fire management professionals conduct the burns.

"As required by law, we prepared an Environmental Assessment to look at the conse-

quences of conducting the burns," Green said. "The assessment found the controlled burns would have some minor, short-term adverse impacts. However, the overall long-term impacts will be beneficial as we gather data to prevent, reduce, or minimize any adverse impacts determined to exist during range fires."

You can review copies of the Environmental Assessment at information repositories at the Edgewood and Aberdeen branches of Harford County Library and the Miller Library at Washington College in Kent County. Copies also are at the APG libraries, the Cecilton library, and the Joppa library; or, see the APG web site, [www.apg.army.mil](http://www.apg.army.mil).

### Send in events

Do you have an item for the Community Notes page, or an idea for a story?

Fax it to 410-278-2570 or e-mail it to [kdrewen@apgnews.com](mailto:kdrewen@apgnews.com).

Deadline is noon Monday for the following Thursday's paper.

For updates about APG events, check out the web page at [www.apgnews.com](http://www.apgnews.com), or watch WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3.

# ATC employee recognized for work in community

By Lena Goodman  
ATC Public Affairs Office

Ronald O. Landbeck, a management and program analyst at Aberdeen Test Center, was honored recently by the Aberdeen Rotary Club for outstanding community leadership.

Landbeck, an Aberdeen resident, was recognized for volunteering in many fund-raisers as a member of the Aberdeen Lions Club and for his work in developing a partnership between ATC and Hall's Crossroads Elementary School. He also donated carpet for classrooms at a local school and provided Christmas dinner in his home for APG soldiers during Operation Desert Storm.

"This award is very special to me," Landbeck said. "It was awarded by my local Rotarians. Although I'm not a member of the Rotary, most of the members know me, and all of them know the needs of the City of Aberdeen."

Landbeck said for him to be mentioned in the same breath with the first two recipients of the Rotary award, referring to Jerry Lacey and Charles Jacobs Jr., is an honor.

"Jerry Lacey helped develop and operate the Harford County Boys and Girls Club. He also served on the committee that won the title of 'All American City' for the city of Aberdeen," Landbeck said.

"Chuck Jacobs virtually put together the

Aberdeen Centennial celebration and worked tirelessly for the 'Empty Goal Post' campaign that financed the Aberdeen High School Athletic Field," he said.

He said he believes everyone who serves the community is doing God's work and "the honor belongs to Him." He also credited his wife, saying without her support, he would be "lost."

"I could never enjoy the community projects that I work on if my wife didn't give me her active support," Landbeck said.

Landbeck and his wife, Joyce, said they are humbled by the award.

"We will try to live up to the standards of this award. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank the Aberdeen Rotarians," he said.

The Aberdeen Rotary Citizenship Award is given each year to a citizen volunteer who has performed distinguished service to the people of Aberdeen.

**Ronald Landbeck poses with the plaque he received from the Aberdeen Rotary Club for his community service.**

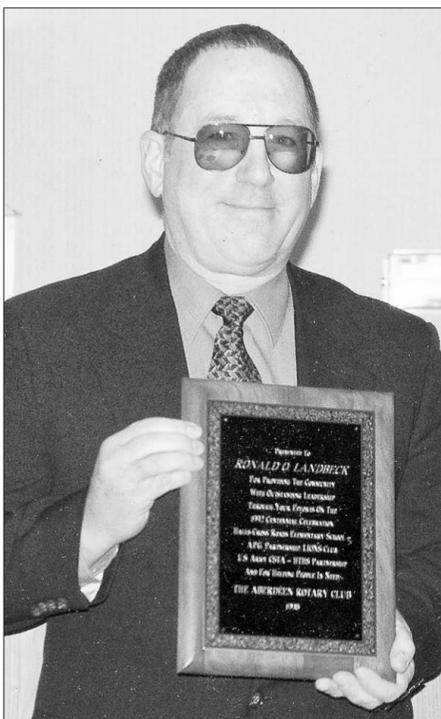


Photo by PHILIP RICHARDSON

## LIBRARY CORNER

The Garrison Library has new military books for your reading pleasure. Come by either branch and check out some books. Available are:

*Battling the Elements: Weather and Terrain in the Conduct of War.*

*The Big Bang: A History of Explosives*, by G. I. Brown

*Black, Blue & Gray: African Americans in the Civil War*, by James Haskins

*The Boisterous Sea of Liberty: A Documentary History of America from Discovery through the Civil War.*

*Carrier: A Guided Tour of an Aircraft Carrier*, by Tom Clancy.

*Charlie Two Shoes and the Marines of Love Company*, by Michael Peterson

*The Civil War Battlefield Guide.*

*Death Ground: Today's American Infantry in Battle*, by Daniel P. Bolger.

*Dee Brown's Civil War Anthology*, by Dee Alexander Brown.

*Dirty Little Secrets of the Vietnam War*, by James F. Dunnigan.

*Into the Fight: Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg*, by John M. Priest.

*Into the Tiger's Jaw: America's First Black Marine Aviator*, by Frank E. Petersen.

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

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

## Volunteers needed at sites around post

Volunteers are needed for several post organizations:

Army Emergency Relief is looking for an office assistant for 6-12 fixed hours per week, to assist the AER officer with clerical support. For information call Marge Fissel, 410-278-2508.

The Freestate Challenge Academy is looking for two volunteers to fill administrative assistant positions. The position requires 30 hours per week for five months or longer. For information call Harry Ballard, 410-306-1807.

The American Red Cross is looking for a volunteer at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic to provide reporting and communication to volunteers and supervisors at the clinic; a logistics volunteer to provide support to the property book officer; and clerical support to the installation services specialist and installation chairman for the Red Cross. For details call Carolyn Lerwill, 410-278-2087.

The Installation Volunteer Office needs a newsletter coordinator to publish a quarterly Installation Volunteer Newsletter promoting volunteer programs and initiatives; and two office support volunteers to provide telephone and clerical support for the volunteer office. For more information call Alice Surette, 410-278-5469.

The APG libraries are also looking for volunteers to support the library program. For more information call Tina Pinnix-Broome or Dan Norum, 410-278-3417.

## AROUND THE ARMED FORCES

# Anthrax veteran claims vaccine 'no big deal'

By Pfc. Eric Cantu

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, ARIZ. (Feb. 4, 1999) — As a boy growing up on a cattle ranch in Kimberly, Idaho, 9-year-old Mark Hughes would often watch his father, a veterinarian, give their cattle a variety of shots to protect them from various diseases. While his father took the time to protect his cattle, he also vaccinated his family against the fatal anthrax bacteria common to the livestock industry.

That boy, now a Marine with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-13, rubbed his arm and dashed off to explore the ranch, forgetting all about the shot.

When SSgt. Mark Hughes, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-13's substance abuse counselor, told his mother recently that he was to get the anthrax vaccination she reminded him that he had already received the shot as a boy. As far as Hughes is concerned, the reservations some service members have about the shot are unfounded.

"I'm still here. I don't have any cancer. I'm not dying. It doesn't cause sterility. And that's a fact ... I have five children," Hughes said. "It's really no big deal."

Since Secretary of Defense William Cohen ordered all military personnel to receive the anthrax vaccination, controversy and fears have risen about the vaccine's safety. Those concerns and fears are fueled by unsubstantiated reports posted on the Internet or put forth by groups with their own agenda.

The vaccine was licensed by the Food and Drug Administration in 1970 after years of extensive scientific experiments and tests which yielded no conclusive evidence that the vaccine causes long-term side effects or health problems. The vaccine has been administered to veterinarians, laboratory workers and livestock workers for more than 28 years. Even Cohen and the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Charles C. Krulak received the vaccination.

It has been 34 years since Hughes received his first Anthrax shot, long enough to prove to him that there are no long-term effects to worry about. Not only is Hughes healthy and "very fertile," his entire family has received the vaccinations and are just as healthy.

"All my brothers and sisters are married and have children. We all have 10 toes and 10 fingers," said Hughes, adding that he has never heard of any health problems with any of them.

While the deadly bacillus anthracis bacteria has been mostly eradicated in livestock in the United

States, military members are more likely to face a deadlier form of the disease produced by hostile countries. A biological weapon could contain Inhalation Anthrax, which has the same horrible symptoms as the form that affects livestock, said Lt. Comdr. Cynthia Heins, Marine Aircraft Group-13 group surgeon.

According to Heins, within the first 24 hours of being exposed to anthrax, the victim might develop a slight fever, muscle pains, cough, chest pains and malaise. This initial phase is usually mistaken as a common virus, which makes the early diagnosis and treatment of anthrax virtually impossible. Sometimes this initial phase is followed by a brief recovery period.

The onset of worse symptoms will begin within 24 hours and includes shortness of breath, wheezing caused by increased difficulty in breathing, and internal bleeding that may flood the lungs, esophagus and the brain. At that point, the victim may begin to cough up blood and to bleed from the ears, nose, and the eyes. The bleeding causes the victim to turn blue or black in color. Sweating, a swelling of the chest area, seizures, and severe shock from blood loss also occur before the victim ultimately dies.

"It's a horrible death," said Heins. "The victim's final agonizing days may be worse than anything he or she has ever experienced ... and it's 100 percent fatal."

Along with a gas mask, a person's best protection against anthrax is prior vaccination.

"We call it our biological flak jacket," said Heins. "Just like a flak jacket protects us from bullets, the vaccine protects us from anthrax."

Heins said there is no reason to fear this vaccine. "The Anthrax vaccination is no different from any of the other vaccinations we get," said Heins.

While Hughes has no reservations about the vaccine, he understands why people have concerns.

"We, as Marines today, are being told all of a sudden there's a new shot that we have to get and that's where all the fear comes in," said Hughes.

Hughes will retire from the Marine Corps in December and his plans may include returning to Idaho and the way of life in which he was raised. And just as his father did for him on that small cattle ranch more than 30 years ago, Hughes said he plans to protect his own family.

"I'm going to get it, my children are going to get it and my wife is going to get it," said Hughes about the anthrax vaccine. "I truly believe in my heart that it's a good thing."

## Unit tax advisors offer free tax help for post organizations, retirees

The following unit tax advisors can provide free tax help to active duty military personnel and their dependents:

**143d Ord Bn, A Co**  
SSG BENJAMIN L. CONNOR  
410-436-4443

**143d Ord Bn, B Co**  
SFC WILLIAM COLLINS  
410-436-4212  
2LT MICHAEL POTTRATZ  
410-436-4212

**143d Ord Bn, HHC**  
SFC JOHNNIE GATLIN  
410-278-4848  
SSGT ANTHONY D. MASON  
410-436-5339

**16th Ord Bn, A Co**  
1LT JASON LODGE  
410-278-8732

**16th Ord Bn, B Co**  
1LT MARTIN MCLAUGHLIN  
410-278-5445

**16th Ord Bn, C Co**  
1LT KARL BRUECKNER  
410-278-5455

**16th Ord Bn, E Co**  
SPC CHARLOTTE OTORUBIO  
410-278-3979

**16th Ord Bn, HHC**  
SFC HARRY B. ANDERSON  
410-278-4422  
1LT MARTIN A. GRIFFITH  
410-278-8594

SSG PATRICK MCGRATTAN  
410-306-1526  
SFC LAWRENCE D. SMITH  
410-278-2553

**16th Ord Bn, MSD**  
SSG CHARLES GILLIAM  
410-278-9886

**16th Ord Bn, TSED**  
SFC CARL LAKSHMANAN  
410-278-3444

**203d MI Bn**  
CPT MARK J. STAUD  
410-278-7800

**389th Army Band**  
SGT KEITH D. CALMES  
410-278-8769  
SGT JANINE STILLWELL  
410-278-8769

**520th TAML**  
SSG ALFONSO CLEMMINGS  
410-436-7268

**61st Ord Bde, HHC**  
SSG LEROY BENNETT  
410-306-5770  
SSG LEONARD FARLOW  
410-278-2957  
SGT BANGURA KHA-BENNEH  
410-278-5041



SSG DARRUN E. MURPHY  
410-306-3010

**61st Ord Bde, HQ**  
CW3 RICHARD L. KRAUSE  
410-278-3170

**AMSAA**  
SFC LUIS M. EMMANUELLI  
410-278-8735

**ARL, WMRD**  
LTC VERNON TAYLOR  
410-306-0663

**CHPPM**  
1LT TANYA KITTELL  
410-278-5476

**DENTAC**  
SPC CAROL HARDIE  
410-278-1795

**KUSAHC**  
SGT ANDREW J. IGNATZ  
410-278-1870  
SSG RANDY G. RIGGS  
410-278-1958

**MRICD**  
CPT JAMES DAVIDSON  
410-436-2463

**NCOA, ANCO**  
SFC WILLIAM BUTTRAM  
410-436-4108

**NCOA, BNCOC**  
SFC OFELIA WEBB  
410-278-3920

**TEU**  
1LT CHRISTIAN HILL  
410-436-1882

**USAF**  
SSG JERRY L. CARPENDER  
410-278-9882

**APG Garrison, DLES (MP)**  
SFC WAYNE D. GREENLEAF  
410-306-0562

**APG Garrison, HST**  
SSG FIDEL DIAZ  
410-278-2104  
SSG RICHARD GUTIERREZ  
410-278-7358

**APG Garrison, HST/ATC**  
SGT JESSE M. SCHMIDT  
410-278-5605

**USMC**  
GY SGT K.R. BROWNING  
410-278-9261  
SSGT RICKY A. COOLONG  
410-278-2831  
SGT MICKEY E. GIBSON  
410-278-8559  
SSG TODD I. MASON  
410-278-0606

**Volunteer, Edgewood**  
DENISE DOESBURG  
410-436-6092/3044

**Volunteer, Tax Center**  
MICHAEL R. O'HERN  
410-278-3397

**Volunteer, Tax Center**  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret.)  
HOWARD SWINK  
410-278-3397

## AROUND THE ARMY

# Promotion-eligible specialists, sergeants can stay in longer

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (March 12, 1999) - Promotion-eligible specialists will be allowed to complete 13 years of service, and sergeants eligible for promotion to staff sergeant will be able to retire at 20 years of service, according to Army enlisted retention policy changes.

The changes, which become effective April 1, return the retention control points for promotion-eligible specialists and sergeants to pre-drawdown states, said Sgt. Maj. Jerome L. Pionk, enlisted retention sergeant major, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

The RCP for promotion-eligible specialists was changed from eight years to the current 10 years of service in 1997, he said, and the RCP for promotion-eligible sergeants was changed from 20 years to the current 15 years of service in 1993.

Retention control points indicate mandatory separation from service or retirement dates for junior enlisted soldiers and noncommissioned officers who don't meet the Army's "up or out" promotion rules, Pionk said. Under the new policy, the retention control points for specialists and sergeants who haven't appeared before promotion boards (non-promotable) remain the same at 10 years and 15 years, respectively, he said.

With the drawdown complete, Pionk said, the Army no longer needs to pare large numbers of pro-

motion-eligible enlisted soldiers as it did during the early '90s. Additionally, the current lean recruiting environment is making each soldier already on active duty that much more valuable in the eyes of Army personnel planners.

"[Changing the retention control points] is the right thing to do, from a mid-career point of view, because we are now experiencing some shortages of specialists, sergeants and staff sergeants," Pionk said. "[Prior to the drawdown] 13 years was the point we found that if soldiers hadn't made sergeant, then they'd probably lost all avenues of getting promoted. [Promotion-eligible specialists] who are held up from making sergeant aren't necessarily 'bad' soldiers. Many are good soldiers who've been either held up [for promotion] for being in an over-strength military occupational specialty for quite awhile.

"[Concerning] sergeant promotables going to 20 years, that was also an old policy in effect prior to the drawdown.... Again, these are pretty good soldiers; we anticipate most of them will make staff sergeant."

Pionk noted the Army had to make some hard personnel decisions during the 1991-97 drawdown.

"It was purely a manpower question; the Army was coming down from 770,000 soldiers to around 480,000," he said. "The Army is now at the steady-state at which it needs to be. Now we need an even flow of specialists, sergeants, staff sergeants, sergeants first class, master sergeants and sergeants major.

"The only way we can do that is to allow soldiers to stay longer ... to enable them to get promoted to their maximum efficiency," Pionk said.

Army efforts to keep good soldiers in uniform haven't been limited to junior enlisted soldiers or junior NCOs, Pionk said. On Jan. 1, the Army raised the retention control points for master sergeants and sergeants first class from 24 to 26 years.

Pionk said the Army has changed considerably since he joined up in 1970. In that larger, draft-based, Vietnam War-era Army, he said, enlisted soldiers could be "busted" and then regain their rank and specialists could retire at 20 years of service.

With the inception of the modern Volunteer Army in 1973, and tighter retention policies adopted in the '80s, soldier-quality was improved across the force, Pionk said. However, today's strong economy is adversely impacting Army recruiting efforts and the post-drawdown force must now replace soldiers who depart on a "one-for-one" basis.

Changing personnel policies can pose a challenge to soldiers who haven't planned their careers, Pionk said. Planning a long-term career in today's ever-changing Army, he added, may necessitate some flexibility on soldiers' parts.

"Ideally, all soldiers, [with help from] leaders, career counselors ... should take a proactive look at the long-term [promotion] outlook in their MOS, [and] try to determine ... the best opportunities to realize their full potential and get promoted," he said.

## Cadet earns Soldier's Medal for Kenya rescue

By **Dale J. Cruse**  
Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y., (March 5, 1999) — Acting purely on instinct and military training, Cadet 1st Class Alison Jones entered the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, just moments after a terrorist bomb ripped through the building Aug. 8.

"I just wanted to find somebody alive," she said. Luckily, she did. And for spearheading the rescue, Jones will be awarded the Soldier's Medal in a ceremony May 8, according to U.S. Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Daniel W. Christman. Jones will become the first West Point cadet to earn the honor.

In 1922, the War Department established the Soldier's Medal as recognition for acts of bravery during peacetime. The medal is presented to soldiers who have distinguished themselves by performance that involves personal hazard or voluntarily risking his or her life.

Jones, a 21-year old Baltimore native, was in Kenya as part of a summer internship. The Company G2 international relations major had been writing a paper on HIV and AIDS in Kenya for the U.S. State Department and had only been in the country for about a month. Jones said she had left the embassy only 30 minutes before the bomb went off, at approximately 10:45 a.m.

"The shock wave almost knocked us down," she said. CNN reports said the blast shattered windows and rocked buildings for 10 blocks.

"In seconds, the streets turned to chaos," Jones recalled. "I heard women and children screaming and I just ran, on instinct, toward the embassy."

When she got near, she could see the front of the building was mostly intact. However, "black smoke was pouring out of the back of the building, which sustained the most damage. By this time, people were in complete shock," she said.

Jones' pulse visibly quickens as she recalls entering the building.

"I went into the building with a four-person rescue team. We started our search from the top floor — the fourth floor — while another team started from the ground up.

"It was difficult to see as there was dust, smoke and electrical wires everywhere," she continued. "We didn't find anyone alive on the fourth or third floors, but we could hear someone screaming on the second floor."

Reaching the second floor, Jones and her team found a Kenyan man whose leg had been crushed in the explosion. Jones said it appeared as though he had lost a lot of blood and was in danger of passing out. She quickly found a piece of ceiling beam to use as a splint for the man's shattered leg and talked to him to prevent him from losing consciousness.

Two of her teammates evacuated the man while she and the remaining teammate continued the search.

"But after that, everyone I found was dead," she quietly explained.

One of those she found dead was the man who had become a friend to her during her short time in Africa. Army Sgt. Kenneth R. Hobson II, 27, of Nevada, Miss., and his wife had welcomed Jones with open arms upon her arrival in Kenya and showed her many of the sites in the area.

"When I found him, he was chest-deep in rubble," she recalled. "I had been screaming his name, desperately looking for him. Once I saw him, I said, 'He's dead.' But as soon as I said it, I wanted to take it back, as if taking it back would somehow make it less real," she explained.

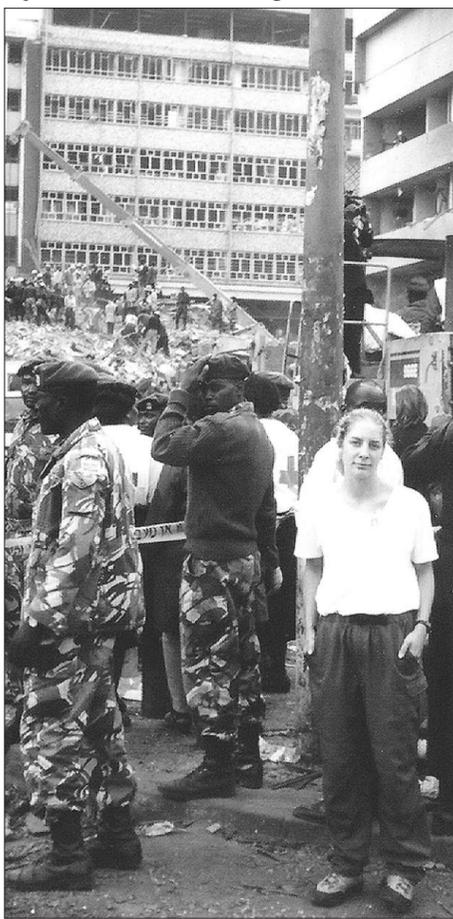
"For that split second, my emotions took over," she said. "But [I

knew] I had to shift back into 'mission mode,'" she continued. "I needed to focus and react, and I remember thinking, 'What can we do now?'"

Jones said that as she made her way out of the building, she realized security was the next problem. "Though much of the smoke had cleared by that time, there was still chaos," she recalled.

"People were climbing in and out of the back of the building and street kids were just wandering in and out. Some of the engineers in the area said the building was quite unstable," Jones continued.

For everyone's safety, Jones said she decided to rope off the front of the building and create a central



**Cadet 1st Class Alison Jones stands in front of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, after a terrorist bomb ripped through the building Aug. 8.**

medical and supply-collection point.

"People were arriving with ropes, blankets, shovels - anything to help," the future military police officer said. Creating a central location for these items, Jones said, helped to restore order to a dangerous situation.

"It was my West Point training that helped me keep a cool head while all this was happening," she explained. "The most important thing was to create order from chaos."

Social Sciences Instructor Maj. Kimberly Field, one of Jones' mentors, said, "Her West Point training in combination with her natural abilities served those around her extraordinarily well this past summer.

"As an MP officer, I can confidently say she is singularly well-suited for leading our precious soldiers in the MP Corps world, a world which demands all the attributes she so clearly displays - maturity, an adventurous spirit, discipline, deep-thinking ability, enthusiasm, humility, compassion and athleticism," Field added.

Brigade Tactical Officer Col. Joseph W. Adamezyk agreed.

"I'm extremely proud of her actions. They are a credit to her as a leader and personify such Army values as duty, personal courage and selfless service.

"Her actions," he continued, "represent the epitome of the tremendous contributions all of our cadets provide on a regular basis to our Army, our community and our fellow man."

Jones said that while she's grateful for the recognition, she just did what she felt was right.

"Today," she revealed, "I have mixed emotions about the award. I'm happy I'm getting it, but I just did what was right to do. People from the street gave all they could give to help, and I don't think I gave any more than anybody else," she added.

*(Editor's note: Dale Cruse is a staff member of the West Point Public Affairs Office.)*

## Soldiers, civilians can enter essay contest

Army News Service

WASHINGTON (March 11, 1999) - Soldiers and civilians can compete in the sixth annual Colin L. Powell Joint Warfighting Essay Contest and earn up to \$2,500 in prize money. Entries must be postmarked by April 1 in this essay contest sponsored by the U.S. Naval Institute.

Essays should be about combat readiness in a joint context with persuasive discussions of tactics, strategy, weaponry, combat training, force structure, doctrine, operations, organization for combat, interoperability of hardware and procedures or other issues involving two or more services. Entries may be heavy in Army detail, officials said, but must have joint application. Maximum length is 3,000 words, but shorter pieces or professional notes of 2,000 words may also be competitive, they said.

Essays must be original — not previously submitted or published. An exact word count must appear on the title page. The essays must be typewritten, double-spaced, on 8x11-inch paper.

Entrants must assign a motto in addition to the title to the essay and both should appear on the title page, but the author's name should not appear on the essay. The motto should appear by itself on the outside of an accompanying sealed envelope containing a sheet of paper with the author's name, address, telephone, social security number and short biography, the title of the essay and the motto.

Send entries to Colin L. Powell Joint Warfighting Essay Contest, U.S. Naval Institute, 291 Wood Road, Annapolis, MD 21402-5035.

The authors of the three best essays will be awarded cash prizes of \$2,500, \$2,000 and \$1,000 respectively. Winning essays will also be reprinted in the September issue of *Proceedings*. For details, call the Naval Institute at (410) 295-1058.

## SPORTS SHORTS

**Coaching positions open**

The APG Sports Program is accepting applications for post-level coaches in softball, volleyball and soccer. Post-level teams participate in the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference and play in round-robin tournament format on weekends only. Once coaches are selected, player recruitment will take place. Applications are available in all gyms and the APG Sports Office; or, call Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

**Volleyball Pre-season Tournament slated**

The Intramural Pre-season Volleyball Tournament will take place in the APG Athletic Center March 23-29. All intramural volleyball teams registered for the upcoming season are invited to play. The championship game will be held March 29. For more information, contact Earlene Allen, intramural sports coordinator, 410-278-7934.

**Attend Sports Council meeting April 1**

The next Sports Council meeting will be held April 1, 10 a.m., at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center. Topics will include an update of Commander's Cup point standings, three-on-three basketball, deadlift, softball and golf competitions. All units at APG should be represented at this meeting. For information, contact Earlene Allen, intramural sports coordinator, 410-278-7934.

**First three-on-three basketball planned**

The Intramural Sports Office is sponsoring its first three-on-three basketball competition at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The tournament will be held in the Aberdeen Area on Saturday, April 10. There will be an Intramural Division competing for Commander's Cup points, and a Civilian Division which is open to all other eligible patrons. Register by April 2. For more information, contact the Intramural Sports Office, 410-278-7934.

**First deadlift competition is April 10**

To continue with the "Power Lifting" series, the Intramural Sports Office is sponsoring the first Deadlift Competition at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The tournament will be held in the Edgewood Area's Hoyle Gym on Saturday, April 10. There will be an Intramural Division competing for Commander's Cup points, and a Civilian Division which is open to all other eligible patrons. Register by April 7. For more information, contact the Intramural Sports Office, 410-278-7934.

**Evening golf league planned**

Sign-ups for the Ruggles Evening Golf League are being accepted. Teams may request to play in the Tuesday or Wednesday night league with returning teams receiving preference. The league starts in mid-April and play will continue weekly until Labor Day. League play consists of nine holes played at Ruggles with a 5:05 p.m. shotgun start. Teams may consist of up to five members, with two players participating in the weekly match. Only those eligible for annual patronage at Ruggles are eligible (APG civilians, military, retirees from military or government service, DOD contractors working on post). Dues are expected to be close to last year's (\$110) and individuals are responsible for green fees. For information contact Larry Burton, 410-306-0767, e-mail: coach@arl.mil.

# Racquetball tourney slams home wins

The intramural racquetball season ended early this month, with the championship and awards on March 3.

The single-elimination event began Feb. 22 with 55 participants entered in five divisions, four military and one civilian.

The Men's Open Division had the largest turnout with 39 participants. The final came down to a battle of the Marines as James Castro defeated David Rawcliff 15-4, 15-5. Castro is a student with the Marine Corps Detachment.

Seven entrants competed in the Men's Senior Division, for ages 35-39. Joe Snyders defeated the lefty Brendan Powers from Army Research Laboratory 15-4, 5-15, 11-10, for the title.

The Master's Division for individuals

40 and over was won by John Buckingham from CHPPM. There were six entrants in this bracket. Buckingham defeated Winston Worrell from HST 15-6, 15-2, in the finals.

The Women's Division also had six entrants. of E Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, represented half of the participants in this bracket. In the finals, Julie Wells from CHPPM defeated Cindy Hobbs of E Company, 15-10, 15-8.

The civilian bracket had seven participants. The finals came down to the battle of retired NCO's. Darryl Calhoun defeated Tony Corum 3-15, 15-10, 11-4 to claim the title.

The awards were presented following the final matches by APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Kolker.

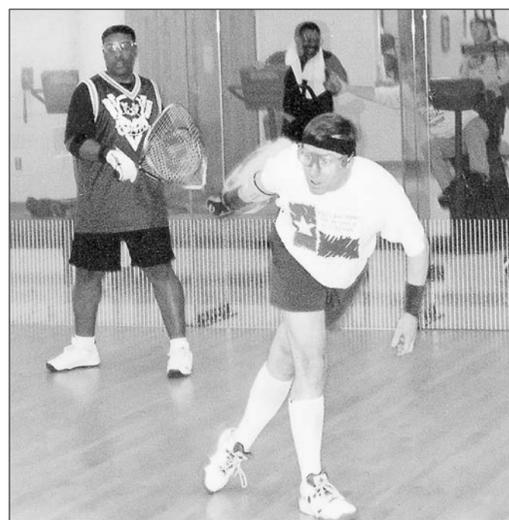


Photo by RODERICK PALMER

**John Buckingham reaches for a shot as Winston Worrell looks on during the Senior's Division of the Intramural Racquetball Championship.**

## NCOA rallies in championship, falls to HHC 16th

**CHAMPS, from front page**

He credited the win to "teamwork, of course," and strong performances by Terry Fortson and Dwhan Harrell during the season.

"We started the season well, then all of the sudden we went into a slump," he said. "We lost a couple of games we should have won."

The team learned a hard lesson in last year's championship, Dingle said.

"We should have been the champions last year. We were kind of cocky last year, and we went out and did not execute," he said. "This year, we did not take anyone lightly, and we won the championship. We had a lot of confidence, but we didn't let it go to our heads."

In the championship game, HHC 16th knew only strong defense would shut down NCOA's Bobby Smith, known for scoring 25 points per game.

"We were feeling pretty good, with a seven-point lead, going into the second half," Dingle said.

But as the final minutes of the clock ran down, NCOA's Rickey Mothershed and William Burrows

took off, each scoring two three-pointers in the final three minutes of the game, with John Thomas adding four two-pointers.

"They shocked us," Dingle said. "They really did not want to lose."

NCOA Coach Anthony Dobyne said his team was motivated by a desire to win, but the team was hampered throughout the season by schedules of players who want to visit their families on the weekends.

"That's the disadvantage you have of playing at the academy," he said. "You have guys here who haven't seen their families for weeks. You can't blame them for wanting to see them on the weekend."

The playoffs would have gone more smoothly, he added, if they had won Sunday's game against HHC 16th.

"We should have won that game Sunday," he said, noting that Smith didn't make it to the game until half-time because he had the wrong time for the start.

After the loss, Dingle said the HHC 16th team went back to the locker and regrouped. The

returned to the court refreshed and with a goal of winning.

While he's not thrilled with second place, Dobyne said NCOA's 12-3 record makes his team the only post intramural basketball team to win 14 games in a row in a season.

"We lost the first three games, then didn't lose again until the playoffs," he said.

Dobyne said the NCO's "can't outplay those young guys" on AIT teams.

"We've got to outthink them," he said. "That's why 16th and NCOA didn't have a problem with the AIT students. They have the wind and the legs, but we have the strategy."

Other players on the HHC 16th team are Gregory Pitts, Ricky Coleman, James Burrell, Keith Hinton, Timothy Switzer, Joe W. Jefferson, Arthur Collins, Dwyane Washington and Derek St. Louis.

The NCOA team also included Alphonso Ash, Chad Coleman, William Lee, Luis Pacheco, Frank Celestine, Maltise Jones and Joseph Tipapo.

While the official basketball season has ended, that doesn't

quite mark the end of basketball action on post.

"We're getting ready for all-star basketball," Allen said of the last basketball action of the season for APG. "This one's just for the bragging rights."

The All Star Tournament started Tuesday night. On Thursday, the losers from Tuesday's and Wednesday's games will play at 7 p.m. at either the APG Athletic Center or Hoyle Gym, depending on the home court of the team that lost Wednesday. The final game will be played Monday, March 22, at one of the locations, 7 p.m., depending on the winner's home court. Prior to each game at 6 p.m., three-point and slam dunk contests will be held. Sign up at the gyms if you're interested.

"The championship game was an exciting game, and a great way to wrap up the season," said Earlene Allen, intramural sports director. "We had a good season. We didn't have any major problems, and only one forfeit. That's pretty good for military teams."

Volleyball pre-season kicks off next week. For more information, call Allen at 410-278-7933/7934.

# Chapel congregations to join for Easter Sunrise service

## Aberdeen Area Chapel to present Living Last Supper on April 1

Members from the Aberdeen Post Chapel will present a dramatic program entitled "The Living Last Supper" at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 1, in the Aberdeen Chapel. The program is a reenactment of Jesus' last night with his disciples just prior to his trial and crucifixion.

The setting for the production replicates the famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci depicting the 12 disciples and Jesus around the supper table. The live actors are dressed as the disciples appear in the painting. After a brief narration, the various characters will process from the rear of the chapel and take their places around the table. As the drama unfolds, the tension heightens as each disciple, in turn, thinks aloud about his relationship to Jesus. The tone of each soliloquy expresses the anguish in the minds of the disciples as they consider the words of Jesus: "One of you will betray me."

The program also will feature appropriate vocal music sung by

Sandy Nook. The final moments will conclude with the offering of the bread and cup and the communion of saints to remember the death of Jesus Christ.

Everyone is cordially invited to see this presentation. For more information, call the Aberdeen Post Chapel at 410-278-4333.

The residents of Edgewood and Aberdeen communities are invited to the APG annual Easter Sunrise service at 7 a.m., on Sunday, April 4. The combined chapel congregations from Aberdeen Proving Ground will meet at the McBride Field, Edgewood Area, to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Easter is the most significant day on the Christian calendar. For 2,000 years Christian believers have commemorated the news about Jesus, first given by an angel in white robes, saying, "he is not here. He is risen from the dead." In the news of His resurrection lie all of the eternal hope and joy and the reason for cele-

bration among Christians.

The program will take place behind the chapel on the parade field. Military members are encouraged to wear dress blue uniforms, but they are not required. Ministry teams from Catholic, Gospel and Protestant congregations, AA and EA, will take part in the program. The Installation Commander, Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, will bring Easter greetings. A brass ensemble from the 389th Army Band will accompany the congregational singing and provide majestic selections in keeping with the occasion. Also featured will be the AA Gospel and Protestant choirs. Chaplain James E. May, Garrison Chaplain, will bring a message entitled "Joy in the Morning."

Everyone is cordially invited to attend and to share in light refreshments after the program. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the EA Chapel. For more information, call the Aberdeen Post Chapel at 410-278-4333.

## Services scheduled during Easter

The following events are scheduled on post during the Easter season:

### AA Protestant Schedule

March 28, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday, Easter Cantata  
April 1, 7 p.m., Living Last Supper  
April 2, noon, Good Friday Service (at Grace Methodist, Aberdeen)  
April 3, 10 a.m., Easter Egg Hunt  
April 4, 7 a.m., Easter Sunrise Service (at McBride Field, EA)  
April 4, 10:45 a.m., Easter Service

### EA Protestant Schedule

March 28, 9:15 a.m., Palm Sunday  
April 4, 7 a.m., Easter Sunrise Service (at McBride Field, EA)  
April 4, 9:15 a.m., Easter Service

### AA Catholic Schedule

March 28, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday, Blessing Palms, Procession/Mass  
March 31, 7 p.m., Penance Service  
April 1, 11:45 a.m., Holy Thursday Mass  
April 2, 11:45 a.m., Good Friday Service  
April 4, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday Mass

### EA Catholic Schedule

March 25, 7 p.m., Penance Service  
March 28, 10:45 a.m., Palm Sunday, Blessing of Palms, Procession/Mass  
April 1, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday Mass  
April 2, 7 p.m., Good Friday Mass  
April 3, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass  
April 4, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday Mass



## Enter voting contest

Special to Army News Service

WASHINGTON (March 2, 1999) — The Federal Voting Assistance Program extends an invitation to soldiers and Department of the Army civilians to submit entries for the Voting Slogan Contest.

The contest is sponsored by the FVAP as part of its efforts to expand public awareness and encourage voter participation among the uniformed services, the Merchant Marine, their family members, and other overseas American citizens, worldwide. All U.S. citizens, however, are encouraged to participate.

A panel of independent judges will evaluate all slogan submissions on their originality and motivational value. The winning slogan will be featured in FVAP's 2000-2001 media campaign, which focuses on increasing voter awareness among U.S. citizens worldwide and encouraging them to vote. The slogan will be posted on the FVAP web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>, in the 2000-2001 Voting Assistance Guide, on motivational posters, audiovisual materials and in other FVAP publications and manuals. Slogans should be submitted separately one slogan per page or e-mail.

Send entries via one of the following methods:

E-mail: [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov);  
Fax: (703) 588-0108 or DSN 425-0108 (No cover sheet is necessary);

U.S. Mail: Federal Voting Assistance Program, Attn: Voting Slogan Contest, Washington Headquarters Services, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155.

All submissions must include full name, military branch or service, if applicable, mailing address, daytime telephone number, fax number and e-mail address (if applicable). If submitting by mail or fax, type or print legibly on regular 8 1/2 x 11-inch paper. The deadline is July 6.

The author of the winning entry and runners-up will be awarded a certificate of recognition from the Secretary of Defense.

The point of contact for the slogan contest is Matthew Knefel. He can be reached at the Federal Voting Assistance Program via e-mail at [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov), or toll-free in the U.S. at (800) 438-8683, commercial (703) 588-1584, DSN (military) 425-1584, or fax (703) 588-0108, DSN (military) 425-0108.

(Editor's note: Information provided by Federal Voting Assistance Program news release.)

# COMING UP...

## THURSDAY MARCH 18 WARRANT OFFICERS

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter will hold its next meeting from 4:30-6 p.m., at Yogi's All American, 973 West Bel Air Ave., 410-893-3803. For more information, call CW4 Mike Mitchell, 410-278-2319, or CW2 Carol Priddy, 410-278-7362.

## FRIDAY MARCH 19 TICK INFO

Aberdeen Test Center will sponsor an hour-long public information session on tick-borne diseases at the Post Theater, 9:30 a.m. For information, contact Ann Carney, 410-278-8806.

## BASKET BINGO

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses Club (MCSC) is sponsoring "Basket Bingo" to benefit its scholarship and welfare funds, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), Aberdeen Fire Hall. Cost is \$10 and seats are limited to paid ticket holders. Prizes will be Longaberger baskets. Tickets are available at the APG Thrift Shop or by calling Amy Carlson, 410-273-0525, Becky Cornforth, 410-676-3522, or Maggie Hardy, 410-272-8927.

## COMMUNITY FIRST AID

The APG American Red Cross will hold a Community First Aid and Safety Course, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., building 2477. Upon com-

pletion you will be certified in first aid for three years and community CPR for one year. For details call 410-278-2087.

## TUESDAY MARCH 23 RECRUITMENT

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Recruiting Team will hold briefings at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Post Theater. The aviation program is open to qualified service members regardless of MOS or rank; other warrant officer MOS's are open to E-5's and above who meet criteria. Applications are accepted from all service branches.

## THURSDAY MARCH 25 LEARN SELF-DEFENSE

The APG Committee for the disABLED will sponsor a self-defense demonstration at 3 p.m., Top of the Bay, by martial arts instructor David T. Bish. He will address the best ways to avoid dangerous situations and techniques to protect yourself, whether you are disabled or non-disabled. The program is open to all civilians and military.

## FRIDAY MARCH 26 USED BOOK SALE

The Bel Air Friends of Harford County Public Library will hold a Used Book Sale through Sunday, March 28. Friday and Saturday hours will be 10 a.m.-

4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m. For more information, call the Bel Air Branch at 410-638-3151; Anna Housman, 410-838-8049; or Sally Drumm, 410-838-3147.

## SATURDAY MARCH 27 DECOY SHOW

The American Red Cross will sponsor a Decoy and Waterfowl Show and Auction, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Bel Air High School. Admission is \$3 for adults, free for those under age 15 with adult. Festivities include food, music, working displays and collections, as well as decoys and waterfowl art for sale. All proceeds will benefit the American Red Cross. For more information, call 410-879-6984.

## MONDAY APRIL 5 FEEL BETTER

A Look Good ... Feel Better program will be held at 7 p.m., at the Oncology Center at Riverside, 1200 Brass Mill Rd., Belcamp. This free program is sponsored by the American Cancer Society to help all women undergoing cancer treatment deal with the cosmetic side-effects of chemotherapy and radiation. B. Ramsey Bane will be the trained cosmetologist leading the program. To register, call the American Cancer Society at 1-888-ACS-NEED (1-888-227-6333).

## TUESDAY APRIL 6 TOWN HALL MEETING

The Town Hall Meeting will be held 10:30 a.m.-noon, AA Recreation Center. Col. Robert Spidel, APG Garrison commander, and his staff will answer questions. All APG military, civilians, retirees and family members are invited to share ideas or offer suggestions on how to improve quality of life at APG. For more information, call 410-278-5469.

## FRIDAY APRIL 9 APRIL SLEEP OVER

Protestant Women of the Chapel will present "An April Sleep Over," starting at 6 p.m. Bring a sleeping bag, pillow and a towel. If you have a game to share, bring it. Pizza will be served at 7 p.m. To sign up and receive directions for the event, call Sandy Rodriguez, 410-297-8757.

## SATURDAY APRIL 10 BABY-SITTERS UNITE

A two-day Baby-sitting class will be held today and April 17, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., building 2477. You must attend both days. The class is open to youths 13 years of age and over. A price of \$10 is offered through the APG Thrift Shop's scholarship to all ID card holders on post. Stop by the Red Cross Office in building 2477 to register by noon on April 7.

## WAPG TV

The following programs are scheduled for WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3, from March 18-24.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 18**  
10 a.m., 7 p.m., TECOM change of command of Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews to Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine

**MONDAY, MARCH 22**  
10 a.m., 7 p.m., TECOM change of command

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**  
10 a.m., 7 p.m., TECOM change of command.

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

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 WELCOMETO APG

APG will hold an orientation, 1-3 p.m., AA Recreation Center, building 3326, to welcome

incoming military and civilian personnel and their families. Representatives from post activities will inform you about APG and community services and activities. For information, call 410-278-7474/4372.

## MOVIES

### VARSITY BLUES

**Friday, March 19, 7 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 20, 9 p.m.**  
**Starring: James Van Der Beek, Jon Voight**

In small-town Texas, high school football is a religion. In his 35th year as head coach, Bud Kilmer is trying to lead his West Canaan Coyotes to their 23rd division title. When the star quarterback suffers an injury, the Coyotes are forced to regroup under the questionable leadership of a second-string quarterback with a slightly irreverent approach to the game. **(Rated R)**

### AT FIRST SIGHT

**Saturday, March 20, 7 p.m.**  
**Starring: Val Kilmer**

A driven Manhattan architect relaxes at a resort and falls for the masseur, who has been blind since age 3. She takes him to New York for a new, radical surgery. After he regains his sight, he must deal with the changes to his life. **(Rated PG-13)**

## 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);
- Lena Blethen;
- John Boyle (surgery);
- Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
- Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
- Alberta Brown (mother ill);
- Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
- Linda Brown (diabetic);
- Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
- Cara Coe (maternity);
- Dawn Crouse (surgery);
- Tamara Dawson (maternity);
- Dennis Green;
- Herman Hensley;
- Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer)
- Joseph Hill (heart problems);
- Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
- Eldon Jerome James (lung cancer and brain tumor);
- Marcia Johnson (Down's Syndrome child requires surgery);
- Lilly "Kitty" Johnson (surgery);
- Mary Johnson (surgery);
- Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
- Jennifer Keetley (maternity);
- Tracey Kerney (surgery);
- Beverly King (caring for husband);
- Barbara LaGrange (Hodgkins Disease);
- Patricia LaGrange;
- 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);
- Churon Ringgold;
- Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
- John Sheppard (colon cancer);
- Rita Sluder (mother has cancer);
- Walter Taylor (auto accident);
- Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
- Joseph Walker (Wife has cancer)
- Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
- Kenneth Weathers (medical);
- Frank Winters (surgery).

# CA Hotline

## Q&A's and Updates!

### (410) 278-9461



### New hotline feature

The CA Hotline has a new feature. You can call to listen to updates about activities regarding the CA Study and its processes. Future updates will include decision announcements, VERA and VVIP window opportunities (if and when approved), upcoming briefing and counseling dates and more. Dial the same number as always, 410-278-9461, then press one to ask a question or leave a message, or press two to listen to the update. The hotline is available 24 hours a day, so you can listen to the update or ask questions about the CA Study from the privacy of your home. If you call to ask a question, you can leave your name and number

and someone will call you with an answer, or you can call anonymously and your question will be answered in this section of the APG News.

### CA Study, Transition Q&A booklet

If you did not pick up a copy of the CA Study, Transition Q&A's booklet at the March 5 work force briefings, ask your CA representative or Civilian Personnel Advisory Center servicing specialist for a copy. Or, you can read it on the APG CA Web page ([www.apg.army.mil/ca.html](http://www.apg.army.mil/ca.html)), or call the CA Hotline and leave your name and number and a brief message of how many copies you need.

## MWR UPDATE

### Ski tuning special

The Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center announces its end-of-season ski tuning special, March 29-April 9. Bring in your skis and receive 30 percent off already low prices. The center can hot wax, sharpen edges or repair your base (p-tex application), or do all three. Stop by building 2407 or call 410-278-4124/5789.

### Boater safety class scheduled

Outdoor Recreation and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-04 is offering a Boating Skills and Seamanship Course, starting April 6. Classes will be held in building E-4733 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. A \$20 fee covers the cost of text and study guide. Class size is limited to 40 students. For reservations and more information call Charles Shadle at 410-838-2265 or Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124.

### Spesutie Island Boat Club

The Spesutie Island Boat Club is accepting applications for the 1999 season. You must be authorized to participate in APG Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. Eligible personnel include all active duty military, military retirees, APG civilians, retired APG civilians, civilian contractors (with ID cards) and Baltimore Area Corps of Engineer employees. You must provide proof of insurance for your boat and registration. Cost of keeping a boat is \$9.50 a foot for mooring, \$6.50 per foot for lot storage, and \$6 per foot ramp access. If you are interested in joining this organization stop by building 36 or call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4402

### Turkey season starts soon

There will be a spring gobbler, (male only) turkey season on APG April 17-May 15, corresponding to the state season. Hunting will take place in the Aberdeen Area only. The limit per hunter is one bird and the season will close when a total of 10 birds have been harvested. Designated areas for turkey hunting will be

determined in the next few weeks. For information contact Charles Heinsohn, Outdoor Recreation Program, 410-278-4124.

### Edgewood Arts and Crafts Center

A beginning Matting & Framing Class will be held March 25, 5:30-9 p.m. The cost of the class is \$15 plus supplies, which run around \$40. Students must bring an 8x10-inch picture to frame. Registration is required. Professional picture framing is available at great savings. For an estimate, bring your pictures to building E-4440 during our hours of operation. The center still has a large selection of ceramic items ready to paint and decorate, including Carousel horses, ceramic fountains, vases and holiday decorations. Visit building E-4440 or call 410-436-2153. The center is open Thursdays, 1-9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Aberdeen Fitness Center

The AA Health and Fitness Center has a program for everyone. There are step aerobic classes, toning classes, individual training, Civilian Fitness Program and PT classes, given by certified instructors. For one low cost, you can participate in any program. Call today for an appointment with a staff member. The center is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. Call 410-278-9725/9759.

### Paintball Festival is April 24

Paintball is coming to APG on Saturday, April 24. Outdoor Recreation will host Paintball Festival at the Maryland Boulevard picnic area. Two categories of competition, a 5 person-40 team(3 Division, Round Robin) and a three-person Round-Robin tournament will be held. Equipment rental is available. The top three finishers will receive \$3,500 in gift certificates(1st-\$2,000, 2nd-\$1,000, 3rd-\$500). Target Shooting will also be open to all participants and spectators. Don't miss out on this exciting and fun-filled event, register by March 31. For more information, contact Charles Heinsohn, Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124/5789.

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES '99



Seek out local support groups for parents of children with special needs.

# SPECIAL CHILDREN AND WORKING PARENTS

nity or nearest metropolitan area. A local college or university may have a specialist on staff or may be able to direct you elsewhere. Perhaps your county or state government can provide information or financial resources.

Ask for help from the public school district office, even if your child attends private school or is not yet in school. Most school districts have psychologists, social workers, and other specialized professionals on staff, and are required by law to make their services available to all children who live in the district.

### Build Networks

Parents are often tempted to shield the child's problems from family or friends at a time when they most need their help. Be honest with the child's siblings and other family members in order to enlist their support.

Even if your spouse is having difficulty accepting the child's problems, insist on his or her cooperation in seeking solutions. A team effort is required to successfully meet the needs of a special child.

Seek help from parents of children with similar needs. They can save you many hours of locating information and experts. Support groups can help you cope with the emotional and financial problems that you are facing.

Be frank when explaining the situation to your employer or co-workers. You may need to accompany your child to doctor's appointments or attend meetings with specialists during working hours. Inquire into insurance benefits which might cover the costs of your child's care.

By thoroughly investigating resources and gathering information, you can become your child's advocate in helping him succeed despite his handicaps.

Juggling the demands of career and family is difficult for any working parent, but it can be especially hard for parents who have children with special needs. Whether the child has a moderate or severe handicap, seek the support of your family, community, and school system to help you and your child cope.

### Do Your Homework

The parents of a child born with a physical or mental handicap soon become experts about their child's special needs. This should be true, too, in cases where a problem later develops or manifests itself, such as allergies or a learning disability.

Don't ignore symptoms in the hope that they'll disappear. Talk to your pediatrician and begin to collect information about the child's problem from your library or organizations established to help. If your doctor has limited knowledge about the field or seems to minimize the problem, seek additional help from specialists. The more you research the problem, the greater assistance you will be able to provide for your child.

Investigate resources available within your commu-

For more information or assistance, call Army Community Service at 410-278-7474.

# NAF employees honored for service, hard work at recognition ceremony

By Meghan Heimbach  
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Nonappropriated Fund employees were honored last week at the Top of the Bay during the NAF Employee of the Year Recognition Ceremony, for their outstanding performance throughout the year.

NAF Employees are nominated into three categories: administrative, trades and crafts, and supervisory.

Roy Ballinger, director of the Directorate of Community and Family Activities, welcomed guests, nominees and Joe Craten, APG Garrison civilian deputy, who passed on the thanks of Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander.

"On behalf of Colonel Spidel, I wish to thank you for everything you do on a daily basis," Craten said. "You provided and insisted on good service, and that is what brings people back."

Craten also thanked NAF employees on behalf of Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and APG.

"Thank you for a job well done," Craten said.

Craten congratulated all those involved in the hard work of bringing in the \$400,000 generated from nonappropriated funds during fiscal year 1998.

Ballinger commented on the NAF program's progress throughout the years and how it "continues to grow and get better and better every year."

"There are 400 NAF employees on post, and the fact that you all were chosen as nominees says a lot," he said.

First place winner for the Administrative Category was 10-year NAF employee, Julie Bates, personnel assistant in NAF Civilian Personnel Office. Ballinger said Bates "exhibits outstanding customer service skills."

Runner-up in the Administrative Category was



Photo by RALPH BROTH

**Among the winners of the Nonappropriated Fund Employees of the Year for 1998 are, from left: Chuck Hamilton, first place in the Supervisory Category; Merritt McMullen, runner-up in the Trades and Crafts Category; Julie Bates, first place in the Administrative Category; and Clarissa Thornhill, first place in the Trades and Crafts Category. Not pictured are Harvey Thomas, runner-up in the Administrative Category, and Debbie Billoto, runner-up in the Supervisory Category.**

Harvey Thomas, a flex employee who works for the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center. Thomas also serves full-time as a sergeant first class at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School.

"His rapport with the military has been more than helpful in improving the image of the Recreation Center program and facility," Ballinger said. "He is a mentor to his fellow employees and his outstanding performance has significantly impacted the quality of the life for the community."

Also nominated for the Administrative Category were Rose Bailey of the Leisure Travel Office; Eva Kolterman, accounting technician for the Billing Office; Carole Sinkhorn, recreation assistant for the Aberdeen Area Health and Fitness Center; and Winona Whitaker, recreation assistant at the AA Recreation Center.

First place winner for the Trades and Crafts Category was

Clarissa Thornhill of the Outdoor Recreation Center, who transferred from the APG Golf Program in May 1997.

"She has proven herself a significant asset to the program, and is recognized for her technical expertise and her customer-service skills," Ballinger said.

Runner-up in the Trades and Crafts Category was Merritt McMullen of the APG Golf Program, who has worked for the program since 1980.

First place winner in the Supervisory Category was Chuck Hamilton, manager of the APG Bowling Center since September 1997. Hamilton retired as a chief petty officer after a 22-year Navy career.

"He is recognized as the driving force in turning around a losing operation to one that is now recognized as one of the highlights within the APG community," said Ballinger.

Runner-up in the Supervisory Category went to Deborah

Billotto, manager of the Hoyle Health and Fitness Center, who has received several certifications in aerobics, weight training, nutrition, health, and fitness.

"She has done an outstanding job in managing the Hoyle Health and Fitness Center," said Ballinger.

Nominees for the Supervisory Category included Barbara Adams, administrative officer for the Billing Office; Gwyn Dolzine, manager of the AA Health and Fitness Center; Eugene Harris, director of the Youth Golf Program; and Stewart Hinch, operations assistant at Ruggles Golf Course.

Craten presented all nominees with a Garrison coin. In addition, first and second place winners received a plaque and a certificate of appreciation.

First place winners were also presented a bond of \$1,000, and a reserved parking place for one year. Runners-up received a \$500 bond.



Photo by MIKE CAST

**The "Scales and Tails" presentation by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources was a popular learning station. Ranger Jill Hawkins tells students about turtles in Maryland.**

## USAEC joins elementary school students, families for annual science night

**USAEC, from front page**  
event, much as they did last year's science night.

"I think the kids really liked a lot of the hands-on science," said Vickie Fiala, who has a fifth-grader at Edgewood and will place another child in the school's pre-kindergarten program next year. "This is a nice program because the kids really do enjoy learning about these kinds of things, and they remember all the different things from last year."

Joyzell Wallace, an 8-year-old third-grader, said science night combined learning with fun.

"I really liked when we made the ooze. That was my favorite station," she said, referring to a learning station where children saw, among other things, how to mix water with cornstarch to make a viscous, paste-like substance, something between a solid and liquid.

"I also liked the place where we had to connect the dots," she said of the station where children

drew map outlines of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. "I learned about the neatest things, and how recycling is good for the Earth. And that we only use a fraction of the water on the Earth because the rest is too dirty."

Michael Perrone, a fourth-grade teacher at the school, said he thought the volunteer efforts of USAEC were of great benefit to his students.

"I thought the exhibits were not only interesting but very well presented for children at the elementary-school level," he said. "I especially liked the one on the Chesapeake Bay because I'm very interested in the ecology of the Bay myself. I hope this continues from year to year."

With the help of teachers and staff at the elementary school, and volunteers from USAEC, educational-enrichment programs will continue into the future. The next joint event will be a combined Earth Day and Arbor Day observance, scheduled for April 15.