

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, March 31, is plastic, glass and metal. Put appropriate items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

CAC meeting set for Thursday

The next Community Action Council meeting will be held Thursday, March 25, 9 a.m., at the conference room in APG Garrison Headquarters, building 305. Senior area coordinators, community life mayors, designated APG Garrison personnel and AAFES and Commissary representatives should attend.

RAB meeting is Thursday evening

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.

Get Orioles tickets at ITR

The Baltimore Orioles Baseball tickets have arrived in the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office. All tickets have a \$2 handling fee and are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets go on sale March 25 at 9 a.m. for May and June dates; later dates go on sale April 5. Edgewood Area employees can charge tickets by phone. For some dates, ticket rows only will be sold in even or odd amounts. All sales are final and there are no refunds on the baseball tickets. Call Rose or Janie 410-278-4011 for more details and information.

Easter Egg Hunt set for April 3

The Civilian Welfare Fund Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Post Chapel April 3, 10 a.m. The rain date is April 10. For more information, call Angela Keithley, 410-278-4603.

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.

APG will honor volunteers

APG will honor the post's volunteers at the Installation

See SHORTS, page 2



Photos by MATT BUTTON

A golfer hits the course at Ruggles Golf Course on Tuesday, as the course prepares for Saturday's official opening and tournament.

It's beginning to look a lot like golf season

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

Mother Nature showed Old Man Winter who was boss last week by melting every snow flake of Harford County's March 14, four-inch "snow-storm." In fact, the temperature, which hit as high as 73, was just the winter remedy to get Aberdeen Proving Ground golfers teed-up for Saturday's official APG Ruggles Golf Course opening day.

In the spirit of the golfing holiday, Ruggles Golf Course will hold its Annual Open Day Scramble, a foursome shotgun tournament scheduled to tee off at 8 a.m.

As of last Thursday, spaces were filling up with only 20 openings to spare.

"We already have 85 golfers registered," said Marc Williams, Golf Program manager. "For the past three seasons we have filled up to the full capacity."

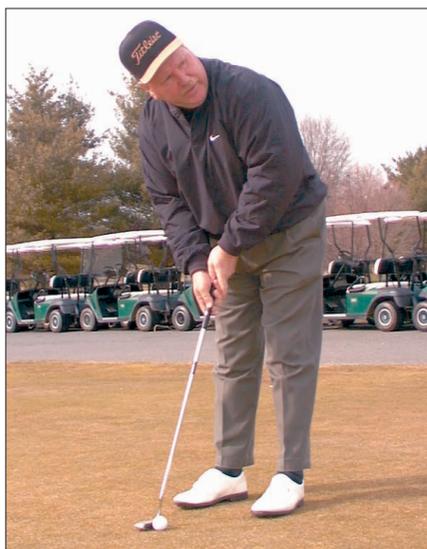
Williams said he encourages all golfers to register as soon as possible.

"This is one of our biggest and best tournaments of the year," he said. "We have a lot of enthusiasm coming off winter."

Williams said the best part about the tournament is all the teams tee off together.

"It does not matter if you are not the world's best golfer, because teams will choose the best shot to play on," he said. "You can benefit from your teammates."

Following the tournament a small awards banquet will be held at the Sutherland House, the course club house. Williams will present trophies to the top teams, and he added that lunch and drinks will be served.



Tom Morris, a retired Marine and former Pro Shop employee, practices putting at Ruggles on Tuesday.

To register for the tournament stop by the golf pro shop, building 9452. There is a \$10 registration fee per person.

With the arrival of spring last weekend, Williams said now is the perfect opportunity to polish up your golfing skills and hit the course again.

"During the long, cold winter, business slows

See GOLF, page 11

Countdown continues to announcement of CA study results

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

In April 1997, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison began a commercial activities study that would examine whether government positions would continue to be performed by government personnel, or whether contractors would do the job.

Within the next three weeks, APG expects to discover the outcome of the Information Services portion of the study, which includes communications, Army Community Service, resource management and public affairs.

In May, the results of the Installation Operations and Community/Family Affairs portion of the study are expected, which includes a large portion of the post's maintenance services, child care and logistics.

Regardless of whether the garrison wins one or both contracts, or loses both, the result will mean change as the garrison moves toward implementing the decisions.

Following are questions and answers about the transition, "most efficient organization," known as the MEO, and the "residual efficient organization," known as the REO:

Q&A

Q: If my position is considered part of the REO, can I still be involved in a RIF?

A: Yes. The REO identifies positions only, not the individuals who fill them. The RIF mechanics will be run according to normal processes and will include all positions in the competitive area.

Q: If my position is considered Government In Nature today, could that change in the future?

A: Yes. The current definition of GIN allows the term to remain open to interpretation. Subject to the interpretation of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Department of the Army (DA), and APG, we can be impacted in different ways in the future.

Q: When and how long is the transition period?

A: The formal transition period will begin after the final award decision has been made. There will be many stages of the transition; however, the time limit suggested by DA PAM 5-20, Commercial Activities Study Guide, for the Residual Efficient Organization (REO) and Most Efficient Organization (MEO) or

See STUDY, page 5

APG celebrates Harford County partnership on science, technology

By Pat McClung
TECOM Public Affairs Office

Representatives of Aberdeen Proving Ground, local governments, community colleges and the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council will sign the charter of the APG Science and Technology Board on April 7, 9 a.m., at the Higher Education and Applied Technology Center, or "HEAT Center," in Aberdeen.

Brian Simmons, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, will host the ceremony. Signers will include: Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and Aberdeen Proving Ground; Dr. Robert W. Whalin, director of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory; James M. Harkins, Harford County executive; Gunther

Hirsch, president of the Harford County Council; Dr. Claudia E. Chiesi, president of Harford Community College; Dr. Robert L. Gell, president of Cecil Community College; and C. Warren Mullins, chairman of the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council.

This charter signing will validate the commitment of the signers and their organizations to continue working in partnership to promote the overall technological growth of APG and the surrounding civilian community.

The ceremony will showcase the board's first-year accomplishments, displaying exhibits in the west wing of the HEAT Center. Technical experts will be available to provide detailed information on technology transfer successes and potential technology

See PARTNERS, page 7

Remembering troops in Bosnia

March Volunteer of the Month ensures those new to area or deployed are not forgotten

By Sheila Little
APG News

The APG volunteer for March is Rose Ann Spieles. Recognized for her contributions to the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion Family Support Group, the post resident has played an active FSG role since arriving at APG with her husband and daughters nearly three years ago.

She lives in Bayside Village with her husband Command Sgt. Maj. David Spieles of the 203rd, and daughters Karen, 16, a junior at Aberdeen High School, and Megan, 14, an Aberdeen Middle School eighth grader.

Spieles, one of the 1,463 APG volunteers who will be honored next month during volunteer recognition week, is a shy, unas-

suming volunteer who would rather make her contribution anonymously, and is uncomfortable with receiving recognition for something she "loves to do."

Deborah McGrath, wife of the battalion commander, described Spieles as the battalion's "one-woman welcome wagon."

"She is the most active volunteer in our unit and the hub of our family support group," she said, describing the many things Spieles does for the unit support group. "She visits our new arrivals, bringing maps and information, baked goods or a plant. She makes hospital visits to offer encouragement or bring supplies and information to new mothers. She plans unit social events, and

See SPIELES, page 7



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Rose Ann Spieles and her daughter, Megan, prepare Easter baskets for troops deployed overseas.

Consolidated Officer Basic Course begins at APG

Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and chief of Ordnance, approved a new program of instruction for Ordnance lieutenants which consolidates the Ordnance Munitions Management Officer Basic Course from Redstone Arsenal, Ala., with the Maintenance Management OBC at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The training has been restructured to

include both Ordnance specialties and will enable lieutenants to perform duties as platoon leaders in either type of unit.

"With the downsized army it makes sense to put more emphasis on multifunctional officers," said Lt. Col. Brian R. "KP" Kilpatrick, director of the OC&S Command and Staff Department. "We will now have more latitude in the assignments of these officers and they will be able to have more of a positive impact on

a greater segment of the Army. This is a demanding course that produces highly motivated and skilled officers who are quite capable of accomplishing their mission in either a munitions or maintenance environment."

Class 03-99 is the first class to receive the consolidated course and is scheduled to graduate in June 1999. This restructured course is 18 weeks and three days long and will bring 50-75 additional stu-

dents to APG annually.

The Combined Arms Support Command will conduct an analysis of the new OBC graduates to ensure that the restructured course best serves the needs of the Army.

"These lieutenants are being challenged to learn and apply complex technical skills that will pave the way for their success as platoon leaders," said Capt. (P) Donna Killian, OBC course director.

"This course was a collaborative effort between CASCOM at Fort Lee, Va., the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., and OC&S at APG, and shows what a great product teamwork can produce."

A total of 240 lieutenants are expected to attend this training through the remainder of fiscal year 1999, and approximately 350 students are expected to attend the course in FY 2000.

Post Shorts

SHORTS, from front page

Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and Reception, 7 p.m., on Thursday, April 22, at the Top of the Bay, building 30. All Aberdeen Proving Ground volunteers and their guests are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments and door prizes will follow the ceremony.

Summer hours start soon

The Re-Nu-It Center will begin summer hours effective April 12. In the Aberdeen Area, the Re-Nu-It Center will be open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, from 8 a.m.-4:20 p.m.

In the Edgewood Area, the Re-Nu-It Center will be open on Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.-6:20 p.m. For more information call Ellery Blake, 410-306-1108.

Ladies golf event planned

The Edgewood Ladies Golf Association will hold its opening coffee March 30, 10 a.m., at Exton Golf Course in the Edgewood Area. All ladies eligible to use APG courses are welcome to attend. Regular play days begin April 6. For more information, contact Connie Richardson at 410-676-0179 or Jane Azuma at 410-410-838-3497.

Yard sale guidelines posted

Residents should keep the following guidelines in mind when planning a yard sale in family housing areas:

Yard sales will be held any weekend of the month between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Signs announcing the sale may be erected in the immediate vicinity only on day of the sale. Signs will not be affixed to traffic signs, utility poles, trees, lamp poles, or fences. Signs should be placed on a wooden stake and placed in the ground. Signs will be taken down at the end of the sale, and residents will be responsible for policing their area after the sale. Advertising for a yard sale is by notice on bulletin boards at the Post Exchange, Commissary, Shoppette (contact manager for approval), or any off post publication.

Red Cross seeks 'hometown heroes'

The American Red Cross is looking for individuals who have demonstrated an act of heroism between Jan. 1, 1998, and March 1, 1999. These "hometown heroes" will be honored for courage, kindness and unselfish character shown by their heroic acts. All nominees must reside or work in the Central Maryland area which includes Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard Counties. To receive a nomination form, call the Red Cross Office, 410-278-2087. Nominations are due by April 1.

Parents support program seeks help

A home visitor is needed to work in Army New Parent Support Program. Applicants should be registered nurses with associate's or bachelor's degrees and two years of experience in community health and prevention of child/spouse abuse.

Licensed MSW's are needed to work in Army New Parent Support Program at APG. Home visitor must have two years experience in prevention of child/spouse abuse. For immediate consideration for either position, fax a resume with cover letter to J&E, 301-650-4136, Attn: HV/NPSP, E.O.E., M/F, H/V.

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.

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.

Send in soup labels to CDC, schools

The Aberdeen Area Child Development Center, Aberdeen Middle School and Edgewood Elementary School collect Campbell's Soup labels to redeem for equipment to be used by children enrolled at the center. Eligible products include: Campbell's bean products; chunky, condensed, Home Cookin' and Healthy Request soups; Campbell's tomato juices; Franco-American gravies, SpaghettiO's; Pace Picante; Pepperidge Farm products; V8 juices; Swanson products; and Prego spaghetti sauces.

The schools are collecting Klein's Supermarket receipts and Campbell's labels. Klein's is running a "Computers Plus for Schools" program through May 25. Pink register receipts are issued to all customers. The small portion with the total cost of groceries is needed, so the schools can redeem receipts for free computers, audio-visual equipment, software, books and sports equipment.

Drop off label donations at the AA CDC, building 2485, at the box in the lobby. Call Kim Fillingner at 410-278-9950 or 410-939-5950 for details. For schools, send labels and receipts by June 1 to Aberdeen Middle School, ATTN: PTA, 111 Mount Royal Ave., Aberdeen, MD 21001 (call Rose Ann Spieles, 410-272-6308); or Edgewood Elementary School, ATTN: PTA, 2100 Cedar Dr., Edgewood, MD 21040 (call Kathy Shrontz, 410-612-0444).

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.

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 scholar-

ship for a spouse of active duty, retired, or deceased military members. Apply by April 2. Winners will be notified by early May.

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.

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.

Refresher training for CORs set

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 COR 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 enough booklets can be printed. If you need to attend this refresher training, notify your training coordinator.

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.

Bingo to benefit Roye-Williams

Roye-Williams Elementary School Parent Teacher Association will host bingo on April 19, 7 p.m. Prizes will include Longaberger Baskets, Pampered Chef and Tupperware products. Cost per ticket (three games per card) is \$10. Doors will open at 6 p.m.; refreshments will be available. Purchase tickets at the school or by calling 410-273-5536. For details, call Trish Ruby, 410-273-5536, Debbie McGrath, 410-297-8620, or Lorie McDuffie, 410-272-0434.

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. 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.

APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. The newspaper is published weekly by the TECOM Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSTE-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5055, (410) 278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the TECOM Public Affairs Office, Building 314, Room 326, AMSTE-PA, APG, MD 21005-5055; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; or send e-mail to kdrewen@apgnews.com. Deadline for copy is Monday at noon (Thursday at noon for letters to the editor). Check out the website at <http://www.apgnews.com>.

STAFF

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

DISABILITY CORNER

Did you know?

The federal law known as Public Law (P.L.) 102-119 guarantees certain rights to young children (ages birth to 5) with special needs. This law is the most recent amendment to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Q: What should I do if I think my child has special needs?

A: First, you'll need to find out if your infant or toddler is eligible for early intervention services. There are many people who can help you with this.

Q: What are early intervention services?

A: These are services for infants and toddlers that are designed to identify and treat a problem or delay as early as possible. Early intervention services are offered through a public or private agency and are provided in different settings, such as the child's home, a clinic, a neighborhood daycare center, hospital, or the local health department. Early intervention services can range from prescribing glasses for a two-year-old to developing a complete physical therapy program for an infant with cerebral palsy.

Q: Who do I contact first for help?

A: Each state decides which of its agencies will be the lead agency in charge of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with special needs. In your state, the first contact person may be an early interventionist (an early childhood specialist working with infants and toddlers), someone with the lead agency, or someone in your state's Child Find office. To find out who can help you in your area, contact the person listed on your State Resource Sheet under "Programs for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities." If you don't have a State Resource Sheet, call NICHY at 1-800-695-0285 and request the name of an early intervention service in your area. Once you have the name of the local intervention service, call them and request an evaluation and assessment?

Q: Who pays for the evaluation and assessment?

A: Under P.L.102-119, evaluations and assessments are provided at no cost to families. Check with your contact person for local guidelines.

Q: Will I have to pay for any services if my child is found eligible?

A: Usually, services are provided at no cost to the family. You may have to pay for some services, depending on your state's policies. Check with the contact person in your area or state. Some services may be covered by your health insurance, by Medicaid or by Indian Health Services.

Q: How do I find out about programs and services for military families whose young children have special needs?

A: One way is through a project know as Specialized Training of Military Parents (STOMP). This organization provides information and help to military families who have children with special needs. The STOMP staff is made up of parents of children with special needs who are trained to work with other parents of children with special needs. As spouses of members of the military, the staff understand the unique needs of military families.

To contact STOMP, call or write:
 Specialized Training of Military Parents (STOMP)
 12208 Pacific Highway, S.W.
 Tacoma, WA 98499
 (206) 588-1741 (Parents may call collect.)

Another source is to contact the Exceptional Family Member Program on post, 410-278-4372/7474.

The National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
 PO Box 1492
 Washington, DC 20013-1492
 800-695-028

COMING UP...

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 ways to avoid dangerous situations and techniques to protect yourself. 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.

COUNTRY DANCING

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Beginner Triple Two Step will be taught from 8:15-8:45 p.m. and West Coast Swing will be taught from 9:30-10 p.m. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

BINGO

Play Bingo every Friday night at VFW Post 10028, located at 821 Old Philadelphia Rd. (right behind Wal-Mart). Early Birds come in at 7 p.m. with regular Bingo at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Donna Moore, 410-272-1218 or 410-272-4110.

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. Proceeds will benefit the American Red Cross. For information, call 410-879-6984.

COUNTRY DANCING

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association will sponsor a dance from 8 p.m.-midnight at American Legion Post 128. Cost is \$8. Everyone is welcome.

MONDAY MARCH 29 HEALTH CARE UPDATE

The Uniformed Services Family Health Plan at Johns Hopkins will conduct briefings and answer questions active duty personnel, retirees, dependents and survivors. Dickson Hall (behind OC&S Headquarters) at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY APRIL 1 ITEA LUNCHEON

Dr. Henry Dubin, technical director of the U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command, will speak to the local Francis Scott Key Chapter of the International Test and Evaluation Association on at Top of the Bay, 12:30-1 p.m. Participants are invited to eat lunch at the Old Baltimore Room prior to the talk. His subject will be "Mission Capabilities: A Common Framework for Requirements and Test and Evaluation." Prior to his present assignment Dubin worked at APG at the Army Materiel Analysis Agency and Army Research Laboratory. To attend, call David Phillips at 410-278-8643 (e-mail: dphillip@atc.army.mil) by March 30 for room set-up purposes.

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.

FLOAT YOUR BOAT

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-4 of Havre de Grace will offer a 13-lesson public education class in boating skills and seamanship in the Edgewood Area, building E-4733. Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Spaces are limited; call in your reservation at 410-838-2265 or 410-569-8093. An information packet will be sent when you make a reservation. The instruction is free; a \$20 fee covers textbooks.

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 CLASS

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.

TUESDAY APRIL 20 REMEMBRANCE

The Days of Remembrance Commemorative Program in observance of the Holocaust will be held from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Post Theater, building 3245, and in the Edgewood Area, from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650. The guest speaker will be Regina Spiegel, a survivor of the Holocaust.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 WELCOME TO 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.

SUNDAY MAY 9 MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Celebrate Mother's Day with a Champagne Brunch at the Top of the Bay. There will be two seatings, from 10 a.m.-noon and from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Make reservations early; call 410-278-3062/2552. Cost for adults is \$13.95; \$6.95 for children ages 6-11; children 5 and under are free.

MOVIES

SHE'S ALL THAT

Friday, March 26, 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 27, 9 p.m.
Starring: Freddie Prinze Jr., Rachael Leigh Cook

The world of trendy Los Angeles High School revolves around designer ensembles, lavish parties, high school pranks, rivalries and peer pressure. Zack is senior class president, honor student, captain of the soccer team and has just been dumped by his girlfriend. But Zack rebounds, betting his friend that any girl with the right hair and makeup can be made into prom queen. (Rated PG-13)

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

Saturday, March 27, 7 p.m.
Starring: Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan
Joe Fox and Kathleen Kelly are two bookstore owners who battle each other in real life, but unwillingly romance each other in cyberspace and fall in love via modem. (Rated PG)

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);
Dennis Green;
Herman Hensley;
Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer);
Joseph Hill (heart problems);
Judy Hunt (arthopathy);
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);
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);

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 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.

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.

Edgewood Arts & Crafts

Woodshop Orientation: A basic woodshop Orientation class will be held on Saturday, April 3, 9:30 a.m. in building E-4440. Cost \$3 user fee. This class is required to work in the woodshop.

Ceramic Class: If you would like to learn to about ceramics and how to pour your own ceramic pieces this is the class for you. Class participants will learn about bisqueware, greenware, kilns, glazes, paints and brushes cost is \$7 plus supplies.

Framing Class: A beginning Matting and Framing Class will be held on Thursday, April 29, 5:30-9 p.m. Students must bring an 8" x 10" picture to class to frame. Cost is \$15 plus supplies. Students must register in advance as space is limited.

Custom Framing: If you would like professional advice and picture framing bring it to the experts for framing. We will do it for you at great savings! For an estimate bring your pictures to building E-4440 during our hours of operation.

Porcelain Doll Classes: We are beginning to form new classes in beginning Porcelain dolls. Cost of the class is \$30 plus supplies. If you are interested please call us for the next class date.

Ceramic Bisqueware & Greenware for sale: We have a large selection of ceramic items available and ready to start painting and decorating immediately, including carousel horses, ceramic fountains, Vases, and Holiday

Decorations. Come in and visit us at Building E-4440. For more information call on Thursday, 1-9 p.m., or Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 410-436-2153.

Aberdeen Fitness Center

March is Civilian Fitness Month at the AA Health and Fitness Center. Call or stop in today for information on the Civilian Fitness Program. Ask about the reduced rate for this program. The center is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For further information on any of our programs, call 410-278-9725/9759.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES '99

TEENS, DRINKING & DRIVING

Parents Can Set An Example

Drinking and driving destroys more lives than any other drug. In the 16-to-24 age bracket, drunk driving causes 8,000 deaths and 40,000 injuries a year.

However bleak these facts, the picture for teens is getting brighter. Through the efforts of Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD), many teenagers are becoming aware of the dangers of drinking and driving.

SADD's Contract For Life Program

Founded in 1981, SADD has over 19,000 branches in schools across the country. SADD stresses the idea that true friends don't let each other drink and drive. These "true friends" include parents. One of SADD's most successful programs is the Contract for Life Program. Under it, a teenage girl, for instance, signs a contract with her parents that she will call them if she needs a ride home from an event where alcohol is served. In return, parents promise they will call the teen if they need a ride under similar circumstances.

Young people in many areas are coming up with innovative SADD activities. Many teens now participate in the Designated Driver Program, where one person is



responsible for staying sober and getting friends home safely. Other teens are sponsoring "dry-high" parties, with special attention on proms and graduations. Teens

are taking their anti-alcohol message to radio stations, newspapers and local TV stations. In some towns, billboards proclaim: "This is SADD Territory. Don't Drink and Drive."

Tips For Parents

Parents cannot prevent their teens from experimenting with alcohol, but they can teach their sons and daughters how to handle situations where alcohol is being served. Here are some good tips to pass along:

- Limit alcohol intake to one ounce per hour. More than that begins to hamper your judgment, coordination and vision. Space your drinks at least an hour apart, then taper off to give yourself time to sober up. Eat when drinking to slow down alcohol absorption.
- At the beginning of the evening, decide who will stay sober and drive. If there's no one sober enough to drive, including yourself, take public transportation or ask to sleep over.
- Take car keys away from anyone who is intoxicated. Give this person a ride home or a place to sleep—or call a cab.
- Buckle up. It's the best protection against drunk drivers.

What Can Parents Do?

- Be good role models. Your behavior has a big effect on your children.
- Establish firm family policies. Clear rules make it easier for a teen to say "no" to peer pressure. Encourage your teen to put the blame on you when he or she refuses a drink. For example: "If my parents catch me drinking, I'm grounded!"
- Keep the lines of communication open and listen to what your teen has to say. Make sure he or she understands the dangers of drinking and driving.
- Offer healthy alternatives. Encourage teens to put on "dry-high" parties and participate in sports or hobbies. Look for activities the family can enjoy together.
- Encourage your teen to get involved in Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD). Start a chapter if your school doesn't already have one.
- Learn to recognize the signs of alcohol use in children—school absences, withdrawal from family and friends, clumsiness, mood swings, poor sleep habits, lying or secretiveness, friends who appear aimless. If a problem exists, let your teenager know it's okay to ask for help.

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

Want the latest post news?

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



AROUND THE ARMY

Retired major general sentenced on eight specifications after pleading guilty to misconduct

By Bob Rosenburgh
Army News Service
FORT LEWIS, Wash. (March 18, 1999) - Retired Maj. Gen. David Evan Hale was sentenced at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday by an Army judge to pay a fine of \$10,000, to forfeit \$1,500 pay per month for 12 months and to be reprimanded. A pretrial agreement limited the maximum forfeitures to \$1,000 pay per month for 12 months, along with the fine and reprimand.

After Hale's guilty plea on eight specifications, Col. Stephen Saynisch, chief judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, levied the penalties. The sentencing followed a week of negotiations between prosecutors and Hale's defense team.

The defense counsel announced that negotiations resulted in consolidation and revision from 17 to eight specifications. The original charges did not specifically allege any sexual misconduct. The revised charges alleged that Maj. Gen. Hale had consensual sexual relationships with the spouses of two subordinates.

After Hale waived his right to an Article 32 investigation into charges leveled against him, the case was referred to general court-martial on March 16. Hale, who is 53, also decided to plead guilty to all of the revised charges and specifications.

Hale waived his right to trial by a court composed of officers (the convening authority had selected 12 lieutenant generals to sit as court members in Hale's case), to cross-examine the witnesses regarding the allegations, and to require the government to prove each of the elements of all of the offenses beyond a reasonable doubt. The plea of guilty also spared several witnesses from having to testify about their relationships with Hale.

As Saynisch read each of the specifications, Hale responded without hesitation: "Sir, I am in fact guilty."

Hale retired Feb. 28, 1998, after serving as deputy inspector general of the Army. Following an investigation last year, charges were preferred against Hale by authorities at Fort Lewis alleging he had a series of improper relationships with the wives of subordinate officers during assignments in Turkey, Hawaii and Washington, D.C.

Fort Lewis officials reported March 16 that Lt. Gen. George A. Crocker — commander of I Corps and Fort Lewis and the convening authority for the case — accepted Hale's waiver of his right to an Article 32 investigation, the military counterpart to a grand jury or preliminary inquiry, and referred his case to general court-martial.

At 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, a statement by Hale's lawyer disclosed that the court-martial case was close to adjudication.

"Late yesterday," said attorney Frank Spinner while speaking to the press, "General Crocker approved General Hale's offer to plead guilty to certain specified offenses in exchange for certain specified sentence limitations."

The terms of the agreement were disclosed at Hale's one-day court-martial, which convened at 8:30 a.m. Pacific Standard Time March 17 and continued to 5:30 p.m.

"This agreement was reached after extended negotiations over a period of time," Spinner said. "General Hale made the offer to plead guilty out of a desire to protect the Army, himself and other individuals from further embarrassment and pain in order to bring this matter to a swift conclusion."

When stating that Hale would plead guilty to all of the charges, Spinner added a clarification.

"I would note at this point, he is not pleading guilty to any non-consensual sexual offenses," he said, explaining that a lengthy court-martial would only cause added pain for everyone involved. One woman previously alleged in press accounts that Hale coerced her into a sexual relationship with him.

The revised charges include one specification under Article 107 of the UCMJ of making a false official statement and seven specifications under Article 133 of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. The Article 133 specifications involve the improper relationships, including admitted sexual intercourse with two of the women, and additional false statements to his subordinates and superiors.

The false statement under Article 107 was made to Donald Mancuso, the DoD deputy inspector general, on Jan. 22, 1998. While assigned at the Pentagon as the Army's deputy inspector general, Hale said he contacted Mancuso after learning one of the officer's wives, Donnamaria Carpino-Madden, was preparing a complaint against him. He then provided Mancuso with inaccurate information concerning his relationship with the woman and events during that time.

"I had the duty to be totally forthcoming and failed in that duty," Hale told Saynisch in support of his guilty plea. "I did mislead him (Mancuso). He asked if I had sex with her and I said no."

Hale provided other false information based on several charges from the original referral that were combined into a single specification by the pretrial agreement.

"Did you have an intent to deceive Mr. Mancuso?" Saynisch queried.

"Yes, I did," Hale responded.

He then systematically pled guilty to each of the other Article 133 specifications. To four separate specifications of having an improper relationship with a woman who was not his wife, Hale stated under oath that his conduct was "wholly inappropriate" and "unacceptable," Hale admitted that his conduct and relationships with the spouses of subordinates created perceptions among his subordinates that degraded his position and authority as a commanding officer.

As the courtroom discourse continued, Hale systematically described a progressive series of relationships with the women that covered the years from 1996 to 1998 and were, in some instances, going on at the same time. Hale divorced his own wife in 1997 following a two-year separation. He told Saynisch how he sometimes gave the spouses of subordinates money to help with personal expenses like rent, phone calls and auto repairs, to reimburse them for gifts they purchased for him and on several occasions he sent flowers. While in Izmir, Turkey, Hale frequently made shopping trips with two of the women, sometimes with both together.

In a prepared statement, which was not under oath, during the sentencing phase of the trial, Hale apologized to the court, his subor-

dinates and the Army for his actions.

"I cannot express adequately how sorry I am, how embarrassed I am, for the pain I have brought the U. S. Army, my fellow soldiers and my family and friends."

Hale, who served more than 30 years on active duty, is a highly decorated veteran of the Vietnam War. Like other retirees Hale continues to be subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, said Army legal officials.

An investigation by CID and the DoD Inspector General was completed after Hale's retirement. On Sept. 23, the secretary of the Army forwarded Hale's case to Forces Command for independent evaluation. On Oct. 8, the FORSCOM commander referred the case to the I Corps commander for further evaluation and appropriate action.

The next step in the case is for the record of trial to be typed, reviewed by the defense counsel and trial counsel, corrections noted and then authenticated by the military judge. The staff judge advocate prepares a legal review and serves it as well as the authenticated record of trial upon the defense counsel. The defense counsel has up to 30 days to submit a rebuttal or clemency comments for the consideration of Crocker.

A conviction is not considered to be in existence until approved by the convening authority. Punishments such as fines, forfeitures and a reprimand are formally ordered into execution at the time action is taken by the convening authority.

The record is then forwarded to the judge advocate general for final review.

(Editor's note: Bob Rosenburgh is deputy public affairs officer for Fourth ROTC Region at Fort Lewis, Wash., and is temporarily serving as a special ARNEWS correspondent.)

SPORTS SHORTS

Gilbert makes All Army Volleyball team

Capt. Tricia Gilbert of HHC 143rd has been selected to participate in the 1999 All Army Women's Volleyball Trial Camp to be held at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., from April 6-May 2.

Gilbert has had an extensive volleyball career and continues to hold a number of records at American University, where she played from 1987-1990.

Lady Bombers win in close game

The Lady Bombers post level basketball team beat the Fort Myer team in an exciting overtime game on Sunday at the APG Athletic Center. The game was tied at the end of regulation play by a last-second shot by APG's Tara Mattison. In overtime, Sara Chatman hit four out of four at the free throw line to give the Bombers a one-point advantage and the win, 69-67. Mattison led all scorers in the game with 25 points, Chatman added 16 and Tawana Perkins dropped in 10. The Bombers are finished with the regular season and at this point are in third place behind Ft. Meade and Andrews AFB, but there are more games next weekend. The Lady Bombers must prepare for the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference Post-Season Tournament, which will take place at Fort Belvoir April 9-11.

Volleyball Pre-season Tournament slated

The Intramural Pre-season Volleyball Tournament continues at the APG Athletic Center through March 29. All intramural volleyball teams registered for the upcoming season are invited to play. The championship game will be held March 29. For information, call 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

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.

Coaching positions open

The APG Sports Program is accepting applications for post-level coaches in softball and volleyball. Post-level teams participate in the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference and play in round-robin tournament format on weekends only. Softball begins May 22. The coach will be responsible for holding tryouts and selecting a team. Apply by April 16.

Volleyball play begins May 8. Apply by April 9.

Applications are available in all gyms and the APG Sports Office; or, call Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

Garrison prepares for results of study

STUDY, from front page
the contractor to be at full performance is six months from the date of the final decision.

Q: What happens during the transition period?

A: If the government wins, APG Garrison will implement a detailed Transition Plan and will begin reorganization to the REO and MEO.

If a contractor wins, it is required to implement the Transition Plan that was part of the contract proposal. Joint inventories will be performed, contractor identification badges will be distributed, and the contractor will prepare to take over the functions, e.g. set up administrative offices, interview and hire employees, and prepare to assume full performance.

In both instances, reorganization will occur and normal government tools for downsizing will be requested, as necessary; such as Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA), Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay (VSIP), and Reduction in Force (RIF). The government will take a proactive role in assisting displaced employees through the transition

period.

Q: Will I have to train the contractor's employees?

A: No; not as a government employee. In the case of a contractor win, it is expected that the employees hired will be experienced professionals in the area for which they have been hired. We anticipate that the contractor will hire a large percentage of the current work force who are already experienced and knowledgeable in APG Garrison operations.

Q: Will the Army train me for another job if I am RIF'd from the one I am in now?

A: If you are separated in a RIF, you will no longer be an active employee in federal service and the Army will not pay for training for a new position. If you are placed in a position within the federal government, you may receive training for duties and responsibilities required for that position. You cannot receive training in order to qualify for other positions in the federal government unless you apply under competitive procedures. Competitive procedures are not used during a reduction in force. If you are RIF'd, you will receive counsel-

ing to inform you of services available in areas of training and finding a new job, e.g. the Priority Placement Program, Job Fair and HEAT Center.

Q: Will the Army offer any free training, such as new skills training?

A: No. The skills required for placement in existing positions must already be possessed by the individual placed into that position. The Army will only fund new skills training when the new skills are required for the position, e.g. new computer software.

Q: If we win, are we entitled to training for our new positions? Will there be money to send people to train for the job that they are put into?

A: An employee must be qualified for the position when placed through a RIF. If the employee does not possess required or necessary training for the position, the government may fund the training. Since funding is also an issue, employees may receive on-the-job training or government-provided training versus non-government training. Management will make the appropriate determinations dependent on current

operating budgets.

Q: If the contractor wins, will the Army pay for retraining during the transition period?

A: No. If the contractor wins, the function will no longer be performed by government employees. The number of employees who will be affected may have very diverse educational levels, qualifications, skills, and backgrounds. Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, states that government-funded training must be mission related. The Army must have positions which require retraining to justify the expenditure of training funds.

Q: What will happen if we lose the majority of our "institutional knowledge" — who will train the employees left behind?

A: Experience shows that length of employment, in a specific position does not ensure success in a position. Basic knowledge of the work requirements and a willingness to do what it takes to get the job done right, ensures success. In the case of a contract win, the contractor must show (during the evaluation process) that all requirements in the Performance Work Statement (PWS) can be met, including placement of qualified personnel for the positions. In the case of a government win, remaining employees should know their jobs.

Employees placed in new positions will be given a period of time to adjust and become more proficient. The Army uses a variety of training methods to train employees (formal schooling, on-site instructors, on-the-job training, etc.) and these training resources will be available for employees in the REO and MEO.

Q: Under a contract win, what happens to union agreements in place now?

A: The government union agreements will not apply to the contractor, nor to the employees working for the contractor. The government union agreement will apply only to those employees remaining with the government.

Q: Is it true that APG has to undergo a CA study every five

years regardless if we win or lose?

A: It is not mandated that APG will have to undergo a CA Study every five years; however, if we win there is a high probability that we will — Congress and other higher authorities can change the rules at any time. If we lose, conducting a CA Study in an attempt to win the work back from a contractor is very unlikely and is only done under very limited circumstances. The winning contractor, however, will be required to re-compete periodically for this work with other contractors. The time frame for resoliciting contracted work can vary, but for the type of work under the current study, the time frame would normally be from one to five years. This is done to ensure that work performed is as efficient and cost-effective as possible.

CA Hotline

Q&A's and Updates!
(410) 278-9461



Keep your eyes on this section of the *APG News* for weekly updates regarding the dates the announcements will be made regarding the winners of the bids of the APG Garrison Commercial Activity packages. There are many variables involved in this evaluation process, which makes it difficult to pinpoint an exact date this far in advance. It is possible the garrison will not have the date until one or two days before the announcement. At the March 5 APG Garrison work force briefings, Col. Robert J. Spidel said that the CA announcement for the Information Services package would be forthcoming in the first week of April, and the Installation

Operations and Community/Family Activities would be announced approximately the first week of May. Current projections for the announcements are April 5-16 for the Information Services packages, and May 3-14 for the IOC/FA package. The dates will be updated regularly.

The recording device for the CA Hotline was not operating properly from March 5-19. If you called in a question or concern regarding the CA study or made a request for the new "Transition Q&A" booklet and did not receive a reply, please call again. To those who reported the problem, your help is appreciated.

ATC talent in demand both locally and abroad

By Lena Goodman
ATC Public Affairs Office

They have taken their expertise in machining, welding, and sheet metal to Japan, Korea, and across the United States to satisfy customer needs.

"They" are the welders, sheet metal mechanics, machinists, and instrument makers of Aberdeen Test Center's Experimental Fabrication Team

Comprising 40 government employees and 20 contractors, the team has many domestic and DoD customers.

"The EFT is well-versed in all types of metal fabrication," said John Reynolds, acting team leader. "An example includes building model test items for the ongoing upgrade of the Army's M1 main battle tank, which we have been doing for the development of the XM1 since 1972."

Reynolds said the team also is building eight Mobile Reuse Centers for the Navy, an 18-month effort.

"These units will go on Navy sea vessels to store hazardous materials in a safe manner withstanding the rigors of open sea," he said. "These units are built and tested at ATC and then shipped all over the world to be placed aboard ships."

"The EFT is fabricating 22,603 parts for SBCCOM in Edgewood for the Light Vehicle Obscuration Smoke System Program. These parts will allow smoke grenades to be mounted to a variety of light vehicles like Humvees, trucks and cranes," Reynolds said. "We have also just completed making 3,000 M24 Sniper Weapon Flash Suppressors that will be placed in the Army inventory for issue."

Future projects include sending two people to Egypt this summer to modify M60 Egyptian main battle tanks.

"After modifications are complete," Reynolds said, "the men will stay in Egypt for two months to train the Egyptians to do the modifications themselves on



Photo by LENA GOODMAN

Ted Sadler, an instrument maker for more than 15 years at Aberdeen Test Center, performs quality assurance on parts fabricated at ATC's Welding Machine Shop for the PM Smoke Program.

other vehicles as needed."

He added that these jobs are just an example of the many types of projects that go through the shop each year. He credited the diverse capability and quality products to the skilled and talented tradesmen.

"Our craftsmen are our best marketers. Our customers continually come back because of their expertise," Reynolds said. "We try to provide a quality, on-time, service that keeps our customers coming back."

The EFT is a tremendous asset to ATC. This unique capability continues to reflect the high quality service ATC provides to the customer.

"We pride ourselves in being on the cutting edge with the latest procedures and developments," said John Smothers, a 10-year senior welder at ATC. "We are multi-skilled because we have

"We pride ourselves in being on the cutting edge with the latest procedures and developments"

-John Smothers,
senior welder at ATC

knowledge in drawings, blueprints, automation, cranes and other areas in demand by our customers."

Smothers said most workers receive specialized training in their areas of expertise.

"We've attended the Naval Yard School in Philadelphia to become certified welders," he said. "In addition, we're frequently trained by experts in the field on new equipment and procedures that demand our skills and talents."

Volunteer from 203rd gives warm welcome to those new to community, and remembers those overseas

SPIELES, from front page

keeps in touch with those deployed and their families. She sends mail and organizes shipments of boxed treats for those serving in Bosnia, and takes part in parties and potlucks for those waiting at home."

McGrath credited Spieles for much of the support group organization and unity. She said Spieles can plan large events at very little cost, and adds that due to her personal visits "just about everybody in the unit knows her."

Spieles said the two activities she likes best are visiting newly arrived spouses and welcoming newborns. As a quiet individual she is not totally comfortable when she meets new families, but said she feels it is very important. She remembers the intense feeling of loneliness she felt moving overseas as a soon-to-be first-time mom. Spieles said she hopes that her visits to newcomers and new arrivals help to combat feelings of loneliness in others.

"I've welcomed 41 spouses and 28 newborns to the unit and community," she said.

Marlene Powell, a fellow unit volunteer and one of those welcomed by Spieles, said, "her most positive asset is that she really works hard to make sure that no one is left out."

In addition to distributing unit contributions, Spieles said that often other military community organizations are happy to contribute. When asked, post thrift shops and spouse organizations donate, and Army Community

Service supplies welcome packets and newborn information and tips.

While organizing a shipment to soldiers based in Bosnia, she noted Easter bags containing candy, gum and toiletries were donated by Girl Scouts from APG's Troop 444; Easter baskets full of items for soldiers also were donated by the Scout's sister group at Fort Meade.

She said she makes an effort to honor individual requests, but, in general, the soldiers like to receive "beef jerky, gum and magazines."

1st Lt. Samuel Martirosian was in Bosnia in 1997. He said receiving packages from the unit "gives us a warm feeling. We know that we are not alone and that the people at APG still think about us and care about us."

Sfc. Anthony Dinwiddie spent Christmas in Bosnia in 1997. He said that in addition to holiday gifts, the soldiers received ornaments, lights and a tree from the unit to lift the spirits of those away from home.

Spieles said she always packs extra items to share with other soldiers. Both Martirosian and Dinwiddie spoke of sharing with Russian, British, Belgian and French soldiers in the area.

Lt. Col. Kevin McGrath, battalion commander, said 203rd soldiers in Europe are assigned to the Allied Military Intelligence Battalion, a NATO operation that supports Operation Joint Forge. Receiving unit packages to share with others "is a great advertisement for the U.S. soldier."

He described Spieles as "a model of dedication," and praised her for her consistent effort throughout the 28 months of deployment.

"She will be a tough act to follow," he said.

Her volunteerism does not stop with the unit. In addition to supporting her church, she belongs to both Aberdeen High and Middle School PTA organizations. As an AMS board member, Spieles organizes collection of Klein's receipts and Campbell's labels, which offer credit for computers and other school equipment.

All this "doing for others" does not come at the expense of her family. Spieles is a familiar face at any church functions, competitions or sporting events that involve her family. Through example, she encourages her family to reach out to others. Currently she joins daughter Megan at Roye-Williams Elementary School two afternoons each week, as reading tutors and classroom helpers.

In addition to what most people would consider a full-time volunteer position, Spieles finds the time to work from eight to 30 hours each week as a merchandiser for a greeting card company.

APG is looking for those who are willing to contribute toward the betterment of our community. Volunteer tasks and locations vary.

For information on how you can help, call Quality of Life Coordinator Alice Surette, 410-278-5469.

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.

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

For updates about APG events, check out the web page at www.apgnews.com, or watch WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3.

APG, county to renew partnership

PARTNERS, from front page

partnerships.

The HEAT Center's new west wing offers two main conference areas, a corporate training room and large-meeting space, six classrooms, an exhibition and reception area, a roof-top terrace, and a science and engineering laboratory for specialized instruc-

tion. It also offers "business incubator space" to small and new technology businesses to help them get established. After signing the charter and viewing the exhibits, participants may tour the new facility.

For more information, access the APG Science and Technology Board's web page at <http://STB.apg.army.mil>.

Ruggles prepares for season opening

GOLF, from front page

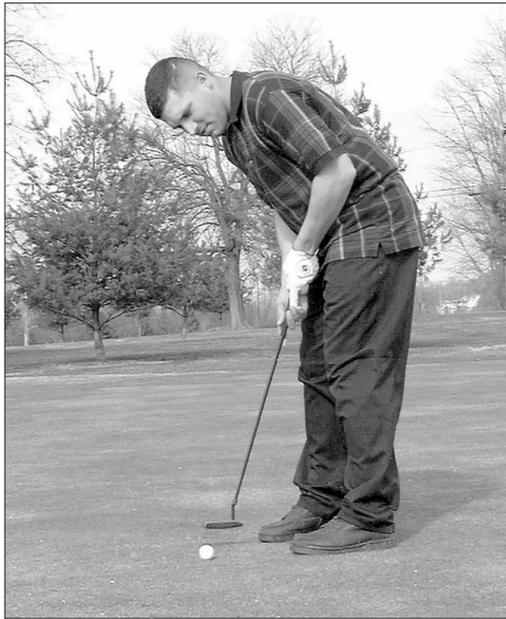
down," he explained. "Spring fever has brought golfers back out."

Williams said since last week's spring weather business has "picked up and is back to normal."

Williams also reminded golfers that Ruggles Golf Course offers golf lessons year round. Lessons are taught by qualified instructors; the fee is \$35 for each half-hour class. Williams said those who sign up for five lessons will receive the sixth one free.

Ladies Summer Clinics will begin in May, Williams said. He explained that the clinic offers lessons on chipping, putting, sand play, grip set-up and full swing. The fee is \$5 per clinic.

To register for lessons or the Ladies Summer Clinic, call 410-278-4794, or stop by the Pro Shop.



Marine Sgt. James Sollers practices for Saturday's tournament at Ruggles Golf Course.

Photo by MATT BUTTON

Military and civilians can test endurance at Bataan Memorial Death March in N.M.

The 11th annual Bataan Memorial Death March is scheduled for April 18. The event, conducted at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., is the largest military memorial march in the country. It recognizes the sacrifices made by thousands of U.S. and Filipino service members overwhelmed by the Japanese in the Philippine Islands during World War II. More than 1,900 marchers participated in the 1998 memorial march.

The course covers 25 miles of southern New Mexico desert. It starts on the missile range main post, crosses hilly terrain, winds around a small mountain and returns to the post through sandy trails and washes. The elevation varies from 4,100 to 5,300 feet.

The march is sponsored by White Sands Missile Range, in conjunction with the Army ROTC Department of New Mexico State University and the New Mexico National Guard. The California National Guard has provided

additional support.

The event is open to military (active duty, reserve, National Guard, ROTC or retired) and civilian teams and individuals in heavy or light divisions. Military marchers will be required to wear full field gear in both divisions. Civilian marchers in either division should wear appropriate attire for a road march through desert terrain. All marchers entered in heavy division categories also must carry a 35-pound rucksack.

Teams may consist of five to seven people; five people must cross the finish line together within a 10-yard gate. Team categories are male civilian light; male military light; male military heavy; female civilian light; female military light; female military heavy; JROTC military light; coed civilian light; coed military light; coed military heavy; ROTC light; ROTC heavy; National Guard light; and National Guard heavy.

Medals are awards for first

through third in each category. Traveling trophies will be awarded to the first National Guard team and the first JROTC team to finish.

The team entry fee is \$100 for entries postmarked by April 1, \$130 for those postmarked after that date. Individuals who meet the early deadline pay \$20 while payments postmarked after April 1 should be made out for \$30. The fee covers T-shirts and an informal meal during the closing ceremony. Checks should be made payable to IMWRF. The mailing address is Bataan Memorial Death March, Community Recreation Division, P.O. Box 400, WSMR, NM 88002.

For applications or for more information, call 505-678-3374 or the White Sands Missile Range Public Affairs Office at 505-678-1134 (DSN 258-1134). The application form and other information about the march is posted on the White Sands Missile Range website, www.wsmr.army.mil.

Unit tax advisors offer free tax help

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
410-436-5476

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, ANCOA
SFC WILLIAM BUTTRAM
410-306-4108

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

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another school day,
another summer
vacation,
another laugh,
another chance at life.**



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Apheresis Center
Aberdeen Proving Ground
Building #2477
Call 410-297-9125

For more information please call:
(410) 764-5303 or 1-800-272-2123

Goal on ice is preventing goals by opponents for APG family member

By Meghan Heimbach
APG News

Most people think striving for goals is the key to success. For Erica Vrentas, preventing goals is the key.

The goals Vrentas is out to stop involve a puck, a net and the opposing hockey team. She is the only female hockey player for both the Baltimore Stars Youth Hockey team, 20-2, and received permission to play on the Perry Hall High School team, 3-7-2, because her school, Harford Christian, does not have a team.

The starting goalie said her love for hockey began after being approached by her then-to-be future coach while ice skating with a friend at Fort Bragg, N.C.

"He saw me skating and approached my friend's mom," she said. "He told her I had no fear, and I should play hockey."

She began her ice hockey career in North Carolina, continuing it when her parents, who both are in the Army, moved to Aberdeen Proving Ground. The family now lives on Plumb Point Loop.

While most parents may be hesitant in sending their daughter out on the ice with a team full of rough-playing boys, her parents, Lt. Col. Nancy Vause, research audiologist for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, and Lt. Col. Gregory L. Vrentas, chief of operations for the Mobilization Security Division, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, decided to let her try.

"My inclination was as long as she went out there and played the game and didn't whine if she got hit or bruised, she could continue to play," said Erica's father. "You have to get out there and play the game."

Vause said that since their daughter began playing hockey she has "continued to amaze us."

While the Harford Christian



Photo courtesy A Place in Time

Erica Vrentas is the sole female player on two hockey teams, the Perry Hall High School team and the Baltimore Stars Youth Hockey team, which was 20-2 for the season.

School senior said being the only girl on the team at times could be "a little intimidating," growing up as a self-described tomboy meant she had a lot of male friends.

When she first joined the team, she said she got a lot of the "girls shouldn't play hockey" attitude from her male teammates, but they since have accepted her.

She said her family as been supportive, and said her biggest critic and fan is her mother.

"She comes to all my games, and is always yelling from the stands," Vrentas said.

At a point when her grades began to slip, her mother encouraged her to keep playing and try harder.

"She tells me truthfully how I am doing," she said. "I have made her a hockey fan."

Vrentas' father said he has seen his wife transform from a football fan to a hockey fan.

"Football has become too slow for her, whereas hockey is more of a fast pace," he said. "Her whole focus has changed."

Vrentas said after graduation she plans to attend a junior college and try out for the Little Caps, a Washington-area girl's hockey team. Try-outs begin this August, and Vrentas said there will be some differences playing with an all-girls team.

"The style is a little different," she said. "It's not as aggressive,

and the actual plays are quicker."

After attending a junior college, Vrentas said she plans to attend Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., where she hopes to play for "The Big Red," the school's prestigious female ice hockey team, while studying advanced biology and cooking.

As far as the saying "girls can do anything" goes, Vrentas has made her way through her six years of hockey with that attitude.

"It is really worth it," she said. "You have to prove yourself and become one of the guys. You need to give 110 percent, because the coaches won't watch you as much as the boys if you don't. You have to be better than the guys."