

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Oct. 13, is glass, plastic and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Job Fair scheduled for Oct. 15 on post

The Harford County Job Fair will be held Oct. 15 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The fair, which is supported by the Directorate of Community and Family Activities, is sponsored by the Army Community Service Career Focus Center and Civilian Personnel Advisory Center; Harford County Office of Economic Development; Harford County Chamber of Commerce; Harford Community College; Open Doors; Susquehanna Region Private Industry Council; and Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Registration.

Dress for an interview and bring a resume. For help with resumes, preparing for interviews or seeking employment, call the APG Career Focus Center, 410-278-9669.

Lunch to honor Native-Americans

There will be a Native-American Luncheon at the Top of Bay on Nov. 3, 11:30 a.m., with guest speaker Mitchell Bush, president of the American Indian Society. Cost of the tickets is \$9; they can be purchased from Sandra Watcher, 410-306-1079; Lydia Elliott, 410-278-1131; David Blick, 410-278-6756; and Sfc. Shelton Torbert, 410-278-1534.

Open season for health benefits

Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season will be held Nov. 8-Dec. 13. Employees may access www.opm.gov/insure/index.htm for the latest health benefits information. Brochures will be distributed upon receipt in the APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. At this time, the only major change known is that United Health Care will not be available in 2000. Employees who have United Health Care must change plans during open season, or they will not

See SHORTS, page 2

Testing for the best – under one organization



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker and Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine prepare to case the colors of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command during the Sept. 29 ceremony that redesignated TECOM as the Developmental Test Command. Moments later, they unfurled the new colors of DTC, which now is part of ATEC, also called the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

TECOM becomes DTC in redesignation ceremony

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Thirty-seven years of proud history came to an end as the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command was redesignated the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command in a ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground on Sept. 29.

Lead by Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, DTC commander, military leaders, local politicians, former TECOM personnel and guests watched as the TECOM colors were cased and DTC colors were

uncased in front of building 314, TECOM's home for nearly 30 years.

Joined by Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker III, Ertwine welcomed guest speaker, Maj. Gen. A.J. Madora, then-commanding general of the U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command, now commander of ATEC, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, DTC's new higher headquarters.

Guests took their seats as the 61st Ordnance
See TECOM, page 11

Army testing consolidates under one command – ATEC

By Phil Washburn
ATEC Public Affairs Office

A new era in modern military testing began Friday as Army developmental and operational testing consolidated under one command, the newly formed U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command in Alexandria, Va.

Redesignation ceremonies, hosted by Maj. Gen. A.J. Madora, ATEC commander, were conducted in Conny Hall at Fort Myer, Va., with Lt. Gen. David Heebner, assistant vice chief of staff of the Army, serving as reviewing officer.

During the ceremony, the U.S. Army Operational Test Command was redesignated ATEC. Several subordinate commands were also redesignated and the U.S. Army Materiel Command transferred responsibility for three facilities, comprising almost 40 percent of the Army's total real estate, and six test centers to ATEC.

One of those subordinate commands, Aberdeen Proving Ground's U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command was transferred to ATEC from AMC and redesignated the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

The Test and Experimentation Command, already an ATEC sub-command, was redesignated the U.S. Army Operational Test Command. OTC will continue to conduct ATEC's operational tests, while DTC will be the developmental test wing of the new organization.

Like all other commands and centers involved in the consolidation, the two commands will stand up in place, with DTC at APG and OTC at Fort Hood, Texas.

Madora, new commander of ATEC, called ATEC the "world's
See ATEC, page 4

Siren malfunction alarms residents

By Col. Robert J. Spidel
Deputy installation commander

To Aberdeen Proving Ground residents, employees and community members:

Shortly after 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program outdoor emergency alert system malfunctioned and sounded a false alarm in the Long Bar Harbor, Joppa and Willoughby Beach Road areas. The malfunctioning siren issued a voice message announcing that there was a chemical emergency at Aberdeen Proving Ground, which was false. Once they discovered the malfunction, emergency managers at the Harford County Division of Emergency Operations immediately issued an "all clear" signal from the entire 15-siren system.

APG's emergency managers are now working closely with their counterparts at Harford County Division of Emergency Operations, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to investigate the reason for the malfunction and to prevent its recurrence. The emergency alert system, which was installed in 1996, is designed to warn people who are outdoors near the Edgewood Area of the proving ground in the event of a chemical emergency at APG, a weather-related emergency, or a hazardous materials incident in or around Harford County.

While there is nothing that the Army or Harford County could have done to anticipate this unfortunate system error, we sincerely regret any confusion or concern which resulted from this unexpected event. We are grateful to those residents, employees, school systems, businesses, government agencies and volunteer organizations which support our emergency preparedness program and appreciate your patience.

Until we can be certain that this system works properly, the Army and Harford County have decided to suspend the regular system test normally conducted on the first Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CFC season begins with \$270K goal set

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Monday marked the beginning of this year's Combined Federal Campaign, with the post goal set at \$270,000.

This year's campaign, with the slogan "To Offer Help is to Offer Hope," offers post personnel a chance to help people who need medical, physical, emotional, financial or social assistance, said Doug Henry, chairman for this year's CFC drive.

"If you want to know more about the CFC, there's a nice video of Terry Morris, a NASA employee who was helped by

CFC-affiliated organizations," Henry said. "Our keypersons have received training and have copies of the tape. It's a good example of how your donation can have a big impact on someone's life."

In 1998, 25 percent of the APG work force contributed \$324,297.62 to the CFC. Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, noted that the post goal is to increase the number of givers from that 25 percent who donate.

"In order to accomplish our target this year, it is essential that everyone be given the opportunity
See CFC, page 16

Two ATC employees injured during testing

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Two Aberdeen Test Center employees were injured and flown to the University of Maryland Hospital Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore Sept. 29 following an accident during a test.

Louis Freeman, 49, of Aberdeen, a gunner at ATC, was released from University of Maryland Hospital Monday and is recuperating at home.

George Niewenhaus, 52, of Bel Air, a test director, was released the evening of the accident and returned to work the following day.

The accident took place at about 11:10 a.m. during testing of the Objective Individual Combat Weapon, the Army's individual soldier rifle system of the future.

The investigation into the cause of the accident is continuing.

APG Pollution Prevention Fact of the Week

American cars and light trucks alone account for more fossil fuel CO₂ emission than the total



nationwide emissions of all but three other countries in the world.

Statistics provided by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

For more information on pollution prevention, call Michelle Guitard, APG Pollution Prevention

NECPOC reinforces disability awareness

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Two years ago, the ARC of Harford County enlisted the aid of the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center to help persons with developmental disabilities obtain part-time employment.

Since then, three members of the ARC have collected and shredded papers for NECPOC offices in the Ryan Building.

"Our goal is to help people live as independently as possible," explained Linda Corea, job developer for the ARC of Harford County.

In early August, about 75 members of the NECPOC staff gathered in the main conference room to recognize the accomplishments of the ARC participants, and to

listen to a seminar by Corea, detailing the aspects of the "Untapped Employee Pool."

Sponsored by the NECPOC Disability Awareness Committee and coordinated by staffing assistant and disability awareness coordinator for CPOC, Linda Ruff, the seminar was held to give employees a clearer understanding of how to effectively work with employees from the ARC.

"We were so pleased that Linda Corea could come here to share some of her insight and her knowledge," Ruff said. "There are aspects to communicating with persons with disabilities that most people are unaware of."

Corea explained that the ARC provides employment services
See NECPOC, page 9



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

CPOC disability awareness coordinator Linda Ruff, left, and supervisor Karen Price, second from right, pose in front of the Ryan Building with workers from the ARC of Harford County. From left are ARC employees Richard Curtis, Beth Halsey, Joe Gilbert, Scott Baird, Linda Casey and Roger Glock.

Temperatures take bite out of growing mosquito population

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Reduced temperatures are dropping the number of mosquitoes in the area, but the insect is still causing discomfort to humans and animals.

This summer's drought, followed by heavy rains and flooding during Hurricane Floyd, caused massive numbers of mosquito eggs to hatch in a short period of time, leading to lots of scratching, but little immediate health threat, said Abdul Sheikh, the post entomologist with the Directorate of Public Works.

"Some complaints may be due to reports of encephalitis spread in New York state through mosquito bites," Sheikh said. "That strain of mosquito has not been reported in Maryland, and we don't have any evidence of the problem here, although we are monitoring the situation."

While fogging with insecticide is an option, he noted that too much insecticide can create problems.

"We don't want to create resistance in the mosquito population, so we don't want to fog too much," he said. "We will announce when we will do fogging in the APG News and on the post television station."

He noted that the insecticide used to kill the mosquitoes can leave spots on cars, and all people and pets should be kept away from the fogged areas for at least two hours.

Fogging also is affected by wind speed and precipitation; wind velocity of no more than five miles per hour is effective for fogging. Currently, the Field Training Exercise area is the only location on post being fogged, and other areas will be added if needed, although no decision has been made yet.

There are more than 300 species of mosquitoes on post, he said, although to the average person, they all pretty much look the same. Once the temperature drops they will not be a problem, but the hardy little creatures "are great at hiding, and when the environmental conditions are right for a day or two, they can reappear." Only the females bite, and the mosquito

life cycle is short — three or four days for males, which hatch first, four or five days for females.

"Basically, keep your screens in place and make sure they're in good repair, and it will help to keep the mosquitoes out," he said.

Mosquitoes can bite through thin clothing, particularly if it fits tightly, said SSgt. (P). Randy G. Riggs, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of Preventive Medicine at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. He recommended wearing loose clothing that covers as much skin as possible.

"If you know you will be in an area with mosquitoes, also wear an insect repellent on exposed skin, including ears, wrists, hands, face and neck, avoiding the eye area," he said.

If you get bitten, there's not much you can do but try not to scratch, he added.

"Most people have some type of reaction to a bite, a little welt that starts to itch. Any type of itch remedy can help, but beyond that there's not much you

can do," he said. If you start to develop any type of cold or flu symptoms, you may want to get checked out."

Clinic personnel survey mosquito traps located around post to determine what areas may need attention. Sometimes, Sheikh said, some are found in the morning, but none are found in the afternoon.

Riggs said the metal traps use a light source that attracts not only mosquitoes, but other bugs as well.

"We sort through the insects, identify the mosquitoes and count how many female mosquitoes we find," he said. "If all we find are male mosquitoes, we know there's nothing to worry about at that time, but the females probably are going to emerge within a day. Then they mate and the whole process starts over."

If you have concerns about mosquitoes or want to report a dead bird to have it tested for the virus that may be spread by mosquitoes, call Abdul Sheikh 410-278-3303.

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SHORTS, from front page

have coverage in 2000. Forms will be available from agency administrative offices during open season. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

BOSS events coming up

The following events are scheduled by the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) Program:

- BOSS will sponsor a walk-a-thon to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation on Saturday, Oct. 16, at Combat Road. Registration will be held at 8:30 a.m. All military and/or civilian units are encouraged to form a team and register. For information or to sign up, call Sgt. Anntoinette Bolling, 410-278-2211/2124, or SSgt. Margaret Cohn, 410-278-9779.
- There will be mandatory meetings for all BOSS representatives on Oct. 7 and 14, 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the AA Recreation Center. For more information, call Spc. Darnell Greene, 410-278-1995, or Senior Airman Gabe Fortman, 410-278-9882.
- BOSS will throw a Halloween party on Friday, Oct. 29, at the AA Recreation Center. Tickets go on sale soon. Cost is \$3 in advance; \$5 at the door with costume; and \$7 at the door without costume. For more information, call Spc. Darnell Greene, 410-278-1995 or Pfc. Betha, 410-278-8019.
- On Saturday, Oct. 30, a family-oriented Halloween Indoor Carnival for adults and children will be held from noon-4 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center. Volunteers are needed to run booths. For more information, call Spc. Jeneen Nash, 410-278-7022, or Senior Airman Gabe Fortman, 410-278-9882.
- BOSS will sponsor a free dinner for all Aberdeen and Edgewood area service members on Thursday, Nov. 18, at the AA Recreation Center, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required. See your unit BOSS representative to sign up, or call Spc. Canth, 410-436-5048.

EA Thrift Shop to donate funds

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop will donate funds to services and charities beginning in November. If your organization would like to receive a donation for a special project, submit a request in writing to: Marcey Perez, EA Thrift Shop, P.O. Box 116, APG-EA, MD 21010. Requests must be postmarked by Oct. 31. State the amount and purpose for the funds and provide name and phone number of a contact person. Late requests will not be honored. For more information, call the EA Thrift Shop on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 410-676-4733.

Wanted: EA Thrift Shop volunteer

The EA Thrift Shop is seeking a volunteer to serve as its chairperson to the Board of Directors for the 1999-2000 term. Volunteers are required to be eligible to consign at the Thrift Shop, including active-duty, family members or DoD personnel can volunteer. For more information, call the manager of the EA Thrift Shop on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 410-278-4733.

Visual information, PAO relocate

The Visual Information Support Division, Directorate of Information Management, has relocated from building 324 to building 4725, located on Bomb Loop Road. The move is part of a consolidation with AMC Exhibits. Work requests for visual information

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

Available
24 HOURS
a day

Call us if you have any questions or concerns or would like an update on current CA processes, activities, or briefings. Also visit our CA Web Page for answers to Hotline questions and updated information: www.apg.army.mil/ca.html

work can be filled out at building 4725. Multimedia and web services will remain at building 324. Customers can continue to reach the division at the same phone numbers; for more information, call 410-278-3473.

The APG Public Affairs Office, including the APG News staff, has relocated from building 314 to building 324. For more information, call 410-278-1150.

Blue Cross rep to visit APG

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has arranged a visit by a claims representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) on Oct. 12, 9-11:30 a.m., in building 305, room B-14 (lower level), and 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Edgewood Area, building E-4420, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary. For information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Civilian care at EA clinic changes

Only emergency services will be available for civilian employees on Oct. 15 at the Edgewood Area Clinic. Any other occupational health services are referred to the Occupational Health Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For information, call Naomi Green, 410-278-1913.

Thrift Shop seeks manager, donating funds

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop is accepting applications for manager through Sept. 30. Retail and personnel experience is preferred. For information, stop by the shop on Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m., or Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; call the shop at 410-272-8572; or contact Moira Kearney, 410-297-9614.

The shop will donate funds this fall. If your group or organization would like to receive a donation, submit your request, in writing, by Nov. 1 to: Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop, Building 2458, ATTN: L. Conway, APG, MD 21005. State the purpose for the funds and provide a name and phone number of a contact person.

Sign up for gift wrapping

Sign up for the 1999 Christmas Gift Wrap Program, sponsored by Army and Air Force Exchange Service. All APG family support groups, non-profit organizations and volunteer activities affiliated with APG are eligible to participate. Those interested must contact Alice Surette, installation volunteer coordinator, 410-278-5469, by Oct. 26. Each organization must send a representative to a meeting on

Nov. 3, 10 a.m., in the Quality of Life Office. AAFES provides wrapping paper, boxes and an area to wrap at the Main Post Exchange. Organizations and activities provide labor, tape, scissors and ribbon and receive all money the group earns. Wrapping starts the day after Thanksgiving and runs through Christmas Eve.

EA wives to raise funds

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club is holding its fall fundraiser, a Longaberger Basket opportunity. The basket sets offered this year include the Traditions Generosity Basket, Beachcomber and Seashell Baskets, and Homestead Basket and Homestead Crock. Tickets cost \$1 each, six for \$5. The winners will be drawn on Oct. 30. Profits will benefit military and local community organizations. Tickets are on sale throughout post through EA-OWC members, or by calling either Karen Chambers, 410-676-9142, or Debbie Della Silva, 410-272-6685.

Awareness training set for October

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board Individuals With Disabilities Committee will sponsor the 14th Annual Disability Awareness Training Conference. The Conference will be held from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the Fort George G. Meade Officers Club. The theme for this year's training conference is Hidden Disabilities and Americans With Disabilities in the New Millennium. All agency employees and military service members are welcome to participate. Registration for the conference is \$35 per person and includes training materials, luncheon, coffee, juice and pastries. The Officers Club is accessible; however, advise the FEB at 410-962-4047 of any special requirements, such as signing for the hearing impaired.

Property missing from clinic

A biofeedback/electromyography machine is missing from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. The machine is an Amatron, serial number 725013509, MMCN C5743. If you have information about this machine, contact Sgt. Jonathan Stapel, 410-278-1951/1953.

Donate platelets in White Marsh

If you are interested in donating platelets, the White Marsh Apheresis Center is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. For appointments, call 800-272-2123, ext. 4472.

OC&S Library extends hours

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School Library has extended its hours of operation. The new hours are: Monday, noon-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, noon-7 p.m.; Wednesday, noon-7 p.m.; Thursday, noon-4:30 p.m.; and Friday, noon-4 p.m. The library is closed on Saturday and Sunday. To gain access to the library between 5-7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, you must sign in with the staff duty officer on the second floor of building 3071. Enter at the rear of the building, go to the SDO and sign in. After 5 p.m., the library will be locked and you must show identification to use the facility. If you already are in the library at 5 p.m., you will be asked to sign the library's roster. A member of the staff will be on duty to assist you during these hours. When you are finished in the library, you must sign out with the SDO. Call 410-278-5615 for more information.

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 Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: STEAP-IM-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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

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

For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, STEAP-IM-PA, APG, MD 21005-5005; 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).

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MURPHY'S LA



Community Notes

FRIDAY OCTOBER 8 BASKET BINGO

The Harford County Humane Society will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo at 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall on Rogers Street. Doors open at 6 p.m. For tickets, call Doris Hoppers, 410-939-2055, Joan Bain, 410-272-1391, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

BREAD N' BUTTER

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Dancing from 7:30-11:30 p.m., with Intermediate Cha-Cha taught at 8:15 p.m. and the Bread & Butter line dance taught at 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 13 EA-OWC LUNCHEON

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club invites you to the October luncheon. This month's speaker is Maryland Sen. Nancy Jacobs, who will discuss women in politics. The luncheon will be held at the Colonel's Choice Restaurant on Route 40 in Aberdeen. Social time will be held at 11:30 a.m., with lunch to follow at noon. Menu choices are chef's salad, \$9.25; chicken marsala, \$12; and seafood newburg, \$12.50. Call Norma Blatterman, 410-671-9966, by noon, Oct. 8, with your selection.

FALL REVIVAL

The APG Chapel's Moment of Truth Gospel Service hosts the Annual Fall Revival, 7 p.m. each night, Oct. 13-15 at the AA Chapel. The guest speaker, Evangelist Chontla R. Nealous, district overseer for the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship of Middle Tennessee, will speak on the revival theme "Flowing With the Move of God." Everyone is welcome at this free, non-denominational event. For more information, call the revival coordinator, Elder Cheryl Wallace, at 410-297-8899 or 410-436-6136.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 15 LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The PTA, adults and parents of Church Creek Elementary School will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo at 7 p.m., at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers St., Aberdeen, Md. Doors open at 6 p.m.; there will be a bake sale and drinks available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (3 cards), and \$5 for additional sets of 3 cards. To purchase tickets, call Becky Foster, 410-272-8879 or Kim Shumaker, 410-272-1381. First come, first served. If available, tickets will be sold at the door. The fund-raiser benefits the Church Creek Elementary School PTA.

MORE BASKET BINGO

The Good Shepherd Catholic School will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo at 7 p.m., at the Good Shepherd Catholic School located on 810 Aiken Avenue, Perryville, Md. Doors open at 6 p.m. Food and drinks will be available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (3 cards), and \$5 for additional sets of 3 cards. To purchase tickets, call the Good Shepherd School at 410-642-6265 or call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. The fund-raiser benefits Good Shepherd Catholic School.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 16 YMCA RENAISSANCE TRIP

The Harford County Family YMCA will sponsor a family bus trip to the Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville, Md. Cost for adults (ages 15 and older) is \$25 per person; cost for children (ages 7-15) is \$15 per person; and \$8 for children (ages 6

and under). Price includes admission and school bus transportation. For more information, call 410-836-5075.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 17 FIFTH DISTRICT VFW MEETING

The Fifth District Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars will meet at Jarrettsville Manor Memorial VFW Post #8672, 1714 Morse Road, Jarrettsville. Carole Simonsen, President, Department of Maryland Ladies Auxiliary will be making her official visit. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend and extend a warm welcome to Department President Simonsen.

MONDAY OCTOBER 18 COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

The Harford Council of Community Services will hold its next monthly luncheon meeting, noon at the Harford Community College Chesapeake Center. Guest speaker will be Carol Koffinke, vice president of Upper Chesapeake Health Systems. Everyone is invited to attend for a program that will discuss the needs and concerns of the Harford County community. Cost is \$7 for non-members and \$6.50 for members. For more information or to register, call 410-692-5827 by Oct. 14. The council also will accept canned food donations for FISH at the meeting.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 19 GERMAN MEAL

The Annual German specialty meal is scheduled in the post dining facilities. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7 p.m. at dining facilities 4219, 4503 and E-4225. The standard rate is \$3 for officers, enlisted and family members of sergeant or above, DoD civilians, retirees and their guests; the discount rate of \$2.45 applies to spouses and family members of enlisted personnel private through specialist/corporal and non-profit youth groups authorized to eat at facilities. The menu will include pork schnitzel, sauerbraten, baked knockwurst, old fashioned bean soup, savory baked chicken, Reuben sandwiches, fried cabbage, and hot potato salad. For more information, call 410-306-1395/1397.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27 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 410-278-3137/4372.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 28 SPOOKY FUN

The 16th Ordnance Battalion will take on the second year of scaring the public with "Haunted House II: Last Rites of 1999." The haunted house started last year with a "haunted dining facility." This year, the "Horror Coaster" for the brave will be held at building 3511. For the young and the faint of heart, a friendly ghost will be added this year. Food and beverages will be available at Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park. The event will be held Oct. 28, 5-10 p.m.; Oct. 29 and 30, 6-11:30 p.m.; and Oct. 31, 5-10 p.m. For information, call 410-306-1538, or 410-278-8595.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29 USO-METRO JOB FAIR

The USO of Metropolitan Washington and the Joint Employment Transition Services (JETS), will co-host a Job Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at SOSA Recreation Center, Fort Belvoir, Va. All members of the armed services, their family members, retired military and DoD and Coast Guard civilian personnel are eligible to attend this free job fair. Representatives from more than 70 companies with full or part-time positions have been invited, including high tech corporations, law enforcement agencies, security companies, temporary agencies and financial service companies. For more information, call Dale Jovero or Ruth Dawn, 703-696-2552.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7 HONOR VETERANS

The Women's Army Corps Veterans Association, Maryland Free State Chapter 70, will hold a Veterans Day buffet luncheon at 3 p.m. at the Colonel's Choice Restaurant, on Route 40 in Aberdeen. The cost is \$20 per person. The guest speakers will be Brig. Gen. Bettye Simmons, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, and Command Sgt. Maj. Dean M. Kolker of APG Garrison. For more information or reservations, call Wanda Story, 410-272-5040.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 HAUNTED GOLF

The Harford County Family YMCA will offer "Haunted Golf." Bring your family to a night of spooky thrills at the Churchville Golf Course from 3-8 p.m. One round of golf costs \$7 per person - proceeds will benefit the YMCA Partner With Youth Campaign. For more information, call 410-836-5075.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 31 FALL FESTIVAL

The APG Chapel will hold a Fall Festival from 5-9 p.m. Maj. Michael Wallman, a chaplain for the APG community, described the event as an evening of games, food, fun and prizes for military and chapel community participants, "a perfect alternative for Halloween." Festivities will begin with a chili cook-off at 5 p.m., and progress to bobbing for apples and other games for the children, a piñata and costume judging for Most Original, Prettiest, Best Biblical, Best Famous Person and Best Story Book Character, for ages newborn to 6, 7-12, and 13 and up. The chapel invites members of the APG community looking for an alternative to haunted houses and trick-or-treating to celebrate with them. Call the chapel, 410-278-4333, for details.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18 YMCA GOESTO NY

The Harford County Family YMCA will sponsor a family bus trip to New York City, departing from Harford Community College at 7 a.m. and returning at 11 p.m. Cost is \$37 per person. The trip is a fun way for kids of all ages to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of New York City at Christmas time. Enjoy an exciting day of games, movies, door prizes, and sightseeing for the whole family on a luxury motor coach. Continental breakfast is included. Reserve your space now - registration is limited. Register by Nov. 17. For more information, call 410-836-5075.

MOVIES

THE THOMAS CROWN AFFAIR

Friday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m.

Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Rene Russo

Thomas Crown is a self-made billionaire who can buy anything he wants and is irresistible to women. But there are some things that money can't buy. When an alarm sounds at a world class museum and someone walks out with a priceless Monet, an investigator suspects Crown. **(Rated R)**

RUNAWAY BRIDE

Saturday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m.

Starring: Julia Roberts, Richard Gere

Ike Graham is a New York newspaper columnist who hears about a Maryland woman who loves being engaged but has cold feet about getting married. He composes a column about her and ends up with the story of a lifetime. **(Rated PG-13)**

BROKEDOWN PALACE

Saturday, Oct. 9, 9 p.m.

Starring: Claire Danes, Kate Beckinsale

To celebrate their high school graduation, two girls treat themselves to a trip to Thailand. A seductive Australian proposes a side trip to Hong Kong, and the girls are caught up in panic, confusion and betrayal. **(Rated PG-13)**

WAPG-TV

The following programs are scheduled for Oct. 7-15 on WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3:

THURSDAY, Oct. 7

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

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

FRIDAY, Oct. 8

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

SATURDAY, Oct. 9

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

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

SUNDAY, Oct. 10

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

MONDAY, Oct. 11

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

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

TUESDAY, Oct. 12

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 13

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

1 p.m., Combined Federal Campaign

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

LEAVE DONATION

For information about donating annual leave, call Cheryl Gatling; 410-278-8978; or fax 410-278-8839. Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Alberta Brown (mother ill);
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
Tammy Budkey
Melda Callendar;
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
William Edwards (back surgery);
Willia Freisheim
Stephen Howard (Bone Marrow Transplant);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Lilly "Kitty" Johnson (surgery);
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
Sharen Kaylor (eye surgery);
Jennifer Keetley (maternity);
Tracey Kerney (surgery);
Beverly King (caring for husband);
Lucy Long;
Connie LaFlamme;
Sherrie Laury (heart problems);
Dolores "Dee" McGrogan (back problems);
Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);
Mary Pettaway;
David H. Reed (wife ill);
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery);
Michael Reynolds;
Churon Ringgold (maternity);
Ricky Ross (heart attack);
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
Allan Scarborough (Back Surgery)
Sherry Schaffer;
Richard Squillacioti (Terson Syndrome);
Walter Taylor (auto accident);
Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);
Joseph Walker (wife has cancer)
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
Kenneth Weathers (medical);
Willie Williams.

MWR UPDATE

Soldier Show coming to APG

Aberdeen Proving Ground will host the U.S. Army Soldier Show Nov. 8-10 at the Post Theater, building 3245. The 90-minute variety show, featuring soldier performers from top Army talent, tours around the world and is appropriate entertainment for all audiences. The Nov. 8 show is designated for the entire post community; the Nov. 9 show is for the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, and the final show Nov. 10 is for the 16th Ordnance Battalion.

APG Riding Activity has vacancies

The APG Riding Activity, a self-care boarding facility, has vacancies for box stalls. Monthly stall fees are \$40 per horse, and owners are responsible for the daily care and feeding of their animal. For more information call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

Donate to Spouse Abuse Resource Center

Members of the APG Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (B.O.S.S.) are sponsoring a donation collection for the Harford County Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC). Personal hygiene items are needed, such as soap, toothpaste and disposable diapers. Persons wishing to contribute to this drive may contact their unit BOSS representative or drop off items at the post recreation centers.

Weapons qualification

Shotgun qualification hours of operation at the AA and EA Deer

Checking Stations will be curtailed effective Oct. 18. Qualifying with a shotgun is necessary prior to hunting at APG. The AA Station will hold qualifications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon. The EA Station will conduct qualifications Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m.-dusk. For details, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

Hunter-In-Charge class

Outdoor Recreation will sponsor a Hunter In Charge (HIC) class on Oct. 27, 6-8 p.m., at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326. For information and registration call 278-4124/5789.

Chesapeake Challenge open on weekends

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is located off Springfield Road, behind the APG Commissary, and is open Fridays, 5:30 p.m.-midnight, Saturdays, 1 p.m.-midnight, and Sundays, 1-8 p.m. Ride the go-karts for \$3 for five minutes, or bat in the cages for 50 cents for 12 balls, baseball or softball. Bring a friend and challenge them to 18 holes of miniature golf, for \$3 per person, \$1 for ages 5 and under. For the go-karts, you must be over 54 inches tall to drive. The park has two-seaters for those who don't meet the height requirement. If you would like to schedule a party or other special event call 410-278-9920.

Edgewood Arts and Crafts Center has classes

Porcelain Doll Class: A beginning Porcelain Doll class will

begin Oct. 7 and will continue Oct. 14 and 21, 5-8 p.m. Students will make the Sugar Britches doll. Cost is \$30 plus supplies.

Ceramics class: A beginning ceramics class will be held Oct. 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$7 plus supplies. The craft shop has more than 500 molds to pour and a wide selection of bisqueware, greenware, paints and brushes for sale. This is an introductory class in mold-pouring ceramics and will give a basic understanding of how to get started.

Stained glass: A beginning stained glass class will be held Oct. 16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students will make a suncatcher using the copper foil method. This basic class teaches the skill you need to make larger projects. Cost is \$15 and includes supplies.

Framing class: A beginning matting and framing class will be held Oct. 28, 5:30-9 p.m. Students must bring an 8x10-inch picture to frame. Cost is \$15 plus supplies. Students must register in advance as space is limited.

Custom framing: The center does quality custom framing at reasonable prices.

Hours: The center is open Thursdays, 1-9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Stop by building E-4440 or call 410-436-2153 for information.

Aberdeen fitness center offers health help

The Aberdeen Area Health and Fitness Center in building 320 is a full-service facility with daily step aerobics, toning and kickbox aerobics classes and one-on-one training. The center is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For details, call 410-278-9725/9759.

Army testing consolidates under ATEC

ATEC from front page

most diverse, comprehensive defense testing agency," and said the high-tech organization has a "critical role in helping to prepare our Army for victory on 21st century battlefields across the entire spectrum of the conflict."

On Nov. 18, 1998, the vice chief of staff of the Army directed the consolidation of testing into a single test and evaluation command. That decision came after a 10-month study following a recommendation by the Army Science Board earlier that year.

Consolidation, Madora said earlier, is good for the Army and the soldier. Consolidation creates a single voice for the testing community that will report directly to the vice chief of staff of the Army and be an advocate for testing and evaluation.

By reporting directly to the vice chief, ATEC will remain an independent testing organization, which is critical for maintaining the integrity of Army testing and evaluation.

Acquisition costs can be reduced through materiel developers getting earlier feedback on systems and equipment. System changes then can be made earlier in the developmental process at a reduced cost.

Consolidating testing under one command also opens opportunities for more combined developmental and operational testing. Combined testing saves time and costs, for the developer and the Army, and allows ATEC to provide higher quality evaluations to the Army senior leadership, Madora said.

Another reason for consolidation is that the end user of the system, the soldier, will be involved much earlier in the acquisition process through combined testing, he added.

During the ceremony, some of the weapons and systems Madora said ATEC will test in the future include the M1A2 Systems Enhancement Package, the M2A3 digitized Bradley Fighting Vehicle, the Comanche helicopter, Woverine Heavy Assault Bridge, Patriot PAC3 missile and launcher, JSTARS and the Common Ground Station, and the centerpiece of the Army's digitization program — the Force XXI Battle Command, Brigade and Below.

The FBCB2 is a major focal point of a system of systems designed to allow battlefield commanders to plan, execute, recover and synchronize at a tempo that cannot be matched by any opposing force. The FBCB2 test will be one of the most robust tests in Army history.

ATEC will continue to assist in assessing revolutionary technologies of the 21st century Army, Madora said.

ATEC "will never forget that the soldier is our ultimate customer, America's sons and daughters, our sons and daughters, who will judge our efforts with their mission accomplishment and their lives," he added.

Heebner said the "unfurling of new colors for ATEC, DTC, OTC and AEC that we witnessed today opens a new chapter in the book of testing."

"Today we take the next important step in integration of our test activities as we prepare for the next century," Heebner told the crowd.

The restructuring of testing will allow Army testers to continue providing objective, independent and effective testing for soldiers into the foreseeable future, the assistant vice chief said.

"Our objective remains quick and decisive victory with minimum casualties. Victories in our future, like Desert Storm of the past, will be built on independent, objective and fully integrated testing. The formation of ATEC promises to continue the rich tradition of contributions to that end," he said.

Other actions that took place during the redesignation ceremony included the consolidation, reorganization and redesignation of the Operational Evaluation Command and the Evaluation Analysis Center into the U.S. Army Evaluation Center.

The OPTEC Threat Support

Activity at Fort Bliss, Texas, was redesignated the ATEC Threat Support Activity.

Under the Army vice chief of staff's directive to reorganize and redesignate, ATEC assumed installation management and range responsibility for White Sands Missile Range, N.M.; Dugway Proving Ground, Utah; and Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz.

Test centers transferred to ATEC are APG's Aberdeen Test Center; Redstone Technical Test Center, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Aviation Technical Test Center, Fort Rucker, Ala.; Electronic Proving Ground, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Cold Regions Test Center, Fort Greely, Alaska; and Panama's Tropic Regions Test Center, headquartered at YPG.

OTC will maintain its five test directorates at Fort Hood, including Aviation; Advanced Concepts

Test Integration; Close Combat; Engineer Combat Support, and Command, Control, Communications, and Computers.

Other OTC test directorates and their locations are Fire Support, Fort Sill, Okla.; Airborne and Special Operations, Fort Bragg, N.C.; Air Defense Artillery, Fort Bliss, Texas; and Intelligence and Electronic Warfare, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

"In addition to accomplishing the traditional mission of testing and evaluation, all of these ATEC units will continue to be a part of the Army's Force XXI process of change," Madora said. "The Army of the future will be built around the power of information and be more lethal, agile and survivable. ATEC will continue to assist in assessing the revolutionary digital technologies that will make this possible."



Photo by PHIL WASHBURN

Command Sgt. Maj. Tyler Walker and Sgt. Jennifer Crabtree, who as a specialist was selected as ATEC Soldier of the Year, uncased the colors of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, held by Maj. Gen. A.J. Madora, commander of the former OPTEC and now commander of the new U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, ATEC. Looking on is Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine, commander of the Developmental Test Command, which formerly was APG's U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, TECOM.

CAC meeting covers cleanup, upcoming events, stockpile details

By Sheila Little
APG News

The Sept. 29 meeting of the Community Action Council covered clean-up after Hurricane Floyd, and featured a presentation regarding a second clean-up — that of mustard agent stored in the Edgewood Area.

Joseph Craten, civilian deputy of Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison, took charge of the meeting in the absence of Col. Robert J. Spidel, installation deputy commander and APG Garrison commander.

Craten began the meeting by commending post residents and personnel for their reaction to the recent hurricane.

“The post came through pretty decently” during the storm, he said, describing the event as “a good opportunity to check everything for emergency exercises.”

Craten said most people and facilities weathered the storm well.

“We had a great effort put on not only by garrison, including the housing division, Directorate of Public Works, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security and many of the tenants, especially the Ordnance Center and School.

Col. Walter Egerton, commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, announced a long holiday weekend for the clinic. A training holiday has been declared for Friday, Oct. 8; Monday, Oct. 11, is Columbus Day, a federal holiday. The Acute/Minor Illness Clinic will operate from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 8-11. For a medical appointment during the holiday, call 410-278-1725.

Egerton said the Radiology Clinic is getting state-of-the-art equipment, and the pharmacy has changes in store following the recent change of command at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

“Everything that Walter Reed’s pharmacy has, we will have access to,” he said.

Egerton cautioned that a trade-off may mean Kirk pharmacy will not be able to stock as many of the over-the-counter items such as aspirin and cold tablets.

The resulting access to the variety of medications stocked at

Walter Reed should give Kirk patrons “more bang for your buck,” he said.

In response to a question regarding Lyme Disease, Egerton said the vaccine is “not being given across the board,” and those with specific interest in it should check with their primary physician.

Floyd Wynn, local manager for Army and Air Force Exchange Services, said the expanded service of computer and phone service at the Edgewood Area is complete.

He announced that “AIT nights,” evenings of shopping at the exchange for soldiers in Advanced Individual Training, are scheduled Dec. 1-3. He urged others to avoid the increased traffic in the store by shopping early on those days.

Hunting supplies are available in the Main Post Exchange, and the watch repair clinic continues to do well on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Volunteer Coordinator Alice Surette, representing the Directorate of Community and Family Activities, announced several up-coming events. A job fair will take place on Oct. 15 at the APG Recreation Center in building 3326. The event will be open for everyone from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; initially, the early hours were scheduled for APG personnel only. She encouraged participants to dress for on-the-spot interviews and to bring resumes.

Surette said a few slots are open for organizations wishing to be a part of the holiday gift wrap program. Describing the program as “an excellent opportunity for soldiers to make money for unit funds,” Surette said the deadline for sign-up is Oct. 26. A mandatory meeting about the project is scheduled for Nov. 3, 10 a.m. Call her at 410-278-5469 to sign-up.

On post Trick-or-Treating is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 31, 6-8 p.m.

The Soldier Show will be open to the general public on Nov. 8, 7 p.m. Two additional shows for U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School soldiers and personnel are scheduled for Nov. 9 and 10.

A Sunday Brunch at the Top of

the Bay is scheduled for Nov. 21. Price for the brunch is \$13.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children ages 6-11, and free for those under age 6. The first seating is 10 a.m.-noon, the second from 1-3 p.m. Make reservations by Nov. 16 by calling 410-278-3062/2552.

Surette said the holiday tree-lighting ceremony will be held Dec. 9, 7 p.m., in front of the APG Library, building 3320. The Edgewood Area lighting is scheduled for Dec. 12, 6 p.m., in front of the Edgewood Area Chapel, building E4620. The holiday concert, featuring the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own) is scheduled for Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at the Post Chapel. The concert will not be held in conjunction with a tree lighting this year.

Operations Officer Ellery Blake announced fall clean up will take place Nov. 29-Dec. 6. More details will follow at the October meeting.

Housing issues

Pat Hector of the Housing Division encouraged those post residents with e-mail to send their addresses to housing, and receive housing information via e-mail. The Housing Division’s e-mail address is mthomas@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Marilyn Spence of housing maintenance reminded residents that due to cutbacks, once playgrounds are established it is the responsibility of residents to maintain them. She said mulch and landscaping tiles are provided, but residents should supply the manpower.

Referring to the safety surface and clean-up organized by Austin Road residents and with the help of soldiers from 143rd Ordnance, she said, “the 4800 block did a great job.”

“We can get you the materials if you provide the labor,” she added.

Harry Greveris of the Directorate of Public Works thanked post employees and residents for their assistance during the recent drought.

Restrictions have been lifted. He said that during the drought, post residents and employees saved more than 15.6 million gallons of water. He added that the Van Bibber plant has passed testing and reopened.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean Kolker reminded residents of the rules for posting signs. Stating that he recently removed a

yard sale sign from a stop sign near the exchange, Kolker urged entrepreneurs to check the regulations before tacking up signs indiscriminately.

Edgewood residents were assured that during fall clean up they do not have to police holding pond areas. Kolker said cleaning the area around the fence is all that is required from residents.

CAC attendees addressed neighborhood issues. Edgewood Area requests included a sewer problem on Chevron Drive; Grant Court residents asking for minor repairs in the neighborhood and the paper recycling dumpster from unoccupied Lee Court; a reminder from a Scully Road resident that all bicyclists are required to wear helmets on post; and a reminder from Everette Road occupants that the street still has two unpaved parking areas.

Spence said that although the parking spaces were slated to be paved with year-end funds, the money has been channeled into storm damage repair, making imminent action on the parking spaces “very unlikely.”

Aberdeen Area issues included stray cats scratching and leaving prints on cars in Bayside, and an on-going problem with speeders. Lt. Col. Robert Buckingham of Hopkins Loop thanked APG personnel for assisting his family in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd. He said a large tree fell on his residence, caused extensive damage to his home and “totaled my car.” He commended the Housing Division and DPW for their support and help with timely tree removal and home repair.

Stockpile information

Kathy DeWeese of U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Activity/Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility public outreach team introduced a special presentation on the mustard agent stockpile, plans for its disposal, and associated risk perspectives.

She said the goal of the presentation was “to share with the on-post community the messages we take to the off-post community.”

DeWeese spoke on the mustard agent’s safe, secure storage and on the Army’s decision to pilot test neutralization followed by biotreatment to dispose of it.

She was followed by Miguel Monteverde of Bechtel Aberdeen, the firm designing and building the 14-building, 30-acre disposal facility. Monteverde said Bechtel

was instrumental in the clean-up of Three Mile Island, Pa and the Kuwaiti oil fields following the Persian Gulf War.

The firm currently is involved in the clean-up of the nuclear power plant at Chernobyl in the former Soviet Union.

Explaining the construction and testing schedule, he discussed how the Army and Bechtel are preparing for a successful operation.

“Planning, set-up and extensive testing are very thought-out, step-by-step processes. The actual disposal will take comparatively little time,” Monteverde said. “We are very sensitive to safety and environmental concerns and have an established track record,” adding that upon completion of the mission, the facility will close.

“We won’t receive chemicals from off-post or any other areas of the country,” he said.

Dr. John Paling spoke on how advances in the sensitivity of measurement equipment can lead to a misrepresentation of the actual risk to the average person.

He showed charts of risks we live with every day and deem acceptable, such as the risk of dying from lightning strike, home

accidents and childbirth.

He said a chemical stockpile - related death risk was estimated at one in 340 million, pointing out that a huge lottery win was far more likely.

Before the meeting adjourned, Robert Silcox, director of plans, training and mobilization, reported that repairs to the Edgewood Middle School shelter, installed in case of a chemical emergency, are complete.

The school’s shelter was the only one which did not fully seal during initial testing. At this time Harford County has reported that all four of the Edgewood Area schools in the seal appropriately.

For more information on the mustard agent stockpile and its disposal, contact the Edgewood Chemical Activity at 410-436-5253 or call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at (410) 676-6800, located at 1011B Woodbridge Center Way in Edgewood.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Nov. 4, 9 a.m., in the Edgewood Area Conference Center. The agenda will include an update on snow and ice removal, recycling changes and a fall clean-up briefing.

YOUTH UPDATE

Driving class postponed

The Driver’s Education Teen Course scheduled for Oct. 5 has been moved to November. For details, call 410-278-4995.

Free registration for families

October is the annual registration for families at the youth centers. The cost is free for the children to come to the recreation activities (except special events). Youth Service registration is free, but there is a requirement in Army Regulation 215-1 for children to be registered each year.

New computer labs available in EA

The Edgewood Youth Center is making two new Computer Lab programs available to all members:

- Middle School Mathematics, for grades 6,7 and 8, is designed to tutor youth who want to accelerate their knowledge of or are having problems with middle school math.

- The Internet and Your Family, during the week of Oct. 19, introduces the Internet as a family unit.

For information, call 410-436-2862/2098.

Care available for middle schoolers

Before and After School Care spaces for middle school students are available at the AA Youth Center. Cost ranges from \$12.60 to \$34.65 per month. Morning care begins at 6 a.m. until school time, and afternoon care runs until 6 p.m. Stop by the center soon or call 410-278-4995.

APG celebrates Hispanic heritage

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

More than 300 people enjoyed an afternoon of exceptional food, music and entertainment at the Hispanic-American Heritage Luncheon held at Top of the Bay on Sept. 28.

Sponsored by Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, the luncheon was coordinated by Sfc. Shelton Torbert, APG Garrison Equal Opportunity advisor.

"This was part of our contribution to the garrison," said KUSAHC Commander Col. Walter Egerton. "Each organization takes turns contributing, but we've always been involved in the Hispanic celebration."

Egerton credited Hispanic Employment Committee member Maria Armstrong and SSgt. Michael Jackson with spearheading the event that included a Color Guard made up of KUSAHC soldiers and noncommissioned officers who posted and retired the colors during the ceremony.

"I would deflect credit to Armstrong and Jackson for making sure we have a stellar program for such an important celebration," Egerton added.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, welcomed the guest speaker, Selective Service Director Gil Coronado, and special assistant to the director Archibald J. Kielly, to APG.

Joining Doesburg at the head table were Maj. Gen. Dennis K. Jackson, commandant of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, and his wife, Esther; Brig. Gen. Russell A. Eggers, OC&S deputy commanding general of mobilization and training; Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, commander of what now is the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command; Brian M. Simmons, deputy to the commander and technical director of DTC; Col. Robert J. Spidel, deputy installation commander and commander of APG Garrison; and Havre de Grace Mayor Philip J. Barker.



Photos by LAMONT HARBISON

Above, guest speaker Gil Coronado, director of the Selective Service, speaks at APG's Hispanic-American Heritage Luncheon. Above right, Hector Munoz and the Mariachi Band, made up of Silvio Solis, Jose Morel and Hector Munoz, from left, provide musical entertainment for the more than 300 guests who attended the luncheon on Sept. 28. At right, Erica Martinez sings the National Anthem at the beginning of event. The theme for the ninth annual observance was: "Vision for the 21st Century."

Mistress of Ceremonies Carmen Hammond, a certified nurse assistant at KUSAHC, welcomed the guests to the ninth annual observance at APG. After the posting of the colors, Erica Martinez sang the National Anthem, followed by the invocation from 61st Ordnance Brigade Chaplain (Maj.) Jose A. Rodriguez.

Hector Munoz and the Mariachi Band, from Baltimore entertained guests with numerous musical selections throughout the luncheon. Erica and the Las Chicas, a song and dance group, also entertained the audience with lively selections from popular tunes.

Doesburg welcomed everyone, remarking that the large gathering "says a lot about change in the work place and the military in terms of diversity."

Calling attention to the 38 Hispanic Medal of Honor recipi-

ents listed in the program, Doesburg said it was a fitting acknowledgment to the Hispanic presence in America.

"The military has been a true calling for Hispanic soldiers. Take a good look at those who served our nation and military," Doesburg said.

Kielly introduced Coronado as "an important part of the Clinton administration."

"He advises the National Security Council and has an illustrious background in government," Kielly said. "He worked on the Clinton transition team in the Pentagon, and meets regularly with the Secretary of the Army and other members of the Defense Department."

Kielly called Coronado a "natural leader in the Hispanic community" who overcame being a high school dropout and former gang member to become a "true American hero," winning 35



awards and decorations in three wars.

Coronado thanked Spidel and the garrison for inviting him to speak once more at APG.

"This is your ninth celebration and I've been here three times so I'm batting .333 like Cal Ripken Junior," Coronado joked.

In a more serious tone, Coronado said he was delighted to be among patriotic Americans, adding that there are "not enough people in Washington who can say they wore the uniform."

Coronado said his concern over the high school drop out rate among Hispanics compels him to visit schools around the country to talk about education.

"I talk about the three E's - education, effort, excellence - and throw in one more for enthusiasm," Coronado said. "We are multiplying at five times the national average, but dropping out at 50 percent. We have to prepare ourselves for the challenges of tomorrow."

Coronado recommended learning another language as a way to broaden horizons and gain a wider range of opportunities and a better understanding of diversity.

He said people need three languages: "Spanish for more opportunities, English for corporate America, and computer language for the future."

Hispanic history is represented vividly in the names of America's rivers, lakes, mountains, cities and states, Coronado said, and many more names were changed that America needs to know about.

"We have shed blood all over the world. Patriotism is a feeling, emotion and passion that is deeply rooted in our hearts," he continued, declaring that over 20 percent of the names on the Vietnam Memorial Wall are Hispanic. "This documents the fact that there is nothing unpatriotic about speaking Spanish or learning another language."

"What is good for Hispanics is good for America because Hispanics are good Americans," Coronado concluded, to spirited applause from the audience.

Doesburg presented Coronado



with a commemorative plaque, thanking him for his support of APG's Hispanic American program.

The mistress of ceremonies also thanked Coronado for his thought-provoking words. Hammond said Coronado inspired her to return to college to obtain her bachelor's degree "to better serve my community and my people."

"This has been a great event," Doesburg said. "When you go back to work take an opportunity to thank those in your organizations who helped with this program."

Sports and Fitness

APG NCO to coach All Army basketball trial camp

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Department of the Army, has selected an Aberdeen Proving Ground noncommissioned officer to participate in the 1999 All Army Basketball Trial Camp at Fort Hood, Texas.

Sfc. Joe W. Jefferson, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, was selected as head coach of the men's Division I basketball team, which will hold camp Oct. 15-Nov. 15. If selected, the team will compete at the Armed Forces Championship at Port Hueneme, Calif., from Nov. 15-20, and, if selected, again at the SHAPE Tournament from Dec. 1-8 in Brussels, Belgium.

Jefferson, a power generation equipment specialist, from Leesburg, Fla., is an Advanced Individual Training instructor with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School. No newcomer to military sports, Jefferson has an extensive background as a player, coach and referee, having coached at unit and post level and for women's teams for more than 30 teams at numerous installations.

"I began coaching 10 years ago," Jefferson explained. "Since I've been here at APG, I've taken HHC 16th to two championships, in basketball and softball."

Jefferson credited his selection to active participation in Army athletics everywhere he has been stationed during his 17-year career, and to a strong work ethic.

"When I coach, I tell players they're only as good as their out-

put," Jefferson said. "I give them the best input I can so their output can be good."

Prior to this, Jefferson said his most notable accomplishments were service with NATO forces in Italy and Holland, and in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm. He said he would encourage young people considering a military career to join the Army.

"I would tell them there's no better place because everything is guaranteed and structured," Jefferson said. "Take the seven Army values and live by them."

"Success isn't always winning," he added. "It's how well you play."

Jefferson said he will meet other coaches and players who were selected for the trial camp for the first time.

"We'll have about 40 days to prepare to play," Jefferson said. "We'll have our work cut out for us, but I plan to select the 12 best people to represent the Army."

SSgt. Danny R. Combs of HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion, said he is not surprised by Jefferson's selection.

"I've known him a year. He's very motivated and inspirational," Combs said. "Whatever he has to do, he just goes out and does it. I'd be proud to serve under him again."

Jefferson said this is his first time competing at the All Army level, and he is excited about what could be a "stepping stone to the future."

A member of the Northeastern Maryland Officials Association, Jefferson referees volleyball



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Sfc. Joe Jefferson, HHC 16th Ordnance Battalion, has been selected men's head coach for the 1999 All Army Men's Basketball Trial Camp at Fort Hood, Texas. He left Monday and will return Nov 15.

games in Harford County high schools. He plans to return to Florida to coach or officiate full-time after his retirement.

Jefferson said a master sergeant at his first duty station influenced both his military and

athletic career when he told him that the best athletes are well conditioned.

"Those who stay in shape stay on top of their game," Jefferson said. "That's why I've done so well for so long."

Flag football continues

Following are results for the Intramural Flag Football League for the week ending Oct. 1:

Hoyle Division

Results

Sept. 27

A Co. 143rd, 18; MRICD, 13
B Co. 143rd, 24; 520th, 0
SBCCOM, 32; CHPPM, 12

Sept. 29

A Co. 143rd, 12; 520th, 6
SBCCOM, 32; MRICD, 12
B Co. 143rd, 1; CHPPM, 0

Standings

SBCCOM4-0
B Co. 143rd4-1
A Co. 143rd4-2
520th2-4
MRICD1-4
CHPPM1-5

Schedule

Oct. 13

6:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd vs. SBCCOM
7:30 p.m., 520th vs. CHPPM
8:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. MRICD

National Division

Results

Sept. 28

A Co. 16th, 26; B Co. 16th, 2
C Co. 16th, 13; USAF, 12
E Co. 16th, 12; USMC, 7

Sept. 30

C Co. 16th, 26; A Co. 16th, 6
E Co. 16th, 34; B Co. 16th, 0
USMC, 24; USAF, 6

Standings

C Co. 16th5-1
A Co. 16th4-2
E Co. 16th4-2
USMC3-3
USAF3-4
B Co. 16th0-7

Schedule

Oct. 12

6:30 p.m., A Co. 16th vs. USAF
7:30 p.m., C Co. 16th vs. B Co. 16th

8:30 p.m., E Co. 16th vs. USMC

Oct. 14

6:30 p.m., A Co. 16th vs. E Co. 16th
7:30 p.m., C Co. 16th vs. USMC
8:30 p.m., USAF vs. B Co. 16th

American Division

Results

Sept. 29

NCOA, 20; HHC 143rd, 12
HHC 61st, 1; HHC 61st, 0

Standings

HHC 143rd3-1
NCOA3-1
HHC 16th2-2
HHC 61st1-2
KUSAHC0-0
N. GUARD0-3

Schedule

Oct. 13

6:30 p.m., NCOA vs. N. Guard
8:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. HHC 61st

Soccer teams battle

The following results were reported for the APG Intramural Soccer League for the week ending Oct. 1:

Results

Sept. 23

USMC, 6; C Co. 16th, 1
B Co. 143rd, 1; E Co. 16th, 0

Sept. 28

HHC 16th, 1; E Co. 16th, 0
B Co. 143rd, 4; A Co. 16th, 4

Sept. 30

CHPPM, 2; HHC 16th, 2
C Co. 16th, 1; E Co. 16th, 1

Standings

USMC4-0-0
B Co. 143rd3-0-0
NCOA2-0
HHC 16th2-0-1
A Co. 143rd2-1-0
A Co. 16th3-3-0
CHPPM1-2-1
C Co. 16th1-4-0
E Co. 16th0-8-0

Schedule

The league will finish play in two Saturdays of round robin play Oct. 16 and 23 at Shine Sports Field. The championship tournament will be held Oct. 30 and 31.

RETIREE UPDATE

Tomb of Unknowns dedicated

In a ceremony marking POW-MIA Recognition Day, Defense Secretary William Cohen dedicated a new inscription on the Tomb of the Unknowns to reflect that the hallowed memorial no longer contains the remains of an unknown soldier from the Vietnam War. The words that now grace the Vietnam tomb - "Honoring and Keeping Faith with America's Missing Servicemen" — are carved in stone.

This summer the Pentagon announced that the Tomb of the Unknowns never again would contain a symbolic victim of the Vietnam War because advanced forensic science - particularly the use of DNA technologies - make it at least theoretically possible that all war remains eventually can be identified. The tomb, adjacent to the cemetery's Memorial Amphitheater, is most recognized for the round-the-clock detail of sentinels who guard the white marble sarcophagus that is atop the grave of the Unknown Soldier of World War I. Its inscription reads: "Here Rests In Honored Glory An American Soldier Known But To God."

Nearby are the graves of unknowns from World War II, Korea and Vietnam; each is marked with a white marble slab that is flush with the ground.

There are 2,054 MIAs from the Vietnam War, about 8,200 from the Korean War and more than 78,000 from World War II.

Frequently asked questions about Veterans Administration Insurance

Q - What Government Life Insurance coverage is available for veterans?

A - Coverage is being issued to veterans under three programs:

- Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance, sometimes called "RH" insurance, is available to veterans who have service-connected disabilities;

- Veterans Group Life Insurance is available to veterans who had Servicemen's Group Life Insurance while on active duty and wish to convert it to civilian coverage; and

- Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance is available to veterans who have received Specially Adapted Housing Grants.

Q - What is the maximum amount of coverage I can get under these programs?

A - Under Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance, eligible veterans can get an initial \$ 10,000 policy, and if found to be totally disabled and eligible for waiver of premiums, can get up to \$ 20,000 of additional coverage. Premiums may be waived on the initial \$10,000, but not on the supplemental \$ 20,000.

Under Veterans Group Life Insurance, eligible veterans can be issued only the same amount of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance that they had in the service, or less.

Under Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance, eligible veterans can be issued up to \$ 90,000, which is payable to the mortgage holder upon their death.

Q - How long do I have to apply for Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance?

A - You have two years from the date you are notified that you have a NEW service-connected disability. You do not get an additional eligibility period if you are granted an increase in your current disability. Once you have a policy and are notified of your entitlement to waiver of premiums because of total disability, you have one year to apply for the supplemental \$ 20,000 in coverage.

Q - As a veteran of World War II who kept his National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) in force, is there any way I can increase my coverage?

A - While the maximum amount of coverage on basic NSLI policies is \$10,000, veterans can increase their coverage indefinitely by using their insurance dividends to buy paid-up additional coverage.

Q - What other options do I have for the payment of my dividends?

A - There are several options, including:

- an annual cash payment;
- having the dividends held in an account at interest;
- applying the dividends to pay off a loan;
- using the dividends to buy additional insurance;
- applying the whole dividend to pay premiums in advance;
- applying part of the dividend to pay premiums and the rest to buy additional insurance, pay off a loan or be received as cash.

Q - How can I change my dividend option?

A - By calling the insurance toll-free number, 1-800-669-8477, and speaking to an insurance specialist.

Q - I let my Government Life Insurance lapse. Can I reinstate it? If so, how long do I have and what must I do?

A - If you have a term policy, you have five years to reinstate your policy. You must pay the premium for the month lapsed and the month of reinstatement. If you have a "permanent plan", that is, one of the whole life or endowment type policies, you can reinstate any time, but you must pay all back premiums plus interest. (There is one exception

to this. Policies with "J" or "JR" prefixes must be reinstated within five years, regardless of the plan.) In any case, if your policy has been lapsed a year or longer, you must meet good health requirements.

Q - If I die, how can my beneficiary apply for the proceeds of my policy?

A - The beneficiary should notify us by calling our toll-free number, 1-800-669-8477. A claim can be made by sending a signed statement expressing the intent to file a claim, along with the insured's death certificate. (The insurance file number must be on the correspondence.) They can be mailed to the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center, PO Box 7208, Philadelphia, PA 19101, or faxed to (215) 381-3561.

Q - Can I borrow money on my Government Life insurance policy? If so, how much and how do I go about it?

A - If you have a whole life or endowment type policy, or have paid-up insurance that you purchased with your dividends, you will earn cash value after the policy has been in force for a year or more. You can borrow up to 94 percent of this cash value. To find out what your policy's loan value is, call the insurance toll-free number, 1-800-669-8477. To apply for a loan, you don't need a special application, just a written and signed request that states your intention to take a loan. You can mail it to the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center, PO Box 7327, Philadelphia, PA 19101, or FAX it to (215) 381-3524.

Q - Do I have to pay interest? If so, at what rate?

A - The interest rate on policy loans is variable and subject to change from year to year. It currently stands at 6 percent.

Q - What if I don't pay interest on my policy loan or make any payments on it?

A - Unpaid interest will be added to the outstanding loan, causing it to grow. Eventually, if the policy loan exceeds the cash value, the policy could be canceled. Any indebtedness on the policy at the time of the policyholder's death will be deducted from the payment the beneficiary will receive.

Q - If my policy has cash value, can I cash surrender it?

A - Yes. You may receive the full cash value of the policy. This will cause the policy to cease to be in effect, and you will not be able to reinstate. VA representatives can discuss other options available that will permit continuance in coverage.

Q - Are Government Life Insurance payments taxable?

A - No. The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that Government Life Insurance Benefits are not subject to federal income tax. This includes interest earned on accumulated dividends.

Q - How do I apply for VGLI?

A - Upon discharge, you will receive several mailings from the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) with instructions about where to send your application and initial premium. OSGLI's mailing address is: 213 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102. They have a toll-free number, 1-800-419-1473.

Q - How long do I have to convert my SGLI to VGLI after I get out of the service?

A - For the first 120 days after the discharge, you continue to be covered by the SGLI you had in the service. During this time, you can apply for VGLI and be accepted regardless of your health. After the first 120 days, you have a full year to apply, but you must meet good health requirements.

Q - Can I borrow on my VGLI?

A - No. VGLI is term insurance and has no cash or loan value.

Q - How long can I keep VGLI? Can I convert it to a permanent policy?

A - As of December 1992, VGLI can be renewed every five years and kept for life. At each renewal, the premium will increase to coincide with the insured's current age. The veteran also has the option to convert VGLI to a permanent (whole life or endowment) policy with one of the commercial insurance companies participating in this program. The conversion must be done at one of the five year renewal points.

Q - I had SGLI in the Reserves. Now that I'm out, can I convert it to VGLI?

A - If you had 20 or more years of credible reserve service, you are eligible to enter a special program called Retired Reservist SGLI, which you can retain until age 61 or until you begin receiving retired pay. Another option is to convert SGLI to a policy with a commercial insurance company. Reservists with less than 20 years have no SGLI conversion privileges.

Q - I saw a notice about applying for a special one-time GI insurance dividend. Is there any truth to this?

A - No, this a hoax. A message on the Internet has caused some confusion among veterans who have VA insurance policies.

You may contact the VA Insurance Center for more information, toll-free, 1-800-669-8477, or by e-mail, vainsurance@vba.va.gov.

NECPOC supports training program

NECPOC, from front page

with the minimum amount of support needed so people can work as independently as possible.

"We are a rehabilitative agency," Corea explained. "We tried CPOC on a trial run, allowing people to work two days a week. So far, they tell me it's been a huge success."

Karen Price, who transports the workers and supervises them throughout the day, said for the most part they are all willing workers with special needs.

"They collect shreds and others work as mail distributors," Price explained. "Beth Halsey goes right to work and is very friendly, and Richard Curtis is my co-pilot in the van."

After Corea showed a video titled the "Ten

Commandments of Communicating with People with Disabilities," which detailed the main misconceptions people normally have concerning people with disabilities, NECPOC Director Michael Vajda presented Curtis, Halsey and Roger Glock with certificates of appreciation for dedicated service to the NECPOC mission.

"This program began more than a year-and-a-half ago, partly as a means to provide meaningful employment to the developmentally disabled," Vajda said. "It worked so well we began contracting. They are all good workers, reliable and friendly. NECPOC plans to continue to support this program."

Since the seminar, the workers all have received certificates.

"We want to make sure the jobs they provide you with is the good service you want," Price told the NECPOC employees. "Their coming around your office gives you a chance to say hello. Please don't hesitate to do that."

During October, which is Disability Awareness Month, the APG Disability Awareness luncheon will be held at Top of the Bay on Oct. 21 at 11:30 a.m.

Guest speaker for the luncheon is Tim Harrington, owner of Program Development Associates and recipient of the National Rehabilitation Association's 1996 E.B. Whitten Award.

For information about the luncheon, contact Judy Matthews, 410-278-1050, or Angela Cheek, 410-278-1140.

Military spouses hold events, offer membership

By Sheila Little

APG News

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club and Military and Civilian Spouses Club held welcome coffees recently to introduce area ladies to activities designed to familiarize them with the community, get to know other spouses, and get together to raise funds for charitable distribution.

Esther Jackson, advisor and member of MCSC and a member of the EA-OWC, said one of the "perks" of being involved with the military is access to a spouse club.

"We've really evolved from the 'hats and gloves' social emphasis and become far more service oriented. APG is really blessed to have two such organizations in the community," she said. "Joining a wives club gives spouses a great opportunity to meet others, exchange information and get to know their community. Both the EA-OWC and the MCSC hold fund-raisers that benefit organizations on and off-post and provide college scholarships."

The EA-OWC held its welcome at the Gunpowder Club on Sept. 8, featuring opportunities for spouses to sign up for craft classes, activities, volunteer opportunities and club trips.

The EA-OWC holds a luncheon the second Wednesday of each month at an area restaurant. Programs feature guest speakers on topics of interest to the membership. Membership is open throughout the year to active-duty and retired officers and their spouses of any military branch, and civilian government employees GS-7 and above and their spouses.

Activities, generally offered on Wednesdays, include monthly trips, restaurant visits, craft classes, book club, gourmet club, golf

group, book club and Bunco. The organization holds two fund-raisers each year and uses the profits to benefit military and civilian charitable groups and organizations and provide college scholarships. Their current fund-raiser is a Longaberger Basket opportunity. Winners will be determined on Oct. 30. You do not have to be a member to support the event; to purchase tickets call Karen Chambers, 410-676-9142, or Debbie Della Silva, 410-272-6685. The MCSC, open to military personnel and civilians of

any rank, held opportunities to sign up at the Plumb Point Loop residence of Linda Ertwine on Sept. 14, and at the home of Charlie Hudson on Spesutie Island Road Sept. 21.

The MCSC luncheon is held in the Aberdeen vicinity on the second Tuesday each month, and activities are scheduled for Tuesdays. Club offerings include fitness classes, bowling, sit-and-stitch, craft classes, restaurant and day trips, game groups, and one overnight trip scheduled for the spring. The club's upcoming

fund-raiser will be an apple pie sale later this month. Contact Lorie McDuffie, 410-272-0434, for more information.

Both clubs determine and distribute charitable donations and scholarships in the spring. This year the combined donations of the two spouse clubs exceeded \$12,000.

For EA-OWC membership information, contact Norma Blatterman, 410-671-9966. Those interested in membership in the MCSC should call Linda Kuchar, 410-297-9792.

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.

1998 report on quality of Aberdeen Area tap water

(Editor's note: The following is the Consumer Confidence Report for the Aberdeen Area drinking water supply. This report, a new federal requirement for all drinking water systems, is required to be widely distributed, and will be mailed to family housing occupants and post organizations that purchase water from APG. It also is available on the APG web site, www.apg.army.mil. This is the first year the report is required; the 1999 report will be out in June 2000. The Edgewood Area report will be printed in the Oct. 14 issue of the APG News.)

This is an annual report on the quality of water delivered to the Aberdeen Area of U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. Under the "Consumer Confidence Reporting Rule" of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), community water systems are required to report this water quality information to the consuming public. Presented in this report is information on the source of our water, its constituents and the health risks associated with any contaminants detected in quantities exceeding a drinking water regulatory maximum contaminant level (MCL), action level (AL), or treatment techniques (TT).

During calendar year 1998, no contaminants were detected in the Aberdeen Area drinking water distribution system in quantities exceeding regulatory limits.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming;
- pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;
- organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;
- radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

We continually monitor the drinking water for contaminants. Our water is safe to drink. However, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The drinking water being delivered to you is pumped from Deer Creek and treated by the Chapel Hill Water Treatment Plant located at Building 10101, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005. Deer Creek is a surface water source in Harford County.

Monitoring drinking water

Our water system uses only EPA-approved laboratory methods to analyze your drinking water. Our personnel collect water samples from the distribution system and from the Chapel Hill Water Treatment Plant. Samples are then shipped to the accredited laboratory where a full spectrum of water quality analyses is performed. The results are then reported to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

In the Aberdeen Area, we monitor for the contaminant groups listed in Table 1 using EPA-approved methods. Table 1 also lists the monitoring frequencies for these contaminant groups.

Definitions of key terms

To gain a better understanding of the content of this report, several key terms must be defined. They are as follows:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below

CONTAMINANT GROUP	MONITORING FREQUENCY
Inorganic Contaminants (IOC)	Annually
Lead and Copper (L&C)	Triennially (once every three years)
Microorganisms and Turbidity (M&T)	Daily
Radionuclides (RAD)	Once every four years
Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC)	Semiannually (twice per year)
Total Coliform (TC)	Monthly
Unregulated Contaminants (UNREG)	Once every five years
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	Annually

which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. Please note that MCLGs are goals and not regulatory limits. Public drinking water systems are not required to meet MCLGs.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. Contaminants in drinking water, if detected, must be present in levels below the MCLs in order for the system to be in compliance with state and federal regulations.

Monitoring Waivers - State or EPA permission to discontinue monitoring for a particular contaminant or contaminant group. Often, the state or EPA will grant monitoring waivers for systems that have consistently met regulatory limits. In the Aberdeen Area, MDE has granted monitoring waivers for cyanide, nitrite, and asbestos, because the system consistently has exhibited concentrations well below the regulatory MCLs for these contaminants.

In addition to monitoring for contaminants regulated by MCLs, our water system analyzes for contaminants (including lead and copper) governed by action levels (ALs) and those subject to treatment techniques. Therefore, the definitions of these terms are provided below.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Additional acronyms and terms

Below is a listing of additional acronyms and terms (with explanations) used in this

AL	Consumer Confidence Report: Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, trigger treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
CCR	Consumer Confidence Report
DBP	Disinfection By-Products
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
IOC	Inorganic Contaminants
L&C	Lead and Copper
Level Detected	Laboratory analytical result for a contaminant; this value is evaluated against an MCL or Action Level to determine compliance.
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk
M&T	Microorganisms and Turbidity
NTU	nephelometric turbidity unit - a measure of turbidity in water
ppm	parts per million - a unit of measure analogous to a single penny in \$10,000
ppb	parts per billion - a unit of measure analogous to a single penny in \$10,000,000
RAD	Radionuclides
Range	the range of the highest and lowest analytical values of a reported contaminant. For example, the range of reported analytical detections for an unregulat-

TABLE 2 – Contaminants Detected in the Aberdeen Area Drinking Water Distribution System in 1998

CONTAMINANT (GROUP)	LEVEL DETECTED	MCL	RANGE	SAMPLE DATE(S)	EXCEEDED STANDARD?	MCLG*	LIKELY SOURCE(S) OF CONTAMINANT
TTHMs (DBP)	60.9 ppb (Highest running annual average)	100 ppb	15.5 ppb to 158 ppb	2/12/98 4/20/98 7/29/98 12/17/98	NO (Running annual average must meet the MCL)	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Barium (IOC)	16 ppb	200 ppb	NA	2/12/98	NO	200 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (IOC)	0.9 ppb	100 ppb	NA	2/12/98	NO	100 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (IOC)	0.96 ppm	4 ppm	0.62 ppm to 0.96 ppm	2/12/98 6/15/98 8/18/98	NO	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Mercury (IOC)	0.4 ppb	2 ppb	0.4 ppb	2/12/98	NO	2 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland.
Nitrate (IOC)	3.5 ppm	10 ppm	3.0 ppm to 3.5 ppm	2/12/98 6/15/98 8/18/98	NO	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (L&C)	219 ppb (90 th percentile value from the most recent round of sampling)	1300 ppb (AL)	0 (# of sites that exceeded action level)	7/30/96	NO	1300 ppb (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (L&C)	2.94 ppb (90 th percentile value from the most recent round of sampling)	15 ppb (AL)	1 (# of sites that exceeded action level)	7/30/96	NO	15 ppb (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity (M&T)	0.4 NTU (highest level detected in any single measurement)	At least 95% of monthly samples must be ≤ 0.5 NTU (TT)	100% (lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the limit)	1/1/98 – 12/31/98	NO	NA	Soil runoff.
Atrazine (SOC)	1.49 ppb	3 ppb	0.2 ppb to 1.49 ppb	4/20/98 6/15/98	NO	3 ppb	Runoff from herbicides used on row crops.
Dalapon (SOC)	1.11 ppb	200 ppb	0.77 ppb to 1.11 ppb	6/15/98 8/18/98	NO	200 ppb	Herbicide runoff.
Simazine (SOC)	0.91 ppb	4 ppb	NA	8/18/98	NO	4 ppb	Herbicide runoff.
Metolachlor (UNREG)	0.2 ppb	NA	NA	4/20/98	NA	NA	Runoff from pesticides used on row crops.
Sodium (UNREG)	24.4 ppm	NA	19.8 ppm to 24.4 ppm	6/15/98 8/18/98	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (UNREG)	36.5 ppm	NA	24.6 ppm to 36.5 ppm	6/15/98 8/18/98	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.

NA = not applicable
* Note that MCLG refers to a goal, not a regulatory limit. Contaminants detected must meet MCLs, ALs, or TTs, not MCLGs.

SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act - Federal law which sets forth drinking water regulations
SOC	Synthetic Organic Contaminants
TC	Total Coliform
TTHMs	total trihalomethanes - byproducts of drinking water disinfection
TT	Treatment Technique - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
UNREG	Unregulated Contaminants
VOC	Volatile Organic Contaminants

Detected contaminants

Table 2 lists the only contaminants detected in the Aberdeen Area drinking water distribution system during calendar year 1998 or, in some cases, the most recent sampling period. All other contaminants were below laboratory detection limits.

We routinely monitor for a number of contaminants in the water supply to meet regulatory drinking water compliance requirements. The table lists only those contaminants that were detected. Many other contaminants have been analyzed for also, but were not detected in the Aberdeen Area drinking water distribution system. Note that none of the contaminants detected were present in levels greater than drinking water regulatory MCLs, ALs, or TTs.

EPA and the MDE require various reporting methodologies for different contaminants. A brief explanation of our reporting methodologies for the detected contaminants is provided below:

TTHMs are regulated as disinfection by-products (DBP) in the Aberdeen Area, because the Aberdeen Area water system services greater than 10,000 consumers. In accordance with DBP regulations, TTHMs compliance is determined by a running annual average of all samples at all sampling points. This running annual average must meet the MCL. CCR reporting regulations for TTHMs require us to report the highest running annual average in the "Level Detected" column of Table 2. We are also required to list the range of individual detections in the "Range" column.

Barium, chromium, fluoride, mercury, and nitrate are regulated under the inorganic contaminants (IOC) group. Atrazine, dalapon, and simazine are synthetic organic contaminants (SOC). Metolachlor, sodium, and sulfate are included in the unregulated contaminants (UNREG) group. CCR reporting regulations for all of these contaminants require us to report the highest detected concentration in the "Level Detected" column of Table 2 and the range of detected levels in the "Range" column, if applicable.

Copper and lead are regulated under the lead and copper (L&C) group. CCR reporting regulations for the L&C group require us to report the 90th percentile value of the most recent round of sampling in the "Level Detected" column of Table 2. In the Aberdeen Area, a minimum of 30 sites are required by EPA and MDE to be sampled for lead and copper during each sampling round. During the last round of sampling, we sampled 30 sites within the Aberdeen Area drinking water distribution system. The 90th percentile value represents the concentration of lead or copper that ninety (90) percent of the sites (not values) were below. CCR regulations also require that the number of individual sites exceeding the action level be reported in the "Range" column of Table 2.

Turbidity is a measurement of the "cloudiness" of water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system, which is a treatment technique for the removal of turbidity. High turbidity can also hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. At least 95 percent of the turbidity measurements each month must be less than or equal to 0.5 NTU for our system to be in compliance with the regulatory treatment technique requirements. CCR reporting regulations require that we list the highest single turbidity reading obtained in the "Level Detected" column of Table 2. We are also required to report the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limit in the column marked "Range".

Contact information

This Consumer Confidence Report was prepared by Michael Kanowitz of the Environmental Engineering Branch (EEB) in the Environmental Compliance Division (ECD) of the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment (DSHE).

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Long-time employee retires from TECOM

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

As the history of Army testing faced major changes during the past two weeks, so did a post employee who has worked here for 35 years.

Lucy Long, who worked in the Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, now the Developmental Test Command, since 1971, said her retirement will mark the beginning of a new part of her life — one she plans to fill with friends, fun and travel.

"I definitely will miss my TECOM family," said Long after her retirement Oct. 1, which took place at Greater Baltimore Medical Center, with her family, TECOM co-workers and friends in attendance.

That morning, ATEC, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, became the official organization in charge of all Army testing during a ceremony at Fort Myer, Va. On the way back from Virginia, Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine, DTC commander, and his staff stopped at the hospital to praise Long for her many years of service to APG and TECOM/DTC.

"It's hard to lose people who have been a part of the organization for so many years," he said, "but I know you will have many fond memories of TECOM, and you will always be a part of the TECOM family."

Brian Simmons, DTC civilian deputy, who worked with Long since he started at TECOM, also said Lucy "made a difference" at the organization.

"Thank you for your patience and your caring," he said. "We



Photos by KAREN JOLLEY DREWEN
Lucy Long, seated, poses with her daughter, Debbie Long, after her retirement following 35 years of government service. Below, friends and co-workers applaud after the ceremony.

will miss you."

Both the first public affairs officer she worked for and the last had praise for her strong work ethic and dedication.

"Lucy is a loyal, dedicated person," said August "Mac"



McColgan, who served as TECOM chief of public affairs from 1963 until his retirement in 1985. "She had a great sense of obligation to work and to duty. She came in even when she was feeling poorly. I'd like to see her relax and do what she likes."

Gary Holloway, current chief of public affairs, said her dedication to her work and to her co-workers was an inspiration.

"Lucy always put the good of the office and the command above herself," he said. "In my 25-year government career, she far and away is the best secretary I've worked with. Her dedication and loyalty are unparalleled."

Long, who is undergoing rehabilitation after surgery to remove her right leg, praised the staff at GBMC not only for their efforts to restore her health, but for preparing a special room for the ceremo-

ny and providing refreshments afterward. She said she plans to travel, but her plans will be determined by how quickly she can be fitted with a prosthetic leg.

She recalled that one of most exciting times in PAO was when the office trained seven Army Materiel Command interns.

"Lucy was the first person I met in public affairs at Aberdeen Proving Ground, in July of 1974," said John Yaquiant, one of those interns, who remained at TECOM until his move to the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program in August.

"I'm sure we interns taxed her patience, being new to the government, but she was always there for us," Yaquiant said. "I'll always remember my first birthday after I joined the government. During a conversation earlier, I had mentioned that I liked banana cream pie and coconut cream pie. On my birthday, she baked one of each. She always was very thoughtful, and that's just one example of the many personal touches she brought to the office."

After graduating from Bel Air High School in 1955, Long worked at the Bata Shoe Factory in Belcamp for a few years. She married Fred Long, and started work at APG on May 4, 1964, as a temporary GS-1 clerk-typist at what then was Edgewood Arsenal.

Her life with Fred, who died in 1994, was a mix of the business world and farm life on their small farm in Churchville, where they moved in 1967. There, they raised cattle, kept horses and worked from the early morning until long after dark.

"You'd go to the office all day, then you'd go home and put on your old duds and go out in the hot hayfield for a few hours," she said. "If you were lucky, you got to eat dinner at 9 or 9:30 p.m."

She plans to return to her home soon after her discharge from the hospital. Her life, she said, will be spent with her family, which includes her mother, Grace Singleton, who lives in Riverside; her daughter, Debbie Long, who works for the Directorate of Community and Family Activities; her sister, Mildred Lehner of Baltimore; and her brothers, William Singleton of Essex and David Singleton of Bel Air.



TECOM now is known as DTC, and is part of ATEC, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command

TECOM named DTC in ceremony

TECOM, from front page Brigade honor guard stood at attention and the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) played a medley of songs.

After an 11-gun salute and the playing of the National Anthem, SSgt. Gregory Binford of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, read the history of TECOM while Ertwine and Walker stood at attention, facing the Color Guard and the seven TECOM banners.

Initiating the redesignation, the TECOM colors were lowered, furled and cased by Ertwine and Walker, who then uncased the DTC colors while the crowd looked on in solemn silence.

Brian M. Simmons, deputy to the commander and technical director of DTC, said TECOM's 37-year commitment to professionalism would continue in DTC.

"Our safety mission and safety of our soldiers has always been the number-one priority," Simmons said. "That professionalism has directly contributed to the legacy of the command and America's fighting force."

Ertwine, after acknowledging the many individuals and organizations in attendance, gave a command assessment of DTC, saying that being smaller will make it more effective.

"I see a test center that continues to be a vital part of our community," Ertwine said. "I see a successful and dedicated work force that will ensure effective and safe equipment for our soldiers for years to come."

Ertwine offered a special thanks to TECOM alumni, particularly former test center commanders.

"Their leadership really defines what our command is all about," Ertwine said.

Madora hailed TECOM as a great organization with a proud tradition of service.

"Now, as DTC, your organization will continue to build on that tradition," Madora said. "In two days, ATEC will become the single voice for Army testing," he added, referring to the Oct. 1 ceremony at Fort Myer, Va., which activated ATEC, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

"As commander, my vision is for ATEC to be mission-oriented and customer focused, centered on teamwork and positioned for the future, leading change into the 21st Century," Madora said. "ATEC will never forget that the soldier is our customer. This is an awesome responsibility and a sacred trust we will never compromise."

The crowd turned around and watched Ertwine and Walker unveil the new "Developmental Test Command" sign on the Ryan Building, then stood as the Color Guard lowered the flag and the band played "Retreat" and "To the Colors," a fitting ending to what some former

TECOM'ers called a somber yet joyous occasion.

Retired Army Col. Jerry A. Simmons, former deputy commander of APG and chief of staff of TECOM from 1979-1983, attended the ceremony with his wife, Lula. Now living in Fort Washington, Md., Simmons said he oversaw TECOM's budgeting, testing, monitoring and development.

"This change will work very differently than what we were doing, and it's a little sad to see the old ways end, but this will bring everyone much closer together," Simmons said. "It's long overdue."

Former comptroller, retired Col. James P. Lewis, who served in TECOM from 1977-1984, said the change to DTC was important and necessary.

"TECOM owned eight of the nine Army test facilities," Lewis said. "Budgeting for annual operating costs, contractual wages and project costs was a very large responsibility."

Lewis lives in Delaware with his wife, Ann, and said he keeps in touch with Colonel Simmons, his former boss.

Before the ceremony, Zenna Nelson mingled with guests at the open house on the second floor of building 314, where a film detailing the command's history was shown in the conference room and guests helped themselves to refreshments. A secretary with TECOM from 1962-1985, Nelson said she served under 19 different generals, adding that she had to get a final look at what would soon no longer be TECOM.

"This is sort of an end of an era," Nelson said. "I saw old friends and reminisced but I will still miss it."

Col. Robert C. Filbey, commander, Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., and Col. Edward Fisher, commander, Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, agreed that the high profile change would not affect their missions.

"The transition is in fact, transparent," said Filbey, adding that the most obvious difference is the new chain of command.

After the ceremony, Walker said he was impressed with everyone who helped in the ceremony's planning and execution.

"They were all sharp," Walker said, adding that they planned a ceremony befitting the TECOM reputation. "I got a lump in my throat because I was never more proud to be a part of TECOM, now ATEC."

Due to become the ATEC command sergeant major on Oct. 19, Walker, who came from the 2d Infantry Division, said he was owes a debt of thanks to those who came before him.

"Through the good leadership of commanders and technical directors, I gained the knowledge I needed to excel," he said. "I'm just glad we were able to give good closure to a 37-year history and an excellent work force."

More than 37 years of TECOM's proud history

By Pat McClung
APG Public Affairs Office

In 1962, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) began as a major subordinate command, under the then newly created U.S. Army Materiel Command.

It centralized the Army's test and evaluation assets, assuming responsibility for the test and evaluation missions of 43 previous technical service installations and activities.

TECOM's first commander, Brig. Gen. William F. Ryan, had been in charge of the planning group responsible for TECOM's formation. After briefing the commander of AMC in May 1962, the planning group moved from Washington, D.C. to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

In August of that same year, TECOM stood up with 15 installations and organizations under its direction, employing 11,700 civilians and 9,600 military personnel, with real estate totalling 8,069 square miles. It was made up of proving grounds, service test boards, environmental test centers and general equipment test centers stretching from Maryland to Arizona and Utah, and from Alaska to the Republic of Panama.

Identified as the Army's "independent tester," TECOM's goal from the beginning was to strengthen the test and evaluation functions of the Army. It approached testing from a new perspective, combining the aims and requirements of both engineering and user tests.

During the 1960's, TECOM concentrated on consolidating its assets and optimizing its operation. Along with that came a comprehensive, automated management system which tracked individual items through the entire testing process, listing all testing being performed or scheduled for the future and

Identified as the Army's "independent tester," TECOM's goal from the beginning was to strengthen the test and evaluation functions of the Army. It approached testing from a new perspective, combining the aims and requirements of both engineering and user tests.

identifying the agency responsible at each stage. TECOM also developed a consolidated compendium of test methods and standards providing details for nearly 700 tests.

By the mid 1960's, TECOM developed more rigorous and demanding equipment tests playing a major role in resolving equipment deficiencies and shortcomings. In 1967, TECOM became responsible for signing off on every item prior to its release to the soldier.

The 1970's brought more changes to the Army and TECOM as the Army Materiel Acquisition Review Council moved the service boards and more than 1,000 spaces from TECOM to the Training and Doctrine Command. In 1973 the Operational Test and Evaluation Agency was created to take over the Army's operational or user test mission. This allowed TECOM to concentrate on its

role as the Army's independent tester. Soon after, TECOM became responsible for test design and independent evaluations aimed at shortening the materiel acquisition cycle.

The 1980's was a time of more consolidation and downsizing. The Tropic Test Center became a directorate under YPG, and Cold Regions Test Center reduced by 65 percent.

The 1990's can be characterized as a decade of major change and continued downsizing. Although TECOM gained the Redstone Technical Test Center from the U.S. Army Missile Command, it lost Jefferson Proving Ground as a result of a Base Realignment and Closure process. TECOM's Electronic Proving Ground at Ft. Huachuca became a directorate of White Sands Missile Range, and all aviation testing was consolidated at the Aviation Technical Test Center, Fort Rucker, Ala. TECOM disestablished the Tropic Test Site in Panama on Sept. 30, 1999.

TECOM's primary missions were developmental testing of weapons and other materiel systems as directed by the Army or the Department of Defense, developing technology for testing emerging weapon systems, verifying the weapons systems and materiel being developed are safe for use by the soldiers, and managing installations.

As a result of the study on consolidating Army testing, the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army signed the memorandum on Nov. 18, 1998, consolidating operational and developmental testing under one command. Effective Oct. 1, TECOM, less the Garrison, APG, and Jefferson Proving Ground became the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command (DTC) under the new U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, (ATEC).

TECOM proudly and successfully accomplished its mission for more than 37 years.



Spc. Darnell Greene, APG Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representative, poses with Wanda Kirkpatrick, known as the "First Lady of BOSS." Kirkpatrick started the BOSS Program 10 years ago at the Community and Family Support Center at Department of the Army Headquarters.

BOSS conference was informative, enjoyable

By Spc. Darnell Greene
President, APG BOSS Program

The annual Army-wide BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Service Members) conference was held at the Xerox Document Training Center in Leesburg, Virginia, Sept. 12-17. Representatives from the Single Marine Program also were participants in the conference this year, which was highlighted by a visit from Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Alford L. McMichael.

The conference began with power-packed speeches from Wanda Kirkpatrick, the "First Lady of BOSS"; Les Brown, keynote motivational speaker; Maj. Gen. John G. Meyer, Department of the Army chief of public affairs; Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert E. Hall; and many representatives from Community and Family Support Center (CFSC).

The BOSS conference attendees were treated to evening activities which included Spades Tournaments, Movie Nights, and Rubber Stamping, cards, frames, and

scrapbook ideas. Single service members also were able to address their installation concerns to a panel of command sergeants major representing the Army's major commands.

A wealth of information was put out to the representatives in attendance to take back to their installations and disseminate.

The last evening was spent at an awards banquet where installations received awards for the Best Event/ Best Installation Competitions judged earlier that week. Aberdeen Proving Ground did not compete in either of these events... THIS YEAR!!

Fun was had by all. We learned a lot, and shared stories with service members from stationed everywhere from Korea to Alaska.

If you are interested in volunteering, becoming a member of the APG BOSS Program, or if you have ideas, suggestions, questions, or comments please contact your unit BOSS representative or call me at 410-278-1995.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The new Army PT uniform costs \$108 & includes short-sleeved shirt, long-sleeved shirt, shorts, pants, and jacket (\$6 was saved by omitting the hood)

- The mandatory possession date will not be until 2002 or 2003 and this uniform will not be given to BTs or AIT students until they graduate from an AIT school

- 3.5 percent is the highest percentage of soldiers allowed to be in the Army's top two NCO ranks (master sergeant and sergeant major) and that is what the Army currently has

- The student/ teacher ratio will change from 8:1 to 9:1 upon the request of commissioned officers requesting more NCO training school slots

- In the past, the average is 35 percent of all specialists were promotable at any given time, now it is at 19 percent

- The "Be all you can be" slogan for the Army is changing slightly

- For certain soldiers at the 15-year mark they will choose between \$30,000 cash and 40 percent retirement pay OR 50 percent retirement pay (see MILPERCEN for more information)

- In the year 2008 all Army barracks will be at the 1+1 standard

- Military housing is going to be privatized where you will pay rent equivalent to your BAH

- Recruiting missed it's mission by approximately 7,000 service members in the Army

- The Marine Corps is the only branch of service that is making their recruiting mission (way to go!)

- Congress may be looking at implementing a draft to help with the shortage of personnel

- Congress only funded 55% of DPW's budget which means the installation commander had to come up with the rest of the \$ from other areas

- Child care costs can be subsidi-

dized by state programs and in some hardship cases even waived by the installation CDR (talk to the Child Development Center staff first for assistance)

- There are 30,000 deployed soldiers in 17 countries as you read this

- Recreation centers started off as hostess houses, later they were called service clubs, and then they went to their current name recreation centers

- That AUSA (the Association for the United States Army) is a professional organization (www.ausa.org/ncostuff.nsf)

- The United States has the fifth largest Latino population and by the year 2025 will have the second largest (Yankelovich Report on Generational Marketing 1999)

- There are 5,373 dual military officers and 23,308 dual military enlisted personnel

- 77 percent of officers are married and 60 percent of enlisted service members are married

- In 1998, Congress gave MWR \$435 million and AAFES contributed \$137 million

- BOSS came from an Army Family Action Plan committee suggestion and from the following success stories evolved... TLE was increased to 10 days, SGLI was increased to \$200,000, Delta Dental was started, the Army Career and Alumni Program was put in place

- Most new service members... were age 1 when compact discs were introduced, have never seen black-and-white television, have always had cable, were 11 when the Soviet Union collapsed, and have never known life without AIDS!

- There is transitional compensation money available to abused spouses and children for spouses who live separated from the abuser and file the necessary paperwork for disciplinary actions against the abuser (service member). The amount is

\$860 per month for the spouse and \$217 per month for each child, 12-month minimum and 36-month maximum or until ETS (whichever is sooner); contact ACS for details, 410-278-7474

- There are five Armed Forces Recreational Centers (two in Germany — Chemsee and Garmisch; one in Orlando — Shades of Green in Disney; one in Korea — Dragon Hill Lodge; and one in Hawaii — Hale Koa)

- The contractor for phone service had to install all phone lines and equipment necessary to provide connection at no cost to the government to receive the 1+ long distance rights (Sprint won)

- The number-one fund-raiser for MWR is Sprint Phone Service; 24 cents of every dollar goes to MWR

- BOSS is a Command Inspected Program; if you command a unit and do not have a BOSS representative, see DA Circular 608-97-1 for details

- Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert E. Hall encourages soldiers to write to him via e-mail under the Army Homepage, www.army.mil (go to "leadership," then to "SMA"). Be sure the issues you write about, if personal, have been addressed through your chain of command. With all issues he maintains an open door policy at all times and is known to get back with soldiers in reference to their e-mail messages when pertinent.

The above information was obtained from various DA personnel at the Army-wide BOSS conference. Any questions on programs should be directed to the appropriate governing agency through your chain of command. Direct any questions on resources for information or corrections to Spc Darnell Greene, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, 410-278-1995.

Youth bowling league meets on Saturdays; spaces still open

Want to see your name in the APG News? The Young American Bowling Alliance Saturday Morning Youth League still need bowlers. Come by APG Bowling Center on Saturday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m., to sign up.

"You will meet new and old friends and have a good time," said Sandy MacDonald, coordinator of the league.

Scores for Oct. 2 are:

Upcoming Stars (Age 6 and under)

Congratulations to: Demetrius - 68 game and 170 series.

Joshua Fleming rolled a 23 game and 60 series.

High Game: Rising Stars (Boys)

Curtis Swauger - 144
D'Andre Brizan - 124
Ryan Anderson - 108

High Game: Rising Stars (Girls)

Shaenna Featherstone - 101
Jalisa Jenkins - 94
Brittany Clemmons - 91

High Series: Rising Stars (Boys)

Curtis Swauger - 365

Submit photos for annual USO contest

The USO of Metropolitan Washington is still accepting submissions for a photography contest open to all military ID card holders. The winning shot will be featured on the cover of USO-Metro's 2000 Guide to Washington. More than 75,000 copies of this fact-filled publication are distributed annually, and credit will be given in the Guide to the photographer who submits the winning shot.

Submissions (including name, phone number and address of photographer, as well as a

D'Andre Brizan - 336
William Dettwiler - 279

High Series: Rising Stars (Girls)

Shaenna Featherstone - 287
Jalisa Jenkins - 243
Brittany Clemmons - 216

High Game: Shooting Stars (Boys)

Eddie Sabina - 207
Adam Gaultney - 192
Chadwick Milton - 177

High Game: Shooting Stars (Girls)

Tasha Taylor - 185
Jamie Coakley - 149
Ashley Taylor - 138

High Series: Shooting Stars (Girls)

Tasha Taylor - 439
Jamie Coakley - 388
Jessica Donnelly - 344

The league, which runs until April 29, is open to youths ages 5-21. The national membership fee is \$10.50, and the weekly bowling fee is \$5. For more information, call MacDonald, 410-436-3534, during the day, or call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041.

description of the picture) may be mailed to:

USO-Metro Photography Contest

Attention: Beth
204 Lee Ave., Room B-9
Fort Myer, VA 22211

The deadline for submissions is Oct. 15. The winner will be notified by Nov. 1. A negative or slide must be provided to USO-Metro by the winner, but will be returned to the photographer with a copy of the guide.

For more information and guidelines, call 703-696-2628.

AROUND THE ARMY

Army recruiting falls short of goals, but ends year on positive trend

Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Oct. 5, 1999) — Despite falling 6,290 short of its recruiting mission for fiscal year 1999, officials said the Army ended the year on an upward trend, exceeding its recruiting goal for the last quarter.

The recruiting goal for July to September was 25,790 and as of Sept. 14, the U.S. Army Recruiting Command had already signed up 26,575 recruits, officials said. The goal for FY99 was 74,500 and USAREC recruited 68,210 soldiers.

In addition to experiencing a positive recruiting trend in the last quarter, officials said the Army is achieving higher re-enlistment rates for initial-term and mid-career sol-

diers. Initial term re-enlistment rates are 10 percent higher and mid-career re-enlistment rates are 5 percent higher now than the eight-year average prior to the drawdown, officials said.

The Army is off to a strong start in recruiting for fiscal year 2000 by already exceeding its October goal, officials said, despite the fact that it fell short of its goal of 74,500 in FY99. During fiscal year 2000, the active Army's goal is to enlist 80,000 individuals.

"We're well on our way to making our recruiting objective for next year, and just like everything else in the Army, we'll do it," said Lt. Gen. David H. Ohle, deputy chief of staff for personnel.

Army takes over former Navy base

By Donna Shepard
Army News Service

FORT EUSTIS, Va. (Oct. 5, 1999) — Responsibility for port operations at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station in California transferred Oct. 1 from the Navy to the Army's Military Traffic Management Command.

The Department of Defense directed the action in a December 1998 Program Budget Decision and approved transition plans hammered out between the Army and Navy in July. Rationale for the decision stems from the Navy's dwindling need for the facility coupled with DoD's continuing need to retain it for contingencies, officials said.

Concord Naval Weapons Station is located on Suisun Bay about 50 miles from San Francisco and officials said the base's history dates to December 1942 when Concord was formed as an annex to the Navy's Mare Island facility.

Concord remains important to America's defense even though the Navy no longer requires the facility in support of its Pacific fleet, said Brig. Gen. Donald Parker, commander of MTMC's

Deployment Support Command.

"Concord provides a vital capability to support the movement of munitions off the west coast in support of contingency requirements in the Pacific theater," Parker said.

Under the plan, the Navy will retain ownership of the installation's 13,000 acres and continue to provide operational support for one year. MTMC will assume responsibility for operating and maintaining the installation's 7,000-acre Tidal Area which will be renamed Military Ocean Terminal Concord.

The Military Ocean Terminal Concord will be maintained in a reduced operating status and be exercised on a limited basis to maintain readiness, according to Col. Charles Baker, MTMC DSC's deputy chief of staff for readiness and mobilization, who leads the command's transition planning team for the terminal.

"This action is one the command is well equipped to perform," Baker said, explaining that DSC already synchronizes the movement of Defense cargo through 17 strategic seaports on the East, West and Gulf Coasts of

the continental United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Panama. One of the command's 11 subordinate terminal units includes an ammunition port on the East Coast.

"The 597th Transportation Terminal Group in Southport, N.C., has safely and efficiently moved munitions through its Military Ocean Terminal, Sunny Point, since 1955," Baker said. "Last year some 65 ships called at Sunny Point and more than 300,000 tons of cargo, primarily munitions, safely transited its piers."

The command's 834th Transportation Battalion, which is located at Concord, will provide operational and caretaker oversight at the California terminal. The 834th moved its operation to Concord in October 1997, as a result of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission's decision to close Oakland Army Base. The unit traces its organizational lineage to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation and coordinated the movement of military cargo through Oakland Army Base since the base's establishment at

the beginning of World War II. The 834th currently coordinates the movement of Defense Transportation System surface cargo, excluding ammunition, through Concord and four West Coast strategic expansion ports.

Since Concord will be placed in a reduced operating status, officials said routine use of the terminal for general cargo movement will be discontinued. During exercises and contingencies, the 834th will hand off responsibility for port operations to its Army Reserve counterparts at the 1397th Transportation Terminal Brigade, which has its headquarters in Oakland. Deployment Support Teams drawn from other units throughout DSC will support the 1397th, officials said, as will the Army Reserve's 6632d Port Security Company from Irvine, Calif.

As is the practice at all of the MTMC terminal operations, officials said commercial contracts will be used to provide stevedoring and rail services at Concord.

(Editor's note: Donna Shepard is the public affairs officer for MTMC Deployment Support Command.)

AMSAA dedicates headquarters building to founding director

The man who served as the first director of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity was remembered on Sept. 23, as family and friends gathered to dedicate AMSAA headquarters as "Sperrazza Hall."

Building 392 was dedicated in memory of AMSAA's founding director, the late Dr. Joseph Sperrazza, who inspired the creation of AMSAA in 1968.

David Shaffer, director of AMSAA, welcomed members of the Sperrazza family, including his wife, Maria; his son, Joseph Sperrazza Jr., and his daughters, Joanne Reinhart and Kathleen Meister. Shaffer also welcomed Walter Hollis, deputy under secretary of the Army for operations research, and Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine, commander of what now is the Developmental Test Command, as well as many active and retired Senior Executive Service members.

Sperrazza served as director of AMSAA for 12 years, during which time he was responsible for the testing and approval of all weapons used by the Army, Shaffer said.

"Under his leadership, AMSAA became an international leader in weapons design, development and deployment," he noted. "He authored many professional technical journals and articles. Dr. Sperrazza helped save the lives of countless soldiers during World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam and Desert Storm."

Sperrazza, a graduate of Cooper Union School of



Engineering, received a master's degree in engineering and a doctorate of engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He began his government career in 1941 as a systems engineer at APG. From 1945 to 1968, he worked at the Ballistics Research Laboratory, rising to the position of associate technical leader in 1962. In 1968, Sperrazza became the founder and director of AMSAA.

"His goals were simple — provide timely answers to ad hoc problems and prepare better answers to tomorrow's questions, a hallmark of our organization that still remains today," Shaffer

said. "He genuinely cared for people. Yes, his demeanor was tough - he demanded much - but he looked out for his people. He believed in developing future leaders."

Nineteen AMSAA employees have been promoted to the SES within the Army and Department of Defense, Shaffer added, "all having worked for Joe at one point in their careers."

"We will remember him and his contributions and today we are extremely happy to recognize a great American, as we dedicated this building in his memory," he said.



Photos by RALPH BROTH

At left, David Shaffer, director of AMSAA, discusses the late Dr. Joseph Sperrazza during the dedication of building 392. In the lobby of the building, above, from left, are John McCarthy, former director of AMSAA; Sperrazza's family, son Joseph Sperrazza Jr., daughter Kathleen Meister, wife Maria Sperrazza and daughter Joanne Reinhart; David Shaffer, director of AMSAA; and Walter Hollis, deputy under secretary of the Army for operations research.

Hollis discussed Sperrazza's contributions to the Army, including his commitment to "giving our soldiers the best equipment in the world." He helped the family unveil a plaque commemorating Sperrazza's career, which will remain on display in the lobby of

the building. Shaffer gave a special thanks to John McCarthy, former director of AMSAA, who orchestrated a fund-raising campaign with a host of AMSAA alumni and friends to acquire the plaque. He also thanked Sperrazza's family, who

made a special effort to return much of the memorabilia that was displayed, "to help us remember the many contributions that he made during his career."

The ceremony opened with a musical prelude by the 389th U.S. Army Band.



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, makes the first official pledge to the Combined Federal Campaign. Looking on, from left, are this year's CFC team of Charlee Lyons, Doug Henry and Wayne Doyel.

CFC starts 1998 drive with APG goal of \$270K

CFC, from front page

to know about CFC and what it does for people," Spidel said in an e-mail message. "Your key personnel are the 'key' to success and I hope that they get your full support. I know that the spirit of giving that has typified APG in the past will continue this year as we wind down the millennium."

Spidel noted that those who donate \$1,000, which comes to \$38.50 per pay period, will receive the Eagle Award. Like last year, it is a print of an original painting by artist and post employee Chris White.

"This year's Eagle Award is beautiful," Henry said of the new painting, which shows an eagle in flight high above the Bay Bridge, which links the Eastern Shore with the Maryland mainland.

Henry, who works for the Ammunition Surveillance division in APG Garrison's Directorate of Logistics, served as co-chair of last year's drive. This year, his co-chair is Wayne Doyel, who works for the Directorate of Community and Family Activities' Youth Services Division. Offering administrative support for the drive is Charlee Lyons of the

Directorate of Information Management.

Other amounts for awards and the item presented are: \$100-249, Oriole Award, CFC rope pen; Cardinal Award, \$250-499, insulated lunch sack; and Falcon Award, \$500-999, CFC CD case.

The minimum contribution for payroll deduction is \$1 per month for military personnel, and \$1 per pay period for civilian employees. Henry noted that 7 percent of CFC funds are spent on materials, volunteers and auditors. More than 91 percent of CFC contributions were given through payroll deduction.

"Each organization in the CFC catalog has their overhead costs listed, with those exceeding 25 percent overhead cost having an asterisk next to their listing," Henry noted, adding that signing pledge cards for payroll deduction and including a social security number is necessary to process the forms.

The CFC Office is located in building 2001. More information on the CFC can be found at www.opm.gov/cfc or www.cfcmd.org, or by calling the APG CFC Office at 410-278-7402/3/4.

Education Centers offer options

Counseling and services are available through the APG Education Centers.

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

The Edgewood Area Army Learning Center has computers with Internet access and study material for the tests available to check out. Additional reference materials are available for myriad subject areas.

The Learning Center is open Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; and Fridays, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Visit Dori Lawton, education counselor, and Chris Hollingshead, Learning Center monitor, in building E-4410. For information call the center at 410-436-2166.

The APG Education Center offers DISCOVER, a well-known career guidance and information system that guides students through career information and determine the careers best suited to your interests, abilities and values.

The new Windows95 version offers plenty of audio, graphics, and videos to guide your career planning.

Participants can use the program step-by-step to develop a complete career planning profile, or use the sections they think will help the most.

The center offers DISCOVER to service members, civilians and family members. Talk to the education counselor; no appointment is necessary. Bring a disk to save search results.

For information, call 410-278-3515. The center is in building 3145, and is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Commander encourages fire prevention awareness



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND 21005-5001

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF
Office of the Commanding General

PROCLAMATION

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

3-9 OCTOBER 1999

In observance of National Fire Prevention Week, the theme "Fire Drills: The Great Escape!" has been established by the National Fire Protection Association. It is an easy task that can save your life or the life of a family member.

Although the United States has the best technological advantage in the world in the area of fire science, more people are injured or killed from fires here than in any other nation. Underestimating the power of fire and the time it takes to escape a home or office after a fire ignites could cost a life.

It is very important for people to know two ways to get out of a building. It is the first line of defense against the threat of fire. Take the time during Fire Prevention Week to test your smoke detectors. Your survival may depend on it. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using alternative heating appliances. REMEMBER, the use of kerosene space heaters is prohibited throughout the Installation. Never use a stove as an alternate heat source and always be attentive when cooking.

The threat of fire makes no exceptions to members of the Armed Forces. I strongly urge everyone at Aberdeen Proving Ground to actively participate in fire prevention activities during Fire Prevention Week and every week throughout the year. Learn to recognize and eliminate fire hazards at home and at work. There is no magic to it, if you are prepared. THINK fire prevention, then ACT to reduce the potential loss of life and property due to fire.

John C. Doesburg
JOHN C. DOESBURG
Major General, USA
Commanding