

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Sept. 22, is paper. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Town Hall Meeting slated for Sept. 21

A Town Hall Meeting will be held Sept. 21, 2-4 p.m., at the Edgewood Area Conference Center. The center seats about 200, but the event will be broadcast live on WAPG-TV, on-post cable channel 3. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, will talk to both the post audience and SBCCOM personnel at other locations via video-teleconference. For information, call Jim Allingham at 410-436-5391. If you have questions to submit before the meeting, send them by e-mail to jmalling@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

Ceremony set for TECOM change

On Sept. 29, 4 p.m., there will be a ceremony in front of the Ryan Building redesignating the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) as the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command (DTC). Traffic in front of the Ryan Building will be rerouted. Specifics of traffic changes will be provided prior to the ceremony.

At 1:30 p.m., Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine will host a reception in the Ryan Building for current and former TECOM employees celebrating TECOM's 37-year history. On Oct. 1, DTC joins the U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command forming the new U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) headquartered in Alexandria, Va.

Workshop can help with transition

A Transition Workshop will be held Sept. 28-30, to offer training and assistance for active-duty military personnel who are retiring or leaving the service. Days one and two cover resume preparation, interview and job search techniques. Day three

See SHORTS, page 2

APG Pollution Prevention Fact of the Week

Nearly 200 million worn passenger tires are generated each year. Some are recycled into products like rubber mats or footwear, while others are burned as fuel or retreaded and sold again. Recycling and retreading keep millions of scrap tires out of landfills.



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

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

Not the final step

Decision for contractor overturned after appeals

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

The decision to award a large part of Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison's base operations and community support work to a contractor has been reversed.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, began Tuesday's announcement by reiterating the two rules he has tried to follow during the CA process: to keep the work force fully informed, and to disseminate no false information. He cautioned the work force to accept the information "without adding assumptions or jumping to conclusions."

The revised cost estimates changed the

initial decision for APG Garrison's Installation Operations and Community/Family Activities Commercial Activities study package to an in-house government win, by a margin of \$1,782,037.

"This is no more of a sure thing than the announcement I made three months ago on the contractor win," he said.

In an e-mail message sent after the announcement, he added his thanks to "everyone in the garrison for their continued hard work and positive attitude during this difficult time."

"I also want to thank all the soldiers, airmen, Marines, civilian employees and family members who have provided a great deal

of moral support for the individual workers on post," Spidel said.

On May 27, Spidel announced that Aberdeen Technical Services, a joint venture between DynCorp, Roy F. Weston and several subcontractors, had been selected as the most cost-effective organization to perform the work under bid, which included public works, logistics, child care and community services.

The initial decision to award the work to a contractor meant 558 APG Garrison positions would be eliminated. With the reversal, 133 positions will be eliminated, leaving APG Garrison's Most Efficient

See DECISION, page 16

Center supplies support for blind

For years, government supplies have been provided by organizations that employ blind people. Starting next month, APG's two supply centers will be run by Blind Industries and Services of Maryland

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

If you've used government supplies, then you've used items created and purchased through the National Industries for the Blind.

In October, Aberdeen Proving Ground will join 69 other military installations in having a supply store run by a NIB affiliate, part of an initiative that started in 1995 at Fort Bragg, N.C.

"The stores are staffed by both blind and sighted people," said Ken Barnett of the facilities that

will replace the current Self-Service Supply Centers, which will remain open through the end of the month. "Our staff members are in training now, and we're still looking for people, both blind and sighted."

Barnett, who is the director of store operations, said the organization that will run the stores is Blind Industries and Services of Maryland, a 91-year-old organization with 240 employees, half of whom are blind.

The Self-Service Supply Centers known as the "Office Eagle," will be open in building 3007 on Bush River Road in the Edgewood Area, replacing the center in building 5185; and in building 320 in the Aberdeen Area, site of the current center. Both will open Oct. 1, with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony slated for Oct. 19, 1:30 p.m.

"We are committed to providing one-stop shopping and meeting or exceeding the high level of excellence the men and women of Aberdeen have come to expect,"

See BLIND, page 5



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Ensuring food safety

Veterinary food inspectors Spcs. Courtney Thomas, left, and Todd Thomas examine peaches at the APG Commissary. In observance of National Food Safety Month, the inspectors handed out food safety tips in the produce section of the APG Commissary Tuesday, and will return Sept. 21 and 28, 1-2 p.m. For story and tips, see page 10.



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Army and Air Force personnel pose in front of the Post Retention Office. From left are APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean M. Kolker; Sfc. (P) Stanley Edwards, APG Garrison career counselor; Senior Master Sgt. Randy S. Plunkett, senior recruiter from Dover Air Force Base, Del.; Lt. Col. Darrell Holck, commander, OC&S Air Force Detachment; SSgt. Erika Romeo, Air Force Reserve recruiter, Brig. Gen. Peter K. Sullivan, commander, 512th Airlift Wing, Dover AFB; and Chief Master Sgt. Allen Cadarette, chief of recruiting, Dobbins AFB, Ga.

Air Force recruiters join APG to seek military candidates

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retention Office has added another option to the many opportunities it offers young people in Harford County - service in the Air Force.

In collaboration with APG Garrison and the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's Air Force Detachment, the U.S. Air Force has placed an Air Force Reserve recruiter in the Post Retention Office, building 3327.

Brig. Gen. Peter K. Sullivan, commander of the 512th Airlift Wing, led a group from Dover Air Force

Base, Del., to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the retention office on Sept. 8.

Lt. Col. Darrell Holck, Air Force Detachment commander, and APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Dean M. Kolker welcomed Sullivan, who was accompanied by Chief Master Sgt. Allen Cadarette, chief of recruiting from Dobbins AFB, Ga., and Senior Master Sgt. Randy S. Plunkett, senior recruiter from Dover.

Sullivan thanked APG and Kolker for helping them establish an office at APG, which is the second Air Force recruiting office located on an Army instal-

See AIR FORCE, page 8

Post prepares for Floyd's fury

As of Wednesday, Maryland was preparing for Hurricane Floyd as the storm continued to move toward the East Coast with 140 mph winds.

Although forecast path was not certain, at press time most models indicated that the storm will landfall between Charleston, S.C., and Wilmington, N.C. These projections take the storm directly north over the D.C. and Baltimore areas.

Post officials said although Hurricane Floyd will lose power over land, its size and expected rapid movement may hit this area with a significant tropical storm

starting early Thursday morning and lasting about 24 hours. If the eye passes west of the bay we can expect major wave and surge activity.

"Although we certainly do not expect hurricane force winds, the National Hurricane Center has told us to expect sustained winds of 40 mph with higher gusts," said Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander. "Heavy rains are also forecasted. With the drought, many of our trees have become weakened and it is likely we will lose some of them in addition to the many branches we

See STORM, page 4

Proper disposal of disks take 'byte' out of landfills

By Michelle Guitard
DSHE Pollution Prevention Program

If you toss a disk into a trash can, it joins approximately four million other disks thrown away each day. Take that disk to a landfill, and it will biodegrade — in 450 years.

The one billion disks thrown away each year can leach oxides into the water system if they end up in a landfill, and the small percentage that are incinerated can contribute to the formation of acid rain.

The Software Manufacturer's Association found that less than

30 percent of all packaged software is recycled, including the software's paper or cardboard packaging. At Aberdeen Proving Ground, paper and cardboard can easily be recycled, but you might be wondering what to do with the disks. Disks containing obsolete information can be cleared and reused by the owners themselves or sent to companies that recycle or recertify them.

The recertification process begins by erasing the disks and sending them through a heat tunnel to remove labels. The disks

See DISKS, page 5

Four arrested for shoplifting at PX; Marines, soldiers aid in capture

By Karen Jolley Drewen
APG News

Four civilians were arrested Aug. 31 after allegedly stealing wristwatches and perfume from the Main Post Exchange.

Aberdeen Proving Ground law enforcement officials said the four Baltimore residents, who have no affiliation with the military, were apprehended at about 6:30 p.m., shortly after the alleged theft, with the assistance of four post military personnel.

Donna S. Lee, Phiphine Mayrant, Ravanna Hadley and Angela Terry, all of Baltimore, are being held at Baltimore County and Baltimore City facilities awaiting trial on charges of theft of government property, conspiracy and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A PX security officer, using a store security camera, saw Hadley allegedly stealing items. When store

security personnel approached him, he fled into a waiting vehicle. When the APG Police stopped the vehicle shortly after, they found the three women also had stolen items, and they also had drug paraphernalia.

"In this case, the involvement of soldiers and Marines were instrumental in the apprehension of these criminals," said Rob Krauer, deputy provost marshal. "They were a big help to us, and are a great example of the kind of community involvement that increase safety and decrease crime at our installation."

APG law enforcement officials praised Spc. Scott Rhein and Pfc. Philip Powell of B Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, who chased the shoplifters outside the store.

Outside, Marine Sgt. James Shepherd was waiting in his vehicle for Marine Sgt. Robert Fortner, who

was shopping at the PX. He saw Hadley and the three women get into a vehicle parked next to him. Fortner came out and told him the four were wanted for shoplifting.

"We saw them while we were driving back to the barracks and went to the main gate, where the police were waiting for them," Shepherd said. "We told them which way we were going and where they could find them."

Fortner and Shepherd, who are attending the Small Arms Repair Class at the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, helped the police locate the vehicle.

"We wanted to help them out," Fortner said. "We're just Marines doing what Marines do. I think any Marine would have done it."

Floyd Wynn, PX manager, said during the summer, shoplifting increases.

Usually, the older teens are well behaved, but the

9 to 13-year-olds seem to be at the age where their friends can influence their behavior," he said. "But the 16 to 18-year-olds know what's right and what's wrong."

Anyone could be a shoplifter, he said. Children as young as age 6, and retirees as old as age 85, have been stopped.

While APG's rural location stops some crime from filtering in from the big cities and interstates, it does happen. The stores pass information throughout the East Coast to watch for patterns and theft.

"We encourage all our patrons to alert management immediately if they see someone doing something suspicious," he said. "We also tell our associates to keep a watchful eye out for suspicious activity. We are very grateful to our store detective for his quick work, and the assistance of these soldiers and Marines was extremely helpful."

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

features briefings on separation. The workshop will be held at building 2752, the Army Community Service Career Focus Center, room 210, from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Spouses are welcome. Call 410-278-9669 to register.

AMSAA building dedication ceremony

U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity will hold a building dedication of Sperazza Hall at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 23. Building 392 will be dedicated in memory of Dr. Joseph Sperazza, founder and director of AMSAA for 12 years.

Sperazza's government service spanned 38 years. He was branch chief of the Ballistics Research Laboratory from 1948-1968; associate technical director for six years; and systems engineer for APG from 1941-1945.

For more information, call Jayne Lyons, 410-278-6614 or Kenneth V. Hilton, 410-278-3701.

Travel Fair set for Sept. 23

The APG Travel Fair will be held Sept. 23, 2-6 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center. The event will feature airlines, tours, local attractions and cruise lines. Door prizes will be awarded. For more information, call the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office, 410-278-4011, or Carlson-Wagonlit Travel, 410-273-1184.

Commander's Cup to be presented

The 1999 Commander's Cup Awards will be presented on Thursday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m., at the APG Athletic Center. The winner of this year's award, presented for intramural sports participation, is E Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion. The runner-up trophy will be presented to the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment. In addition to these, awards will also be given for Unit Sportsmanship and to the Unit Sports Representative of the year.

The 1998/1999 Commanders Cup competition began with soccer and ended with softball. During that time, 22 units participated in 14 team and individual sports. The Harford County Chamber of Commerce has provided sponsorship for this award since its inception. For more information, call Marni K. Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

Learn about spouse club

The APG Military Civilian and Spouses Club will hold a sign-up on Sept. 21, 7-8:30 p.m., at the home of Charlie Hudson, 32 Spesutie Island Rd. Reservations are required by Sept. 16; call Linda Kuchar, 410-297-9792. The MCSC is open to all spouses and surviving spouses of active duty and retired military soldiers and Department of Defense civilians.

Drop off old latex paint

Harford County residents, including those who live on post, can drop off latex paint on Saturday, Sept. 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Harford Waste Disposal Center at Scarboro Landfill, 3241 Scarboro Rd., Street. The paint should be usable and in labeled, closed containers. All paint is donated to The Loading Dock, a non-profit building material recycler. For more information, call the Harford County Office of Recycling, 410-638-3417.

Learn about NCO-ER changes

Master Sgt. Danny J. Griffin, a Noncommissioned Officer

Evaluation Report (NCO-ER) System analyst from the Department of the Army Personnel Command's Evaluations Department, will present an NCO-ER System information briefing for all personnel who have the responsibility as a rater, senior rater, or reviewer in the NCO-ER process on Tuesday, Sept. 28, at the Aberdeen Area from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Post Theater, building 3245; and at the Edgewood Area from 2-3:30 p.m. at the EA Conference Center Auditorium, building E-4810. The briefing will cover procedural changes to AR 623-205 (Enlisted Evaluation Reporting System), rating chain responsibilities, Complete the Record reports, input from the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center, a review of success and excellence bullets, and a review of senior rater performance and potential bullets. For information, call Sgt. Maj. Daniel Sweeney, 410-278-2952.

Spouse Abuse Resource Center donations

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (B.O.S.S.) members are collecting items for the Harford County Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC). Personal hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste and disposable diapers are needed. Persons wishing to contribute may contact their unit BOSS representative or drop off items at the Aberdeen and Edgewood Recreation Centers.

Cable TV to be disrupted in EA

Cable television service in the Edgewood Area will be disrupted during the next two weeks as the cable provider upgrades the system. The upgrade already has been done in the Aberdeen Area. Cable modem is available in the Aberdeen Area through Comcast, and will be available in the Edgewood Area after the upgrade. For questions about the cable work, call Douglas L. Conley, 410-278-2506.

AA Thrift Shop seeking manager

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.

AA Thrift Shop to donate funds

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

Sign up for gift wrapping

Plans have begun 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 in participating must contact Alice Surette, installation volunteer coordinator, 410-278-5469 by Oct. 26. Each organization will be required to send a representative to a mandatory meeting. AAFES provides the wrapping paper, gift boxes and an area to wrap at the Main Post Exchange. Organizations and activities will be responsible for providing labor, tape, scissors, ribbon and other supplies, and receive all the money the group earns. Gift wrapping starts the day after Thanksgiving and runs through Christmas Eve.

Red Cross plans first aid class

The American Red Cross has slated a Community First Aid and Safety Class for Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., at the Red Cross Office, building 2477. Cost is \$30 payable via check to the American Red Cross by Sept. 10. For details, call Carolyn Lerwill, 410-278-2087.

PX to offer payment program

The Exchange Credit Program has announced a Deferred Payment Plan promotion, which offers zero percent interest for three months, no down payment and no monthly payments for three months. The offer applies only to toys, bikes and bike accessories, such as helmets, knee pads and tires. The promotion runs from Sept. 18-30.

Bingo planned at recreation centers

The Edgewood Area's Stark Recreation Center will hold Super Bingo Sept. 18, with earlybirds starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be eight \$500 games and one \$600 game, with cash prizes totaling \$4,900. The snack bar will be open before and during bingo. For more information, call 410-436-2713.

The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center holds bingo every Wednesday and Sunday. Sunday's earlybirds start at 2:30 p.m.; there will be nine \$500 games and one progressive jackpot with 58 numbers for \$2,800. On Wednesdays, bingo starts at 7 p.m.; there will be six \$500 games and one progressive jackpot of 56 numbers for \$2,600. The snack bar will be open before and during bingo. For more information call 410-278-2621.

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 decided by drawing 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 Officer's 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 fee for the conference costs \$35 per person and includes training materials, luncheon, coffee, juice and pastries. The Officer's Club is accessible; however, advise the FEB at 410-962-4047 of any special requirements, such as signing for the hearing impaired.

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 Tuesday, Oct. 12, 9-11:30 a.m., in building 305, room B-14 (lower level), and from 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 more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

APG News

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

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

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Community Notes

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16 WELCOME BACK

It's Back to School Night at Roye-Williams Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. There will be a PTA General Meeting with two 20-minute classroom visitations to follow. Meet and greet teachers and learn classroom expectations. For more information, call Roye-Williams Elementary School, 410-273-5536.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17 FEMALE OFFICERS

The female officers at APG will host a welcome luncheon for Brig. Gen. Bettye H. Simmons, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, at the Venetian Palace in Edgewood, 11:30 a.m. All female officers are encouraged to attend. E-mail RSVPs to dkillian@ocs1.apg.army.mil.

RETIRED OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION

The Retired Officer's Association will hold its general membership dinner meeting at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Chesapeake House, Aberdeen. U.S. Rep. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. of Maryland's second district will be the guest speaker. For more information, call Lt. E.T. Kreiner Sr., U.S. Navy (Ret.), 410-679-0565; Col. Orville Hughes, USA (Ret.), 410-628-6438; or Col. James V. Wasson, USA (Ret.), 410-515-0616.

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

Play bingo at VFW Post 10028 every Friday night. Early birds are at 6:45 p.m., with regular bingo at 7:15 p.m. Jackpots are worth \$500 and \$1,000. VFW Post 10028 is located on 821 Old Philadelphia Rd. (behind Wal-Mart). For information, call Bill Cantler, 410-272-1218.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18 FLAG DAY CEREMONY

For two years the Flag Day ceremony at the Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace at the Lock House has been rained out. The Flag Day ceremony and Senior Citizens Concert has been re-scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18, at 2 p.m. near the corner of Erie Street and Conestee Street in Havre de Grace. Events include a concert by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), reenactment of the War of 1812 military field hospital, and demonstrations of cooking, sewing and spinning from the 19th century. Seating will be provided or you may bring your lawn chairs and blankets. For more information, call 410-939-5780.

ATC OPEN HOUSE

Aberdeen Test Center will hold its annual open house at the Churchville Test Area from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The event will include displays of the M1 Abrams Tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, High-Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle, M88A2 and a Half-Track. A foreign equipment display and ATC's Dive Team will be available. A

ride around the test course will be offered to provide an opportunity to observe military vehicles in action on the test course's hilly terrain. Refreshments will be served. The Churchville Test Area is located on Route 136, between Route 22 and Route 1. For more information, call Lynn Berkheimer, 410-278-3244, or Marlene Townsend, 410-306-4005.

EA BINGO

The EA Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140, is celebrating fall with Super Bingo, with earlybirds at 6:30 p.m., bingo at 7 p.m. There are six \$100 games, seven \$500 games and one \$600 game. The total payout is \$4,900. The snack bar will also be open before, during, and after the games. For more information, call 410-436-2713.

GOSPEL CELEBRATION

The APG Gospel Service will host a Celebration of Praise Gospel Music Concert, 7:30 p.m., at the APG Chapel. The program will feature Minister David Mobley, recording artist and minister of music at the Fountain of Pembroke Pines Church. For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Jose Rodriguez, 410-278-7615.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24 LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The Meadowvale Elementary PTA will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo at 7 p.m., at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers St., Aberdeen. Doors open at 6 p.m.; there will be a bake sale and drinks are available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (three cards), and \$5 for additional sets of three cards. For tickets, call Meg Wloczewski, 410-939-5048, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. If available, tickets will be sold at the door. Proceeds benefit Meadowvale Elementary PTA.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25 ABERDEEN HERITAGE DAY

The Aberdeen Heritage Trust Committee and the City of Aberdeen will sponsor Aberdeen Heritage Day, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The special day-long event features a pancake breakfast at Hall's Cross Roads Elementary School from 8-10 a.m., craft and artisan displays, entertainment for all ages, an antique car display and an apple pie judging contest and more. For more information, call Aberdeen City Hall, 410-272-1600.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 26 BWI AIRPORT RUN

The 13th annual BWI Airport Run and Family Walk will be held at 8:45 a.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Kennedy Krieger Institute Down Syndrome Clinic and local Down Syndrome parent support groups. The USATF-certified course on the tarmacs of BWI Airport and Northrop Grumman allows 5K race participants and 3K family walkers an exciting view of take-offs and landings. For infor-

mation, call 410-993-RUNN (7866) or visit www.kennedykrieger.org.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 27 NARFE MONTHLY MEETING

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Bel Air Chapter 1770, will hold its Fall Monthly Meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Bel Air United Methodist Church on Linwood Avenue and Main Street. The meeting will be held in the Armstrong Community Center. Entrance to the Community Center is on the lower level. All federal employees and retirees are invited to attend. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the meeting.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28 HISPANIC LUNCHEON

There will be a Hispanic American Luncheon at the Top of Bay at 11:30 a.m. Gil Coronado, director of Selective Service, will be the guest speaker. Cost is \$8.95. The event sold out last year, so get your tickets soon. For more information, call Sfc. Shelton Torbert, 410-278-1534.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30 MASSAGE THERAPY

The APG Committee for the Disabled is hosting a special presentation on massage therapy from 2-4 p.m. at Top of the Bay. Joanna Herrmann, a nationally certified massage therapist from the Center for Holistic Healing in Bel Air, will speak about the benefits of massage therapy and relaxation therapy as alternative approaches to good health. She will demonstrate basic techniques such as conscious breathing, progressive relaxation, guided imagery and meditation. This presentation is open to all APG employees. No reservations are required. For more information, see your organization's representative for the APG Committee for the Disabled, or call Angela Cheek, 410-278-1140.

RAB MEETING

The Restoration Advisory Board for the Installation Restoration Program will meet from 7-9:45 p.m. at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic will be the Westwood Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and local citizens are invited. For information, call 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 1 WOMEN VETERANS

Maryland Freestate Chapter 70 of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association will meet at 2 p.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Citizen Center, 7 Franklin St. All WAAC, WAC, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, and those serving in the Army today or honorably discharged are invited. Call 410-272-5040 for more information.

MWR UPDATE

EA Health and Fitness Center

The Edgewood Area Health and Fitness Center has a new aerobics schedule for fall, with two new classes added. Aerobics classes are held Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. On Mondays and Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m., Funky Step classes will be held. From 6:05-7:05 p.m., step classes will be held, followed by an abdominal workout. Aerobics classes with toning are held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5-6 p.m. A new "Aero-Box" class will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Step aerobics will be held Saturday mornings. For more information, call the EA Health and Fitness Center, 410-436-7134.

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.

Bow hunting classes scheduled

APG will host Bowman's Certification Classes Sept. 27 and Oct. 1, 6-10 p.m. Both will be held in building 5445, room 213. This certification is recognized throughout the United States and in parts of Europe. The final bowman's seminar of the season will be held Sept. 26, 10 a.m., at the bow range on Combat Drive. For information, contact Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124/5789.

Super Bingo

The Edgewood Recreation Center will host "Super Bingo" on Sept. 18. Earlybird games start at 6:30 p.m., and Super Bingo starts at 7 p.m. For additional information, call 410-436-2713.

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. To ride 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. Watch for upcoming specials in October for half-priced go-kart rides and half-priced miniature golf.

If you would like to schedule a party or other special event call 410-278-9920.

Edgewood Arts and Crafts Center has classes

Ceramics class: A beginning ceramics class will be held Sept. 11, 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 bisque-ware, greenware, paints and brushes for sale.

Stained glass: A beginning stained glass class will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students will make a sun-catcher using the copper foil method. This class teaches the skill you need to make larger projects. The \$15 cost includes supplies.

Framing class: A beginning matting and framing class will be held Thursday, Sept. 23, 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.

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.

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.

Hunter Safety Classes scheduled

Aberdeen Area Hunter Safety Classes will be held in building 5445, room 213 (CPOCOMA Training Building) on the following dates: Friday, Sept. 10, 6-10 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 11, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Edgewood Area classes will be presented in building E-4733 (Deer Station) on the following dates: Monday, Sept. 27, 6-9 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 29, 6-9 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 1, 6-9 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost is \$5. Call 410-278-4124 to register for the class.

Join a bowling league

Bowling leagues start soon for adults and youths. Call Jeff Peterson or Margie Giles for information, 410-278-4041/2084.

Lunch-time Cosmic Bowling special

Cosmic Bowling is held every Wednesday in September, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Gather your friends and co-workers hit the APG Bowling Center for lunch on Wednesdays in September, and try Cosmic Bowling for only \$1.75 per game. The game features music, lights, glow-in-the-dark pins and balls. The Snack Bar offers weekly lunch specials. Fall hours at the center are: Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-midnight; Saturday, noon-1 a.m., and Sunday (starting Sept. 19), noon-7 p.m. Call for specials available for parties and events, 410-278-4041/2084.

MOVIES

LAKE PLACID

Friday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m.

Starring: Bridget Fonda, Bill Pullman

Black Lake's placid waters complement the pristine Maine wilderness it borders, a tranquil setting that's the last place you'd expect a gruesome fatality. But it's also the last place you'd expect to find a 30-foot multi-toothed eating machine known as a crocodile. (Rated R)

INSPECTOR GADGET

Saturday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.

Starring: Matthew Broderick, Rupert Everett

Based on the popular cartoon character, "Inspector Gadget" is a wild adventure comedy about a naive and inept security guard whose big heart is equal to his far-fetched dreams of becoming the world's greatest police officer. (Rated PG)

THE HAUNTING

Saturday, Sept. 18, 9 p.m.

Starring: Liam Neeson, Catherine Zeta-Jones

A remake of the classic 1963 movie follows a professor and three subjects to Hill House mansion for a psychological experiment. During the course of the night some unravel, some question and some fight for their lives as the house fights back. (Rated PG-13)

THE WOOD

Friday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.

Starring: Omar Epps, Taye Diggs

A wedding groom with prenuptial jitters and his two best friends reminisce about growing up in Inglewood, Calif. The film captures the mood of the '80s era through the powerful beats and lyrics of some of the decade's most memorable hip-hop music. (Rated R)

DEEP BLUE SEA

Saturday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.

Starring: Samuel L. Jackson, Stellan Skarsgard

A team of scientist and crew members of the floating laboratory Aquatica have been experimenting on sharks. Now, the sharks are more intelligent and powerful, and the team members find themselves being stalked. (Rated R)

THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT

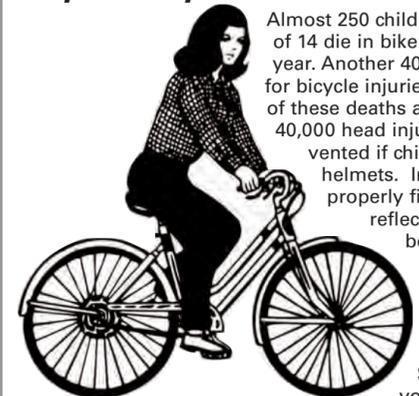
Saturday, Sept. 25, 9 p.m.

Starring: Heather Donahue, Michael Williams, Joshua Leonard

Three film students travel to Maryland's Black Hills Forest to shoot a documentary about a local urban legend, the Blair Witch, and never come back. One year later, the students' film and video are found in the woods, and compiled into a movie. (Rated R)

SAFETY AWARENESS

Bicycle safety



Almost 250 children under the age of 14 die in bike accidents each year. Another 400,000 are treated for bicycle injuries. More than half of these deaths and approximately 40,000 head injuries could be prevented if children wore bike helmets. In addition to a properly fitted helmet,

reflectors and warning bells are important safety equipment.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Division of Fire and Emergency Services urges

you to make certain your child's bike is the right size and can be straddled with both feet on the ground. If the bike must be used at night, make sure you have installed headlights. Before your children pedal off into the sunset, take the steps to ensure their journey is safe and sound.

Learn more about handling an emergency by contacting the APG Division of Fire and Emergency Services at 410-306-0562.

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);
Willa 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 Pettitway;
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery);
Michael Reynolds;
Churon Ringgold (maternity);
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);
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.

Prepare for storm: Floyd is on the way

STORM, from front page
lose during regular storms.”

He noted that widespread power outages are a possibility and personnel should take appropriate measures to ensure they have basic necessities, such as flashlights, batteries, candles, bread and water.

Personnel also should watch for downed power lines and use caution while driving.

If inclement weather closes the post or delays its opening, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations. Listen for details.

Remember Agnes?

Fierce storms are not new to the area. For example, when Hurricane Agnes hit APG in 1972, it closed the post on June 21, and led to round-the-clock work by emergency personnel and evacuation of what then was Kirk Army Hospital.

According to the *APG News* from June 28, 1972, the storm caused extensive damage due to flooding, and military resources were used to assist the off-post community, including amphibious vehicles used to patrol Baltimore County sites, Abingdon and the town of Port Deposit in Cecil County, which had been evacuated.

Army prepares

APG joins teams from the Army Corps of Engineers and nearly 5,000 National Guard troops in four states are poised to help civil authorities deal with Hurricane Floyd, reportedly one of the most powerful storms to ever threaten the United States.

Three Corps of Engineers teams are preparing to provide emergency ice, water and debris clearance, officials said, in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Four other Corps teams are on alert to provide emergency power, temporary roofing, engineering, temporary housing and public works.

National Guard troops are helping local law enforcement officials evacuate residents from coastal locations, including such cities as Jacksonville, Fla., Savannah, Ga., and Charleston, S.C.

Guard troops are also ready to maintain security in evacuated areas, officials said, and they will begin repairing roads and streets with heavy engineering equip-

ment following the storm's landfall.

“We're set to get whacked,” said Maj. Peter Brooks, spokesman for the South Carolina National Guard which Tuesday night had been authorized by Gov. Jim Hodges to call 2,300 citizen-soldiers to state active duty as Floyd roared through the Bahamas and headed for the U.S. mainland with the force of a runaway freight train.

By Tuesday, according to state and National Guard Bureau reports, 650 Army and Air Guard troops had been called up in Florida, 800 were standing by in Georgia, and 520 were waiting in North Carolina.

“Eighty percent of our troops are headed for coastal areas,” said Brooks.

Memories of previous storms reinforced the sense of urgency for some Guard members. Hurricane Andrew, for example, killed 26 people and caused an estimated \$25 billion in damages when it struck southern Florida in 1992. Floyd was said to be three times larger than Andrew.

“Although the state of Georgia has fortunately escaped the ravages of storms of the magnitude of Floyd over the last several years,

we are ready at this time to make all of the resources of the Georgia National Guard immediately available to local officials,” said Maj. Gen. David Poythress, Georgia's adjutant general.

Georgia Army Guard infantry, engineer and military police units were under the command of the Savannah-based 165th Airlift Wing for the crisis, explained Lt. Col. Ken Baldowski.

Meanwhile, North Carolina was prepared to staff approximately 60 armories with 20 Guard soldiers apiece if they were needed, said Maj. Robert Jones from the crisis management center at state headquarters in Raleigh.

As thousands of troops prepared to deal with catastrophes on the ground, others moved millions of dollars worth of hardware out of harm's way.

North Carolina sent Apache attack helicopters to the western part of the state and C-130 cargo planes to Tennessee, said Jones, but kept eight Black Hawk helicopters on hand to assist with air evacuations and reconnaissance missions should Floyd hit that part of the country.

The three initial Corps of Engineers teams deployed to the East Coast from the Corps'

Mississippi Valley Division. Two Deployable Tactical Operations Centers from the Corps' district in Mobile, Ala., have also been alerted to move to Fort Gillem, Ga.

The Corps of Engineers Charleston District office is preparing to relocate out of Floyd's projected track to a site west of Columbia, S.C., to operate from there; Mobile District will pick up Charleston's mission in the meantime, officials said. The Corps' Savannah District will likely relocate as well, officials said, probably to Warner Robins Air Force Base near Macon, Ga.

Fort Gillem — headquarters of First U.S. Army — has been designated as a mobilization site for additional reserve assets, DoD announced Tuesday.

A small team from the Corps' 249th Engineering Battalion (Prime Power) arrived at Fort Gillem Tuesday to assess the condition of 200 generators stored there during Hurricane Dennis two weeks ago.

(Editor's note: Master Sgt. Bob Haskell of the National Guard Bureau was a major contributor to this article and information was also obtained from the Army Corps of Engineers public affairs office.)

Organization that employs blind to run supply centers

BLIND, from front page

said Frederick J. Puente, president of Blind Industries and Services of Maryland.

The stores will be open Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Both stores will observe the compressed work schedule and be closed on alternate Fridays.

"It will be just like a store off post," said Anita Howell, chief of the Logistics Management Division, APG Garrison Directorate of Logistics. "If your office needs pens, you just take your credit card and go in and shop."

She noted that NIB is investing more than \$200,000 in renovations to the stores.

"They've got real pride in how the stores look," she said. "They are creating a place you will want to come back to."

Products made by blind employees

NIB affiliates nation-wide provide about 2,500 blind-made products, including those that bear the name "Skilcraft." The products often are referred to as "JWOD," which stands for the Javis-Wagner-O'Day Act, which established the government's use of blind-made products.

"We make Army sweatsuits at the textile factory in Salisbury, and in Baltimore we do all the easel pads and writing pads," Barnett said, noting that Blind Industries manufactures more than 150 products for the state and



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Anita Howell and Ken Barnett pose in the "Office Eagle" supply center that is under renovation at building 320.

federal marketplace.

His office is based at Dover Air Force Base, Del., which opened its store in December 1997. Kim Utley, assistant manager at the store, said she wasn't sure she would work again after losing most of her vision 11 years ago in a car accident.

"I had hoped I would be able to work again, but didn't know how I would go about it," said Utley, 31, who was a 20-year-old nursing student working two jobs at the time of the accident. "I always had the desire to get back into work. I like to be out with other people doing things. This is perfect. I'm

exhausted when I get home, but I get that second burst of energy."

She said the employees who are legally blind learn their way around the store.

"Certain things are in a certain spot, and they're grouped together," she said. "You know they'll all be in the same general area, which makes it easier for stocking the shelves."

Before the accident, she said she had no idea of the number of products made by blind people.

"There are a tremendous number of products out there that are packaged or produced in some way by someone who is blind or

visually impaired," she said.

In addition to the career opportunity, she received assistance on learning to live without sight.

"There's a source in most states that offer some kind of assistance and guidance in getting you rehabilitated, using a cane, telling you where bus and taxicab services are," she said. "If you want to go back to school, they'll give you guidance. I've been pretty fortunate to have people available to me."

Barnett said the associates for the APG stores are being trained at Dover and their other store at Bolling Air Force Base, Va.

"We try to take new associates into one of our other stores and get some training before they go to work," he said. "They benefit from getting help from other associates."

Blind Industries and Services of Maryland offers assistance to those who have become blind.

Those who want to purchase items at the NIB store need a government purchase card commonly known as the IMPAC/Smart Pay Credit Card. For information, send an e-mail to creditcard@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

"The NIB card can only be used at the NIB store for expendable office supplies," said Diane Schneider of the Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center. "People with the standard government purchase card can use it at the NIB store. You don't need to have a separate card."

Pollution Prevention Week focuses on ideas

DISKS, from front page

will then be reformatted, tested for errors, cleaned and recertified. These recertified disks must pass the same stringent certification standards as new disks before they are then sold as generic disks.

During National Pollution Prevention Week, Sept. 20-24, the APG Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment Pollution Prevention Program will collect three-inch computer disks for recertification. The P2 Program will send them to a U.S. company that recertifies diskettes for free. Collection boxes will be located at the pollution prevention dis-

play in the Main Post Exchange, in the lobby and on the third floor of building 4304, in the lobby of the Edgewood Area DSHE building, E-4430, and in the HAZMART, building E-5185.

You also may set up a collection point in your office. After P2 Week, just call the P2 Program office at 410-306-2273 and DSHE personnel will pick up the disks. If any disks you wish to recycle contain sensitive information, simply reformat the disks or delete sensitive files prior to recycling.

Additional opportunities to learn more about pollution prevention during National P2

Week include the P2 display at the PX. You also can enjoy pollution prevention training in the comfort of your own office. Call the P2 Program Office to set up a time when personnel can provide training. Classes include P2 and the Chesapeake Bay, P2 in Laboratories, Offices, and Maintenance Shops, Affirmative Procurement (Buy Recycled), How to Use the Hazardous Inventory Tracking System, How to Read an MSDS, and basic environmental science classes.

For more information about this article or for training, call the P2 Program Office at 410-306-2273.

Young bowlers start season

The Young American Bowling Alliance Saturday Morning Youth League started Saturday, with many bowlers returning from last year and several new bowlers. Seven certified coaches are working with the boys and girls this year.

Averages were established on Saturday for the bowlers. Teams are being formed so competition can begin Sept. 18.

Results

High Scores for Sept. 11 are:

Bantams (8 years and under)

Girls High Game: Erica Yonce, 132

High Series: Erica Yonce, 305

Boys High Game: D'Andre Brizan, 141

High Series: D'Andre Brizan, 326

Average:

Girl - Erica Yonce, 101

Boy - D'Andre Brizan, 108

Honorable Mention (under 6 years):

Demetrius Shields, High Game, 51, High Series, 97, Average, 32; and, Joshua Fleming, High Game, 38, High Series, 75, Average, 25.

Preps (9-11 years)

Girls High Game: Kayla Swearingen, 145

High Series: Jalisa Jenkins, 341

Boys High Game: Gregory Swift, 162

High Series: Brandon McKinney, 357

Average: Girl - Jalisa Jenkins, 113

Boy - Brandon McKinney, 119

Junior/Major/Senior (12 years and up)

Girls High Game: Tasha Taylor, 151

High Series: Tasha Taylor, 408

Boys High Game: Richard Williams, 213

High Series: Adam Gaultney, 521

Average: Girl - Tasha Taylor, 136

Boy - Adam Gaultney, 173

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 Sandy MacDonald 410-436-3534 during the day, or call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041 after 5 p.m.

YOUTH UPDATE

Aberdeen Area Youth Services

Dance classes start soon

The Aberdeen Youth Center has spaces in the following dance classes for ballet tap and jazz:

Monday

4:30-5:30 p.m.	Ages 3-5	Ballet and jazz
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ages 3-5	Ballet and jazz
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Ages 5-7	Tap

Tuesday:

4:30-5:30 p.m.	Ages 6-12	Ballet
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ages 6-12	Jazz
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Ages 6-12	Jazz
7:30-8:30 p.m.	Ages 6-12	Tap

Thursday:

4:30-5:30 p.m.	Ages 13 & up	Lyrical/Ballet
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ages 13 & up	Jazz
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Ages 13 & up	Tap

Cost is \$65 for the year. The program starts the week of Sept. 20. Register soon before all spaces are gone.

Opening for gymnastics

There are spaces for the Saturday Gymnastic classes:

- 9-10 a.m. for ages 2 1/2-4

- 10-11 a.m. for ages 5-7

- 11 a.m.-noon for ages 8 and up

The cost is \$35 per 10-week session. The program starts Sept. 18. Limited spaces are available; register soon.

Youth basketball camp

Attention youths ages 6-10: There will be a Basketball Camp Sept. 20-24, 6-9 p.m., run by Bill Lewit, men's basketball coach, Cecil Community College, with assistance from his staff. Cost is \$20.

How to register

All fees must be paid at registration, which is held at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. The center is located at the corner of Bayside Drive and Harford Boulevard (near Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and next to the APG Shoppette).

The point of contact for sport activities is Bill Kegley, 410-278-9544/4995.

Edgewood Area Youth Services

New computer labs available

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. Trained youth center staff are available to assist members.

- The Internet and Your Family, during the week of Oct. 19, is designed to introduce the Internet as a family unit, providing wholesome fun and education in a family environment.

For more information and to reserve a space, call 410-436-2862/2098. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first-served basis.

Water restrictions relax as rain falls

As of Monday, Aberdeen Proving Ground moved from Phase II to Phase I of the Water Conservation Plan. The follow-

ing restrictions are still in effect:

- No serving of water at eating facilities (to include dining facilities) unless requested.

ATC plans annual open house Sept. 18

ATC, from front page does in support of the men and women serving in our Armed Forces — and show ATC's importance to our nation's defense.

He noted that prior open house events at the test area have been "very successful and popular."

"Visitors will see firsthand how the testing at Churchville and Aberdeen Proving Ground ensures that our soldiers continue to have the best equipment in the world," he said.

Leaders from the federal, state

and county, plus neighboring town and county officials, have been invited to the event, which will include displays of the M1 Abrams Tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, High-Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle, M88A2 and a Half-Track.

A foreign equipment display and ATC's Dive Team will be available. A ride around the test course will be offered to provide an opportunity to observe military vehicles in action on the hilly terrain of the test course. Refreshments will be served.

- Limited watering of golf course fairways; greens and tee boxes may be watered.

- No washing of privately owned vehicles or military/government vehicles except for mission essential vehicles, such as ambulances. Vehicles may be washed if they use recycled or closed loop wash racks.

- No washing of paved surfaces, such as streets, sidewalks, stairs, tennis courts and driveways.

- No watering of lawns, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs or other outdoor plants. Flowers and vegetable gardens may be watered on alternating days (odd address/odd days and even address/even days). Minimum

watering of new shrubs or trees to prevent loss.

- No use of water for ornamental purposes, such as fountains).

These restrictions are a lessening of the Phase II restrictions, said Col. Robert J. Spidel, deputy installation commander and commander of APG Garrison.

"Water flows at Van Bibber and Deer Creek are up, but not at sufficient levels to eliminate all restrictions," he said. "We will closely monitor expected rainfall this week and adjust these restrictions as soon as we can do so."

"We very much appreciate the support of all APG personnel and their families in supporting our water conservation measures," Spidel added.

PET OF THE WEEK



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Meet "Callie"

A female Calico kitten with amber eyes, very sweet natured, is available for adoption at the Post Veterinary Treatment Facility. Other cats and dogs are available for adoption; you do not have to be active-duty military to adopt animals. For details, call 410-278-3911.

Air Force Reserve puts recruiter on APG

AIR FORCE, from front page
lation. Sullivan presented Kolker, Holck and Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Gmaz, first sergeant of the Air Force Detachment, with 512th Airlift Wing "Honorary Air Force Recruiter" certificates and commander's coins for their help in setting up the office.

"I want to thank everyone associated with APG for being so supportive of our new office and our new recruiter," Sullivan said. "We will continue to rely on that support."

Cadarette, chief of recruiting for the eastern United States, noted that the only other Air Force recruiting office on an Army installation is at Fort Gordon, Ga.

"We'd like to see more on Army installations, but many facilities aren't able to support it," he said.

Plunkett, a full-time reservist, and senior recruiter, said he trains and supervises recruiters in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

"I will monitor the APG recruiter," Plunkett said, adding that the APG office will be responsible for all of Harford County.

Sullivan added that new recruits have been going to Dover, Andrews Air Force Base or Philadelphia.

"With the heavy military influence in this area, people may consider another branch," he said.

He emphasized that the office will recruit only for the Air Force Reserves.

"Active duty inquiries will be referred to local recruiters in the civilian sectors," Sullivan said.

Plunkett introduced SSgt. Erika Romeo, who will be the Air Force Reserve recruiter in the APG Retention Office. A 17-year veteran of the active Army and Air National Guard, Romeo said she is excited about her unique role.

"Working in a joint environment will make it that much more interesting," Romeo said. "Everyone [at the Post Retention Office] has already been a great help to me."

Sfc. (P) Stanley Edwards, APG Garrison career counselor, said the office will assist Romeo as much as possible.

"We can assist her with anything not technical to fully support her in her mission," he said.

Along with refreshments to celebrate the installation, Havre de Grace radio station WXCX set up a remote broadcast site in the

lobby to help get the word out to the surrounding community. Sales representatives Diane DeVoe and Kristy Breslin assisted Bob White, director of marketing, in setting up equipment and door prizes.

"We'll be on the air for an hour promoting the open house," White said. "We're also giving away prizes to people who want to come down and help celebrate the opening."

Plunkett credited Gmaz and Kolker with making the opening a reality.

"I called the Air Force Detachment to ask for a place to put a reserve recruiter after Chief Master Sergeant Cadarette inquired about it," Plunkett said. "Lieutenant Colonel Holck found the location and Command Sergeant Major Kolker took care of the rest. I know we could not have done it without their support."

Sullivan said their main intent was to draw on the benefits provided by joint operations.

"DoD has been advocating closures. If all services are involved they all have something at stake," Sullivan said. "Joint installations have more stability."

Sullivan added that he was especially grateful to the Air



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Air Force SSgt. Erika Romeo sits at her desk in Aberdeen Proving Ground's Post Retention Office. The sole Air Force Reserve recruiter for APG and Harford County, Romeo operates the second of two Air Force recruiting offices located on Army installations.

Force Detachment's involvement in the project.

"There is always a certain amount of bureaucracy in these

types of endeavors," Sullivan said. "But after weeks of planning, the detachment here made it happen."

Harford County Job Fair planned Oct. 15

The Harford County Job Fair will be held Oct. 15 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The fair is open only to Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; the public is welcome to attend from 2:30-6 p.m. The event, which organizers consider one of the most successful partnerships between APG and the community, has been held since 1988.

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.

Attendees are encouraged to 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.

Sports and Fitness

Intramural football lists week's results

The following results were reported for the APG Intramural Football League for the week ending Sept. 10:

National Division

Results

Sept. 7

USAF 43, B Co. 16th, 22
A Co. 16th, 12, USMC, 0
C Co. 16th, 6, E Co. 16th, 0

Sept. 9

A Co. 16th, 19, B Co. 16th, 18
E Co. 16th, 26, USAF, 0

Standings

A Co. 16th2-0
C Co. 16th1-0
USAF1-1
E Co. 16th1-1
USMC0-1
B Co. 16th0-2

Schedule

Sept. 21

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

Sept. 23

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

Basketball camp set for boys and girls

The APG Youth Center and Cecil Community College will team up for a Fall Basketball Camp for boys and girls, Monday-Friday, 6-9 p.m. Sept. 20-24. Basketball camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-10 years old and will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522.

Bill Lewit, men's basketball coach, will be camp director. Lewit, along with the current coaching staff, will be responsible for teaching and demonstrating the fundamentals of basketball.

He will stress confidence, teamwork, effort and sportsmanship which he feels are important ingredients in achieving success on and off the court.

Camp activities will include fundamentals such as shooting, passing, dribbling, rebounding, defense, team play and sportsmanship, 3-on-3 and 5-on-5 league games, foul shooting and hot shot competitions.

The camp also includes a state-of-the-art gym, T-shirts, written evaluations analyzing players' skills, with players grouped according to age and ability, extra individual instruction, prizes and awards.

Children should bring a desire to learn, basketball sneakers, athletic shorts and shirt. Basketball Camp costs \$20 per person, with a 10 percent discount for second child in the same family. Make checks payable to IMWRF.

For more information, call the Aberdeen Youth Center, 410-278-4995.

SPORTS SHORTS

Take shot at \$20,000 on Saturday

Take your shot at \$20,000 in the "Shot of the Century" hole-in-one golf contest. APG Community Recreation Division is hosting the contest with up to \$1 million in prize money to be given away. MWR, First USA Bank and Budweiser have combined forces to sponsor the contest. Seventy finalists will compete in the final round, and take one shot each at the target hole. You will win \$1,000 for getting the ball within six inches of the cup. Hit a hole-in-one and win the \$20,000 grand prize. The contest is open to all MWR patrons with the exception of installation course employees and active golf professionals. A drawing for the finalists will take place at Ruggles Golf Course on Sept. 18 at noon. On Sept. 25, 10 a.m.-noon, the finalists will shoot for the \$20,000. For additional information stop by the Pro Shop at Ruggles and ask about the event.

Post-level soccer team to play Sept. 18

The APG Post Level Soccer Team will participate in the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference round-robin soccer tournament scheduled for Sept. 18 at Fort Belvoir, Va. Active-duty military personnel interested in playing with the team should come to weekly practices held on Shine Sports Field on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 p.m. For more information call Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

Learn about boating and water safety

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

Spaces available for winter bowling

Male and female bowlers are needed to fill vacancies in the Wednesday night mixed winter league. The league will begin bowling Sept. 8 at the APG Bowling Center. For more information, call Dolores Huff, 410-679-1718.

1999-2000 CWF Basketball League

The Civilian Welfare Basketball League runs from Oct. 22 through April 7, 2000. Games will be played in Hoyle Gymnasium on Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Games are 5-on-5, full court, and generally follow NCAA rules. If you are interested in signing up for the draft, call Louis Kanaras, 410-436-6854, by Oct. 13. To be eligible for the draft, you must have an APG civilian ID card. Contractors and Reserve and National Guard personnel who work on post also are eligible.

American Division

Results

Sept. 8

NCOA, 28, HHC 61st, 0
HHC 16th, 24, N. GUARD, 6

Standings

NCOA1-0
HHC 16th1-0
KUSAHC0-0
HHC 143rd0-0
HHC 61st0-1
N. GUARD0-1

Schedule

Sept. 20

6:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. NCOA
7:30 p.m., N. GUARD vs. HHC 143rd

Sept. 22

6:30 p.m., HHC 61st vs. N. GUARD
7:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. HHC 16th

Hoyle Division

Results

Sept. 8

A Co. 143rd, 18, MRICD, 12
520th TAML, 12, CHPPM, 6

Standings

A Co. 143rd1-0
520th TAML1-0
B Co. 143rd0-0
SBCCOM0-0
CHPPM0-1
MRICD0-1

Schedule

Sept. 20

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

Sept. 22

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

Second annual Food Safety Month focuses on prevention of disease

By SSgt. Ronnie A. Washington
Noncommissioned officer-in-charge for Food Inspection, APG Veterinary Service Branch

September has been designated as "National Food Safety Month. In recognition of this, APG Veterinary Service Branch food inspection personnel will hand out food safety tips and be available to answer your questions on Sept. 21, and 28, 1-2 p.m., at the APG Commissary.

The U.S. Army Veterinary Command, specifically the Food Inspection Branch, has been given sole responsibility for the inspection of food items supplied to U.S. military installations.

The mission of the Veterinary Food Inspections Branch is to protect the health and welfare of active-duty military, their dependents and authorized persons. The food inspection mission is focused on two general categories:

- to ensure wholesome and safe food for the military members and their families; and,
- to protect the financial interest of the government.

Veterinary food inspectors are assigned at locations throughout the world to ensure all foods sold or issued are from approved federally inspected or Veterinary Command-inspected food establishments, fit for continual storage, sale or consumption.

Veterinary food inspectors not only inspect food delivered to the commissary, but are responsible for the inspection of subsistence delivered to or stored on Navy vessels, Meals, Ready to Eat Depots, dining facilities, shoppettes and fast food concessions.

Diseases are preventable

Food-borne illnesses in the United States are a major cause of personal distress, preventable deaths and avoidable economic burdens. Many pathogens and toxins have been identified as causes of food-borne diseases, and new ones continue to emerge. In 1994, the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology estimated 6.5 to 33 million people become ill from microorganisms in food, resulting in as many as 9,000 deaths every year.

For many victims, food-borne illnesses result in discomfort or lost time from the job. For some, especially pre-school-age children, older



Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Spc. Todd Thomas, left, hands Spc. Courtney Thomas a pack of wrapped spare ribs in the refrigerated meat section of the APG Commissary. The two inspectors check all meat, dairy, produce and deli products delivered to the APG Commissary.

adults in health care facilities and those with impaired immune systems, food-borne illnesses are more serious and may be life-threatening.

Food-borne diseases due to infectious agents and natural and environmental toxins can be prevented. Many diseases that were threats to the public health now are controlled by standardized, accepted prevention strategies such as pasteurization of milk and egg products, and the appropriate management of the canning of foods.

The annual cost of food-borne illness in terms of pain and suffering, reduced productivity, and medical costs are estimated to be between \$10 and \$83 billion.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention consistently have stated that where reported food-borne outbreaks were caused by mishandling of food, usually the mishandling

occurred within the retail segment of the food industry (restaurants, markets, schools, churches camps, institutions, and vending locations) where ready-to-eat food is prepared and provided to the public for consumption.

The Food and Drug Administration endeavors to assist the approximately 75 state and territorial agencies and more than 3,000 local departments that prevent food-borne illness and for licensing and inspection of establishments within the retail segment of the food industry. This industry segment consists of more the one million establishments and employs a work force of over 12 million.

For more information about food safety, contact the Veterinary Service Branch at 410-278-4604.

Food safety tips

Minimize the dangers lurking in food

Keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot

The temperature danger zone (40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit) is where rapid bacterial growth occurs and the risk for food-borne illness is greatest. Bacterial population can double every 30 minutes when a product is held within the temperature danger zone.

Shopping safety:

Stay away from canned foods with bulges, which indicate bacterial activity.

Put dry goods like pasta and canned foods in your cart first, then frozen foods, then perishable foods like meats.

Place dairy items, meats and fresh water foods (fish, shrimp, clams) in your shopping cart last.

When groceries are bagged, keep cold foods together to help maintain the cold temperature.

Storing safety

After shopping, take food items directly home and placed them in the refrigerator set at 35-40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Marinate and thaw foods in the refrigerator, never at room temperature.

Don't put eggs in refrigerator door racks, since the temperature tends to fluctuate.

Prevent cross contamination

Wash your hands with warm soapy water before handling foods, especially after handling poultry.

Rinse fruits and vegetables for at least 20 seconds.

Always wash the cutting board prior to use and after cutting meat. Once or twice a week, sanitize countertop and cutting boards by flooding top with a solution of one teaspoon of liquid bleach per quart of hot water and allow it to saturate for about half an hour.

Store poultry on the lowest shelf in the refrigerator to prevent leakage contamination.

Throw out anything that's left out at room temperature for more than two hours after cooking.

Cooking and reheating

Cook ground meat to 160 degrees, ground poultry to 165 degrees, beef roasts, steaks and chops to at least 145 degrees, and whole chicken or turkey to 180 degrees.

Reheat leftovers to 165 degrees or steaming hot.

Hold hot items above 140 degrees. Stir stews, soups, gravies and sauces to ensure equal distribution of heat throughout the item.

Burger King offers diverse selection at innovative 'reading room'

By Sheila Little
APG News

Patrons of the post Burger King are enjoying a new pastime at the local eatery. Manager Joe Bonaccorse has set up a counter of reading materials near the entrance, with a selection of current magazines and newspapers covering sports, fitness, business and entertainment.

Issues are available in Spanish, German, French and Italian. The newspaper selection includes the Baltimore Afro American, the Aegis and the APG News. An Army and Air Force Exchange Service gift catalog is at the counter for those who wish to peruse the selection of items available through the exchange.

"I'm trying to build something that benefits the community," said Bonaccorse, who said Burger King looks for ways to encourage community education, cooperation and support.

"For example, when the Red Cross sets up a blood drive, we offer free hamburger coupons to those who have given blood."

He added that the restaurant also supports academic excellence at Aberdeen High School, and recently donated a movie promotion display to the youth center for its carnival day.

"It's worth taking advantage of, and a great way to get knowledge,"

said Sfc. Reginald Jones.

Having reading materials available is "a good idea," added Sfc. James Stewart.

Both are attending the Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course at the NCO Academy.

Bonaccorse, a former Marine who served as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam, has been with AAFES for 15 years, at APG for the past two. He said he believes that by promoting a "Barnes and Noble-type atmosphere," patrons may be encouraged to meet at the Burger King and discuss books.

He added that the foreign-language materials have been a big hit with those born in non-English speaking countries.

"They appreciate reading something from home," he said, adding that he is working on finding materials in Russian, Arabic and Chinese to accommodate more foreign students.

"I like to try different marketing strategies," said the manager, who said the promotion has the full support and backing of AAFES.

Photo by DAVE MAYOR

Spc. Robert Evans Jr. and Pvt. Timothy Nelson of A Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, check out the reading materials available at the APG Burger King.



AROUND THE ARMY

Kosovo community project shows ethnic groups can work

By **Spc. J. Myles Kendrick**
Army News Service

GORNJI, LIVOC, Kosovo (Sept. 9, 1999) - Standing along the banks of the polluted Livoc River here, the "Bonecrushers" of 2nd Platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, gazed at rusty bodies of old cars, buckets, bottles and rotting vegetation.

Unit members said they realized the river clean up community project would take the cooperation of all ethnic groups, and by assisting the ethnically mixed village went on to show that Albanians and Serbs can work together.

"We sat down with town leaders and made a list of the things they wanted done," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Phillips, platoon sergeant. "We chose one of the three top priorities and turned it into a community project."

According to Phillips, the Albanians cleaned a one-kilometer section of the river and the Serbs cleaned another section.

Trash collected by the civilian and Army co-op filled two Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Trucks from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment. A HEMTT was also used to remove the rusty remains of an automobile.

"This mission will benefit the children here. The river was so polluted, the children could easily catch diseases. It's good work for the community's health and welfare," said Sgt. Corey Clement,

squad leader.

"The cooperation between the community and (Kosovo Force) has been very good," said Ramadan Kurteshi, a town leader. "Besides providing security, Kosovo soldiers have also expressed their willingness to help the community."

"I've been satisfied with KFOR's work since the first day they arrived," said Ibrahim Salihu, a town leader. "In the future, we will keep the river clean."

"During the past ten years, the village's infrastructure was disrupted because of the political situation. Services such as proper garbage disposal and the health-care system deteriorated," Salihu said. "The town's inhabitants were too busy dealing with everyday life under the Serbian policies to organize a community effort. That is why the river is so polluted now," he added.

"This is the first step to show KFOR that Albanians and Serbs are working together to clean up their community," said 1st Lt. James Taumoepeau. "We are planning other projects for the future and ensuring this community has the assets to maintain the cleanup."

According to Salihu, the community hopes to arrange a contract with the Gnjilane district government to haul their trash monthly. "If not, we will organize it ourselves and use our tractors to pull our garbage to the dump in Pasjak," he said.

The town is also planning to repair its secondary roads, repair



Photo by SPC. J. MYLES KENDRICK

Spc. Brian Baucom, HHC, 1-26th, hooks the crane on a HEMTT to a rusty vehicle on the Livoc River as part of the river cleanup.

the school and upgrade the town's electrical system, according to Kurteshi.

"This type of mission is very rewarding," Taumoepeau said.

"You immediately get to see the effects of your work. It's rewarding seeing the Albanians and

Serbs working together also. Getting the river clean will take a lot of work but we'll tackle it in small steps. We plan on doing this every weekend until it's clean."

(Editor's note: Kendrick is a writer with the Task Force Falcon Public Affairs Office.)

Soldiers get improved access to TRICARE

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

WASHINGTON (Sept. 14, 1999) - Active-duty soldiers at remote locations in the continental United States will soon be offered a new TRICARE PRIME benefit.

TRICARE PRIME Remote will be implemented Oct. 1, said Lt. Col. Michael L. Smith, the policy branch chief for the TRICARE division at the Office of the Army Surgeon General.

Soldiers and other service members, he said, can use the Internet to access health care information provided by the TRICARE system.

Service members affected by the new program are those stationed 50 miles or more from a military medical treatment facility, said Smith, who works within the Surgeon General's Office in Falls Church, Va.

There are no deductibles or costs associated with enrollment in the TRICARE PRIME Remote program, he said.

"The program enables those soldiers (and other service members) to enroll in TRICARE PRIME Remote by calling their local or regional managed care director," said Smith. "We've also set up a web site where service members can type in their residential and work site ZIP codes to determine whether they are eligible to enroll, and there are also 1-800 numbers for the 12 CONUS regions."

That web site address, said Smith, is <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/remote>.

Smith said a handbook which contains the 1-800 numbers, called "Remote Controller," has been forwarded to all active-duty military TRICARE beneficiaries located at remote sites.

The Managed Care Support contractors, he said, will be responsible for processing active-duty medical claims.

"When a soldier enrolls, a beneficiary representative will assign a primary care manager (a physician and/or other health care providers) to each soldier, said Smith, or soldiers may select a provider from the provider directory on the web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/ProviderDirectory."

If there is no TRICARE network provider in a specific area, then service members may use any authorized TRICARE provider, said Smith. TRICARE network providers, he said, are a group of health-care providers who've agreed to provide medical services at a negotiated rate. Such providers will typically handle all medical claims for TRICARE beneficiaries, too.

Participating TRICARE providers, said Smith, are not under contract to TRICARE,

but do agree to accept TRICARE rate-of-payment. Such providers may accept or decline TRICARE claims on a case-by-case basis.

In most cases, specialty care providers will submit medical claims on behalf of TRICARE beneficiaries, said Smith. However, he added, there may be times when TRICARE beneficiaries will be required to pay for their care, and then file claims. In such cases, said Smith, beneficiaries will be fully reimbursed for medical out-of-pocket expenses.

Smith noted that TRICARE has also decreased the amount of time required to settle medical care claims submitted by beneficiaries. The old standard of 75 percent of claims processed in 21 days has been superseded by 95 percent of retained claims processed in 30 days, he said.

Also, said Smith, TRICARE will establish a Military Medical Support Office at Great Lakes Naval Station, north of Chicago, to provide military health care information and to expedite the medical claims settlement process. Under this system, he said, 100 percent of claims will be paid in 60 days.

"The MMSO will do two things for service members," said Smith. "It will coordinate all specialty care pre-authorizations. MMSO [will also] determine issues that require military treatment facility (military hospitals and medical clinics)-managed 'Fitness For Duty' medical care and coordinate the medical care with the military treatment facility."

"[The MMSO] will also review service members' denied medical claims as part of the appeals process. If the care is again denied at the MMSO, active-duty service member requests for appeal will be forwarded to each service's Surgeon General Office for adjudication," he added.

Smith said the goal of the MMSO is to provide overall health care management for service members. The key to this, he said, is for service members to obtain and use important phone numbers found in the "Remote Controller" handbook. The MMSO's phone number is 1-888-MHS-MMSO.

Now, there is also a National Mail Order Pharmacy for active-duty TRICARE beneficiaries worldwide under age 65, who are not near a military medical treatment facility, said Smith. TRICARE is also "doing demonstrations" for mail order pharmacy service for over-65 beneficiaries in two areas, he added.

Results of the demonstrations will be provided in an upcoming report to Congress, Smith said.



Cadets in full dress pass in review at West Point.

Soldiers can apply for West Point

Applications for next year's West Point class and the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School are now being accepted from soldiers. Each year about 200 active-duty soldiers are offered admission to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., or the preparatory school at Fort Monmouth, N.J. Although some soldiers are offered direct admission to West Point, officials say the majority attend the prep school first.

The prep school prepares soldiers for success at West Point through an intensive cur-

riculum focused on English, mathematics, military instruction and physical training, officials said.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, unmarried with no legal obligation to support dependents. They must be high school graduates, under 23 years of age prior to July 1 of the year entering USMA (under 22 prior to July 1 of the year entering the prep school), of high moral character and must have a sincere interest in attending West Point and becoming an Army officer. Soldiers who meet the basic eligibility

requirements, have achieved SAT scores greater than 1000 or ACT composite score of 20 or higher and achieved good grades in a college preparatory high school curriculum are especially encouraged to apply.

All requirements must be met by April 1, to be considered for an appointment to West Point or the prep school in July 2000, officials said.

Interested soldiers should contact Maj. Rob Young at (DSN) 688-5780 or (914) 938-5780, e-mail: tr9618@westpoint-emh2.army.mil.

Drug use within Army a 'downer' throughout '90s

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

WASHINGTON (Sept. 9, 1999) - Concerning the issue of soldiers and drug use, the 1990s could be considered the "Just Say No" decade.

As the Department of Defense and armed services prepare their annual fall drug awareness campaigns, highlighted by national "Red Ribbon Week" Oct. 18-22, Army officials note that declining numbers of soldiers are testing positive for drugs.

"Illegal drug use within the Army has significantly declined in the last decade," said Dr. George P. Chagal, director of the U.S. Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs, Alexandria, Va., who noted this year's Red Ribbon Week slogan is: "Get Real - Real Drug Free."

In fact, the rate of soldiers — from all components

— testing positive for drugs has fallen from 7 percent in 1985, to less than 1.5 percent today, said Maj. Christine Halder, a health care administrator and the chief of ACSAP's biochemical branch. However, she did note that there has been a slight increase in the overall positive rate for the last three years.

"Soldiers are tested annually for use of marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, opiates, barbiturates, PCP, and LSD," said Halder. "Those few soldiers caught using drugs today are mostly testing positive for marijuana, [followed by] cocaine and amphetamines."

The main goal of this year's Army Red Ribbon campaign, said Halder, involves educating soldiers, especially those age 18-24, how to avoid/prevent substance abuse.

Halder said drug use within the Army is mostly confined to young soldiers.

Since the Army is a reflection of civilian society, she said, young troops bring their individual and cultural values, mores — and sometimes a penchant to use drugs — with them when they join the military.

Reflecting this reality, over the past year there has been an increase in soldier-use of the hallucinogen of 1960s fame, LSD, said Halder.

Besides being illegal, drug use can negatively impact the user's mental and physical health, relationships, and finances, said Halder.

There is a relationship, she added, between substance abuse and high-risk behavior such as suicide, spouse-child abuse, crimes, injuries, and financial debt.

The bottom line to the Army, said Halder, is that illegal drug use by soldiers hurts readiness and morale.

"It is a readiness distractor, in addition to the harm drugs do to an individual's personal life," said Halder.

Halder also said soldiers have an obligation to set the example for the public by not using illegal drugs.

"Because soldiers perform important missions for the nation's security, they should maintain and be held to a higher standard [of conduct] than the civilian population," she said.

In 1988, the National Family Partnership spread the red ribbon campaign nationwide with a focus on preventing illegal drug use.

Today, the red ribbon commemorates Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Agency agent killed in 1985 by drug traffickers.

Citizens of Camarena's hometown of Calexico, Calif., wore red ribbons in his memory.

Long-time employee retires from 'second career' at APG

By Sheila Little
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's work force includes many long-time caring, dedicated individuals. The post now is short one of them this week with the retirement of Harry Cave.

After 47 years of government service - 20 on active duty in the Navy, 27 as a civilian government employee — Cave retired from his job as chief of the Aberdeen Area Civilian Security Guard Branch, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Safety.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, deputy installation commander and APG Garrison commander, spoke of Cave's long and impressive career at a retirement ceremony held at the Emergency Operations Center Sept. 1.

"Today we are here to recognize someone who has had two outstanding careers in government service totaling nearly 50 years," he said.

Spidel spoke of mixed feelings, recognizing Cave for outstanding work, but acknowledging that it was an occasion of sadness as friends and co-workers say goodbye and the government loses a valuable employee.

Spidel said Cave's earlier retirement after 20 years in the Navy was "in itself worthy of recognition. But then to follow it by doing a tremendous job here for us is truly remarkable."

Support from wife

Spidel noted Cave's "exceptional performance" and presented him with the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and a Commander's Coin. Cave's wife



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Above, Harry Cave takes a call during his last week of work at APG. At right, his wife, Joan, and grandson, Jeffrey Simpson, 10, show two of the paintings completed by the retiree.

of 46 years, Joan, received a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the installation and an APG garrison crest.

Spidel acknowledged her "patience, understanding, and the obvious teamwork at home and on the job" that contributed to Cave's success.

Cave said without his wife's support and strength, he would have not had such a successful career. Her support has been a constant since he served in the Korean War. Cave participated in the Battle of Inchon, and later served several tours in and around the waters of Vietnam.



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

"My wife was the real hero during that time," Cave said. "She raised five great children, and was both mother and father while I was away."

George Schiesser, division chief of the civilian security guards, presented the branch chief a commemorative plaque from friends and co-workers.

Starting as a security guard, Cave began his second career at APG working for DLES in 1972, after briefly working as a civilian police officer at the Naval Academy.

During his time at APG, Cave has been much admired for lead-

ership, dedication, and adaptability on the job, devotion to family, and willingness to reach out to the community.

Schiesser acknowledged Cave's leadership abilities, tact and sense of humor; aspects of his personality that proved invaluable through the years.

"He's been like a mentor to me," Schiesser said. "He's taught me a lot."

He spoke of Cave's organizational skills and unruffled nature, demonstrated during a branch move.

"He designed and coordinated the renovating of building 5453,

then moved the branch into it with very little noticeable disruption," he said. "His expertise and institutional knowledge will be greatly missed."

Maj. Darrel Andrews, post provost marshal, said Cave has served as "the glue that's kept the guard force together," and is "a very caring, dynamic, and energetic leader who will be dearly missed by not only the directorate, but the entire installation."

Cave said that his work with DLES has been very satisfying, and he's enjoyed dealing with the public and working with a "great group of people."

He added that losing co-workers has been difficult.

"I've seen many, many changes over the years, but the biggest change has been the downsizing," he said.

As branch chief he saw his office reduced from 53 guards in December 1993 to eight the following January.

"That was tough," he said. Cave thanked all attendees, and said he will miss his friends.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed the work and working with such a professional work force. I've been glad to be a part of it," he said.

Cave said that he will miss working, but is planning his retirement agenda. A man with varied interests and talents, his first priority is spending time with his family, that includes his wife, five children, and 16 grandchildren ranging in age from 15 months to 21 years. He also hopes to continue his hobbies of woodworking and oil painting, and may return to tutoring middle schoolers and fishing, if he can find the time.

Appeals board overturns CA decision, awards work to government

DECISION, from front page

Organization with 425 positions.

As part of the CA process, a public review period was opened after the initial decision, and five appeals against the cost comparison were received. Three were submitted by government employees, one was submitted by Lodge 2424 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and one was submitted by ATS.

An Administrative Appeals Board convened to review the appeals and determine the validity of the submitted allegations. Of the 37 allegations submitted in the five appeals, nine were upheld. In implementing the decision of the Administrative Appeals Board,

made up of representatives from other installations, the government conducted a revised cost comparison which resulted in a change to the initial decision, and an in-house government win.

Post officials said previous plans which called for full implementation of a contract or the MEO by January 2000 will be delayed because of this reversed decision and any further time needed to resolve future protests.

Upon a final decision, implementation plans will include a reduction of the current staff to meet the MEO or contract requirements. To achieve the reduction, programs such as the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA), Voluntary Separation

Incentive Pay (VSIP) and Reduction-In-Force will be requested. Spidel said a work force briefing will detail plans for those as they become available. The number of employees that will be displaced cannot be determined until a final decision is reached and VERA, VSIP and RIF are implemented.

A protest period must be opened in which the contractor may protest the board's decision. Spidel noted that there could be lengthy litigation regarding this decision in federal court, which would mean the final outcome of this CA package may not be determined for some time to come.

For those who filed the appeals, the decision is a major

victory. Henry L. Scott, business representative for Lodge 2424, said the union was "overwhelmed with the success."

"It's a victory we're going to savor," he said. "However, we're facing the prospect that the contractor can have this overturned."

He thanked the team members who had 21 days to prepare a total of 25 allegations submitted for appeal, who "worked very hard to get it right." Seven of the nine appeals upheld by the board came from the union.

Scott noted the "outstanding support" of U.S. Rep. Robert Ehrlich Jr., and the assistance from Sen. Paul Sarbanes and Sen. Barbara Mikulski.

Scott noted that problems in

the relatively new CA process, also known as A-76, make the process difficult.

"How is a playing field ever going to be level when the contractor has our numbers and we don't have his?" Scott said of his concern that while the contractor has access to government figures, the government CA team cannot see the contractor's package.

Despite the uncertainties of the process, some garrison personnel are cautiously optimistic.

Harry Greveris, civilian deputy of the Directorate of Public Works, which has the most employees affected, said DPW employees will have an easier time planning their futures.

"I think they were pleased to

hear it was overturned. Now the biggest challenge will be to make this work, and transition into it," he said. "Now, we can start seriously planning to implement the MEO and the REO, and start looking toward the future."

He noted that decisions on Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority were difficult to make before the decision of a government win.

"If the window had opened up before this new development, it would have been hard for employees to make a decision about what to do. This is going to impact their whole lives," Greveris said. "I think this will help them to make informed decisions."

Ernie Flynn, a DPW facility maintenance and management specialist in the Edgewood Area, said he thinks "there are a lot of questions to be answered."

"There was a sigh of relief, but I believe the work force as a whole is still holding its breath about the continued uncertainty of what those decisions will be," said Flynn, an APG employee for 27 years. "The real thing is wait and see. This is a step in the right direction, but not the final step."

Randy Moore, chief of the Community Recreation Division, Directorate of Community and Family Activities, said the news was "a positive decision for our work force and our customers."

"I'm not trying to read too much into it, and it's certainly not a final decision, but it certainly is encouraging," he said after the announcement. "There may still be some pain in the transition, but not nearly as much as there would have been with an award to the contractor. But we will wait to see what the final decision is."

Diane Spampinato of the Directorate of Resource Management has supported DPW's resource management needs for 11 years, and has spent more than two years working on the directorate's CA package.

"We're optimistic, because this is just one more step in the right direction to save these people's jobs," she said. "It would have been more fun if we had won the decision the first time around."

Additional information and employee assistance programs are available at APG's web page, www.apg.army.mil/ca.html, and the CA Hotline, 410-278-9461.