



POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Dec 27, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Santa Claus suits for rent

Santa Claus suits are available for rent at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, Bldg 2407, for just \$10 per day! We have expanded our stock of suits to accommodate the APG Community. Suits include jacket, wide black belt, pants, boot covers, white gloves, beard, wig and hat. Contact center personnel at 410-278-4124 for more information or to reserve your suit.

Gifts left behind at Main Exchange

Would the couple who left several gifts at the Main Exchange Boy Scouts charity gift wrap please claim their gifts by calling the Main Exchange, 410-272-6828, or call Debbie Della Silva, 410-272-6685.

Christmas hours for Urgent Care Clinic

The Urgent Care Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be open on Christmas Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Our goal is meet the needs of our soldiers and beneficiaries and also give our Urgent Care Clinic staff an opportunity to celebrate Christmas with their families and loved ones. Other holiday and weekend hours will remain the same from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments can be made through nurse triage at 410-278-1751.

There will be no sick call for the period Dec. 20 through Jan. 2 in the Troop Medical Clinic. If an appointment is needed, please call 1-888-999-5195 to see a provider in the General Medicine Clinic.

Library holiday hours

Library holiday hours
The Aberdeen Area post library will be closed Dec. 24 and 25 and Jan 1.

See SHORTS, page 2

Police Academy graduates 12 officers

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The level of security on Aberdeen Proving Ground increased recently when 12 police officers graduated from the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security's Police Academy.

APG provost marshal, Maj. Darrel W. Andrews and Robert W. Krauer, DLES deputy director, presented certificates to the officers of Class No. 00-01 during the Dec. 8 ceremony held in Dickerson Hall.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander welcomed the family members and guests to the ceremony. He thanked the individuals and organizations that contributed to the academy's training curriculum, specifically thanking the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment instructors from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

"It's great to see so many soldiers, Marines, family members and civilians working together for APG," Spidel said.

Praising the academy for being recognized as having required standards "higher than almost any other academy," Spidel added that the post was grateful "for the quality folks who come here to make APG a better place."

"These officers are our first responders, trained and tested in military and state law. We are all very proud of their accomplishments."

Officer Kenneth Bero was the

class spokesperson. A U.S. Army retired Sergeant First Class, formerly stationed on APG from 1995 to 1998, Bero said the day was a "glorious day in itself," considering what the class had been through.

"Eight weeks ago we met for the first time," Bero said. "Within a few days, we began to form bonds and now various incidents have only served to strengthen us as a team."

He wished his team members the "strength, confidence and commitment" to go forth and serve APG to the fullest.

"The quality of this class is extremely high," he added noting the past law enforcement experience of most of the members. "The training was strenuous but it only made us better than we were."

The honor graduate for the class was Officer Erik Miller. Also a former military policeman, Miller agreed the academy's demanding curriculum "drastically improved" his law enforcement skills.

"It's been eight years since I went through rigid training like that," Miller said. "We received a lot of new things you don't get to experience in military schools. APG is definitely getting a lot of high quality officers because of it," he added.

The only female graduate, Officer Amber Van Akin, agreed

See POLICE, page 5



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Col. Robert J. Spidel, left, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, congratulates Officer Kenneth Bero during a graduation ceremony for 12 graduates of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Academy, held Dec. 8 at Dickerson Hall. The graduates will join Department of Defense and Military Police in the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security.

Santa's reindeer was a Harley



By E. C. Starnes
OC&S

There was good news and bad news for those who attended the U.S. Air Force Detachment's Children's Christmas party.

The bad news - no snow. Did that mean Santa was a no-show? No. The good news is Santa was able to crank up his Harley and arrive on schedule to the delight of the 75 people gathered at the Ordnance Center and Schools' Cohen Hall.

As Santa pulled up to the front door, the windows of the Cohen Hall break room were filled with flattened noses as the children tried to get a closer look at their favorite holiday character. And, as he entered the building, they were pushing at the break room doors to get to him. They didn't have to worry about

getting a moment with Santa as each child had his or her picture taken with the Jolly Ole Elf. The photos were then used as part of a picture frame craft project for the parents.

About 30 volunteers worked on the project, which outgrew its original site at detachment headquarters. Food and games ranked right up with the visit from Santa. Tables were filled with a potluck assortment of just about every holiday food imaginable. And the cake and dessert table were also filled. Each child was able to select a "goodie" to take home from the cake walk table.

While some sat on Santa's lap to tell them how good they had been all year, others played a bean bag toss game and a pick up the snow flake game. There was also a gift exchange for the children.



Photo by ED STARNES

SANTA'S HARLEY—Santa arrives at Cohen Hall on his trusty cycle. Above, children line up to see Santa during the U.S. Air Force Detachment's Children's Christmas party at Cohen Hall. In addition to a photo with Santa, the children took part in a gift exchange and games.

Adopt a soldier

If your family is interested in sharing their holiday celebrations with one or two of the nearly two dozen soldiers on Aberdeen Proving Ground facing a holiday away from home, NOEL Company is interested in hearing from you.

NOEL, which stands for Not On Exodus Leave, is a company comprised of 18-21 year-old advanced individual students who are unable or cannot afford a trip home for the holidays. NOEL Company provides group activities for the soldiers, but is looking for families willing to personalize the holidays for these young service men and women.

Suggested activities include but are not limited to tree selection or holiday preparations, Christmas Eve services or parties, Christmas Day dinner, gift exchanges and other family traditions.

Interested families can adopt for a few hours or a few days. For more information call NOEL Company commander Capt. Martin Griffith, or 1st. Sgt. Robert Bartholomew, at 410-278-8579/8582/8583.

See CHALLENGE, page 3

Actor John Amos speaks at Challenge graduation

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

A host of military leaders, politicians, family members and media filled the Post Theater, Dec. 16 for the commencement exercises of Class No. 00-1 of the Maryland National Guard's Military Youth Corps Freestate Challenge Academy.

The ceremony's guest speaker was John Amos, a noted television and film actor and former National Guardsman.

The academy's director, National Guard Chaplain (Maj.) Ronald Martin-Minnich, welcomed the program's distinguished guests.

They included Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, APG commander, Maj. Gen. Bruce Tuxill, commander, Maryland Air National Guard, Col. Robert J. Spidel, Aberdeen Proving Ground deputy installation commander, Col. Howard Frelander, executive officer, Maryland National Guard, Maryland Senator J. Robert Hooper, state senator Joan Carter-Conway, from the 43rd District and Maryland Delegate Daniel Riley.

Martin-Minnich noted that of the 161 cadets who began the cycle in August, 92 "met the challenge and achieved the objectives that were set before them."

"Nothing has fulfilled me and made my life as complete as seeing the youth of this academy walk across this stage," Martin-Minnich said.

Maj. Gen. James F. Fretterd, adjutant general for the Maryland National Guard, added that the program continues to "help youth obtain marketable skills and the motivation necessary to achieve in the work environment."

Fretterd thanked the APG command as "our landlords who provide the infrastructure that makes it all possible, the Harford Community College administration for its academic support and

Stepwise improvement starts now — with you!

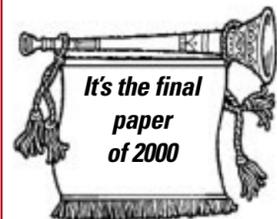
By Lisa Young
USACHPPM

Making a step in the direction of wellness and positive well-being is a terrific way to ring in the year 2001, especially with January being Physical Fitness Month.

Is one of your New Year's resolutions to feel healthier and more energetic so you can do all the things you want to do? Are you having difficulty finding time to exercise regularly? More people attempt to form new habits at the New Year than any other time. However, for a great many people, their attempts never get off the ground, which leads to a feeling of failure with their resolutions. Instead of looking at slip-ups and backsliding as failures, we need to view them as opportunities to learn and improve ourselves.

People are not generally equipped to make drastic changes in lifestyle. Instead, success comes more from a stepwise movement toward risk reduction and lifestyle improvement. The mindset that the only change worth making is complete change is not true! Acknowledging that you can and will move towards a goal instills confidence and makes further movement in the same direction more likely. Remember

See RESOLUTIONS, page 11



This is the final issue of the APG News for 2000. A paper will not be printed on Dec. 28.

We'll be up and running again on Jan 4. The deadline for that issue is noon on Dec. 28.

On behalf of the APG News Staff and the APG Public Affairs Office, have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

APG Pollution Prevention
Tip of the Week

MAKE "GREEN" CHOICES WHILE SHOPPING. BUY NON-TOXIC AND WATER-BASED INKS AND OTHER ART SUPPLIES.



For more information on pollution prevention, call Michelle Guitard, APG Pollution Prevention Program, 410-306-2273

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

On Dec. 26 and 27 the library will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Edgewood Area branch library will be open Dec. 20 and 21 from 11:30 to 6:30 p.m., but closed Dec. 22 to Jan. 1.

Post Theater holiday hours

The theater will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 5, and will reopen Saturday, Jan. 6.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine will host APG's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 10, at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be the Honorable Judge Angela M. Eaves, District Court of Maryland, District 9, Harford County. Tickets go on sale Dec. 11 and cost \$7 per person.

To purchase tickets for the breakfast, contact the following unit representatives: Master Sgt. James Davis, OC&S, 410-278-2529; Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Yelder, 61st Ordnance Brigade, 410-278-5598; Staff Sgt. Michael Jackson, KUSAHC, 410-278-1749; Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Johnson, DTC, 410-278-1053; Sgt. 1st Class Shelton Torbert, SBCCOM, 410-278-1534; Sgt. 1st Class Mitchelen Bigman, NCOA, 410-278-7381 or David Burbey, APG Garrison, 410-278-1145.

Curtailed of furnishings turn-in

Due to the curtailed service at the Single Stock Fund Turn-In Section until Feb. 15, the Furnishings Management Branch will not accept turn-ins from units until the first week of February. For more information contact Carol Lamp at 410-278-4655.

Re-Nu-It center closes for holidays

The RE-NU-IT centers in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 26 through Friday, Dec. 29. The Aberdeen Area center will re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 8 a.m. and the Edgewood Area center will re-open on Wednesday, Jan. 3 at 8 a.m.

Christmas tree pickup for housing occupants

Monday, Jan. 8, is the date for Christmas tree pickup in the Aberdeen and Edgewood housing areas. If you have any questions, call Chris Barwick at 410-278-4747.

KUSAHC tobacco cessation

Kirk will help you kick butts during four health clinic tobacco cessation classes to be conducted on Thursdays from 12 to 1 p.m. on Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30. Training will be conducted in the Preventive Medicine conference room (room A-12), Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. All military beneficiaries are eligible. Class size is limited, so please preregister.

For more information and to schedule for the first class, please call Preventive Medicine at 410-278-1964.

Diabetes Education Classes at Kirk

Four 2-hour diabetes education overview classes for ALL diabetics will be conducted Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30. Class instruction will cover nutrition, exercise, blood glucose monitoring, latest trends and medications. This also is an opportunity to share your ideas, network with others and develop coping skills.

A certified diabetic educator and registered dietician will instruct the course. Classes are scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Preventive Medicine conference room (room A-12), Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. All TRICARE beneficiaries are eligible to attend.

For more information, or to schedule for the first class, please call Preventive Medicine at 410-278-1964

Small Business Program update

The Small Business Program will be the topic of the National Contract Management Association's 2001 Luncheon presentation by Bonnie Maliszewski, small business specialist, at Top of the Bay's Gunpowder Lounge Jan. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Acquisition employees will earn one continuous learning point for attending. No advance reservation is necessary. For information contact Elaine Millard, 410-278-0747, elaine.millard@sbccom.apgea.army.mil

EA Thrift Shop Consignment Room

Effective Jan. 2, the Consignment Room of the Edgewood Area Thrift Shop will close at 1 p.m. on Thursdays, because of a shortage of afternoon volunteers. For more information, call the EA Thrift Shop at 410-676-4733.

Tutors available at Aberdeen Area Youth Center

Wendy Haslup is available for tutoring every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Call her there Monday through Friday to set up an appointment, 410-278-4995 or 410-278-9061. For more information about our tutoring program and other activities, contact the Aberdeen Youth Center at 410-278-4995.

AA Thrift Shop manager needed

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop is accepting applications for manager through Jan. 4. This position is salaried. Retail and personnel experience is preferred. For more information, stop by the Thrift Shop during regular hours on Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. or Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call the shop at 410-272-8572, or contact Moira Kearney, Thrift Shop chairperson, at 410-297-9614.

Gift wrapping at Harford Mall for charity

Representatives from the American Medical Center Cancer Research Center and the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology Center will be wrapping gifts at the Harford Mall 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., through Sunday, Dec. 24. Corporate orders are invited. Celebrate your holidays by supporting cancer research. All gifts are welcome, including those not purchased at the mall. For information call 410-879-5015.

Army Band takes holiday leave

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) started its holiday on leave Dec. 20 and will not return until Jan. 3. Any questions regarding scheduling the Band should be referred to Judy Michalski, 278-7953/2711.

NECPOC announces leadership courses

Leadership Skills for Non-Supervisors will be offered Apr. 10-11, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School. Tuition is \$245.

This course is designed for team leaders, office coordinators, special emphasis program managers and all non-supervisory employees who want to enhance their leadership skills. It includes instruction in handling different personality types, the art of giving constructive feedback that minimizes defensiveness, effective delegation, overcoming conflict without making enemies; and building teams that work well together and get results. Nominations must be received in the NECPOC, HRDD, by Jan. 19. For more information contact Karin Hancock, 410-306-0065 or e-mail her at Karin.Hancock@cpocner.apg.army.mil.

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

Thrift Savings Plan is open for changes to enrollment until Jan. 31. During the open enrollment period employees may elect to enroll in TSP or change their current TSP deduction. Thrift Savings Plan Open Season Update Pamphlets will be distributed to agency administrative offices upon receipt in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

Employees must now contact the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) to make an open season change. Enrollment form TSP-1 can no longer be completed or processed by the CPAC. Employees may call the ABC-C at 1-877-276-9287 or access the website at www.abc.army.mil to enroll in TSP or make a change.

Employees who wish to change the way their TSP account balance is currently invested must request a TSP Interfund Transfer. Interfund transfers can be made up to once a month by calling the ThriftLine at 504-255-8777 or by completing a TSP-30, Interfund Transfer Request, available on the TSP website, www.tsp.gov. The TSP website includes current TSP information, forms and publications.

Register now for HCC spring credit courses

Credit classes for Harford Community College's Spring 2001 semester begin on Wednesday, Jan. 17. Registration is now taking place in the College's Chesapeake Center. Sign up Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students may also register for courses by mail or FAX through Jan. 16.

In addition, registration is accepted at HCC's Aberdeen Proving Ground office Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and alternate Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-272-2338.

For more information about registering for spring credit courses at HCC, call the Office of Records and Registration at 410-836-4222 or 410-879-8920, ext. 222. For more information or to obtain forms, see the Spring Schedule of Credit Classes that was mailed to all Harford

County residents. Students can also access the Schedule of Classes at www.harford.cc.md.us. HCC will be closed for winter break Dec. 23 to Jan. 1.

Family Housing Office hours

The Family Housing Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The office participates in the compressed work schedule, with every other Friday off. For more information call 410-306-2010.

Happy holidays from the AA and Hoyle Health and Fitness Centers

The following holiday hours will be in effect beginning Dec. 20:

Dec. 20-21	Open from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Dec. 22	Open from 5:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 23-26	Closed
Dec. 27-29	Open from 5:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 30-Jan. 1	Closed

Gift certificates are available. Give someone the gift of health.

The fitness centers are full service facilities with state-of-the-art equipment, one-on-one personal training, aerobic and toning classes daily. An all-inclusive low membership fee is available.

For further information, call the AA Fitness Center at 410-278-9725/9759 or the Hoyle Health and Fitness Center at 410-436-7135/34.

Happy holidays from the staff.

ACS needs volunteer drivers

The American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers to participate in its Road to Recovery program. Volunteers drive cancer patients to and from treatment. You must own a car, have a safe driving record and have a few spare hours per month. Call 1-888-670-0427 and find out more about becoming a volunteer.

Help available for workers' compensation

The Workers' Compensation Office is located in the Installation Safety Division, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, building 4304. The office is open for walk-in assistance on Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, the office will schedule appointments.

For more information contact the Workers' Compensation Office at 410-306-1091 or program manager, Susie Ashby, at 410-306-1057.

PTA needs volunteers

Roye-Williams Elementary School needs volunteers for the PTA. You do not need to be a parent to volunteer. For more information or to volunteer, call Tom DiCuirci, 410-272-5349, or Sue Osborne, 410-273-5536. Your support will help make this year a great success for our children.

Help line available for parents

When parents and caregivers feel like the stress of child rearing is at its limit, call the Family Stress Line. Whether you are concerned about how to discipline or manage your adolescent, worried about school performance, or any stress related to parenting, the StressLine is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-243-7337. Family Stress Line, a program of The Family Tree child abuse prevention agency, is a confidential hotline. Professionally trained, non-judgmental and caring volunteers are available to help you.

Legal Office offers advice

For emergency legal advice, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Garrison Legal Assistance Office continues to see eligible clients on a walk-in basis every Thursday in building 310, wing 2, 8-11 a.m. For further information, please contact the Legal Assistance Office at 410-278-1583/1584. For legal advice that does not involve an emergency, contact the Legal Assistance Office to schedule an appointment.

Report vending machine problems

If you are experiencing problems with a snack or Coca-Cola vending machine operated by the Post Restaurant Fund, ask your building custodian to call 410-278-3520, or send an e-mail to Kathleen Decker at kdecke@apg.army.mil.

Passport photos taken on Thursdays

The APG Garrison Photo Lab takes passport photos on Thursdays, 2 to 3:30 p.m., on a walk-in basis. For information about photographic services on post, call 410-278-3391.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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

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

For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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PET OF THE WEEK



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Won't you take Elijah home?

Elijah has been in the Post Veterinary Treatment Facility about two months. He is a male Shephard mix, tan in color and about 3 years old. He is very shy but playful once he gets to know you. Elijah and other cats and dogs are available for adoption. You do not have to be active-duty military to adopt a pet. For more information, call 410-278-4604.

Amos to return and perform fundraiser for Academy

CHALLENGE, from front page

the academy's current and former administrators and cadre.

Noting that a total of 1,163 cadets have successfully passed the academy's requirements, Fretterd added that "57 percent of this class has passed the General Education Development test and demonstrated the skills to go out in this world and compete."

Fretterd introduced Amos as a "colleague and friend who has been a voice and supporter of this program."

A former member of the New Jersey National Guard, Amos told the cadets he began his high school years as one of only four African American students to integrate a New Jersey high school. Exposed to a constant barrage of taunts and criticisms, he said he looked forward to reporting to the National Guard Armory every other Tuesday.

"When I put on my uniform I felt as much a part of America and America's plan for young people as anyone else," Amos said.

"For all those people that believed and extended a hand to me, I extend my hand to you and say thank you," he told the family members as thanks for their support.

In closing, Amos said he gained a true appreciation of the military when he was told to improve his appearance and bearing while portraying the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the television series, "The West Wing."

"They told me how to move like a general," Amos said. "I hope each one of you will find it in yourselves to walk the walk and talk the talk that leads to success."

"The world is looking for you," he added. "Think of Gen. Colin Powell who came from the Bronx to lead the chiefs of staff and now is the Secretary of State. If he can do it, you can too."

In a surprise gesture, Amos, who was "moved" by the proceedings, offered to return to APG to perform his one-man show, "Halley's Comet" at the Post Theater as a fundraiser with the proceeds going to



Photo by CAPT. SHELDON SMITH, D.C. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Television and film actor John Amos, right, congratulates honor graduate Shameka Humphreys from Washington, D.C. at the Dec. 16 commencement for 92 graduates of the Maryland National Guard's Freestate ChalleNGe Academy at the Post Theater. Amos, a former member of the New Jersey National Guard, was the guest speaker.

the ChalleNGe Academy.

"I just felt a need to do something now," Amos said.

Fretterd, Doesburg, Spidel and other platform guests passed out the student achievement awards, scholarships and citations from community groups and individuals.

A notable recipient was Shameka Humphreys, a Washington D.C. native who received the Cadet of the Cycle award for best overall performance. Humphreys received a plaque and a \$1,000 scholarship from Fretterd, a \$1,000 scholarship from the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Advisory Council, a \$100 savings bond from the Towson United Methodist Church Women's group, the Silver Wing Award from the Maryland Chapter of Silver Wings, and a \$100 savings bond from American Legion Post 128.

Humphreys said the knowledge she gained in the academy was the most important thing she would take home with her.

"The change in me means nothing if I don't share what I've learned with my brothers and sister," Humphreys said.

"We are so thankful to be blessed with the support of so many groups," Martin-Minnich said at the conclusion. This class has just received nearly \$14,600 in scholarships and savings bonds."

The Maryland National Guard Freestate Challenge Academy is a 22-week military oriented residential program for qualified youth. The program is backed up by an intensive 12-month mentoring phase to aid adjustment to the world of work and follow-on education.

On Jan. 20, the academy begins its eighth year of offering a free education alternative to high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 18, with a primary objective of preparing enrollees for the General Education Development (GED) examination.

For more information about the Maryland National Guard's Freestate ChalleNGe Academy, contact Martin-Minnich at 1-800-820-6692, or visit your local Maryland National Guard Armory.

Mass graduation conducted by 143d Ordnance Battalion

By **E. C. Starnes**
OC&S

"I am the best."

These were the words of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command's Command Sergeant Major as he spoke to a mass graduation exercise at the 143rd Ordnance Battalion last week.

Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Carlos M. Estronza's presentation resembled a revival preacher's sermon as he told the Army's newest Ordnance Corps soldiers that they were a very special group. "You are the ones who are going to take charge," he said.

"You are somebody who said, 'I am the best and I have the best to offer,'" Estronza noted. "You are here because you want to be."

He told the nearly 100 graduates that what they learned in AIT is just the beginning. "This is the

foundation upon which to build," he said. "It doesn't stop here."

Estronza also noted that each of them had to have confidence in what they do. "I am the best," is what he told them to say to themselves and others. He told them they have to be the ones to say, "I will take those colors and carry them to the top of the mountain."

He stressed that they should set high standards for themselves and not just accept the minimum. "When you depart from here today, don't get too relaxed. You are representing the best nation in the world, the United States of America."

He also told them to go home and salute their parents and thank them for bringing them into the world. He said all too often soldiers don't take the time to thank those who have helped them.

See **OCS GRADUATION**, page 11

GPC clearance requirement added to civilian, military personnel clearance forms

By **Mary G. Young**
USARMA

Civilian Personnel Clearance Form, EAP 1132 and DA Form 137-1R have been revised to add the responsibility for government purchase card billing officials and cardholders to obtain the signature of the GPC agency/organization program coordinator or an alternate A/OPC prior to terminating post employment.

Billing officials and cardholders terminating an installation position are reminded of current GPC policy to provide written notification initiated by their division/office chief to the A/OPC no

later than 30 days prior to departure. Cardholders must stop all purchasing activity at least 30 days prior to departure to ensure that no outstanding balance remains.

In extraordinary situations, when an unscheduled departure is of less than 30 days, notification of the departure shall be furnished to the A/OPC as soon as it is known by the GPC user. In situations where a billing official or cardholder is leaving their current position but are not clearing post, the A/OPC must also be notified within the 30 day time frame to ensure that accounts are settled prior to the employees departure.

Notification should be forwarded to creditcard@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

The program A/OPC and alternate A/OPC's located at the U. S. Army Robert Morris Acquisition Center, 4118 Susquehanna Ave, are available from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to sign clearance forms. Call Mary Young, 410-278-0849 or Diane Schneider 410-278-0848 to make an appointment.

Please ensure that you have complied with notification requirements described above prior to making an appointment with RMAC personnel.

Bel Air chemical engineer heads APG team to dispose of mustard agent



Photo by KATHY DEWEESE

Joseph W. Lovrich, right, receives an update from Jan A. Van Prooyen, Bechtel Aberdeen project manager, left, and Douglas Omchinski, Bechtel construction manager on the site of the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground

by Kathy DeWeese
Edgewood Chemical Activity

The year was 1950. Diner's Club introduced the first credit card. The comic strip "Peanut" debuted. President Harry Truman approved the building of the hydrogen bomb. North Korea invaded South Korea. And at the Army's Edgewood Arsenal, mustard agent was manufactured in bulk for the last time.

In the trenches of World War I, thousands died from exposure to mustard agent and chlorine gas. As World War II threatened 20 years later, the United States prepared for more of the same by renewing and expanding its chemical warfare offensive and defensive capabilities. But chemical weapons were not used by the United States in that or subsequent wars, leaving more than 1,600 tons of bulk mustard to rest as a silent and successful deterrent on the Edgewood peninsula for more than half a century.

Joseph W. Lovrich, the chemical engineer who now leads the Army teams disposing of the Edgewood stockpile, was born in 1960, a decade after Edgewood ceased bulk production of the blistering compound. A native of Greensburgh, Pa., near Pittsburgh, he graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. His Army career began at APG later that same year. It would eventually become Lovrich's job to manage the destruction of the stockpile, safely, effectively and with concern for the community and the environment, above all else.

Since 1943, the United States policy had been "no first use" of chemical weapons, but it maintained a deterrent chemical capability, muscled by the Army's chemical research, development and engineering component headquartered at Edgewood. Lovrich's work there supported the United States in reaching international chemical arms control agreements, which turned his career toward investigating effective ways to destroy chemical weapons.

As chief of the Treaty Verification Branch, he developed procedures and equipment to make sure other signatory countries were adhering to the Chemical Weapons Convention, a 1993 multinational treaty prohibiting chemical weapons use, production and storage. As a U.S. chemical weapons production facility expert, he served on United Nations international challenge inspections. But a greater challenge was ahead of him at home, just down Edgewood's Bush River Road.

Under the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, he began researching and developing disposal technology alternatives to incineration for the chemical agent stockpiles at both APG and Newport, Ind., which store only steel containers of bulk agent.

His work with the other members of the Project Manager for Alternative Technologies and Approaches team resulted in the Defense Department's approval of pilot testing neutralization as an alternative technology here at APG and in Indiana.

"We started brainstorming in 1994, developing the implementation plan, working out the testing

efforts, and in February 2000 was selected as site manager for the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, or ABCDF.

At the construction site near the Bush River, a small army of a different kind is digging trenches to install a labyrinth of underground utilities and a storm water management system ready for Mother Nature's worst. Bechtel Aberdeen, the Army's contractor, will complete the design and wrap up construction of the 30-acre plant by 2003 and begin testing the process with water.

By 2004, pilot testing will begin, proving out the process of neutralization by mixing the agent with hot water, followed by biologically treating it with ordinary sewage treatment bacteria. After the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency review the pilot test results and give the green light, the entire stockpile should take about a year to eliminate.

Lovrich takes seriously the responsibility that comes with the

job of destroying 1,817 containers of mustard agent near one of the nation's most prized waterways, the Chesapeake Bay.

"It amounts to all of the little things that you have to do every day to have a consistent safety and environmentally-conscious culture stay focused on that very high priority mission," he said. "It's reassuring to know that Bechtel has a proven track record in making safety and environmental protection a high priority, which has shown through on their performance over the past two years."

After the mustard is safely eliminated, the facility will be decontaminated and dismantled.

"We really are doing something that's important and that will make a substantial difference to the community and nation," he said.

Lovrich and his wife Tammy, live with their daughter Lacey, 2-1/2, in Bel Air.

"I'm proud to be doing something for my home neighborhood, Harford County, and for the Army post where I've worked for 18 years."

He makes clear that the teams at the ABCDF are not working alone.

"In 2007, literally hundreds of us will be able to say, 'I contributed to safely destroying the mustard stockpile at Aberdeen Proving Ground.' In other words, it's history in the making."

Johnson Atoll demilitarization facility completes destruction of chemical stockpile

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

The military's longest operating chemical demilitarization facility eliminated the last of its stockpiled chemical munitions 9:49 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time Nov. 29.

Operators of the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System, located in the Pacific about 825 miles southwest of Hawaii, finished the destruction of more than 13,000 land mines filled with nerve agent VX.

Over its 10-year planned life cycle, JACADS has destroyed more than 400,000 chemical weapons materials. It first opened in 1990. The material included mines, rockets, artillery and mortar projectiles, and bombs containing blister agent HD and nerve agents GB and VX.

"The soldiers and contractors who have safely destroyed the chemical weapons on Johnson Island should be extremely proud of their accomplishments," said Army Lt. General Paul Kern, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "This is an historical event which will improve the security of the United States and provide hope for the rest of the world that the 21st century will be safer for our children and grandchildren."

Congress mandated in 1997 that the military dispose of all its chemical weapons by 2007 in order to meet international treaty commitments. The original chemical weapons stockpile leftover from the military preparedness for the Cold War contained about 34,500 tons of chemical material. As of Nov. 30, approximately

Health, safety, holiday issues and winter weather discussed at community meeting

By Sheila Little
APG News

A meeting of the community action committee was held Dec. 7, in the conference room of the garrison headquarters building 305. Col. Robert J. Spidel, garrison commander and deputy installation commander, presided over the meeting, which covered special activities, holiday business hours, and winter weather issues, in addition to health and safety precautions.

Health information

The Kirk U. S. Army Health Clinic commander, Col. Walter E. Egerton, announced that the clinic has received a very limited supply of influenza vaccine. Those receiving the first doses are health care workers and high-risk deployable soldiers. Beneficiaries with debilitating medical conditions are also receiving the vaccine if they have a physician's written order. Egerton said there is a shortage of the vaccine throughout Maryland. He is awaiting a larger supply of vaccine in order to begin a more wide-spread vaccination process on post. The APG News and channel 3 will publish the information when Kirk begins widespread vaccination, or call

the Immunization Clinic, 410-278-1746.

The Harford County Health Department is also without vaccine at the present, and is anticipating the report on a new supply at the end of the week. Upon receiving the supply they will issue another vaccine distribution schedule. Civilians are urged to call the county health department, 410-638-8400, for more information, as limited supplies means stricter qualification guidelines.

Egerton said KUSAHC is keeping normal hours Dec. 18 to Jan. 2, but will be operating with a reduced staff. KUSAHC is closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, but the Urgent Care Clinic will operate on a limited basis that day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. KUSAHC is also closed on New Years Day, Jan. 1, but the UCC will be open regular holiday hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on New Years Day.

Egerton said TRICARE is undergoing appointment reorganization. To schedule a KUSAHC appointment using the TRICARE appointment number, 1-888-999-5195, enter the local area code, 410, to receive an appointment at APG. Appointments, especially follow-ups, are also being sched-

uled directly through the specialty clinics at KUSAHC. Call the clinic concerned for more information on how to proceed.

Addressing emergency room visits at non-military facilities, Egerton said patients need no longer call for authorization before or after the visit, but should make sure the trip is for emergency or urgent care.

"If you feel you have a medical problem that mandates an ER visit, just go," Egerton said. He added that patients should inform their primary care physician afterward.

Shopping

Alan Petty, district manager for the Army and Air Force Exchange Services, said the Krispy Kreme franchise has been doing record business in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas of the installation. Petty said Krispy Kreme is not scheduled to take over the old Dunkin' Donuts location next to the post theater in Aberdeen, so new options are being considered for the site.

He said Church's Chicken is scheduled to open in late summer or early fall.

See CAC, page 11

22 percent of that material has been destroyed through JACADS and another facility in Toole, Utah, which has been operating since 1996.

To meet the congressional deadline, the Department of Defense has another seven chemical demilitarization facilities under design, construction or testing for state and federal certification. The additional disposal sites are in or near: Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Anniston, Ala.; Newport, Ind.; Richmond, Ky.; Pine Bluff, Ark.; Pueblo, Colo.; and Hermiston, Ore.

The Defense Department decided to build disposal facilities by existing stockpiles of chemical weapons to eliminate the need to transport them outside the gates of the storage facilities.

Working with federal oversight agencies, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region IX and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army's Office of the Program Manger for Chemical Demilitarization is now preparing to close JACADS — a process which can take up to 33 months.

Once cleaned of secondary waste produced during disposal operations and officially closed, the JACADS site is slated to become a bird sanctuary.

"JACADS is a model of safe and successful operations for the Army's eight other disposal sites, as well as for other countries that are looking to safely destroy their stockpiles of chemical weapons," said James Bacon, the Army's program manger for Chemical Demilitarization.

Project Exodus clears out Ordnance Center and Schools

By E. C. Starnes
OC&S

There is an eerie silence throughout much of the Ordnance Center and Schools. Hallways and classrooms normally filled with the noises associated with nearly 1,600 students are quiet and nearly empty.

That's because throughout the evening Dec. 20 and the early morning hours Dec. 21, 1,564 soldiers left by airplane, bus, train and private automobiles. That leaves only 17 soldiers who have been temporarily assigned to the NOEL, Not On EXODUS Leave Company, which is Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion.

While the actual departure activities last a fairly short time, there were months of planning preceding the event.

Some classes had to be accelerated so students would not have to return to OC&S to complete a week or two of classes and then begin the signing out and departure process all over again. Two mass exodus graduations were held. The 143d Ordnance Battalion held their ceremony on Dec. 15, while the 16th Ordnance Battalion held theirs on Dec. 19.

Other issues, such as assignment orders, finance support, tickets and travel arrangements, dining facility support, transportation support, and coordination with the BWI Airport, the USO at BWI, the Amtrak station, and Greyhound bus station had to be coordinated.

Also, courtesy patrols had to be briefed and be in place to help the soldiers find their way once they arrived at their transportation hub.

The departure schedule was preceded by a "super supper" at the dining facilities, which featured a steak dinner. Pastries, coffee, soup and juices were also provided by the dining facilities during the evening.

Then the move began. According to Staff Sgt. Ray Watson, the project officer for Project Exodus, most of the students, 72 percent or 1,134 soldiers, traveled by air; 11 percent or 176 soldiers traveled by bus; 3 percent or 51 soldiers went by train; and 13 percent or 203 sol-

See EXODUS, page 11

Experience, professionalism abound in Class No. 00-01

POLICE from front page

that the training was more "civilianized and went into more depth" resulting in a "higher caliber of trainees."

"Most of us had prior military or civilian experience which helped us excel," Van Akin said, noting that the "class average was consistently in the 90s."

Andrews praised the class for meeting or exceeding all requirements placed before them.

U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgts. Paul Chin and Patrick Hannon conducted the physical training and drill instruction segments of the course. Chin is a small arms instructor and Hannon is an electronic optics instructor with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' U.S. Marine Corps Detachment.

Class No. 00-01 graduates were Capt. Charles McGee and Officers Kenneth Bero, Matthew Kerstelter, Raymond Kinlein, Shawn Klings, Timothy Knight, Michael Lewis, George Martin, Erik Miller, Robert Ragsdale, Eric Semke and Amber Van Akin.

Sports & Fitness

Basketball starts Jan. 3

By Yvonne Johnson

APG News

The 2001 basketball seasons starts Jan. 3 with games in the Aberdeen Area and Jan. 8 with games in the Edgewood Areas. All games will be played in the AA Athletic Center and in the EA Hoyle Gym. The season concludes March 7 with the post season playoffs starting shortly thereafter with times and dates to be announced.

Altogether, 15 teams will compete for six post-season slots. In the Aberdeen Area, the teams are Company A, B, C, E and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion; HHC 61st Ordnance Brigade; Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment

In the Edgewood Area, the teams are 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory; Company A, B, C and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion and the Maryland Army National Guard.

Bowling Center offers specials for December

The Bowling Center is offering specials for the month of December. Enjoy 10 percent off all balls, bags, and shoes at the pro shop. All bowling from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday is only \$1.

Interested in having an office party at the bowling center? Just call to set something up.

Sign up now at the Bowling Center for the Cosmic New Years Party from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost is \$15 per person. This includes shoes, bowling and snacks. Snacks will include crackers/cheese, chips/dips, peanuts, chicken wings, meatballs. There will also be noisemakers and a raffle. So come out and make your reservation now!

The Bowling Center would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Rent ski equipment at APG

Looks like Ol' Man Winter is going to cooperate this year and give us perfect weather for skiing and snowboarding.

The Equipment Resource Center has downhill and cross country skis, boots and poles, ski bibs and pants, and ski car racks, along with new snowboards to help you on your way to local ski resorts. Downhill sets are available on a daily or season basis, and we offer discount fees on rentals of four or more days. For more information call 410-278-4124.

Holiday Golf Specials

Visit the Exton and Ruggles golf courses to take advantage of the many holiday specials they are offering. The sale will run through Dec. 24.

Plumb Point Golf Course closed Dec. 1 for the winter and is scheduled to re-open sometime in March as weather permits.

The Snack Bar at Ruggles Golf Course will be closing for the winter as of Dec. 31. It is scheduled to re-open in March.

The following schedule is for intramural basketball games to be played Jan. 3 through 5.

ABERDEEN DIVISION

Jan. 3
6:30 p.m. NCOA vs. Company B, 16th
7:30 p.m. HHC 16th vs. Company A, 16th
8:30 p.m. HHC 61st vs. Company C, 16th

Jan. 4
6:30 p.m. KUSAHC vs. Company E, 16th
7:30 p.m. USMC vs. NCOA
8:30 p.m. Company B, 16th vs. HHC 16th

Jan. 8
6:30 p.m. KUSAHC vs. HHC 16th
7:30 p.m. Company C, 16th vs. Company A, 16th
8:30 p.m. Company E, 16th vs. Company B, 16th

Jan. 10
6:30 p.m. KUSAHC vs. USMC
7:30 p.m. HHC 61st vs. Company E, 16th
8:30 p.m. HHC 16th vs. Company C, 16th
Edgewood Division

Jan. 8
6:30 p.m. Company A, 143rd vs. Company B, 143rd
7:30 p.m. HHC 143rd vs. Company C, 143rd
8:30 p.m. 520th TAML vs. National Guard

Jan. 10
6:30 p.m. Company B, 143rd v s. 520th TAML
7:30 p.m. National Guard vs. HHC 143rd
8:30 p.m. Company C, 143rd vs. Company A, 143rd



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Get Set!

143rd Ordnance Battalion basketball players square off in Hoyle Gymnasium during intramural basketball's 2000 season. The 2001 season kicks off after the holidays with three games in the Aberdeen Division on Jan. 3 and in the Edgewood Division on Jan. 8. All games will be played in the AA Athletic Center and Hoyle Gym. For more information on the Aberdeen Division call 410-278-7394, on the Edgewood Division call 410-436-3375.

Community Notes

FRIDAY

JANUARY 5

WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS VETERANS ASSOCIATION MEETING

Maryland Free State Chapter 70 will hold a meeting at 2 p.m. at the Senior Citizen Center in Aberdeen. All women of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Army Corps, retired Army, honorably discharged, active duty, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and the Army Nurses Corps are welcome to attend and join.

January 10

COMMEMORATIVE PRAYER BREAKFAST

APG's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast, will be from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be the Honorable Judge Angela M. Eaves, District Court of Maryland, District 9, Harford County. Tickets go on sale Dec. 11 and cost \$7 per person.

To purchase tickets for the breakfast, contact the following unit representatives: Master Sgt. James Davis, OC&S, 410-278-2529; Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Yelder, 61st Ordnance Brigade, 410-278-5598; Staff Sgt. Michael Jackson, KUSAHC, 410-278-1749; Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Johnson, DTC, 410-278-1053; Sgt. 1st Class Shelton Torbert, SBCCOM, 410-278-1534; Sgt. 1st Class Mitchelen Bigman, NCOA, 410-278-7381 or David Burbey, APG Garrison, 410-278-1145.

SATURDAY

JANUARY 13

LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The Aberdeen High School Booster Club will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors will open at 6 p.m. There will be food, baked goods and drinks available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (three cards), and \$5 for additional sets of three cards. For tickets, call Brenda Griffey, 410-272-5228, or Vicki Simpson, 410-272-6933. Proceeds benefit the Aberdeen High School Booster Club.

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 31

RINGING IN 2001!

The Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Fellowship Association is sponsoring a New Year's Eve Bash at the AA Recreation Center. The fun begins Dec. 31 at 9 p.m. and ends at 2 a.m. The evening features an open buffet, cash bar, party favors and entertainment by DJ "Bug." The price is \$20 for singles and \$30 per couple. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Floyd Jenkins at 410-278-1825, 410-273-2687, 410-652-1853 or Staff Sgt. Rahman Cosby at 410-278-1812.

OUTDOOR RECREATION UPDATE

START THINKING PICNICS

Reservations for the 2001 picnic areas will begin on Jan. 2. Reservations are required for Maryland Boulevard Picnic Area in the Aberdeen Area and Skipper's Point Picnic/Camp Area in the Edgewood Area. On-post military units and civilian offices have priority and can reserve any area from Jan. 2 through Jan. 31. There is no fee for on-post activities using the areas during the week. Off-post organizations can reserve these areas starting Feb. 1. Fee for off-post organizations is \$200. Under no circumstances will these areas be used for political activities of any kind by any organization. Call Outdoor Recreation 410-278-4124 for details and reservations. Don't wait - these areas go fast.

"FOR SALE" LOTS

Aberdeen Proving Ground has two "For Sale" lots that active duty military, retired military and APG civilian employees can use. The Aberdeen Area Sale Lot is located at Washington Loop and Boothby Hill Road in front of the RV Storage Lot. The Edgewood Area Sale Lot is located on Scully Road adjacent to the RV Storage Lot. There is a nominal fee to place vehicles, boats, campers, etc. on these lots. Items that go on these lots must be insured and have up-to-date tags. If not, the vehicle will be ticketed and could be towed at owner's expense. Items must also be registered with Outdoor Recreation. So if you have a vehicle that you just don't need any longer, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

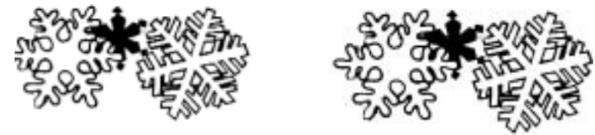
SKIPPER'S POINT CAMPGROUND

Nature lovers will enjoy this secluded, wooded campground located in the Edgewood Area. Skipper's Point campground is available to active duty military, retired military and APG civilian employees. Open March through November, the campground is situated next to the Bush River. This area is a primitive campground but offers: six travel trailer campsites, 15 tent campsites, picnic tables, barbeque grills, running water and port-a-pots. Each trailer/tent campsite has a picnic table and fire ring.

Travel trailer campsites rent for \$5 per night, tent sites for \$3.50 per night and tent sites for Boy Scouts rent for \$12 per group per visit.

All areas of the campground need to be reserved. Boy Scout troupes should call Plans and Operations Division, 410-278-2711 prior to calling Outdoor Recreation. So if you want to just get out of the house for a night or two and pitch a tent or park your camper, call Outdoor Recreation 410-278-4124 for reservations.

For more information on any of these activities, contact Cheryl L. Roark, director, Outdoor Recreation, Community Recreation Division at 410-278-4124/5789.



Inclement weather closing announcements

Ten area radio stations and four television stations will provide Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel with information on post closings when the APG commander determines that weather and road conditions are too hazardous to conduct business as usual.

Announcements should begin at about 5 a.m. Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name APG specifically. The radio and television stations are:

Station	Frequency	Location
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCX	FM 103.7	Havre de Grace
WBAL	AM 1090	Baltimore
WIYY	FM 97.9	Baltimore
WPOC	FM 93.1	Baltimore
WDE	AM 1150	Wilmington, Del.
WSTW	FM 93.7	Wilmington, Del.
WSBA	AM 910	York, Pa.
WARM	FM 103.3	York, Pa.
WROZ	FM 101.3	Lancaster, Pa.
WBAL-TV	Channel 11	Baltimore
WMAR-TV	Channel 2	Baltimore
WBFF-TV	Channel 45	Baltimore
WJZ-TV	Channel 13	Baltimore

TIP OF THE MONTH

ADVENTURES IN DRIVING DECISION-MAKING BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE INSTALLATION SAFETY DIVISION.

Situation: Imagine you've been driving for a while and you've become tired, but you're trying to make it to the next town. You suddenly realize you have had your eyes closed and had dosed off. What should you do?

- A. Open all the windows, turn on the radio, and talk or sing to yourself.
- B. Locate a safe place to pull off the road, park and take a nap.

Answer A. It's a little late for this choice, sleeping beauty! You have already permitted yourself to attain a sleepy physical state. You can do these things to keep you awake, but they won't wake you up. Once your blood pressure and pulse rate go down, you have to either build them back up or give in and take a nap. If you're really tired and need the sleep, don't fool around: locate a

safe place to pull off the road, park and take a nap. But, if there is no reason for you to be sleepy, you can "wake up" by building up your blood pressure and pulse rate. Park, get out and do some exercises for a few minutes. Then keep yourself awake by keeping the window open, turning on the radio, and talking or singing to yourself.

Answer B. You've done the right thing by deciding to "locate a safe place to pull off the road, park and take a nap. You may sometimes find yourself sleepy and yet know that you really ought not to be - that there's no real reason for it. What's happened is that you've lowered your blood pressure and pulse rate by inactivity. You could wake yourself up by parking the car and doing some exercises until you feel awake. But, if you know you have good reason to be sleepy, then your best bet is to just pull off and have some sleep

LIBRARY UPDATE

The Garrison Library has holiday books for you. Come by either the Aberdeen Area Library or the Edgewood Area Branch Library and check them out.

Christmas is Coming! Poems by Charles Ghigna

A Cup of Christmas Tea by Tom Hegg

Guinness Book of Christmas by Tom Hartman

Home for the Holidays edited by Gene Stelten

Kipper's Christmas Eve by Mick Inkpen

Santa and the Three Bears by Dominic Catalano

The Season for Singing: American Christmas Songs and Carols compiled by John Langstaff

Songs for a Merry Christmas by Kevin Roth

A Treasury of Christmas Songs and Carols edited by Henry W. Simon

LEAVE DONATION

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| Ameneh M. Arasten (maternity) | (knee-surgery) |
| Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement) | Angela R. Little(neck and shoulder injury) |
| Marian Bellis (Fracture of left tibia) | Rebecca G. Mercer-Leto (heart attack) |
| Barbara Boyd (mother is ill) | Nicholas J. Lombardo, Jr. (heart attack) |
| Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant) | Stacy Miller (maternity) |
| Daniel Brown (father has emphysema) | Mary V. Overstreet (twisted and sprained wrists and legs) |
| Tammy Budkey | Debi L. Petosky (back surgery) |
| Angela D. Cheek | Lylis Payne |
| Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery) | Cecil Pennington (surgery) |
| Dawn Crouse (surgery) | Barbara Carol Remines (surgery) |
| Bonnie K. Day (surgery) | Michael Reynolds |
| Davis, William H.(severe illness) | Janice M. Rice (assist ill mother) |
| Tricia Lin Dietz | Denise Robinson (maternity) |
| Fred Dill | Ricky Ross (heart attack) |
| Surinder K. Dillon (son has cancer) | Tami C. Rowland (Maternity) |
| Joseph R. Dugan | Allan Scarborough (back surgery) |
| Messina Enderlein | Sherry Schaffer |
| Wayne Erb (wife is ill) | Lena Shelton |
| Willa Freisheim | Motoko Stahl |
| Penelope K. Galoff (maternity) | Rachel Swearingen |
| Norman L. Greear | Frances L. Thomas |
| Michael L. Hitchcock (surgery) | Joseph Walker (wife has cancer) |
| Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant) | Rosalind Walters Kenion (maternity) |
| Wayne A. Jaynes | Cecelia Walton (respiration problems) |
| Evelyn K., Johnson (surgery) | Willie Williams |
| Larry Jonas | Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant) |
| Carole JonesMarlin Julian (heart surgery) | Josephine O. Wojciechowski (care for elderly parents) |
| Jennifer Keetley (maternity) | |
| Beverly King (caring for husband) | |
| William Klein | |
| Yvonne Lissimore | |

For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial; 410-278-1524; or fax 410-278-7877.

MOVIES

The theater will close for the holidays, **Dec. 23** through **Jan. 5**, and will reopen **Saturday, Jan. 6**.

YOUTH SERVICES UPDATE

Aberdeen Youth Services

All programs listed below are located at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. For more information call Donna Woodards at 410-278-4995.

CRAFT PROJECTS:

- Dec. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.- Candy cane reindeer
- Dec. 22, 6 to 8 p.m.- Christmas center piece

TEEN SUPREME EVENTS:

- Dec. 12 to 13, 6 to 8 p.m. - Making gift baskets for the elderly
- Dec. 15, Delivering gift baskets to nearby nursing home
- Dec. 15, 8 to 11 p.m. - Holiday teen dance

Edgewood Youth Services

Openings are currently available in the following programs:

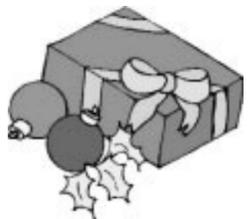
The Ballet and Jazz Program for children ages three and a half and older, 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Cost is \$65 now through May 2001.

Karate Classes, ages 8 and older, 5-6:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays. Cost is \$30 per month.

Gymnastics Classes, ages 3 years and older, 1:30 p.m., Saturdays. Cost is \$35 per session; one session includes 10 weeks.

Edgewood and Aberdeen Youth Services are in the process of signing up boys and girls, ages 4 years and older for basketball. Youths ages 4-6 may participate in a six-week **Basketball Clinic**. The cost to attend the clinic is \$15 per person. Youths ages 7-14 are eligible to participate in Basketball League Program, starting in Jan. 2001. Cost to participate in the Basketball League is \$30 per person.

A quick reminder - Youth Services members need to update their annual registration when they sign up for basketball. Annual registration costs only \$15 - use your coupons (coupons will be given at registration). For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-278-4995 or 410-306-2297.



Gift Wrapping Schedule

DECEMBER:

Thursday 21 - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

203rd Family Support Group
Angela Conlon, 410-436-2306

Friday 22 - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Command & Staff Soldier Readiness
Donna Deitz, 410-273-1487
Saturday 23 - 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

16th Ordnance Battalion Family Support Group
Command Sgt. Maj. Posadas, 410-278-8595

Sunday 24 - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

16th Ordnance Battalion Soldier Support Group
Command Sgt. Maj. Posadas, 410-278-8595

Upcoming classes at EA Crafts

Framing

A beginning matting and framing class will be held on Dec. 21 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Students must bring an 8' x 10" picture to class to frame and must preregister in advance as class size is limited. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

Porcelain Dolls

A beginning porcelain doll class making a Sugar Britches doll will be held on Fridays in January on the 5th, 12th and 19th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Class size is limited. Preregistration is required. Cost is \$30 plus supplies.

Custom Framing

A professional picture framer is on staff to do your framing. Photo's, limited edition prints, posters, paintings or just about anything can be framed. A wide selection of mats and frames is available to choose from.

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is open Thursdays from 1 to 9 p.m., Friday & Saturday from 9 to 5 p.m., and is available to all active duty military, civilians working on post and their dependents. It is located in building E-4440 next to the MP station. For more information call 410-436-2153.

ANCOC class project delivers toys to hospitalized youth in final phase of 'Operation Candy Cane'

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

A group of soldiers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course completed the final phase of a community project that netted local families and children more than \$750 in toys, and \$794 for food and financial assistance.

ANCOC Class No. 03-01 culminated its project, known as 'Operation Candy Cane,' Sunday afternoon with a trip to the Upper Chesapeake Medical Center's Pediatric Ward. Fourteen NCOs donned Santa Claus caps to deliver toys to hospitalized youth.

Led by small group leader, Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Ford, and class leader Sgt. 1st Class Randy S. Liston, the class has been accumulating canned goods, toys and monetary donations since Dec. 1.

Liston, who came up with the idea for the project, said he felt the need to give something to the community after having been on the receiving end of someone else's kindness when his daughter was hospitalized one Christmas.

"A local college basketball team visited my daughter's ward bearing gifts and toys for all of the children," Liston said. "It was a very memorable experience for my daughter and my family."

He said seeing the children's appreciation made him want to do

something to return the favor and good will.

The class approached the project like a tactical exercise, establishing specific roles for every team member.

The project treasurer set up and collected funds from various donation sites. The coordination team coordinated delivery dates and solicited local organizations for donations.

The Donations Team placed donation containers in Aberdeen Proving Ground facilities and local businesses and circulated flyers to advertise the group's efforts. The final team, designated the Purchase and Toy Team, collected and gift-wrapped donated toys.

Simultaneously, class members sold raffle tickets for a drawing for a free bowling ball that was held Dec. 16 at the Post Bowling Center and solicited cash donations from Post Exchange patrons and fellow class mates.

They raised \$794 and received \$750 in gifts. With that, the class also was able to sponsor seven local families in Havre de Grace, Bel Air and Aberdeen.

Liston said six families received \$40 gift certificates for food and toys while another "special" family received a \$100 food certificate and a box of toys.

"They were special because it was a family of 10," Liston said, adding that the NCOs added their



own money to increase the food certificate to \$200.

At UCMC, the NCOs were met by Desi Brown, a perinatal instructor from the hospital's pediatric ward.

Brown said it was the first group of soldiers from APG to visit the hospital.

"We were surprised and pleased by their gesture," Brown said. "We welcome their interest in the welfare of our patients," she added.

Liston, who departed on the holiday Exodus with most of his class members, said the academy benefits as much as the community with projects such as this.

"The families receive a special holiday greeting that they'll remember for years to come and we provide the community with the vision of soldiers who care," Liston said. "We continue to develop our Army values of respect and selfless service and grow as leaders."



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Left, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Liston, right, from ANCOC class No. 03-01, hands a football to Brett Thompson, 9, from Delta Pa. Liston and his fellow classmates gave toys and candy to hospitalized children in the Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air as part of 'Operation Candy Cane,' which raised \$794 for food, gifts and financial assistance for local families. Above, members of Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class No. 03-01 pose in front of the Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air after delivering toys to children in the hospital's Pediatrics ward on Dec. 17. Kneeling in front, Sgt. 1st Class Randy S. Liston, the project coordinator. Standing, from left front, Sfc. Hugo Matos, Milton Isaac, Staff Sgt. Jose Mojica-Rivera, Sgt. 1st Class Shaun A. Silas, Staff Sgt. Bernandoe Dean, Sgt. 1st Class Anthony M. Fortuna, and Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Ford, small group leader. Second row, Staff Sgts. Gerald Dickerson, Emory Fair, and Darrell Lucas. Back row, Sgts. 1st Class Mark H. Kramer, Matthew McGregor, and Nixon Camper.

OC&S soldiers head home

EXODUS, from page 5

diers went by privately owned vehicles.

The soldiers who traveled by air received the biggest treat as the USO arranged special programs for throughout the day.

For those soldiers who have stayed behind in the NOEL Company, they will be busy over the holiday season with duties such as flag detail, guard duty, post police and snow removal.

But it won't be all work and no play as several special events are planned for them according to Watson. These include a White House tour, Pentagon tour, NOEL Christmas party, White Marsh Mall shopping trip, a visit to Towson Town Center, a tour of Baltimore's Inner Harbor, and a New Years party.

Soldiers will begin returning on Jan. 2. Academic training will resume on Jan. 4. Some soldiers who celebrate Three Kings Day are not due back until Jan. 6.

143rd Ordnance Battalion graduates AIT class

OCS GRADUATION, from page 11

"Tell your drill sergeants, 'thank you,'" he said. "Take 10 seconds to let your family know you love them and thank them."

Estronza then passed out diplomas and awards to the graduates. Five soldiers were honored as distinguished honor graduates for receiving the highest scores in academics, physical fitness and soldier skills combined.

Honor graduate status was bestowed on 18 soldiers who were among the top 10 percent of their class and with a grade point average of above 90 percent.

A total of 21 soldiers received a 143rd Ordnance Battalion Certificate of

Achievement for scoring more than 270 points on the Army Physical Fitness Test.

The Association of the United States Army awards went to five soldiers who best epitomized the ideal ordnance soldier.

Certificates of Achievement were also presented to six soldiers from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion who displayed outstanding leadership skills, and proved to be invaluable to the drill sergeant in day-to-day operations in their respective classes.

After the soldiers returned to their seats they recited, in unison, the Ordnance Soldier's Creed.

A reading of a "Soldier's Request" was done by Pvt. Maria Hanson who was given "The Top All-Around Graduate Award." The award is given to "the soldier who has risen above his/her peers in all aspects of training."

Hanson, who is from Senecaville, Ohio, will be assigned to the Ohio Enlisted Reserve.

Following the ceremony, refreshments were served to the soldiers, their families and guests.

Seasonal issues addressed

CAC, from page 5

Petty also reminded attendees that the post exchange and all other affiliated businesses will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Richard Nornhold, manager of the commissary, said the store is featuring many holiday items for cooking, and is also offering decorative items such as Norfolk pines and poinsettias. Special party trays are also available and made to order through the deli department.

Since both of the coming holidays are over the next two Mondays, the store will be closed on the following Tuesdays, and will reopen with regular hours on Wednesday, Dec. 27 and Wednesday, Jan. 3.

Addressing the scholarships available to high school seniors who are commissary-eligible, Nornhold said the APG location will award one \$1,500 scholarship in the spring. Applications are available through the commissary or on-line at www.commissaries.com. Completed applications must be returned to a participating store no later than Feb. 15.

Safety on the road

Maj. Darrel Andrews, installation provost marshal, said a number of people were stopped on APG for driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated during the recent Thanksgiving holiday period. Residents are urged to refrain from driving if they choose to drink alcohol. Spidel cautioned everyone against drinking and driving.

Susie Ashby of the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, added that snow is expected during the winter months this year, and drivers should review the procedures for driving in snow, listen to radio and television for weather precautions, and allow extra time if traveling in such conditions is unavoidable.

"Drive defensively," Ashby

said. She also distributed information regarding how drivers can avoid accidents due to driver fatigue. Ashby said many drivers do not get the appropriate amount of rest prior to embarking on a long trip.

"Research shows a marked decrease in mental alertness after just two hours, even for rested drivers," Ashby said.

She suggests sharing the driving, and taking short breaks from driving every few hours.

Safety in and around the home

Ashby reminded parents of young children to be especially cautious when purchasing holiday plants, many of which cause gastric problems, and some of which are poisonous. She suggested the artificial version be purchased until toddlers are old enough to know not to eat decorative plants, or to place them out of reach.

Ashby also said much of holiday wrapping paper gives off toxic fumes if burned, so discard all wrappings in the trash, rather than adding it to the fireplace. Check the wiring of all lights before using them to make sure it is safe, and do not leave tree lights on when away from the house or after retiring.

Housing residents have received letters cautioning against seasonal roof decorations. Falls resulting in serious injury are of primary concern. Another concern is roof damage. There is little money in the budget to fix roof damage, so residents are asked to stay off the roof and avoid any potential injuries and problems.

Finally, Ashby said the popularity of trampolines and the corresponding rise in serious injuries have led to new guidelines concerning trampolines on APG.

"We are not outlawing trampolines like Fort Carson, Colo., and several other posts have done,"

Spidel said. "But if a trampoline is in your yard, it will have to be disassembled when not in use."

Winter precautions

Robert Weaver, installation maintenance chief, said some residents have not disconnected garden hoses from the outside faucets. All residents should do this as a precaution against bursting pipes.

"We just can't afford to do these repairs," Spidel said.

Weaver also reminded post residents to keep on-street parking to a minimum when snow or ice removal is required.

The snow information hotline, for information on snow conditions and closings on the installation is 410-278-SNOW (7669.)

Playground briefing

The meeting concluded with a briefing by Sandy Cormack, installation master planner, on the plans for playgrounds in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas.

"The plan is to have at least one playground in all major housing areas, plus several satellite sites that meet safety standards, are expandable, and are cost effective," said Cormack. "New playgrounds already on the installation include one at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, and one each in the Skippers Point and Plumb Point housing areas."

Parents are reminded that fewer playgrounds mean parents should be prepared to accompany their children to the new, larger playgrounds, since most will not be able to supervise from their residence.

Noting the general lack of representation in some areas at the monthly meeting, Spidel closed by strongly urging members of the CAC to send an alternate if they are unable to attend future meetings. The next meeting of the CAC will take place Jan. 11 in the conference room of building 305 at 9 a.m.

Resolutions--opportunities to learn and improve

RESOLUTIONS, from front page

that relapses are a normal part of the change process.

Robert Westermeyer, Ph.D., published author and advocate of harm reduction, gives these tips for making New Year's resolutions last:

Don't keep them a secret. By telling others, you give yourself accountability and allow others the opportunity to offer support. Reassurance from friends and family goes a long way!

Avoid triggers. Make an effort to stay away from those things that trigger interest in the behavior you want to change. Placing yourself within temptation of the habit you are trying to break sets you up for a relapse.

Respect your bad habit. Understand that your habit has value to you. Consider methods for replacing it with something healthy that you enjoy.

Take up new passions. When you give up a bad habit, you create empty time in your schedule. Begin a good habit by developing new interests or rekindling old ones. New interests will help distract you during those first weeks when the urge to engage in the bad habit is strongest.

Improving health and fitness levels requires steady progress. One of the most difficult barriers to success in behavior change is maintaining consistency. As we look for ways to improve our health and fitness levels, here are a few more ideas to help you stay on track beyond the first few weeks.

Set a realistic goal - know WHAT you want to accomplish.

Develop a plan - determine HOW you want to accomplish your goal. Choose activities you enjoy, but be willing to try a new and creative activity. Being creative will keep you from getting bored.

Establish a timeline - decide WHEN you want to accomplish your goal. This will help to keep you on track.

Stay motivated - identify WHY you want to accomplish your goal. Each day recall the benefits of

a healthy and fit life. Give yourself reminders to exercise, eat right, and make the changes you have committed to doing.

Start small - begin with goals you know you can achieve to give you initial success. Gradually add more difficult tasks to your regular routine. Prevent possible injuries by increasing activity slowly and include warm-up and cool-down periods in any exercise program.

Accept relapses and move on - recognize your personal barriers and realize that things will interfere with your plan, but realize it is by choice not failure. When the unexpected happens and you are unable to exercise, begin again as soon as you are able. If you do have a setback from an illness or injury, don't be discouraged - you can regain your strength.

Get support - family and friends can be a great source of encouragement and accountability to keep you committed to your goals. Find physical activities that your family can do with you.

See yourself as an achiever - belief in yourself and your ability to accomplish your goals is crucial. Keep a positive outlook - you can do this!

As the old year passes away and the New Year begins, it is important to acknowledge that we have a great deal of control over our health and our quality of life. By following healthy lifestyle choices now through regular physical exercise, good nutrition, avoidance of smoking, moderate use of alcohol, and stress management, a person can avoid disability and physical dependency. The lifestyle choices that you make each day are more important than genetic factors in contributing to your health status.

Remember that it is never too late or too early to adopt healthful lifestyle habits! Whether you want to improve your eating habits, increase your physical activity, stop smoking, or wear your seat belt more faithfully, the key is to take steps to start now - don't wait - make 2001 a healthier year for you to enjoy!

Holiday events at the chapel

The following is the schedule of holiday events taking place at the chapels in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas:

Aberdeen Area:

Catholic:

Dec. 24 Christmas carols (choir) 11:30 p.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 24 Midnight mass 12 a.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 25 Christmas Day mass 9 a.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 31 Mary, Mother of God mass 5 p.m. Main Chapel

Protestant:

Dec. 17 Christmas Cantata 7 p.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 24 Candlelight service 6 p.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 31 Watchnight service 9 p.m. Main Chapel

Edgewood Area

Catholic:

Dec. 16 Stable mass 7 p.m. Post Stables

Dec. 16 Reception 8 p.m. Activity Room

Dec. 24 Family mass/children's Pageant 5 p.m. Main Chapel

Dec. 25 Christmas Day mass 11 a.m. Main Chapel

Protestant: No schedule at this time.

ECBC nets food, gifts for SBCCOM Holiday Food and Toy Drive

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

An effort that began 14 years ago as a means of improving the morale of workers during a time of upheaval has blossomed into an annual goodwill effort for families in need during the holiday season.

The U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command's Holiday Food and Toy Drive culminated on Dec. 13 with a gathering at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Command headquarters on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Dr. James Baker, ECBC deputy director, hosted the event.

The programs' special guest was Col. Edward Newing, SBCCOM chief of staff, acting on behalf of Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and SBCCOM.

Newing said the Holiday Food and Toy Drive has endured because "it's all about people."

"We are concerned with reaching out and touching people though it is sometimes difficult," Newing said. "In times of crisis, we are always amazed by the level of generosity in people. This is just one manifestation of that generosity."

This year's ceremony was dedicated to the drive's founder, Diane Herron, a former employee who died of cancer in 1999.

Joseph H. Zarzycki, director of ECBC and technical director of SBCCOM, addressed the gathering via a taped video message. On it, Zarzycki recalled the circumstances that brought about the annual event.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

U.S. Army Soldier Biological and Chemical Command Food and Toy Drive 2000 stuffed animals hold on to their humans during the holiday reception in the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Berger Building. In its 14th year on the Edgewood Area, the annual drive was dedicated to the memory of its founder, the late Diane Herron. From left, Victor Arca, ECBC director of management and stimulant test facility, Col. Edward Newing, SBCCOM chief of staff, Merlin Erickson, ECBC director of engineering and Dr. James Baker, ECBC deputy director.

"He who gives, receives," Zarzycki said. "No one knew that better than Diane Herron."

He said Herron was the chief of the administration office in 1987. Due to impending funding cuts resulting in low morale, Zarzycki said he suggested coming up with something that would "restore morale and build esprit de corps."

"Diane's idea was for something that would help us and others," Zarzycki said.

The entire organization soon

got caught up in the spirit, Zarzycki added, recalling how he would find scientists and engineers on the floors in their laboratories assembling toys.

"Their spirit and enthusiasm rebuilt self esteem and morale in the organization and that tradition continues today," Zarzycki said. "Just as Diane predicted, we feel better about ourselves because of what we do for others. The SBCCOM Holiday Food and Toy Drive is her lega-

cy."

Baker presented a plaque in Herron's memory to her mother, sister and two of her three children who were present for the commemoration. Herron's mother, Rose Kahl of Fallston, and her sister, Annie Kirby of Darlington, said they were proud of Herron's legacy.

"She was a wonderful person. She left a wonderful legacy here and in her daughters," Kahl said. "I think it's wonderful that

they remember her in this way," added Kirby. "It's nice to know she was so well liked."

Herron's daughters, Michelle, 17 and Christina, 16 were accompanied by their guardian, Jeanette Muehleisen, their mother's lifelong friend. Their 22-year old brother Andy was unable to attend the ceremony.

"Dianne had a lot of good friends and she loved helping people. To know her was to love her," Muehleisen said.

"We will never forget her," added Michelle Herron. "It's nice to know they won't either."

The 2000 SBCCOM Food and Toy Drive committee members were Barbara Knapp, co-chair, Mary Ann Ricketts, co-chair, Alton McDaniel, Ann Parks, Debra Stark, Emily Fowler, Frances Chubb, Georgia Braun, Helen Mearns, Phyllis Ostrom, Robyn Litle, Rose Pope, Victor Arca and Zada Stallings.

"Worker bee" manages time to help others

By Sheila Little
APG News

If you want to help volunteer organizations on APG, but just can't find the time, ask December's volunteer how she does it all.

Julie Koob finds the time to prepare for the holidays, work 40 hours a week, run a successful home business, and be a dedicated community volunteer. In addition, she manages to remain a supportive wife to Sgt. Keith Koob of the Provost Marshal's Office, and is an involved mother, participating in a weekly playgroup with their 3 year-old son, Billy, and other parents and children of the community.

The School Street resident arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground in August of last year, and got involved with the Military and Civilian Spouses Club as soon as the family settled in quarters. Serving this year as the first vice president of the MCSC, the busy volunteer is in charge of arranging all programs for the monthly luncheons.

Adapting her schedule to suit that of others, Koob works four 10-hour days each week, reserving one work day for assisting with the playgroup, arranging MCSC programs, or helping during special fund-raising events, such as the club's annual apple pie sale in October or the Christmas gift wrap in December.

"I love volunteering because it's a great way to get involved in the community," Koob said, and added that in addition to the friendships and bonds forged through working with others, some rewards are visible.

"All the funds we raise go back into the military community," she said.



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

APG's December volunteer of the month, Julie Koob, wrap packages in the foyer of the main exchange. Koob joined other Military and Civilian Spouses Club members wrapping gifts for donations to benefit the organization's welfare and scholarship fund. Over the past several years, non-profit organizations and units continue the tradition of wrapping gifts for donations at the APG Main Exchange.

Shirley Clemmons, MCSC newsletter chairperson, said Koob is a successful program chairperson because she takes the interests of club members into consideration as she carefully organizes, plans and executes her duties in a timely and complete manner.

"Julie is one of the most focused people I know. She has numerous responsibilities but doesn't neglect any of them. She definitely makes my job easier by always being punctual with her newsletter information," Clemmons said.

The chairperson added that everyone appreciates her organization and planning skills, and her reliability.

"Because Julie is behind it, we have wonderfully versatile programs every month," Clemmons said.

A military spouse for the past

six years, the Blackstone, Va., native assumed a leadership role as president of her family support group at Fort Greeley, Alaska, during the family's last assignment, but is equally at home participating as one of the workers.

Moira Kearney, president of the MCSC, nominated Kearney for her willingness to do what

needs to be done.

Kearney said Koob executed great leadership and organizational skills in planning programs for the year, two of which were the welcome coffee in September and the Oktoberfest the following month. Both were considered great successes by attendees. During the same two months, Koob helped with the apple pie sale and the club's basket bingo.

"She's very organized, keeps her committees updated and informed at all times, and is not easily rattled," said Kearney, who added that Koob is also "a great speaker, and fills in for me without a second thought."

Not the first to think one serving as vice president could easily assume the top position, Kearney said Koob has the skills to make a great club president; eager to work hard to support the group, and willing to lead.

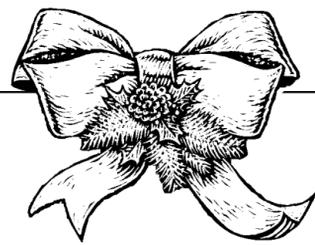
"She's one of our regular 'worker bees,'" she said.

For those interested in feeling like a part of the community, the APG 'hive' is looking for additional 'worker bees.' Call Alice Surette, APG's volunteer coordinator, at 410-278-5469, for information on volunteer positions available on the installation.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

A giant Tweety Bird dominates the scene in a pile of toys awaiting pick up in the Berger Building cafeteria.



HOLIDAY EARLY DEADLINES

The Aegis, Wednesday, Dec. 27th Edition
Business, Real Estate, PPT - Wednesday Dec. 20 • 12 Noon
Legals - Thursday Dec. 21 • 12 Noon
A, Sports - Thursday Dec. 21 • 5 PM
Classified Display - Friday, December 22 • 12 Noon
Classified Liners - Tuesday, December 26 • 10 AM

The Aegis, Friday, Dec. 29th Edition
PPT, Free Wheelin - Friday, December 22 • 12 Noon

APG News, Dec. 28th Edition

All Sections - Friday, December 22 • 12 Noon

Weekenders, Dec. 29th Edition

All Sections - Friday, December 22 • 12 Noon

The Aegis, Wednesday, Jan. 3rd Edition

Business, Real Estate, PPT - Wednesday Dec. 27 • 12 Noon
Legals - Thursday Dec. 28 • 12 Noon
A, Sports - Thursday Dec. 28 • 5 PM
Classified Display - Friday, December 29 • 12 Noon
Classified Liners - Tuesday, January 2 • 10 AM

The Aegis, Friday, Jan. 5th Edition

PPT, Free Wheelin - Friday, December 29 • 5 PM

APG News, Jan. 4th Edition

All Sections - Friday, December 29 • 10 AM

Weekenders, Jan. 5th Edition

All Sections - Friday, December 29 • 5 PM

The Business Office and the Classified Department will be closed Monday, December 25, 2000 & Monday January 1, 2001.

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