

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

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



Job Opportunities

There are a great many job opportunities available on post in Morale Welfare and Recreation, Non-appropriated Funds, and at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. There is currently a significant shortage of personnel to provide these services to soldiers, airmen, Marines, family members and retirees. Apply for AAFES positions at the Post Exchange, and for MWR positions in the basement of building 305.

Gas Mask Dash

Mark your calendars for today at 5:30 p.m. to participate in the 18th Annual Gas Mask Dash to be held in the Edgewood Area. Proceeds will go to the Chemical Corps Regimental Association and Chemical Corps Museum. The women's race starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by the men's race at 6 p.m. The location of the race will be Hoyle Gymnasium on Austin Road. Sponsors of the two-mile footrace include the MATCOM Federal Credit Union, the U.S. Army Soldier, Biological and Chemical Command and Renaissance All-Sports Athletic Club (RASAC). The entry fee is \$10; for ages 14 and under, the entry fee is \$8. T-shirts will be available to all entrants. For more information, call Maj. Donna Rutten, 410-436-8788, or Kathy DeWeese, 410-436-5253.

Fire victims' fund

The three families affected by the fire on Sept. 9 have separate accounts at the APG Federal Credit Union for donations. The accounts have been set up under the Fire Relief Fund. Specific donations to a family should be made through their individual funds, and donors are recommended to go to their organization. Otherwise, donations to the general fund will be divided among the three families involved. Anyone wanting to make monetary donations should contact 1st Lt. Angela Shackelford, 410-278-1889.

See SHORTS, page 2

389th entertains hundreds at Millennium Concert

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Saturday's cool weather did not deter the hundreds who attended the City of Aberdeen's Millennium Concert at Aberdeen High School.

Young and old, on blankets and in lawn chairs, covered the school's front lawn for the show featuring local musicians and vocalists and highlighted by a 30-minute fireworks display.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), joined by singers from the U.S. Army Band Chorale in Washington, D.C., performed the Armed Forces Day concert that was cancelled May 20.

As promised, the band closed with the 1812 Overture accompanied by the firing of Howitzers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's salute battery.

Law enforcement authorities estimated that more than 600 people were on hand at various times throughout the day.

"People have been coming and going as the performers change. We expect close to 2,000 will have moved through the area before it's over," said Aberdeen Police Sgt. Jesse B. Stacey.

A patrol supervisor, Stacy headed a special detail of seven officers in addition to the regular shift of officers on hand for crowd and traffic control.

"We have to be prepared for a large crowd and so far it's been pretty uneventful," Stacey said. "That will all change when the



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jerry L. Standridge conducts the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) during the City of Aberdeen's Millennium Concert last Saturday, at Aberdeen High School. Local musicians and vocalists also performed in the daylong event that was highlighted by a 30-minute fireworks display.

concert is over," he grinned, referring to the large number of vehicles parked in the area.

The band performed old and new favorites. Always a crowd-pleaser, "Jumpin Jivin' Joe," was performed by the Jazz Ensemble, conducted by Sfc. Bruce Malone.

The Chorale joined with the band to perform a newer selec-

tion. They sang "Duel of the Fates," from the latest Star Wars saga, "The Phantom Menace," to the delight of numerous fans in the audience.

"I really enjoy their music," said David Dishong, the father of band member, Sgt. Tim Dishong, a French horn player. Dishong drove down from his

Pennsylvania home to enjoy the music and watch his son perform.

A lover of Big Band music, and a musician himself, Dishong said he enjoys playing but likes listening to his son more.

"I guess you could say he got his talents from me," he said.

Several concessions were set up near the lawn, offering pop-

corn, sodas, and hot dogs to hungry concert-goers.

At one stand, parents of AHS band members also sold baked goods, decorator candles and McDonald's coupon books. The parents were out to raise money for the school's band, chorus and orchestra to travel to Europe over the holiday season.

"They've been invited to Europe to march in the Queen of England's Millennium New Year's Parade," said band mom, Pat Shaffer. "It costs about \$1600 per person and about 100 students are going."

"It's a great honor to be asked and they are all looking forward to the experience," she added.

Students and parents are due to leave Aberdeen Dec. 28 and return Jan. 4.

Cheryl Lundy, who has twin daughters in the band, said that there are more fund raising activities planned between now and then.

"A car wash and flea market is set for Sept. 23, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. here, at the school," Lundy said. "We're nearing our goal and would really appreciate all the help we can get from the community."

For more information about the AHS music department's trip to Europe, call 410-273-6579.

ATC test new electric and hybrid-electric vehicles



(Photo courtesy of ATC)

The proof-of-concept Joint Tactical Electrical Vehicle built for the Marine Corps is put through its paces at the Aberdeen Test Center's Munson Test Area.

By Mike Cast
DTC Public Affairs Office

To increase the fuel economy of military vehicles and reduce the need to refuel them, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) began funding a program in fiscal year 1993 to develop electric and hybrid-electric military vehicles. The hybrid design, which enables a vehicle to run on either fuel or via electric motors using batteries, is finding increasing application in military vehicles such as the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), known popularly as the "Humvee."

Collaborative research and development efforts, involving several government and municipal agencies throughout the United States as well as private-sector manufacturers, led to proof-of-concept tests of various vehicles designed for military use.

Two versions of a hybrid "Humvee" and one Joint Tactical Electrical Vehicle (JTEV) devel-

See HYBRID, page 14

Army Benefits Center - Civilian

Effective Oct. 11, employees seeking information about their federal benefits or wanting to make changes to their federal benefits should contact the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C). ABC-C will administer all benefits, including Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB), Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). The APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Benefits Office will assist employees until Oct. 10.

Beginning Oct. 11, appropriated fund civilian employees will be able to review and make changes to their federal benefits by using a touch tone telephone or the Internet.

"The Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C), located in Fort Riley, Kan., provides responsive quality service that enables all appropriated fund civilian employees to manage their benefits and entitlements," said William Lowe, Director of the APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

The ABC-C allows employees to make changes to Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance and the Thrift Savings Plan. Employees will also be able to request estimated retirement computations and obtain retirement application forms from ABC-C.

"The ABC-C is a fast, convenient self-service system that allows employees to obtain general benefits information, access personal benefits information and conduct benefits transactions," he said.

Employees will be able to access ABC-C through the

See ABC-C, page 6

EA communications infrastructure upgraded to better serve community

By Shelia Little
APG News

Communications infrastructure in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground is undergoing an upgrade, as a new building recently was installed on the installation to better serve the community.

The largest of four communications huts in the Edgewood Area, building E-3461, was assembled in four sections on Aug. 23, as the concrete building sections were trucked in and set in place with coordination from installation personnel and contractors, and with the help of a 150-ton crane. The building, with individual pieces weighing nearly 150,000 pounds and measuring 28 feet by 20 feet, comes with humidity and temperature sensors and an air-conditioning system to protect the sophisticated communications equipment it houses.

See COMMUNICATION, page 6



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Construction hut building E-3461 was assembled in sections and delivered by four tractor-trailers on Aug. 23. Here, the first section is lifted into place by a special all-terrain crane weighing 150 tons.

APG Pollution Prevention Fact of the Week

To conserve water, turn off the water while brushing your teeth.



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

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page**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.

Improve your English skills

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes will be held for those just needing a refresher course, or for those with little or no English speaking and writing skills. Registration will be today, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays until Oct. 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754. The class offers foreign-born adults an opportunity to improve their English comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing skills. For registration, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-3137.

Plan to donate blood on Sept. 25

Sign up for the Red Cross Blood drive on Sept. 25, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the BRL Hall, building 330. To make an appointment, call SSgt. Darla Laing, 410-278-5843, or send email to dlaing@arl.army.mil. BRL Hall, building 330 is located at the intersection of Longs Corner Road and Tower Road. Building 330 is normally in a secured area, but will be directly accessible from Tower Road without going through normal security procedures for the blood drive.

ECF seeks historical information

The ECF is interested in recovering their roots as a Christian ministry to the Edgewood community. It is known that their history goes back at least 40 years when it was under the leadership of Col. Joseph Blair, then commanding medical officer of Institute of Chemical Defense. The name then was "Protestant Men of the Chapel" and it was military. Over the years it became a mixture of military and civilian men and women. To share information call Bob Doherty at 410-436-1759 or e-mail at rwdohert@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

APG chapel programs begin new season

The Edgewood Christian Fellowship (ECF), a non-denominational gathering of Christian believers, will begin its new season of sharing the Gospel message on Sept. 27. This month's guest speaker is Chaplain Maj. Ernest L. Vermont, 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain who will speak on "Spiritual Warfare from a Military Perspective." The ECF meets the fourth Wednesday of every month in the EAC Chapel, building E-4620 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For luncheon reservations call 410-436-4109 by noon Sept. 26. For more information call Bob Doherty at 410-436-1759 or e-mail rwdohert@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

PTA needs volunteers

Roye-Williams Elementary School needs volunteers for this year's 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.

Cub Scouts Pack 924 seeks volunteers

Cub Scouts Pack 924 is seeking volunteers to support the leadership of its future Boy Scouts. Anyone who would like to contribute their support, please call Ellen DiCuirci, 410-272-5349. Your help is greatly appreciated. You do not need to be a parent to be a leader.

Susquehanna Toastmasters meet

Susquehanna Toastmasters meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, at the Top of the Bay, from 11:45 a.m.-12:50 p.m. For more information call Doug Strand, 410-306-0813, Regina Iser, 410-278-1294, or William Watson, 410-278-1310.

AEC Chief Speaks on Range Inventory

Col. Stanley Lillie, commander, U.S. Army Environmental Center, will give an update on the USAEC Range Inventory, beginning at 11:30 a.m. today, at Top of the Bay. The occasion is the meeting of the Chesapeake Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). More information contact Donna Vereb at 301-982-2867.

NAF vehicle and equipment sale

The Installation Morale Welfare and Recreation Fund is offering vehicles and equipment for sale. Items include a 1987 Chevy Caprice V-8 engine and a 1987 three-quarter ton Chevy Panel Van V-8 engine (no minimum bid for both); a 1989 vending trailer (no

minimum bid); and two scoreboards (minimum bid \$500 each). The vehicles and equipment will be sold by sealed bids. Interested patrons can view the vehicles at Supply Branch, building 2314, 8 a.m.-noon, Monday through Thursday, until Sept. 21.

POC for vehicle and equipment inspection is Preston E. Hill, 410-278-7217/8931. Payment may be made by cash, check or credit card. Purchaser must remove property within 72 hours after contacted. All bids will be mailed in or turned in to: DCFA Support Services Division, building 305, 1st floor West Wing, ATTN: Preston Hill. All bids must be received by close of business Sept. 26. There will be no refunds. Vehicles and equipment will be sold as is.

New counseling hours at EA Education Center

Due to a temporary personnel shortage, the Edgewood Area Education Center counseling office will be closed on Tuesdays on an interim basis. Counseling hours until further notice: Tuesday, closed; Thursday (only) 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Hours of operation for the AA Education Center remain unchanged. In addition, the EA Army Learning Center's hours have changed. The Learning Center will be open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and will close every other Friday. For more information, call Rosalind C. Strickland, 410-278-3385.

Aberdeen Gate closed for block party

The Aberdeen entrance gate to APG will be closed from noon-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14. The gate will remain closed during this time period for the City of Aberdeen's Block Party.

FEHB Pre-tax benefits

Effective Oct. 8, employees' pre-tax dollars can pay Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) premiums. Under the FEHB Premium Conversion (HB-PC), health benefits premiums will be deducted from employees' pay before taxes are deducted. Therefore, employment taxes will be reduced and employees will take home more of their pay. The HB-PC will be automatic for all employees. Employees who do not wish to participate must complete a waiver. Instructions for completion of HB-PC waiver will be provided when received in the APG CPAC. Employees may access the latest information concerning HB-PC on OPM's web site, www.opm.gov/insure/health/pretaxfehb. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Outreach Office offers stockpile information

Get answers about how the Army is safely eliminating the mustard agent stockpile stored at APG. Call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office located at 1011B Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood. The Outreach Office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 410-676-6800 or visit the website at www-pmcd.apgea.army.mil.

Thrift Shop to hold yard sale

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop will hold a yard sale on Oct. 7 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bring your own table; cost is \$10 per space. Sign up at the AA Thrift Shop, building 2485, or call 410-297-9614.

Help available for workers' compensation

The Workers' Compensation Program is located in the Installation Safety Division, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, building 4304, first floor. Walk-ins are welcome between 8 a.m. and noon. All other appointments are scheduled between 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the exception of the Garrison's every other Friday off. The phone number is 410-306-1091; phone calls will be returned within 72 hours. If you have problems in scheduling appointments, contact Susie Ashby, 410-306-1057.

ACS needs volunteer drivers

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.

Give up nicotine

Nicotine Anonymous, a 12-step program for smoking cessation, meets Wednesdays, 7 p.m., in Bel Air at the First Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of Main Street and Broadway, across from Klein's Supermarket. For information, call 410-939-0803.

Ordnance to be destroyed

APG's Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, in conjunction with Aberdeen Test Center, is destroying unexploded ord-

nance at a remote area in the Aberdeen Area. The destruction does not include chemical warfare munition, and will be conducted on Fridays and Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For more information, contact George Mercer, acting chief, APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147 or 1-800-688-8705.

Family Housing Office hours

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

For more information call 410-306-2010.

Hours expanded for testing

Academic testing at the Edgewood Area Education Center is offered two full days instead of the previous Tuesday half-day service, for soldiers, family members and civilians. Counseling and testing services are available Tuesdays, noon-8 p.m., and Thursdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 410-436-2166 or 410-278-3515 for details.

WBI opens new branch office

The Women's Business Institute has opened a new branch office on the campus of Harford Community College. WBI will have a counselor available in partnership with the Small Business Resource Center, offering counseling services to start-up and expanding businesses. The Women's Business Institute, through the SBRC, also offers loan-packaging services. For more information or to make an appointment, call 410-836-4237.

AMC decorator show house

The American Cancer Decorator Show House, Rochelle Mansion, 2500 Rochelle Drive, Fallston, Md., will be open for tours through Sunday, Sept. 24. Proceeds from the tour will benefit cancer research at the AMC Cancer Research Center and the Pediatric Oncology Division of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Daily tours will be conducted from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; on Thursday, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Sunday, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Decorator Sales and Shop hours are one-half hour past show house closing time. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$10 by calling 410-879-8915 or 410-638-6767 or \$12 at the door. Ticket sales locations include Celebrations Beauty Shop, Aberdeen; Preston's, Bel Air; and Violets, Bel Air Plaza. No high heels, photography, infants and children under 10 permitted inside the Show House.

NOTE: The show house is not wheel chair accessible; for reasonable accommodations, call Mike Watkins, 410-638-4899. For more information, call the show house at 410-877-8792.

APG Tutorial Program volunteers needed

The post is seeking support for the APG Tutorial Program, which provides volunteer tutors to assist local secondary school students who are having difficulty in school.

Counselors in each school select students who need help, want help and can benefit from tutorial assistance. The counselor informs the student's parents of the program. The parents contact the APG program coordinator, who selects an appropriate tutor from the list of volunteers. The tutor contacts the student's family to set up a mutually agreeable place and schedule for help. Most tutors meet with their students for an hour or two each week until the student is on track, usually within two months. No teaching experience is necessary to participate.

Call Wanda Pelt, Army Community Service, 410-278-7474, or William Starke, 410-436-2712. Call ACS to receive a volunteer registration form.

American Citizenship Class

The Army Community Service will offer a Relocation Class for persons preparing to take the test for American Citizenship given by Immigration and Naturalization.

The Citizenship Class will be held 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays only, from Oct. 3-Nov. 21, at ACS, building 2754 (no class will be held on Oct. 31). All sessions are taught by Harford Community College instructors. Certificates are awarded at the end of the course. The class covers citizenship procedures, application, American history and the Constitution. Students also can improve their English speaking and reading skills in a supportive environment.

To register for the class, call Marilyn Howard, Relocation Program manager, 410-278-3137.

Need a lawyer?

If you need a power of attorney, stop by building 310, wing 2, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and every other Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Use the computer in the Legal Assistance Office to prepare the power of attorney, with help from a notary public.

For more information call, 410-278-1583/1584.

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.

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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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PVT. MURPHY'S LAW

Automotive Craft Center features price break for patrons

By Sheila Little
APG News

If you possess a little automobile maintenance savvy, enjoy working in a well-equipped environment among those with similar interests, and appreciate saving money, the APG Automotive Craft Center is worth visiting. Located in building 2379, the shop features two body-lift bays, two half-lift bays among the 19 areas available for oil changes, tire rotations, or more extensive work like engine repair or body work. Open to installation residents, military, and civilian and contractor employees, the shop offers basic and specialty tool rental, certified mechanics to provide assistance to those with less experience, access to fluid, tire and parts disposal, and overnight parking.

"This is a great place to catch up on your vehicle maintenance," Cal Adams, manager of the center, said. "We've got the tools, equipment and expertise to assist in most maintenance projects."

Adams said the shop is a self-help facility, meaning patrons should have a good idea of what they are doing before tackling a project, but the center's knowledgeable staff of three full-time

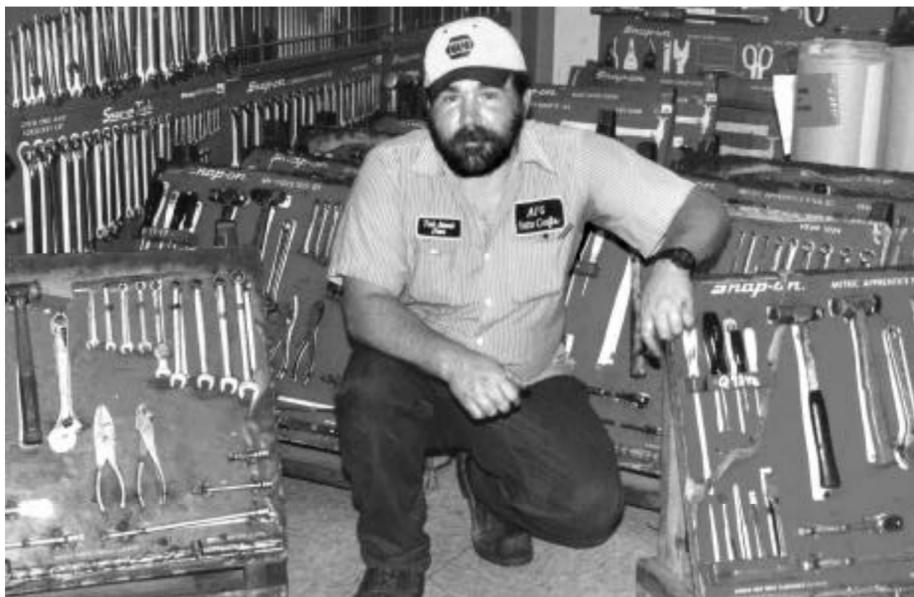


Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Automotive Craft Center employee Dave Hall displays a few of the tools available to use while at the shop. The center is featuring a back-to-school special, \$1 off the price of all bay fee rentals, Wednesday, Sept. 27-Saturday, Sept. 30, as a price break for those who recently purchased school supplies. The shop is open Wed.-Fri., noon-9 p.m., Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

and two part-time employees includes an instructor of auto mechanics who helps out when customers need assistance.

The manager said that in addition

to the space to work, available equipment and staff, the center includes a booth for vehicle painting with special ventilation, assuring both safety and ease in

application. The facility also includes disposal areas for oil, scrap metal and tire recycling.

Adams said the shop is offering a back-to-school special of \$1 off

all bay fees, Wednesday to Friday, Sept. 27-29.

Adams said the back-to-school special is designed to give patrons some financial relief after purchasing much-needed school clothing and supplies for family members.

Some of the services available and their corresponding fees include: a general bay fee of \$3 per hour, \$4 per hour for the lift bay, \$5 per tire for the computer wheel balancer, \$8 per hour or \$35 per day for the paint booth, \$3.50 per battery for the battery charger, \$9 per wheel for the brake lathe, \$1.50 per valve for the valve grinder, \$8 for 30 minutes of welding, \$3.50 per car for the brake bleeder, and \$2 each to dispose tires.

In addition, overnight parking is available for \$3 per night for patrons who make prior arrangements for major work and for those who are unable to complete a project before the shop closes for the day.

The Automotive Craft Center is open Wednesday through Friday, noon- 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Call 410-278-2884, during business hours, for more information.

CWF to sponsor trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund will be sponsoring the following trip:

Nov. 24-26, weekend in Cape May. Take a carriage ride through the Victorian town on the shore. Cost for a townhouse is \$278 for a single occupant, \$306 for a double, \$335 for triple occupancy or \$362 for quad occupancy. The price for an efficiency is \$184 for a single occupant, \$212 for double occupancy, \$240 for triple occupancy and \$268 for quad occupancy. Prices are for total number of occupants.

Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

REPLACING STEAM LINES

Whiteford Contracting is replacing steam lines along Tower Road, from building 315 to building 331. Work will continue through October. Construction barricades have been placed to make drivers aware of the area. Drivers should use caution. For details, call Richard B. Dunham, 410-278-0370.

BG&E TO INSTALL NEW GAS LINES

BG&E will install a natural gas line along Edgewood Road (Md. Route 755) from Hanson Road to the Edgewood Gate (Wise Road). Construction work will take place from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. through Nov. 1. Traffic will be restricted to one lane. The road will be open for two-way traffic before 9 a.m. and after 3:30 p.m. For more information, call James Kirk, 410-278-8693.

BUILDINGS TO BE DEMOLISHED

Environmental Demolition Services of Baltimore has been contracted to demolish APG World War II-era buildings and other structures. Approximately 50 buildings will be torn down during a one-year period. Demolition areas are off limits to everyone except contractor personnel and some government personnel. Aberdeen Area buildings to be demolished include buildings 5552, 3036 (Reveille Gym), 3031, 4027, 3506, 3507 and 3711. Edgewood Area buildings include E-5238, E-4310, E-3551 and E-3242. For details, call Richard B. Dunham, 410-278-0370.

Revitalization planned for EA Protestant service

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

attendance is being attributed to a flurry of new programs and ideas designed to "revitalize and develop a stronger Christian community."

The purveyor of this change is Chaplain (Maj.) Ernest L. Vermont, a recent addition to Aberdeen Proving Ground's Unit Ministry Teams and chaplain for the 61st Ordnance Brigade.

Vermont said he wants people who live or work in the area to

know "there is an active-duty chaplain who wants to help their religious needs."

"I'm hoping we can get people into a program that is worthy of their time and commitment," Vermont said.

He added that the vision for the future of the chaplaincy coincides with that of Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Gaylord T. Gunhaus, chief of Army Chaplains, to develop stronger Christian communities

Army wide.

Vermont was given the task of revitalization by Deputy Installation Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Kenneth Kolenbrander.

He said he plans to implement new programs that offer a fresh perspective to spiritual "training."

One of the programs, "Survival Tactics for New and Used Christians," starts Sept. 24, 10:30-11:15 a.m., following the chapel's 9:30 a.m. service.

Vermont said the program is a Bible-study session for adults that will focus on "how to fight the fight of faith."

"Preparing to be a soldier and preparing to be spiritually sound is a tremendous combination," Vermont said. "I'm interested in showing the community that soldiers can be Christians, and followers of Christ can be soldiers."

He added that soldiers must be spiritually fit for the physical and spiritual battlefield.

"Life is a war zone. We want to better prepare people in a way that can only help the community."

In the three months he has been here, Vermont said he has been networking with people in the community to learn their insights on the history of the service and to ascertain their ideas of what an improved program should provide.

"Retirees are an important part of the Chapel," Vermont said. "I wanted to pick their brains to learn what the organization has done in the last 30 years."

He said he found that the service once was full and thriving and that many people are eager to see its return.

"We encourage soldiers and civilians to come visit and see what we're doing," Vermont said. "There may be a large group of families out there that do not attend any service."

"We have shared our intentions with the post leadership and we look forward to working with them," Vermont said.

He added that he looks forward to working with Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and SBCCOM Command Sgt.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Chaplain (Maj.) Ernest L. Vermont, 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain stands at the pulpit at the Edgewood Area Chapel.

Major Carlos M. Estronza who have endorsed his ideas.

Chaplain (Capt.) Tricia Gilbert, from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion UMT, now maintains a full-time presence at the battalion, and at the chapel is Father John J. Bauer of the Catholic ministry. Vermont said the two would continue their roles as he oversees chaplain programs. Also, incoming Chaplain (Maj.) Bill Knight, will tend to the organizations' physical needs such as logistics.

"We have been permitted to provide pastoral ministry to this community. Together we can increase the breadth of the Protestant community," Vermont said, adding that his first responsibility is to fulfill his role as the 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain under the guidance of the brigade commander, Col. John "Rocky" Hills.

Vermont also plans to establish a children's Junior Church, a men's program called "Men in Demand, and a Christian Charm course in February.

"We want a full spectrum of programs for all age groups," he said. "Hopefully we can draw people who would not otherwise come to the chapel."

Already, the change is taking shape and is being welcomed by parishioners.

Retired 1st Sgt. Epreval Weeks is a lay leader for the Protestant

service. He said he has been attending the EA service since 1985 and agreed it has seen better days.

"I think these changes will be good for the congregation and the community," Weeks said, adding, "people will appreciate the friendly, comfortable atmosphere here."

Walter Davis, a retired colonel and former deputy commander of the old Edgewood Arsenal is the chief usher and head of the lay leaders. He has been a member since 1965.

"We look forward to a change," Davis said. "At one time we had many more congregants and complete programs including youth services and Protestant Women of the Chapel.

He added that attendance is on the rise and that Vermont is "a big factor" in the reason for it.

"He and Chaplain Gilbert have made it clear they are willing to devote as much time as they can to help us grow. We're happy to have them," Davis said.

A relative newcomer to the congregation, Margaret Bell, said she and her mother, Lillian Jackson, began attending in August because of the chapel's proximity to her home in the town of Edgewood.

"This is our third service and every time we've enjoyed a good message," Bell said.

See CHAPLAIN, page 6

Community Action Committee held monthly meeting

Leaders shared information on issues concerning military, family members and retirees

By Sheila Little
APG News

The monthly meeting of the Community Action Committee was held Aug. 31 in the conference room of Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison headquarters. Joseph Craten, civilian deputy of APG Garrison, resided over the meeting in the absence of the deputy installation commander, Col. Robert J. Spidel.

Richard Nornhold, manager of the post commissary, said the new shelving, changes in locations of shelves, aisles, and items in the store were made to better serve the customer. Baby and toddler items including diapers and baby foods were among the items moved to an aisle in the main section of the store. He added that although it may take patrons a few visits to get used to the new locations of items, they were designed to make shopping easier. Maps detailing the location of popular store items are available on a revolving rack at the entrance of the store. Store personnel, wearing blue coats, are available for assistance.

“We are here to serve the military community,” Nornhold said, adding that those with questions regarding possible discontinued items or requesting new items should stop by the commissary office, or fill out customer request forms available in the office area. The store has a “100 percent return policy” on purchases including perishables deemed out of date or spoiled. Unsatisfactory perishables need not be returned to the store.

Col. Walter Egerton, commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, said the nurse triage system, which began in mid-July is working smoothly.

Those who use the new system can expect to get into the appropriate clinic faster, and to see their provider in a timely fashion. Nurse triage also provides suggestions for care before the patient is seen by a health professional,

offering the potential for a more comfortable wait.

John Shiroky, Army and Air Force Exchange Services Business Manager, said the contractor for the laundry and dry cleaner changed Sept 1. All items serviced under the previous contract can still be picked up at the same location.

He added that AAFES is offering special coupons to encourage retirees to use exchange facilities. He reminded all patrons that customers save an average of 20 percent by shopping in exchange facilities.

Addressing gasoline prices, Shiroky said AAFES surveys civilian gasoline stations within a 15-mile radius and matches the lowest prices. ‘Cash only’ gasoline stations are not included in the survey.

He added that AAFES also has a policy of opening five minutes before the posted opening time and closing five minutes after the posted closing time. Customers arriving within a few minutes of closing should not be rushed through their transactions.

Linda Holloway, representing the Directorate of Community and Family Activities, reminded attendees that school is starting and drivers need to use caution with the increase in bus traffic on post.

Holloway also said a seafood brunch is planned for Oct. 1 at Top of the Bay. The menu includes steamed and fried shrimp selections, baked cod with capers, raw clams and raw and steamed oysters, breakfast selections including omelets, french toast, sausage and bacon, and luncheon items including ham, beef, pasta, vegetables, salads, desserts and beverages. The cost is \$16.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children 6-11, and free for children under six. A choice of seatings, 9:30 -11:30 a.m. or 12:30-2:30 p.m. is offered. Make reservations no later than Sept. 27, by calling 410-278-3062/2552.

Holloway said over 9000 peo-

ple attended the recent Dog Days concert, featuring Alabama and Tracy Lawrence. The concert made \$122,000 to be returned to the APG community through programs and renovations.

Directorate of Law Enforcement and Safety’s Rob Krauer said speeding continues to be a problem. Those observing infractions are encouraged to get the tag numbers of the violators, make note of the time of violation, and report it to the military police. If dissatisfied with the response, report it to the office of the provost marshal, 410-278-0545.

APG’s voting assistance officer, Maj. Clifton Johnson, encourages all active duty soldiers and their voting age dependents to register for an absentee ballot if they will not be in their voting district on election day. Most tenants have a unit voting official to consult, or you may call Johnson, 410-278-3000. Retirees in Harford County should register in Bel Air, the county seat. Retirees living in other counties or in neighboring states should consult local officials for appropriate registration location and procedures.

Johnson said absentee ballot deadlines vary from state to state, so all should inquire now about the appropriate procedure. Those voting absentee must mail in their request within the next few weeks in order to receive a ballot, vote and return it before election day. If an absentee ballot listing national, state and local nominees is not received within 30 days of the general election, Nov. 7, contact Johnson for a generalized ballot which lists only those running in the national election, which is the presidential and vice presidential nominees.

Representing retirees, the president of the local chapter of The Retired Officers Association, Ed Kreiner, said TROA is organizing a surprise recognition on Nov. 3 for a local military retiree who served the nation for many years and continues to serve the local

community. The event will be open to the public and will include visits from state and local government officials, including a former governor. More information will be available later.

Director of Public Works representative Bob Weaver, previously the maintenance chief in the Aberdeen Area, is now the chief for both Aberdeen and Edgewood areas due to the retirement of Gene Worthington. He can be contacted at 410-278-5005 or 410-436-2067.

Baltimore Gas and Electric is installing a new gas line along route 755, from the Hanson Road intersection to the Edgewood Gate at Wise Road. Construction, which started after Labor Day, is expected to be completed by Nov. 1. During the hours of 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. the road will be open to one way traffic only. Questions or concerns are to be addressed to James Kirk, 410-278-8693, or Clark Scott, 410-306-1173.

DPW’s Housing Division representative Marilyn Spence, said the fencing in Skippers Point will be installed as soon as funds are made available.

Around the Neighborhoods

The mayor of one of the housing areas asked about the policy for families with special needs members. A family in her neighborhood needs either a first floor bedroom for their child or a ramp to their quarters.

“We have the authority to modify housing for special needs,” Spence said, adding that housing officials will work with the family to find an acceptable solution, since no units with first floor bedrooms are currently available.

Other resident representatives thanked those who increased traffic patrols in housing areas, cutting back on speeding and other violations, and said they were distributing the mulch that was dropped off for resurfacing the playground.

Master Sgt. Ulistar Harris, senior area coordinator of Skippers Point, said the reason that the mulch was still being spread on his neighborhood’s playground is because there are too few volunteers to do the work, therefore making the task a big job for a few people rather than a small job for many. He said he felt that the problem is not limited to just one neighborhood, but is prevalent on installations throughout the country. He expressed concern that the next neighborhood cleanup on APG may also involve few active-duty workers.

“The same people show up all the time,” he said. “Leaders need to instill in their soldiers ‘show up to clean-up.’”

Harris said during the spring cleanup he observed many work-

ing in their neighborhoods on weekends or after duty hours, and suggested neighborhood cleanup be scheduled during duty hours so soldiers can participate as their duty for the day.

Austin Road senior area coordinator Lt. Col. Frank Merritt, said he has observed several unhealthy foxes on the installation, and asked that humane traps be set to remove those with mange.

Krauer said in the past, trapping has resulted in the capture of mostly the healthy animals, but said personnel realize there is a problem and it will be addressed.

The next meeting of the committee will be Sept. 28, 9 a.m., in the conference room, building 305.

EA communications system updated

COMMUNICATION, from front page

The largest of the communications huts is part of a project to upgrade communications throughout the Edgewood Area of the installation, said Sharon Rutherford, an information management specialist, with the Garrison's Directorate of Information Management, who oversees APG communications in the Edgewood Area.

"This hut is part of a 3-year project to upgrade all the infrastructure in the Edgewood Area to better manage the telecommunications here," she said.

Rutherford added that additional upgrades have been established on Douglas, Fleming, and Bush River roads.

"This upgrade will provide centralized communication for personnel on the Edgewood Area and be connected back to the central office by underground cables and man-

holes," she said.

The underground communications system, forming a dual fiberoptic ring around the installation, includes gigabyte service, asynchronous transfer mode, centralized video bridging, and telephone service.

This is a three million-dollar investment in physical infrastructure during a time of lean budget years. A new digital switch will also be installed during the second quarter of fiscal year 2001 to better serve the integration of voice and data services. Avaya, formerly Lucent Technologies, will perform the replacement.

Acknowledging that many living or working in the Edgewood Area may have already noticed an improvement, Rutherford said the upgrade is scheduled to be fully operational throughout the installation, by the end of December.



Photo by Sheila Little

With safety in mind, this construction engineer's best friend donned safety glasses and hard hat before supervising the building placement. After inspecting, she pronounced the work a "doggone fine job."

Revitalization planned for EA Protestant service

CHAPLAIN, from page 4

Flo Evans, also from the town of Edgewood, agreed. A member for four years, Evans called the community's renewed interest in the service "heartening."

"More and more soldiers and civilians are coming to see what we're all about. "Every Sunday is bigger and better," Evans said.

Vermont said with the community's help, UMTs throughout APG can fulfill the Gunhaus vision and the motto of the Chaplain Corps: Pro Deo Et Patria; For God and Country.

Vermont comes to APG from Eisenhower Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Ga., where he served two years as the Substance Abuse Chaplain and one year as chief of Religious Operations and Training.

He was ordained in 1974 and is a Presbyterian minister with the Presbyterian Church USA.

After ministering in civilian pastorates for almost 14 years he served in the U.S. Army Reserve for four years and went active duty in 1987. Past assignments include the 10th

Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y., the 528th Artillery Group in Turkey during the Gulf War, in Fort Knox, Ky., and two assignments in Germany at Babenhausen and Kaiserslautern.

He is a graduate of the Clinical Pastoral Education Residency Program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The EA Protestant service meets Sunday mornings, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. For more information, call 410-436-4109 or 410-278-2994.

Employees to access their benefits

ABC-C, from front page

Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) by calling 1-877-ARMY CTR (1-877-276-9287) from a touch tone phone or 1-877-ARMY TDD (1-877-276-9833) for employees who require use of TDD. Employees will be prompted to enter their Social Security Number and four digit Personal Identification Number (PIN), which is their month and year of birth. Employees will be asked to replace their four digit PIN with a personalized PIN.

Employees can also access ABC-C through the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) at www.abc.army.mil. Employees will be prompted to enter their Social Security Number and four digit PIN (month and year of

birth), to be replaced by a personalized PIN. Personal Identification Numbers will be the same for telephone or computer access. Employees then will be asked to complete the Point of Entry Log In which requires Social Security Number, service computation date, date of birth, pay plan, grade and step. This information is available on the latest Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) or the Civilian Leave and Earnings Statement.

The Army Benefits Center gives employees the opportunity to access their personal benefits information and make changes to their benefits 21 hours a day, 7 days a week. Both systems are down between midnight and 3 a.m. Central Time.

"I am optimistic that the Army Benefits Center-Civilian will be a great asset to the civilian workforce," Lowe said.

"The Army Benefits Center-Civilian eliminates the requirement for employees to complete forms to make changes to their health benefits, life insurance and retirement," he said. "Changes can be made over the phone or the Internet in a few simple steps," he said.

APG's Channel 3 will be running a thirteen-minute video explaining the Army Benefits Center-Civilian on Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. and Thursdays at 10 a.m. until Oct. 31.

CPAC points of contact for additional information are Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, and Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

MWR UPDATE

Ceramics

A beginning ceramics class will be held on October 14th from 10 a.m.-1p.m. This is an introduction to mold pouring ceramics and will include some glazing and painting techniques. Cost is \$7 plus supplies.

Framing

A beginning matting and framing class will be held on Oct 26th from 5:30-9 pm. Students must bring an 8" x 10" picture to class to frame. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is located in building E-4440. The hours of operation are Thursday from 1-9 p.m. Students must pre register for classes as space is limited. For more information call 410-436-2153.

Sports & Fitness

HHC 16th rings up Echo Company, 20-6

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

In an heated battalion rivalry, last week, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion defeated Echo Company, 20-6 to maintain a share first place in the division with the Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

Echo Company, with an 0-1 start, played Charlie Company Monday night.

HHC 16th returning coach, Joe Jefferson, said the team, with only one returning player was "pretty much brand new."

"We've got a lot of new talent and we still intend to pick up where we left off as defending champions," Jefferson said.

"Our squad is outstanding this year," added Echo Company coach, Charles Wilson. "Some of these guys bring a lot of talent with them. We should be a force to reckon with."

The game started off fast and stayed that way with both teams tied at the half, 6-6.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

HHC 16th players surround two Echo Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion players as they try to advance the ball during American Division action last week. HHC 16th prevailed 20-6 over its battalion rival.

Echo Company quarterback, Chris Guillory's outstanding passing was not enough to keep his squad in the game.

HHC wide receiver, Timothy Switzer, running back Corry Allen and back up quarterback, Lester

Daniels, collaborated on several key plays, including two interceptions and two touchdowns, to hold Echo and advance to a 20-6 win.

Allen, who said he "played a little bit last year," said the team already is looking good for the

post season.

"It's a little bit early, and a lot of competitors want to take us out but it won't be easy," Allen said.

"They find that out every time they try to beat us," Jefferson added.

Intramural Football

The following results were reported for Intramural Flag Football for the week ending Sept. 15.

American Division

Results

Sept. 13
HHC 16th, 20; E Co. 16th, 6
NCOA, 28; HHC 61st, 6
B Co. 16th, 12; USMC, 6
C Co. 16th, 12; USAF, 6

Schedule

Sept. 25
6:30 p.m., HHC 61st vs. E Co. 16th
6:30 p.m., NCOA vs. USAF
7:30 p.m., A Co. 16th vs. B Co. 16th
7:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. C Co. 16th

Standings

HHC 16th	1-0
NCOA	1-0
B Co. 16th	1-0
C Co. 16th	1-0
E Co. 16th	0-1
HHC 61st	0-1
USMC	0-1
USAF	0-1

Edgewood Division

Results

Sept. 7
C Co. 143rd, 20; HHC 143rd, 6
A Co. 143rd vs. B Co. 143rd rescheduled

Schedule

Sept. 25
6:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. A Co. 143rd
7:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. 520th TAML
Sept. 27
6:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd vs. C Co. 143rd
7:30 p.m., 520th TAML vs. HHC 143rd

Standings

C Co. 143rd	1-0
HHC 143rd	0-1
A Co. 143rd	0-0
B Co. 143rd	0-0
520th TAML	0-0



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

SSgt. Ron Jupiter and his daughter Imani, 2 months, enjoy last week's flag football game between HHC and Echo Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion.

Intramural Football

The following results were reported for the Intramural Soccer League as of Sept. 15

Results

Sept. 7
HHC 16th, 1; B Co. 16th, forfeit
C Co. 16th, 2; B Co. 16th, 2
USMC, 5; A Co. 16th, 2

Schedule

Sept. 12
C Co. 16th, 4; A Co. 16th, 1
USMC, 3; C Co. 143rd, 3
B Co. 143rd, 2; HHC 16th, 2
Sept. 14
C Co. 143rd, 2; C Co. 16th, 1
A Co. 16th, 3; HHC 16th, 1
USMC, 1; B Co. 16th, forfeit

Schedule

Sept. 26

Edgewood Area

6:30 p.m., B Co. 16th vs. A Co. 16th
7:30 p.m., USMC vs. HHC 16th
8:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. C Co. 143rd
Sept. 28

Aberdeen Area

6:30 p.m., C Co. 143rd vs. A Co. 16th
7:30 p.m., B co. 143rd vs. B Co. 16th
8:30 p.m., USMC vs. C Co. 16th

MTMC CAR RENTAL AGREEMENT BENEFITS MILITARY AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ALIKE

By Susan Grendahl

Ever wonder what would happen if you were involved in an accident in a rental car on government travel? This is a concern for many military members and federal civilian employees. The United States Car Rental Agreement Program is managed by the Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC) and was established to protect you. Understanding the contract associated with this program can ease your worries about car rental accidents.

What the contract covers:

As part of the contract with the federal government, participating rental car companies offer damage insurance to federal employees and military members on TDY at no extra charge. Also known as a loss damage waiver, this insurance provides federal employees and military members with added protection for most accidents. The waiver provides coverage of \$300,000 per incident, \$100,000 liability per person and \$25,000 in property damage per incident. The rental car company assumes responsibility for all collision damage to any vehicles involved in the accident as well as liability for injuries, provided that the military members or federal employee driving the vehicle did not cause the damage through willful conduct or wanton negligence.

What the contract does not cover:

The rental car agency will not cover the loss or damage caused by one or more of the following: willful or wanton negligence on the part of a driver; obtaining the vehicle through fraud or misrepresentation; operation of the vehicle by a driver who is under the influence of intoxicants or any prohibited drugs; use of the vehicle for any illegal purpose; use of the vehicle in pushing or towing another vehicle; use or permitting the vehicle to carry passengers or property for hire; operation of the vehicle in live artillery fire exercises, or use in training for tactical maneuvers; operation of the vehicle in a test, race, or contest; operation of the vehicle by a person other than an authorized driver, operation of the vehicle outside the continental U.S. except where such use is specifically authorized by the rental agreement; operation across international boundaries unless specifically authorized at the time of rental; and operation of the vehicle off paved, graded, or maintained roads or driveways, except when the company has agreed in writing beforehand.

Tips for going TDY

1. If you are renting a vehicle, make sure that the rental car company participates in the MTMC contract before your finalizing the reservations.
2. Have your travel accommodations made through the travel office.
3. Make sure your TDY orders authorize use of a rental car.

Tips at the rental counter:

1. Give the rental car company a copy of orders that state that you are on government travel and are authorized a rental car.
2. Inform the rental car company if there will be more than one driver and provide name of the additional driver when applicable. All drivers must be

either a government employee or a military member and have orders authorizing a rental vehicle on official government travel.

3. Be sure to use your government credit card for rental fees.

Tips in the event of an accident:

1. Call the police at the scene of the accident and ask for a copy of the police report.
2. File a report with the rental car company.
3. Retain a copy of your TDY orders and rental car agreement.
4. Upon returning from TDY, inform your supervisor of the rental car accident.
5. Notify the local claims office. You may be asked to write a statement verifying that you were on government travel and to describe the events leading up to the accident.
6. If you receive any correspondence concerning the accident, contact the Claims Office.

Who pays in the end?

If it is determined that the damages/injuries incurred as a result of the accident are covered under the MTMC car rental agreement, the rental car company will pay for the associated costs and bills within the monetary limits of the contract. The U.S. Government will pay any cost exceeding the contractual limits if it determined that you were in the scope of your official duties and the accident was your fault. If the accident is not covered under the MTMC car rental agreement, the bills and costs for the rental car damage will be paid using your unit or office's travel funds.

Program Participants:

The following companies have signed the MTMC rental car agreement:

AAA Rent-A-Car, AAPEX Rent-A-Car, Able Rent-A-Car, Ace Rent-A-Car, Admiral Car Rental, Advantage Rent-A-Car, Alamo Rent-A-Car, All International Rent-A-Car, Allstate Rent-A-Car, Inc., Americar Rental System, Inc., Auto Rent, Avcar Rental, Inc., Avis Rent-A-Car, TerWay Car Rental, Budget Rent-A-Car, City Leasing & Rentals, Discount Car Rental, Dollar Rent-A-Car Systems, ECR European Car Reservations, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Getaway Rent-A-Car Systems, Inc., Hayat Car Rental Systems, Inc., The Hertz Corporation, Hertz Rent-A-Car (Panama), ITS International Travel Services of Broward, Inc., Jack Trebour Rental & Leasing, Kemwel Holiday Autos, IIC, Kenning Car and Van Rental, Ladki International Rent-A-Car, McRae Ford, Inc., Midway Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, Payless Car Rental Systems, Inc., Red & Blue Auto Rental Leasing, Southwest Car Rental, Thrifty Rent-A-Car System, Inc., U-Save Auto Rental of America, Inc., US Rent-A-Car.

For more information on MTMC rental contracts or other claims questions, consult a claims examiner or an attorney in the APG Claims Office in Building 310, Wing 2. To make an appointment, call 410-278-1591.

To see a copy of the rental car agreement, visit the website <http://www.mtmc.army.mil/> or <http://travel/car/agree.htm>.

Community Notes

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21 AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

The Chesapeake Post of the Society of American Military Engineers will hold its September meeting at 11:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay. Col. Stanley Lillie, commander, U.S. Army Environmental Center will present an update on the USAEC Range Inventory. For more information, call Donna Vereb, 301-982-2867.

WARRANT OFFICER ASSOCIATION

The Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will hold its monthly meeting at noon, at Top of the Bay. Lunch is "pay as you go" for those who choose to eat. This will be the last USAWOA meeting before Chapter President CW4 Pete Hill attends the regional meeting on Sept. 23 and the national meeting in October. Members should ensure that CW4 Hill is presented with any information on issues to be discussed at those meetings. For more information, call CW4 Hill or CW4 Jane Jones, 410-278-3170/3775.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22 LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The parents and adults of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Cheerleading program will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 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 Susan Sampson, 410-273-6210, or Melanie Blattner, 410-273-0191. Proceeds benefit the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Cheerleading program.

COUNTRY DANCING

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association sponsors Country Western dancing every Friday night at the American Legion on Parke St., Aberdeen. Dancing will be held from 7:30-11:30 p.m., lessons will be announced. Cost of admission is \$10. Everyone is welcome.

AA YOUTH CENTER NAIL CARE CLASSES

A class for girls age 12-18 will be held at 7 p.m. in the AA Youth Center, building 2522. This is the first of a six-week session on hair and skin care and personal hygiene. This session offers nail care tips and you can even get your nails done. The final class will be a "Mom and Me" session. For more information, contact Donna Woodards at 410-278-4995.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL DANCE

A Back-to-school dance for teens will be held at the AA Youth Center, building 2522 from 8-11 p.m. DeeJay Frank E. J. will be featured. Admission is \$3 and guests are welcome. For more information, contact Catherine Hanlon or Donna Woodards at 410-278-4995.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23

The Aberdeen Heritage Trust and the City of Aberdeen will sponsor Aberdeen Heritage Day, Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the historical site of Hall's Crossing at E. Bel Air Avenue and Old Post Road. Activities include a Pancake Breakfast at Hall's Cross Roads Elementary School, 8-10 a.m., an Apple Dessert Judging Contest, an Antique Car Show, antiques, crafts, art displays and entertainment by singer Ray Owen. For more information, contact Phyllis Brock at 410-272-1600.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27 TEEN DEEJAY CLUB

The AA Youth Center is forming a Teen DeeJay Club. The club will meet Wednesday and Friday nights from 6-8 p.m. The club is open to teens age 13-18. For more information, contact Catherine Hanlon or Donna Woodards at 410-278-4995.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, Sept. 28 from 7:00-9:45 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 citizens are invited. For more information, call 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29 MWR/BOSS PAJAMA PARTY

MWR and BOSS will sponsor a Pajama Party from 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326. All permanent party and civilians are welcome to come on out and get your party on. Entertainment provided by DJ Buggs. Price of admission costs \$7 and includes breakfast. Purchase your tickets at the AA Recreation Center, or see your local BOSS representative.

LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The parents and adults of the Harford Tech Booster Club will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall on Rogers St. 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 Carol Lynn Goldblum, 410-676-2797, Diane Williams, 410-692-0180, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. Proceeds benefit Harford Tech Booster Club.

TEEN LEADERSHIP

The Teen Supreme Keystone Club, for teens ages 14-18, who are interested in taking on an active role in the Aberdeen Youth Center, will meet at the center, building 2522 from 6-8 p.m.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30 SPECIAL CHARITY BINGO

American Legion Post 128, will hold a special Bingo with proceeds to benefit the fight against breast cancer. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.; early birds start at 6 p.m. Packages cost \$25 and include nine cards, one paper of each special (six), plus one jackpot, dinner and coffee. Additional packages cost \$10 without jackpot. The package does not include early birds, two quickies, either/or and winner

takes all. For more information, call 410-272-9822.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 1 SEAFOOD BRUNCH

Make your reservations now for APG's next Seafood Sunday Brunch. Two seatings will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-2:30 p.m. Cost for adults is \$16.95; \$6.95 for children ages 6-11; children 6 and under are free. To make reservations, call 410-278-3062/2552 by Wednesday, Sept. 27. The breakfast menu includes an omelet station, french toast, danish, muffins and cereal; the lunch menu will feature baked cod w/capers, spiced steamed shrimp, fried shrimp, raw oysters and clams, steamed clams, smoked bone-in ham, carved top round of beef, pasta, potatoes, rice, vegetables, salad with dressing, assorted desserts and beverage.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4 AWARDS PRESENTED TO CONTRACT MANAGERS

The Upper Chesapeake Chapter of the National Contract Managers Association (NCMA) will host an awards ceremony at the Gunpowder Club's Osprey Room at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, call Joan Hauser, 410-436-3577.

AWARDS PRESENTED TO CONTRACT MANAGERS

The Upper Chesapeake Chapter of the National Contract Managers Association (NCMA) will host an awards ceremony at the Gunpowder Club's Osprey Room at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, call Joan Hauser, 410-436-3577.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6 LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The parents and adults of the Aberdeen High School Music Department will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 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 Gaila Ahearn, 410-272-8154, Linda Thomas, 410-272-8417, or Ellen Smetand, 410-272-0270. Proceeds benefit the AHS Music Department.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7 EAOWC OKTOBERFEST

The Edgewood Area Officers Wives Club will hold an Oktoberfest at the Gunpowder, in EA. Doors open at 7 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$13 per person, or \$25 per couple. Cost of admittance includes German dinner, drinks music and dancing. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-676-8583 or 410-676-9142. The Oktoberfest is open to OWC members and their guests.

THRIFT SHOP YARD SALE

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop will hold a yard sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Bring your own table; cost is \$10 per space. Sign up at the AA Thrift Shop, building 2485, or call 410-297-9614.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 8 STROUPE/DEEL MEMORIAL GOLF

Exton Golf Course, Edgewood Area, will hold the annual Stroupe/Deel Memorial Golf Tournament at 1 p.m. Format will be a two-person male-female alternating shot, handicaps required. Cost is \$10 per person. A buffet will be provided following the tournament, cost is \$7 per person. For more information, call Gene Harris, 410-436-2213.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 10 HISPANIC HERITAGE

The annual Hispanic Heritage Month program will be held Oct. 10, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay. The guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Lester Martinez-Lopez, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Sfc. Shelton Torbert, APG garrison equal opportunity advisor, at 410-278-1534, SSgt. Michael Jackson, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic at 410-278-1749 or Al Cruz, U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit at 410-436-8529.

HEALTH PLAN REPTO VISIT

The APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has arranged for a claim representative of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 9-11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 211 (second floor) to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will be available in the Edgewood Area from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 14 LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The Good Shepherd Catholic School, 801 Aiken Ave., Perryville, Md. will hold Longaberger Basket Bingo at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.; food and drinks are available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (three cards), and \$5 for additional sets of three cards. For tickets, call the Good Shepherd School at 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. Proceeds benefit the Good Shepherd Catholic School.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21 ANNUAL HALLOWEEN DANCE

Help Maryland's Special Olympics scare up some money at the annual Halloween Dance from 7-11 p.m., at the Aberdeen American Legion Hall, 44 North Parke St., Aberdeen. Tickets cost \$15 each and includes dance, music, snacks and drinks. Food will be served by the Legion for a nominal fee. Costumes are optional, but prizes will be awarded for those who dare. Fun for all ages. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-836-5460.

MOVIES

Post Theater admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

SCARY MOVIE

Friday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m.
Starring: Shavyn Wayans, Marlon Wayans
It all starts with the murder of a beautiful high school classmate, after which a group of misguided teens - all played, of course, by 20-30 year old actors - discovers there is a killer among them. Heroine Cindy and her clique of clueless friends must protect themselves from danger ... and that pesky reporter Gail Hailstorm who just won't leave them alone! Sound familiar? It certainly is, but as the story gets under way, a series of gruesome and hilarious surprises blows the lid off the expected plot twists and turns them into something funny and twisted. (Rated R)

NUTTY PROFESSOR II: THE KLUMPS

Saturday, Sept. 23, 7 and 9 p.m.
Starring: Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson
Sherman thought he had seen the last of his alter-ego, but Buddy Love is back. Having done his best to keep Buddy buried in his subconscious, the portly professor is horrified to find him resurfacing in untimely outbursts, and threatening his marriage plans to colleague Denise. Sherman battles to restore order to his family, and marry the woman he loves, before all hell breaks loose. (Rated PG-13)

Matinee Special - Buy a medium size popcorn and receive a small drink free.

LIBRARY UPDATE

The Garrison library has new books for your reading pleasure. Come by either the Aberdeen Area library or the Edgewood Area Branch library and check out some books.

Far From the Tree by Virginia DeBerry
A Gathering of Spies by John Altman
In Green's Jungles by Gene Wolfe
Lethal Seduction by Jackie Collins
The Lost Legends of New Jersey by Frederick Reiken
Midnight in Ruby Bayou by Elizabeth Lowell
Morgan's Run by Colleen McCullough
Nora, Nora by Anne Rivers
Nowhere Else on Earth by Josephine Humphreys
Shattered by Dick Francis

The Aberdeen Area library, building 3320 on Aberdeen Boulevard, is open Monday-Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Edgewood Area library, building E-4405 on Austin Road, is open Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

Congratulations Summer Reading Program Participants

The Garrison Library would like to thank everyone who helped make the year 2000 summer reading program a success.

These participants completed this year's Summer Reading Program:

Greta Bauerle, Kirk Bauerle, Eileena Hoskins, Katie Hoskins, Raekwon Smothers, Shanelle Smothers, Haley Sturgill, Buck Tanner, Margaret Tanner, Danielle Torbert, Micah Torbert, Norielle Torbert, Jasmine Townsel, and Phillip Vardaman.

Special congratulations go to the \$100 Savings Bonds winners:

Haley Sturgel, Jasmine Townsel, and Phillip Vardaman.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union was the sponsor for that prize and others. Other sponsors were, the Bowling Center, Chesapeake Challenge, the APG Fire Department, the Department of Education, and the APG Thrift Shop.

LEAVE DONATION

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

Georgia Bancroft (maternity);
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement);
Barbara Boyd (mother is ill);
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);
Tammy Budkey;
Melanie F. Carns;
Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery);
Dawn Crouse (surgery);
Tricia Lin Dietz;
Fred Dill;
Joseph R. Dugan;
Messina Enderlein;
Wayne Erb (wife is ill);
Willi Freisheim;
Norman L. Greear;
Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant);
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);
Wayne A. Jaynes;
Mary L. Johnson;
Larry Jonas;
Carole Jones;
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);
Jennifer Keetley (maternity);
Beverly King (caring for husband);

William Klein;
Sherrie Laury (heart problems);
Yvonne Lissimore (knee surgery);
Stacy Miller (maternity);
Lylis Payne;
Cecil Pennington (surgery);
Albert Potter (coma);
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery);
Michael Reynolds;
Edward Rinaldi;
Denise Robinson (maternity);
Ricky Ross (heart attack);
Allan Scarborough (back surgery);
Sherry Schaffer;
Lena Shelton;
Motoko Stahl;
Rachel Swearingen;
Frances L. Thomas;
Gayle L. Thompson;
Joseph Walker (wife has cancer);
Rosalind Walters Kenion (maternity);
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);
Willie Williams
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant).
For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial; 410-278-1524; or fax 410-278-7877.

AROUND APG

APG and teens gain from a summer of volunteering

By Sheila Little
APG News

For many students, the annual back-to-school theme project of "what I did on my summer vacation," mainly consists of tales of warm weather recreation and trips with family and friends. But for more than a dozen Aberdeen Proving Ground teen volunteers, summer vacation meant that in addition to the usual sun and fun, they had the opportunity to participate in the American Red Cross Youth Volunteer Program, serving others, checking out possible career fields, and contributing to the APG community. In exchange, participants gained work experience, established community contacts and added valuable volunteer service hours to school records and employment and college applications.

A total of 17 students between the ages of 12 and 18 donated more than 1300 hours to APG, serving in the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, APG Veterinary Facility, Hoyle Fitness Center, Aberdeen Area Youth Services, and the Directorate of Resource Management.

Col. Walter Egerton, commander of KUSAHC, said everyone who participates in the program wins when they take on young volunteers.

"It's a great program that encourages volunteers from a young age. They get the credit for being willing to help, and we get the added assistance that helps us better serve APG," he said.

Director of the APG branch of the American Red Cross, Linda Vanderhoff, said the summer youth program has been in existence for at least six years, the amount of time she's been in Harford County, and it continues to grow.

"The program has been very well-received this year by both the supervisors and the teen volunteers," she said.

Vanderhoff said that the teens were dependable and did a

great job, both contributing factors in the success of this year's program. She offered additional praise to the installation's youth volunteer coordinator, Carol Mahanti.

"She did a fantastic job coordinating the entire program, matching teens with their areas of interest, keeping in contact with supervisors and volunteers, assisting where needed, and trouble shooting when necessary," she said.

Students were given a brief orientation to the American Red Cross, training and guidance on work-related topics, and the opportunity to select the type of work experience that captured their interest.

Each time the young volunteers worked, they checked in with site coordinator and full-time Red Cross volunteer Anneliese Rogers, who kept track of their volunteer times for service hours credit.

Jeffrey Sexton, 13, donated a total of 266 hours in volunteer time at the Urgent Care Clinic. Working 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day, the volunteer observed and assisted in the morning troop medical clinic or 'sick call,' worked as a receptionist, helped nurses and other medical personnel by gathering supplies and offering an extra hand when needed, and was able to observe minor surgical procedures during his first summer of volunteering on the installation. Sexton learned of the program through his aunt and grandmother, both civilian employees, who offered continued support by providing transportation for the enthusiastic volunteer each day.

"It was a great opportunity, and I plan to go back next year," he said.

Sexton's full-time dedication resulted in recognition as the teen with the most volunteer hours earned in the APG program this year.

Kayla Brown, 15, volunteered in the immunization clinic. She

heard about the program through her brother, who volunteered at the Hoyle Gymnasium last year. Brown said she appreciated the opportunity to work with other people of varying ages and backgrounds, and felt the experience gave her a better understanding of what goes on day-to-day in a clinic setting. Brown worked closely with clinic personnel, assisted where needed, learned clinic procedures for ordering supplies, and observed patient/clinician interaction.

"It is a nice group of people in the clinic," she said. "I think I learned a lot, and I'd like to do it again next year."

The summer program was originally scheduled to run from June 19-July 28, but, due to requests from supervisors and volunteers, was extended an additional 3 weeks, culminating with a recognition celebration for the dedicated and enthusiastic teens on Aug. 18.

Mahanti said the program has the potential to expand next year.

"The teen volunteer summer program is a wonderful opportunity to get summer assistance at the work place. We hope that with the success of this year's program, due entirely to the outstanding quality of the teens that participated, we will be able to attract more enthusiasm from the community next year," she said.

Those who were recognized for their volunteer efforts on the installation this summer were; Michael Bennett Jr., Brandon Beverly, Kayla Brown, Madison Conway, Whitney Conway, Triana Granty, Brittany Jefferson, Bryant King, Eric King II, Celeste Mensan, Krista Nickerson, Jeffrey Pettway Jr., Jeffrey Sexton, Sarah Sheets, Michael Shipton, Gregory Stevens, and Ashley Wilmoth.

Uniform price change in October

Each year the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia (DSCP) re-evaluates issue uniform prices based on costs of material, labor, distribution and warehousing. These adjustments, whether up or down, must be taken in October, the beginning of the government fiscal year. The good news is that regardless of any changes, your Army and Air Force Exchange Service still has the best price in town by selling issue military clothing at cost with no markup.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) manages all Army and Air Force owned Military Clothing Sales Stores (MCSS) for the services and is required to obtain "issue" military clothing exclusively from the DSCP.

In addition to the basic assortment of issue items, AAFES offers "optional" items ordered from commercial sources and sold at normal markup, with

earnings benefiting the Services' Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) programs.

This month, military members and their families will be able to use the new all-services Military Star card to purchase uniform items and any other items sold in more than 9,000 exchange locations around the world. The Military Star card replaces the Deferred Payment Plan (DPP). Deferred Payment Plan customers will receive the new Military Star cards, and new customers can apply for the Military Star card at the Post Exchange. AAFES customers are reminded to plan ahead and purchase items in advance to avoid October price adjustments. If you are in a location that does not carry issue items, please use the AAFES web site, www.aafes.com, to make all your issue uniform purchases.

BayScapes planting Saturday

APG's U.S. Army Environmental Center will team with Harford County volunteers to celebrate National Public Lands Day, Saturday, Sept. 23, 9-12 a.m. - 3 p.m., at 4460 Beal Rd., Edgewood Area.

After a brief dedication ceremony volunteers will plant a BayScapes demonstration garden, the first of its kind on APG. BayScapes are plants native to the Bay area that tolerate salt, resist local pests and improve the quality of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. A grant from the National Environmental

Education and Training Foundation provided funding for the BayScapes plants and a local Scout will earn the Boy Scouts of America Hornaday Award for participation in the conservation

Since 1993, National Public Lands Day has grown from 200 volunteers in three states to 30,000 volunteers in all 50 states.

First year USAEC has participated program. For more information, contact Deborah Elliot, USAEC Public Affairs at 410-436-1272.



Community of "giving hearts" readies for CFC Campaign 2000

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community is preparing for the federal government's annual charity drive known as the Combined Federal Campaign, which will run on post from Oct. 2 - Nov. 17.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG garrison and deputy installation commander, is coordinating the post campaign with this year's chairperson Wayne Doyel, and assistant, Debbie Asbury.

"Our goal for 2000 is to reach \$300,000 and to increase our percentage of givers from 23 percent to 30 percent," Spidel said. "Last year we increased our Eagle awards from 41 to 62."

This year's Eagle Award for people who donate \$1,000 or more, is a print of an Eagle feeding her young, created by local artist, Chris White, a longtime federal employee and illustrator at APG.

The theme for the campaign is "A Giving Heart."

The logo consists of a globe with a heart in the middle and four hands reaching out from the Earth's 'Four Corners,' representing the diversity of people who benefit from the contributions of federal civilian and military employees. Both the theme and logo appear on promotional materials and contributors guides.

Donors contributing at the Falcon level of \$500-\$999, will receive a box of 10 writing cards with the Eagle print on the cover. Cardinal level contributors of \$250-\$449 will receive a fanny pack, and Oriole level contributors of \$100-\$249 will receive a 10-minute prepaid telephone card.

Last year, the nation's four largest contributors were the National Capital Area CFC which came in first with \$44 million, the San Diego County CFC, second with \$5.7 million raised, the San Antonio Area CFC with \$5.7 million and Central Maryland's CFC was fourth with a total of \$4.7 million. Also, the area had its highest number of Eagle contributors in 1999 with 926.

AROUND THE ARMY

Thirteen soldiers compete for Olympic gold medals

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Sept. 13, 2000) - Eighteen soldiers are in Sydney, Australia, this week to take part in the Olympic summer games.

Thirteen will compete for Olympic gold following opening ceremonies Friday, one will serve as an Olympic boxing coach and four others will march into the stadium with the U.S. team as alternates.

Spc. Dawn Burrell will compete in the long jump. Staff Sgt. Olanda Anderson will be on the U.S. boxing team, competing in the light heavyweight division. Spc. Chad Senior will compete in the modern pentathlon. All three are members of the Army's World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., and so are the four alternates.

Capt. Jim Gregory will be an alternate in the Modern Pentathlon and will serve as team leader. Spc. Dominic Black will be an alternate in 213-pound freestyle wrestling. Spc. Mujaahid Maynard and Spc. Michael Van Arsdale will alternate in Greco-Roman wrestling. Staff Sgt. Brasheer Abdullah will serve as an Olympic boxing coach.

Ten soldiers of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit from Fort Benning, Ga., are competing in the Olympic shooting competitions, which take place Sept. 16 to 23.

The Army shooters who made the U.S. Olympic Team are: Maj. Michael E. Anti and Capt. Glenn A. Dubis, free rifle three position; Dubis and Sgt. 1st Class Thomas A. Tamas, free rifle prone; Sgt. 1st Class Lance D. Dement, running target; Sgt. 1st Class James Todd Graves and Sgt. Michael E. Schmidt Jr., skeet; Sgt. 1st Class Daryl L. Szarenski, free pistol; Staff Sgt. Kenneth A. Johnson and Sgt. Jason A. Parker, air rifle; and Spc. William H. Keever, double trap.

The Olympians said that making the team was the realization of a lifelong dream.

"I've devoted 17 years to winning at the Olympics," said Johnson, a 1996 Olympic air

rifle alternate, whose wife, Nancy, also made the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Teams in Women's Air Rifle. "I witnessed the energy of the Olympics in 1996; it can pick you up and carry you away.

"I'll get to compete this time," the 31-year-old from Marshfield, Mass., continued. "I wanted to be an Olympian because I want to do one thing right, perfectly right, when it counts."

Johnson said he and his air rifle teammate, Parker, will strive to bring home the Gold and Silver for the United States; they added that it does not matter who wins which medal, as long as the Army gets them.

"I always wanted to be an Olympian since I was a kid, so it felt good to be named to the team," Parker said. "I came into the Army to serve my country, and the Army has made me into the best shooter I can be. The USAMU has given me every advantage; we have the best gunsmiths, ranges, coaches and training."

Parker, 26, from Omaha, Neb., echoed the sentiments of his rifle teammates by attributing much of his success to USAMU International Rifle Team Coach William E. Krilling, 73, who is also at the Sydney Games as a shooting official and juror.

Sgt. 1st Class James Todd Graves is a three-time Olympian. He started shooting with his parents when he was growing up in Laurel, Miss. When he was 10 years old, he and his father saw a group of people shooting a trap tournament in a field near their home. Graves' father let him shoot in the match, and he took third place.

Spc. Dawn Burrell qualified for Sydney at the 2000 Olympic Track and Field Trials in Sacramento, Calif., July 14-23. Of the 14 Army World Class Athletes who competed at those trials, several maxed their personal bests and came close to making their Olympics dreams come true. But it was Burrell's 22'10.50" long jump that sent her to the Summer Games in Sydney, Australia.

Burrell is the sister of world class sprinter Leroy Burrell, a former Olympian and 100-meter world record holder (1990). While attending the University of Houston, Burrell was an NCAA All-American. The Olympic Track and Field events take place Sept. 22 to 29.

Spc. Chad Senior is scheduled to compete in the Modern Pentathlon Sept. 30. He was ranked No. 1 in the world in June in the five-sport Modern Pentathlon event. The 25-year-old began the sport just three years ago and almost gave it up last year.

He was the first American ever to win the individual gold at the Modern Pentathlon World Cup in Mexico City earlier this year on his way to qualifying for the Olympics. The modern pentathlon requires athletes to excel in five disciplines: swimming, cross country running, equestrian show jumping, fencing and pistol shooting.

Staff Sgt. Olanda Anderson completed what many call the United States' most tumultuous road to the 2000 Summer Olympics Games. He won the 178-pound championship at the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team Trials Feb. 9-13 at Tampa, Fla. But then two weeks later, he was defeated twice by Michael Simms Jr. in a 24-hour span during the U.S. Olympic Box-offs at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Conn.

Anderson's Olympic dream was resurrected April 14 when USA Boxing officials released Simms from Team USA for disciplinary reasons. Anderson went on to win a pair of bouts in America's Olympic Boxing Qualifier III April 17-22 at Tijuana, Mexico, to regain his berth on the Olympic team.

Sgt. Keith Sieracki wasn't so lucky in his quest for the Olympic dream. He earned a berth on the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team in June by defeating four-time national champion Matt Lindland. But Lindland protested the match, saying he had been tripped by Sieracki.

Both the protest committee for the Olympic Team Trials and USA Wrestling's Greco-Roman sport committee upheld the officials' decision that gave the match to Sieracki. Lindland then asked for arbitration.

Arbitrator Daniel T. Burns ruled that the USA Wrestling sport committee's hearing procedures were unfair and ordered a re-match Aug. 14 at the U.S. Olympic Training Complex. Sieracki had competed in Russia just four days prior to the scheduled rematch and said his mind was on his family and friends back home who were raising money for the trip to Sydney. Lindland won, 8-0.

Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens rejected a last-minute request Sept. 6 from the U.S. Olympic Committee to keep Sieracki on the U.S. team.

Of the 77 soldiers on the World Class Athlete Program, 56 qualified for the Olympic Trials, a record number since the program was reorganized in 1994, officials said.

"It's fantastic," said Paulette Freese, chief of the Army World Class Athlete Program. "Not only because the numbers are high, but also because it is much more difficult to get soldiers onto the Olympic team now."

"There are 61 summer sports and, thanks to the dismantled USSR and other international politics, 120 countries that would like to send a full team. There's just no space or time to accommodate those numbers, so now they're doing hemispheric qualifying."

That's how the U.S. Olympic boxing team was assembled, she explained. "Instead of a U.S. team, you'll have a team made up of the best boxers in the North American hemisphere. The U.S. could only qualify team members in specific weight classes."

Results from Army athletes competing in Sydney next week should be available on the Internet at www.armymwr.com by clicking on the "Soldiers in Sydney" icon.

Aberdeen Test Center puts hybrid-electric vehicles through their paces at Munson and Churchville sites

HYBRID, from front page

oped as a demonstration project for the Marine Corps, have been in testing for about a year-and-a-half at the Developmental Test Command's Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The tests taking place at ATC's Munson and Churchville test areas in Maryland are designed to measure the vehicles' fuel economy and determine how they perform in hilly terrain of various grades. ATC test engineers are also collecting data on the vehicles' infrared "heat signatures," audible noise and electromagnetic characteristics when operating in electric and hybrid-electric mode, to help the Army evaluate the vehicles' ability to avoid detection in these modes.

ATC was tasked to conduct the first "systems-level" engineering test on the hybrid military vehicles, said William Frazer, an ATC test engineer involved with the tests. Frazer, Wayne Taylor, Rick Garrity and Dave Hersey comprise the group from ATC's Automotive Instrumentation Team assigned to support the tests.

He and the other ATC team members helped to determine test data requirements, and ATC's instrumentation developers fine-tuned the "data acquisition systems," or instrumentation needed to collect the data, Frazer said.

While ATC testing has focused on fuel economy, the tests have also provided performance data on the batteries, electric motors, vehicle handling and other operational characteristics of interest to the vehicle manufacturers and military sponsors.

DARPA competitively selected seven consortia doing work in advanced transportation technology to develop vehicles with electrical propulsion systems that could be used by the military. Between fiscal years 1993 and 1998, this partnership between private industry and government agencies resulted in more than 300 projects involving some 450 companies.

Pushing the limits of existing battery technologies has been a key focus of these programs, but it also has centered on developing hybrid-electric transmissions, auxiliary power units and motors, advanced battery and charger systems, flywheels to augment or replace batteries and advanced materials to reduce vehicle weight.

DARPA transferred its Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Technology Program to the Department of Transportation in fiscal year 1999, and the development projects continue under DOT's Advanced Vehicles Technologies Program. DARPA, DOT and the Department of Energy have worked jointly to further the development of electric and hybrid vehicles in partnership with the consortia.

One of the seven consortia, the Mid Atlantic Regional Consortium for Advanced Vehicles (MARCAV), played a key role in the development of one of the hybrid HMMWVs, a hybrid Bradley Fighting Vehicle and a hybrid M113 troop carrier. Concurrent Technologies Corporation of Johnstown, Pa., which directs MARCAV, is a prime contractor for one of the hybrid HMMWVs under testing at ATC. The other HMMWV was developed by PEI Electronics, Inc., of Huntsville, Ala. The Army's Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center in Warren, Mich., manages the hybrid vehicle program for the Army.

The JTEV is a "purpose-built" hybrid reconnaissance/scout vehicle developed for the Marine Corps in 1994. AeroVironment, Inc. of Monrovia, Calif., designed the JTEV powertrain and control system, which the company integrated into a custom chassis built by Rod Millen Motorsport, a nationally prominent manufacturer of off-road vehicles.

"Originally, the program was designed to be a feasibility study for a hybrid-electric military vehicle," said Catherine Mohr, an engineer with AeroVironment. "Once we demonstrated that the mission requirements could be met with commercial off-the-shelf technology, the next step was to focus on using what we learned about the JTEV power train to develop purpose-built components to refine and mission-harden the vehicle."

"A lot of the challenges in developing the JTEV had to do with mission-hardening it," Mohr explained. "We were using a lot of off-the-shelf components, and it was a big technical challenge to modify off-the-shelf equipment so that it could withstand the shock and vibration of severe off-road driving. We had to take diesel engines, electric motors and batteries already used in the private sector and adapt them to the punishing military mission profiles. The motors and gearbox had to be made rugged enough to be used in a

military environment."

These component selection problems were compounded because the JTEV could only be 65-inches wide, to fit within the Marine Corps' MV-22 Osprey aircraft. Building stability into a vehicle that narrow was a challenge, Mohr said.

"Conventional wisdom" indicated that a 65-inch-wide vehicle would be prone to flipping over on rough terrain," she said.

Rod Millen Motorsport tackled this challenge with the aid of a special differential design that included a unique drivetrain configuration. This was possible because electric motors provide much more flexibility in designing the drive train than a conventional drive, she added.

Early tests on the JTEV taught engineers some important lessons about the noise-masking effects of large engines. With the engine off, gearbox noise became a significant signature, and the second round of gearboxes were considerably stealthier, Mohr said.

The JTEV contains a 2.1-liter Peugeot diesel engine and lead-acid battery packs that provide power to a magnetic-drive motor on each axle. The two hybrid HMMWVs in testing at ATC contain a 1.9-liter Volkswagen diesel engine instead of the 6.5-liter V8 engine of a conventional "Hummer," as well as lead-acid battery packs that provides electric power to the motors. One model has two electric motors, one for each axle, and the other has four electric motors.

Both the JTEV and hybrid HMMWVs are series hybrids which contain an alternator system that both recharges the batteries and provides propulsion power when the vehicles are running on the diesel engine. When the engine is turned off, the vehicles can drive in all-electric mode. When the engine is running, its power level does not necessarily need to be directly coupled to the propulsion power demand.

As a result, these vehicles have a different feel for test-track drivers compared to conventional fuel-powered vehicles, Frazer said, in part because they accelerate differently when the diesel engine is switched off and the vehicle is running on electrical power.

"It may be a little hard to get used to the engine shutting off and coming on again," he said. "It's an odd feeling when you apply the throttle, but it's a feeling people will get used to."

The ATC upgraded its test capabilities

for such vehicles, Frazer said, by investing a little over \$100,000 to purchase a 125-kilowatt battery test system designed by AeroVironment. It can put power into vehicles or draw power from the batteries to "make them think the vehicle is driving down the road," Frazer said. This system can charge and discharge the vehicles' batteries across a wide power range and has facilitated various tests that can be done in ATC's automotive shop rather than on test tracks, saving time and money.

"It is essential for maintaining battery health and evaluating battery capacity," Frazer said. "This is a very worthwhile investment that will keep the ATC in the electrical vehicle and hybrid-electric test market."

Determining the vehicles' fuel efficiency is a challenge, Frazer added, because ATC is having to "fit all the pieces together" by knowing how much power is consumed by each electric motor when in operation, how much power is generated by the alternator, how much fuel is used when the diesel engine is running, and how much fuel is used for conversion to electrical energy instead of direct propulsion.

"The testing on these isn't as easy as testing regular military vehicles," he said. "There are no currently accepted standards for doing fuel-economy evaluations. Some of the fuel burned is not used for propulsion but for energy storage in the batteries, making a determination of fuel mileage more complex."

The University of Texas at Austin developed computer models for evaluating power-train propulsion, Frazer added, helping the Army to "crunch numbers."

The number DARPA had in mind when it developed requirements for the hybrid HMMWV was 25 to 30 miles to a gallon of fuel, compared to the average of about 15 miles per gallon for a conventional "Hummer." DARPA also asked for a vehicle that could run up to 25 miles on full electrical power. Those goals present a challenge currently because of the weight of the battery packs, among other limiting factors. One model HMMWV at ATC has 24 lead-acid batteries in its battery pack and weighs slightly more than 9,100 pounds, Frazer said, and the other model contains 22 batteries and weighs more than 8,000 pounds. When payload is added, this presents even more of a weight challenge that affects performance and fuel efficiency.

The JTEV, which weighs in at 4200 lbs, also has lead-acid batteries because that was a requirement of the proof-of-concept test, Mohr said. The Marine Corps wanted a vehicle design that incorporated cost-effective off-the-shelf technology. The lead-acid battery is an older technology, she added, and some of the more exotic batteries such as Ni-Mh or Li-Polymer would decrease weight, increase payload capacity and improve performance.

Manufacturers across the United States are working to develop lighter, more efficient batteries, and the vehicles are designed so that the lead-acid batteries can eventually be replaced with improved battery packs, Frazer said.

Additionally, the Sacramento Utility Management System, one of the seven consortia selected by DARPA to work on the hybrid and electric military vehicle program, has done a study on the management of battery systems and chargers, to determine what is needed to keep the battery packs sufficiently charged.

Frazer said that throughout the testing at ATC there has been close collaboration between the manufacturers of the vehicle components, those integrating the components into the vehicles and the testers. Although ATC is working to provide data that will help manufacturers make improvements, it is maintaining its independence, objectivity and integrity, Frazer added.

"We don't want to just take a vehicle out, beat the hell out of it, bring it back in a pile and say it flunked," Frazer said. "We get the data they need, but we maintain our objectivity and integrity."

Integrity is a key aspect of ATC testing that makes it valuable to test customers, he said.

ATC testing on the JTEV is now complete, and Frazer expects the tests on the HMMWVs to be finished by the end of the summer, adding that the ATC also expects to be involved with additional testing of hybrid vehicles.

Ongoing Army developments include not only the Bradley Fighting Vehicle and M113 troop carrier, but also a hybrid military tractor-trailer known as the Parallel Hybrid Electric Line Haul Truck and a hybrid member of the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles.

"We're becoming the logical choice to do testing on hybrid-electric drive systems," Frazer said.