

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Sept. 4, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

### Holiday closings

The APG Commissary will be open for normal operating hours on Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1. The commissary will be closed Sept. 2 in observance of Labor Day, re-opening Sept. 3.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will observe a training holiday on Aug. 30.

Acute appointments can be made through Nurse Triage at 410-278-1751.

KUSAHC will observe the federal holiday on Sept. 2. Anyone with an emergency should call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

Outdoor Recreation will be closed Sept. 2. To take advantage of the weekend special, pick up item(s) on Saturday, Aug. 31 and return Sept. 3 for a one-day rental price.

For more information, call Carissa A. Bare, manager, Equipment Resource Center, Outdoor Recreation Program, 410-278-4124/5789 or fax 410-278-4160.

The Veterinary Clinic will be closed Aug. 30, Sept. 2 and 6. If an appointment is needed for vaccinations or sickcall, contact the clinic.

Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. For more information, call 410-278-3911.

Top of the Bay will be closed for lunch on Aug. 30 and reopen on Sept. 3.

The Aberdeen Area Library will be closed on Sept. 1 and 2.

### Traffic change today

Today, between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., Longs Corner Road and Johnson Street will be closed for the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command change of command ceremony, taking place in front of the Ryan Building (building 314).

Traffic heading south on Aberdeen Boulevard will be directed onto Collieran Road where the road splits at the old firehouse.

Motorists who wish to exit the vicinity of the Ryan Building during this time will be directed to an alternate route through the Plumb Point Golf Course, rejoining Aberdeen Boulevard via Plumb Point Loop.

Military police will

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## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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## And they're off!



Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Fans burst through the gates to jockey for position on Shine Sports Field prior to the Aug. 17 Miller Genuine Draft Army Concert. More than 3,000 fans rocked to the sounds of REO Speedwagon, Eddie Money and Night Ranger. See photos on pages 6 and 7.

## APG shines as stars rock

### Sheila Little APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Shine Sports Field rocked with the stars on Aug. 17, as the installation hosted a summer concert of classic rock headlined by REO Speedwagon, and opened with Eddie Money and Night Ranger.

Welcomed by a crowd of thousands, the three acts played old hits and new, feeding off the energy of the audience, and adding a good dose of their own entertaining drive.

The concert, sponsored by Miller Genuine Draft, Army Entertainment and APG's Morale, Welfare and Recreation, began in earnest at 6:40 p.m. when the venue gate opened to more than 3,000 eager fans.

Randy Moore, chief of Community Recreation with the Directorate of Community and Family Activities, said miscommunication led to a smaller crowd at this year's event.

"Our biggest obstacle was the non-military people who didn't think they could get on the installation," he said. Moore added that those who did attend were excited to be there, understanding of the extra security, and pleased that the gate checks and shuttle service to the venue went smoothly.

Thanking APG Garrison and MWR personnel, Moore said they both put forth a tremendous effort, emphasizing the added security in comparison to previous concerts.

"They took on a lot of extra risk and responsibility and ended up contributing a lot of extra hours," he said. "I just want them to know that it was really appreciated. Those in attendance were very pleased. The community on and off post had a great time."

Moore, admitting that he was a little worried about how the shuttle service would be received, spent time talking to concert goers as they got on and off the shuttles.

"No one that I talked to felt there were any special hassles involved," he said. "They were just really pleased to be there."

Moore said that competition from the Harley Davidson Open Road Concert Tour, held at Pimlico in Baltimore the same weekend, ate into the APG concert attendance this year, but special ticket promotions and give-aways via radio stations and a two-for-one ticket special sponsored by the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Havre de Grace showed great support from the local community.

Gwen Meadows, MWR marketing specialist, said

the concert started off well and ended on a high note as well.

"The audience was very energetic, alive and ready to go," she said.

The crowd wasn't disappointed, as Night Ranger started things off with "A Touch of Madness," followed by other hits such as "Sentimental Street" and "Little Sister."

Eddie Money added to the excitement of the evening as he revved up the crowd with songs that included "Baby Hold On," "Two Tickets to Paradise," "Walk on Water," and "Take Me Home Tonight." As the fans appreciated Eddie Money, he expressed similar feelings for the fans, specifically the military.

"I know I sleep a lot better at night knowing you guys are protecting us," Money said.

REO Speedwagon topped off the evening with a late night appearance playing tunes such as "Can't Fight this Feeling," "Here With Me," and "Keep on Loving You."

"It was a great evening that was successful all around," said Meadows, adding that funds generated by the concert go to support soldier activities on the installation.

## Noble Eagle farewell scheduled for Sept. 5

### Yvonne Johnson APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community will bid a grateful farewell to Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers serving on Operation Noble Eagle I, since Sept. 11 in support of installation security, with a Sept. 5, 9 a.m. farewell ceremony at F a n s h a w Field.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army

Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, will give the keynote address and present each soldier with a letter of appreciation from himself, and a four-star commanders coin from Gen. Paul Kern, commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command.

"All of us at APG owe them a great debt of gratitude. They have made sacrifices in order to protect the

democratic principles and the way of life we so cherish," Doesburg said.

Lt. Col. Donnie Butler, Garrison executive officer, said that the community's service members, employees and residents are encouraged to come out and show their appreciation.

"Through your presence, you can show these outstanding service members how much you appreciate the sacrifices they made in the past year for the sake of your safety," Butler said.

Noble Eagle I units to be honored include Headquarters and Headquarters Company and Company C, 115th Infantry, MDARNG; 352nd Military Police Company, Army Reserve unit from Rockville, Md.; and Detachment 1, 450th Military Police Company, an Army Reserve unit from Nashville, Tn.

*"All of us at APG owe them a great debt of gratitude. They have made sacrifices in order to protect the democratic principles and the way of life we so cherish."*

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg  
Commander of APG and U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command

## Thrift investment board announces schedule change

### Thrift Investment Board

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board announced Aug. 20 that it is aiming for transition to its newly developed record keeping system for the Thrift Savings Plan in November, instead of September 2002 as announced earlier. The board will firm up the schedule over the next month based on the results of ongoing data conversion and system testing.

The new system was developed on time and within budget, but its implementation is being delayed in order to ensure that all functions are fully tested in parallel with the operation of the current record keeping system, using actual participant data submissions. This "parallel testing" has not yet been conducted because the conversion of TSP participant records created since the plan's inception in 1987, a prerequisite for such testing and ultimately for implementation, has taken longer than expected.

The initial conversion of the participant records was completed Aug. 17. An analysis of the records to confirm that they were accurately and completely converted is now underway. With that assurance, parallel testing can begin.

The record conversion is being conducted by SunGard Data Systems Inc., a member of the team led by Materials, Communication & Computers, Inc. (MATCOM), of Alexandria, Va.

SunGard Employee Benefit Systems developed the commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) record keeping system known as "OmniPlus," which is the software that forms the core of the new TSP system. The OmniPlus system is in widespread use in the private sector, and SunGard has successfully managed hundreds of record conversions into this system. None, however, has been as large as the one required

for the almost two billion TSP records that comprise the TSP database.

Parallel testing will validate the results of the more limited system testing that has been performed to date - testing to demonstrate that the various modules of the new system function properly. Parallel testing will also confirm the capacity to handle the high volume of daily transactions from the TSP's nearly three million civilian and uniformed services participants.

The board's Executive Director, Roger W. Mehle, said, "Although data conversion is expected to be validated soon, the compression caused by its delay dictates an adjustment to our implementation schedule to accommodate parallel testing. I have stated previously that we will make a transition to the new OmniPlus system only when we are completely satisfied of its reliability. Parallel testing will ascertain this."

In general, the new system will allow for daily valuation of accounts and daily processing of transactions. It also will report account balances in shares as well as dollars; offer a greater number of withdrawal options; and provide on-line service via the Web site for loans and withdrawals.

[A summary of these and other operational improvements was provided in the Aug. 22 issue of APG News and is available on the TSP Web site, [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov)

<outbind://9/index.html>.] The board originally contracted with American Management Systems, Inc. to develop the new system, but after four years of unsatisfactory performance, the board terminated AMS's contract for default and brought suit against it for fraud and breach of contract in

See TSP, page 13

## Weekly drought tip

In an effort to help the personnel of Aberdeen Proving Ground cope with the area drought, the APG News is offering a weekly water conservation tip. All residents and personnel of APG are urged to look for and practice water

conservation for the duration of the drought.

### Water savings

Water-saving devices are economical and permanent. Low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators save valuable water and energy used to heat

water without requiring changes in personal water use habits.

The amount of savings depends on current water consumption habits, water, sewer and energy costs, current flow

See DROUGHT, page 12

## Suspicious activity contact card

To report suspicious activity to the Police Desk, call:

Edgewood Area	Aberdeen Area
410-436-2222 or 5-2222	410-306-2222 or 4-2222
410-436-2022 or 5-2022	410-306-0564 or 4-0564
410-436-2628 or 5-2628	410-306-0565 or 4-0565

# Ertwine reflects on his years at DTC



Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine commanded U.S. Army Developmental Test Command during an unprecedented time of change for the Army.

Story and photo by  
**Michael Cast**  
DTC

Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, retiring from the Army after more than 30 years of service to the nation, passes the colors of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command to Col. Marvin "Keith" McNamara during a change of command ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground today.

Ertwine, a 1972 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, came to APG in 1999 to assume command of an organization that has military test centers located throughout the United States.

A master's and doctorate degrees in chemistry, as well as experience in previous assignments at the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J., and with the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition in the Pentagon, gave Ertwine the technical expertise needed to shepherd an organization as technologically complex as DTC.

Since his arrival at APG, he has led DTC through an unprecedented period of reform in the Army's testing and acquisition of weapon systems and equipment.

Acquisition reform and the restructuring of Army test and evaluation have presented the DTC staff with challenges, but Ertwine said he is confident the command is meeting these challenges in ways that will benefit soldiers - ensuring they get weapons and equipment that are effective, safe and reliable in combat.

Ertwine said the consolidation of Army testing and evaluation under the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), established in October 1999, is the most significant change that has occurred since he took command of DTC in February of that

year.

"What we essentially did was remove the disconnect between developmental and operational testing that had existed literally for decades," he said.

A key benefit of consolidating the Army's test and evaluation program, according to Ertwine, is the enhanced ability of Army system evaluators to give senior Army leaders unbiased, accurate, comprehensive and timely information to make critical decisions about system acquisition.

"Initially many of us thought the main value of putting all these test organizations together into a single command at ATEC was to conduct combined developmental and operational test events, and thereby achieve some level of efficiency," he said. "I believe that was a red herring. In some cases we certainly can combine DT and OT into a single event without compromising either mission, and we look for those opportunities, but the real value of ATEC is the integration of the entire lifecycle test strategy from a single System Evaluation Plan to a final System Evaluation Report - from all parts of the test community."

He said the overall test strategy for DTC includes early testing by system developers, government developmental testing that puts a wide variety of stresses on systems to determine their performance and reliability, congressionally mandated live-fire testing for major weapon systems, the use of modeling and simulation technologies to test system performance and streamline live testing, and environmental testing to expose weapons and equipment to simulations or the naturally harsh climates found throughout the world.

Threats facing America in the post-Cold War era require a flexible but rapid response, driving the urgency and pace of Army Transformation, he said, adding that more than ever, the

**See ERTWINE, page 13**

Dr. Lawrence E. Leak, right, assistant state superintendent of the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Certification and Accreditation, explains the fine points of the Troops-to-Teachers program to Sgt. 1st Class Robert Maul, Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion, during the College Fair at the post Recreation Center, Sept. 21. More than 30 institutions and programs were represented at the 14th annual event hosted by the APG Education Center.



Adrienne Shriner, left, continuing education officer for the Community Colleges of Baltimore at Catonsville, Dundalk and Essex, explains a schedule of classes plan to Army Reserve Sgt. Adan Gutierrez, 326th Maintenance Battalion.

## Annual college fair highlights military education programs

Story and photos by  
**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

With a focus on educational opportunities for active-duty service members, the 14th Annual College Fair hosted by the APG Education Center, drew approximately 280 visitors to the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Aug. 21.

On hand were representatives of more than 30 institutions and programs of higher learning offering information on associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees; military tuition assistance; educational and vocational counseling; academic and military testing programs; veterans education information; transcript ser-

vices, traditional and non-traditional courses and Education Center services and course offerings. Cheryll Frazier, education counselor, said about 280 people came out to learn more about their educational opportunities.

"It was a great turnout," Frazier said, noting the "outstanding support" she received from APG units.

"The Recreation Center staff and the garrison made this happen for the community," she said.

"We've already gotten good feedback from several people," Frazier added. "Most appreciate the chance to explore their educational options."

For the first time, a Troops-to-Teachers education liaison was included in the fair. Lawrence K. Leak, Ph.D., Maryland Department of Education, Division of Certification and Accreditation, answered numerous questions on the program that assist military personnel to transition to a new career as public school teachers.

Leak said he talked with several service members who were interested in opportunities in the state and around the country.

"I was pleased to see how many noncommissioned officers already have degrees and are interested in applying their military skills to public service," Leak said.

He thanked Frazier and the Education Center staff for inviting him and said he would be pleased to attend future fairs.

"I encourage service members to at least look at the program as a viable option," Leak said.

For those unsure of their options, Veterans Administration representative Pamela Pilgrim was on hand to enlighten them.

The Maryland State representative from the VA Regional Office in Baltimore gave visitors informative pamphlets and brochures and encouraged them to contact the VA for further information.

"I've answered questions mostly pertaining to the use of educational benefits earned as a result of military service," Pilgrim said.

"Beneficiaries should access the Web site or call the toll-free number to learn more. Don't waste your benefits,"

**See COLLEGE, page 5**

## 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, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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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**Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.**

### Staff

APG Commander ..... Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg  
Public Affairs Officer ..... George P. Mercer  
Editor ..... Debi Horne  
Editorial Assistant ..... Marguerite Towson  
Contract Photojournalists ..... Yvonne Johnson  
..... Sheila Little  
Contract Graphic Designer and Web site designer ..... Diane Burrier  
Web site ..... www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

## POST SHORTS

direct traffic.

For additional information, contact Staff Sgt. Edward Wells at 410-278-2744.

### APG Commissary offers 'Early Bird' shopping

The APG Commissary opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for 'Early Bird' shopping.

The commissary will offer limited service for customers to purchase up to 20 items or less. The definition of limited service is items that are normally stocked on the shelf at night.

The commissary will still open at 10 a.m. for "normal" patron shopping. Store employees will be stocking the store in the morning for normal business, such as delivery personnel stocking the sodas and salty snacks; employees restocking the produce and meat departments and stockers stocking frozen and chilled products.

### APG Town Hall Meeting, Sept. 10

Installation Commander Col. Mardi U. Mark will conduct the quarterly APG Town Hall Meeting 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 10, at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810. All members of the APG community are invited to attend. The meeting will be simultaneously broadcast on Channel 3. Off-site listeners can call in questions to 410-436-7849 or 5-7849. Questions can also be e-mailed in advance of the meeting to Linda Holloway at linda.holloway@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Toddler openings

Immediate openings exist for toddlers in need of child care on post. Meals are provided.

For more information, call Nikki Searle, family child care certified representative, 410-273-1620.

### Register for UMUC fall courses

Registration is underway for the University of Maryland University College Fall 2002 semester, which begins Sept. 4.

On-site classes offered at APG include HRMN 462, Labor Relations; BMGT 464, Organizational Behavior; and IFSM 438, Project Management. Additional classes are available through the instructional television and distance education formats.

For further assistance or to register, visit the APG office of UMUC in building 3146, or call 410-272-8269 and 410-278-4632.

### Anti-terrorism training for APG community

The Intelligence Division of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, APG Garrison, will host level-one anti-terrorism training sessions.

APG employees (military, civilian and contractors) and family members 14 and older are invited.

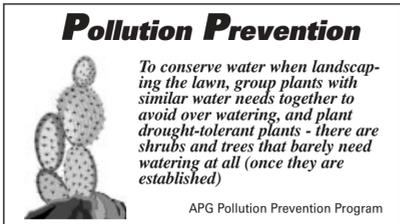
The Intelligence Division urges everyone to attend one of the sessions at the Aberdeen Area Post Theatre, building 3245, 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 3, 4 or 5.

The event caters to family members, installation work force, and contractor personnel who have not normally attended regular bi-monthly training in the course of their professional duties.

Presentation topics include history of terrorism, planning, surveillance techniques, individual defensive protective measures and hostage survival. Handouts on how to recognize package bombs, reporting suspicious activity and counter-elicitation, will be distributed.

This training meets the general requirement for individuals traveling outside the continental United States in the next year.

For more information, call the Intelligence Division at



410-278-3187 or fax 410-278-9729.

### Radio show on Pentagon attack

"We Were on Duty," a first-person oral history of the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon, will air on Sept. 9, on WAMU 88.5 (Washington), 2 and 8 p.m. The program tells stories in the voices of the people who lived through the tragedy, overcame the aftermath, and are moving on with their lives.

For more information, visit [http://soundprint.org/radio/display\\_show/ID/1147](http://soundprint.org/radio/display_show/ID/1147).

### C&GSC offered in EA

In October, the 10th Battalion, 80th Training Division will conduct classes in Phase I and III of the Command and General Staff Officer's Course at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Attending class as opposed to taking a correspondence course offers many advantages including access to knowledgeable instructors, the opportunity to learn from fellow students with expertise in a wide variety of backgrounds, and a structured environment best suited for completing the course on time.

Enrollment is open to active duty, Active Guard and Reserve, Army Reserve and National Guard officers in the rank of Capt. promotable and above.

If planning to attend, enroll in ATTRS as soon as possible to insure a slot is reserved. The ATTRS numbers are as follows:

**Phase I**  
School: B701  
Course: 701-1-250-C3 (New-IDT)(F)  
Phase: 1  
Class: 300

**Phase III**  
School: B701  
Course: 701-1-250-C3 (New-IDT)(F)  
Phase: 3  
Class: 301

For more information concerning Phase I, call Maj. Alice Roosa, 301-543-4879 (work), or 410-297-6972 (home) or e-mail her at [alice.roosa@us.army.mil](mailto:alice.roosa@us.army.mil).

For more information con-

cerning Phase III, call Lt. Col. Jan Kolakowski, 410-436-2755 (Work) or 410-836-6712 (Home), or e-mail him at [jekolako@sbccom.apgea.army.mil](mailto:jekolako@sbccom.apgea.army.mil).

### Database of scholarships

All personnel in the military community, including dependents, are encouraged to search MilitaryReport.com's Education Center scholarship database, which has a listing of \$300 million in scholarship funds.

In addition to the scholarship search available, the educational services provide comprehensive and updated information on educational benefits, such as the G.I. Bill, Veterans Educational Assistance Program and Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program.

To access these education services, visit [http://www.military.com/Careers/Education/1.13289\\_00.html?ESRC=mr.nl](http://www.military.com/Careers/Education/1.13289_00.html?ESRC=mr.nl).

### Health classes

The following classes will be held in the Preventive Medicine conference room (Room A-12), located on the first floor at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For more information and to register for classes, call Preventive Medicine, 410-278-1964.

*Tobacco cessation* (day and evening): Classes are scheduled for four consecutive Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m., Sept. 4, 11, 18 and 25; or four consecutive Tuesdays during the day, noon to 2 p.m., Nov. 5, 12, 19 and 26. Preregistration is required. All TRICARE PRIME beneficiaries are invited to attend.

*Asthma education*: Class is scheduled noon to 2 p.m., Sept. 17, and includes an overview of asthma; triggers that may cause attacks or symptoms; preventing attacks; use of peak flow meter and MDI/spacer and developing a personal asthma action plan.

All TRICARE beneficiaries with a recent or long-term diagnosis of asthma and parent(s) or sponsor(s) of an asthmatic child are eligible to attend.

*Healthy eating*: Classes are scheduled noon to 2 p.m., Oct. 1, 8, 15, and 22. Discuss weight control through healthy eating. All TRICARE beneficiaries with a desire to learn more about healthy eating and parent(s) or sponsor(s) of children with healthy eating concerns are eligible to attend.

Bring a calculator to class.

### Tide car to visit the APG commissary

The Tide Car will be at the APG Commissary on Sept. 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A uniformed Tide representative will answer questions about the exhibit, the Tide Race Team and the sport of racing in general.

### APG HEP hosts Career Day Sept. 25

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Hispanic Employment Program Committee will host Career Day Sept. 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Aberdeen. The APG HEP is hosting Career Day to increase the representation of minorities within the workforce at APG.

In addition, the committee hopes to educate the local community about APG and installation-associated employers. Local businesses, as well as APG tenants, are invited to participate.

Organizations interested in participating in career day should call Joanne Holloway, 410-436-3628 or Cindy Sepulveda, 410-306-1780 by Aug. 30.

### Spouse club membership drive

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will hold member sign ups during September.

The MCSC is an organization for spouses or surviving spouses, and members of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty or retired, spouses or surviving spouses of Department of Defense

civilians, and DoD civilians. The purpose is to provide a support system for MCSC members, develop leadership, create a sense of unity within the military community, broaden and enrich the lives of its members, and promote the relationship between the military as well as surrounding civilian communities.

The daytime sign-up will be Sept. 9, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Ruggles Golf Course; evening sign-up will be Sept. 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gunpowder Club.

For more information, contact Julie Koob at 410-297-6630 or [fourkoobs@worldnet.att.net](mailto:fourkoobs@worldnet.att.net).

### Consider a trip to MLK's home

The Black Employment Program Committee is in the process of planning a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. program for January 2003. Tentatively, the program includes an educational tour of the King Center, Ebenezer Church, Dr. King's home, historical homes in the area and historical Black colleges in Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 17 to 20, which coincides with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. This event is open to Aberdeen/Edgewood federal employees and military personnel.

The committee is trying to keep the cost as low as possible. Participants would pay for transportation, hotel, meals and any other expense they incur.

The committee will make arrangements and reservations for bus transportation. Participants will pay the committee for this transportation. Hotel arrangements will be made by the committee; however, hotel reservation and payment will be made by the participants.

More information will be provided once the amount of interest is determined.

To discuss details of the

trip, call Penny White, black employment program manager, at 410-278-1161 or 1100.

### Preventing violence in the workplace

Are communication problems creating a hostile workplace? The Workplace Assessment Team offers a variety of communication and conflict resolution classes to help with interpersonal problems and workplace productivity.

For more information or to schedule a class, call Paul Papp, 410-306-1079, or e-mail [paul.papp@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:paul.papp@usag.apg.army.mil).

### Lunchtime Violence Prevention classes

Paul Papp of the Work Assessment Team will hold Workplace Violence Prevention workshops in the Edgewood Area.

Classes will be held every Monday in building E-4430 in the Conference Room. Class dates are Sept. 9 and 16.

Topics include Introduction to Workplace Violence Prevention, Refining Your Communication Skills, Conflict Resolution, Managing Workplace Stress and Religious Tolerance in the Workplace. Bring a lunch and join in.

For more information, call Paul Papp at 410-306-1079 or e-mail him at [Paul.Papp@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:Paul.Papp@usag.apg.army.mil).

### Commemorative Prayer luncheon

The Aberdeen Area Post Chapel will hold a prayer luncheon on Sept. 12, 11:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Patty Shinseki, wife of Gen. Erik Shinseki, Chief of Staff, United States Army. Tickets cost \$5 each.

To purchase tickets, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333, the Edgewood Area chapel, 410-436-4109, or the Garrison Command Office, 410-278-1511.

For more information, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333.

# Mayors sworn-in at latest CAC

## *Drought a concern*

**Sheila Little**  
*APG News*

A meeting of the Community Action Council took place Aug. 14, in the conference room of garrison headquarters, building 305.

### **Mayors take office**

Col. Mardi U. Mark, garrison and deputy installation commander opened the meeting by administering the oath of office to volunteers in the community mayor program. Those taking the oath included Sonja Flanigan, mayor of Hopkins Road, and Skippers Point representatives Michelle Frazier, returning as mayor, Roni Marturey, vice mayor and April John, the area's secretary.

Other residents participating in the mayor program but not present at the swearing-in include mayors Gayla Hurley, Bayside Village, Sherry Trunck, Patriot Village, Marcus Lucas, Mobile Home Park, and serving as vice mayor of Hopkins Road, Jennifer Stepetic. Cecelia Howard, coordinator of the mayors program, said that several neighborhoods are not represented and asked that those willing to serve, call 410-306-2011.

### **Health issues**

Maj. Henry Jung, representing Kirk U.S. Army Clinic, announced that an additional pediatrician is due to join the clinic at the end of September.

He said that no West Nile Virus has been reported on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Col. Marshall Cox, who became commander of the dental facility July 29, said the Edgewood branch of the dental clinic would receive a new dentist at the end of September. The Aberdeen branch welcomed Maj. Dianne Pannes, their new dentist, in July.

### **Auto news, decals and traffic**

The Tide Car will be on display at the commissary parking lot from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 4.

Traffic around Springfield Street may be tied up Sept. 12 to 14 as the Army and Air Force Exchange and the commissary combine for a block sale. Sale items include electronics, mattresses, furniture, soda, snacks, paper goods, canned foods and pet food.

Rob Krauer, provost marshal, said the APG decals are here. Those who are first to receive them include commuters to other installations that require them, and to those who are in-processing.

"If you don't need the sticker right away, don't inundate the folks," Krauer said. Distribution hours in the Edgewood Area are every Tuesday at the Edgewood Area Military Police station, building E-4420, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In the Aberdeen Area, the decals are available at the Pass/ID and Vehicle Registration Office in building 4305, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, same hours.

Air Force Maj. Curtis Schmucker requested that maps to the Maryland Boulevard/Tank Row Gate, located off Route 715, be made available at the Route 22, Aberdeen Boulevard Gate. Incoming military personnel attempting to check in to the post on the weekend when the Aberdeen Boulevard Gate is closed do not know how to get to the open gate on Maryland Boulevard.

Joe Craten, deputy to the commander, said directions to the main gate would be made available at the Route 22 entrance. In addition, USO personnel at BWI and taxi drivers arriving from the airport

will also be given directions. This issue is also being addressed on the APG Web site.

### **Chapel services**

Sunday School, discontinued for the summer, begins for the school year on Sept. 22. Register children ahead of time after Sunday services or during the week by calling the Edgewood or APG chapels.

Patty Shinseki, wife of Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff, is the guest speaker for the commemorative prayer luncheon beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 12 at Top of the Bay. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased through either chapel. The Edgewood Chapel can be reached at 410-436-4109. The number for the APG Chapel is 410-278-4333.

### **For retirees and active duty**

Retired Lt. Col. Monroe Manning announced that The Retired Officers Association, or TROA, has changed its charter and name to include both retired and active duty officers. The new name is the Military Officers Association of America. All officers are urged to join.

Retired Col. Charles Shadle, chairman of the APG Retiree Council, said APG's Retiree Day is scheduled for Oct. 26 at the installation's Recreation Center. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, is the guest speaker.

Representing the Coast Guard, Shadle said a safe boating class is scheduled for Sept. 17. To lawfully pilot a boat in Maryland waters, all potential boat pilots born on or after July 1, 1972 must complete this class. It is also a great refresher for those over 30. For more information on APG Retiree Day or boating classes, call Shadle, 410-663-9263.

### **Well-Being Program**

Robert Phillabaum, program coordinator, said APG is one of the five test sites where the Army is discovering "where we are today, where do we want to be and how we do it."

The program is the Army's way of exploring what soldiers, family members and civilians think of the current quality of life in the Army, find out what others think can be done to improve it, and consider how to implement positive change within the Army fami-

ly.

### **Drought update**

Harry Greveris, deputy director of Installation Operations, said with no relief in site, drought restrictions may get tougher. He urged everyone to do their best to conserve water.

"Make sure you have full loads when running washers and dishwashers," he said.

He added that personal vehicle washing and lawn watering is prohibited on APG.

Mark urged everyone to report any leaks they notice as soon as detected, to the Drought Emergency Hotline, 410-306-1107. She asked that everyone conserve water to the best of their ability and do all they can to avoid fire on the installation.

"It is very, very dry and we have concerns about fire. Be real cognizant about what you're doing with flames when you cook out, and keep an eye out for any waste of water," she said.

Barry Decker, garrison operations, gave an update on several issues brought up at recent CAC meetings.

A temporary air conditioning unit has been installed in the Edgewood Chapel until repairs to the system are completed.

The ozone flag has been relocated on Maryland Boulevard away from the gate, to avoid obstructing the view of the guards.

The feasibility of purchasing an electronic bulletin board is continuing. Although initial information yielded high prices, purchasing one at a lower cost is being researched.

Housing has received a bid for removing lead paint and repainting the houses on Plumb Point Loop and is proceeding as scheduled.

The Gunpowder Club is not available for private use because it is administered and supported by and for military tenants and affiliates, precluding use by individuals.

Exton Golf Course management is reminding golf cart drivers that they should yield to the traffic on Everette Road before attempting to cross.

### **Around the neighborhoods**

Speeding remains a problem in most neighborhoods. The military police are issuing more tickets in an effort to get motorists to slow down. Sgt. Maj. Fred Hurley, Bayside

*See CAC, page 13*

# Commentary

## Welcome to the 21st Century spouses' club

**Beth Rousel**  
MCSC

Who are the members of the Military and Civilian Spouses' Club of Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Area? Look around.

We are new to the military. We are retired. We work. We stay home. Our children are on the way, small and active, graduated, going to college and married. Our spouses are officers and enlisted and federal employees. We live in housing, in "real" houses and in temporary quarters. We know our neighbors. We care for each other's children. We cook when our friends aren't able. We bake when babies are born. We are from all over the world. We care deeply about this community we - for now - call home.

In this mix we call MCSC, there is a little bit of everything. And while MCSC can't be everything to everybody, it certainly aims of offer something for everyone. The club's purpose is simple - to provide a support system for MCSC members, to develop leadership skills, to foster unity within the military community, to broaden and enrich the lives of its members, and to promote the relationship

between the military and surrounding civilian communities.

The mission of MCSC is twofold - its primary purpose is to raise funds to support welfare requests from Aberdeen and Edgewood area organizations, as well as those in surrounding communities. A significant portion of fundraising efforts is also channeled into providing scholarship awards.

The club also encourages its members to build relationships with each other. Through programs like Bunco, Book Club, Gourmet, Bridge, Play Group, Sit n' Sit'ch, Walk n' Talk, Lunch Bunch, Trips & Tours and others, there is ample opportunity to gather, socialize and get to know one another. MCSC's monthly membership programs enable members to add variety to their social calendars. From traditional luncheons with guest speakers, to Saloon Night, to a Valentine's Dinner with your spouse, MCSC invites eligible members of the community to partake in fellowship and fun.

MCSC is the only spouses' organization in the APG military community - that has a new development this year.

We are now setting our table with much larger plates. Many of the established programs on the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas will retain their "neighborhood" structures, there will be Bunco groups here and there; book clubs here and there, etc. But the doors to these groups and meetings will be open to much larger audiences. The monthly membership programs are open to all members, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

In the areas of raising and distributing funds, however, there is substantial work to be done. Last year, two clubs channeled more than \$12,000 back into the community, national organizations, local schools and scholarship awards.

While the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas are technically down to one club, MCSC hopes to build on the time, talent and energies that have been devoted to all fundraising activities in the past.

Although \$12,000 may seem like a large amount of money for one club to raise, lowering MCSC's fundraising sights means decreasing its ability to help family support groups, soldier funds, elementary schools, PTAs, service

groups, scout clubs and youth programs, and the many other organizations that request financial help.

MCSC membership is open to all spouses (or surviving spouses) and members of the armed forces of the United States on active duty or retired; spouses or surviving spouses of Department of Defense civilian employees; and DOD civilians. Members of the community who are interested in applying for the MCSC scholarship must join the club in order to be, or have their family members become eligible for the club's educational awards.

MCSC will host membership registration and welcome coffees at Ruggles Golf Course, Aberdeen Proving Ground, at 9:30 a.m., Sept. 9, and at the Gunpowder Club, Edgewood Area, 7 p.m., Sept. 10. All interested members of the community are encouraged to stop by for refreshments and to meet current members of MCSC, as well as area vendors and representatives from local businesses.

For more information about the MCSC, contact Julie Koob, 410-297-6630 or 410-273-1630.

## College

*From page 2*

she added.

Frazier offered a special thanks to the 16th Ordnance Battalion, which supplied soldiers as greeters, and to the University of Maryland, Central Michigan University, the Florida Institute of Technology and Harford Community College for providing the

refreshment.

Participants included:  
TESST College of Technology  
Cecil Community College  
Central Michigan University  
Central Texas College  
College of Notre Dame of Maryland  
Community College of Baltimore County  
Coppin State College  
DeVry University  
Excelsior College  
Florida Institute of Technology

Goucher College  
Harford Community College  
Johns Hopkins University  
Liberty University  
Southern Illinois University  
Strayer University  
The American Council on Education (ACE)  
The Army Green-to-Gold team from Morgan State University  
The Higher Education and Applied Technology (HEAT) Center  
The Veterans Administration Education Liaison

Thomas Edison State College  
Towson University  
Troops-to-Teachers Education Liaison  
University of Baltimore  
University of Maryland College Park  
University of Maryland University College  
University of Phoenix at Maryland

# An evening of 80's rock



Photo by DIANE BURRIER

Eddie Money belts out "Where's the Party?"



Courtesy of ADELMA GREGORY, CECIL WHIG  
REO Speedwagon lead singer Kevin Cronin strikes a pose.



Courtesy of ADELMA GREGORY, CECIL WHIG  
Above, from left REO Speedwagon's Kevin Cronin, lead vocals and rhythm guitar, Bruce Hall, harmony vocals and bass guitar and Dave Amato, harmony vocals and lead guitar, during Aberdeen Proving Ground's Aug. 17 Miller Genuine Draft Rock Concert at Shine Field stage. REO Speedwagon headlined the concert.



Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON



Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON

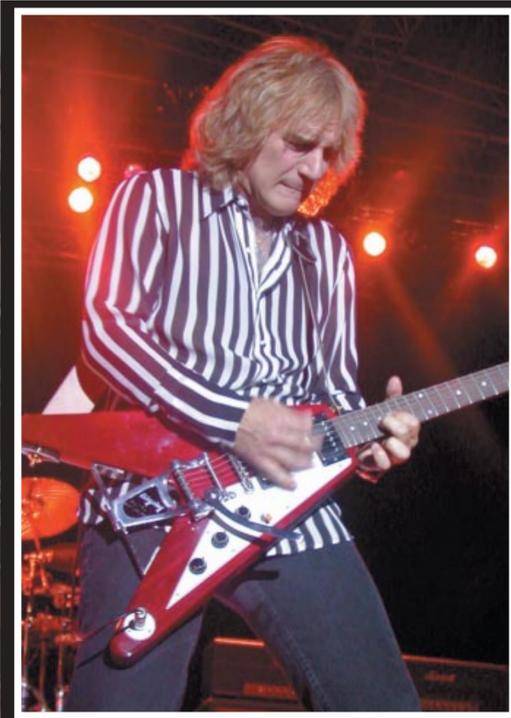


Photo by DIANE BURRIER  
Lead guitarist Dave Amato demonstrates his skill during "Ride the Storm Out."

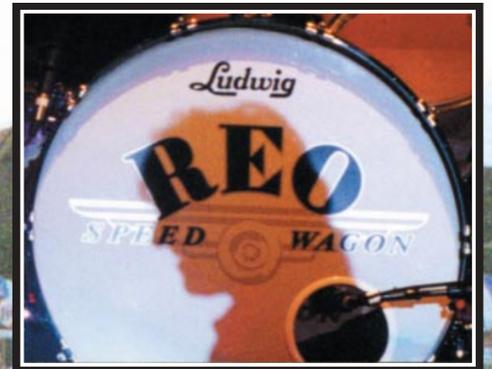


Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON  
Dave Amato's shadow is captured against the drum of Bryan Hitt during the concert.



Photo by DIANE BURRIER



Members of Night Ranger counter-clockwise from above left: are Alan Fitzgerald, keyboard, Brad Gillis, guitar and vocals, Jack Blades, guitar and lead vocals, and Kelly Keagy, percussion and vocals.

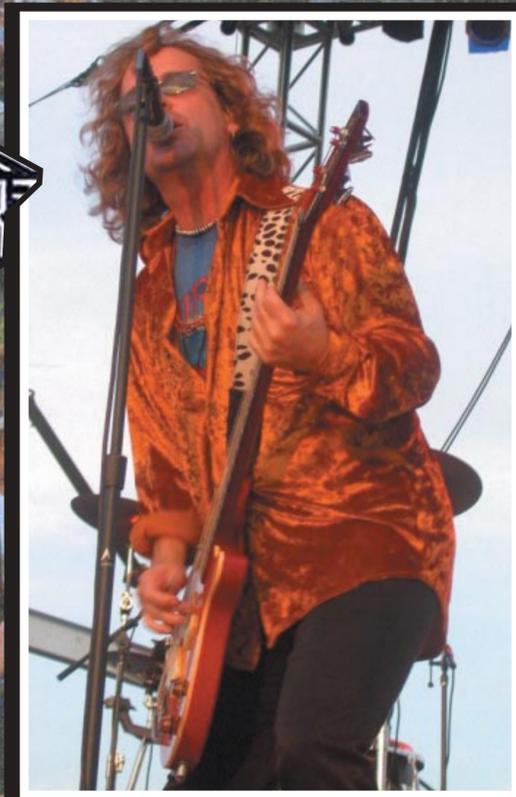


Photo by DIANE BURRIER



Photos by LA'MONT HARBISON  
Above, Neal Doughty and Kevin Cronin harmonize. Left, Kevin Cronin, Bruce Hall, and Dave Amato point their guitars upward during a riff. The backdrop photo shows a view of the crowd from the stage.

# Community Notes

## SATURDAY

### AUGUST 31

#### HARFORD COUNTY AIRPORT FLYIN

The Experimental Aircraft Association's Upper Chesapeake Chapter 1341 invites all to a fly-in, noon to 6 p.m., at the Harford County Airport (map code OW3; radio frequency 122.8) on Aldino Road, Churchville. Events include a "war-bird" display of military helicopters, airplane rides, an aviation flea market and "all-you-can-eat" spaghetti and meatballs with salad and garlic bread. Cost is \$6. For more information or to reserve flea market tables for Experimental Aircraft Association members, contact Joseph Miller, jmflyboy@aol.com, 717-542-6412, or Paul Thomas, paul.thomas36@verizon.com, 410-676-5869.

## FRIDAY

### SEPTEMBER 6

#### COUNTRY HOE DOWN

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing the first Friday of the month at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing is from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$8. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

## SATURDAY

### SEPTEMBER 7

#### CWF SPONSORS HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to fly in a hot air balloon for \$199 per person, which includes charter bus transportation to Lancaster, Pa., and a one-hour flight that begins at 6 p.m. Seats will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. A \$50 deposit per person is required. For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

## SUNDAY

### SEPTEMBER 8

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL GRADUATION

The Christian Religious Education Department of St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will present Vacation Bible School certificates to students and staff members who participated in the program at 9:15 a.m. Registration for Church School will take place after the ceremony. There will be special acknowledgment of grandparents in attendance. All are invited to attend. For information, call 410-939-2267.

## SUNDAYS

### SEPTEMBER 8 THRU DECEMBER 1

#### NEWCOMERS CLASS

Mountain Christian Church, 1824 Mountain Road, Joppa, invites women who have relocated to the community to join a small group designed to take women through the process of letting go, starting over and moving ahead with their lives after the transition of a move. N.E.W. (Newcomers Enfoldng Welcoming) Ministries is a biblical and practical small group 13-week "Moving On After Moving In" class, 4 to 5:30 p.m. (without childcare) or 6 to 7:30 p.m. (with childcare.) Childcare is included in conjunction with Kids Club. The cost of the class is \$25. Women may join at anytime. For more information or to register, call 410-877-1824.

## WEDNESDAY

### SEPTEMBER 11

#### DAV BEL AIR CHAPTER 30 MEETING

The Disabled American Veterans Bel Air Chapter 30 resumes its monthly meeting at 7 p.m., the second Wednesday of each month, at the VFW Hall, 303 S. Atwood Road. For more information or for transportation, call 410-838-8325 or 410-879-0861.

## THURSDAY

### SEPTEMBER 12

#### COMMEMORATIVE PRAYER LUNCHEON

The Aberdeen Area Post Chapel will hold a prayer luncheon, 11:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Patty Shinseki, wife of Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff, United States Army. Tickets cost \$5 each. To purchase tickets, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333, the Edgewood Area chapel, 410-436-4109, or the Garrison Command Office, 410-278-1511. For more information, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333.

#### WACVA MONTHLY MEETING - BEACON 114T

The Women's Army Corps Veterans Association Chesapeake Beacon Chapter 114T will meet 7 p.m., 449 W. Bel Air Avenue, Aberdeen. All women who have served or are serving in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Army Corps, Regular Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard or Army Nurse Corps are welcome to attend. Also welcome, as associate members, are women of the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard.

For more information about the association, contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040 or visit Web sites [www.wacva.com](http://www.wacva.com) or [www.armywomen.org](http://www.armywomen.org).

## MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3. CHILDREN \$1.50  
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard



### EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS

Friday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m.

Starring: David Arquette, Kari Wuhrer

The residents of a rural mining town discover that an unfortunate chemical spill has caused hundreds of little spiders to mutate overnight to the size of SUVs. It's then up to mining engineer Chris McCormack and Sheriff Sam Parker to mobilize an eclectic group of townspeople, including the sheriff's young son, Mike, her daughter, Ashley, and paranoid radio announcer Harlan, into battle against the bloodthirsty eight-legged beasts. (Rated PG-13)

### K-19: THE WIDOWMAKER (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m.

The U.S.S.R.'s first nuclear ballistic submarine suffers a malfunction in its nuclear reactor on its maiden voyage in the North Atlantic in 1961.

The submarine's crew, led by the unyielding Captain Alexi Vostrikov, races against time to prevent a Chernobyl-like nuclear disaster which threatens not only the lives of the crew, but has the potential to ignite a world war between the super powers. (Rated PG-13)



### MEN IN BLACK II

Saturday, Aug. 31, 9:30 p.m.

Starring: Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones

Agent J needs help in his latest case, so he elicits the help of Agent K by restoring his memory. Together they battle the latest threat of aliens against Earth. (Rated PG-13)

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

The APG Garrison Library has the following books for your reading pleasure:

The APG Garrison Library now has a set of CD ROM'S on MICROSOFT OFFICE 2000 as well as other audio-visual aids for your computer education.

Besides the basic introductory, intermediate and advanced lessons, a sample of the titles include:

**Word 2000 Secrets and Timesavers**

**Word 2000 Desktop Publishing**

**Excel 2000 Macros and Charts**

**Excel 2000 Formulas and Functions**

**PowerPoint 2000 Effective Publications**

**Access 2000 Visual Basic**

**Outlook 2000 Scheduling** (videocassette)

**Outlook 2000 E-Mailing** (videocassette)

**Learning Linux: Introduction & Configuration** (videocassette)

To receive a complete listing of the library's new materials via e-mail and also reserve items electronically, call the library at 410-278-4991.

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The Edgewood Area library is open on Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 410-436-3589.

## APG SCHOOL LIASON UPDATE

### 'CHESS KIDS MAKE RIGHT MOVES'

**Chess clubs are now forming at Aberdeen and Edgewood Youth Centers.**

Chess, one of the oldest and enduring games in the world, is played by millions of people around the globe, young and old alike. The popularity of the game is rapidly increasing among school age children throughout the United States, especially in youth centers and schools. To learn the fundamentals of playing chess, players must be a youth center member and in the 4th grade or higher (case-by-case basis for children in grades first to third). To sign up, ask for Christina Keithley or Kosannya Dixon at the Aberdeen Youth

Center, building 2522, front desk, or call 410-278-4995. To sign up at the Edgewood Youth Center, building E-1902, contact Jerome Wing or call 410-436-2862. For more information or if interested in volunteering to teach chess or other services in the chess club, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

**The benefits of chess** Chess is not just a game. It is a mental exercise. Children participating in a chess program where they are learning, watching and playing at least four times a week, and where they have the proper environment and focus will:

- gain confidence
- learn to solve problems
- build discipline
- increase concentration

- learn to strategize
- develop critical thinking skills
- learn to recognize patterns and develop tactics
- improve communication
- build memory skills
- learn sportsmanship
- analyze and evaluate

### ON-LINE HOMEWORK WEB SITE

A new, on-line interactive homework Web site resource is now available at Web site [www.school-notes.com](http://www.school-notes.com). Teachers can create notes for homework and class information and post them on the Web in seconds using this free community service. Parents and students can view notes from teachers by entering the school's zip code. This is a great way for teachers, parents and students to keep in touch and enhance the learning process.

### EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

Supporting the local PTA can enhance a child's education. For more information concerning the PTA at Edgewood Elementary, call

Mary Logan, PTA president, 410-612-0812, or e-mail [mary.logan@comcast.net](mailto:mary.logan@comcast.net).

### September events at Edgewood Elementary include:

*Sept. 26, 7 p.m.:* "Back to School Night"  
*Sept. 27, 2 p.m.:* Harford County Public School System-Aberdeen Proving Ground signing ceremony: "Secondary Education Transition Study Memorandum of Agreement."  
*Sept. 30:* Book Fair begins

### PAYING FOR COLLEGE

A college education is one of the biggest purchases ever made. To help plan and find the resources that are available to help in this decision, visit Web site [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Information is available on such topics as '529 Saving Plans', finding scholarships and financial aid, how to apply for a scholarship, and 2001-2002 college costs, just to mention a few. For more information, contact Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

### RELOCATING WITH AN EFM

A big part of military life is relocating. For a family with an exceptional family member who has special needs, the confusion can be particularly stressful. To avoid some of the less desirable "adventures," it may be a good idea to map out a strategy before

moving. This is especially important regarding special education needs, and medical or housing issues.

To get assistance for an upcoming permanent change of station with an exceptional family member, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP manager at 410-278-2420.

# Army News

## Army suspends re-enlistment bonuses until October

*Army News Service*

The Army has suspended its re-enlistment bonus programs for active-duty soldiers until Oct. 1.

The suspension became necessary with a retention success that exhausted the fiscal year 2002 re-enlistment budget, said Ron Canada, chief of the U.S. Army Personnel Command retention office. He said the Army has already re-enlisted more than 51,600 soldiers against its goal of 49,019, or 105 percent.

Soldiers who are scheduled to separate from the Army between [Aug. 19] and Sept. 30 will be allowed to voluntarily extend until after Oct. 1 so they can re-enlist for a bonus, Canada said.

"We have to place a freeze on paying bonuses when soldiers re-enlist for the remainder of August through September because we've done so well with re-enlistment across the Army," Canada said.

The programs frozen include the selective re-enlistment bonus, the targeted selective re-enlistment bonus and the broken service selective re-enlistment bonus programs. The freeze does not affect Army Reserve or Army National Guard re-enlistment bonuses, officials said. Nor will it stop the payment of re-enlistment bonuses that have already been granted, Canada said.

Soldiers who re-entered the Army or re-enlisted prior to Aug. 19 and were entitled to a re-enlistment bonus will continue to be paid their bonuses, Canada explained. Soldiers entitled to an anniversary payment from an earlier re-enlistment will continue to receive their anniversary payments during this suspension, he said.

Soldiers who were scheduled to re-enlist between Aug. 19 and Sept. 30 and were otherwise eligible for a bonus, will be advised to delay their re-enlistment until Oct. 1 or later or when the program will be funded for fiscal year 2003.

Those in specialties that do not have a bonus are not affected by this suspension and can continue to re-enlist, Canada said.

More than 100 of the Army's military occupational skills had offered bonuses and are affected by the re-enlistment suspension, Canada said.

More information about the job specialties that were receiving re-enlistment bonuses can be found in military personnel messages 02-174 dated June 16 and message 02-205 dated July 16. These messages can be found on <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil>.

Personnel officials ask that this suspension information reach all commanders, re-enlistment offices, recruiters, and finance and accounting offices. Re-enlistment offices will be notified through the Army retain system, Canada said, and career counselors worldwide will be informed when they turn on their retain system.

Career counselors throughout the Army will be able to answer questions about reenlistment options, Canada added.

*(Editor's note: Information provided by PERSCOM Public Affairs.)*

## Army to tighten re-enlistment window

*Army News Service*

Active-duty soldiers will need to re-enlist or extend 12 to three months prior to their separation date, beginning Oct. 1.

The Army announced it is reinstating this re-enlistment policy, which had been relaxed since October 2000. The purpose of the tighter re-enlistment window, personnel officials said, is to identify soldiers who desire unbroken service, and for the Army to program replacements for those who plan on returning to civilian status.

"During the past two years about 8 percent or approximately 5,000 soldiers delayed their re-enlistment decision until within three months of ETS," said Ron Canada, chief of the U.S. Army Personnel Command retention office. "The largest categories of these are careerists; that's too many."

Canada expressed concern that many soldiers may be denied retention after Oct. 1, if they decide to wait it out. A tremendous amount of work processing exceptions to policy will be placed on leaders and counselors if they don't enforce the 12 to three-month re-enlistment window, Canada added.

Leaders are an integral part of the retention business, Canada said. He said leaders up and down the ranks must ensure that all soldiers are counseled on the re-enlistment window and that they may be denied further retention when within three months of ETS.

"I need everyone to help out in this effort," Canada said. "It's that important."

Processing procedures for

exceptions to the three-month cutoff will require a copy of the soldier's re-enlistment interviews from Department of the Army form 4591-R to validate that the soldier was counseled. Additionally, the exception will require a statement from the affected soldier with a reason he did not re-enlist within the 12 to three-month window and complete justification as to why the exception should be approved.

This information is also being provided to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley to disseminate to command sergeants major Armywide, personnel officials said.

Army Regulation 601-280 outlines in paragraphs 3-6 and 4-1e the re-enlistment window of three to 12 months.

The Army's success in recruiting and retention has postured the Army to once again reinforce that re-enlistment is a privilege, personnel officials said, and therefore requires soldiers to make their retention decisions earlier. Therefore, they are rescinding policy messages 01-02 and 01-03, dated Oct. 5, 2000 and Oct. 13, 2000.

Exceptions to the three-month window will be considered for meritorious cases only, officials said. The exception must be endorsed by the first general officer in the soldier's chain of command. Requests should be submitted to PERSCOM in accordance with paragraph 3-10 of AR 601-280.

*(Editor's note: Information provided by PERSCOM PAO.)*

# Understanding divorce and retired military pay

**Susan G. Grendahl**  
OSJA

Every week, clients come to the Legal Assistance Office looking for advice regarding divorce and retired military pay. Many military members and spouses are confused about the process of dividing retired military pay.

For example, people think that a military spouse has to be married to a service member for at least 10 years to receive a portion of the retired military member's pay. This notion is incorrect. This "rumor" plagues every branch of service and leads to problems and confusion.

The goal of this article is to inform military members and spouses of the correct answers to some of the most common questions asked of a legal assistance attorney.

**What is the uniformed services former spouses protection act, or USFSPA?**

It is a federal law that allows state courts to divide military disposable retired pay as marital property upon divorce.

**What is disposable retired pay?**

Military retired disposable pay is the total monthly pay of a retired service member, minus VA disability, federal debt repayments, fines, forfeitures and Survivor Benefit Plan premiums.

**If a court grants the division of retired pay, how is it divided and where do the payments come from?**

Rules vary from state to state, but all states have at least one method for granting the division of military pensions as marital property. Only Puerto Rico bars the division of pension rights upon divorce.

As part of a divorce action, the USFSPA allows some former spouses to be awarded a share of military retired pay either directly from Defense Finance and Accounting Service or from a retired military member. A former spouse may receive up to 50 percent of the retired member's military pay. Once a spouse is awarded a portion of the military member's retired pay, the spouse receives it until his or her death or the death of the retiree, regardless of the spouse's marital status. A former spouse

may remarry and still receive a portion of his or her ex-spouse's retired pay.

**How does a former spouse receive direct payment from Defense Finance and Accounting Service?**

The 10-year rule applies only to the method of payment, not as the benchmark for determining if the spouse will be granted a portion of retired pay. Only those spouses married at least 10 years during which the service member performed military service creditable toward retirement are eligible to receive a portion of their former spouse's retiree pay through direct deposit. If married less than 10 years, any payments determined by the courts will be received through other methods.

If a couple meets the 10-year rule, the former spouse needs a court order specifically stating that the award shall be made as direct payment of retired pay. These documents along with other crucial information must be sent to DFAS within one year of the date of divorce to be eligible for direct payment. If the former spouse is not eligible for direct payment, he or she will

receive the court awarded amount of retired pay directly from the retiree.

**How is retired military pay divided if the military member is not yet retired?**

The USFSPA specifically forbids state courts from ordering a member to retire in order to divide the pension. This means that if a military member does not retire, there is no military pension to divide. Keep in mind that the USFSPA is a law allowing for former spouse's who are divorced to possibly receive retired pay. If someone is still married to the military member and is not legally divorced, he or she is not entitled to any portion of the retired pay.

Remember that no article can substitute for professional legal advice. Consult an attorney if with further questions regarding specific circumstances.

For answers to more questions about the USFSPA, and if eligible for legal assistance, call the Legal Assistance Office at 410-278-1583/1584.

## Sports & Recreation

### Unified takes CWF softball championship over CHPPM, 12-7

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

The Unified softball team of the Edgewood Area's Civilian Welfare Fund won its second softball championship in three years, besting the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, 12-7.

"There's no one left to play, we won," said elated right fielder Chris Livingston after the game. "I want to remember this game the rest of my life, or at least the rest of 2002."

Summing up the championship run, Livingston said the Unified bats came to life when it mattered with catcher Carroll Lucas and left-fielder Rob Westbrook hitting home

runs. Westbrook finished 3-4 missing only a triple for the cycle.

Helping out was John Walther who crossed the plate three times and Westbrook and Rob Murk, who scored twice each.

Livingston credited John DiPietro, standing in as coach, and Steve Tushek, assistant, with coaching an outstanding game despite a CHPPM rally when a no-out two-run shot brought the score to 12-6 and a sacrifice fly brought in another run to make it 12-7 in late innings.

The Unified defense stayed cool, calm and collected in closing out the game, Livingston said.

The CWF sponsors the league but teams receive no

funding other than the use of Capa Field, noted league commissioner Ken Regeic.

"There's a lot of volunteer work involved," Regeic said. "We pay for the balls and the umpires and keep up the field ourselves."

He added that the responsibility is worthwhile and encourages others to get involved with team sports through the CWF.

"Playing with your co-workers is enjoyable for all involved. You get to relax and have fun away from the work environment," Regeic said.

Bill Betts is the team's regular coach.

*(Editor's note: Bill Semiatin, SBCCOM, and Chris Livingston, SAIC, contributed to this article.)*



Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. CARROLL LUCAS

*Standing, from the left are the Unified members John Walther, Rob Murk, John Strassbridge, Steve Tushek, John DiPietro, Aaron Speight, Andy Whelton, Earl Heaps and Carroll Lucas; kneeling, from left are Rob Westbrook, Chris Livingston, Bill Shewchuk and Jeff Legee. Not pictured are Bill Betts (coach), Jose Irizarri, Steve Kaminsky, Jason Maxwell, Bill Myers, Kevin Puckace and Bill Semiatin.*



### Survival Guide to Italy

Develop the confidence to experience the Renaissance on your own. Learn about the major Italian cities and areas of interest to you in the AA Library Sept. 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$10. Register by Sept. 3 at Information, Ticketing and Registration. For more information, call Chris Lockhart at 410-278-3904 or e-mail chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Vocal Training

Learn vocal exercises, breath control, and projection, Sept. 10 through Nov. 12, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at building 2184. Class will benefit beginners and experienced students. Cost is \$45. Register by Sept. 3 at the AA Recreation Center. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil. Participants must be at least 17.

### Beginning Piano 1

Learn the fundamentals of piano, including reading music and keyboard skills, with group instruction, Sept. 12 to Nov. 14, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in building 2184. Cost is \$45. Register by Sept. 3 at the AA Recreation Center. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail her at earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil. Participants must be at least 17 to attend.

### Bass Guitar

Learn basic music reading, and the riffs on the electric bass and TAB, Sept. 9 to Nov. 25, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in building 2184. Cost is \$45. Register by Sept. 3 at the AA Recreation Center. For

more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil. Participants must be at least 17 to attend.

### Beginning Violin

Learn and practice scales, etudes, and simple pieces of music, Sept. 11 to Nov. 13, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton in Aberdeen. Cost is \$69 and participants must register by Sept. 3 at ITR. For more information, call Chris Lockhart at 410-278-3904 or e-mail chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Urban Line Dancing

Classes to learn the basic moves, styles, and rhythm of urban-line dancing will be held Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center. Some of the dances that will be taught include the N.J. hustle, cow funk, and the electric slide. Register at the AA Recreation Center by Aug. 30. Cost is \$45. For more information, contact Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Ballroom Dance Basics

Treat yourself to fun and relaxation learning to ballroom dance or brushing up on your skills, Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, 6 to 7 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center. Some of the dances to be taught include the waltz, foxtrot, swing, and rumba. Register by Aug. 30 at the AA Recreation Center. Cost is \$45. For more information, contact Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.



Photo by KELLY HILL

### Mystery Bowl contest winner

**Capt. Dave Jones**  
61st Ordnance Brigade

## APG 'takes a bite out of crime'

### Child ID Day, Sept. 7

The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security and Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion is sponsoring Child Identification Day, Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 2940-A Bayside Court in Bayside Village for family members of APG military, civilian and contractor employees. Children will be fingerprinted by volunteers from the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Basic Course and receive a safety briefing from McGruff, the crime-fighting dog.

Call 1st Sgt. Pamela Irlle Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion at 410-278-5625 or e-mail her at pamelairlle@ocs.apg.army.mil, in advance, so organizers can estimate the amount of materials needed.

## Drought

*From front page*

rates of fixtures and flush volumes of toilets, system pressure, and the amount of water leakage through fittings and toilets.

The chart highlights how much water can be conserved by installing water-saving equipment in place of conventional plumbing fixtures, fittings and appliances.

Fixture/fitting/appliance	Water use in gallons per
Vintage toilet*	4 to 6/flush
Conventional toilet**	3.5/flush

Low Consumption toilet***	1.6/flush
Conventional showerhead*	3 to 10/min
Low-Flow showerhead	2 to 2.5/min.
Faucet aerator*	3 to 6/min.
Flow regulating aerator	5 to 2.5/min.
Top-loading washer	40 to 55/load
Front-loading washer	22 to 25/load

Dishwasher	8 to 12 load
* Manufactured before 1978	
** Manufactured from 1978 to 1993	
*** Manufactured since Jan. 1, 1994	



**www.allsolar.com**  
*This water-saving shower head boasts non-aerating spray to hold temperature, and uses only 2.2GPM of water. There are various other water saving shower fixtures on the market.*

# Students learn while working at ATC

Story and photo by  
**Susan Hagan**  
ATC/ATSS

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center partners with students from various local and out-of-state schools, colleges and universities to provide a mutually beneficial learning and working experience.

"The students bring with them knowledge of the latest technologies and fresh ideas," said Carolyn Miller, ATC's training coordinator.

One of ATC's student programs, the Student Career Experience Program, is similar to an internship, where students may work full or part time, as long as their work schedule does not interfere with their academic performance.

In order to participate in the program, students must be enrolled in an accredited high school, technical or vocational school, college or university, or graduate or professional school and be pursuing a degree, certificate or diploma. In addition, they must carry at least a half-time academic, vocational or technical course load while working at ATC. Student's work experience must be related to their academic studies and career goals and be designed to meet the minimum study-related work hours required for conversion.

Raymond Blucher, a SCEP student working with ATC's Experimental Fabrication Team since July 16, 2001, started after a representative from ATC visited his school, the Cecil School of Technology, and a teacher persuaded him to try it. He works as a welder's helper.

After winning the state VICA welding competition, Blucher competed in the national Skills U.S.A. Vocational Industrial Clubs of

America Welding Competition in Kansas City, Mo., the last week in June. He placed ninth in the nation at the competition, which consisted of 46 participants from various states.

After graduating from high school, Blucher will be hired as a permanent employee at ATC. His goal is to become a welder. Blucher says he will continue his education by taking evening classes at a local college.

"He's just a bright young man," John Reynolds, chief of the Experimental Fabrication Team said, "He's interested and hard working. It's a bright spot for the shop to have a new young civilian."

To make ATC's students, and new permanent hires more comfortable in the workplace, ATC hosted an orientation tour and picnic. The group visited various ATC test sites and ranges including Munson Test Course and the Roadway Simulator construction site, and others.

ATC regularly holds new employee tours to familiarize employees with the test center.

It is a good opportunity for students to network with each other and make contacts within the different cores.

"The picnic is an 'ice-breaker' for the co-op students. It provides an opportunity for the students to get acquainted with each other and some of the ATC staff," Miller said. "Most of the students are new to both ATC and to the community. Most are from out of the area and are living alone. Our intent is to help the students develop friends among the ATC workforce and ties to the area communities."

While working at ATC, students are paid in accordance with established pay schedules and earn both annual and sick leave.



U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center employee and Student Career Experience Program participant Raymond Blucher works on a project in ATC's Weld Shop.

## CAC

*From page 4*

Village, suggested installing more stop signs to slow traffic. The military police will look into it.

Michelle Frazier, Skippers Point mayor, thanked those responsible for outdoor lighting repairs and increased MP patrols in the neighborhood, cutting down on graffiti and mischief.

Lt. Col. Joe Morales, representing Everette Road, asked that the low dive board at the Bayside Pool be repaired. Apparently not reported to the appropriate authorities, it has been unusable since July 4. All were asked to report such equipment failures in a timely manner.

Sonja Flanigan of Hopkins Road, asked for replacement shower and dressing room curtains for the Shore Pool.

Morales also asked about the procedure for replacing basketball hoop rims. He was directed to check at the Re-Nu-It centers for the supplies to make the repair.

The Harford Job Fair is scheduled for Oct. 25, noon to 5 p.m. at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood. APG is a supporter of the fair.

The next meeting of the Community Action Council is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Oct. 3, in the conference room of building 305.

## Ertwine

*From page 2*

Army's senior leaders appreciate the role of testers and evaluators in fielding new systems.

The high-tech weapons and support systems needed to make Army Transformation a success will operate as a sophisticated, networked "system of systems" on the battlefield, so a similarly networked and technologically sophisticated approach to testing is needed, according to Ertwine.

"We're right at the epicenter of Army Transformation, that being the fielding of the Stryker and all its variants, and on its heels the Future Combat Systems," he said. "The senior Army leadership has a very good appreciation for the contributions that the Army test community makes to readiness. They are looking for our input, our assessments and our technical expertise, not only in making this equipment effective, but also in getting it into the hands of soldiers as quickly as possible. That, of course, is our core mission. We do it well, and I know everyone will continue to make it a top priority, even though at times it seems like

we're going 100 miles an hour with our hair on fire."

Though fast-paced, the future of military testing and evaluation at APG and at other sites around the country will be anything but reactive and helter-skelter, according to Ertwine, because DTC and other ATEC organizations have mapped out their support to the Army with strategic plans for meeting the Army's test and evaluation needs now and in the future.

Quarterly reviews to measure progress in meeting goals, objectives and initiatives designed to support America's transforming Army. DTC is "certainly on the right track," according to Ertwine, and is in the "refinement stage" of executing its strategic plan for the future, having already completed many key initiatives and staying prepared to add new initiatives to keep abreast of the Army's evolving needs.

When asked what advice he would give DTC as he departs, he emphasized flexibility and professionalism amid the changes sweeping through the Army.

"My message to the workforce, as has been true for the past few years, is that there is a lot of turmoil now, and always the potential for more change. With that in mind, be flexible

and welcome it, because more often than not, change is for the better. In any case, continue your professionalism and your outstanding performance in continuing to provide the Army, and specifically soldiers, the best equipment possible - equipment that is safe, reliable and effective."

As he contemplates what his future as a civilian will be, Ertwine looks back fondly on his time at APG and his life in the military community here.

"The Aberdeen community has been just great," he said. "Life on Plumb Point Loop, with the Chesapeake Bay in our backyard, has certainly been just spectacular, and something that I will surely miss. I'll also miss the close

associations with the neighbors and friends that we've established in our little neighborhood on Plumb Point Loop."

APG's installation commander and its garrison commanders during Ertwine's command have been very supportive of the needs of DTC, and supportive of him personally, he noted.

"I've known [Major] Gen. [John] Doesburg for a number of years, and working with him closely over the past three-and-a-half years has been a real pleasure for me," Ertwine said. "I would also say the same for working with the past and present garrison commanders: Col. Bob Spidel and Colonel Mardi Mark.

They've been wonderful to work with, as well as the entire Aberdeen garrison staff. Even though we're not in the same organization, they have certainly been supportive of our requirements and treated us fairly among all the APG tenants.

"I would also like to express my appreciation to the Army for giving me the opportunity to stay in this command for three-and-a-half years. It has certainly been the highlight of my Army career. I'm especially thankful for all the hard work, dedication and commitment to excellence of the DTC workforce in achieving our mission throughout my tenure."