

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Aug. 28, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Holiday closings

**Outdoor Recreation** will be closed Sept. 2. To take advantage of the weekend special, pick up item(s) on Aug. 31 and return them 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 or 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 to make an appointment. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 daily. For more information, call 410-278-3911.

### Aug. 29 traffic change

On Aug. 29 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). (See article on page 2.)

Traffic heading south on Aberdeen Boulevard will be directed onto Colleran 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 direct traffic.

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

### Anti-terrorism training for APG community

The Intelligence Division of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, Aberdeen Proving Ground 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

See **SHORTS**, page 3

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

### Page 2

More on Well-Being labs

### Pages 4-5

Health update: Lyme disease West Nile virus

### Page 6

Army News

### Page 13

APG youths enter photography contest

### Page 14

Commander's Cup standings

## Rockin' APG

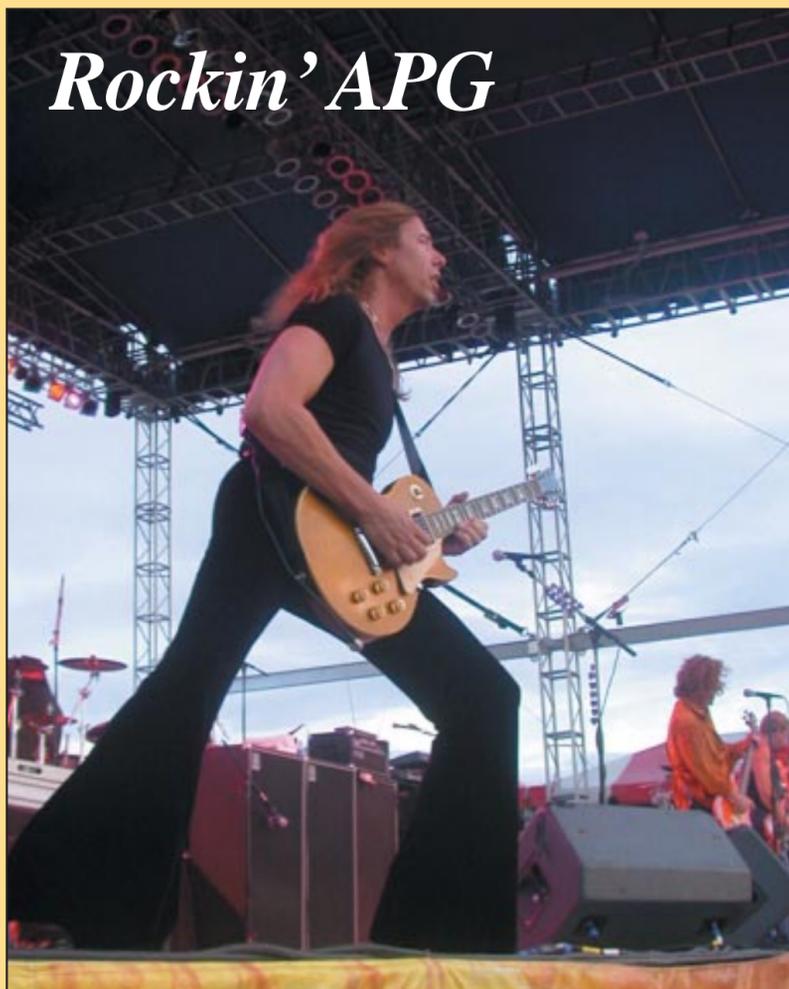


Photo by DIANE BURRIER

From left to right, Jeff Watson, Jack Blades, and Brad Gillis of Night Ranger, rock the crowd with a "Touch of Madness." Night Ranger was the opening act for the Miller Genuine Draft Army Concert tour held last Saturday at Shine Sports Field. The concert, headlined by REO Speedwagon, also featured Eddie Money. Look for story and more photos in next week's APG News.

## Back to class

### School starts Monday

Sheila Little  
APG News

You may not be able to tell it by the incessant heat, but the end of summer is at hand, and with it, the start of school. Starting Monday, Aug. 26, Aberdeen Proving Ground's school age population joins thousands of other Harford County Public School System students as they return to the classroom.

#### Changes

New students, new teachers, and perhaps different schools are just a few of the changes in store, as Harford County continues school building improvements, changes the dress code to address current fashion trends, and transitions to an older starting age for students entering school. In addition, students with military parents may be getting their first introduction to the school liaison office.

#### Construction

While the main building is being rebuilt, Aberdeen High School freshmen will continue to attend classes at Aberdeen Middle School, expanded with portables, while sophomores, juniors and seniors will be located in the north end of the high school, away from the construction.

#### Dress code

As written in the HCPSS dress code, students are expected to wear clothing that is "safe, healthy, inoffensive and not disruptive to the educational process." To that end, students are prohibited from wearing clothing that depicts profanity, obscenity, use of weapons or violence, contains sexual messages, or promotes the use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol. In addition, tank tops, tube tops, bare midriff attire, spaghetti straps, pants worn below the hips, short shorts, miniskirts and bedtime attire are prohibited.

"A lot of this is common sense," said Don Morrison, director for public information for the school system. "We're trying to promote the appropriate atmosphere for learning."

In regard to footwear, flip-flops, clogs and sandals without back straps are not allowed.

Morrison said safety is behind the shoe policy, pointing out that negotiating stairs is more difficult with a backless shoe, and

See **SCHOOL**, page 7

## APG schedules water outage Friday

Barry Decker  
DIO

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Directorate of Installation Operations, in conjunction with the City of Aberdeen, its contractor, has scheduled a water outage for Aug. 23 to do major repairs to the water distribution system running from building 1089 through the woods, past Range 8 and 9 to Michaelsville Road. Scheduled to begin at approximately 8 a.m., the outage will last for eight hours and affect the following buildings:

700	700A	700B	700C
700D	700E	700E1	700F
700G1	700G2	700G3	700M1
700M2	700M3	700H	700J
702	706	707	708
709	710	713	714
714A	714B	714C	714D
720	721	722	723
725	730	731	732
733A	734	735	735A
735C	736	737	740A
740A5	740A6	740A7	740B
740C	740D	740E	740F
740G	740H	742	743
743A	744	745	745B
745E	745C	745D	746
746A	747	748	748A
776	859	860	861
893	Range 8 and Range 9		

(Some facilities listed above do not have water ser-

vice, but employees may use other facilities for personal hygiene.)

In the event that the valves at Range 9 and south of building 1089 complex do not hold, the following buildings will also be without water during this outage:

1080	1081B	1082	1083
1084	1085	1086	1087
1087	1088	1089	1089A
1090	1091	1095	1098

After the shut down, occupants of the affected facilities should turn on the water and flush the interior of the piping system.

Run cold water until it becomes clear, then turn on the hot water and run until it becomes clear.

Perform this procedure to all fixtures within the facility starting with the faucet, sink or toilet closest to where the water enters the building. Working from there, flush all fixtures until water becomes clear.

For assistance or problems with the scheduled outage, call Linda Kimmel, contracting officer representative for the City of Aberdeen's privatization contract, at 410-278-0400.

Photo by DAVID WILLIAMS

Water will be temporarily shut off to portions of the installation on Friday to repair this water leak found below Range 9 near Michaelsville Road.



## Brigade gets new commander, school gets new name

E.C. Starnes  
OC&S

It was an historic day at the 61st Ordnance Brigade change of command ceremony, Aug. 5.

As Col. Paul Meredith accepted the colors of the 61st Ordnance Brigade from Maj. Gen. Mitchell H. Stevenson, Army Chief of Ordnance and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, he not only assumed command of the brigade, but also of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

As Col. John "Rocky" Hills turned over the colors of the brigade, he also participated in the passing of the name "U.S. Army Ordnance School" to history.

The school's new name reflects the purpose of the organization and was announced for the first time in public during the change of command.

Stevenson recognized the "soldiers, airmen and Marines . . . the formation we see standing on Fanshaw Field represents the continuity in our armed forces. Commanders come and go,"

Stevenson said.

"This is an important day for the 61st Ordnance Brigade and the U.S. Army Mechanical Maintenance School. It is a day of reflection and renewal."

The general stated that it was time to honor a command team (Rocky and Ninon Hills) that had led the brigade through the tough times of budget battles, changes in training, changes in organization, and the change from peace to war.

The bottom line, said Stevenson, is people. "We are about people."

With 5,000 soldiers passing through OC&S during the year, Hills kept the focus on producing well-trained soldiers, Stevenson said.

"Thank you doesn't say enough," he said.

Welcoming the new command team of Paul and Paula Meredith, Stevenson said they now take over the role of leader, role model, protector of values and the Army's vision.

He noted that they face many challenges, but many opportunities as well.

As Hills took the podium he noted, "It was a very short 24 months ago that I promised to

See **BRIGADE**, page 2



Photo courtesy of APG PHOTO LAB

Cols. John "Rocky" Hills and Paul Meredith, left, outgoing and incoming commanders of the 61st Ordnance Brigade, respectively, and Lt. Col. Bradley Liberg, commander of troops, salute the colors as they review the troops during the brigade change of command ceremony.

## This week's 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 use awareness

Marylanders have access to an abundance of water much of the time, so the importance of clean water is often overlooked. For most of us, water

use is a habit. We are accustomed to having water available at the twist of a faucet. We usually do not think about how much water we use.

#### Average daily water use

Be aware of how much  
See **DROUGHT**, page 12

## Suspicious activity contact card

To report suspicious activity to the Police Desk, call:

#### Edgewood Area

410-436-2222 or 5-2222  
410-436-2022 or 5-2022  
410-436-2628 or 5-2628

#### Aberdeen Area

410-306-2222 or 4-2222  
410-306-0564 or 4-0564  
410-306-0565 or 4-0565

# Well-Being labs stand up at five locations

**Joe Burlas**  
Army News Service,

Less than three months after the Army announced five posts will get Well-Being Labs, those experimentation centers were up and running on schedule.

A Council of Colonels heard an update on the Well-Being initiative Aug. 15 and 16.

The Army's definition of Well-Being is the personal — physical, material, mental and spiritual — state of soldiers, Army employees, veterans, retirees and their families that contributes to their preparedness to perform and support the Army mission.

The labs, which were announced in March and stood up in early June, are located at Aberdeen Proving Ground; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; 1st Area Support Activity, Korea; and the 26th Area Support Group, Germany.

Designed to determine what works well and what doesn't at the community level, the labs will also provide feedback on Well-Being standards and metrics. Those metrics will be used as part of the new Strategic Reporting System to keep Army leaders informed about the status of Well-Being throughout the Army, officials said.

The Army Staff in Washington has developed 50 functions over the past two years to organize services and programs that contribute to Well-Being and readiness. The labs are an outgrowth of the effort to expand the Well-Being initiative down to Army communities, said Lt. Col. Mike Pfenning, Well-Being division chief.

One of the goals of the labs is to standardize delivery of well-being services across all Army posts, Pfenning said. Soldiers and family mem-

bers moving across country from one installation to another should experience the same delivery and quality of Well-Being services, he said.

Another goal of the labs is to more effectively communicate what Well-Being services are available at each installation.

Col. Mardi Mark, APG garrison commander said that when she first heard about the Well-Being Lab concept, she told her command sergeant major she definitely wanted one for Aberdeen.

*"I am excited that we are reaching out to all the constituent groups — including veterans."*

Col. Mardi U Mark  
Commander  
APG Garrison

She got her wish.

After a month working with the APG Well-Being coordinator, Mark said she still has lots of questions about what installation Well-Being will look like in the end, but they are making progress.

"I am excited that we are reaching out to all the constituent groups — including veterans," Mark said."

And while only the installations with Well-Being Labs currently have a funded Well-Being coordinator, all garrison commanders are being encouraged to establish a Well-Being council to help implement any of the "best business practices" the labs recommend Armywide, Pfenning said.

Two contractor corporations are assisting with the well-being initiative. Resource Consultants Inc. is responsible for operating all five labs. Science Applications International Corporation is working with Army staff functional proponents to develop and refine Well-Being metrics and standards.

Under the current RCI contract, the Well-Being Labs will operate for one year and deliver their final reports, including recommended best business practices, next June.

# New commander takes the helm at DTC

**Michael Cast**  
DTC

Command of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command will change on Aug. 29, when Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine relinquishes the helm to Col. Marvin McNamara. The ceremony will take place 10 to 11 a.m. in front of DTC headquarters, at the Ryan Building, 314, on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

## Outgoing commander

Ertwine, who assumed command of DTC Feb. 19, 1999, was responsible for shepherding the command through a period of major Army acquisition reform and restructuring. Under his leadership, the former Army Test and Evaluation Command, known as TECOM, became the Developmental Test Command, the developmental tester for the new Army Test and Evaluation Command, a major Army command headquartered at Alexandria, Va. ATEC was established in October 1999 to oversee the integration of developmental and operational testing across the Army.

Ertwine is retiring from the Army after more

than 30 years of military service.

## Incoming commander

McNamara comes to APG from an assignment in Washington, D.C., as the deputy director of the Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Organization, J-8, Joint Staff.

Most recently he served as commander of the U.S. Army Forces Central Command in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and director of the Acquisition Integration Team, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization in Washington, D.C.

## Traffic notice

Drivers coming onto APG should note that Longs Corner Road and Johnson Street will be closed from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for the ceremony. 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 and rejoining Aberdeen Boulevard via Plumb Point Loop. Military police will direct traffic.



Col. Paul Meredith accepts the colors of the 61st Ordnance Brigade from Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, commanding general of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools. Meredith took command of the brigade from Col. John "Rocky" Hills, center, during ceremonies at Fanshaw Field., Aug. 5. Looking on is Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Cathcart, left.



Photos courtesy of APG PHOTO LAB  
Col. John "Rocky" Hills passes the 61st Ordnance Brigade colors to Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, commanding general of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, signifying his passage of the brigade command.

# Meredith

From front page

lead to the best of my ability and to do what is right."

He thanked all those who supported him during his time as brigade commander.

Hills noted that the list included drill sergeants, instructors, dining facility staff, electricians, plumbers, military personnel staff members, and air conditioner repairmen.

"The [brigade's] NCOs are the finest I have ever served with," Hills said.

He thanked the instructors for setting and assisting soldiers in achieving the stan-

dard. And, he thanked his wife for her "support and enduring love."

Meredith noted that "This is what I call a star day - a day marked by a big star in the calendar of my life."

He thanked his family who had gathered to support him.

"I am proud to be in the Army and to wear this uniform," he said. "I promise to lead with compassionate grace and with my whole heart."

Hills will be moving on to a new job with the Department of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics.

Meredith returns to Aberdeen, where he formerly commanded the 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

The honor contingent was led by Commander of Troops Lt. Col. Bradley Liberg, executive officer, 61st Ordnance Brigade. Troops participated from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade; 16th Ordnance Battalion; 143rd Ordnance Battalion; the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment; the U.S. Air Force Detachment; the Noncommissioned Officers Academy; and the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own).

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Cathcart, Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School and 61st Ordnance Brigade, assisted in the passing of the brigade's colors.

# 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.

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

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## VICE CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS ATC



Photo by HARRY McMULLEN  
Right, Gen. John M. Keane, Army Vice Chief of Staff, greets Joe Gonzalez, Aberdeen Test Support Services driver, as Keane prepares to drive the Stryker during his visit to U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, July 23.

## POST SHORTS

Theatre, building 3245, 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 3, 4 or 5.

The event will cater 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 will be given out on how to recognize package bombs, reporting suspicious activity and counter-elicitation.

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 tells story of Pentagon attack

"We Were on Duty," a first-person oral history of the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon, will air on local radio in September. This program tells the stories in the voices of the people who lived through the tragedy, overcame the aftermath, and are moving on with their lives.

Sept. 9 WAMU 88.5 (Washington) 2 & 8 p.m.

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

### 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>.

### 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, Room A-12. 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.

### EA Mini-mall celebrates 5 years

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service Edgewood Area Mini-Mall celebrates its 5th anniversary of service Aug. 23. Activities begin at noon and include hourly drawings,

## Pollution Prevention



*Planting trees on the west side of the home is a method to provide shade and can save 30 percent on home-cooling costs.*

APG Pollution Prevention Program

food, and games for children and adults throughout the day. At 3 p.m. local artist Erica Martinez, accompanied by The Double Vision Dancers, will provide entertainment. The location of the event is behind the Edgewood Mini-Mall, building E-4010. It is open to all military, civilian and contractor ID card holders. For more information, call Deirdre Taylor, Edgewood Shoppette, 410-671-6097.

### Photo Lab closed for relocating

The APG Photo Lab is closed for relocation to building 324 and will reopen for business on Aug. 26.

For appointments, customers should use the online Consolidated Help Desk on the APG Web page.

### No swimming at Flying Point Park

Flying Point Park is closed to all swimming activities.

Signs have been posted on Willoughby Beach Road identifying the area off limits to swimming. The sediment level in this area has caused swimmers to become entrapped, requiring emergency rescue.

### 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 in support of program goals 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).

### UMUC fall courses

Registration is now taking place for the University of Maryland University College Fall 2002 semester, which begins Sept. 4. On-site classes offered at Aberdeen Proving Ground 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 assistance or to register, visit the APG office of UMUC in building 3146, or call 410-272-8269 and 410-278-4632.

### Join the boat club

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity, or SIBA, is accepting applications for the 2002 season.

Requirements to join are: possess a government identification card for Aberdeen Proving Ground, boat registration, and proof of insurance. Costs are: for a moored boat - \$11 per foot, for a boat on trailer in parking lot space - \$8 per foot, for ramp access - \$7.50 per foot.

Membership requirements include the member performing eight hours of work for the club and standing security watches.

Membership is open to active duty military, full-time Army National Guard, retired military, Department of the Army civilians employed at APG, retired APG civilians, and full-time contractors with government ID cards. Details can be found in Army Regulation 215-27.

Applications can be picked up at the SIBA clubhouse, building 36, or at Outdoor Recreation.

For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124.

### 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 committee determines the amount of interest. 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 Aug. 26, 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.

# With an eye on reducing pest-bourne illness ...

## APG continues patrol against Lyme Disease

**Sheila Little**  
APG News

Her symptoms began gradually that summer, with migraine headaches, nausea, loss of appetite and extreme fatigue. Linda Kuchar, wife of retired Lt. Col. Tom Kuchar, was surprised when she was diagnosed with Lyme Disease three years ago.

At that time a resident of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Kuchar, a life-long healthy individual, said she spent most of her time driving the couple's twins to sporting events and caring for an ill relative in Philadelphia.

"Eventually, I just couldn't get out of bed," she said.

A fall trip to the emergency room of a local hospital ruled out the initial diagnosis of spinal meningitis, but her symptoms persisted.

In October 1999, Kuchar, who by now was experiencing facial paralysis or Bell's Palsy, a symptom often associated with advanced cases of Lyme Disease, was diagnosed with the disease through blood work done at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

She was admitted to the hospital and given intravenous antibiotics around the clock for three days before being allowed to return home. Kuchar continued daily IV antibiotic treatment for three

weeks at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Kuchar said that her case was one of the more difficult to diagnose because she wasn't a typical Lyme Disease patient; she had little contact with high grass and wooded settings, and didn't feel a tick bite or notice a bull's eye rash until after she started treatment.

She added that because her disease was advanced and caused neurological symptoms before being treated, she suffers some after effects to this day.

"I still have memory problems and think I always will," she said.

### History of the disease

Lyme Disease was first recognized in 1975 after researchers explored why an unusually high number of children in Lyme, Conn., and surrounding towns were being diagnosed with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

Investigators discovered that most of the children lived near wooded areas that harbored ticks. The first onset of symptoms generally occurred in the summer and was often associated with a rash and tick bite at the rash site.

Eventually, scientists determined that deer ticks infected with *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria were responsible for the

outbreak.

A similar outbreak of symptoms was described in European literature as early as 1900, and the disease may have traveled to the U.S. from there. Current statistics indicate Lyme Disease is endemic



Photo courtesy of CHPPM  
Left, adult female American dog tick, center, female deer tick, and far right, male deer tick. Shown much larger than actual size.

to certain areas of Europe and Asia.

### APG and infected ticks

Not all ticks are infected with the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease, however this area is inundated with deer, the favorite host of the deer tick, and has ideal surroundings for ticks--wooded areas adjacent to high, grassy, shady fields. These factors contribute to an infected tick population of approximately 20 to 25 percent at APG, making avoiding ticks especially important for those in this area.

### Case 2

With a job requiring a lot of time spent in the wooded and grassy areas of APG, Dr. Tom Harkin, an entomologist with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, has contracted Lyme Disease twice.

In 1996, Harkin was mow-

ing grass when he discovered a "significant rash" on the back of his thigh.

The growing bulls eye, spreading to the front of his leg and eventually overlapping itself, coupled with extreme fatigue, sent Harkin to the Edgewood Area Troop Medical Clinic.

A blood sample confirmed the Lyme Disease diagnosis. Undergoing treatment with antibiotics for six weeks, Harkin said the rash went away within a week and he felt much better within a month.

A second bout, less severe, occurred four years later when an attached tick was removed and tested at CHPPM. Once the tick was determined to be infected, Harkin underwent another round of antibiotics.

"Anyone who works on post can have ticks tested, either at the health clinic or at CHPPM," Harkin said. "It's a great resource, and I strongly suggest others take advantage of it."

He added that swift physician-directed follow-up treatment is key to a full recovery.

### Preventive measures

The following are suggested measures for avoiding a possible infection leading to Lyme Disease.

- Near the home, keep the lawn mowed to a short height, remove any brush, leaves or

dense undergrowth, and move piles of firewood away from the home.

- Outside the home, avoid tick infested areas such as wooded or high grassy areas, especially during mild spring or summer weather, but if you can't avoid the areas;

- Wear light-colored clothing so ticks can be easily spotted,

- Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and tuck shirts into waist bands and pants into boots or socks,

- Apply insect repellent containing permethrin to clothing, and DEET to exposed skin, and

- Wash and dry the clothing worn in tick-infested areas before wearing it again.

### Removing ticks

Using tweezers, remove the tick by grasping the mouthparts and pull back with gentle pressure.

Wash the infected area and apply antiseptic.

Save the tick for one month in a ziplock bag in the freezer. After one month, if no symptoms develop, discard the tick.

Remember that transmission of Lyme Disease requires an infected tick to be attached approximately 24 to 48 hours.



Illustration by B. TUCKER  
Removing a tick.

### Pets and Lyme Disease

If your pet is out and about, it may have been exposed to Lyme Disease. Dogs appear to be more susceptible than cats. Owners are reminded to check their pets for ticks every day, as APG includes many areas of prime real estate for ticks. Pet symptoms of the disease are similar to flu, and can include swollen joints and limping. All dogs treated at the Post Veterinary facility are tested for Lyme Disease exposure when they come in for their yearly exam, and if tested positive, are treated with antibiotics.

(Editor's note: Information from the National Institutes of Health Web site, [www.niaid.nih.gov/publications/lyme](http://www.niaid.nih.gov/publications/lyme), was used in writing this article.)

# APG shows no sign of West Nile

## Mosquitoes fade in the drought

**Sheila Little**  
APG News

With the announcement of new outbreaks and several deaths across the country from the West Nile Virus, entomologists at Aberdeen Proving Ground keep an eye on and destroy mosquito breeding grounds to lessen the likelihood of an outbreak at APG. So far, it's been working. Up to this point no APG birds have tested positive for WNV, but installation personnel remain vigilant in the fight to eliminate mosquitoes and lessen the likelihood of APG-related transmission.

### The spread of WNV

West Nile Virus, found in most areas of the world and first identified in the United States in 1999, is transmitted to humans through a bite from an infected mosquito. No person to person or pet to person transmission has been documented. In fact, dogs and cats remain relatively unaffected by WNV.

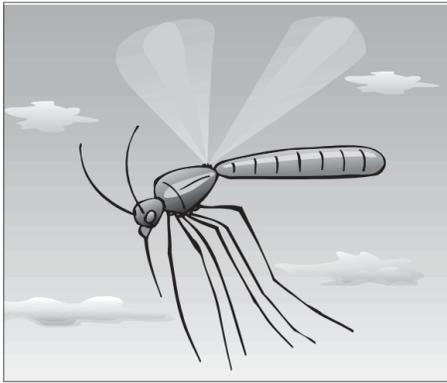
Mosquitoes spread the virus to humans, but initially pick it up by biting virus-infected birds. According to the Center for Disease Control, less than one percent of mosquitoes carry WNV, and while most infected people experience mild flu-like symptoms for a few days before recovering, in a small number of cases, particularly among the elderly, WNV may lead to encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain which can cause death.

Eliminating mosquito breeding grounds and following individual protection guidelines are ways that everyone can help stop the spread of

the virus.

### Control and tracking of WNV

Abdul Sheikh, garrison entomologist, said installation personnel control the mosquito population while protecting



housing areas.

"Once a trap reflects a sufficient rise in number, fogging is scheduled," Sheikh said.

He added, that if fogging is scheduled for housing areas, residents receive advance notice so residents and pets can be indoors and limit their exposure to the chemical, when the fogger drives through the area.

"And absolutely under no circumstances should anyone follow the fogger," he added.

Birds infected with the virus die after a few days, so the

soldiers, residents and employees of APG by using Mosquito Dunks, biological pesticides that are considered non-toxic to humans and pets. The dunks are used to destroy mosquito larvae and breeding sites in the housing, field training and recovery areas.

Sheikh said that larvicide has been added to remote marshes and swamps of APG to destroy mosquito breeding areas in the still waters of those areas, and periodically, when soldiers are not present, field training areas with high mosquito populations are fogged.

He added that entomologists at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, and personnel from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic have placed traps for mosquito population surveys throughout the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas, paying close attention to

spread of WNV is tracked through testing dead birds displaying no obvious sign of death due to trauma. Residents and workers on the installation can help entomologists keep tabs on the spread of WNV by reporting the location of dead birds with no obvious sign of death due to trauma to pest control, 410-278-3303. Note that this is the reporting number for those on Edgewood and Aberdeen areas of the installation. Do not touch the bird; trained personnel will pick it up for testing.

One infected bird has been found in Harford County this year, but no birds have tested positive at APG.

### Personal protection

Residents of housing and building occupants can help by identifying areas around their homes or work locations that may collect and hold water, and remove the potential mosquito breeding areas.



Photo by ABDUL SHEIKH

Directorate of Installation Operations personnel fog areas of the installation that are prime mosquito breeding grounds. This photo, taken last fall, shows the fogging of a deserted training area in Aberdeen. For safety reasons, all fogging is planned for times when areas are unoccupied, or personnel and pets are indoors.

Cleaning up water collecting debris such as buckets, tires, empty cans, flowerpots and kiddie pools will help in reducing the threat. Birdbaths should be cleaned at least once a week to reduce stagnant water.

If possible, wear long sleeves and long pants when outdoors, spray your clothes with a mosquito repellent containing permethrin, and treat exposed skin with DEET. When applying repellents, always follow the manufacturer's directions. Repellent may irritate the eyes and mouth, so avoid applying it to the hands of children, and avoid using repellent on those younger than 3 years old.

At this time, Sheikh noted, the area drought has a benefit, which keeps mosquitoes in check.

"Fortunately, there's not much standing water, so mosquitoes aren't a major problem," he said.

## LITTLE DOG LOST ?

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Someone might be searching for this 4 to 5-month old female puppy that was found on post last week. A possible Dalmatian or pointer mix, she will be available for adoption from the Post Veterinary Treatment Facility if not claimed by Aug. 22. You do not have to be active-duty military to adopt a pet. For more information, call the vet clinic at 410-278-3911.





# Army News



## Army refines OER system

**Joe Burlas**

*Army News Service*

Though the latest version of the officer evaluation report accurately assesses officers' performance and potential, according to personnel managers, refinements to the OER system are on the way to address concerns from the field.

Approved refinements include: revising the rater portion of the report to separate performance and potential remarks; "masking" all lieutenant OERs upon promotion to captain; reviewing the possibility of masking chief warrant officer 2 OERs upon promotion to chief warrant officer 3; emphasizing current counseling and mentoring obligations; and conducting an annual assessment of the system.

The refinements are based on the recommendations of an

eight-month review of the OER system that ended in April.

"The officer evaluation report is doing the job it was designed to do — that is, to assess the performance and potential of officers in a manner that provides an effective tool to identify, assign and select the best qualified officers for promotion, education and command," said George Piccirilli, Total Army Personnel Command officer evaluation system chief. "We know the OER is providing selection boards the information they need to select the leaders the Army needs."

Piccirilli should know how well the OER system is doing the job it was designed to do as he briefs each officer board on the OER and reviews selection results and board surveys when the board concludes. He said he has gotten a lot of feedback in the last year that board members find it difficult to separate the rater performance remarks from potential ones, as both are entered in the same section of the OER. To alleviate that confusion, PERSCOM will soon put out a message to double space between performance and potential comments until the actual OER form can be revised and fielded.

The OER review was prompted in part by the officer Army Training and Leader Development Panel study, released last May, that reported a perception in the field that Army culture expected a "zero-defects" performance of its leaders. Following the results of the study, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki directed a deeper study of the OER system.

The decision to mask lieutenant OERs upon promotion to captain by moving the OERs to a restricted portion of an officer's file allows junior officers more room to grow, eases the zero-defects perception and effectively removes comments from a junior officer's file that may be a reflection of an initial learning curve, Piccirilli said.

"It isn't a free pass for promotion up to captain," Piccirilli said. "Those lieutenant OERs are present when captain promotion boards meet and are the basis for the promotion list it produces."

The officer ATLDP also found a perception by many officers that a "center-of-mass" check on the OER by the senior rater meant no possibility of promotion beyond captain.

Center-of-mass ratings are not a killer, Piccirilli said, and promotion board results bear that out.

Statistics from fiscal year 2001 and 2002 boards show that the majority of officers selected for promotion to major, lieutenant colonel and colonel had a mix of center-of-mass and above-center-of-mass reports.

Only about 10 percent of the officers selected for major, lieutenant colonel and colonel had all above-center-of-mass OERs when their boards met. In fact, 11 and nine percent of those selected for promotion to major in fiscal year 2001 and 2002 respectively had nothing but center-of-mass ratings in their files. For the lieutenant colonel selections, 17 percent of those picked up had pure center-of-mass files in fiscal year 2001, and two percent in fiscal year 2002. The difference between center-of-mass

selection between fiscal year 2001 and 2002 reflects a larger population of mixed files, officials said.

Promotions are based upon Army requirements, Piccirilli said, and those requirements often dictate the selection line between promote and do not promote to be drawn somewhere in the center-of-mass population.

"A senior raters' ability to give above-center-of-mass ratings is limited by regulation to less than 50 percent of the reports rendered in a particular grade," Piccirilli said. "It allows senior raters the opportunity to advance their best, with the confidence others can't inflate."

As part of the OER review, surveyed senior leaders and junior officers were offered alternatives to the senior rater portion of the current OER. Almost all chose to remain with the current system, Piccirilli said.

"Feedback from selection boards clearly indicates that board members weigh an officer's entire file during deliberations," Piccirilli continued, "factoring in the officer's assignment history, career progression and evaluation reports."

Counseling was one area of concern identified by the ATLDP study. The subsequent OER system review found mixed results in field interviews. Some units conduct counseling very well — others don't, Piccirilli said.

By regulation, raters must conduct face-to-face initial counseling with all rated officers within 30 days of the beginning of the rated period. Periodic follow-up counseling should then be conducted as needed to make adjustments to agreed upon goals, Piccirilli said.

For rated lieutenants and warrant officers 1, quarterly development counseling is required and includes the use of the Junior Officer Development Support Form.

"We've found the best units schedule appropriate counseling in advance on their training calendars," he said. "It's a visible mark on the wall where everyone knows what is expected and when it is supposed to be done."

For officers not getting the required counseling, Piccirilli advised that rated officers seek appropriate opportunities to ask for rater feedback.

Counseling does not need to be a formal sit-down session — it can be a frank discussion at the motor pool or on the training range, Piccirilli said, as long as it covers the performance bases. Those bases include what the officer has been doing right, what he has been doing wrong, what improvements can be made and how he stacks up against other officers rated by the same rater.

"It can be tough to look someone in the eye and tell him he is at the bottom of the totem pole," Piccirilli said, "but every officer deserves to know where they stand before an OER is filed."

For more information on the OER system and officer promotion rates visit PERSCOM Online, [www.perscom.army.mil](http://www.perscom.army.mil), and select the Officer Information link under the Soldier Services section.

## Chip Gizmo links up with Beetle Bailey

**Patrick Swan**

*Army News Service*

Spc. Chip Gizmo reported for duty at Camp Swampy July 4 as Gen. Halftrack's new gadget-loving information-technology soldier. And one of the real Army's top info-tech officers had a hand in selecting the character.

Back in May, "Beetle Bailey" creator Mort Walker invited readers to enter a national contest to name a new computer-specialist character for the long-running comic strip. (APG News advertised the contest in its May 9, 2002

issue.)

Readers submitted more than 84,000 names. A panel of judges from government information offices, including one from the Army's G-6 staff, perused through the names, ultimately selecting "Specialist Chip Gizmo" for the job.

State Department employee Earl Hemminger, who said that he was helped by three colleagues, sent in the winning entry.

Had the judges felt differently, the new IT soldier might have been called "Fidget"

(Kelly Crowley); "Glitch" (William Mahan), "Geekster" (Paul Ottavio) or even "Scuzzy" (Kristine Stroud). Those names and several others were part of the top 12 finalists. In that case, Gizmo would still be on the unemployment line.

Instead, it is the spiky-haired, gadget-toting Gizmo who finds himself in military uniform, interacting with the familiar faces of Beetle Bailey, Sarge, Lt. Jack Flap, General Halftrack, and Miss Buxley.

"We believed that name accurately represents what this new character is all about," said Col. Edward Siomacco, who represented Lt. Gen. Peter Cuvillo, the Army's chief information officer, as a judge on the selection panel.

"Chip Gizmo is a name that is descriptive without being derogatory," said Siomacco, director of the Army's Strategic Communications and Initiatives Office. "Specialist is a rank that is appropriate for the job he performs."

See **CHIP GIZMO**, page 14



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Construction continues on the new Aberdeen High School, located on Paradise Road in Aberdeen. The old building was demolished last year, the site cleared, and construction started on the project that is expected to be completed in time for the fall 2004 semester.

## Classes

From front page

crowded hallways can lead to toe and foot injuries, especially if the shoe offers little in the way of protection.

### Backpacks

Students will not be carrying backpacks from class to class. Although they may carry them to and from school, new policy guidelines call for all backpacks to remain in student lockers during the school day.

### School entrance age

Under changes approved by the Maryland State Board of Education May 23, the month of birth for determining the age at which a child may enter school is being changed. Currently, those turning 5 by December 31, 2002 may enter kindergarten, but by the start of the school year 2006-2007, kindergarteners will have to turn 5 by September 1 of that year. The transition will be moved up one month each year until accomplished, and begins with pre-kindergarten. This year, the kindergarten cut-off birthday remains at Dec. 31, while pre-kindergarteners must turn 4 by Nov. 30. Next year, the kindergarten cutoff will be a fifth birthday by Nov. 30 and pre-K cutoff will be Oct. 31. The transition continues until a Sept. 1 birthday cutoff for all 4 and 5 year olds is realized in 2006.

### APG school liaison

Getting answers to school-related questions is a little easier this year, due to the appointment of a school liaison officer. Since December 2001, Ivan Mehosky has been providing transition support

services and educational resources for those arriving or leaving the installation.

"We can provide school location directions, bus schedules, parent guides, the parent-student handbook and course listings for the schools in the county," Mehosky said, adding that the additional resource may be especially helpful to parents arriving in the area with special needs students.

"Our goal is to make it a smooth transition for everyone," Mehosky said. The School Liaison/Youth Education Center is located in building 2752. Mehosky can be reached at 410-278-2857.

### Buses

Nearly 400 buses will take to the road this school year, delivering over 80 percent of the estimated 40,000 county students. Planning on continuing a good safety record, most buses are now equipped with strobe lights, amber lights, reflective stripes, and a front swing arm that operates when students board or disembark.

Drivers are reminded to allow a few extra minutes to get to work on school days, especially during the first few weeks of classes as students and buses get used to the routine.

Look for this year's bus schedule as an insert in this issue of the *APG News*.

### Meals

Prices remain at \$1.50 for elementary, \$1.60 for secondary school lunches. In addition, schools provide breakfast for \$1.05 per day. Milk is available a la carte for 30 cents, and a salad bar option and additional a la carte items are offered at most secondary schools. Meal tickets can be purchased ahead of time in multiples, or meal cards, an encrypted, non-trans-

ferable debit form of payment, can be used. In addition, some students may qualify for reduced or free meals. The paperwork to apply for reduced or free options is available through the school and should be sent home with your child during the first week of classes.

### School calendar

By law, the Maryland school year is 180 days for students. The Harford County calendar incorporates 4 additional days for emergencies or inclement weather. Those days, if not used, are dropped from the calendar during the last few months of school. Additional days, if required, are added in a similar manner. In addition, elementary teacher planning time is included in the calendar. On those days, elementary students will be dismissed at 1 p.m., morning pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students will attend 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and afternoon pre-K and K will attend 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. A condensed version of this year's calendar appears at the top of this page in an easy 'cutout' format.

### Contact numbers

Schools servicing APG include, in the Aberdeen Area, Aberdeen High: 410-273-5500, Aberdeen Middle: 410-273-5510, and Roye-Williams Elementary: 410-273-5536, or, in the Edgewood Area, Edgewood Elementary: 410-612-1540, Edgewood Middle: 410-612-1518, and Edgewood High: 410-612-1500.

Contact the APG School Liaison/Youth Education Office, 410-278-2857, visit the Harford County Web site, [http://www.co.ha.md.us/harford\\_schools](http://www.co.ha.md.us/harford_schools), or contact your local school for more information.

## School calendar for 2002-03

**Aug. 26**-Opening day for students in K-12  
**Aug. 28**-Opening day for pre-K  
**Sept. 2**- Labor Day, schools closed  
**Sept. 10**-Primary elections, schools closed  
**Sept. 16**-Yom Kippur, schools closed  
**Sept. 26**-Elementary school planning afternoon; students dismissed at 1 p.m.\*  
**Oct. 18**-State teacher's convention, schools closed  
**Oct. 29**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Nov. 4**-Inservice/conference day, schools closed  
**Nov. 5**-Election Day, schools closed  
**Nov. 6**-Inservice day, schools closed  
**Nov. 15**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Nov. 27**- Early dismissal for all students  
**Nov. 28 and 29**-Thanksgiving, schools closed  
**Dec. 11**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Dec. 24 to Jan. 1**-schools closed for Christmas, New Year holidays  
**Jan. 2**- Schools reopen  
**Jan. 17**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Jan. 20**-MLK birthday, schools closed  
**Jan. 27 and 28**-Inservice, no school for students  
**Feb. 12**- Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Feb. 17**-President's Day, schools closed  
**Mar. 4 and 26**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**Apr. 4 and 7**-Inservice, no school for students  
**Apr. 17 to 21**-Spring Easter break, schools closed  
**Apr. 22**-Schools reopen  
**May 3**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**May 26**-Memorial Day, schools closed  
**May 27 to 30**-Graduation week for Harford County students  
**June 5**-Elementary planning, student dismissal at 1 p.m.\*  
**June 11**-Last day for prekindergarten students  
**June 13**-Last day for students in K-12

\*When elementary students are dismissed at 1 p.m. for teacher planning, morning prekindergarten and kindergarten students attend from 9 to 10:30 a.m., and afternoon students attend from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## APG SCHOOL LIAISON UPDATE

### ROYE-WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Meet your child's new teacher and visit the classroom during Roye-Williams Elementary School Open House, Aug. 22 from 4 to 7 p.m.

A 'new parents' meeting follows the open house at 7 p.m.

For more information, call the school at 410-273-5536. (Note: Some teachers may not be present.)

## ECBC tests natural decontaminants for Biological Threats

Kelly Buckingham

ECBC

Scientists at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center are investigating the effectiveness of naturally-derived materials as decontaminants on biological threats, such as anthrax.

"Effective decontaminating of personnel, equipment, buildings, and terrain exposed to biological warfare agents is a priority concern for both military and other warfare operations," said Abe Turetsky, biochemist at ECBC. "The ultimate goal of the effort is to find safe, non-toxic, non-corrosive, and non-polluting replacements for standard biological decontaminants."

Many of these natural products are found in foods or in food products.

ECBC scientists surveyed 18 natural products or their active components, including herbs, spices and vegetables. The most promising anti-bacterial activities were found in

See ECBC, page 12

# Community Notes

**FRIDAY  
AUGUST 23  
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit the Aberdeen Police Association will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5. For tickets, call Judy Hinch, 410-272-7585, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**TUESDAY  
AUGUST 27  
ASMC LUNCHEON**

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Chesapeake Chapter, will host a luncheon Aug. 27 at Giovanni's Restaurant, Edgewood, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The guest speaker is Craig R. Tilghman, an investment representative from Edward Jones. His topic of discussion is investing and retirement planning and will include such areas as asset allocation/protection, recovering from market decreases, individual retirement accounts, Thrift Savings Plan and annuities. The menu consists of baked lasagna, chicken Marsala, salad, beverages and dessert. Cost for members is \$13; \$14 for non-members. Reservations must be made by noon, Aug. 26. If interested in attending, contact an ASMC representative.

**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.

**WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11  
DAV BEL AIR CHAPTER 30 MEETING**

The Disabled American Veterans Bel Air Chapter 30 will resume its monthly meetings 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. Erik 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.

**FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 13 TO 15  
BATTLE OF ANTIETAM 140TH ANNIVERSARY REENACTMENT**

More than 10,000 Civil War re-enactors will stage the battles of Fox's Gap (South Mountain military engagement prior to the Battle at Antietam), Bloody Lane, the Cornfield and A.P. Hill's Attack Against Burnside, at the Artz Farm/Allegheny Energy property near Hagerstown. Activities begin at 8 a.m. on Friday and continue through 5 p.m. on Sunday. Visitors may view artillery, infantry and cavalry demonstrations, and participate in workshops with topics such as "Women's Roles During the Civil War," "Food of 1862," "A Gentleman's Closet - What Men Wore," and "Civilians During the Antietam Campaign." Other activities include a children's area, a candlelight tour, an 1860s church service, a sutler's area and a dance featuring the "Libby Prison Minstrels." For more information, visit [www.antietamreenactment.org](http://www.antietamreenactment.org). Ticket prices are listed for each day or for the weekend. To order tickets, call 1-888-248-45497, or if visiting the Hagerstown area prior to that weekend, tickets can be picked up at the Hagerstown/Washington County Visitors Center located at the Elizabeth Hager Center, 16 Public Square, Hagerstown, or call 301-791-3246.

*(Editor's note: Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting a Sept 14. bus trip to this event for \$50, which includes bus transportation and admission. For more information, call Earlene Allen, 410-278-3854.)*

**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 14  
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit Good Shepherd Catholic School will be held at the Good Shepherd School, 810 Aiken Ave., Perryville, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5. For tickets, call the school, 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 16 to 18  
HOME OWNERSHIP SEMINAR**

Home Partnership, Inc., a non-profit agency will offer a three-part seminar on "How to Own Your Own Home" Sept. 16 through 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The health Community Center of Edgewood, 1837 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, will host this class at their facility. For more information and to register, call Gerrie Reeder, housing counselor 410-297-6700.

**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 21  
CWF HOSTS BROADWAY SHOWTRIP**

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to see "Phantom of the Opera" on Broadway. The \$99 price per person includes charter bus transportation and a ticket to the show. Bus will depart the Aberdeen Area at 6 a.m., and return to Aberdeen at approximately 11 p.m. There will be time for shopping and lunch before the show. For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever, at 410-278-4603/4771.

## MOVIES

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



**CROCODILE HUNTER  
(FREE ADMISSION)  
Friday, Aug. 23**

Starring: Steve Irwin, Terri Irwin

Aussie adventurer Steve Irwin, aka The Crocodile

Hunter, has avoided the death-roll and nabbed another feisty croc, hoping to save it from poachers. What Steve doesn't know is that the crocodile has innocently swallowed a top secret U.S. satellite beacon, and the poachers are actually American special agents sent to retrieve it. Crikey! (Rated PG)

**LILO AND STITCH  
(FREE ADMISSION)  
Saturday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m.**

Animated

Lilo adopts a small ugly dog whom she names Stitch. Stitch would be the perfect pet if he weren't in reality a genetic experiment who has escaped from an alien planet and crash-landed on Earth. Lilo helps unlock Stitch's heart and gives him the one thing he was never designed to have: the ability to care for someone else. (Rated PG)



**REIGN OF FIRE  
Saturday, Aug. 24, 9 p.m.**

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Christian Bale

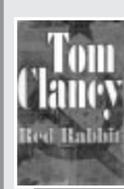
In present day London, 12-year-old Quinn watches as his mother wakes an enormous fire-breathing beast from its

centuries-long slumber. Twenty years later, the beast and its offspring have scarred much of the world. As a fire chief, Quinn is responsible for warding off the beasts and keeping a community alive as they eke out a meager existence in the English countryside. Into their midst comes a hotshot American, Dento Van Zan, who says he has a way to kill the beast and save mankind. (Rated PG-13)

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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

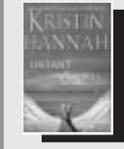
**Leslie**, by Omar Tyree. "To her Haitian immigrant father, Leslie's a princess. To her Black Indian mother, she's the reason to carry on. To her peers and teachers, she's the most likely to succeed. But when a number of New Orleans' murders all point in Leslie's direction, it becomes clear that no one has understood her personal struggles or her secret craving for the power that has always escaped her."



**Red Rabbit**, by Tom Clancy



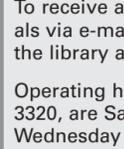
**Eleventh Hour**, by Catherine Coulter



**Faking It** by Jennifer Crusie

**The Commander** by Patrick Davis

**Unfit to Practice** by Perri O'Shaughnessy



**Distant Shores** by Kristin Hannah

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.

## ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

**AFTB OFFERS  
AUGUST CLASSES**

AFTB Level 1 classes in the Aberdeen Area will be offered at Army Community Service, building 2754, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.:

**Aug. 22:** Basic Problem Solving and Supporting Your Child's Education

**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.



**MYSTERY BOWL WINNER**

Edward Byers, a civilian APG Police officer, is the latest winner in the mystery bowl contest. (No photo provided.)

**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION NIGHT**

The APG Bowling Center celebrates its customers Aug. 30. Bowl for \$1 a game and rent shoes for \$.50. Great prices on hotdogs, sodas, and beer too. For more information, call Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041 or e-mail [dave.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:dave.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil).

**TAI CHI CLASSES**

These classes help develop coordination, footwork and balance through the four basic stances of Chinese martial arts. The cost is \$40 per month, or \$100 for three consecutive months. Register by Aug. 29 at the APG Athletic Center, EA Fitness Center or AA Fitness Center.

**Aberdeen Area Tai Chi**

Beginning Sept. 4, Monday and Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the AA Youth Services building 2522; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Russell Gymnasium; and 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center.

**Edgewood Area Tai Chi**

Starting Sept. 3, every Tuesday and Thursday, 6 to 7 p.m. at the EA Fitness Center. For more information, call Stacie Edie at 410-278-3931 or e-mail her at [stacie.edie@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:stacie.edie@usag.apg.army.mil).

**HORSE CARE AND STABLE MANAGEMENT**

To learn how to care and maintain a healthy horse, from grooming to safety procedures, sign up to attend a Horse Care and Stable Management class, Aug. 24 and 31 and Sept. 7, at the APG Saddle Club in Edgewood Area from 10 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$15. Register by Aug. 22 at Outdoor Recreation, building 2407. For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail [charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil).

**URBAN LINE DANCING**

Learn the basic moves of line dancing in eight weeks on Thursdays starting Sept. 12, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center. Some of the dances taught are the New Jersey hustle, cow funk and electric slide. Cost is \$45. Dancers must register by Aug. 30 at the Recreation Center. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail her at [earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil).

**BALLROOM DANCE BASICS**

Learn the basic moves of ballroom dancing, and get the self-confidence to be at ease before a room full of people in eight weeks on Thursdays starting Sept. 12, 6 to 7 p.m. at the AA Recreation Center. Cost is \$45. Dancers must register by Aug. 30 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](mailto:earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil).

**3RD FRIDAY PARTY**

Dance the night away to favorite tunes and enjoy the "mystery" entertainment Aug. 23 in the AA Recreation Center from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Open to permanent party military only. Tickets can be purchased at the AA Recreation Center and are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail her at [earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil).

**FALL WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

The tournament takes place Sept. 7 and 8 at Shine Sports Field and includes women vs. women and men vs. men. Both tournaments are double elimination and are open to military and civilian teams. Cost is \$150 per team. Teams are a 15 player maximum. Teams must register by Aug. 30 at the APG Athletic Center. For more information, call Donna Coyne at 410-278-3929 or e-mail her at [donna.coyne@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:donna.coyne@usag.apg.army.mil).

**INTRODUCTION TO CAKE DECORATING**

Learn how to make patterns and designs, do tube writing, frosting, flowers, and boarders. A cake decorating class starts Sept. 5 for five weeks at the AA Recreation Center from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$40. Register by Aug. 31 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](mailto:earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil).



# TriWest program partners with its patients

TriWest News Release

TriWest Healthcare Alliance's Disease Management program recognizes that the patient is the most important person in the disease management process.

The program, which began May 1, 2002, identifies beneficiaries with conditions such as diabetes, cardiac disease and high-risk pregnancy, and provides them with the specific educational and informational tools they need to manage their own health care in partnership with their health care providers and TRICARE.

The Disease Management program was conceived by TriWest's President and CEO David J. McIntyre Jr. as a way to improve the quality of care for TRICARE beneficiaries with certain medical conditions, who cannot or do not get services from military treatment facilities. McIntyre and TriWest's executive leadership team regard Disease Management as a program that is simply the right thing to do. The program was not mandated by the government or the company's TRICARE Contract with the Department of Defense.

"The Disease Management program is a concrete demonstration of TriWest's desire to improve quality with a focus on specific diseases," said Dr. Russell Jenna, TriWest's chief medical officer. "It has gotten very enthusiastic support from the Board of Directors."

Jenna noted that three full-time nurses (each of whom has a patientload) and a technician were hired to staff Disease Management. He described the program as "complementary to what the military has implemented on its own terms." Jenna said that TriWest is supplementing the patient-education activities of individual MTFs and is doing so with the approval of the TRICARE Central Region Lead Agent.

Judy Black, TriWest's executive director, Healthcare Services Operations, said the program provides education to help individuals take control of their diseases.

"People are more successful in self management when they have the knowledge to make their own informed decisions," Black said.

Disease Management is an opt-in program. Invitation letters are sent to beneficiaries identified, via claims research and referrals from the TriWest staff or the MTFs, as being high-risk for certain diseases or conditions.

The program's target population comprises the TRICARE Standard beneficiaries with chronic conditions who cannot or do not get services from MTFs. TriWest has initiated the Disease Management program as a way of empowering these beneficiaries to learn about and manage their health challenges.

Senior Case Manager Kathi Sobera said that the program involves a great deal of cooperation and communication with the MTFs.

"Cooperation so far has been phenomenal, even with changes in staff," Sobera said. "The MTFs are very helpful and supportive. We are collaborating closely with the Lead Agent Office, which has provided 'tool kits' of information assembled by the military, utilizing the VHA/DoD Population Health initiatives, for use in teaching about a particular disease or condition to help in our efforts."

The "tool kits", says Sobera, include doctors' clinical guidelines, videos and

pamphlets, and deal with topics like diabetes, asthma and smoking cessation.

The appropriate tool kits, along with educational materials from such accredited sources and organizations such as the American Diabetes Association and American Heart Association, are then used by the Disease Management staff in educating beneficiaries.

Because an estimated 21,000 diabetic beneficiaries reside in the TRICARE Central Region, diabetes is the program's first target.

"We are working hard to communicate with these beneficiaries and give them support," says Sobera.

She said that, with improved management, type-II diabetes' complications can be significantly decreased or hindered, thereby improving the quality of life for diabetics. Few diseases demand as much from beneficiaries, educating and encouraging these beneficiaries provides an opportunity for improved management and participation.

Other conditions being targeted for Disease Management are cardiac disease and high-risk obstetrics (OB). Currently, the Disease Management staff is identifying and preparing the resources for these phases of the program.

While cardiac disease affects an estimated 40,000 beneficiaries in the Central Region, no such estimate is available for high-risk OB. The Disease Management staff is investigating both the reasons that parts of the Central Region have higher numbers of high-risk OB cases and the numbers overall. They are also working to identify the best educational and informational materials with which to prepare high-risk OB and cardiac disease beneficiaries to take control of their health care and make informed decisions.

"Each beneficiary is his or her most important ally in the disease management process," Sobera said. "Giving them the tools for better health care management should ultimately make them feel better and give them a better quality of life." She calls the program a win-win situation for everybody.

TRICARE is a regionally managed health care program for active duty and retired members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors. It brings together the health care resources of the Army, Navy and Air Force and supplements them with networks of civilian health care professionals to provide better access and high quality service while maintaining the capability to support military operations.

TriWest Healthcare Alliance is a Phoenix-based management service organization that is contracted with the Department of Defense for the managed care support and administration of the TRICARE program in the 16-state TRICARE Central Region. TriWest's goal is to provide the region's TRICARE beneficiaries with access to high-quality, cost-effective health care and superior customer service. More information about TriWest and TRICARE can be found at <http://www.triwest.com> and TriWest Healthcare Alliance.

# TSP changes coming

Teri Wright  
CPAC

On Sept. 16, the Thrift Savings Plan new record keeping system will be up and running.

For a brief period while TSP closes out the old system and transfers TSP account records to the new one, some aspects of the TSP Web site will not be available:

- Electronic requests for Personal Identification Numbers or contribution allocations will not be accepted between Aug. 31 and Sept. 15. Paper requests received during that time will be held for processing on Sept. 16. Due to the transition, users will not be able to request an interfund transfer electronically through Sept 15. During that time you may submit a paper request on a

TSP Form 50, which will be held for processing on Sept. 16.

- Loan agreements and withdrawal requests must be received by Aug. 23 for payment in early Sep. Loan and withdrawal requests received after Aug. 23 will be suspended during the transition period and paid after Sept. 15.

Another big change will be the dates of TSP Open Season. Dates will be Oct. 15 to Dec. 31 and April 15 to June 30 each year.

For a comparison of how things are currently done, and how they will be changing, see the chart below.

For more information, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, 410-278-4331.

TSP Changes	
Now	After Sept. 16, 2002
<b>In General</b>	
The TSP is a monthly valued plan. Transactions are processed once a month.	The TSP will be a daily valued plan. Transactions will be processed each business day.
Account balances and transactions are processed and shown in dollar amounts.	Account balances and transactions will be processed and shown in dollar amounts, shares, and share prices.
Married FERS and uniformed services participants must obtain their spouses' waiver or consent for all withdrawal requests (except the prescribed TSP annuity)	For any withdrawal requiring a spouse's waiver or consent, a Federal Employee Retirement System or uniformed services participant must have his or her spouse's signature notarized.
TSP open season dates are Nov. 15 to Jan. 31 and May 15 to July 31.	TSP open season dates will be Oct. 15 to Dec. 31 and April 15 to June 30.
The TSP issues participant statements twice a year, for the periods ending April 30 and Oct. 31.	Beginning in January 2003, the TSP will issue quarterly statements for the periods ending March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31.
<b>Loans and Withdrawals</b>	
If you have a loan, you receive quarterly loan statements.	Loan information will be included on your quarterly participant statements, rather than on separate loan statements.
You must repay a general-purpose loan within four years.	You will be able to take up to five years to repay a general-purpose loan.
You can reamortize your loan only once	You can reamortize your loan without limit.
You can repay a TSP loan at any time, but only in full with guaranteed funds. (Personal checks are not accepted.)	In addition to repaying your TSP loan through regular payroll deductions, you will also be able to repay all or part of it at any time and do so with personal checks.
Only monthly withdrawal payments can be electronically deposited into your checking or savings account.	You will be able to have loan or withdrawal payments deposited electronically into your checking or savings account.
Withdrawals after separation from service must be for your entire TSP account balance.	After you separate, you may also be able to make a one-time partial withdrawal (if you have not made an age-based in-service withdrawal).
You can make a post-employment withdrawal as either a single payment, monthly payments, or a life annuity.	You can use any combination of these same options to make a post-employment full withdrawal.
You can elect to receive monthly payments for a fixed dollar amount or for a fixed number of months, or you can have the TSP compute your payments based on your life expectancy. You cannot change your election	You will be able to receive monthly payments for a fixed dollar amount or have the TSP compute your payments based on life expectancy. You will be able to make a one-time change from TSP-computed payments to fixed-dollar-amount payments. Once a year, you will be able to change the monthly fixed dollar amount you are receiving.
After you separate from service, you will receive an automatic cashout if your account balance is \$3,500 or less, unless you choose another withdrawal option.	After you separate from service, you will receive an automatic cashout if your account balance is less than \$200. No other withdrawal options will be available.
<b>Web site and ThriftLine</b>	
Both the TSP Web site and the ThriftLine provide general plan information and allow you to check your (monthly) account balance; make an interfund transfer; allocate future contributions among the five funds; change (or request) a PIN; find out the current loan interest rate; and learn the amount available to you for a loan	On both the TSP Web site and the ThriftLine, you will also be able to find out your daily account balance and daily share prices. On the ThriftLine, you will be able to find out your outstanding loan balance and loan prepayment amount. You will also be able to request that certain TSP forms and publications be mailed or faxed to you.
On the Web site, you can download TSP forms and materials and find out your outstanding loan balance and prepayment amount. You can also use interactive calculators to project a future account balance; to estimate annuity payments and loan payments; and to find out how much you can contribute per pay period without exceeding the elective deferral limit before the end of the year.	On the Web site, you will also be able to begin (and in some cases, complete) a loan or withdrawal request and refinance a loan. You will be able either to estimate the number of monthly payments you will receive if you choose to withdraw your account in monthly payments of a specified amount, or to estimate the amount of your monthly payment if you choose to have monthly payments computed based on IRS life expectancy tables. If you are separated from service, you will also be able to update your name and address.

## Drought

From front page

water is used. Awareness is the first step in conservation. The average person uses 50 gallons of water per day on the following activities:

- Toilet - 19 gallons per day
- Bathing, hygiene - 15 gallons per day
- Laundry - eight gallons per day
- Kitchen - seven gallons per day
- Housekeeping - one gallon per day

Use one of the following two methods to determine average daily water use:

**Metered Water:** If water use is metered, review the water

bill. Divide water usage by the number of days in the billing period and also by the number of residents of the household. If water is measured in cubic feet, convert to gallons by multiplying by 7.48.

### Unmetered Water:

If water use is not metered, water use for each fixture needs to be determined. Flow rates for showers and faucets can be measured by using a container and watch to measure the amount of water discharged through the fitting in a minute. Toilet use per flush can be approximated by measuring the volume of water inside the toilet tank (width x length x height) and dividing by 231.

(There are 231 cubic inches in a gallon of water.) After determining the water use of each fixture, record the number of uses and the length of time each fixture is used to determine average daily water use. Remember to estimate the amount of water used by appliances such as

clothes washers and dishwashers as well as home water treatment systems.

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.



## ECBC

From page 6

garlic and onion oils and their vapors. Other natural products also demonstrated a significant amount of activity.

ECBC plans on broadening the study to include viral surrogates and additional biological threats, and through a merger with chemical agent decontamination technology, provide the U.S. Warfighter with a complete chemical and biological agent decontamination solution.



*Heather Reeves, 18 years old*  
 Class IV, Black & White Process-First Place APG Youth Services and Northeast Regionals  
 "Surprise Visitor"



*Celena Core, 9 years old*  
 Class I, Color Process-First Place APG Youth Services  
 "Oh Beautiful"



*Andrea Rumbaugh, 11 years*  
 Class II, Digital-First Place APG Youth Services  
 "Da Boyz"



*Desiree' Jones, 8 years old*  
 Class I, Digital-First Place APG Youth Services  
 "Giraffe"



*Heather Reeves, 18 years old*  
 Class IV, Color Process-First Place APG Youth Services  
 "Lazy Spring Day"



*Rebekah Hutchinson, 10 years old*  
 Class II, Color Process-First Place APG Youth Services  
 "Flowing Sunshine"

# APG youths enter national photography competition

**Allison Forts**  
 DCFA

"Aberdeen Proving Ground Youth Services, chartered organizations with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, might just have some of the most talented photographers in the nation," said Norma Warwick, Aberdeen Youth Services director.

Youths from APG's Youth Services entered the ImageMakers National Photography Contest earlier this year.

ImageMakers, a program developed by Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Circuit City, is part of a comprehensive initiative promoting creativity in young people in photography, as well as encouraging artistic skills and cultural enrichment.

Warwick was instrumental in getting many of the youths to participate.

"I just wanted the kids to give it a shot," Warwick said. "When a youth looks through a camera, they see the world in a brand new way."

"We held a local contest here at Youth Services. Three local professional photographers from APG volunteered their time to judge the submissions, and we had our entrants to the regionals."

The winners representing the APG contest were Desiree' Jones, 8, who competed in digital; Rebekah Hutchinson, 10, in color process; Heather Reeves, 18, black and white process; Celena Core, 9, color process; and Andrea Rumbaugh, 11, in digital.

Boys & Girls Clubs members from all regions of the country submitted photography in four age divisions and five categories, including color process, black and white process, alternative process, digital and photo essay.

Reeves, who competed in a Class IV (16 to 18 year olds) contest in the black and white process, qualified for the regional competition and was selected to advance to the national level. Her photo "Surprise Visitor" placed her at the top of her category.

Photos from the regional finalist in the digital imaging category will be posted at [www.CircuitCity.com](http://www.CircuitCity.com).

"Through support from Circuit City, our kids are able to share and celebrate their creativity and uniqueness," Warwick said.

The Photography Club for first to fifth graders meets on Tuesday, 4:30 to 5 p.m. in the Art Room in building 2522. The 4-H Photography Club for middle schoolers and above meets on Friday, 6 to 6:30 p.m. at the same location. For more information on either club, call 410-278-4995.

# Sports & Recreation



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

## First place trophy

From left, Noncommissioned Officer Academy coaches Mark Wittle and Daniel Sifuentes, accept the first-place trophy from Col. Donnie Butler, APG Garrison executive officer, after winning the intramural softball post championship on Aug. 11. The academy defeated HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion, 18-1.

## Company C 16th leads in Commanders Cup points

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's intramural sports program is winding down to the season's final events - flag football, soccer and the awarding of the Commander's Cup trophy. Currently, Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion leads all units with 105 points courtesy of first-place finishes in the dead lift competition and intramural tennis.

Not far behind is Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion with 88 points; last year's winner, the

U.S. Marine Corps Detachment with 82 and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade with 74.

Also in contention are Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion with 60 points, and Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion with 44.

The final two sporting events could play a pivotal role in crowning this year's Commander's Cup champion.

Check next week's APG News for pre-season flag football and soccer tournament information.

## Commanders Cup point standings



Company C 16th	105	Company C 143rd	50	CHPPM	5
tennis, dead lift		HHC 143rd	44	MRICD	4
HHC 16th	88	USAF	38	KUSAHC	3
golf		3-on-3 basketball		HST	3
USMC	82	Company B 16th	32	SBCCOM/TEU	3
bench press		NCOA	31	520th TAML	2
HHC 61st	74	softball		203rd MI	2
basketball		Company A 16th	24		
Company E 16th	60	Company B 143rd	27		
volleyball		Company A 143rd	12		
		National Guard	5		

(Editor's note: Sport listed with team indicates post champion.)

## Chip Gizmo

From page 6

Cuviello, better known to some as the Army's top signal officer, said he was pleased with the selected name.

"Chip Gizmo is a good choice and a good agent for the Army signal community," he said. "When a comic strip as famous and beloved as 'Beetle Bailey' decides to recognize the importance of our Army IT efforts, we know we've arrived. This is just one more indication of the importance we 'knowledge warriors' play in the Army's Transformation to the Objective Force."

Gizmo's debut in the Beetle Bailey comic strip came July 4. According to a source close to Walker, the new IT character has

the background for his new assignment. He reportedly earned his bachelor's degree in computer science in 1992. In the mid-1990s, he landed a high-paying job with a fast-moving dot.com firm. Following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, he searched his soul for a means to show his enhanced sense of patriotism and love of country.

His search ended at Camp Swampy, when he enlisted in the Army.

Dell Computer Corporation underwrote costs for the "Name the IT Character" contest, with Northwest Airlines providing prize donations and the military Times newspapers offering promotional support.

Contest officials encouraged entrants to make a donation to the Fisher House Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides families of military personnel with temporary lodging in a home environment when visiting sick or injured active military members or veterans. More than \$105,000 poured in. This

month, to coincide with the opening of the newest Fisher House location, Dell is providing a desktop computer for each of the Foundation's 30 locations around the world.

"Our contest to name the new computer guy has been a lot of fun," Walker said.

Beetle Bailey made its comic-strip debut as a college cutup on Sept. 4, 1950 in a mere 12 newspapers. Today, King Features syndicates "Beetle Bailey" to more than 1,800 newspapers around the globe and it has become the third most widely distributed comic strip of all time.

In May 2000, during the yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of "Beetle Bailey", the Army honored Walker at the Pentagon with the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service, the highest award the Army can bestow on a civilian.

(Editor's note: Patrick Swan, Patrick.Swan@us.army.mil, writes for the Army's Chief Information Office/G-6.)