

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Oct. 30, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Time to fall back

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Oct. 27. Standard time resumes and daylight savings time ends at 2 a.m. officially on the last Sunday in October in each time zone.

Within your reach

Get answers about how the Army is safely eliminating the mustard agent stockpile stored at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. For information, call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 1011B Woodbridge, Center Way, Edgewood, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 410-676-6800, or visit Web site www.pmc.army.mil.

Retiree Appreciation Day, Oct. 26

APG will celebrate Retiree Appreciation Day beginning 8 a.m. at the APG Recreation Center, building 3326. The Installation Dining Facility will serve lunch from noon to 1 p.m. To make a reservation, interested diners should call 410-306-1153.

APG welcomes 'treaters'

Halloween and the traditional "trick or treat" activities will be celebrated at Aberdeen Proving Ground on Oct. 31. "Trick or treat" activities are specifically limited from 6 to 8 p.m., and an adult must accompany children under age 12.

Personnel driving in the housing areas during the "trick or treat" period are cautioned to exercise extreme care, and to be especially watchful for young children who may not be readily visible or attentive to moving vehicles.

It is strongly recommended that children either wear reflective markings on their costumes or carry a

See SHORTS, page 3

Tax forms to be available online

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

Defense Finance and Accounting Service is putting pay information at the fingertips of the military community.

Beginning in January, the 2002 W2 tax forms will be available online through DFAS' myPay system.

A personal identification number is needed to access personal accounts. Service members, retirees and civilian employees who do not remember receiving their PIN or do not remember the number can go to <http://www.dfas.mil/> and click on myPay, which is under the "Money Matters" heading.

Due to security reasons PINs are mailed to the recipients, and it could take from three to seven days to get the number after the request has been made, Ferguson said.

"We decided to put the W2 form online because we get a lot of phone calls from soldiers who are deployed, have lost their originals or for some reason need another copy," said Catherine Ferguson, a DFAS spokeswoman.

Troops can concentrate on their mission when they are not worried about pay and benefits, said Dennis Eicher, Electronic Commerce, Military and Civilian Pay

Services director. That is why DFAS is providing innovative and reliable tools, he said. Troops can take charge of their pay accounts online, Eicher added.

Some of the other finance actions that can be performed online to date are: purchasing savings bonds, managing allotments, viewing and printing travel vouchers.

Reviewing leave and earning statements online as far back as three months and stopping the delivery of the hard copy is also an option, which can save the Armed Forces money, Eicher said.

If just civilians received their LES statements electronically, the Department of Defense would save more than \$6 million annually, Ferguson said. It costs 34 cents every time a hard copy LES is distributed, she added.

Additional costs can also be avoided by eliminating customer service activities, Ferguson said.

"One of our goals is to allow customers to do online anything that they previously had to stand in line or wait on the phone to accomplish," Ferguson said.

MyPay was formerly known as Employee Member Self Service system. The system changed, but people don't have to change their PINs, Ferguson said.

Customers with questions about myPay can call customer support at 1-800-3900-2348, Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. EST.

The Great American Smoke Out day approaches

Stop for a day, pave the way to quitting

Milagros Borrero-Ruiz
KUSAHC

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

The Great American Smoke-Out Day falls on the third Thursday in November every year.

This year, Nov. 21 marks the 26th anniversary of The American Cancer Society's Smoke-Out Day.

The American Cancer Society's Smoke-Out began in 1971, in Randolph, Mass., when Arthur P. Mullaney asked people to give up cigarettes for a day. He also asked that they donate the money they would have spent on cigarettes to a high school scholarship fund.

In 1974, Lynn R. Smith, editor of the Monticello Times in Minnesota, spearheaded the state's first "Don't Smoke Day." From this, the idea caught on and on Nov. 19, 1976, the California Division of the American Cancer Society succeeded in getting nearly one million smokers to quit for the day, thus paving the grounds for the first Great American Smoke-Out Day, in 1977.

It is important to note that the smoke out has set the stage for the cultural revolution in tobacco. It has also helped spotlight the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of giving up smoking. Due to the efforts of individuals and groups that led anti-tobacco protests, there have been significant strides taken in the areas of research, policy and the environment. An estimated 47 million adults in the United States smoke and approxi-

mately half will die prematurely from smoking.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for men and women. This year alone, about 169,500 new cases will be diagnosed in the United States. More than 80 percent of lung cancers are thought to result from smoking.

For more information about The Great American Smoke-Out Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground, call the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic at 410-278-1774.

(Editor's note: Milagros Borrero-Ruiz, BSN, MA, is a community health nurse assigned to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.)



ACS celebrates national accreditation

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Army Community Service celebrated the attainment of national accreditation with an open house ceremony held Sept. 30.

Roy Ballinger, directorate of Community and Family Activities welcomed members of the community and invited guests, noting the activity met 211 accreditation requirements mandated by the Department of Defense.

"This means APG has a quality program for the community and assures more funding which drives how well our programs run," Ballinger said.

He welcomed Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, and Bruce A. Hildebrand, chief, Morale Welfare and Recreation Programs Branch, U.S. Army Materiel Command, who presented AMC certificates of appreciation to Celestine Beckett, ACS Chief, and the ACS staff.

"This is a happy day," Hildebrand said. "I know you all worked very hard to meet these standards."

He added that the APG ACS is now recognized as being in the "top echelon" of all Army

ACS activities. "You have assimilated lessons learned from Sept. 11 and are now in the highest state of readiness," Hildebrand said. "Your learning and growth will never end." In appreciation, Beckett announced the naming of the ACS playroom for Harold L. Moyer, AMC ACS program manager, and Accreditation Team Leader who, with two other AMC program managers, conducted the inspection. Moyer recently accepted another assignment and was unable to attend the celebration. "Mr. Moyer was very supportive with recommendations and encouragement," Beckett said. "He really helped us through the process." Larry Dumm, Chief, DOIM Public/Command Information Division, said the activity received word of its accreditation about four months ago.

"This is a great achievement for the ACS staff and APG," Dumm said.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, thanked guests for coming and invited all to tour the facility.

"ACS is there for you when you need them," Mark said. "Take this time to get to know the people and players of the APG community."

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

<p>Do observe and report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance. • Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information. • Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation. • Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails. • Unusual contacts on or off post. • Unusual aerial activity near or around installation. • Any possible compromise of sensitive information. 	<p>Do not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning. • Discuss military capabilities or limitations. • Discuss force protection measures, capabilities, or posture. • Disclose any information related to unit deployments. <p>Report any suspicious activity immediately to APG Police: Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222 Edgewood Area 410-436-2222 Your call may save lives!</p>
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Treating Halloween safely

Susie Ashby
DSHE

Halloween can be a stressful time for parents with reports of 'tamperings with treats,' safety on the streets, and children walking around in clothing they don't normally wear.

Treats

One worry many parents have is that their children's candy has been tampered with. Parents may think that razor blades, pins or drugs could be lurking in their child's boundless supply of sweets.

So what should parents of trick-or-treaters do? Inspect all of the candy your children collect. But don't make the mistake of only taking precautions for candy tampering; it's not the only Halloween danger.

Costumes

Children generally aren't used to walking in long gowns and high heeled or uncomfortable shoes. Children will be walking up and down many steps and curbs while trick-or-treating. Be sure costumes are short enough to avoid tripping. Outfits that include pant legs are ideal. Avoid high heels, floppy clown-type shoes or heavy boots. Find shoes that will both complement the child's outfit and be comfortable to wear. Create a brightly colored costume. Reflective material or tape (found at most hardware stores) will make children visible to cars. Place the tape on the front, back and sides of the costume so the child can be seen from all directions.

Many children have been maimed or killed because of a mask blocking their vision. Stairs, yards and curbs all become a problem when a child is wearing a mask that restricts sight. A safe alternative is a disguise painted right on the child's face. This creates endless possibilities for children to exercise their creativity. Use items such as lipstick, liquid base, blusher, eye makeup or greasepaint.

Although fire mishaps are not common during Halloween,

See SAFETY, page 7

Fashionable dancing



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Yvonne Harvey, one of several models who participated in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fall Fashion Show and Dance, Oct. 5, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, dances the Casper Slide with other party-goers before the show. The models were from the Baltimore-based Travis Whinkey and Company. The story will appear in next week's APG News.

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APG partners with Edgewood Elementary

Obligate expiring Dec. 2002 funds

ACA

Early planning and coordination are the keys to successfully obligating requirements, such as submitting purchase requests.

Because Contracting automated systems will be upgraded during the period Dec. 16 to 31, anyone having funds that will expire on Dec. 31 must have purchase requests and backup materials submitted to Contracting for the obligations to be made prior to Dec. 13.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting purchase requests by or before the dates below will enhance the Army Contracting Agency's ability to meet customer needs.

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 by Nov. 1*
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 by Nov. 15*
- Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million by Nov. 1
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 by Dec. 6

* There may be instances when this date may not be adequate for complex actions. In this case, the action must be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.

Although the PR submission schedule has been established to allow appropriate time to process actions through this system, customers are advised to submit their requirements as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of

funds going unobligated at calendar year end.

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Refer questions to Joyce Roberts, acting director, APG Directorate of Contracting, Army Contracting Agency by e-mail joyce.roberts@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, or call 410-278-0869; Renee Hodge, Technology Branch, at e-mail renee.hodge@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, or call 410-278-0881; Shirley Kelly, Services Branch, by e-mail shirley.kelly@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, or call 410-278-0854; or Martha Mitchem, Facilities Branch, at e-mail martha.mitchem@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, or call 410-278-2362.

Re-enlisting? Commissioning? Separating?
Retiring? Moving? PCSing?

When Change Happens... Update DEERS

Protect your family's health care!
Make sure your family's information is correct
or they could have difficulty getting care.

Update your information in DEERS today!

Take your information or papers to the
ID Card Issuing Facility or The Military/Unit Personnel Office
or online: www.tricare.osd.mil/deers (address changes only)

For eligibility problems call DEERS at 1-800-538-9552

Update DEERS
Keep the benefits coming!

TRICARE

Have you updated your DEERS information?

Courtesy of <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>

October is Eligibility Awareness Month and reminds all beneficiaries to make sure that their information is updated in DEERS. Information in DEERS should be updated whenever beneficiaries face life changes, e.g., new baby, retirement, deployment, etc. More information can be found at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/smart/deers_month.cfm.

What private organizations need to know

Roy Hillferty
OSJA

A new Army Regulation 210-22 has been published which deals with private organizations on Army installations. Members of POs meeting on Aberdeen Proving Ground for common social or non-business purposes should read and be familiar with AR 210-22.

A PO is a group that operates without any endorsements or support from the federal government. Any support or involvement by employees must be in an unofficial, off-duty capacity. Private organizations typically exist for some common charitable or social purpose. Some examples of POs operating at APG are the Bowmen's Club, the Military and Civilian Spouses' Club, the Officers Wives Club and the United States Army Ordnance Corps Association.

Each PO requires written approval from the installation commander to operate on-post. Requests to operate as a PO on APG should be sent to the Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: AMSSB-GCF-S, Building 305, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005-5001.

When requesting permission to operate on post, a PO must provide the following documentation along with the written request:

- A charter, articles of agreement, constitution, bylaws, or other authorization documentation acceptable to the installation commander. If affiliated with a national, regional, or state organization, the PO must include documentation of the parent organization.
- Documentation that states

the PO's nature, functions, objectives (including planned use of funds) and activities.

- An explanation of membership eligibility and responsibilities for all management functions.

- A statement of the PO's liability, if assets are not enough to cover all of its liabilities. The statement will include a provision that all State and jurisdictional laws are met. Also, it will address the extent of the POs members' personal liability for debts of, or claims against the private organization.

- Agreement to reimburse the Army for utility expenses unless use is incidental.

- A statement that the PO will neither propagate extremist activities nor advocate violence against others or the violent overthrow of the government.

- Statement that the PO activities will not seek to deprive individuals of their civil rights.

Once approved, the PO may operate on post for a period of two years unless cancelled by either the PO or the commander. The approval expires automatically two years from the date of the last approval, unless revalidated.

A PO wishing to continue to meet on post should request revalidation before the two-year period expires. The request must be submitted to the address listed above no less than 90 days before the expiration of the two-year approval. A request for revalidation will include documentation listed above including any changes in the private organization activities, objectives, organization, constitution, membership and so forth.



Visit the redesigned
APG News Web site at
www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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

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

For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@usag.apg.army.mil.

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

Staff

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- Public Affairs Officer George P. Mercer
- Editor Debi Horne
- Editorial Assistant Marguerite Towson
- Contract Photojournalists Yvonne Johnson
- Sonya P. Reynolds, Sheila Little
- Contract Graphic Designer and Web Site Designer Diane Burrier
- Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

SOLDIER SHOW COMING

Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is a high-energy MTV-style 90-minute live musical review showcasing the talents of active duty soldiers who are selected by audition from throughout the Army. MWR hosts this year's performances at the post theater, building 3245. See Community Notes, page 8, for details



POST SHORTS

flashlight.

Access to the installation is limited to those persons who possess government identification cards and their guests.

The cooperation of all concerned is being solicited to ensure that Aberdeen Proving Ground has a safe and happy Halloween.

PX opens doors for 'trick or treaters'

The PX has scheduled trick or treating from 6 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 31, when most stores in the PX will give away candy to children in costume.

Judging for a costume contest for trick-or-treaters ages 14 and under begins about 5 p.m. The prize is a gift certificate. There will also be a contest to guess the weight of a pumpkin on display; the prize is a gift certificate.

For more information, call 410-272-6828/5784.

Influenza shots at KUSAHC

The annual Influenza Immunization Program is in progress at Kirk U. S. Army Health Clinic. The primary goal of the program is to vaccinate all active duty students and TRICARE beneficiaries over 65 at high risk as soon as possible.

Patients over 65 at high risk will need a prescription from their provider.

The Immunization Clinic hours for flu shots are Monday and Friday, 8 to 11:30 a.m. and Wednesday, 1 to 3:30 p.m. on the first floor in the Immunization Clinic. Immunizations for other category patients will be announced and will follow as availability of vaccine permits.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Elida Bush or Audrey Alba at 410-278-1746.

Auto Craft Shop offers Veterans' Day specials

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Automotive Craft Center is offering its annual Veterans' Day customer appreciation special Nov. 9 and 10. During regular business hours, bay fees will be reduced by \$1 and there will be complimentary coffee and donuts for patrons.

For more information, contact Cal Adams, manager, at 410-278-2884 or e-mail him at cal.adams@usag.apg.army.mil

APG Newcomer Orientation Oct. 24

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Newcomer Orientation will be held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, Oct. 24, 1 to 3 p.m.

All military and civilian personnel, retirees and their family members are invited.

Representatives of support agencies and organizations will be present to discuss their activities.

New employees are invited to visit display tables featuring information about community services and activities.

For more information contact Godofredo (Fred) Posadas, relocation manager, Army Community Service, at 410-278-2453.

Job Fair Oct. 25

Individuals seeking employment should plan to attend the Harford County Job Fair at the Richlin Ballroom, 1700 Van Bibber Road, I-95 Exit 77, Oct. 25, noon to 5 p.m.

Representatives from 50 local and regional companies and government agencies will conduct interviews and answer questions.

Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service Employment Readiness program manager, recommends coming to the Job Fair as if going to a job interview, with copies of a resume in hand.

The Job Fair is free and open to the general public seeking employment. Interpreters will be available to assist the hearing impaired.

Sponsors of the Harford County Job Fair are the APG Army Community Service Employment Readiness Pro-

Pollution Prevention

Check windows and doors to see if they're airtight. Move a lit candle around the door and window frames - if the flame dances, caulking or weather stripping is needed. These are easy and inexpensive and can save up to 10 percent on electric bills.

APG Pollution Prevention Program



gram, Harford County Office of Economic Development, Susquehanna Workforce Network, Inc., Maryland Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation, Harford Community College and Harford County Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, call Howard, 410-278-9669.

2003 DoD Team Bass Tournament

The 78th MSG Services Division will sponsor the 13th Annual DoD Team Bass Tournament from March 30 to April 4, 2003, at Goose Pond Colony, Lake Gunter, Ala. The Bass Tournament will be limited to the first 200 registered teams.

Entries sent by mail must be received no later than Feb. 28, 2003. Only full payments of \$160 per team will be accepted.

Entry fees may be paid on March 30, 2003 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. and immediately after the tournament meeting. There will be a \$25 late registration fee from March 31 to April 1, 2003. No refunds after March 15, 2003.

Registrations will not be accepted after April 1, 2003. Registration must be filled out completely and signed by both team members. No guides are allowed during practice or the tournament.

For more information on rules and eligibility, or for reg-

istration, see the Web site <http://www.geocities.com/dodbass>.

EA Thrift Shop consignments curtailed

Until future notice, the Edgewood Area Thrift Shop, building E-2458, will NOT be accepting consignments or donations.

Sales hours remain Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 410-6767-4733.

Job opportunity at ACS

The Army Community Service Victim Advocacy Program has a contractor position opening for a coordinator.

Working closely with Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, the Family Advocacy Program, the APG Police, and other appropriate on- and off-post agencies who serve the APG population, the contractor will provide information and instruction on the prevention and treatment of family violence, as well as intervention and support to victims.

Period of performance is through Sept. 30, 2003.

For more information or to submit a resume, contact Celestine Beckett, Army Community Service officer, 410-278-2500, fax 410-306-2293, or e-mail celestine.beckett@usag.apg.army.mil.

When the school day ends, danger begins for the young

Carlos Phillips
Edgewood Area Youth Center

(Editor's note: Roxanne Spillett, president, Boys & Girls Club of America, recently wrote an article for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, addressing the danger posed for the young in America. Spillett gave her permission to paraphrase her article to customize it for local conditions, and let the public share in the important information she wrote.)

Today a phenomenon will occur as it does just about every weekday. It will happen not just in metro Atlanta but throughout the country. Although not announced in the press and with little fanfare, this event will be significant, quite apparent, loud and exciting. And it will signal the start of the most dangerous time of day - for our children.

It is the end of the school

day. When the last bell rings, nearly half a million of area children will leave their classrooms at about 3 p.m. That's like 10 sold out Baltimore Oriole games emptying at the same time. In the United States, some 53 million students will depart their schools. Some will go home to a parent, some will go to an extracurricular program and some will go to work.

But many - some 15 million throughout the country, or about 28 percent - will go it alone. Lacking adult supervision or access to an after-school program such as the ones offered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, these young people will be in danger. Numerous studies and statistics indicate that the rate of juvenile-related crime actually doubles during the hours after school. The period from 3 to 4 p.m. during a school day is

when a youth is most likely to commit a sexual assault. Studies show that from 3 to 4 p.m. children are more likely to be involved in substance abuse, sexual activities and crime.

Recent headlines serve to underscore how vulnerable children can be. It is time to address aggressively the after-school issue.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America has established

"Campaign 3 P.M.," an effort to raise awareness and encourage community collaboration to change the after-school world in the United States. Boys & Girls Clubs serve some 3.3 million young people in more than 3,000 neighborhoods. Seven out of 10 young people whom we serve live in an urban, inner-city environment. Half are from single-parent homes. Forty percent are from families with annual incomes of less than \$22,000.

Aberdeen Proving Ground is fortunate to have two excellent facilities to conduct after-school programs for youth first through twelfth grades.

The command's Home Alone Policy sets forth guidance for parents to follow in regard to youth at APG. The Army has fee-based programs for school-age youth and in addition, as part of our national effort to reduce danger to

youth during after-school "danger" hours, has instituted totally free after school programs for its middle school and high school-age youth services members.

While these young people seem particularly vulnerable, statistics and experience make it crystal clear that all children are at risk in the after-school hours if left unsupervised. The problem transcends demographics.

For the most part those responsible for violence in schools in recent years were not poor, did not live in inner cities and were not members of minorities. Many came from two-parent homes. Yet, after the closing bell rang, they often had little or no adult supervision or support.

The message of Campaign 3 P.M. is simple: Every child in America should participate in a safe, supervised, structured program after school - every day.

Children are now back in school. Serious focus needs to be given on where they go when the last bell rings. Every child deserves a safe, supervised place, with structured programming and dedicated caregivers.

To help solve this problem, visit one of APG's two youth centers to find out more about after-school programs or call the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522, 410-278-4995, or the Edgewood Youth Center, building E-1902, 410-436-2862.



ARL seals contract with Alliance, Inc.

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory, the Directorate of Installation Operations, and the U.S. Army Robert Morris Acquisition Center, formalized a partnership with Alliance, Inc., and NISH, formerly the National Industries for the Severely Handicapped, to provide employment on Aberdeen Proving Ground for disabled individuals during a ceremony at ARL headquarters, building 4600, Sept. 26.

Five members of Alliance, Inc., and one supervisor were officially awarded custodial responsibilities of the building in keeping with the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program.

Alliance, Inc. offers rehabilitative assistance to the disabled. Through JWOD programs, NISH, develops and maintains employment and training opportunities for people with severe disabilities.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, led the ceremony noting the newly launched program places ARL in the same league as giant corporations like 3M and Mattel, which also utilize Alliance services.

"Today we celebrate the formation of a business partnership that provides meaningful employment to those in need," Mark said. "Our thanks to JWOD, ARL and RMAC for providing opportunities for government service with pay."

The Alliance crew includes retired Army Sgt. 1st Class Charles Woodard, on-site contract manager, and custodial workers Sarah Sheets, Yvette Beadles, Mark Arnreich and Judith Hill.

Organizers credited Kandi McDonald, RMAC contracting officer, with bringing about the change. McDonald said the arrangement would benefit the post in the long run.

She said that after much

See ARL, page 5

FOOTBALL UPDATE

The intramural flag football schedule follows:

Aberdeen Division

Schedule

Oct. 28
6:30 p.m.,
Company B 16th
vs. USAF
7:30 p.m., NCOA
vs. HHC 16th

Oct. 29

6:30 p.m.,
Company C 16th
vs. Company A
16th

7:30 p.m., USAF
vs. Company E
16th

8:30 p.m., Company B 16th
vs. USMC

Oct. 30

6:30 p.m., HHC 61st vs.

HHSB

7:30 p.m., Company A 16th
vs. Company E 16th

Edgewood Division

Schedule



Oct. 28
6:30 p.m.,
MRICD
vs.

Company
A 143rd
7:30 p.m.,
Company
C 143rd
vs.

Company
B 143rd
Oct. 30

6:30 p.m., Company B 143rd
vs. MRICD

7:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs.

Company C 143rd

ACS classes upcoming

Basic Spanish class

The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer free basic Spanish classes on Wednesday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., from Oct. 30 to Dec. 4, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road. Students should call for specific dates. Learn the basic structure, vocabulary of the Spanish language and how to communicate in Spanish. Spanish classes are available for military personnel, APG DoD civilians, and family members.

Improve English skills

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes will be held for those just needing a refresher course, or for those with little

or no English speaking and writing skills. Classes will be held on Friday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., from Nov. 1 through Dec. 20 (no class on Nov. 29), at Army Community Service, building 2754 Rodman Road.

This free class is open to military personnel, APG civilians, retirees and adult family members 18 years and older.

The class is also designed to give foreign-born adults an opportunity to improve English comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

American Citizenship class

The Army Community Service will offer a free class for military personnel or family members, preparing to take the test for American Citizenship given by

See ACS CLASSES, page 13

MWR

Tai Chi

Discover the ancient form of martial arts that teaches the integration of the body, mind and spirit using breathing and balance to relax and renew the mind and soul. Dr. Rocky Farley will teach Tai Chi martial arts classes Nov. 4 to 27, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the AA Youth Center, building 2522 and Nov. 5 to 27, 6 to 7 p.m. at the EA Fitness Center, building E-4210.

Register by Oct. 28, at ITR/MWR-Registration, building 3326; the AA Fitness Center building 320; or the EA Fitness Center, building E-4210. Participants must be at least 18 years of age. Cost is \$40 or \$100 for three consecutive months.

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Beginning skeet and trap

This instruction teaches the proper safety precautions and shooting techniques with hands-on training. All participants will be responsible for providing their own shotgun, clay targets and ammunition. Register by Oct. 28 at ITR/MWR Registration, building 3326. Cost is \$20.

For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

Chartered Chesapeake

Bay fishing

Travel out to the farthest depths of the Chesapeake Bay to fish the perfect fishing hole containing a variety of fish. This six-hour fishing trip leaves from Edwards Boat Yard, Inc.

Rods, tackle and ice are provided.

Register by Oct. 28 at ITR/MWR Registration, building 3326.

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Cosmic Halloween special

This is an 8 Pin No-Tap tournament, Oct. 27, at the AA Bowling Center for \$7 per person. Sign up by Oct. 27 with the Bowling Center.

For more information, call Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041 or e-mail dave.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil.

ARL

From page 5

nearly two years of planning, they settled on the ARL building for the first contract, which lasts eight years and includes incentives for performance.

"We wanted a sizeable building that would make it worth their wild, and a long-standing relationship" she said.

"This works because we share the goals of benefiting the those in need while benefiting ourselves."



— Army News —



'Use or lose' increased to 90 days for OEF

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

Soldiers who are helping to fight terrorists at home and abroad may be eligible to carry up to 90 leave days into the next fiscal year.

Special Leave Accrual will be granted to soldiers who have served more than 120 days in imminent-danger or hostile-fire

areas, said Lt. Col. Noble Lugo, a finance action officer with the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1.

Other criteria includes troops who are working more than 50 percent of the duty day supporting operations Enduring Freedom or Noble Eagle, or have been denied leave because of mission requirements, Lugo said.

The period in which the leave must be used is one year, officials said. A year extension may be granted if the soldier is still unable to take leave because of the mission. However, the extension will not be for more than two years, and leave days cannot exceed 90 days, officials said.

Under normal circumstances, soldiers who carry anything more than 60 days of accrued leave into the next fiscal year lose it. This is commonly referred to as "use-or-lose leave."

Special Leave accrual was first granted by the Department of Defense last September after terrorists attacked the United States, and leave was cancelled for many soldiers in support of military operations.

The final approval authority for the extended "use or lose" leave will be Major Command commanders, Major Joint Organization commanders, the director of Army National Guard and the chief of the Army Reserve, officials said.

Requests that do not qualify under the SLA criteria should be disapproved at the lowest command level, officials said.

Soldiers radio Webcast goes 24/7

Army News Service

Soldiers Radio and Television will soon Webcast music, live Department of Defense news briefings and Army radio news 24-hours-a-day.

Access to the new service is available through a "Soldiers Radio Live" button on the Army Homepage at www.army.mil.

Users must have Quicktime software installed on their computer to listen to the Soldiers Radio Webcast. A basic version of Quicktime is available free for private use at www.apple.com/quicktime/download/.

For a list of scheduled AUSA presenters and events, visit www.ausa.org and click on the 2002 Annual Meeting link.

SRTV has secured permission to Webcast vast digital libraries of classic and contemporary music through agreements with a number of music licensing companies.

Transfusions, West Nile virus addressed

Kathleen T. Rhem

American Forces Press Service

Officials are urging people not to forgo blood transfusions because of concerns about West Nile Virus.

"A blood transfusion is usually a life-saving or life-sustaining event," said Army Col. Michael Fitzpatrick, director of the Armed Services Blood Program.

Medical experts have recently reported several cases where individuals are believed to have contracted West Nile Virus through blood transfusions or donated organs.

Fitzpatrick said the risk of getting ill from West Nile Virus is so low that he would not want someone to choose not to get a needed blood transfusion.

West Nile Virus is generally spread through bites from infected mosquitoes. It is deadly for some types of birds and horses, but generally does not cause illness in humans, according to public health experts.

Fitzpatrick explained that most people who do become ill because of the virus experience only mild cold-like symptoms and never realize they are infected with West Nile. However, in the elderly, very young children or people with weakened immune systems, the virus can cause a deadly form of encephalitis.

Because of the reports of transmissions through blood, the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are warning blood donor centers to be especially vigilant in screening potential donors.

Fitzpatrick described this process as performing a "mini-physical" on donors - checking such things as temperature,

See VIRUS, page 13

Halloween can be fun, safe on APG

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground will participate in its annual celebration of awing children dressed as ghouls, firemen, super heros and princesses with lots of goodies, Oct. 31.

If walking the streets of APG spooks up the hairs on the back of the neck, don't worry those scary little heads about it. The PX has this covered with more trick-or-treating than any ghoul can handle. From 6 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 31, most stores in the PX are giving away goodies, candy that is, not merchandise.

If this is the location of choice, be sure to be suited up in the best Halloween costume to be found. Why, because there will be a costume contest for trick-or-treaters ages 14 and under. Judging begins about 5 p.m. Prizes include a gift certificate or a gift certificate and, a gift certificate.

Also during the course of the evening there will be a weight-guessing contest. No, they're not going to guess the weight of mom, dad, brother or sister, but rather the weight of a pumpkin. Whoever guesses correctly, wins the pumpkin and guess what else, a gift cer-

tificate.

Safety precautions

Halloween is not a day that should be taken lightly in lieu of all the fun activities associated with it.

There are some things that both parents and children must take into consideration during preparation.

To plan a safe and healthy Halloween journey, consider these helpful tips when trick-or-treating on APG:

- Make sure children eat dinner before getting started.
- Children 14 and under should be accompanied by an adult.
- If the child is going with a group of friends, make sure they bring along some change to call home in the event of an emergency.
- If the child is going alone, be sure they wear a watch, one they can read in the dark.
- Carry a flashlight.
- Walk, do not run.
- Stay on the sidewalk.
- Obey traffic signals, driving or walking.
- Do not enter unfamiliar areas.
- Don't cut across yards or driveways, use the path provided.

• Make sure costumes don't

drag on the ground.

• Be sure to have appropriate fitting shoes, even if they don't go with the costume.

• Remove Halloween mask when walking from house to house to avoid tripping or falling over obstacles.

• If using props such as knives or swords, be sure they are fake.

• Always walk facing the traffic.

• Wear clothing with reflective markings or tape.

• Never go to a house that is not lit up.

• Don't pet animals that are unfamiliar.

• When selecting costumes, make sure they are flame resistant.

• If the child is going alone or with a group of friends, parents should give a curfew.

• Inspect candy wrappings carefully and toss out any candy that looks suspect.

• Always be polite.

• Never pick up candy from the street.

• Do not enter a house, especially that of a stranger.

• Don't eat anything homemade, only that which is store bought.

• Never get into a stranger's

car.

• Dress as warm as possible, this is normally a cold night.

• Always carry a spare bag just in case your bag breaks.

• Trick-or-treating ends at 8 p.m. on APG.

• Always approach the front door of a house, never the back.

Safety

From front page

take certain precautions. Because many people decorate their front porches with jack-o'-lanterns containing candles, the National Fire Protection Association warns: "Avoid costumes with flimsy fabric, loose flowing sleeves and voluminous skirts." Also beware of the traditional billowing robes of ghosts and witches made of yards of worn sheets that can easily catch fire.

Whether using a bought or homemade costume, the material should be flame-resistant. Wool is a good choice because it does not promote combustion. Cotton fabric may be fireproofed by dipping it into a mixture of seven ounces of borax, three ounces of boric acid and two quarts of water. Let the fabric drip dry and then iron it. If the material becomes wet or is washed, repeat the fireproofing process.

Safety on the streets

Children may get tired and become careless about crossing streets. Cars pose the biggest threat to children after dark. If children trick-or-treat during the evening, a responsible adult should accompany them to ensure safe street crossings and protection from strangers.

One way to eliminate the dangers of evening trick-or-treating is to have a community or church-sponsored Halloween party in the afternoon or at dusk.

With forethought on parents' part, children can enjoy this holiday safely.

BEP to host MLK holiday trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund, in conjunction with the Black Employment Program is sponsoring a trip to Atlanta, Ga., to celebrate the Martin Luther King holiday, from Jan. 17 to 20. The theme for the 17th anniversary celebration of the King holiday is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On...Not A Day Off." Join the BEP to experience the birthplace of Martin Luther King as they visit the MLK Center, MLK home, historical homes and sites, along with a church service at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771. You may also contact Jackie Pitts at 410-436-2771, or Brenda Clayton at 410-436-3856, from the BEP Committee.

Community Notes

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 25**

VFW HOSTS INTERNATIONAL NITE

VFW Post 6054 in Perryman will host International Nite from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Reggae, Calypso, Soca, Latin and Indian music are part of the evening's entertainment. Bring an international flag and receive a discount at the door. Admission is \$5.

For more information, call Suzette Shields or Keith Hammitt at 410-977-0916.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit TEAM Diabetes 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. Tickets cost \$10; additional sets cost \$5.

For tickets, call Kim Kroening, 410-994-0446, or Virginia Davis, 410-273-7110.

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26**

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

VFW Post 6054 in Perryman will host a children's Halloween party, 2 to 5 p.m. Children should come dressed in their favorite, scariest, cutest outfit to be eligible for prizes.

For more information, call Suzette Shields or Keith Hammitt at 410-977-0916.

HOME OWNERSHIP SEMINAR

Home Partnership, Inc., a nonprofit agency dedicated to home ownership, will sponsor a one-day seminar from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at AMES United Methodist Church, 112 Belair Road, Bel Air. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required to attend; call 410-297-6700.

VFW HOSTS COMEDY JAM PART VII

VFW Post 6054 in Perryman will host COMEDY JAM PART VII featuring comedian Howard "G" at 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. For more information, call Suzette Shields or Keith Hammitt at 410-977-0916.

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 1
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 held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$8.

For more information, call 410-272-8318.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Aberdeen Lioness Club 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 Sandy Pierce, 410-273-7184.

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 1 and 2
2002 SOLDIER SHOW COMESTO APG**

Aberdeen Proving Ground Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host three performances of the U.S. Army Soldier Show, at the post theater, building 3245. This year's performance is entitled "Freedom Is Not Just a Word."

The Nov. 1 performance begins at 7 p.m. and is open to the general authorized public (Department of Defense civilians, contractors, retirees and their family members only.) The Nov. 2 performances are at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and are only for to active duty soldiers. There is no charge to attend.

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 2
WACVA CHAPTER 70 MEETING**

The Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association, Maryland Free State Chapter #70 will hold its monthly meeting 10 a.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Center. The agenda includes planning for Veterans Day activities and the Christmas project for hospitalized veterans at Perry Point.

WACVA Chapter #70 is dedicated to improving the lives of local veterans, regardless of branch. All women who have served or are serving in the Regular Army, National Guard and Reserve, Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Army Corps, and Army Nurse Corps are welcome to sit in on meetings to see what the chapter is about. Also welcome as prospective associate members are women of the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard.

For more information about the association, contact Sheila Smith, president, at 410-273-1687.

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 6
NATIVE AMERICAN HONORING CELEBRATION**

Everyone is invited to attend a Native American Honoring Celebration from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Recreation Center. Guest speaker will be Boe Harris-Nakakakena (which means 'rattles with feet'), a member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa of Turtle Mountain, N.D. Harris-Nakakakena travels up and down the East Coast telling people about her American Indian heritage and culture. Guest flutist will be Jeff Ball, a renowned Native American flutist. Included in the presentation will be food sampling, dancing, a slide presentation, videos, face painting, vendors and displays. Admission to this event is free.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Serino, 410-278-1534, or Carol Baker, 410-436-2182.

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 9
CRAFTERS WANTED FOR HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

Crafters are needed for the holiday bazaar at Prince of Peace Church, 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To reserve a space, call Dawn at 410-676-7785.

HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR

Prince of Peace Church, Edgewood, is hosting a holiday craft bazaar 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds will benefit church

programs including the Youth Ministry. To reserve a space, call 410-676-7785.

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 13
DAV BEL AIR CHAPTER 30 MEETING**

The DAV Bel Air Chapter 30 will meet at 7 p.m., at the VFW hall, 303 S. Atwood Road. Please show your support of the chapter and all the Veterans we service by your presence at as many meetings as possible.

For information and transportation, call 410-838-8325 or 410-879-0861.

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 16
VFW HOSTS "HOT IN HERRE" CONTEST**

VFW Post 6054 IN Perryman will host a "Hot in Herre" contest 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The contest, more like a local Mr. and Mrs. Universe (VFW), is for both sexes to compete in the areas of talent, formal wear and sexiest outfit.

For more information or to register, call Suzette Shields or Keith Hammitt at 410-977-0916.

**THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 20
APG DISABILITY AWARENESS LUNCHEON**

The APG Committee for the disabled will sponsor the annual Disability Awareness Month Observance Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Daniel Wilkins, president and owner of the Nth Degree, a progressive nationwide graphic design/silk screen/professional speaking company, and also co-founder of the Northwest Ohio Chapter of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association. Exhibits will be on display on the second floor from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (elevator accessible).

Tickets cost \$12 per person. To make reservations, contact the following committee members by Oct. 10. Make checks payable to IMWRF.

Angela Cheek, EEO, 410-278-1140; Judy Matthews, DTC, 410-278-1050; Terry Leicht, DLES, 410-278-3609; Linda Patrick, CHPPM, 410-436-1023; Mike Brown, DOIM, 410-278-2268; Debbie Pole, DRM, 410-278-2605 (TDD); Deana Boyd, ATC, 410-278-9186; Debra Dempsey, CPAC, 410-278-7148; Patricia Reeves, SBCCOM, 410-436-2917; Jeanne Boisseau, MRICD, 410-436-1815; Ginni Pippen, SBCCOM, 410-436-5639; and Annette Jones-Dennis, PMCD, 410-436-4164.

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 13
CWFTRIP TO DINNER THEATER**

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to the Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater, departing the Aberdeen Area at 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$49 per person, which includes charter bus transportation, dinner and the holiday show entitled, The Sound of Christmas.

For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 17
HOMELAND SECURITY WORKSHOP**

A Homeland Security Workshop, "Up Close & Personal," will be held at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. open to all Department of Defense, armed forces, law enforcement officials, and private industry.

Experts in homeland security and law enforcement, from the federal government and industry, will be presenting valuable workshops in wireless security, disaster prevention & recovery, identity theft, technical security planning, homeland security and much more. Technology companies will be on hand demonstrating the latest in homeland security products and related physical security products.

For more information about registration, workshop fees, agenda, speakers, and a complete list of vendors, visit <http://www.fbcinc.com/homelandsecurity>. For more information, call Mark at 1-800-878-2940 ext. 235 or e-mail mark@fbcdb.com. This workshop is sponsored by The Federal Business Council & The Training Co, in conjunction with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and PartnerPoint.org.

MOVIES

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



TRAPPED
Friday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 26, 9 p.m.
Starring: Kevin Bacon, Charlize Theron

Joe and Cheryl, along with Joe's cousin Marvin, have orchestrated and refined a foolproof plan to extort money from wealthy families. They've preyed upon helpless families with confidence, skill and success. But this time, they picked the wrong family - a family that chooses to fight back and take control of a terrifying ordeal that is spiraling towards an unthinkable outcome. (Rated R)

SPY KIDS 2 (FREE ADMISSION)
Saturday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

Starring: Antonio Banderas, Carla Gugino



Carmen and Juni are Level 2 OSS agents, about to set off on their own solo mission, or so they think. This time it will take the whole family - and then some - to keep the world safe from a mysterious volcanic island where none of their gadgets work and they have to rely on their wits and each other to save the day. (Rated PG)

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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

War Boys by M. A. Schaffner

In the Philippines, in 1968, amidst the weird mock suburbia of the Subic Bay naval base, the bars and brothels of the liberty port of Olongapo, and the mountains, jungles, and barrios of Luzon, War Boys follows 14-year-old Charles Barker and his friends as they try to balance sex, drugs, rock and roll, and their seemingly inevitable fate as children of the Cold War.

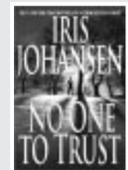


The Crimson Petal and the White by Michel Faber

Killjoy by Julie Garwood

The Vintage Book of War Fiction

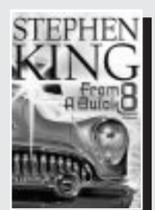
Blue Shoe by Anne Lamott



No One to Trust by Iris Johansen

From a Buick 8 by Stephen King

The Last Defense by Christopher Darden



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

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

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

APG SCHOOL LIAISON UPDATE

MILITARY PARENTS GROUP HOLDS FIRST MEETING

The first meeting for the new Military Parents Education Committee of the Edgewood Elementary School PTA will be held Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. at the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological and Chemical Command Conference Center in the Edgewood Area. Children are welcome.

WHAT IS THE MILITARY PARENTS EDUCATION COMMITTEE?

The Military Parents Education Committee is a grassroots group of parents with a desire to partnership between the local schools and the military community. This partnership will establish a support system and develop processes that address (and provide solutions when needed) transitional and other educational issues related to the military child. Working together can ensure that being a military child is a positive attribute and not a disadvantage.

Watch for future announcements for information on monthly meetings in this section of the APG News. For more information, call Debra Flowers at 410-676-2090.

PTA INFORMATION

One of the best ways to help children in school is to join the PTA. But the kind of PTA membership that is needed is active participation—being at meetings and helping out in various school activities throughout the year. What better way to be in the know and to support children and school than to be a vital link in the educational process and development of children.

Edgewood Elementary School PTA On Nov. 14, lunch with Allyn Watson for all PTA members who are in the 'Principal's Club.'

Aberdeen Middle School PTA meets the first Tuesday of every other month at the school's Media Center. The next meeting is Dec. 3.

HCPS OCTOBER BREAKFAST, LUNCH MENUS

Students will have a choice of proteins and vegetables each day. The prices are breakfast, \$1.05; elementary school lunch, \$1.50; and secondary school lunch, \$1.60.

APG CHESS KIDS-MAKING THE RIGHT MOVES

Introduction to Chess and Chess Club is offered every Thursday from 5 to 6

p.m. for 4th and 5th grade elementary school age children (younger children on a case-by-case basis) and from 6 to 7 p.m. for middle school age children at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522. Child must be a member of the Youth Center to participate. For more information, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

SCHOOLS OUT INFORMATION

Emergency or other important school news can be sent to home or office e-mail addresses. To sign up on a computer, follow these steps:

- On a computer, type www.schools-out.com in the appropriate location in the Web browser; hit the 'Enter' key.
- Under the "School Closing Information" heading, click on 'Maryland.'
- Under "Public K12 Schools," click on 'Harford County.'
- On the Harford County page, click on "I Want E-Mail."
- Enter an e-mail address in the appropriate box and click on the 'Subscribe' button.
- A confirmation e-mail from School's Out, Inc. will be sent.
- Call 410-588-5203 for more information.



Photo by JASON AUBIN
Suzanne Demme, center, 16th Ordnance Battalion, in her first tandem "jump for the cause," gives a thumbs up to her new attitude of living life to its fullest while her instructor Doug Forth, starts the 'circle of life' with other jumpers, Sarah Brownlee, left, and Mike Gelardi.

ACS classes

From page 5

Immigration and Naturalization. Classes will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 2 through Dec. 21, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road. Students should call for specific dates. Certificates are awarded at the end of the course. The class covers citizenship procedures, application, American history and the Constitution.

Basic German class

Sprechen sie deutsch? The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer free German classes 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6 through Dec. 11, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road. Students should call for specific dates. German classes are available for military personnel, APG DoD civilians, and family members.

(The ESOL and American Citizenship classes will be taught by Harford Community College instructors.)

For more information or to register for these classes, call Relocation Readiness at 410-278-2453/7474.

Virus

From page 7

blood pressure and pulse, and asking questions about the donor's general health.

"All collection centers have been doing this routinely for years," Fitzpatrick said. "This is merely a heightened awareness."

Fitzpatrick also urged donors who subsequently come down with cold- or flu-like symptoms to call the donor center and report their illness. Any blood or blood products from that donor will be quarantined from use in patients.

If the donor then sees a physician and tests negative for West Nile Virus, the blood will be cleared for use. If the donor has not been "cleared" for West Nile Virus, the unexpired blood will be disposed of.

Blood products have vary-

ing shelf lives. Red blood cells are stored for up to 42 days, while platelets expire after five days. Fresh-frozen plasma can be kept for up to one year, Fitzpatrick explained.

He said the military has an advantage over many civilian communities: an aggressive preventive-medicine program. He said West Nile Virus is a "reportable disease," meaning medical professionals are required to report instances of West Nile infection to the CDC.

If a reportable disease is detected in a military patient, preventive-medicine professionals would follow up to see if that patient had donated blood and make sure the proper authorities were notified, Fitzpatrick explained.

He urged people to continue donating blood. "There's a continual need for blood," he said. The only caveat, if you've had a minor illness, wait 14 days before donating, he said.

Cancer survivor 'jumps for the cause'

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

American Cancer Society, dedicated to helping everyone who faces cancer through research, patient services, early detection, treatment and education, has declared Oct. as Cancer Awareness Month.

The APG News Editor, asked that I cover a story related to cancer awareness. As I prepared to do so, how timely and ironic, I received an e-mail from a cancer survivor.

After reading her story, I knew it could only be told by her.

Written in her own words, Suzanne Demme, 16th Ord-

nance Battalion, tells her story of how she turned a negative situation into something positive.

"Yes, cancer changes your life. You can let it bring you down or you can take something negative and turn it into something positive," Demme said. "That's what I did. Cancer has changed my whole perspective on life. It made me realize just how precious life is. You just want to live everyday to its fullest and help anyone you can in any way. I've become stronger in ways I never imagined. I thank God everyday for being in my life and for all his blessings."



A breast cancer survivor's story -- the battle, the scars, the positive outlook on life

Suzanne Demme
16th Ordnance Battalion

"It all started in November 2000 when I had my yearly routine mammogram. Something didn't look quite right with the first screening so another mammogram was done in December. I wasn't too concerned since there was no history of breast cancer in my family.

Eventually, a biopsy was done and that's when I got the bad news, right at the beginning of the holiday season.

"We've got the results of your biopsy, you have Invasive Lobular Carcinoma." I was stunned, the words kept echoing in my ears.

I had to make a lot of decisions, the first being where to go for the best medical treatment. I selected the Mercy Medical Center, as the physicians and staff there were highly recommended.

Because of the type of cancer I had, I was faced with either having a lumpectomy or mastectomy with reconstructive surgery. And, depending on which treatment I chose, I also had to consider having chemotherapy and/or chemotherapy with radiation.

If I chose to have the lumpectomy, there was the possibility of the cancer reoccurring and eventually having a mastectomy.

After weighing the pros and cons, it was clear that mastectomy with immediate free flap reconstruction, was the best route.

During a consultation with Marsha Oakley at Mercy Medical Center, she explained what to expect during and after the surgery. Because of the chemo, I would lose my hair and feel fatigued.

She also pointed out a copy of Fitness Magazine with a cover photo of a woman mountain climbing, who had a double mastectomy. Though my condition was hard to accept, I thought if I ever got through it, I too would do something bold and exciting as did the woman on the cover.

On Sept. 29, I made a tandem skydiving jump along with four other cancer survivors and "jumped for the cause," at the Women's World Record Skydiving Event, "JUMP FOR THE CAUSE 2002," which raises money to benefit breast cancer research. The event was held at Skydive Cross Keys in Williamstown, N.J., and was organized by my daughter-in-law, Elaine Demme. Over \$10,000 was raised for breast cancer research.

Skydiving is not new to my family. My late husband was a pioneer in the sport and had over 1,400 jumps to his credit, and his son David and his wife Elaine, also followed suit.

I had an absolutely perfect day for my jump. David and other jumpers jumped with me.

We boarded a Skyvan Plane and climbed to an altitude of 13,500 feet where we exited the plane.

My jump was the most bold, exciting adventure I've ever had. It was exhilarating.

To all women who have or know someone with breast cancer, it's not the end of the world. Your life can be very rich and rewarding. You can accomplish great things."



Center; student Darby Brewer, posing as the school's mascot, an eagle, spreads her wings as she prepares to drop a copy of the APG News into the time capsule as part of the re-dedication ceremony of Edgewood Elementary School.

APG partners participate in Edgewood Elementary re-dedication

Story and photo by
Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

With the assistance of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Edgewood Elementary School held a re-dedication ceremony Oct. 6 on the school campus.

With a partnership that began in 1997, AEC played a significant role in paving the

way and showing the need to improve on existing programs.

Col. James Depaz, commander AEC and guest speaker, said he could not think of a better school that was more deserving of growth.

"In 1997, we signed the partnership agreement. Edgewood has always been known as a place where the staff and faculty care and make a difference," Depaz

said.

Also present as a guest speaker and to congratulate Edgewood Elementary staff, faculty, students and soldiers on its renovation and addition, was Harford County School District Superintendent, Jacqueline Haas.

"The facility in which people and students learn make a difference. All that we share together makes a difference for the children. It matters," Haas said.

To accommodate the diverse population and to provide a more advanced learning environment, it was decided that Edgewood Elementary needed more space, paving the way for more programs.

The 30-year-old structure went through a four-phase renovation from April 2000 to May 2002.

In addition to the renovation, three wings of eight classrooms have been added with a media center, which includes art, music rooms, computer labs, and more.

Instrumental in getting soldiers involved with the Edgewood Elementary School was Capt. Jeff Winston, AEC representative, who frequently volunteered his time to the school by assisting in different educational programs. Because the need grew stronger, Winston recommended that the soldiers of Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion volunteer their time as one of their community service projects.

Taking Winston up on his suggestion, the unit's Drill Sgt. Gary Johnson went forth with the plan and a partnership was born.

Soldiers from the battalion read to the students and assist in science night. In preparation for the re-dedication ceremony, the soldiers assisted in grounds preparation by cleaning the property before and after construction.

Another part of the school's face-lift, a Soldiers Garden was added, formerly referred to as the Butterfly Garden. The Soldiers Garden was the idea of Sgt. 1st Class Robert Holloway, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, who was then president of the PTA.

Faculty, staff, parents and partners, agreed that the school was due for an upgrade.

"The history of this project is the history of re-dedication, the history of hard work," said Mary Louise Pries, commissioner of Financial Regulations.