

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Sept. 18, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Relocation of Red Cross

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Office of the American Red Cross has been relocated from building 2477 to Room 111 in building 2752. This building is located next to the Army Community Services building on Augusta Street. The telephone number remains 410-278-2087. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday.

EA Re-Nu-It Center relocates

The Edgewood Area Re-Nu-It Center has moved [from building E-5703] to building E-5185, located on Magnolia Road, one block west of Route 24. At the Magnolia Road intersection, make a left on to 32nd street, go through the gate. The entrance door is 29A, which is directly in front of the gate.

The hours of operation are Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. For more information, call 410-436-2398.

APG Commissary offers 'Early Bird' shopping

The APG Commissary opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for 'Early Bird' shopping, offering limited service for customers to purchase up to 20 items. Limited service includes items that are normally stocked on the shelf at night.

The commissary opens at 10 a.m. for regular shopping.

Lunchtime Workplace 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 date is Sept. 16.

Topics include Introduction to Workplace Violence Prevention, Refining Your Communication
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MDARNG meets 'ChalleNGe'

Community bids farewell to noble warriors



Units stand at parade rest on Fanshaw Field prior to the Noble Eagle I farewell ceremony Sept. 5 for the National Guard and reserve soldiers who supported security efforts on the installation for the past year. From left, the 450th Military Police Company, Army Reserve, Nashville, Tenn.; the 61st Ordnance Brigade color guard; the 352nd Military Police Company, Maryland Army National Guard; and Company C, 1/115th Infantry Regiment, MDARNG. Not shown, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/115th Infantry Regiment, MDARNG. Coverage of the ceremony appears in next week's APG News.

Photo courtesy APG PHOTO LAB

Pentagon team eases stress of relocating

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

Less than a year later, personnel are moving back into the Pentagon area where dozens of lives were lost on Sept. 11, but a stress management team is roving the halls to help eliminate some of the apprehensions.

Resentment, vulnerability and uncertainty are only a few of the feelings Operation Solace is helping individuals work through before relocating. The program provides ways to help people emotionally adjust to tragic events. It is comprised of a clinical nurse, nine social workers and three Army psychiatrists.

"We go from desk to desk, and we've talked to more than 30,000 people about how they feel since Sept. 11. Some people have issues about moving to the new area, and for some it's just coming back to the Pentagon after being displaced for a year," said Sandi Hanish, a clinical nurse specialist.

Studies show that after tragic incidents only 25 percent of the people who need mental health assistance ever get it, Hanish said. So taking the service to the people instead of waiting for them to seek it out, is working a lot better, she said.

During August, Operation Solace held group sessions to teach employees techniques on how to stay relaxed. Some of the concerns include feeling rushed to move back to the area.

"I resent being forced to move back in the area so soon just so someone can say that it was rebuilt in less than a year," said a Pentagon worker from an office that lost 26 members. "However, I understand that by occupying the space again it sends a message to the rest of the world."

Comments made during the sessions are confidential, and one of the most important points Hanish stresses to military personnel is that the mental health assistance will not be noted in their records.

"We want to keep stress down, and we don't want people to worry about how this may affect their careers," Hanish said.

However, that's not enough for some individuals who have preconceived thoughts about talking to counselors.

"Moving back in the area opens a lot of old wounds because I lost a number of coworkers," said an individual who requested anonymity. "I know the stress team is here, and if it ever gets too overwhelming, I'll talk to someone. But I don't believe in running to doctors for every ailment. Stress and uneasiness is natural.

"I do credit the building team with helping to ease some of my apprehensions by adding neon signs on the bottom part of the walls. By placing lighting along the floor, people crawling in thick smoke can find the exits."

The Pentagon is a large population sample, and what is unnerving for some has brought on eagerness for others, Hanish said referring to moving in the renovated area of the Pentagon.

"There has been a lot of turnover since Sept. 11, and there are people here now that weren't here Sept. 11. They consider it a privilege to move into the new area. The wedge to them is a shrine," Hanish said.

Regardless of what emotions people have before moving, there are a number of ways Operation Solace helps people deal with the move.

"We walk people through the office which is a type of exposure therapy," Hanish said. "Usually after the walkthrough there is a greater degree of calm. I don't know what was in their heads - fears, questions, anxieties - whatever it was, they seem a bit more at ease."

Then there are breathing and muscle relaxing exercises. Just purposely breathing five to 10 times is calming, Hanish said. That's something people can do anywhere at anytime without causing too much attention, Hanish said.

The [best way] to seek relief, Hanish said, is by talking and doing what feels comfortable.

"If carrying your keys in your pockets is comforting, then I suggest doing it," Hanish said.

One organization in the Pentagon purchased gas

masks to increase the employee comfort level, which was a topic of discussion during one of the sessions when someone wanted to know if everyone in the Pentagon would get a mask.

The masks were the idea of that particular organization, Hanish said.

Some of the most important counseling sessions occur spontaneously instead of behind closed doors, Hanish said.

"There are times when I run into people in the hallways, and they just want to talk. I hear all the time, 'I know I haven't called, but I know you're there if I need to.'"

Operation Solace opened its doors Sept. 20 as a proactive approach to help people manage in the aftermath of the attack. Services are provided to civilians, active-duty personnel and family members of Sept. 11 victims. Along with the relocation support groups, the team provides informal counseling, referral services and self-help information.



Photo by JIM GARAMONE
Workers erect a scaffold for the stage at the site of the Sept. 11 ceremony at the Pentagon.

FWP awards top APG supporters -- Sauerbrey is guest speaker

Sheila Little
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program sponsored Women's Equality Day, Aug. 14, with an awards program honoring women and APG organizations for their achievements and support on behalf of the installation's female federal employees.

Keynote speaker for the Top of the Bay-based event was Ellen Sauerbrey, representative to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, former

Maryland House of Delegates minority leader, and a two-time republican nominee for governor.

Reviewing the strides made by female federal employees, women and organizations over the years, Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, said the installation and the Army have done well when it comes to promoting equality for women in the workplace, and are working to further expand women's access to success.

"Today's celebration recognizes great folks who have done great things here at APG," he said. "We recognize that when it comes to equality, we're light years ahead of some, but we're not there yet."

Doesburg added, "Our goal is to get women in positions of responsibility and authority across APG. Let's all work together to support each other in our efforts."

Sauerbrey spoke of her U.N. committee experience and what she has learned and observed in regard to the

circumstances of women throughout the world.

"I hope you know how blessed we are to live in the United States, where equality is available," she said. "In many countries, economic opportunity is just not available, especially for women. We provide the type of environment that encourages success."

"Women should be a part of the political process," she said. Sauerbrey added that women can be helped and can help their young families if they

See EQUALITY, page 4

Easy riding tribute



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Aberdeen Proving Ground firefighters Donald Wehry, left, and Robert Barr admire the 2002 Harley-Davidson Road King Firefighters Edition motorcycle customized by Robert M. Farrell Sr., on motorcycle, which honors the fallen firefighters of Sept. 11.
See story and photos on page 2.

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

Do observe and report:

- 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.

Do not:

- 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.
- Report any suspicious activity immediately to APG Police:**
Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222
Edgewood Area 410-436-2222
Your call may save lives!



Airbrush designs on the motorcycle of Aberdeen Proving Ground firefighter Robert M. Farrell Sr. depict two angels comforting a downtrodden firefighter, three firefighters raising the American flag in the midst of a smoldering Ground Zero, and an eagle weeping as the World Trade Center burns. The artwork is by Skip Eckert of New Oxford, Pa.



Firefighter ride shows 9-11 pride

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground firefighter has been winning contests and fans with a moving tribute to Sept. 11 in the form of a customized firefighters motorcycle.

Robert M. Farrell of Stewartstown, Pa., took first place in the People's Choice category of a Wildwood, N.J., motorcycle competition last week, and won Best in Show in Erie, Pa., Aug. 14.

The 2002 Harley-Davidson

Road King Firefighters Edition is bright red and covered with airbrushed paintings depicting the burning towers, firefighters, angels and flags.

Farrell lost his cousin Gerald Duffy, a New York City firefighter, in the World Trade Center collapse. He said he wanted to find a way to remind others about the tragedy, lest they forget.

"I will never forget," Farrell said. "I think people should look for reminders so they can always remember and not for-

get the sorrow that was felt that day around the nation."

He said the bike is a kind of therapy to aid the healing process.

"Some people have psychiatrists, I have my bike," he said. "I can work out any problems while I'm riding."

Farrell has been at APG 20 years, and a firefighter for 27.

He teaches at the University of Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute where he co-wrote some of the programs.

He said he had the bike made to honor the memory of the firefighters who lost their lives that day.

"It's a shame that it took that kind of catastrophic event to make people realize and appreciate what we do," Farrell said.

The airbrush designs on the Harley-Davidson include the burning towers with an eagle, on both sides of the gas tank; American flags; a weeping firefighter with angels; and three firefighters raising the American flag, on the saddlebags, and three seals of the Fire Department of New York.

"We lost 343 firefighters in one day, but we lose firefighters every day who you never hear about," he added. "This is for them too."

The license plate completes the look on the bike. It reads '343 FF' for the number of Fire Department of New York firefighters lost on 9-11, and when the bike is driven the license plate frame lights up "September 11, 2001."

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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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.

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POST SHORTS

Skills, Conflict Resolution, Managing Workplace Stress and Religious Toleration 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.

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

Safe boating classes

The Bush River Power Squadron will hold a safe boating course, 7:30 p.m., Sept. 17 at Joppatowne High School. The course runs for nine weeks; registration is the first evening of class.

For more information, call 410-515-0195, 410-378-3902 or 410-679-3951.

AAFES and commissary block sale

AAFES and the post Commissary will hold a block sale on Sept. 12, 13 and 14, at Springfield Street.

Items will include electronics, furniture, artificial plants, beer, soda, a mattress sale, canned vegetables, paper goods, household cleaners/detergents, sodas, salty snacks, pet foods and candy.

Quantities will be sold while supplies last. No rain checks.

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

Scheduling the Army Band (AMC's Own)

To schedule the band for a performance, call 410-278-4380 and leave a message for Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Simpson, operations supervisor.

Health classes

The following classes will be held in the Preventive Medicine conference room (Room A-12), located on the first floor at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

For more information and to register for classes, call Preventive Medicine, 410-278-1964.

Tobacco cessation: Classes are scheduled for four consecutive Tuesdays, 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. Weight control through healthy eating will be discussed.

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.

Pollution Prevention



Avoid over-fertilizing the lawn. Using more fertilizer than necessary makes the lawn need more water, and the excess fertilizer ends up in rivers, streams and lakes where it can upset the natural balance of these water bodies.

APG Pollution Prevention Program

APG HEP hosts Career Day Sept. 25

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

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

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

C&GSC offered in EA

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

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

Enrollment is open to active duty, Active Guard and Reserve, Army Reserve and National Guard officers in the rank of captain promotable and above. If planning to attend, enroll in ATTRS as soon as possible to insure a slot is reserved. The ATTRS numbers are as follows:

Phase I

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

Phase III

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

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

For more information concerning Phase III, call Lt. Col. Jan Kolakowski, 410-436-2755 (Work) or 410-836-6712 (Home), or e-mail him at jekolako@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

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 through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 410-676-6800, or visit Web site www-pmcd.apgea.army.mil.

APG Chapel offers Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold fall Bible studies Monday evenings at 7 p.m. on Joyce Meyer's "Battlefield of the Mind, Winning the Battle in Your Mind." For more information, call Cindy Sepulveda at 410-306-1780.

On Thursday mornings at 9 a.m., two Bible studies will be offered, "The Prayer of Jabez"

participants.

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

To discuss details of the trip, call Penny White, black employment program manager, at 410-278-7074 or e-mail penny.white@usag.apg.army.mil.

Historical Lecture Series

The Historical Lecture Series, which is sponsored by the Aberdeen Historical Trust, will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except in November, which will be held on the third Thursday) from 7 to 8 p.m. at Aberdeen City Hall. Admission is free, and light refreshments will be available.

The following lectures are scheduled:

Sept. 26, History of APG, Jeff Smart

Dec. 12, Alfred D. Hilton and the Medal of Honor, Jim Crissmer

Jan. 23, History of Aberdeen, Charlotte Cronin

May 22, Civil War in Harford County, Jeff Smart

Food handlers class

The Environmental Health Section of Preventive Medicine Services conducts a food handler's class on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, room A-14.

This is a 90-minute class from 8:30 to 10 a.m. and is mandatory for all food service personnel (military and civilian) in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Managers, directors or non-commissioned officers in charge of all food service establishments on post will ensure that their personnel attend this class.

Attendance at this class is a requirement for hiring new civilian employees.

Registration should be made at least three days prior to the class date.

Class size is limited and is based on first-call, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Spc. Chris Roberts at 410-278-1956.

Use both lanes

Drivers are urged to use both lanes as they approach the gates to APG's Aberdeen Area.

At the barricades, motorists should alternate the right of way - allowing every other car to move into the primary entrance lane, like a zipper.

This more efficient movement of traffic will speed up the process.

The provost marshal warns drivers who pull out in front of other vehicles, block traffic lanes or exhibit other aggressive tendencies, that they are driving on a federal installation and are subject to citations through the federal court system.

AA meetings held at APG chapel

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the Aberdeen Post Chapel, building 2485, every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This is an open discussion meeting available to the entire Aberdeen community, military and civilian.

Commercial Activities Hotline available

The CA telephone hotline at 410-278-7414, and CA e-mail hotline at CA.Hotline@usag.apg.army.mil, are available to provide updates and answers to your questions concerning the CA Study.

In addition, CA is now a choice on the first page of the APG Web site, www.apg.army.mil.

Toddler openings

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

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

Gate operations at APG

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground closes each weeknight at 8 p.m. The Maryland Boulevard Gate, Route 715, (Tank Row) is the only 24 hour-a-day, seven-day-per-week access point to the Aberdeen Area.

The Harford Gate continues to be closed each Friday at 8 p.m. and remains closed until 4 a.m. on Monday (unless Monday is a federal holiday, then it reopens at 4 a.m. on Tuesday).

Until further notice, the only gate open in the Edgewood Area from 8 p.m. Friday through 4 a.m. Monday is Route 24 in Edgewood.

After Hours Clinic

Effective immediately the After Hours Clinic at Kirk

U.S. Army Health Clinic is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Patients needing advice on health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518.

If you feel you have an emergency problem, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

EOC phone numbers

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Emergency Operations Center is under the direct control of the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment/Fire Department.

For information, call 410-278-3182 and 410-278-3183.

CPOC Web site updated

The Telegraph is available on the Civilian Personnel Operations Center homepage <http://cpolrhp.army.mil/ner/telegraph/tele1001/tellyframe.htm>.

Civilian retiree ID cards

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is responsible for issuing civilian retiree identification cards upon an employee's retirement. When the Request for Personnel Action for retirement is received in the CPAC, a retiree identification card will be sent to the employee at the employee's agency.

The employee should then take the retiree identification card with them when they clear post, to have their picture taken and the card laminated.

Clearance forms are obtained from the employee's agency administrative office. Point of contact is Teri Wright, CPAC, 410-278-4331.

The Personnel Claims Act - What is an unusual occurrence?

Susan G. Grendahl
OSJA

The Staff Judge Advocate Claims Office receives interesting and sometimes unusual stories involving claims for incidents that happen on and off post.

The Personnel Claims Act authorizes payment to soldiers and civilian employees for the fair market value of personal property lost, damaged, or destroyed incident to service.

Congress intended this act to lessen the hardships of military life by providing prompt and fair compensation for certain types of property losses. Some of these losses that are compensable involve "unusual occurrences."

Army Regulation 27-20 and Department of the Army Pamphlet 27-162 govern the payment of claims. These rules make it clear that simply because an occurrence is uncommon in everyday life, it is not necessarily defined as an unusual occurrence under the Personnel Claims Act.

An unusual occurrence is a hazard outside the normal risks of day-to-day living and working. An unusual occurrence takes place at a particular time and location. Two different types of incidents may be considered unusual occurrences. The first category deals with occurrences of an unusual nature, such as a lightning bolt striking and destroying a vehicle. The second type of unusual occurrence is one of a common nature that occurs in an unexpected degree of severity, such as a baseball-sized hail striking and denting a vehicle.

Here are few examples of some of the most frequently asked questions regarding claims.

Q: What does the Claims Office do about flying golf balls hitting vehicles?

A: Golf ball and baseball incidents are not considered unusual. An incident may be paid for only when the vehicle was used under orders for the convenience of the government. For example, a soldier is traveling in a personal vehicle on travel orders and a golf ball hits the car, while passing by the golf course.

Q: Will the Claims Office pay for rocks thrown up by lawnmowers or other vehicles?

A: This is also NOT an unusual occurrence and the same rules for the convenience of the government apply.

Q: A painter negligently painted too close to parked cars. Does the Claims Office pay for a new paint job?

A: It depends. This is not an unusual occurrence defined under the regulation. However, it could possibly be paid by the Claims Office under tort law if a government employee failed to notify vehicle owners to move their cars. Payment would depend on further investigation. Special rules apply if the painter is a contractor.

Q: How about "government deer" running amuck on post? Does the Claims Office pay for damages to vehicles?

A: No. It is not an unusual occurrence for a motor vehicle to strike a deer. This is something that occurs in daily life. Also, the animals and other creatures on post are not "government property." These occurrences are unfortunate, but it is a part of normal

life to encounter problems between humans, property and other living creatures.

Q: What if a tree falls on an individual's property? Can the Claims Office pay for this?

A: It depends on the circumstances. Normally, fallen trees and branches are not unusual, however, it is unusual for a large healthy tree or a significant portion of one to fall. If a U.S. government employee tasked with the job to mark and cut down dead trees, fails to do so within a proper period of time, a claim may be paid under tort law, rather than under the Personnel Claims Act.

Q: Will the government pay for property damages as a result of bad weather?

A: Bad weather comes in many forms, ranging from snow, hail, wind and ice. To determine if the damage was caused by an unusual occurrence involving weather, a claims examiner determines if the type of weather in question is unusual for the area. For example, a foot of snow sliding off a rooftop in Florida may be seen as an unusual occurrence, while in upstate New York, this may be a very common winter occurrence. Hail is not considered unusual unless it is exceptionally severe. Most wind damage is not compensable. However, if due to a government employee's negligence equipment comes loose during a wind-storm and damages property, this claim may be compensable under tort law.

For more answers to claims questions, call the Claims Office at 410-278-1591.

Protecting computers, files

Sue Rumbaugh
DOIM

Anyone leaving their computer, even for a couple of seconds, should secure it, to keep other people from intentionally or accidentally tampering with equipment or data.

For most PCs, a quick and easy way is to press "Ctrl-Alt-Del." A box will appear that gives several choices. Click on "Lock Computer."



This will lock the keyboard, and no one will be able to use it until "Ctrl-Alt-Del" is pressed again and the user enters his or her password.

This will return the user to the screen they were working on, without waiting through the lengthy re-start process.

System administrators, with the appropriate login and password, are the only other persons authorized to access anyone's computer.

Equality

From front page

are educated, free to inherit and own land, allowed to take out loans to finance education and business opportunities, given access to social services and offered appropriate protection in crimes directed at women such as rape and the trafficking of both women and their children.

"I've always believed that we can be anything we want to be in this country. So as we celebrate Women's Equality Day, let's also celebrate U.S. appreciation day," she said.

Following the speech the nominees for the APG Organization Most Supportive of FWP Goals, the Supervisor/Manager of the Year, and the Outstanding Woman of the Year were announced and an FWP-sponsored scholarship was presented.

Supervisor of the Year

Supervisor/manager of the year nominees support and nominate female employees within their organization for training, have them serve on award boards, nominate them for recognition and encourage further education as a means to succeed in the workplace.

Nellie Duprey of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center was named Supervisor/Manager of the Year 2002. Duprey is credited with serving as a role model to 21 civilian and 62 contractor employees, ensuring that all women are afforded training, mentoring and encouraging those around her.

Her nomination read in part that she is "proof that women who really care can really make a difference."

"We have a great group of cooperative and dedicated

employees at ATC that make my job easier," said Duprey. "I'm very honored."

Also nominated were Janis Seegar and Joseph H. (Jim) Zarzycki, both of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; David Mortin, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; and Capt. Felix Ortiz, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Organization of the Year

Outstanding Organization of the Year nominees exhibit strong commitment from the leaders of the organization in supporting and challenging women to achieve their highest potential and grow in excellence.

ECBC was named Organization of the Year 2002. During the past year, among other programs, ECBC recognized 85 years of women working at the organization, and is credited with challenging female employees to their highest potential.

Accepting the award, Zarzycki, technical director, said he was very honored, but credited the high caliber of ECBC employees, 30 percent of whom are women, with making his job easy.

"It's the quality of employees we have at ECBC. We recognize the enormous talent that there is there, and allow it to flourish," Zarzycki said.

Also nominated for organization of the year were the U.S. Army Environmental Center, KUSAHC, AMSAA, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, and U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

Woman of the Year

Linda D. Patrick was named Woman of the Year 2002. Over the past year, the CHPPM technical writer is credited with taking a leading role in Take Your Child To

Work Day and Women's History Month, promoting the FWP in the workplace, encouraging participation in the county's Habitat for Humanity Women Build project and increasing the awareness of issues that affect women.

"I didn't think they gave awards to pushy people," said Patrick, who said she has the reputation for encouraging or "pushing" those on the sidelines to get involved with FWP.

Thanking her family, co-workers, her supervisor and CHPPM for supporting women and women's issues, she added, "It's hard to accept an award for something you enjoy doing."

Named first runner-up was Rita Borzatti, AMSAA, who mentors summer hires, tutors students, and runs quarterly lunchtime focus groups for women.

"We're just doing what we

think is right," she said.

The second runner-up was Deborah Austin Asbury, of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Among other things, Asbury develops, sets up and presents training, and coaches others on becoming training leaders.

She thanked her supervisors and said working toward equality is "a lifelong commitment."

Also nominated were Gwendolyn M. Vick and Charlotte Albro and Kim M. Phan, all of ECBC.

Scholarship winner

The program concluded with the presentation of the Dottie Gorman Working Woman's Scholarship, valued at \$300, to Diane Scott, accounting technician, Directorate of Resource Management. Scott said she plans to use the money to complete an associate's degree in accounting at Harford Community College.



Photo by W. BEN BUNGER III
Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, looks on as Ellen Sauerbrey shows Sheryl Coleman, APG FWP chairperson, center, the patriotic goose decoy she received from the APG Federal Women's Program.

Four retire in August ceremony

E.C. Starnes OC&S

Mother Nature's display of liquid sunshine, a welcome event for Aberdeen Proving Ground, caused the August retirement ceremony to move inside. Four individuals were honored as Col. Kone Brugh II, deputy commander and chief of staff of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, hosted the event with Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Ayers, regimental command sergeant major.

Master Sgt. John P. Burford, William K. Blewett, Larry L. Kauffman, and Patricia M. Shires were saluted for a total of 126 years of federal service.

"We are here today to honor four great Americans who have served our nation at home and overseas in times of peace and war," noted Brugh.

"They are a diverse group," he continued, "coming from California, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and right here in Maryland. They have worked in varied professions in support of our great Army."

Brugh added that their professional roles included research and development, the budget, secretarial, and even training a well-known American boxer.

"Their strengths, diversity and unique talents have combined to make our Army great, and most recently, making Aberdeen Proving Ground a better place to work and live," Brugh said.

Master Sgt. John P. Burford

Burford was presented the Meritorious Service Medal, a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement, and a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation.

He entered the Army on June 21, 1976 and has served three overseas tours to include

Germany and Korea. He also served in Saudi Arabia from January 1991 through April 1991. His stateside assignments have included Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; Fort Carson, Colo.; and APG. He retires from Headquarters and Headquarters Support Company, 15th Military Intelligence Battalion, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Hood.

In addition to his military professional accomplishments, he also broke the pole vault record for V Corps in 1977 and won the javelin throw for U.S. Army Europe. Burford coached track and field at Hanau High School in Germany and helped train noted boxer Ray Mercer.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal and six Good Conduct medals.

Future plans include being the full-time owner/operator of John B's Dual Service and Lawn Care, serving as a volunteer leader with Camp Fire USA and continuing his education in small engine repair.

He retired on Sept. 1 with 26 years of service.

William K. Blewett

Blewett received a Certificate of Retirement and a Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Joann, also received a Certificate of Appreciation.

He began his civil service career as a U.S. Army Materiel Command intern at the Red River Army Depot in 1971. During his 28 years in the Edgewood Area of APG, he worked in research and development of nuclear, bio-

logical and chemical protective systems. Blewett tested and evaluated virtually all NBC collection protection systems developed by the Department of Defense during that period.

For seven years he was the principle investigator in a series of field experiments conducted by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command on the physiological and psychological effects of NBC on the battlefield. For 10 years he conducted studies to develop techniques and procedures for the safe entry/exit of protective shelters and decontamination of personnel.

In recent years, his work focused on applying protective systems to buildings and on assessing and reducing the vulnerability of buildings to chemical/biological attack. Blewett is the author of 60 technical reports.

Upon his retirement on Aug. 3 with 28 years of service, he was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. His retirement plans include continuing his work as a freelance sports writer, and running programs for youngsters.

He and his wife have three children - John David, Daniel and Annie.

Larry L. Kauffman

Kauffman received a Certificate of Retirement and a Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Brenda, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation.

He began his government service as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968 and served one tour in Vietnam.

In 1971, he began his civil service career as a U.S. Army Materiel Command comptroller intern at Picatinny Arsenal. In 1972 he transferred to the APG Comptroller

Office.

He has worked in numerous budget positions to include assignments at the Information Systems Command - Test and Evaluation Command, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, and the U.S. Army Garrison, APG. He has been the garrison budget officer since 1991.

He retired on Sept. 3 with 34 years of service.

Kauffman and his wife have three children - Scott, David and Michael.

His retirement plans include traveling, hunting and fishing.

Patricia M. Shires

Shires received a Certificate of Retirement and a Certificate of Appreciation.

She began her career with the FBI in Washington, D.C. She did not enjoy the "big city" life and left the FBI to pursue an associate's degree. She came back to federal service in 1964 with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command but left again in 1972 when her second child was born.

Shires returned to federal service in 1974 with the Psychology Department at Perry Point VA Hospital. In 1980 she transferred back to TECOM. A year later she moved to the APG Garrison Commander's Office, working for the Executive Officer. She was promoted to the position of APG Garrison Commander's secretary in 1985.

She retired Sept. 3 with 38 years and 10 months of federal service.

During her career she has received two Commander's Awards for Civilian Service, three Federal Executive Board bronze awards for Outstanding Clerical Excellence, Special Act Awards, performance awards and many letters of appreciation.

She has two children - Tina Marie Shires-Spinazzola and

Christopher. Her retirement plans are to spend more time with her family, visit her brother in Florida, and spoil her two grandchildren, Nichole and Aleshia.

"Our retirees grew up in different worlds," Brugh said. "They came into the Army at different times and for a moment, all too brief, they came together in support of our great United States Army."

"They have each contributed to the cause of freedom and our nation's quest to bring peace and prosperity to troubled times.

"Our retirees don't stand alone here today. Just as during their careers, they are supported by family and friends."

"To Joann, John David, Daniel and Annie Blewett; to

Tina Marie Shires-Spinazzola and Chris Shires; to Brenda, Scott, David and Michael Kauffman; and to Petra Burford, thank you for your support of our retirees. You have been the foundation of their successes and we deeply appreciate your sacrifices and long years of support. You are truly great Americans and we honor you today also."

Also participating in the ceremony were the Brass Quintet from the 389th U.S. Army Band (AMC's Own), Chaplain (Maj.) Ernest L. Vermont, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School and 61st Ordnance Brigade, and Drill Sgt. Consuelo Whitehurst, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, 61st Ordnance Brigade.

City-pair contracts offer deep discounts to federal travelers

Tanya N. Ballard GovExec.com

The cost of plane tickets for federal travelers will be even lower in fiscal 2003 under the new city-pair airline contracts awarded Aug. 8 by the General Services Administration.

Federal travelers will spend an average of 72 percent less than unrestricted coach fare tickets offered to the general public when they use designated city-pair routes.

GSA's Federal Supply Service awards the city-pair airline contracts to make cheap rates available for those traveling on government business. The contracts are awarded competitively, with awards based on the best overall value to the government. The best-value decision is determined on the basis of average flight time, the offered price, flight distribution and number of flights.

Nearly 5,000 city-pair routes will be available to federal fliers in fiscal 2003. Discounted rates include \$34 one-way from New York's LaGuardia Airport to Washington's Reagan National Airport (down from \$40 last year); \$290 one-way from Honolulu to San Diego; \$128 one-way from Atlanta to Baltimore; and \$164 one-way from Colorado Springs, Colo.,

to Los Angeles.

The tickets require no advance purchase and have no minimum or maximum stay requirements, travel time limits, charges for cancellations or blackout periods. The terms of the agreements are so favorable to travelers that airlines won't be offering the rates to government contractors.

Because federal employees said they wanted more nonstop flights, GSA awarded nonstop service for 1,732 routes.

A new feature introduced

by GSA last year was expanded to include more routes this year. The program offers prices even lower than the already discounted federal rates for a limited number of seats in 2,041 test markets. The restricted fares are anywhere from \$20 to \$100 less expensive than the traditional unrestricted, or "walk-up," rates available to federal travelers. For example, the "early-bird" one-way fare from Atlanta to Baltimore is just \$98.

The reduced fares are available only for a limited number of seats and federal travelers

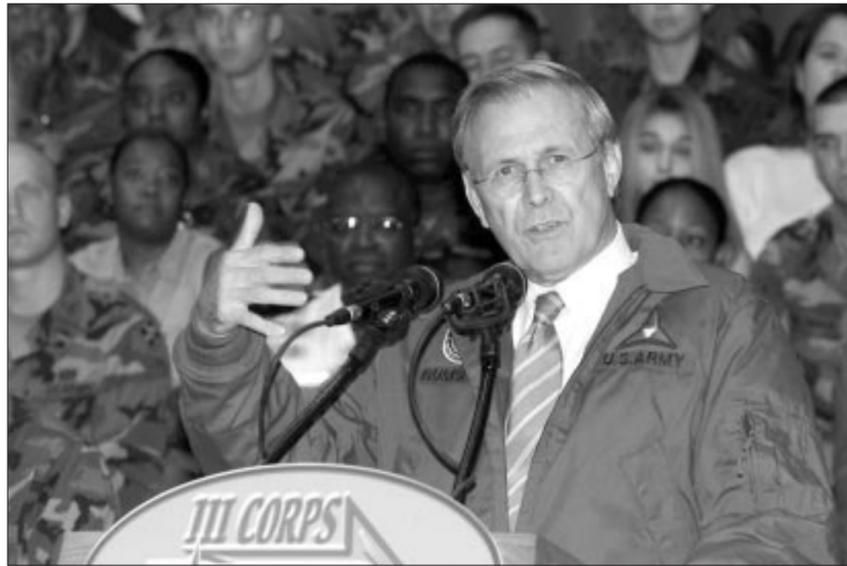
See DISCOUNTS, page 14



Army News



What soldiers want to know



DoD photo by SPC. GREG HEATH, U.S. ARMY
Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld addresses soldiers, civilian employees and family members at Fort Hood, Texas, during an Aug. 21 town hall meeting.

Army News Service

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld fielded a number of questions — some funny, most serious — during a town hall meeting at Fort Hood, Texas, Aug. 21.

The following summarizes the questions and Rumsfeld's responses:

Q: Will selective re-enlistment bonuses be reinstated?

A: When a shortage of required skills occurs, bonuses will be used to recruit.

Q: How good will battlefield medical assistance be if there's a war with Iraq?

A: "You must be with the press," Rumsfeld said with a laugh. He explained that battlefield care has been getting better all the time, but made no reference to Iraq.

Q: What is the future of the Army's fixed-wing platform?

A: Can't show bias. Concepts must evolve and be tested. He stressed the need for joint force mentality that will employ best possible air asset regardless of type.

Q: Will the spare parts for tanks get better?

A: The Army has done well planning and accepting risks and trade offs in certain of the disciplines but has not done well comparing between systems. One of the areas that we have to do better in is the spare parts issue. Having a viable repair capability is vital to every aspect of a positive soldier mindset.

Q: Will there be a program that provides educational opportunities for family members?

A: Don't know, sounds reasonable. There are lots of opportunities for soldiers.

Q: Will there be a Powell/Rumsfeld ticket for President in 04?

A: No!

Q: Will there be an effort to hire contractors to do non-soldier tasks?

A: He supports this idea but said there are congressional prohibitions against it. There is an outside chance Congress will change this year. Called upon a congressman in audience to push it upon his return to Washington.

Q: Will contractors hired under the Force XXI concept be on the battlefield?

A: Combat commanders decide employment of assets. Due to the type of work of some contractors, they will likely be on or near the battlefield.

Q: Is soldier security compromised by leaks to the media?

A: Leaks are serious and dangerous. He said he is appalled at how negligently cleared persons handle information entrusted to them. Personally, he feels that all persons leaking information should be in jail. [That response brought a loud round of applause from the soldiers.]

Q: Will there be any changes in dental and vision programs for family members?

A: Rumsfeld said that he does not know but will look into.

Q: Do you like baked goods?

A: Due to lack of exercise, Rumsfeld said, everything he looks at goes to weight, but the answer is yes. [Questioner invited him to a unit bake sale.]

Q: How will the recent trade deal between Russia and Iraq effect the Army?

A: Rumsfeld said he has not seen the details and then explained that Iraq has managed to strengthen armed forces through legal trade and retooling items such as dump trucks into military vehicles. He also said that Russia may be sending the wrong signal by dealing with the likes of Iraq. He said Russia has more interest in maintaining good future relations with the United States than with Iraq.

Q: What will happen to the U.S./Russian relationship if the United States goes to war with Iraq?

A: Rumsfeld used the question to reiterate that no decision has been made to attack Iraq. He said the relationship will not suffer due to the fact that Russia desires favorable future relations with the United States, even though it is owed a considerable sum of money by Iraq.

Q: What has been done to protect the military families living near installations?

A: "A lot!" A great deal of effort and money has gone into force protection to include increased awareness. It may not be the best it could be, but it is a lot better now.

Q: Is there any chance that the Crusader will be coming back?

A: "No!" Later, he revisited this answer and gave a presentation on the need to develop indirect fire that comports with the force structure that he described earlier in his appearance: lighter, flexible, accurate and lethal.

Q: Could the GI Bill benefits be extended to include family members?

A: A commission has studied the idea and has recommended that it happen. It is now being considered. It is possible that unused benefits by the soldier could be passed to family members. Rumsfeld said he thinks it a good idea and states that he is in favor of it.

Q: Is there a chance that Reserve retirement benefits will be available at age 55 instead of age 60?

A: People are living longer, Rumsfeld said, so why consider lowering the retirement benefit age? He used the question to expound on a strong work ethic and to promote his thinking that tours are too short. He also advanced the idea that people should be able to serve in the Army longer than is currently permitted.

Q: Will our transformation happen more quickly due to Afghanistan?

A: We must evolve our ability to deploy in the shortest possible time at the soonest possible date. Pressure to change methodology will come from the bottom up, as institutional lethargy will slow the much-needed change in our doctrine.

Q: Will service in Korea become tax-exempt?

A: He said he is aware that service in Korea resulted in some form of financial hardship for families. Rumsfeld also said that a former commander in Korea had proposed some form of relief. He did not know exactly what form it was to take, but agreed that something would have to be done and said he would look into it.

(Editor's note: Information taken from a summary provided by the Army Operations Center.)

'War Letters' author seeks letters from Afghanistan

Army News Service

One author is striving to preserve letters from every war in the nation's history, and he just told the Fort Hood community he is seeking help to preserve recent correspondence from Afghanistan.

Andrew Carroll, editor of "War Letters," visited Fort Hood Aug. 3 for a free book signing, and hundreds of military personnel, veterans and civilians flocked to express gratitude to Carroll for telling their stories and paying tribute to those who served.

In 1998, Carroll founded the Legacy Project, a national, all-volunteer organization dedicated to encouraging Americans to seek out and preserve wartime correspondence, and since then he's read 60,000 to 70,000 letters.

"When you read a series of letters by a 19-year-old kid, who's writing to his mom, telling her not to worry while he's in the thick of battle, and you see what a whimsical, funny character he is because you're reading his intimate letters - he really comes to life," Carroll said. "Then you see the telegram from the War Department saying private so-and-so was killed." Carroll ardently urged soldiers to seek out letters, whether they're found in basements, attics, scrapbooks or old trunks, and to send them to him at the Legacy Project.

"We will never publish anything without permission," Carroll said. "The contributors can edit anything. They can take their names out. They can take out locations, and they have full control over the material."

Carroll is seeking any e-mails or photocopies of printed letters sent from service members or from family members regarding Afghanistan or the war on terrorism.

"We are urgently, very intensely looking for these e-mails. So, anyone who knows of these, if they've written them or received them, if they have buddies who may have written some, we'd love to see them."

All of the proceeds from War Letters sales are donated to nonprofit organizations and veterans groups, said Carroll.

Carroll, a 32-year-old native of Washington, D.C., was first inspired by a documentary called "The Civil War," produced by Ken Burns. He decided to compile the book "Letters of a Nation."

After talking to veterans and hearing their remarkable stories, Carroll compiled and edited another book, "War Letters, Extraordinary Correspondence from American Wars," which featured 200 previously unpublished letters from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea, the Cold War, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Somalia and Bosnia.

"The idea of the book was born out of somewhat of a tragedy," said Carroll. "[My family] had an electrical fire in our house right before Christmas in 1989. An outlet exploded and sparks went everywhere. Everything got wiped out - just burned to the ground."

Carroll was in college at the time and went home to visit his family for Christmas only to discover that every material possession his family owned was destroyed.

"Nobody was hurt, which was the most important thing," recalled Carroll. "What bothered me most was that all of my letters were gone, because they were irreplaceable."

What started out as an effort to preserve wartime documents, ended up as a huge project

See LETTERS, page 7

Study recommends 63 changes for warrant officers

Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

An Army study released Aug. 22 recommends that warrant officers be fully integrated into the officer corps, paid more, and in some cases recruited from tech schools and college ROTC programs.

The study recommends a total of 63 changes to improve the training, manning and professional development of warrant officers. These recommendations will be reviewed by an Implementation Process Action Team at the Pentagon, an official said, to determine exactly how they can be implemented.

The study was conducted by the Army Training and Leader Development Panel over the past year with teams out of Fort Leavenworth, Kan. More than 7,430 warrant officers and others completed survey questionnaires for the study and 2,815 soldiers and family members participated in focus group discussions or in-depth interviews conducted at 75 locations worldwide.

One recommendation resulting from the study is that each branch establish a chief warrant officer position. Six of the 15 branches that have warrants already have such a position, according to Chief Warrant Officer 5 John Sparkman, director of the ATLDP warrant officer study. He said the aviation branch was the latest one to establish such a position.

Sparkman said one of the biggest recommendations of the study is to change the "mindset" of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command by eliminating the separate warrant-officer education system and melding it into the officer education system. He said warrants

should attend the officer basic and advanced courses right along with lieutenants and captains.

Combining the education systems is just part of integrating warrants into the officer corps, Sparkman said, a process begun in the 1980s but never completed.

Since 1987, chief warrant officers have been commissioned. But WO1s are still appointed by warrant. One of the panel's recommendations is to commission warrants immediately upon graduating from candidate school or their officer basic course.

"Some will feel like we're losing our identity, but that's just not the case," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mike Adair of the Army's G3 Training and Leader Development Division.

"A lot of people would look at the recommendations and a knee-jerk reaction would be that warrants are becoming more generalists," Sparkman said. "That's not true at all. It's just the opposite."

All education and career-progression would be branch-specific, Sparkman said, if the panel's recommendations are implemented. In fact, the panel recommends elimination of the separate warrant officer division at Personnel Command so that all assignments would be managed by the 15 branches.

Warrant officers would wear their branch insignia, instead of the warrant "rising eagle" on their collars.

"The big holistic view is stronger identity as part of the officer corps, and of the branch to which they are associated," said Sparkman, who is also in the warrant officer leader development position at Leavenworth's Center for

Army Leadership.

"Many commanders and soldiers today don't know the difference between a CW2 and a CW4 and figure a warrant is a warrant," Sparkman said. He explained that establishing an education progression that officers understand will lead to commanders knowing how to better employ warrants.

About 21,300 warrant officers are in the Army today - and they comprise about 2 percent of the total force. Fifty-four percent of warrant officers are in the active force, 33 percent are in the Army National Guard, and 13 percent are in the Army Reserve. Warrant officers serve in every branch except infantry and armor. More than half of all warrant officers serve in combat arms and 48 percent serve in the aviation field as pilots, maintenance technicians, safety officers and in other aviation specialties.

The study shows the Army is having problems recruiting warrant officers to serve in three intelligence fields, and to be CID agents. It also shows that the Army is having trouble retaining warrants in some aviation fields and in counter-intelligence.

One recommendation of the study is to recruit civilians with technical expertise for some warrant-officer technical fields. For instance, Sparkman said law-enforcement officers could be recruited as CID agents. And he said the Army and the ROTC Command might look to computer schools and other trade institutes to recruit for warrant officers in the signal branch.

Increasing the pay difference between warrant officers and NCOs would also help recruit-

ing for warrants, Sparkman said. He explained that there was a 13-percent pay jump from staff sergeant to WO1 when he became a warrant officer. Now there's only a 5.5 percent difference. And he said there's no increase in pay when going from sergeant first class to warrant officer.

When asked in a survey, "What would you tell the chief of staff of the Army is the most important change he can make to warrant officer training and leader development?" the top five responses were in the areas of the warrant officer education system, pay and compensation, the role of the warrant officer, technical/military occupational skill training and insufficient resources.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki chartered the ATLDP in June 2000. He instructed the panel, which convened at Fort Leavenworth, to examine issues affecting training and leader development, and empowered the panel to examine appropriate institutions, processes, tools and the environment.

The warrant officer study is actually the third conducted by the ATLDP and is part of the largest self-assessment ever done by the Army, officials said. It follows studies of the commissioned-officer and the NCO corps.

The panel completed Phase I (Officer Study) in May of 2001, and Phase II (NCO Study) in May 2002. The Army instituted a management process under the proponenty of the Army G3 to determine the feasibility, suitability, and acceptability of the recommendations. The ATLDP is also continuing its mission by examining Department of the Army civilians (Phase IV).

Recruit statistics improve over 2001

Joe Burlas
Army News Service,

Not only did the Army meet its recruiting goals early this year, but the quality of recruits improved over the previous year.

The Army announced it had met its 2002 recruiting goals of 79,500 new soldiers for the active Army and 28,825 for the Army Reserve in a Pentagon ceremony Aug. 22.

This year's recruiting goal for high school graduates was 90 percent. About 91.3 percent of this year's recruits have a high school diploma, compared to 90.2 percent last year.

Against a goal of having at least 62.5 percent scoring in the top half on the Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery for the active Army, 68.2 percent hit or surpassed the mark this year, compared to 63.2 percent in 2001.

Conversely, against a goal of having no more than 2 percent with the lowest accept-

able ASVAB score, also known as CAT IV, only 1.37 percent of active-Army recruits made it into the Army's ranks this year. In 2001, the active-Army recruit pool included 1.90 percent of CAT IV soldiers.

For the Army Reserve, 95.7 percent had high school diplomas, 69.2 percent scored in the top half of the ASVAB and .6 percent was CAT IV. No 2001 Reserve statistics for these categories were immediately available.

The average age for the active-Army recruit this year was 21. In the Army Reserve, it was 23.1 years.

In the 2002 active-Army recruit pool, 79.4 percent were male, 20.6 female; 65.1 percent were white, 17.5 percent black, 12.8 percent Hispanic and 4.6 other.

In this year's Reserve recruit pool, 69.5 percent were male, 30.5 female; 60.8 percent were white, 20.7 black, 13.1 Hispanic and 5.4 other.



Letters

From page 6

aimed at paying tribute to veterans and military personnel, and to broaden the world's understanding of every aspect of military life.

"I want to give people a glimpse of military life and what war is like, through those who were there; not interpretations, not filtered, this is what they wrote - uncensored," Carroll said. "It really humanizes the people who go off to war. I wanted this book to bring these people to life and to remind people who read this book that it's not statistics who go off and fight."

Michelle Rodriguez, a vendor at the Clear Creak Post Exchange, said after reading "War Letters," she believes it offers people insight into how soldiers really felt during wartime.

"I think it would be a good book to have in a history class because it would help the students better understand what the soldiers went through," said Rodriguez. "It's not Hollywood's portrayal. It's their actual feelings, thoughts and emotions. You don't always stop to think about how they deal with every day things, but when they put it down and send it to their loved ones, it becomes real."

The book offers unparalleled insight into the muddled lives of ordinary service members coping with wartime calamity. It's a tribute to the soldiers, Marines, airmen, sailors and family members afflicted by combat's wrath, according to the War Letters Web site.

"The book has made me put things in context," said Carroll. "It gave me a greater appreciation of what people have gone through for this country."

He added, "If you're going off to a hostile area, it doesn't really matter what the historical importance is. You're still dealing with the fact that you might not come home alive."

For more information, visit www.warletters.com, or send letters to Carroll at: The Legacy Project, P.O. Box 53250, Washington, D.C. 20009.

(Editor's note: Pfc. Holly Beth Mann is a staff writer for the Fort Hood Sentinel newspaper.)

Community Notes

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12

COMMEMORATIVE PRAYER LUNCHEON

The Aberdeen Area Post Chapel will hold a prayer luncheon, 11:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Patty Shinseki, wife of Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff.

Tickets cost \$5 each. To purchase tickets, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333, the Edgewood Area chapel, 410-436-4109, or the Garrison Command Office, 410-278-1511. For more information, call the AA chapel, 410-278-4333.

WACVA BEACON 114T MONTHLY MEETING

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

For more information about the association, contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040 or visit Web sites www.wacva.com or www.armywomen.org.

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. Ticket prices are listed for each day or for the weekend.

To order tickets, call 1-888-248-45497 or 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.

OPEN DOORS FLEA MARKET

Open Doors Career Center, Inc. will host a flea market, 7 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of the Thomas Hays building at 120 S. Hays Street, Bel Air. Spots are available for vendors at a cost of \$25 for a single spot and \$35 for a double spot. To reserve a spot, send check made payable to Open Doors to: Open Doors, 1250 Brass Mill Road, Suite 5, Belcamp, MD 21017.

For more information, call 410-297-6590, ext. 15.

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," 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.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17

HISPANIC SPECIALTY MEAL

The annual Hispanic Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4219 and 4503, and Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m. During this event all military personnel, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.20 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, Department of Defense civilian, retiree and their guest. The discount meal rate of \$2.65 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

Hispanic specialty month menu: Spanish style barbecue pork, enchiladas, Mexican chicken, hard & soft shell tacos, beef & chicken fajitas, shrimp fajitas, burritos, chili, Spanish rice, steamed rice, Mexican corn, refried beans, black beans, Mexican corn bread, assorted breads, assorted pastries, soft serve ice cream, coffee, tea, milk and soda. Note: Menu subject to change without prior notification. For more information, call Edward Parylo, or Joyce Thane at 410-306-1399/1393/1398.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

HEROIN ALERT PROGRAM

The Youth Ministry of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Of Aberdeen, 201 Mt. Royal Ave. and Route 22, is sponsoring the Harford County Sheriff's Office presentation, "Not My Child—Heroin Alert" at 7 p.m.

Geared towards youths ages 12 and older, their parents, friends and caring adults in the community, the program will be presented in the sanctuary. The event is free. "Say No to Drugs!" and "McGruff's Drug I.D." guides will be available while supplies last. Refreshments will follow the presentation.

For more information, call Eva Fuentes, 410-272-3111 or e-mail her at fuentes@stpaulselc.org.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

CWF HOSTS BROADWAY SHOW TRIP

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.

BASKET BINGO

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will host Basket Bingo featuring HENN Workshops Baskets at the Edgewood Area Gunpowder Club. Doors open at 6 p.m.; play begins at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 for 20 games. Additional cards will be available at the door. Food and drinks will be available for purchase and all proceeds will be donated to the welfare and scholarship funds for the local community.

For tickets, call Angie Salamy, 410-272-6712 (Aberdeen Area) or Karen Chambers, 410-676-9142 (Edgewood Area). The club will also be selling tickets at the EA Shoppette on Thursdays and at the Commissary on the weekends.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22

VINTAGE BRIDAL FASHION SHOW AND TEA

The Bel Air Cultural Arts Commission will sponsor a Vintage Bridal Fashion Show and Tea at 1 p.m. at Rockfield Manor, Churchville Road, Bel Air. Cost of admission is \$20. Seating is limited.

For more information or to make reservations, call 410-838-2985.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 4

LOCAL COMIC ENTERTAINS IN LAUREL

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054, located at 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen, is sponsoring a "GET YOUR LAUGH ON!" bus trip to the "Joke's On Us" Comedy Club in Laurel. The cost is \$20 and includes a bus ticket, comedy show ticket and snacks. VFW members pay only \$10. The bus leaves the Post Home at 6 p.m., and return before 2 a.m. The featured comedian is "Dee" Shaw, from Aberdeen. For tickets, call Senior Vice-Commander Suzette Shields or Junior Vice-Commander Keith Hammitt at 410-272-3444.

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.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1

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 COMES TO APG

Aberdeen Proving Ground Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host three performances of the U.S. Army Show, at the post theater, building 3245.

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. Amateur artists who have a passion for music, dance and performing, they come from infantry, artillery, transportation, military police, medical, intelligence, armor, aviation, signal and other tactical units. 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 offered to active duty soldiers. There is no charge to attend.

APG SCHOOL LIASON UPDATE

'NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND' —MAKING EDUCATION REFORM A REALITY

Parents interested in improving their child's education should visit the U.S. Department of Education's Web site at www.ed.gov for resources and links to other organizations, or call 1-800-USA-LEARN. Below is a sample of organizations that provide research and information on best practices for making reform a reality in local schools:

- The No Child Left Behind home page (www.ed.gov/inits/nclb) offers the complete text of President Bush's blueprint for educating every child in America to his or her full potential, plus updates.
- The National Reading Panel (www.national-readingpanel.org) provides objective reports about what works and what doesn't in reading.

- The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (www.nichd.nih.gov) offers health and education information for parents.
- Achieve, Inc. (www.achieve.org) helps raise academic standards, measure performance against those standards, and establish clear accountability for results.
- Just For Kids (www.just4kids.org) uses state accountability data to examine and improve school performance, and offers tools and instruction to help others replicate educational best practices.
- The Partnership for Family Involvement in Education (www.pfie.ed.gov) offers tips for getting involved in local schools.

For more information, call Ivan Mehosky, 410-278-2857, school liaison/youth education director, located in building 2752.

MOVIES

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

AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER

Friday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 p.m.

Starring: Mike Myers, Beyonce Knowles



Dr. Evil and Mini-Me escape from a maximum security prison and the duo team up with Goldmember. Together they formulate a plan for world domination. This particular scheme requires a large amount of time-travel, and kidnapping Austin Powers' father, England's master spy, Nigel Powers. As Austin chases Dr. Evil, Mini-Me and Goldmember through time, he stops in 1975 to "connect" with an old girlfriend, detective Foxy Cleopatra, and requests her help to track the villains and save his father. (Rated PG-13)

MASTER OF DISGUISE (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

Starring: Dana Carvey, Jennifer Esposito



A comedy for kids, Pistachio Disguisey is an Italian waiter who discovers he possesses Energico, a spiritual energy that allows him to transform into anything from cherry pie to Robert Shaw. He takes on spy work as a second profession using his new-found "energy." (Rated PG)

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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



Firehouse by David Halberstam. The story of Engine 49, Ladder 35, located on the West Side of Manhattan near Lincoln Center. On the morning of September 11, 2001, two rigs carrying thirteen men set out from this firehouse; twelve of the men would never return.



One Nation: America Remembers September 11, 2001, a photo essay by Life

The Lessons of Terror by Caleb Carr



Sent By Earth: a message from the Grandmother Spirit after the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon by Alice Walker

Twin Towers: the life of New York City's World Trade Center by Angus Gillespie



Report From Ground Zero: the story of the rescue efforts at the World Trade Center by Dennis Smith



Terrorism and Kids: comforting your child by Fern Reiss

Last Man Down: a fire-fighters' story of survival and escape from the World Trade Center by Richard Picciotto



In the Name of Osama Bin Laden: global terrorism and the Bin Laden Brotherhood by Roland Jacquard

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

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.



Photo courtesy of APG PHOTO LAB

Passing the guidon at DTC

Left, Col. Marvin K. McNamara accepts the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command guidon from Maj. Gen. Robert E. Armbruster, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, during change of command ceremonies Aug. 29 in APG's Recreation Center. McNamara became DTC's second commander since the merger of Army test resources into a single command on Oct. 1, 1999.



MWR EXPO, SEPT. 19

To see what MWR has planned for the fall, stop by the EA Recreation Center, Sept. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Health screenings, aerobic demonstrations, and MWR displays are just a few things that will be available. There will be give-aways and door prizes.

For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.

ORIOLES VS. NY YANKEES

Come join other baseball fans on Sept. 28 at Camden Yards and watch the Orioles face off against the Yankees. Tickets must be purchased by Sept. 13 from Information, Ticketing and Registration.

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

STUDIO ART

Learn to develop your artistic style while exploring opportunities for self-expression and creativity every Tuesday Sept. 24 through Nov. 12, 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton in Aberdeen. Learn basic drawing techniques, color, composition and perspective. Register by Sept. 17 at Arts and Crafts, building 2407. Cost is \$70. For more information, call Chris Lockhart at 410-278-3904 or e-mail her at chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil.

DISCOVER DRAWING

Learn fundamental drawing skills through various techniques and projects every Tuesday, Sept. 24 through Nov. 12, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton in Aberdeen. Register by Sept. 17 at Arts and Crafts, building 2407. Cost is \$65. For more information, call Chris Lockhart at 410-

278-3904 or e-mail chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil.

INTRO TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn how to work with photographs using Adobe Photoshop Elements every Monday, Sept. 23 through Oct. 21, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the ACS building. Discover a skill that will last a lifetime and provide years of pleasure. Register by Sept. 16 at the AA Recreation Center. Cost is \$35. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.

AEROBIC KICKBOXING

Aerobic kickboxing will be held every Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 30 through Dec. 2 at the APG Athletic Center at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$30 for the 10-week class or \$5 per class. Register at the AA Fitness Center.

For more information, call Gwyn Dolzine at 410-278-9725 or e-mail gwyn.dolzine@usag.apg.army.mil

YOGA FIT

Yoga fit classes are every Tuesday and Thursday, Oct. 1 through Dec. 3 at the Youth Center at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$30 for the 10-week class or \$5 per class. For more information, call Gwyn Dolzine at 410-278-9725 or e-mail gwyn.dolzine@usag.apg.army.mil

2002 SALUTE TO CHAMPIONS

The 2002 Salute to Champions Golf tournament will be held Sept. 21 at Ruggles Golf Course. No entry fee. Sign up by making a tee time on Sept. 21 and declare entry before teeing off. Once the round is completed, turn in scorecard signed and dated to the pro shop. For more information, call Tom Green at 410-278-4794 or e-mail tom.green@usag.apg.army.mil.

OUTLOOK TIP

#11: Creating a distribution list in the contacts folder.

Open the Outlook Contacts folder.

Select File from the menu, then New, then Distribution List.

Enter a name for the Distribution List.

Use the "Select Members" button to add existing names either from the Global Address List or

personal Contacts folder.

Use the "Add New" button to add new addresses to this distribution list that are not in Outlook or Contacts folder.

When complete, click on the "Save and Close" button to save the new distribution list.

See Outlook Tip #13 located in

the Outlook Tips Public Folder for more details.

Select Public Folders, then All Public Folders, then APG, then Outlook Information and finally select Outlook Tips.

Note: Do not exceed 125 members in the personal distribution list.

Commentary

The call of duty, honoring the fallen

As the rain washed tears from the cheeks of family and friends, the extended family of a thousand police officers and firefighters stood solemnly at attention and 'present arms.'

The eulogy was spoken, a final prayer given, traditional bagpipes played, a three-shot rifle volley sounded and then TAPS could be heard.

Pvt. Joseph Brown, a military policeman, and I represented the Aberdeen Proving Ground post commander and the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security at the funeral service Aug. 28 for Crystal D. Sheffield, a Baltimore City police officer killed in the line of duty when her patrol car was struck by another police vehicle as both were responding to an urgent call to back up a fellow officer.

This was Brown's first experience with a police officer's funeral, for myself, I've seen too many.

Brown expressed his amazement at the massive number of police officers and firefighters from across a three-state area who came to pay their respects to someone they probably never met.

Small groups of ordinary citizens huddled together in the rain to watch as the funeral procession departed the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church enroute to the Fallen Heroes Memorial at Dulaney Valley Gardens.

A small child held up a hand-lettered sign that simply read, "THANK YOU." Several veterans groups gathered at intersections holding the American flag and a flag

bearing a police officer's badge draped in black crepe.

Scores of automobiles stopped on the interstate to view the 30-minute long procession.

Several women cried as they stood in the rain watching the procession.

In their rain soaked work clothes and holding their hard hats over their hearts, construction workers stood in silent tribute as the procession passed.

None of these people had to do what they did, but they felt compelled to show their support.

Police officers don't have to do what they do, they just do.

George Martin
Police Officer
DLES



Photos courtesy of
<http://www.co.ba.md.us/p.cfm/agencies/police/pc02/garden.cfm>

A front view of a section reserved for fallen heroes at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens. The garden was funded primarily through donations to Precinct 2 of the Baltimore County Police Department.

Back view of the memorial garden.



Developmental Test Command presents employee awards

Mike Cast
DTC

The U.S. Army Developmental Test Command presented Army awards to 33 employees and a Department of Defense award to one employee during a ceremony Aug. 26 at DTC headquarters on Aberdeen Proving Ground. Several additional DTC employees received similar Army awards at various times later in the week.

Chee Chan, an employee with DTC's Biological and General Equipment Team, part of the command's Directorate for Test and Technology, received DoD's David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award. The award recognizes Chan's "outstanding service to the Department of Defense in the accelerated deployment of the Joint Biological Point Detection System," a system that provides added force protection at the Pentagon following last year's terrorist attacks.

In October 2001, the Defense Department asked the Joint Program Office for Biological Defense to deploy the biological detection system at the Pentagon. Chan's expertise in this area, including analysis and sampling, and the efforts of the program office, Battelle and General Dynamics, the system manufacturers, ensured that the system was deployed and operating by

December 2001. Eight such systems were set up around the Pentagon, and responsibility for operating them was transferred to the Camber Corporation in January 2002.

Chan also received the DTC Professional Award for his exemplary work within DTC's Directorate for Test and Technology.

In addition to Chan, DTC presented its Professional Award to Francis Bartosik, Michael Feinberg, Richard Haire, Sandra Johnson, Michael Joiner, Deirdre Sumpter, Staff Sgt. Angelito "Lee" Tuazon, Todd Wagner and J. Michael Welsh.

James Stewart, chief of DTC's Security and Intelligence Division, received the DA Commander's Award for Civilian Service in recognition of his efforts to establish an Emergency Operations Center at DTC following the attacks on Sept. 11.

Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, former DTC commander, lauded Stewart for his quick thinking and actions to ensure security for DTC personnel and test facilities, both at Aberdeen and at test centers throughout the United States.

The award citation lauded Stewart for his efforts to protect "critical test and evaluation assets" and for his "solid advice" that minimized the threat to DTC and accelerated its recovery from the impacts of the tragedy on Sept. 11.

Additional recipients of the DA Commander's Award for Civilian Service were Susan Angelucci, Linda Bennett, Rita Brown, Donna Butler, Michael Cast, Stephen Clark, JoAnn Ely, Christine Everett, Larry Harrison, Joyce Hires, Beverly Holbrook, Linda Jordan, Theresa Kocher, William Marshall Jr., Judith Matthews, Peter McCall, Elizabeth Murter, Shirley Reichenbach, Diana Schoffstall, George Shandle Jr., Patricia Sharpless, Brian Simmons, Karen Taylor, Marlene Townsend and Alan Yankolonis.

Stewart also received a DTC Commander's Award, for being the DTC nominee for the ATEC employee of the quarter award. Other recipients of the DTC Commander's Award were Jennifer Chew, Raymond Fontaine, Cathy Pritts and Joseph Bucci.

Brian Simmons, deputy to the commander of DTC and its technical director, was honored at the recent DTC Commanders Conference held at headquarters. He was cited for overseeing approximately 1,700 test programs that support 300 weapons programs. According to the award citation, his initiatives from February 1999 to August 2002 made "significant and lasting contributions" to relations with local, state and federal officials, as well as to the evolution of the newly established Army Test and Evaluation Command.

APG News recognized for journalism excellence

ATC contractor is tops in photography

Marguerite Towson
APG News

At a July 9 Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and tenant staff meeting, members of the APG News staff were recognized and presented with awards for the 2001 Keith L. Ware journalism competition.

Col. Mardi Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, presented each member with first place certificates from the U.S. Army Materiel Command and honorable mention from the Department of the Army level.

"We have the best Army newspaper and the heroines and heroes that make the APG News happen," Mark said. "They received some well deserved recognition. The team is a great group of professionals who work extremely hard to put out relevant information for the APG community. They help to make APG a great place to live, work, and play."

Certificates were presented to George Mercer, chief, Public Affairs Office; Patricia McClung, public affairs specialist; Debi Horne, public affairs specialist and editor of the APG News; Yvonne Johnson and Sheila Little, Homestead Publishing contract reporters, and Diane Burrier, Homestead Publishing contract graphic designer.

In addition, Joe Ondek, a Sverdrup Technology contract employee with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, won first place at the AMC and DA levels in the Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photography) category for his photograph of an APG bald eagle that appeared on the front page of the April 19, 2001 edition of the paper. He was awarded a commemorative Keith L. Ware plaque and certificate.

"I was more appreciative than surprised," said Ondek of his award. "I appreciate the fact that someone thought enough to submit my work to the Keith L. Ware competition."

Ondek said that he has been taking photos since he was a Marine in the 1960s.

"My father worked at National Geographic in the 1950s and I met the guys and gals that worked with him," he said. "I learned photography from them and I also learned from the Marine Corps photographers."

Ondek's photos were often printed in the APG News when he

worked at the Aberdeen Test Center, but he never wanted credit for his photos. He always insisted that the photo credit read "courtesy of U.S. Army."

"It is truly a picture that you get one chance at, and if luck is with you, you either get it or you don't," Ondek said.

Johnson also received a certificate of appreciation from retired Army Lt. Col. Steven J. Schmit, guest exhibit curator, for her support of the Swords and Sabers of the Union Army exhibition at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum April through October 2001.

Johnson has been working for the APG News since April 1999. She served in the military for 19 years, 1975 to 1994, retiring at the rank of sergeant through the early retirement program.

Johnson says she is an avid sports fan, and that sometimes, sports is the only good news of the day.

"I love covering APG's intramural sports program," said Johnson. "These soldiers, airmen and marines appreciate seeing their accomplishments in writing and in pictures and it makes me feel good to do that for them."

Johnson feels she has a special rapport with APG service members and civilians.

"I enjoy people," she said. "Everyone experiences this installation in a different way and I get to hear all about it."

"I love what I do," she said. "Everyday I get to hear something new, see something new or meet someone new. It's never 'boring'."

Little has been writing at the APG News since August 1998. A military spouse for 27 years, she is married to Col. James Little, director of Laboratory Services at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Prevention.

"I have met a lot of new people, learned a lot about the Army and how things get done," Little said about her time on the news staff.

Although she no longer writes about the installation's volunteers on a regular monthly basis, Little said she enjoys writing about giving people and uplifting experiences.

"Focusing on those who do extraordinary things for others with no thought of payback makes everyone feel good," Little said.

Burrier, who has been with the APG News for nearly two years, took first place in the AMC level Keith L. Ware division of Special Contributor Art for her May 2001 design of the Military Appreciation Weekly cover.

Burrier said the most challenging part of her job is meeting the deadlines and those last minute changes in content that always seem to occur.

Burrier is also an accomplished airbrush artist and at one time had her own T-shirt store. She has a bachelor's degree in art education from Towson University and an associate's degree from Community College of Baltimore County Catonsville Campus.

The APG News staff has been together less than two years but has quickly shown that they work well as a team.

"Each member of the staff has their special talent to add to this newspaper," Horne said. "Whether it's sports writing by Yvonne, Sheila's wonderful headlines, or the creative design work done by Diane, it all comes together to produce a professional product by people who really care about where they work. In only our second year together, we placed at the DA level of competition. I am really proud of them."

"And, there are many other organizations on APG that can share in this recognition. We have a small staff here, and those organizations that send in stories to be published in the APG News can be proud to be part of these awards as well. Your input is always welcome," Horne said.

History of the Keith L. Ware award

The Keith L. Ware Awards program began in 1970 as a way to honor Ware's journalism excellence. The awards were named after Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware, a World War II Medal of Honor recipient for his heroic efforts near Sigolsheim, France. He later served as Chief of Information, Department of the Army, 1966 to 1967, and in 1968 commanded the 1st Infantry Division, Vietnam. He was killed Sept. 13, 1968, when his helicopter received heavy automatic weapons fire during operations against an estimated 1,500 North Vietnamese Army troops.

Safety

CPSC announces recall of bicycle tire floor pumps



Kim Dulic
CPSC

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Todson Inc., of

Foxboro, Mass., is voluntarily recalling about 10,000 floor pumps, which are used for bicycle tires.

The pressure gauge lens can separate from the pump and strike a consumer, causing injury.

Todson has received one report of a pressure gauge lens detaching and

striking a consumer, who suffered an eye injury.

The recalled Topeak Joe Blow Comp Floor Pumps are black (with gray or silver trim) and stand about 26 inches high.

The plastic pumps have the following date codes, which are located

under the pressure gauge: 200003 through 200012 and 200101 through 200108. The words "Made in Taiwan" and "Joe Blow COMP" are printed on the side of the pump.

Independent bicycle retailers nationwide sold these pumps between March 2000 and August

2001 for about \$40.

Consumers should stop using this pump immediately and contact Todson at 1-800-250-3068 or visit Web site, www.Topeak.com, to receive a replacement pump.

To call the CPSC hotline, call 1-800-638-2772.

Photos by MIKE BRYANT



Left, Sgt. James Leggett, 3rd Brigade, Maryland Army National Guard, gives an overview of weapons that infantry units utilize in the performance of their duties. 2nd Lt. Brian Perez, officer in charge, assists in the presentation.

Below, Cadet Derrick Lambert maneuvers over the obstacle course under the watchful eyes of Spcs. Donell Myer, 121st Engineer Battalion, left, and Gary Black, 290th Military Police Company. The obstacle course proved especially challenging for Cadet Joseph Wilson, who is on the ground after falling after the climb.

Maryland Army National Guard meets 'ChalleNGe'

Kori McComsey
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

The Maryland Army National Guard sponsored Career Day for the cadets of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aug. 17.

"Career Day was one way we could inform the cadets of the many educational and employment opportunities the MDARNG has to offer," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Martin-Minnich, program director.

The Maryland National Guard Career Day was a partnership between the academy, the MDNG Recruiting Command, the MDNG major subordinate commands and the Garrison Headquarters of APG.

"The cadets' experiences will help them in their decision making about their future careers. The military is definitely an option for many of the graduates of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy," Martin-Minnich said.

Some of the career fields offered by the MDARNG include vehicle and aviation maintenance, infantry, administrative, medical, military police, signal and communications, electronics, air traffic

control and military intelligence.

Cadet James Waters from Suitland, Md., expressed an interest in fiber-optics. "I really liked what I saw and was satisfied with the questions that the soldiers answered."

The cadets participated in a series of events, including the obstacle course, recruiting and retention briefings, and open discussions with ChalleNGe graduates currently serving in the MDARNG.

A display of MDARNG equipment included a Black Hawk ambulance UH-60 and OH-58 helicopters, TOW MMMWV, 81mm and 60mm mortars, MK-19, .50 caliber and M-60 machine guns, M249 SAW, M24 sniper rifle, an electronics shelter and a 5-ton wrecker.

Cadet Trezale Brown of Upper Marlboro, Md., said that he was "impressed by the responsibility and advanced machinery that one soldier could have."

The MDARNG offers many education programs that can help college-bound graduates of the academy pursue their education at little cost.

All state supported colleges and uni-

versities offer tuition waivers for members of the MDARNG when enrolled in accredited graduate or undergraduate courses. The state tuition waiver offers up to 50 percent off tuition for Maryland residents in the National Guard. For undergraduate students, the MDARNG also offers state tuition reimbursement up to 50 percent for tuition and related fees. Members of the MDARNG are also eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill and the MGIB Kicker, student loan repayment and the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES). A culmination of these benefits allow members of the MDARNG to "get your degree tuition free."

Cadet Whitney Martin, from Severn, Md., stated that the benefits and education opportunities would help her decide about joining the National Guard.

"More than likely, I'll join when I turn 17," Martin said.

"The day's success was due in part to the many guardsmen and women who came out to talk to the cadets," Martin-Minnich said.



Freestate Challenge Academy

The Freestate ChalleNGe Academy is a 22-month residential program for 16 to 18 year-old high school dropouts.

While enrolled in ChalleNGe, the cadets take GED classes, life coping skills, job skills and leadership/followership training, and endure a rigorous physical training program.

This curriculum is

designed to help the cadets understand the importance of becoming productive citizens in society.

After the cadets graduate, the academy provides support for one year through a mentoring program. Mentors assist the students in finding employment, enrolling in secondary education programs or selecting a branch of military service.

Youth Center offers 'passports to success'

Story and Photo by
Sheila Little
APG News

Nearly two dozen middle and high school students, many accompanied by parents, gathered at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Aug. 21, to learn how to design a map for educational success and earn an "academic passport."

Sponsored by the Aberdeen Proving Ground School Liaison/Youth Education Office, the 90-minute session covered the strategy behind planning a course in education that considers student interests, education and career goals, family moves and finances.

Speaking from personal experience as the son of a soldier, Ivan Mehosky, APG's school liaison officer, said that moving to a new school every few years "is do-able, but it's difficult. We want to give you as much information and resources as we can to make your transition easier."

Comparing the academic passport to the passport of a world traveler, Mehosky said the academic passport helps open the doors to education and smoothes the journey to academic success.

Addressing middle schoolers and their parents, Mehosky said the passport to success in middle school is built on listening carefully, getting involved in programs in school and out, and doing lots of reading. He encouraged writing and building an academic portfolio, taking challenging courses with an eye toward future goals, and counseled all to remember that character counts.

Along with the individual educators and APG's school liaison office, Mehosky said education sites on the Internet are helpful, especially those geared toward a student's specific school. He recommended the Harford County School Web site,

http://www.co.ha.md.us/harford_schools/, to double check homework assignments and view information on the school calendar, dress code and sports schedule, and recommended <http://www.schoolnotes.com> for specific class information, including homework assignments.

He said 8th graders and those entering high school should check out the military child education coalition Web site, <http://www.militarychild.org>. The site includes tips on applying for scholarships and reading lists to improve reading skills and knowledge.

Reminding students that they should make a "four-year plan" for high school, Mehosky added that a similar plan will help them prepare for college as well.

Rebecca Bennett, 14, and her sister Melissa, 12, attended the seminar with their mother. The Aberdeen Middle Schoolers, whose father, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Bennett, is an instructor with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, said that although they've gotten used to moving, changing schools can be a drawback. Both said they got several tips out of the passport class.

"I learned how to get the next day's homework off the Web site," said Melissa.

Her sister added, "I learned to set goals, keep my stuff organized, and keep up with my homework."

The girls' mother Judy, who also works at the APG Youth Center, said a lot of students don't take their education seriously. She's hoping to encourage her daughters and others to cultivate good work habits.

"You can only fool around so long," she said.

Mike Blizzard, of Harford Community College, spoke on how to prepare for and finance college. Covering a variety of schools and financing ideas, Blizzard emphasized plan-



Ivan Mehosky, Aberdeen Proving Ground school liaison officer, points out the advantages of parents and students working together to plan their education during the Academic Passport class at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Aug. 21.

ning ahead.

"College is truly accessible to everyone," Blizzard said, adding the amount and time spent in preparation beforehand may determine a child's success.

"Set up a plan, a career path as soon as you can," he said. "Work on your writing skills, and start taking on more responsibility so you get used to the independence of going to college."

He added that if students show initiative and promise, most centers of higher learning will do what they can to help successful students stay in school, achieve their degree, and earn that passport to a life of success.

Bennett said that she felt that she and her husband will now be better prepared for the financial outlay of college.

Mehosky wrapped up the seminar by saying that while students may have other resources, they shouldn't have too far to look for their best resource for putting together an academic passport to success — their parents.

"Make use of the resources around you and start building your passport," Mehosky said. "You'll never regret it."

For more information on this program or other education issues, call the APG School Liaison/Youth Education Office at 410-278-2857.

Puppet show teaches safety to preschoolers

Story and photos by
Allison Forts
DCFA

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program, in partnership with Child and Youth Services, sponsored several showings of a puppet show designed to teach children how to play it safe Aug. 19 and 20.

Steve Hildabrad, a puppeteer with the Blue Sky Puppet Theatre, performed the show at the Aberdeen and Edgewood Child Development Centers and Youth Services Division.

The puppet shows featured animals that role-played friends sharing each other toys, and also focused on teaching kids what to say and do when approached by a stranger.

When asked what the reward is for performing for the children, Steve said he couldn't think of a better way to teach chil-

dren, and "every show has a message."

The children responded to the animal puppets and joined in the songs.

This was the first puppet show for 4-year old Emily Woodruff. Emily said she loved the pigs and that she is a very good friend and knows how to share.

Jasmin Thacker, 5, said she knows what to do when a stranger approaches.

"I'll say 'no' and tell them to 'get away.' I will go tell somebody, right away today," Thacker said.

Ruth Strauss, director, Aberdeen CDC said she is pleased with the partnership of the CDC and ACS.

"I appreciate all of their support," Strauss said.

Other programs are planned for the future.

"Family advocacy looks forward to returning to the CDC with the 'stranger danger program.' The training seems real effective with the kids because of the visuals," said Laura Reich, family advocacy prevention specialist.



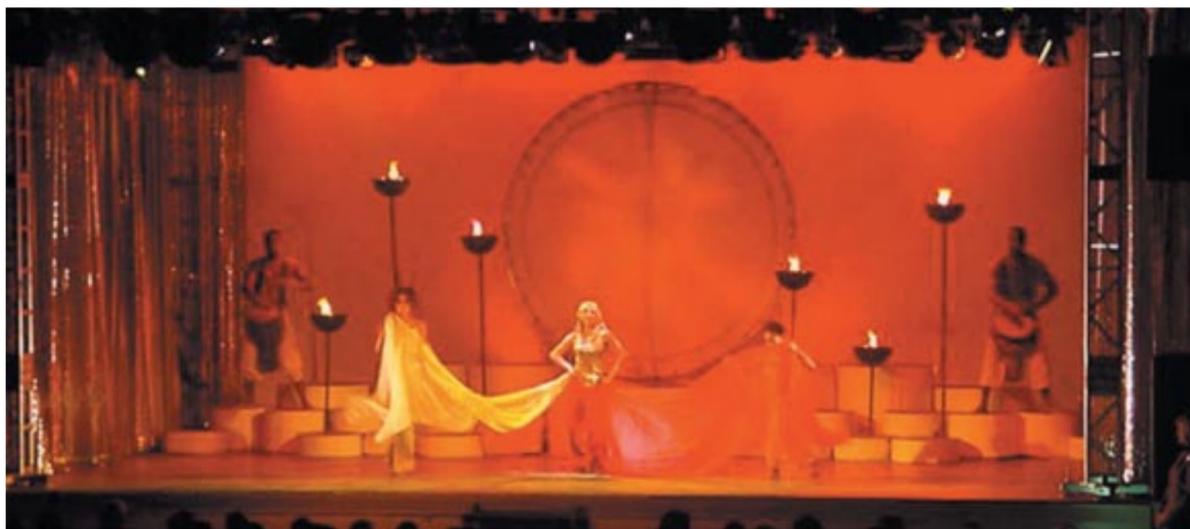
The puppets used a Pokemon book and a Gameboy to show the children how to share.



From left, Amani Dixon, Jasmine Thacker, Travis Hodge, Kenneth Sumpter, Jacob Zdon, Phillip Irving and Joshua Megliola get an opportunity to meet a puppet following the Aug. 20 show.

Photo by DONNA COYNE

Showcasing the talents of soldiers, the U.S. Army Soldier Show offers music from all eras, including those with ethnic flair. Shown here is a performance with a definite Middle East look, a part of last year's show. See article below for details on 2002 performances at APG.



2002 Soldier Show comes to APG

Aberdeen Proving Ground Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host three performances of the U.S. Army Show, "Freedom Is Not Just a Word," at the post theater, building 3245.

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.

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 offered to active duty.

Discounts

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have to book early. There are no cancellation fees on the special discounted fares. Travelers can still buy tickets under standard government rates at the last minute if seats are available, and unrestricted standard fares will continue to be available in the test markets.

The following airlines were awarded city-pair contracts: Air Tran Airways, Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, America Trans Air, America West Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta Airlines, Frontier Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Midwest Express Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines and US Airways.