

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling schedule pickup for Wednesday, Dec. 10 is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Blue Cross/Blue Shield visits APG

Claim representative of Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield will visit APG, Dec. 9, to discuss claims problems and plan coverage.

Representative will be in building 305, Room 236 (second floor) from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and in building E-4140 (Recreation Center) from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. No appointment necessary.

For information, call Teri Wright, 410-278-4331, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

EA Shoppette begins new hours

Effective Dec. 8 the Edgewood Area Shoppette, building E-4010, will be open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Civilians are authorized to purchase food items.

The shoppette carries frozen food, quarter pounders with cheese, chicken sandwiches, rib sandwiches, Krispy Kreme donuts, new items and special request items.

ASAP holds holiday open house

Army Substance Abuse Program invites all to the holiday open house, Dec. 11, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., in building 2477.

There will be light refreshments, non-alcoholic beer and wine, holiday party tips, recipe brochures and "tie one on for safety" ribbons.

Tree lighting scheduled

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander, U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground will host APG's annual holiday tree lighting ceremonies.

The Aberdeen Area ceremony will be held 6 p.m., Dec. 7, in front of the Post Library, building 3320.

The Edgewood Area ceremony will be held 6 p.m., Dec. 14, in front of the EA Chapel, building E-4620.

RAB meeting, Dec. 4

The monthly Installation Restoration Advisory

See SHORTS, page 4

APG and county cut ribbon at water treatment facility

Marguerite Towson
APG News

The partnership between APG and Harford County was evident during the ribbon cutting of the new Perryman Granular Activated Carbon Water Treatment Facility, Nov. 7.

Harford County and APG leaders joined county council members and interested citizens to celebrate the successful joint solution of the problem of trichloroethylene in the county's drinking water production wells.

"This effort is really an accumulation of a six-year cooperative effort between the county and Aberdeen Proving Ground," said James Harkins, Harford County Executive. "This facility protects the county's drinking water and helps remove the contaminants from the ground water and soil."

In the 1980s, Aberdeen Proving Ground started investigating the extent of environmental contamination from previous activities. In February 1992, routine monitoring found the presence of trichloroethylene in two of Harford County's wells located at Aberdeen Proving Ground. It was determined that the TCE contamination was the result of previous firefighting training activities on post.

Working with the county and regulatory agencies, APG officials decided to treat the well water to remove the TCE, and the Army built a GAC filtration facility just inside the post's boundary near Perryman.

In 2001 APG officials, again working with county officials, decided to move and expand treatment to serve all seven wells. The new off-post Perryman facility is bigger than its predecessor and the number of GAC filters has been increased from five to 11. The TCE concentration of water treated by this system is non-detectable or more than ten times below the allowable consumption concentration. The Perryman Supply System provides about 5.2 million gallons of drinking water a day.

Harkins said the county has a soft spot for Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"Many of us have connections - militarily and family-wise. To say [these connections] are woven into the fabric of our community is an understatement," Harkins said.

Tim McNamara, director of Safety, Health and Environment, also addressed the spirit of cooperation and partnership between Harford County and APG.

"My part here today is to applaud the many people who are part of this solution," McNamara said. "Often it's very easy to point to problems. It's much more difficult to reach the resolution of those problems. This plant is a testament to those folks who not only saw the problems, but who worked all the fine details to make this become a reality."

"Numerous people played very critical roles in solving many intricate details of that action," McNamara said. "And for that I really want to express my thanks and affection to everyone involved."

See WATER, page 11



By Jim Pottie, DSHE

From left to right, Tim McNamara, director of Safety, Health and Environment, Naren Desai, environmental engineer, DSHE, garrison photographer Ralph Broth, County Council representative for District F, Cecilia M. Stepp, Joseph Craten, APG Garrison deputy to the commander, and Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander listen as Dave Pergrin, project manager, Harford County's Division of Water and Sewer, conducts a walk-through of the Perryman Granular Activated Carbon Water Treatment Facility.

ATC holds annual awards ceremony

Susan Hagan, ATSS
ATC

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center held its annual awards ceremony, Oct. 22, recognizing employees' efforts throughout the year.

"I've just been more and more impressed in the two years I've been here," said Col. Mary Brown, ATC commander.

Before presenting the traditional awards, Brown recognized the workforce for making it possible for her to win the 2003 Secretary of the Army Award for Acquisition Command. The award was accepted by ATC Technical Director James Fasig on behalf of the entire command.

Brown also recognized the contractor workforce for their support to ATC's test mission. ATC's four major mission support contractor program managers accepted the awards and also recognized employees of their own.

Aberdeen Test Support Services program manager Steve Hugg presented the Team ATC-ATSS Annual Safety Leadership Award to Marie Swearingen.

COBRO program manager Carl Jensen recognized Barbara Barr, Julie Atkinson, Regina Hornberger, Katherine Dominic, and Susanne Bonsall for their initiative and dedication to duty.

TERO TEK International program manager Jerry Doss recognized Jack Hughes, Comas Compton, Micheal Tolbird and Marc Lee for continuous support of government operations without an accident.

Computer Science Corporation program manager Gary Webb recognized anti-virus team members Tony Bainer, Christine McMillan, Reid Hopper, Dan Kipp, Chris Toepel, Rob Brubaker, Rob Spurdle, Lisa

See AWARDS, page 11

EA troop store reopens

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Army commanders and Soldiers came together to celebrate the grand opening of the new Army and Air Force Exchange Troop Store in building 4224 at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Edgewood Area, Oct. 28.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, welcomed Lt. Gen. Dennis D. Cavin, commander, U.S. Army Accession Command and Brig. Gen. Mike Lenaers, commander U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, as well as the

Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion to the ceremony.

Thea Sarver, AAFES general manager, welcomed all to the "newest troop store in AAFES," thanking the command and community for its support and patronage.

"I know that we [AAFES] can make a difference to Edgewood as we have done all over the world," Sarver said.

Doesburg noted that the new facility is located closer to the Soldiers in what was formerly a barracks headquarters building, and that it also holds the barbershop and phone center.

"They have put together a

See STORE page 11

DA inspectors evaluate APG dining facility



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Roger De Witz uses a laser thermometer to test the surface temperature of foods on the serving line during an evaluation of the Aberdeen Proving Ground dining facility, building 4503, Nov. 21.

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

A team of inspectors from the Department of the Army and the International Food Service Executives Association evaluated Aberdeen Proving Ground's building 4305 dining facility, Nov. 21, as the final step in selecting the dining facility of the year in the large category.

The facility already qualified as one of the top seven in the Army.

Dining facility manager Gerard LaRuffa, Md. Department of Education Blind Enterprise program, Sons Quality Food Company, hosted the inspectors as they scrutinized the food preparation, storage, serving and dining areas.

Sgt. Maj. Verlana Wilson
See DINING, page 6

Partnership appreciated on both sides

Eleanore Hajian
U.S. Army Environmental Center

Fifteen fourth- and fifth-grade students from Edgewood Elementary School brought appreciation and cheer to the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Nov. 19.

With poems, a cheer and a song - all lyrics written by the students themselves - they told staff and leadership how much they value AEC's long-standing partnership with the school.

The special performance was part of an annual ceremony to renew the partnership, first chartered Oct. 27, 1997, to support the educational experience of Edgewood Elementary School students.

The ceremony took place in the U.S. Army Research

and Development Engineering Command conference center at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Edgewood Area.

Through partnership, AEC promotes the Edgewood Elementary curriculum by sharing knowledge of the environmental sciences and of professional career paths with students and teachers throughout the school year.

"We've enjoyed the partnership we've had with Edgewood Elementary School for many years now," said Col. James De Paz, AEC commander. "There are not many things our volunteers get more pleasure from than seeing children's smiles as they are learning new things, and we are looking forward to

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OIF validates installation management concept

Beau Whittington
Army News Service

Operation Iraqi Freedom has proven naysayers wrong about the Installation Management Agency's value, says Maj. Gen. Anders B. Aadland.

Aadland, the agency commander, admits even he wasn't sure the centralization was such a good idea when he heard the initial announcement of the plan to manage base operations funds from Washington.

Little did he know he would become the first director.

"I learned early on the goodness of the initiative was not obvious," Aadland said about his first days in his new job. "It wasn't something everybody was going to rejoice over."

Whether commanders rejoiced, or not, the Army had made a profound decision about the new direction and it was Aadland's job to put the plan in action.

The agency opened its door Oct. 1, 2002, with what the commander describes, "as about a 75 percent solution - not totally ready, not totally staffed." While it was a project in development, then Army Secretary Thomas White didn't want it to become just another idea that got put on the shelf.

"Let's grab this thing and go," White told Aadland and his key staff.

Not fully staffed, or funded, the leaders took what people and money they had to work around a few corners their first fiscal year and clean up the process when the agency becomes fully funded in fiscal 2004.

They knew they could find the answers in a "best case scenario." But, what if there was a war? What if the Army did something they couldn't predict that took money away? That could make the agency, "look like we're not doing what we've said we'd be able to do," Aadland said.

War did come. So did the questions.

Could they support the power projection platform? Could they deliver on the single promise of letting the war-fighting commanders focus on the front and not worry about the installation management mission.

"Operation Iraqi Freedom put us in an operational stance where we had to come through," Aadland said.

The seven regional offices ran emergency operations around the clock. They lined up as partners with the commands at the front and delivered their part behind the lines.

"It shocked us into a level of maturity and partnership that had to come," Aadland said.

While the operations transformation proved sound, naysayers began questioning the commitment of keep-

ing base operations money where it belongs.

"You never program for a war, so when we went, (the Army) had to rob somebody's cookie jar to get the troops into Baghdad," Aadland said.

Senior commanders flowed about \$600 million of garrison funds into the fight.

But, they set up some new rules - they promised to pay it back.

And, they did.

When the president received supplemental monies from Congress to fight the war, the Army repaid the funds diverted for early operations. The migration of base operations funds that totaled hundreds of millions of dollars in fiscals 2001 and 2002 was \$5 million in fiscal 2003.

"It was a first step into the programming discipline we'd been talking about," Aadland said about the change. "It's no longer easy to pick the low-hanging fruit from the tree."

"At one year in we are at the halfway point," Aadland said about the transformation. "We haven't proven our efficacy yet."

The next stop on the agency's road to becoming more efficient is to move installations to a common standard around the world.

"We will try to do things more efficiently and share ideas on how to apply those principles so everybody

can benefit," Aadland promised. "To eliminate the haves and the have-nots."

The agency has developed standard garrison organizational outlines for small, medium, and large installations and is proceeding in staffing the manning document. Throughout fiscal 2004, they will flesh them out.

"Some installations are close; some are leagues away," Aadland said. "It will take some time for this migration."

But that migration, like last year's startup, has challenges inside and out.

The first two phases of the A-76 program threatened the workforce. Now, the "Third Wave" is surging a shock wave through it making workers ask, "Why is the Army hell-bent on taking away my job?"

"It's not," Aadland stresses. "But, it has said everything is going to be reviewed. The process will continue, but with more efficient guidance."

The general advises commands not to build a Most Efficient Organization to beat a contractor — do a plan to do the job.

He also tells them not to expect the studies to go away.

"Whenever you can show a 30 percent savings, the Army isn't going to stop," he said. "Our challenge has been to educate our people on the optimal use of the private sector.

We'll never be able to do it all in house. We will need industry to help us. And, we have to do it more efficiently."

Garrison commanders are asking how are they going to fit into the standard garrison structure while they are facing these studies.

"When the standard garrison construction doesn't mesh with A-76 configuration," Aadland said, "We're going to wait them out. If you have a contract that is set, and working, we will work the management scheme in the direction of the concept, but we won't disrupt the contract. We will wait until the end of the contract and take another look."

The key is tweaking performance work statements.

For example, A-76 has had a detrimental impact on master planning. Master planners don't make widgets - they are not producers. Under the A-76 process they have been seen as overhead.

"In some cases, we put the fox in the hen house," he explained. "Because we took the quality assurance people away."

"Many installation master plans atrophied - the art was lost. The key master planners became casualties of downsizing. We cannot afford to not have vision of where our installation

See OIF page 4

Army Environmental Center

AEC

From front page

another year of smiling faces."

Each year, AEC engages in several events at the school, such as volunteering for classroom reading and helping out on work days. Special projects planned for this year include the creation of a teaching wetland on the school grounds and a mock trial at the APG courthouse. Other regular partnership events include Military Appreciation and Awareness Day and Earth and Science Day.

In the 2002-2003 school year, the partnership helped provide nearly 700 volunteer hours in service to the school from AEC staff and the APG community.

"Together we have really become a community — a community of learning, a

community of helping children achieve," said Edgewood Elementary Principal Allyn Watson. "The scientists and environmental engineers of AEC are excellent role models for the students of Edgewood Elementary School."

Students from Edgewood Elementary presented a framed print of the poems, song and cheer created by the students to De Paz.

De Paz presented a commander's coin to Watson in recognition of her service. Watson received this year's National Distinguished Principal Award for the state of Maryland from the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the U.S. Department of Education.

Renewal certificates were signed by Watson, De Paz and Nancy Spence, business partnership coordinator for the Harford County School District.



Photo by NEAL SNYDER, AEC

Students from the fourth- and fifth-grade enrichment class at Edgewood Elementary School wrote a song in honor of the partnership between the school and the U.S. Army Environmental Center and sang it during the partnership renewal ceremony. Left to right, Margaret Stuemple (partially obscured), Alonzo James, Stephanie Bozeman, Danielle Hensley, Ivy McKinney and Nyha Fields.



Put It There, Partner: Col. James De Paz, commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, offers his hand to Andre Joyner, a fifth-grader at Edgewood Elementary School, on receiving a gift to honor the renewal of the partnership between the center and the school, Nov. 19.

AEC commander honors employees

Neal Snyder

U.S. Army Environmental Center

Colonel James M. De Paz, commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, presented awards to AEC staff members on Nov. 21 at the U.S. Army Research and Development Engineering Command conference center.

The awards ceremony took place following the renewal of the partnership between AEC and Edgewood Elementary School (see accompanying article).

Paul Thies, chief of the Environmental Planning Support branch, received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service, signed by Col. Addison D. Davis IV, former garrison commander of Fort Bragg, N.C., for his work while acting chief of the Conservation Division from 2000 to 2003. It also recognized his contributions to the Private Lands Initiative.

Eric Wolters received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service signed by Davis for his support of the Private Lands Initiative, preserving natural habitat and training space on and around

the installation.

Scott Hill received the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for his work developing the Army's Environmental Quality Technology program requirements supporting the construction of the Defense Department's fiscal 2006-2011 Program Objective Memorandum.

Laura Rodman, of the Natural Resources branch, received an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service signed by John M. Miller, acting director of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, for outstanding support of ARL and its employees and contractors.

James Briggs, of the Information and Environmental Reporting Division, and Phyllis King, of the Acquisition and Technology Division, were honored for 25 years of civilian service. Other service awards went to Matthew Andrews, Stan Childs, Durant Graves, Kathy Leiter and Phyllis Trempler (20 years); Edward Engbert and Deborah Lee (15 years) and Greg Christ (10 years).

Beneath the sky

Beneath the sky
Cool and blue
The USAEC helps
An elementary school

The teachers trot,
The first graders prance
The intermediates come
To join the dance

We all know how much the
USAEC
Wants to help kids just like
you and me

Thank you USAEC
For helping Edgewood
Elementary

Margaret Stuemple
Grade 5

APG News

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

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

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FALL CLEANUP



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Fulfilling their unit's fall cleanup responsibility, Pvts. Amber Romel and Christopher Scott, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion, bag grass and leaves in front of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center, Nov. 8.

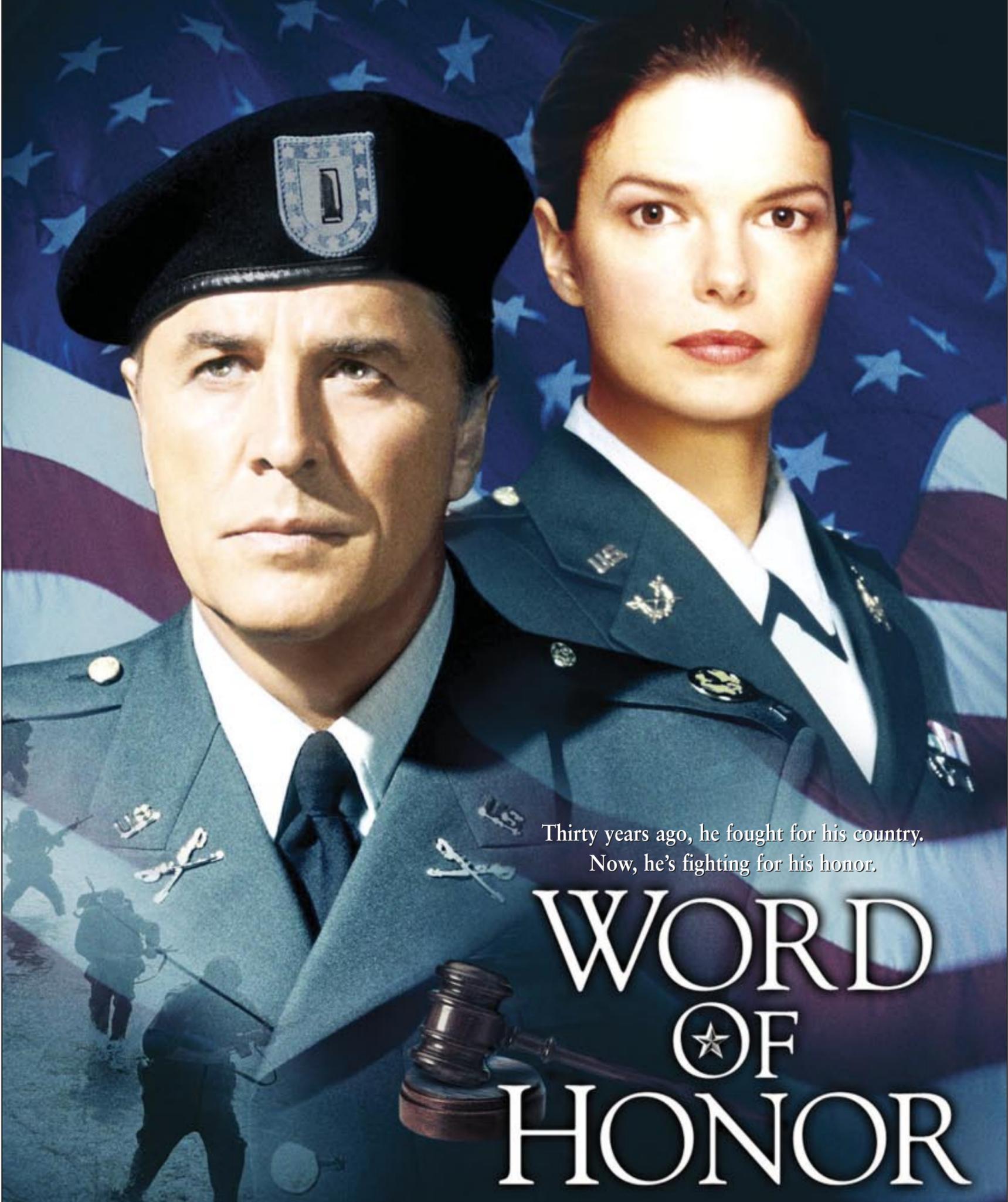
DON JOHNSON

JEANNE
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SHARON
LAWRENCE

JOHN
HEARD

ARLISS
HOWARD



Thirty years ago, he fought for his country.
Now, he's fighting for his honor.

WORD OF HONOR

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY NELSON DEMILLE

TELEPLAY BY JACOB EPSTEIN & LESLIE GREIF
AND JEAN-YVES PITOUN AND TOM TOPOR

DIRECTED BY ROBERT MARKOWITZ

WORLD PREMIERE SATURDAY DECEMBER 6 8PM
SPECIAL ENCORE SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 8PM



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LESLIE GREIF TELEPLAY BY JACOB EPSTEIN & LESLIE GREIF and JEAN-YVES PITOUN and TOM TOPOR BASED ON THE NOVEL BY NELSON DEMILLE DIRECTED BY ROBERT MARKOWITZ



POST SHORTS

From front page

Board meeting will be held on Dec. 4, 7 to 9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road, Edgewood.

The topic will be the O-Field Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

ARL hearing study

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory is conducting a study on hearing. Participants need to be 18 to 30 years old with normal hearing. The time commitment is 5 hours, and each participant will be paid \$10 per hour. Employees of ARL and their relatives are not eligible.

Interested volunteers should contact Justin MacDonald,

410-278-5925, or e-mail him at jmacdonald@arl.army.mil; or Martha Dennison, 410-278-5918, or e-mail her at mjden-nis@arl.army.mil.

Kirk offers classes

The following classes will be held at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For more information and to register for classes, call Preventive Medicine at 410-278-1964.

Daytime asthma education class

Class is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 9, noon to 1 p.m., Behavioral Health Conference Room 316, on the third floor.

Pre-registration is required. All TRICARE PRIME beneficiaries are invited to attend.

Take Care of Yourself Class

Class is held on the third Thursday of every month, 10 a.m. to noon in the Preventive Medicine Clinic on the third floor.

Patients will learn how to treat minor illnesses and injuries at home, and when to see a doctor. Participants will be given medical cards, which will allow them to pick up specific over-the-counter medications without a prescription.

Outreach Office holiday schedule

The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at 1011B Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood, will be closed Dec. 24 to Dec. 26, and Jan. 1. On Dec. 31, it will close at 1 p.m.

Regular operating hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday. For more information, call 410-676-6800.

Dec. 8 deadline for USO complimentary hotel nights

The USO of Metropolitan Washington is joining with civic-minded Washington area hotels to provide complimentary hotel/motel room nights to visiting families of service members who are unable to travel home for the holidays. Each year USO-Metro works with the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International to provide these free hotel accommodations, so that service members can spend the holidays with their loved ones. The program is designed to help junior enlisted personnel, many of whom

do not have enough leave time accrued to travel home. Many are also considered essential personnel at their duty stations and cannot leave.

"This program has grown from one participating hotel in 1984 to over 40 hotels this year. We are delighted that we can unite families at this special time of year," said USO-Metro President Elaine Rogers. "USO has become synonymous with helping our enlisted personnel and being there to make their holiday brighter."

The program runs from Dec. 20 through 30. Eligibility is limited to enlisted personnel in grades E1 to E6. No more than four family members may share a hotel room. All recipients are responsible for payment of incidentals such as telephone, parking, room service, etc. Interested applicants may apply directly through their senior enlisted advisor, command sergeant major, master chief petty officer or chief master sergeant. The application deadline is Dec. 8.

For more information or an application please contact Dale Jovero or Dawn Ruth at 703-696-2552 or 3279.

RDECOM toy drive underway

The 17th Annual Food and Toy Drive is underway and will continue until Dec. 16. Donation boxes are in place at many locations across post. Donatable items include non-perishable food and new or "clean, gently used" toys for children of all ages, including teenagers.

As in the past, the Neighbors Involved in the Community of Edgewood will be the recipient of the donations. NICE is a local group working to improve the quality of life in the Edgewood community. Their main focus is toward education, recreation, safety, and crime, drug, and alcohol abuse prevention. This year NICE anticipates 75 or more families will need assistance.

Everyone is invited to attend the reception scheduled for 9 a.m., Dec. 16 in the Berger Laboratory Cafeteria, building E3549 in the Edgewood Area. All donations help neighbors in need.

For more information, call Barbara Knapp at 410-436-5713.

NAF employees receive credit for military service

Regular Nonappropriated Fund employees participating in the NAF Retirement Program may be eligible to purchase certain prior military service to be credited for NAF retirement benefit computations.

Employees having previous creditable military service, that

has not been used under any other employer's retirement system, may wish to purchase their military service (not to exceed five years) to be credited for NAF retirement benefit computation purposes.

The entire deposit must be paid to the USANAF Employment Retirement Plan before Separation for Retirement or the post military service will not be credited.

For employees participating in the Plan on Jan. 1, 1998, interest is first added to the unpaid balance of the deposit on Jan. 1, 2001.

For further information or an appointment, employees are encouraged to call NAF Personnel, Julie Bates, 410-278-8994, or Jean Futty, 410-278-8993, editor at 410-278-1150.

Office Products Expo

U. S. Army Contracting Agency, will sponsor an Office Products Expo, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dec. 9, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Representatives from government vendors will be available and a representative from Defense Logistics Agency will demonstrate the use of DoD EMALL. Learn more about the Javitz-Wagner O'Day, or JWOD, program and sample some of the SKIL-CRAFT products.

Everyone is invited, especially those involved in the acquisition process, i.e. requestors, government purchase cardholders, billing officials. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Dennis Bolen, U.S. Army Contracting Agency, 410-278-0849, DSN298-0849 or debolen@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive

One new toy could mean the difference between a smile and just another day of disappointment to a needy child.

Deer Creek Archery, 3021 Churchville Road, is an official Marine Corps Toys for Tots collection location.

Now through Dec. 21, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the Pro-Shop on Thursday, 4 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, noon to 9 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information or for directions, visit Web site at www.deercreekarchery.com or call 410-734-9554.

APG News Web site takes a holiday

The APG News Web site Dec. 11 through 26 issues will be updated on Dec. 29.

The site is located at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil. For more information, call the editor at 410-278-1150.

Heart care training, Dec. 4

APG Committee for the disabled invites all to attend "Do Your Part - Take Care of your Heart" presented by BethAnn Cameron, Dec. 4, 2 p.m., at The Gunpowder Club's Osprey Room.

For more information call Judy Matthews, 410-278-1017.

Toastmasters meet in Edgewood Area

The Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562 meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 11:40 a.m. at The Gunpowder Club. The luncheon club offers an opportunity for people to improve communication, leadership and listening skills and to overcome fear of public speaking. For more information, call 410-941-1120 or 410-734-6573.

ACS assists families for the holidays

With the holiday season fast approaching, Army Community Service would like to remind the APG community that ACS is the point of contact for military families seeking assistance. This includes active duty Soldiers, Active Guard and Reservists, retirees, widows and widowers.

ACS also partners with agencies seeking to sponsor families for the holidays.

In the past, ACS has supported over 200 military families during the holidays in partnership with on-post agencies, as well local businesses.

The families are appreciative and delighted to know that their APG community assisted them in their time of need. Military families needing holiday assistance should be referred through the soldier's command.

APG organizations may wish to sponsor families with monetary donations, food baskets, toys, and gifts. For more information, call Arcelio Alleyne, 410-278-2450.

USO holiday concert, Dec. 11

Members of the military and their families are invited to participate in a very special holiday concert at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on Dec. 11, from 1 to 3 p.m.

The concert by Marvin Hamlisch and the National Symphony Orchestra will be videotaped for rebroadcast overseas to those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan on Christmas Eve. Admission is by ticket only to anyone with a current military I.D. - active duty, retired, and their dependents - and can be picked up at the USO office at the Ft. Myer Community Activities Center.

For more information call Kathy Carroll, 703-696-2551.

CWF trip to Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a trip to the Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater, Dec. 12, departing the Aberdeen Area at 4:30 p.m. Cost of the trip is \$55 per person and includes charter bus transportation, dinner, and the holiday show, "Home for the Holidays."

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

Early morning Child Development hours

The CDC staff is considering opening the Aberdeen and Edgewood area centers Monday through Friday for Soldiers who participate in early morning PT.

The rate would be \$23 per month for three days per week and \$40 per month for five days per week from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. These rates apply only for Soldiers participating in early morning PT.

For patrons not currently enrolled in the Child/Youth Services programs, an annual \$15 registration fee will be required.

If interested in using this service at the AA Child Development Center, call Ruth Strauss, 410-278-711, or e-mail her at ruth.strauss@usag.apg.army.mil.

At the EA Center, call Myria Figueroa, 410-436-8361, or send an e-mail to myria.figueroa@usag.apg.army.mil.

Lose weight for the holidays

Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are continuing on post with the newest program from Weight Watchers' - FlexPoints. FlexPoints makes losing weight in the real world easier.

Get eleven weeks for the price of ten. Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are open to all APG civilian personnel, retirees, military personnel and family members.

For more information, call 410-278-1151.

Safety reminder

The APG Garrison Safety Council reminds motorists that turning on headlights is mandatory when operating windshield wipers.

Turning them on at dusk is also a good safety habit.

Theater holiday schedule

The Post Theater will be closed from Dec. 19 through Jan. 9.

Who Remembers?

"Puffin & Muffin"

...two long-hair black and white cats that began their lives at the

J. R. Williams Country Store
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Friday Night, December 12, 2003 from 6 till 8 p.m.
Light refreshments, come and enjoy!

ON DISPLAY:
Saturday, December 13 from noon till 5 p.m.
Sunday, December 14 from noon till 8 p.m.



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SANTA NEEDS YOUR HELP THIS YEAR!

Lots of children in Harford County will wake up on Christmas morning with no Christmas toys.

Parents, let's teach our children the true meaning of Christmas by letting them share in the joy of giving.

On Sunday, December 7th from 1:00-4:00 p.m., Santa will be visiting The Aegis to collect toys for those who are less fortunate in Harford County.

Have your child bring a new toy to the lobby of The Aegis on December 7th & give it to Santa. Cookies & punch will be served.

Don't forget your camera for a picture with Santa!

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OIF

From page 2

will be in five, 10 or 20 years. Master planning is going to get resourced."

"Show me the money. Show me the money," was the chorus garrison commanders sang at the first agency commanders' conference. They were concerned about getting the resources and people they need to make a difference.

"(Have) faith in the concept and understanding of what cooperate means," Aadland tells them. "You are now part of a worldwide organization.

"When I talk to my regional directors, I tell them we are the 'Big Blue' of installation management for the Army and you are vice presidents. You, region director, are the focus lens of the agency. But, more importantly, you are the focus lens for the garrison commanders to see clearly what's happening in Washington."

Community Notes

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5 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. Cash bar is available, but dance lessons will not be provided.

For more information, call 410-272-8318.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6 CHRISTMAS IN ABERDEEN

The town of Aberdeen will hold "Christmas in Maryland." Festivities include breakfast with Santa, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Grace Methodist Church; a Christmas craft fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, North Rogers Street; open house at the Aberdeen Room Museum, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; tours of the Ripken Museum, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and a street concert, 2 p.m. on the front steps of Grace United Methodist Church.

The Christmas parade begins 3 p.m. on downtown West Bel Air Avenue.

For more information, call Ruth Frank at 410-272-7354.

FRIDAY JANUARY 9 AMERICAN LEGION HOSTS COMEDY SHOW

Time: 7 to 10 p.m. American Legion Post 128, 44 North Parke Street, Aberdeen, will host a comedy show 7 to 10 p.m. with proceeds benefiting World War II veterans' memorial programs.

The show will feature comedy by John Dodge and Uncle Nic as well as Jim Bishop, who has appeared on Comedy Central and performs regularly in Atlantic City, N.J. Cost is \$10 per person and includes finger food, draft beer and sodas.

For reservations, call 410-272-9822.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Eat breakfast with Santa Clause, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Prince of Peace Church located on 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$4 for children ages 6 through 12 and children under 6 eat free. Menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy with biscuit, coffee, tea and juice.

For more information, call 410-679-5912.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Edgewood Baptist Church and the APG Post Chapel Church Choirs will perform a Christmas Cantata, "Treasures of Christmas: Joyful Sounds of the Season," at the Edgewood Baptist Church, 422 Edgewood Road, Edgewood. Everyone is invited to the free concert. Nursery service will be provided.

For more information, call

410-676-5838.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY DECEMBER 20 AND 21 CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Edgewood Baptist Church and the APG Post Chapel Church Choirs will perform a Christmas Cantata, "Treasures of Christmas: Joyful Sounds of the Season," at the Edgewood Baptist Church, 422 Edgewood Road, Edgewood. Everyone is invited to the free concert. Nursery service also will be provided.

For more information, call 410-676-5838.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 18 EXODUS SUPER SUPPER SPECIALTY MEAL

The Exodus Super Supper Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, for Dinner, 5:30 p.m. 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 \$3.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, department of defense civilian, retiree and their guests.

The discount meal rate of \$2.80 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The Exodus Super Supper Specialty Menu includes chicken noodle soup, grilled steaks, shrimp scampi, fried catfish, chicken cordon bleu, freedom fries, rice pilaf, baked macaroni and cheese, seasoned mushrooms and onions, broccoli with cheese sauce, corn O'brien, assorted salad bar, hot dinner rolls, German tomato salad, creamy cole slaw, jellied fruit salad, chocolate chip cookies, cheese cake, carrot cake, soft serve yogurt w/assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50, building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard. To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.



IN THE CUT

Friday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
Starring: Meg Ryan, Mark Ruffalo

Following the gruesome murder of a young woman in her neighborhood, a self-determined woman living in New York City - as if to test the limits of her own safety - propels herself into an impossibly risky sexual liaison. Soon she grows increasingly wary about the motives of every man with whom she has contact - and about her own. (Rated R)

KILL BILL (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.
Starring: Uma Thurman, David Carradine



"The Bride" was once part of a group of world class female assassins, until the group leader "Bill" and the other assassins turn against her. Five years later "The Bride" awakens from a coma to seek bloody revenge. (Rated R)



THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 p.m.
Starring: Jessica Biel, Jonathan Tucker

Five 20-somethings find themselves stranded in a small Texas town, where they encounter a chainsaw wielding maniac known as Leatherface. The killer has spent years sawing up people and constructing masks out of their skin. (Rated R)

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green at 410-306-1393/1398.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIALTY MEAL

The Christmas Day Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facility, building 4503 for lunch, noon to 1:30 p.m. During this event all military personnel, family members, department of defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green at 410-306-1393/1398.

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First Baptist Church of Aberdeen

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Discipleship Training 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

- Youth Ministry Teams
- SBC Children's Mission Program (3 yrs. - 6th grade)
- Prayer Meeting

Dr. Gary Johnson, Pastor
219 E. Bel Air Ave. • Aberdeen, MD 21001
410-272-2845

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Nights Mon.-Fri. 9:01pm-5:59am; weekends Sat. 12am-Sun. 11:59pm. Taxes & surcharges apply and may vary. Federal Universal Service Charge of 1.90% (varies quarterly based on FCC rate) and a 5c Regulatory Charge per line/month are our charges, not taxes. Requires new activation on 24-month agreement. Subject to Service Agreement & Calling Plan. Activation fee of \$35 on 12-month agreement. Early termination fee up to \$175. Requires credit approval. Cannot combine with other offers. Usage rounded to next full minute. Unused allowances lost. Subject to taxes & other charges. See calling plan. *T720+ \$50 savings is a mail-in rebate. Allow 10-12 weeks for rebate check. For rebate, must be a customer for 30 consecutive days. Phone may not be returned after rebate is submitted Valid through 12/31/03. Not responsible for typographical errors.



Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

2003 MWR Holiday Schedule

Activity	Friday Dec. 19	Saturday Dec. 20	Sunday Dec. 21	Monday Dec. 22	Tuesday Dec. 23	Wednesday Dec. 24	Friday Dec. 26
Arts & Crafts AA	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed
Arts & Crafts EA	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Athletic Center	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Auto Crafts	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Bowling Center	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.	1 to 10 p.m.	1 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	5 to 10 p.m.
Equipment Rental Center	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Closed	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed
Exton*	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fitness Center AA	5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Closed	Closed	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5:30 to 10:30 a.m.	Closed
Hoyle Gym/ Fitness Center	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Ticket and Registration	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Library AA	Closed	1 to 5 p.m.	1 to 5 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Closed	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Closed
Library EA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Recreation Center AA	10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Snack Bar	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Recreation Center EA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Snack Bar	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Ruggles*	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*In event of inclement weather course will be closed and signs posted.

Note: All MWR activities are closed Christmas and New Year's Day.

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION UPDATE

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION UPDATE

How Do I Pay For College? A Guide To Financial Aid tri-fold is now available at the School Liaison/Youth Education Office, Room 200, Bldg. 2752, or by on-post mail by e-mailing your name, organization, building number to ivan.mehosky@usag.apg.army.mil. Topics of information include: a description of financial aid, types of aid, steps to obtaining aid, facts about financial aid, information on scholarship scams, and a listing of financial aid contacts and sites.

A limited number of copies of the 2003/2004 "The You Can Guide to Financing Your Education" are available

at the School Liaison/Youth Education Office. Call Ivan Mehosky, 410-278-2857, for a copy.

Parent-Student resources are currently available at the School Liaison/Youth Education Office: "How To Prepare Our Children and Stay Involved In Their Education During Deployment," "Parent Guidebook to the U.S. Army Secondary Education Transition Study," "Put Reading First-Helping Your Child Learn To Read (Preschool through Grade 3)," and "Chart Your Course: Planning a Successful Journey Through High School and Beyond." For more information, call 410-278-2857.

"Welcome to Harford County Public

Schools 2003/2004" booklets are available at the School Liaison/Youth Education Office, Room 200, Bldg. 2752. This is a "must have" for all APG parents. Topics include how to register your child, school attendance areas, student transportation, visiting schools, tardiness and absences, food and nutrition, emergency school closings (with radio station, television, switchboard numbers, and Web sites), HCPS Vision/Mission/Goals Master Plan, help for students with special needs, Board of Education, graduation requirements for class of 2004, exceptions to the regular high school program, and opening/closing times for Harford County Public Schools. Please visit the HCPS web site at www.hcps.org.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Edgewood Area library is open Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 410-436-3589.



Mirror Mirror by Gregory Maguire

Maguire "gives fresh life to the classic story of Snow White. Set in 16th century Tuscany, the lovely and vain Lucretia Borgia plots a dire fate for young Bianca de Nevada. But in the dark forest there can be found salvation as well."

The Split Second by David Baldacci

Mr. Timothy by Louis Bayard

The Hornet's Nest by Jimmy Carter

The Language of Light by Meg Waite Clayton

The Hanged Man's Song by John Sandford

A complete annotated listing of the library's new material can be found on the Internet, as well as the library's online catalog www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html.

Storytime will be held at 9:45 every other week during the fall: at the Edgewood branch on Tuesday and the Aberdeen branch on Wednesday. For more information, call 278-3417.

Activities

Registration information

For more information or to register, contact MWR Registration at 410-278-4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Discount tickets for Regal Theater

Discount Premier Super-saver unrestricted tickets are available at MWR Registration, building 3326, for \$7.75 (adult

admission).

The tickets are good for any Regal Theater and any movie in the United States. Purchase nine movie tickets and get one free.

Framing class

This beginning class teaches the fundamentals of framing and matting. Students must bring an 8-inch by 10-inch picture to frame. Class will be held 5 to 9 p.m., Dec. 18 in the Edgewood Arts & Crafts building E-4440. Cost is \$25 plus supplies.

Outdoor Recreation readies for ski season



A wintry scene designed by the Community Recreation Division staff decorates the front window of building 2407.

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

With the arrival of winter temperatures, now is a good time to take advantage of the specials offered by Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center.

Located in building 2407 on the Aberdeen Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, the Equipment Resource Center offers everything the winter sports enthusiast needs to enjoy the coming winter.

Wayne Doyel, ODR program manager, said the staff is busily preparing for what promises to be a busy season.

"They've been decorating the building and preparing all the rental equipment," Doyel said. "For skiers, the timing couldn't be better."

The ERC's seasonal rental period runs from Dec. 1 to March 31. It includes cross-country ski rentals for \$80 and

downhill skis and snowboards for \$125.

"This cost is less than seven ski/snowboard outings for the entire season," Doyel said. "Ski and boot maintenance is included at no charge."

In addition, the shop has added 10 more snowboards to its stock of equipment that also includes poles, ski and snowboard boots, car top ski racks, bibs and pants.

Snowboards also can be rented for the season for \$125.

Doyel said numerous customers told him they like the equipment, service and the price at the ERC, but mostly they appreciate not having to wait long periods of time.

He said customers wait an average of two hours to be sized and fitted at a ski lodge.

"That's time you could be spending on the slope," Doyel said. "Utilizing the ERC eliminates that wait. In fact, it's easier to

rent and have your equipment waxed and edged here than it is to have your own."

He added that the cost is \$140 for maintenance in the ERC, compared to the average lodge cost of \$245.

The ERC staff invites patrons to come see all the other equipment available for rental as well - to include power washers, sport tubes, stoves, tents, and even a Santa suit.

The ERC is open Monday to Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is closed Sunday and federal holidays.

Outdoor Recreation will be closed for their holiday break from Dec. 25 to 28.

For more information, call 410-278-4124 or 5789, send email to outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil, or visit the MWR Web site at www.apgmwr.com.

Army Community Service activities

THURSDAY DECEMBER 4 WE WILL SURVIVE CLASS

The Victim Advocacy Program will present this class in the Aberdeen Area ACS building 2754, 6:30 to 8 p.m. The session will be devoted to relationships and includes topics such as effective communication, conflict resolution and relationship building techniques.

For more information, call Sandy Hernandez-McCullough, 410-278-2435.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 9 HOLIDAY BLUES

The Exceptional Family Member Program presents "Holiday Blues," a workshop providing tips to help parents navigate holiday stress with special needs children. Class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Aberdeen ACS building 2754.

For more information or to sign up,

call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-2420.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 9, 16 HOWTO MANAGE HOLIDAY STRESS

The Family Advocacy Program presents "How to Manage Holiday Stress," Dec. 9, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen ACS building 2754 and Dec. 16, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Edgewood ACS building E-4630.

For more information or to register, call Laura Reich, FAP prevention specialist, 410-278-7478.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10 DAD'S BOOT CAMP

Parents and Children Together Program presents "Dad's Boot Camp," 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen ACS building 2754. This class will be

about how to bond and care for a new baby. For more information or to sign up, call Diana Hayes, PACT coordinator, 410-278-4372.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10 AND 17 TEEN CHAT

This program will be a six-week rap session for teens. Topics of discussion will include but are not limited to; peer pressure, values, anger management, family moves and parents deploying. All members and non-members of Youth Services are invited to participate.

Classes will be held at the AA Youth Service Center, building 2522. For more information, call Donna Mele, 410-278-2464.

TELEPHONE ETIQUETTE CLASS

Class will be held in building 2754, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669.

Dining

From front page

led the team of three inspectors including Chief Warrant Officer 5 Roger De Witz, chief of the food management assistance team, Quartermaster Center and School, and Alfred Rudolph, IFSEA evaluator and chairperson.

Wilson, who manages the DA program for seven MACOMs, said the inspection was "going great."

"Out of 352 facilities, to be recognized as one of the top seven is no small feat," he said. "It is clear this particular facility is consistent in its standards of excellence."

The team had just returned from evaluating facilities in Germany, Korea and Japan.

De Witz said that the

process is a year-round endeavor includes assisting food service managers in determining areas in which improvements are needed.

"We use a thousand point checklist and we all look at the same things, then discuss each point," he said. "This facility has already achieved quite an accomplishment. A lot of work and countless hours undoubtedly went into it thus far."

"Selection comes down to food preparation, acceptance of the food, staff, morale, storage, and other factors related to the food service industry," Rudolph said. "Facilities must meet installation requirements before reaching DA level."

The winners will be announced in January and honored during the IFSEA convention, April 24 to 27, in Denver.

Commentary — Let the Little Children Come



Chaplain (Maj.) William Holt Liptrot Jr.

Chaplain (Maj.) William Holt Liptrot Jr.
USAGAPG

"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, put his hands

on them and blessed them."
(From *The Gospel of Saint Mark 10: 13-16.*)

Over the centuries, and even today, it seems that some Christians have adopted the same attitude as the disciples. They, unfortunately, also either try to send children away or they don't consider children as very important members of God's kingdom.

It is important to listen to children. They hear things that we no longer hear.

The Steven Spielberg movie ET was about exactly that. Children have secrets not available to grownups. They can understand computers, and this is new to adults.

They have priorities we once had and now have lost. A teacher who listened to children used to take off his hat and bow to them at the beginning of each school day. They were, he explained, the future in our midst. Not surprisingly, one of the pupils was a boy called Martin Luther.

Today's gospel, it appears that Jesus' disciples were attempting to shut up the children and prevent them from coming to see Jesus.

Mark tells us that people were bringing their little children to Jesus hoping that he would touch them and, along with his touch, bless them.

What were the disciples doing when they tried to send the children away from Jesus? Did they think that they were trying to protect Jesus and give him a chance to rest? Did they feel that children were not important to Jesus; that children did not belong in God's kingdom?

The disciples' behavior here seems a little strange, since it was quite customary for Jewish rabbis to bless children. According to God's Word children were (are) a crown, Proverbs 17:6; Blessed are his children after him, Proverb 20:7; Train a child in the way he should go, Proverbs 22:6; Her children rise and call her blessed, Proverb 31:28.

In that blessing, the rabbis were bestowing on the children the hope of a life filled with health, joy, prosperity and peace. Whatever caused the disciples to act so mean spirited, Mark tells us that Jesus thought and acted differently.

The truth is few adults listen to children. The child in

ET tries to tell her mother about the strange and loveable being who has arrived at their house. Her mother is unloading groceries, is tired out and has no time to talk.

"What is it you're saying?" she says, as she swings the refrigerator door open and knocks ET down.

"I think you've killed him," says the little girl. But the mother still doesn't hear.

We don't listen to children much. We ignore them in stores and serve the adults first. We hang pictures high up on our walls as though everyone was tall. We ask children what they are going to be when they grow up, as though they are nothing in their present state.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me.

"A chapel is livelier and richer with them.

Adults have much to learn from children. Children are an important part of the church community.

Jesus said the kingdom of God must be received "like a child." It is true that Paul said he "gave up childish ways" when he grew up (I Corinthians 13:11).

But childishness is not what Jesus is referring to. Childishness is petulance. Childish people imagine the whole world is centered around them and if they cry loudly enough they will be served.

Some childish people are adults. Jesus, on the other hand, asks us to be childlike. He is speaking about that open, trusting responsive part of us, which laughs and cries and is willing to risk.

Listen to the children. Not just the children who are young in years. There is a child inside of all of us, no matter how old we are, who needs to be listened to.

Who knows, when we adults start listening more to the child within us, we may learn to be more joyful, less weighed down with worries and anxieties, able to enjoy the wonder, beauty and mystery of life all the more.

The child in us can show us the giftedness of life and help us live it to the fullest. The child in us shall cherish and share the gift of imagination and creativity. The child in us can reveal the grace of God all around us and help us speak

more intimately in parent-child conversation.

As adults, we can have a tremendous amount of influence on children. We can take our role as mentors seriously; making the church the most welcoming place we possibly can for children.

What children remember about church in their younger years will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

So, like Jesus, hopefully we can be as inclusive towards children as he was-valuing them as precious members of God's kingdom because they model for us the marvelous grace of God. They are the lowest and the least in our society-yet, in Christ's presence they are first and foremost in God's realm.

(Editor's note: References used include Cited from: Bruce McLeod, "Listen to the Children," in City Sermons: Preaching From A Downtown Church (Burlington, Ontario: Welch Publishing and Grace Lutheran Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta-by Pastor Garth Wehrfritz-Hanson.)

ACS thanks APG community

ACS

Army Community Service would like to thank all of those who made Military Family Month a huge success.

November is a time when ACS can show appreciation to Aberdeen Proving Ground military families and enjoy spending time with them.

The three major events—Aberdeen and Edgewood's Military Family Fun Night and Family Movie Night—had a tremendous turn out.

"We take pride in the military and the fami-

lies that we serve at Army Community Service," said Celestine Beckett, ACS team leader.

"We hope that those of you who shared in our events enjoyed yourselves and we hope to see you again," Beckett said. "Remember that ACS always has something going on and to check the Web calendar and the APG News for upcoming events and classes."

The ACS Holiday Party is the next big event. Although admission is free, participants must have a ticket to attend. See "ACS activities" for more information.



Alycia Abeyta, daughter of Staff Sgt. Anthony Abeyta, Headquarters and Headquarters, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, works on creating her family tree during the Edgewood Family Fun Night, Nov. 7.

ACS hosts holiday party

ACS

Army Community Service will host their third annual holiday party, at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, Dec. 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

All military, DoD Civilians and family members are invited for a fun-filled evening of games, prizes and treats.

The event, hosted by ACS staff, will feature activities for the evening including face painting, cakewalk, ring toss, beanbag toss, candy guess and many crafts. ACS will provide complimentary photographs with Santa for all the little wish-makers.

"We are looking forward to families coming out for an evening of fun," said Celestine

Beckett, ACS director. "This is our third year sponsoring the holiday party, and previously we've had a tremendous response from the APG community."

ACS staff invites the community to attend - to renew acquaintances, make new friends, and most importantly, have a great time.

For free tickets to the holiday party, stop by Aberdeen Area ACS, Bldg. 2754, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. 5 p.m., and Edgewood Area, ACS, Bldg. E-4630, Tuesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For additional information, call Cheryl Harris, Relocation Assistant, 410-278-7474. For special accommodations, call Reeshemah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator, 410-278-2420.

APG closing announcements

If the installation is closed, is experiencing a delay in opening or if liberal leave is in effect due to weather or other emergency situations, check for postings on the local television and radio stations (listed below), WAPG-TV Channel 3 (on Aberdeen Proving Ground), or call 410-278-SNOW (7669). A recorded telephone message will contain updated information and should begin at about 5 a.m.

Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name APG specifically.

For general information, call 410-278-1147, the APG Public Affairs Office.

The radio and television stations are:

Station	Frequency	Location
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCX	FM 103.7	Havre de Grace
WBAL	AM 1090	Baltimore
WIYY	FM 97.9	Baltimore
WPOC	FM 93.1	Baltimore
WDEL	AM 1150	Wilmington, Del.
WSTW	FM 93.7	Wilmington, Del.
WSBA	AM 910	York, Pa.
WARM	FM 103.3	York, Pa.
WROZ	FM 101.3	Lancaster, Pa.
WBAL-TV	Channel 11	Baltimore
WMAR-TV	Channel 2	Baltimore
WBFF-TV	Channel 45	Baltimore
WJZ-TV	Channel 13	Baltimore

Mail early

To insure delivery of holiday greeting cards and packages, the Postal Service recommends mailing by the following dates.

Items for delivery by Hanukkah should be mailed five days prior to the dates noted below.

Military Mail Addressed To Air/Army Post Office/Fleet Post Office (APO/FPO)	First Class Mail Letters/Cards	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)1/
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	Dec. 4	Dec. 4	Passed
APO/FPO AE ZIP 094-099	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
APO/FPO AA ZIP 340	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-968	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4

Religious Service Christmas Schedule

Catholic Service Schedule

Saturday Dec. 13, 6 p.m., after 5 p.m. Mass - Advent Penance Service AA

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. - Stable Mass EA

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. - Children's Pageant Mass EA

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 11 p.m. - Music Cantata AA -followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas, Dec. 25, 10 a.m. - Mass AA

Christmas, Dec. 25, 11 a.m. - Mass EA

Wednesday, Dec. 31, 5 p.m. - New Year's Eve Mass AA

New Years Day, Jan. 1, 11 a.m. - Mass EA

Protestant Service Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 7, 9:15 a.m. - Advent Service EA

Sun day, Dec. 7, 10:15a.m. - Advent Service AA

Sunday, Dec. 14, 9:15 a.m. - Advent Service EA

Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:15 a.m. - Christmas Cantata Service AA

Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:15 a.m. -Farewell Pot Luck for Chaplain (Cpt.) McCammon EA

Sunday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m. - Farewell Pot Luck for Chaplain (Maj.) Russ AA

Monday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. - Caroling & Refreshments EA HQ, 143d

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 6 p.m. - Caroling & Refreshments EA HQ, 143d

Sunday, Dec. 21, 9:15 a.m. - Advent Service EA

Sunday, Dec. 21, 10:15 a.m. - Advent Service AA

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service AA

Gospel Service Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 21, 12:30 p.m. - Sunday Services AA

Sunday, Dec. 21, 5 p.m. - Youth Christmas Program AA

2003 international and military mail Recommended Christmas mailing dates

	First class Mail Letters/cards	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)1/
Military mail addressed to:			
APO/FPO AE Zips 090-098	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
APO/FPO AA Zips 340	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
APO/FPO AP Zips 962-966	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4
International mail	Air letters and cards		Air parcel post
Addressed to			
Africa	Dec. 8		Dec. 8
Asia/Pacific Rim	Dec. 15		Dec. 8
Australia/New Zealand	Dec. 15		Dec. 15
Canada	Dec. 15		Dec. 15
Caribbean	Dec. 15		Dec. 15
Central and South America	Dec. 8		Dec. 8
Mexico	Dec. 15		Dec. 15
Europe	Dec. 15		Dec. 15
Middle East	Dec. 15		Dec. 15

Store

From front page

great facility, located in the right place, and it's a great place to take care of the Soldiers in Edgewood," Doesburg said.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Sarver led a tour of the facility, which offers many of the same items found in the Aberdeen Area's Main Exchange, like music CDs, clothing, and automotive items, only on a smaller scale.

"This is a good thing because now the soldiers have a place to go within walking distance," said Staff Sgt. Gregory Moses, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

He noted that the battalion has had to bus soldiers to the Aberdeen Area weekly.

"This is good for us because it's good for the Soldiers," Moses said.

The U.S. Army Accession Command, USAAC, was established in February 2002. It is a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, TRADOC, charged with providing integrated command and control of the recruiting and initial military training for the Army's officer, warrant officer, and enlisted forces.



From left to right, Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Thea Sarver, store manager, Brig. Gen. Mike Lenaers, commander, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, Pfc. Michael Sauret, Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, and Lt. Gen. Denis D. Cavin, commander of the U.S. Army Accession Command, cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the Edgewood Area Troop Store.

Photo by SONYA P. REYNOLDS

Water

From front page

"On behalf of the installation and the Directorate of Safety Health and Environment, I particularly want to thank our colleagues in the Harford County government, particularly Jackie Ludwig, Dave Pergrin, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Maryland Department of the Environment, Johnson Construction Company, and also the Army partners, the U.S. Army Environmental Center and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. And lastly, I personally want to thank those members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Team. Naren Desai, Ken Stachiw, and Dick Wakeling were instrumental in helping with this. I would like to say congratulations on a job well done."

Henry Sokolowski, EPA Region 3's chief of the Enforcement of Federal Facilities Branch, said he has been with the EPA team at APG for a long, long time.

"This facility is a good example of cooperation between the state of Maryland and the county, the Army and everyone involved. I've seen a lot of good things happening over the years and this is probably one of the best examples," he said. "About two years ago I was in the office of Senator Sarbanes along with our legal administrator Brad Campbell, discussing the merits of this project. We all came to the same conclusion - that this project was truly some-

thing that was needed. It's particularly gratifying for me to be here today to actually see the finished results of construction."

Col. Mardi Mark, deputy installation commander added the final note. "We want to be good citizens here in Harford County by providing good drinking water at the Perryman well field. It was teamwork that resulted in the solution of the TCE issue here in the well fields at Perryman."

Harford County Council members attending the ceremony included Dion F. Guthrie, District A, Richard C. Slutsky, District E, and Cecilia M. Stepp, District F.

Following the ribbon cutting officially opening the facility, Dave Pergrin, project manager with Harford County's Division of Water and Sewer conducted a tour of the Perryman facility, explaining how it works.



Pipes and valves work quietly at the new Perryman Granular Carbon Water Treatment Facility.



By Jim Pottie, DSHE

From left to right, Naren Desai, environmental engineer, DSHE, Steve Wampler, environmental protection specialist, DSHE, and Harford County Council members Richard C. Slutsky, District E, Dion F. Guthrie, District A, and Cecilia M. Stepp, District F, listen attentively to details about the Perryman Granular Activated Carbon Water Treatment Facility during the ribbon cutting tour, Nov. 7.

Awards

From front page

Farmer, Bob Martinez and Carole Williams.

The Commander's Quality Award, awarded to the Mobile Gun System Reliability and Maintainability Test Team, is presented to an ATC work group or team for sustained high-quality achievements. Members of the team are Walter Blethen, Curt Janney, Freddie Gilbert, Chris Malick, Frank Marotta, Lynn Cook, and Anita Kimball. ATSS contractor team members are John Weimer, Doug Lingenfelter, John Duff, Dave Lynerd, Joe Gonzales, Paul Bailes, Vernon

Ferguson, and Aldo Vice. COBRO Corporation contractor team members are Dave Dennis, Kim Smith, Katie Fisher, Wendy Jones and Denise Kurtyka.

The Groak Award, presented to Jackie Luike, command staff, is named for the late George Groak, a former general foreman of facilities support, and recognizes employees providing various types of test support, without which the ATC technical mission could not be accomplished.

The Crozier Award, presented to Lt. Col. Michael Ferry, Automotive Core, is named for the late Maj. Gen. William Crozier, Chief of Ordnance from 1901 to 1917, and is presented to a Soldier for excellence in technical test

project management and test support.

The Fritter Award, presented to Regina Burston-Valley, Technology Core, was named for the late Richard W. Fritter, a former budget analyst for ATC, and is awarded for exceptional contributions by employees whose jobs give administrative support to ATC, including clerical, supply, safety, security, budget and administrative.

The Nichols Award, presented to Bill Males, Automotive Core, is named for the late Charles W. Nichols, an ATC technician, and recognizes the efforts of ATC technicians without whom the ATC technical mission could not be accomplished.

The Technical Director's Award, presented to Paul Klara, Survivability/Lethality Core, was established to recognize authors within ATC for outstanding technical papers or reports on topics pertinent to the test and evaluation mission.

The Commander's Award, awarded to John Hersey, Automotive Core, is presented to a civilian or Soldier for outstanding individual achievement on a technical project or study resulting in significant advances in testing technology or outstanding project management.

The Individual Safety Award was presented to Frank Nordell, Survivability/Lethality Core. This new award recognizes performance by an ATC civilian or military employee who sets an example

for co-workers by continually demonstrating safe work habits and an excellent attitude towards safety, or performance of specific actions that create safe working conditions and enhance safety in the workplace.

The Group Safety Award, presented to the High Explosives Unit, was established this year to recognize performance by a group of ATC employees who have demonstrated continuous, outstanding and significant contributions to the safety program such as providing safety training, hazard identification and abatement, accident prevention efforts and improvements in the occupational health environment of the workplace.

Members of the team are William Bond, Terry Shipley, James Barnard, Robert Caudill, Roy Cole, Ronnie Dennis, Bruce Donald, George Eason, Aubrey Edwards, Mark Mullin, Christopher Thomas, and William White.

Brown also recognized two members of the workforce who received awards during the year. Dr. Gregory Schultz received the Dr. Marion R. Bryson award for Test and Evaluation Excellence, and Thea Blunt Henderson received the Women of Color Emerald Honor for Technical Innovation.

Concluding the ceremony, Brown praised the ATC workforce, saying "Once again, thanks for a great job. It's been a great year thanks to all of you."



Photo by DANA FRITTS, ATSS

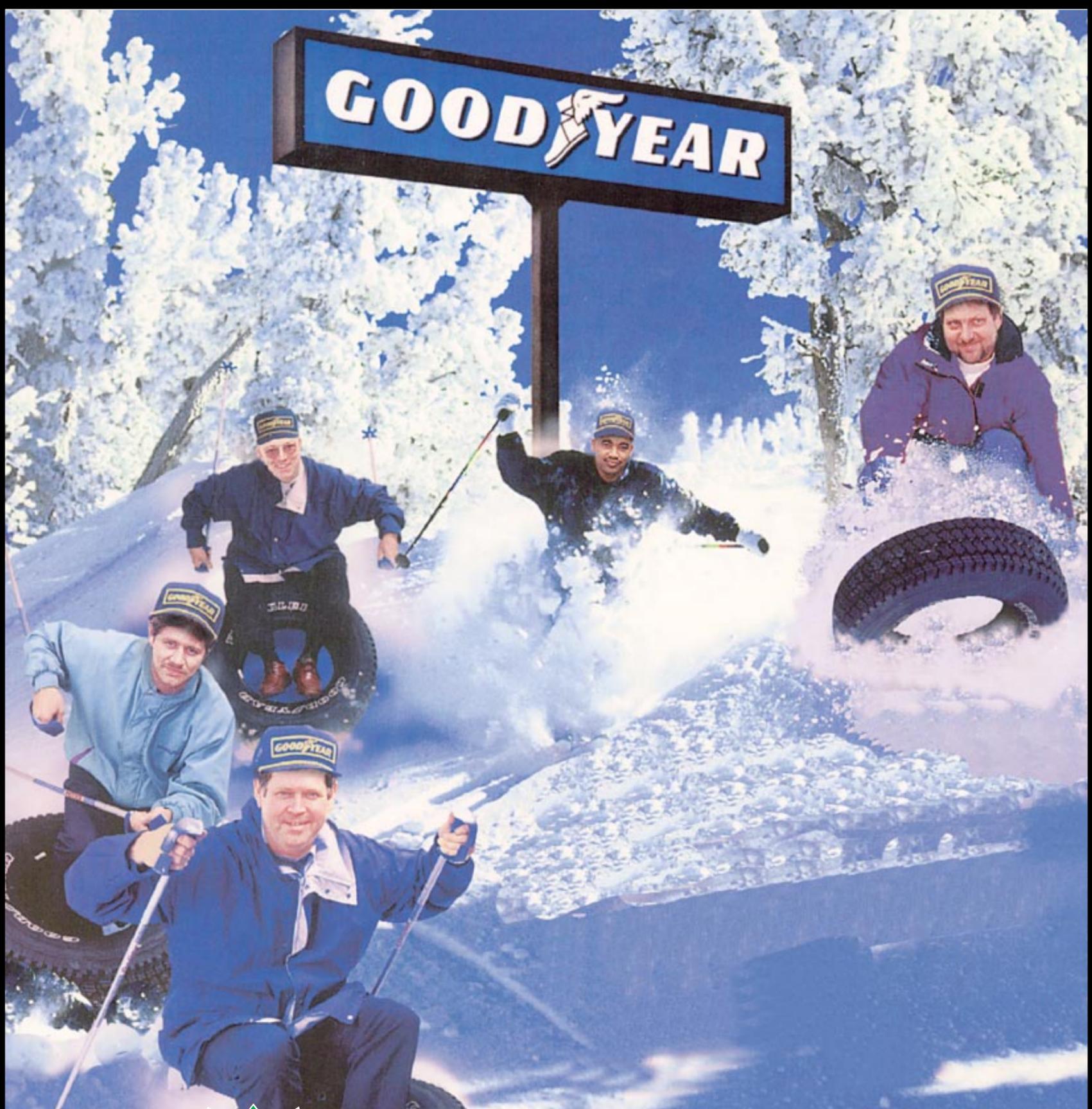
John Hersey, lead test director on the Stryker program and recipient of the Commander's Award, explains Stryker's Remote Weapon Station to Virginia Representative Edward Schrock during his visit to Aberdeen Test Center in October.

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should contact Melda Callender, 410-278-8997, or e-mail melda.callender@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Michele Amrhein (taking care of premature son)	Beverly King (caring for husband)
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)	William Klein
Mildred T. Becker (surgery)	Pamela Klinger
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	Anita L. Koller (care for husband)
Robert J. Boonstoppel (coronary bypass surgery)	Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
Tammy Budkey	George Kudrna (caring for father)
Patricia Burcham (caring for father, Arthur Cummings, ATC retired)	Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)
Jane E. Calahan	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Jackie Childress	Shirley M. Orłowicz (back surgery)
Patricia D. Choate	Calvin E. Peake
Joseph Dugan	Karen S. Pense
David Fletcher	Linda M. D. Queen
John Gage	Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Sharon Gary (care for family member)	Michael Reynolds
Patty Gibson	Cheryl L. Roark
Edgar W. Greer	Matthew Ryan
Tresa Harris	Marquerite Soper
Fern L. Hitchcock (surgery)	Jorja V. Thomas-Murcia
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)	Eunice Thompson
Richard Hoffman	Alison Tichenor
Beth Kelly	Sandra M. Wachter (surgery)
	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)



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\$10⁰⁰ OFF

Regular Price
Don't run the risk of a highway breakdown or emergency stop due to a broken fan belt or ruptured radiator hose. No obligation.
ANY SERVICE OVER \$100
\$5 off any service over \$50

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COMPUTERIZED ALIGNMENT

\$10⁰⁰ OFF

Must present coupon to get this price
Includes: • Front caster, camber and toe set to manufacturer's specifications
• Reference and compensation, or adjustment of thrust line, depending on alignment of thrust line, depending on alignment type • Alignment analysis printout

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Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Offer ends 12/31/03.

TRANSMISSION SERVICE

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Must present coupon to get this price
Includes: • Replace fluid, pan gasket & filter (if required)
• Special gaskets, filters extra if needed

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Environmental disposal fee may apply in some areas. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Offer ends 12/31/03.

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE

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Regular Price
Your car may not need a tune-up. Cleans clogged fuel injectors to help restore power & performance, improve fuel economy.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Additional charge for shop supplies may apply. Offer valid at participating retailers through 12/31/03.

SHOCKS AND STRUTS

\$10⁰⁰ OFF

Regular Price
• Parts only • Installation Extra • Discount off each part
• Free Shock or strut Inspection/Estimate

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Additional charge for shop supplies may apply. Offer valid at participating retailers through 12/31/03.