

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Dec. 22, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### AFTB celebrates 10th birthday today

Army Community Service will celebrate the 10th Birthday of the Army Family Team Building Program with a cake cutting by the Garrison Commander at the Post Exchange at 1 p.m. An AFTB information table will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The entire APG community is invited.

The theme for the 10th birthday celebration is "A Decade of Enriching Army Families."

The APG AFTB Program is actively seeking volunteers and instructors for the program.

Volunteer instructors are trained with 20 hours of classroom instruction.

The classes are taught by "master trainers" who have attended a Department of the Army sponsored 40-hour training course.

In January, the program will be offering an Instructor Training Course. In February, an evening Level One training course will be offered.

For more information, call Sarah Staats, ACS 410-278-2464 or e-mail Sarah.Staats@us.army.mil.

### Thrift Shop bag sale ends today

The Thrift Shop \$2 bag sale ends today.

For more information, call 410-272-8572.

### Winter coat drive ends tomorrow

The winter coat drive ends tomorrow.

Help someone in need keep the chill off during the upcoming winter months.

Many people have one or two articles in their closets that have not been worn in a year or more.

Donate coats and other clothes and food items to those in need.

Drop off points include the Post Chapel, PX and the Commissary.

For more information, call Spc. James Hyde at 410-278-4333 or Staff Sgt. Brian Adams at 410-278-3000.

See article on page 12.

### Holiday closures

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# EA marks holiday season with tree lighting



Santa Claus leads Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion in song during the tree lighting ceremony at the Edgewood Area Chapel Dec. 12.

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

As the switch was thrown, a collective "Aaahhh" from the crowd went up as the hundreds of lights adorning the holiday tree in front of the Edgewood Area chapel came on, sparkling brightly in an official welcome of the holiday season during the tree lighting ceremony held on the chapel lawn Dec. 12.

Col. John T. Wright, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installa-

tion commander, led the ceremony, which was attended by area residents and the Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) Brass Quintet provided music for the ceremony, which was highlighted by the singing of Christmas carols and a visit from Santa Claus who arrived with sirens blaring on a fire engine from the Edgewood Area Fire Department.

Wright told the Soldiers that as they prepare for their

Exodus leave, to think safety and enjoy their time with their families.

"We appreciate the enthusiasm of the 143rd, and we look forward to seeing you return in the new year," Wright said. "Take the lessons you learned from your drill sergeants, NCOs and officers and apply that in your next duty station."

"Give your families a big hug and have a happy holiday," he added.

Accompanied by Mrs. Claus, who handed out candy to the children in the audience,

Santa greeted the audience, and led holiday songs. He joked with the Soldiers then offered advice before departing.

"As you enjoy your holiday, remember your fellow Soldiers who can't make it home this year," Santa said before departing with a jolly, "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas."

Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Robert Pastorelli and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Green thanked Wright for taking the time to celebrate the

season with their Soldiers.

"It means a lot to our troops to have this kind of sendoff," Pastorelli said. "We appreciate the time and effort it takes to do this for them."

Kasia Romero, who attended the event with her husband, Spc. Alberto Romero, U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, and their infant son, Marcus, said the event held special meaning for the family.

"It's his first visit with Santa Claus," she said after Santa gave her son a candy cane. "We'll remember this always."

## IMA managers discuss progress

IMA

The Army Installation Management Agency made great strides in its first full year as the Army's single overseer for installation management, proving its worth in cross-leveling resources and enabling installations to fulfill their flagship role for the transforming Army.

Predictably, there is much to do as the IMA continues to build, particularly in validating the standards and organizational structure that will determine how Army posts are funded and managed for the future.

This review of the past two years and discussion of the next steps were the topics of the second annual IMA Garrison Commanders Conference, hosted by IMA Director Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson Nov. 15 through 18 at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Attending were the IMA principal staff, IMA regional directors, and garrison commanders and command sergeants major of all 181 Army garrisons throughout the world.

Following a rousing conference opening by the 82nd Airborne Division All American Chorus, Johnson discussed the state of the IMA and the Common Levels of Support model that will lend predictability and quality to installation management, even during times of funding shortages.

CLS encompasses 373 service support programs, or SSPs, that make up the component

parts of 54 services assigned to IMA under the Installation Status Report.

Johnson compared IMA's fast-paced establishment period to building an airplane while flying it and talked about the high expectations facing the organization.

"The Army expects us to provide two dollars of BASOPS support for every dollar of funding," Johnson said. "No corporation would be expected to show a profit in the first year, but the expectations are high for us."

Referring to the funding shortages that challenged IMA and Army installations last year, Johnson said the CLS model will enable the organization to quantify the base support services in terms of cost, so IMA can tell the Army leadership, as well as customers, what services will be provided at any given level of funding.

"CLS is a methodology to tell Army how funds should be spent when we don't get 100 percent of the funds we need," Johnson said. "My bet is we'll never get 100 percent funding for the 54 ISR services we have to provide, so we need a methodology."

Over the past year, the IMA Plans Directorate developed the 373 SSPs based on reducing the 54 ISR services to their component parts. Of the 373 SSPs, 246 were determined to be must-fund, while the others are discretionary and can be prioritized by need.

See IMA, page 11

## CFC donations exceed goal

**Felicia J. Mack**  
CFC

Through the many contributions made to the Aberdeen Proving Ground 2004 Combined Federal Campaign, the goal of \$325,000 was exceeded by \$10,384.09.

Awards were given to participants in appreciation of their generosity.

There were 300 Oriole awards (mighty grip openers,

\$100 to \$249 donation); 185 Ravens (stressball/noteholder, \$250 to \$449 donation); 99 Falcons (key chain, \$450 to \$999 donation); 59 Silver Leadership awards (small Annapolis - College Creek print, \$1,000 to \$1,999 donation) and 27 Gold Leadership awards (large Annapolis - College Creek print, \$2,000 or more donation).

The campaign ended on Dec. 14, but donations can still

be mailed to Combined Federal Campaign, Attn: Lindsay Miller, 100 S. Charles St., 5th Floor, P.O. Box 1576, Baltimore, MD 21203-1576 or call 410-278-6454.

"On behalf of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign staff, our thanks to each and every one of you for helping us make this campaign a success," said Robert Solyan, CFC chairman.

## MDARNG unit heads for Iraq



Photo by MAJ CHARLES KOHLER  
Sgt. Robert McColligan Jr., a member of Detachment 1, 1159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), Maryland Army National Guard, spends time with his son, Hunter, Dec. 8 prior to departing for Iraq.

**2nd Lt. Rick Roth**  
MdARNG

Forty-two members of the Maryland Army National Guard departed their armory in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground Dec. 8 on a journey that will take them to Iraq and back.

Members of Detachment 1, 1159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) left by bus on their way to their first stop at Fort Dix, N.J. There they will process into the active Army and proceed to Iraq.

"We'll be flying the medevac helicopter supporting the joint forces over there," said 1st Lt. Angela Hubbard, a pilot and platoon leader with the detachment. "We'll be

See MDARNG, page 11

# Veterans' voices

## Belgian embassy honors Battle of Bulge vets

**Dennis Ryan**  
Army News Service

The people of Belgium have not forgotten the sacrifices Soldiers made during the Battle of the Bulge 60 years ago, the ambassador to Belgian told veterans Dec. 6.

Ambassador Francis Van Daele invited a group of American veterans to the embassy in honor of the 60th anniversary of the struggle and presented four of them with awards.

Brig. Gen. Dany Van de Ven, the Belgian defense attaché, said his government flew more than 250 veterans to Belgium for the memorial ceremonies. Belgium King Albert II and the Grand Duke of Luxembourg received the veterans.

"For us it is an honor to be able to do this," the general said. "If those guys wouldn't have been there, we might not have been so prosperous a country. By honoring them, we honor all the guys who can not be here."

The ambassador presented decorations to three former Soldiers for their service during the battle: George Chekan, Earle Hart and former Army nurse Dorothy Steinbis Davis. John Bowen was recognized for his association with the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge organization.

"We are grateful for what you did to liberate our country 60 years ago," the ambassador said. "It was important the Germans were stopped. If the Battle of the Bulge had not been won, the Germans would have occupied us another year."

Van Daele told how individual Belgium families have adopted the custom of caring for American graves in the area around the battlefield.

Joe Galano, 81, attended the gathering at the ambassador's residence.

His 135th Ordnance unit had just arrived at the front on Dec. 16, 1944. He said that he and his mates thought the war was just about over, but the New York City native and 500,000 other

American troops would soon be in for a rude awakening.

No one told the Wehrmacht the war was over. On Dec. 16 the Germans attacked with a shrieking artillery barrage, a 3-to-1 advantage in men and a 2-to-1 advantage in tanks through the Ardennes forest in Belgium and Luxembourg and the American Army found itself in the service's largest battle of its history, the Battle of the Bulge.

"We were on the northern shoulder," Galano said. "The division in front of us held. We had a couple of German planes fly over and drop a couple of bombs. That shook me up. It was really cold. We really didn't have boots or gloves."

He said he still remembers the image of the flares floating through the cold, wintry nights and a Christmas meal that was interrupted by a German buzz bomb falling nearby. Galano returned to Belgium for the 50th anniversary of the battle 10 years ago, and is still friends with some of the locals he met.

Following the war, Galano returned home, finished college and became a social worker. He worked overseas in various food relief programs for several years.

Guadalupe Flores, 80, wearing his World War II uniform, told how he joined the Army at 17 from Laredo, Texas, and became a paratrooper with the 101st Airborne Division. He jumped into Normandy and Holland and saw action at a small crossroads town, which would later become famous, Bastogne.

"We were in France, with no winter uniforms," Flores said. "We were supposed to go to Paris on leave. The sergeant just said, 'we're going in,' and we were sent to Bastogne. We never made it to Paris."

The 101st Soldiers were loaded onto open trucks and driven close to Bastogne he said.

"About three miles outside of Bastogne, we met the Germans," Flores said. "All hell broke loose. We went to Bastogne and found out we were surrounded. We engaged in quite a few little scuffles. We dug in, in foxholes or farm-

houses. We could hear what they were saying."

Flores said he was sent up to headquarters when Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe penned his famous response to the German call for surrender. The general delivered a simple one-word reply, which reflected the attitude of the 101st, "Nuts."

Bastogne held and was relieved by General Patton's Third Army racing from the south to push the Germans out of Belgium and Luxembourg.

Mary Sigillo Barraco, 82, an American civilian, was also honored Dec. 6 for her role in the war. She was born in the United States to a Belgian mother. The two moved to Belgium before war broke out so Mary could study opera.

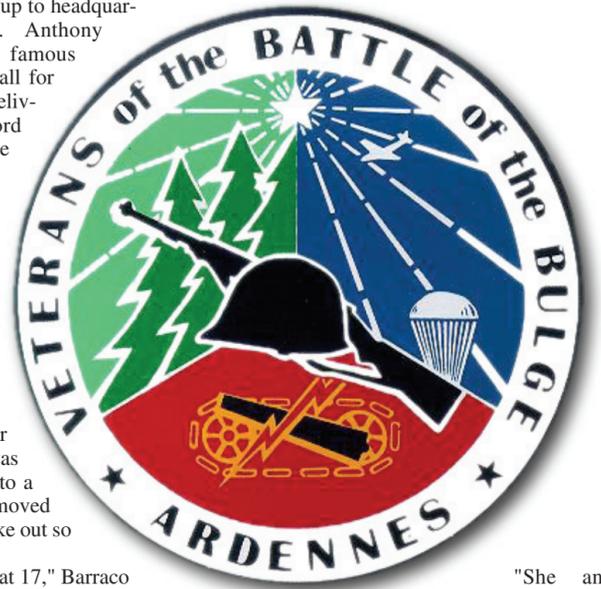
"I was in the resistance at 17," Barraco said. "In 1940 I went and helped the prisoners to escape."

The former freedom fighter was hesitant to talk about her exploits, but John Remmers of Richmond, Va., was not. Remmers said he heard Barraco speak in Richmond and was enthralled with her story.

The two corresponded and eventually Remmers learned enough about Barraco's remarkable story to write a screenplay "The Freedom Fighter."

Barraco's mother was a beautician, who harbored Jews in their house and changed their appearances to avoid detection from the Gestapo. Mary would then escort them to safe havens.

The resistance soon learned about this independent two-woman operation and recruited Barraco.



"She and her fiancée got caught in France," Remmers said. "He had a gun. That was a death sentence. They were tortured for nine months. She was put on trial because they never broke."

Remmers said since Barraco was an American citizen they eventually released her on Christmas Day in 1944 and she re-joined the resistance one month later. She later met and married a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge, Joe Barraco.

*(Editor's note: Dennis Ryan writes for the Pentagon newspaper at Fort Myer, Va. For more information on the Battle of the Bulge, see the Army Homepage interactive feature beginning Dec. 16 at [www.Army.mil](http://www.Army.mil) to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the battle. The direct Internet address for the feature will be [www.army.mil/BOTB](http://www.army.mil/BOTB).)*



Courtesy of [battleofthebulge.org](http://battleofthebulge.org)  
The Battle of the Bulge Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery was presented by the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge on Dec. 16, 1986. A memorial service will be held at the site today at 11 a.m.

## Battle of the Bulge: The German Counteroffensive

[www.worldwar2history.info/Bulge/](http://www.worldwar2history.info/Bulge/)

In December 1944, Adolph Hitler directed an ambitious counteroffensive against Allied forces with the goal of regaining the initiative in the west and compelling the Allies to settle for a negotiated peace.

Hitler's generals were opposed to the plan, but the Fuhrer's will prevailed and the counteroffensive was launched on Dec. 16 by some 30 German divisions against Allied lines in the Ardennes region of Belgium.

Allied defenses there had been thinned to provide troops for the autumn defensive. Hitler's intention was to drive through Antwerp and cut off and annihilate the British 21st Army Group and the U.S. First and Ninth Armies north of the Ardennes.

Aided by stormy weather which grounded Allied planes and restricted observation, the Germans achieved surprise and made rapid gains at first, but firm resistance by various iso-

lated units provided time for the U.S. First and Ninth Armies to shift against the northern flank of the penetration, for the British to send reserves to secure the line to the Meuse, and for Patton's Third Army to hit the salient from the south.

Denied vital roads and hampered by air attacks when the weather cleared, the German attack resulted only in a large bulge in the Allied lines, which did not even extend to the Meuse River, the Germans' first objective. The Americans suffered some 75,000 casualties in the Battle of the Bulge, but the Germans lost 80,000 to 100,000. German strength had been irredeemably impaired.

By the end of January 1945, American units had retaken all ground they had lost, and the defeat of Germany was clearly only a matter of time. Meanwhile, in the east, the Russian Army had opened a winter offensive that was to carry, eventually, to and beyond Berlin.

## Air Force students honor Old Glory



Photo by MASTER SGT VIC DELAROSA



The U.S. Air Force Detachment 1 Honor Guard Detail from left, Airman Basic Andrew Bethel, Airman Basic Bruce Liu, Airman Nathan Laccese, team leader, Airman 1st Class Mathew Heald and Noncommissioned Officer in charge Staff Sgt. Robert Jojola from 361st Training Squadron, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, raise Old Glory at Bakerfield Elementary School in Aberdeen Dec. 10 as part of the school's ceremony to demonstrate military traditions and respect for the flag.

## 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 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to [editor@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:editor@usag.apg.army.mil).

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

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# Commentary :

## A lesson from Charlie Brown

**Chap. (Maj.) Jeffrey D. Watters**  
USAGAPG



Charles Schultz's "A Charlie Brown Christmas" begins with the Charlie Brown crew ice-skating on a frozen pond. It's winter; the trees are barren, and the snowflakes are falling softly. In the background children are singing, "Christmas time is here, happiness and cheer; time for all that children call their favorite time of year. Snowflakes in the air, carols everywhere, golden times and ancient rhymes of love and dreams to share."

Ah yes, the stage is set for that perfect time of the year -- Christmas.

However, in the hustle and bustle of the season it is easy to lose sight of what Christmas is all about.

Grinches are lurking, ready to steal our Christmas spirit. One of these grinches is unrealistic expectations.

Many times we carry an idea of what Christmas "should be" rather than what it is. We expect a perfect Christmas: everyone smiling as the family puts up the beautifully decorated Christmas tree; the children, starry-eyed and overjoyed by their gifts, without a hint of disappointment or jealousy; and the Christmas dinner, served on such an exquisitely set table, it looks like it came out of a magazine.

In our minds everything must be a smashing success with never a hint of discord or disappointment. When the reality doesn't add up to what we expect, we let ourselves in for a huge let down.

Not only that, but we have to keep a sharp eye out for his friend, the grinch of unrelenting stress. Shopping, traffic, crowded stores, long lines, overspending, and maxed out credit cards all contribute to a stressful season. Time and money, two of our most precious assets, can easily be stretched to the max during the Christmas season.

The grinch of unexpected loneliness may creep in and ruin our Christmas. Whether by death, divorce, or deployment, many of our households are missing a loved one from the Christmas table this year. Those traditions held dear are now changed because of their absence. A time of joy is reduced to a reminder of what we are missing, causing us sorrow and pain. So how do we deal with it? How do we keep the grinches away?

By going back to the beginning. By remembering again why we celebrate Christmas, and as Linus reminds Charlie Brown and us, it's the story of the baby in the manger.

It's not shopping, decorating, cooking, or finding the perfect present. It's the story of God come to earth in the most humble circumstances imaginable.

Think you're stressed? Read the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem--nine months pregnant, days of riding on a donkey, no place to stay, no one to help them. Yet, Joseph and Mary exhibited great humility and acceptance as they ended their journey in a stable. But in that humble stable, the baby Jesus was born, and in that humble stable, the shepherds from the lonely hillside came and worshipped him.

When we read the Christmas story, it reminds us to keep our lofty (and many times unreasonable) expectations in check; it reminds us to exercise humility in the midst of stressful situations, and it reminds us that our loneliness can be alleviated by seeking out others who are also lonely.

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" may start with a song about the "perfect" time of year, but it ends with "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." Remember that, the next time a grinch starts to steal your Christmas spirit.

## Uzbekistan soldiers tour APG

**E.C. Starnes**  
OC&S

A contingent of soldiers from the Uzbekistan Defense Force visited the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School as part of an information exchange.

Led by the Deputy Superintendent of Chirchik Tank Academy, Col. Zokir Bakhromovich Khakkulov, the nine-man group was at APG to learn about the U.S. Army's wheel and track vehicle maintenance programs, recovery operations and parts requisition and tracking procedures.

After being greeted by the U.S. Army Chief of Ordnance, Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, the group received an overview of the Ordnance Center and Schools and OMMS from Col. Francis R. Merrit, commander of the 61st Ordnance Brigade/OMMS.

The group also learned about officer, noncommissioned officer and enlisted training from the Command and Staff Department and the OMMS Noncommissioned Officer Academy.



Photo by E. C. STARNES

Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, chief of Ordnance, thanks Col. Zokir Bakhromovich Khakkulov, deputy superintendent of Chirchik Tank Academy, for gifts from the Republic of Uzbekistan.

# New engraver enhances Arts and Craft capabilities

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

A new engraving machine at the Arts and Crafts facility has arrived just in time to create that special holiday gift for family and friends.

The New Hermes Gravograph, with its state-of-the-art font and ornamental capabilities gives customers a wider selection of graphics to choose from when selecting special occasion plaques, according to Debbie Brooks-Harris, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Arts and Crafts facility manager.

"This machine is better because it's Windows based and offers a greater font and clip art selection," Brooks-Harris said. "It's a neat system with a lot of flexibility the former system didn't have."

Used mainly for plaques and trophies, one new capability includes the option to space letters randomly instead of always using straight lines, she added.

A large plaque selection available on site includes a variety of accessories and eight to 10 different metal colors to choose from.

"Currently, the drop-off service offers a turn-around time of about one week," Brooks-Harris said, due to a shortage of personnel. "We should get it down to just a few days," she said, adding that eventually, the shop will have scanning capabilities and will include engravings on plastics.

"We plan to start doing military name tags again," she said, adding that those efforts will have to be coordinated with the Military Clothing Sales Store for letter type specifications.

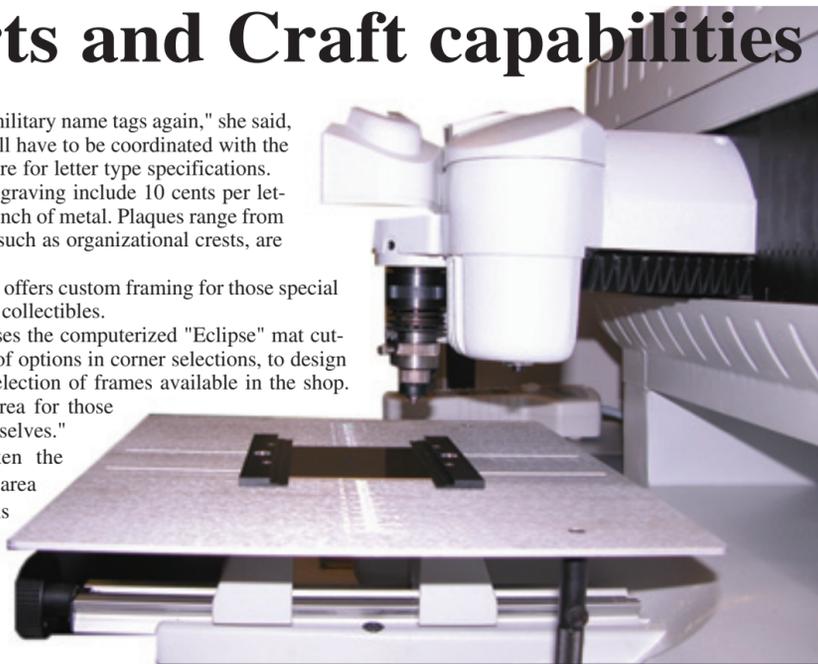
The standard fees for engraving include 10 cents per letter and 15 cents per square inch of metal. Plaques range from \$4 to \$40 and accessories, such as organizational crests, are additional.

In addition, the shop still offers custom framing for those special photographs, paintings and collectibles.

The Frame Shop staff uses the computerized "Eclipse" mat cutter, which offers hundreds of options in corner selections, to design the matting for the wide selection of frames available in the shop. There also is a self-help area for those who wish to "do it all themselves."

"Anyone who has taken the Framing Class can use the area for \$5 a day," Brooks-Harris said.

For more information, call 410-278-4207 or visit building 2407.



The new Gravograph engraving machine that provides a wider selection of font and graphic capabilities for trophy and plaque purchases in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Arts and Craft Center in building 2407



Program Assistant Diann Maldonado, left, escorts the Edgewood Area Child Development Center parade during Children's Book Week Nov. 19. Austin Scotto, left, and Madisen DeSha, right, lead the parade. The theme of the parade was based on Dr. Seuss's book, "The Cat in the Hat."

## EA fathers, children celebrate Book Week



Spc. Jonathan D'Ambrozio, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, reads Dr. Seuss's book "Oh the Places You'll Go" to his son Kaden's class as a part of Children's Book Week at the Edgewood Child Development Center Nov. 18.

**Meghan Bowen**  
APG News

Edgewood Area Child Development Center children celebrated the 2004 Children's Book Week Nov. 15 to 21.

"Let's Book" was the theme of the weeklong literature enriched celebration, which observed the 85th annual Children's Book Week.

The EA CDC children from Room 4, four and five year olds, celebrated the week with a series of activities and readings by parents.

"The children chose 'The Cat in the Hat' by Dr. Seuss as our theme for the parade held at the end of the week," said Chantay Averett, Room 4 lead.

Each day the children made one part of their Cat in the Hat costume, which included a hat, bow, tail, and a shirt with finger-painted blue stripes, according to Averett.

The class also learned rhyming words, like "mouse" and "house," that they recited through the classrooms as they paraded through, she said.

The children's fathers were asked to take part in the celebration.

"We had dad's come in and read to the kids throughout the week," said Averett. "Dad's brought in their favorite books to read, but they could also borrow one from the center if they needed to."

Spc. Jonathan D'Ambrozio, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense,  
**See BOOK WEEK, page 11**

# Community Notes

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 16 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 to 7 p.m.

During this event military personnel, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.30 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$2.85 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/ corporal.

The Exodus Super Supper Specialty Meal Menu includes hearty chicken and rice soup, grilled New York strip steaks with fried onions and mushrooms, baked fish

almondine, southern fried chicken, pizza and burger bar, fluffy mashed potatoes, seasoned rice, brown gravy, broccoli with cheese sauce, Boston baked corn, hot dinner rolls, assorted salad bar, carrot and raisin salad, jell-o fruit salad, assorted desserts, soft serve yogurt with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

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

## IRONBIRDS ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

The Aberdeen IronBirds will hold their second annual Toy Drive at Ripken Stadium, 6 to 9 p.m. in conjunction with the Baltimore Sun. The toy drive will benefit Toys for Tots and the Aegis Empty Stocking Fund. Special guests include Cal Ripken Jr., Bill Ripken and Santa Claus.

Bring a new, unopened toy to Ripken Stadium for the event. Families are encour-

aged to attend together and bring a camera, as all participating children will have the opportunity to get their picture taken with IronBirds' owners Cal Ripken Jr., Bill Ripken and Santa Claus.

For more information, call Jay Moskowitz at 410-297-9292 ext. 307 or e-mail [jmoskowitz@ironbirdsbaseball.com](mailto:jmoskowitz@ironbirdsbaseball.com).

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 17 HARFORD COUNTY FLU CLINIC

The Harford County Health Department has scheduled a flu clinic, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mountain Christian Church, 1824 Mountain Road in Joppa.

Residents are asked to not show up before 8:30 a.m. Anyone arriving before 8:30 a.m. will be asked to leave and come back after 8:30 a.m. Flu vaccination will be given to all children, age 6 to 23 months; adults, age 65 and older; persons, age 2 to 64 with underlying chronic medical conditions; pregnant and breastfeeding women; residents of nursing

homes and long-term care facilities; children, age 6 months to 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy; health care workers involved in direct patient care, and out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of children, age under six months.

Persons with medical conditions will be required to show a doctor's note describing the condition and need for the shot.

Healthcare workers will need to show identification or a badge.

Medicare patients should bring their card in order to have the vaccination covered. All flu vaccine will cost \$10.

For more information, call the Health Department's Flu Bank at 410-420-3433.

## FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 18, 19 CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Grace Assembly of God, located on 2303 Churchville

Road, Bel Air, will hold a Christmas musical, 'Love Came To Life,' 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 17 and 18 and 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 19.

The Christmas production will include the Grace choir, a living nativity scene, moving drama and multimedia. All performances are free.

For more information, call 410-879-5340 or visit [www.graceaog.com](http://www.graceaog.com).

## SATURDAY

## DECEMBER 18 A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

To benefit Women's Day 2005, the women of St.

James A.M.E. Church, 617 Green Street, Havre de Grace, are sponsoring a bus trip to Evangel Cathedral, Upper Marlboro, 3:30 p.m. to see "Christmas Celebration," a play featuring Vickie Winans.

Cost is \$45 and includes bus transportation and show ticket. A non-refundable deposit of \$23 is due at the time of reservation.

For more information, call Joan Hunter, Shirley Rumsey, Christine Thomas or Jonise Stallings at 410-939-2267.

Visit [www.apgnews.-apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.-apg.army.mil) for more events.

## MOVIES

The Movie Theater will be closed through Jan. 7, 2005.

## Religious service Christmas schedule

### Catholic services

#### Sunday, Dec. 12

Noon, Catholic Youth of the Chapel, EA  
12:30 p.m. - Catholic Youth of the Chapel, AA

#### Thursday, Dec. 16

7 p.m., Advent Penance Service, EA

#### Sunday, Dec. 19

Noon, Pastoral Council Meeting, EA

#### Friday, Dec. 24

5 p.m., Christmas Pageant and Mass, EA

#### Saturday, Dec. 25

10 a.m., Christmas Day Mass, AA

#### Friday, Dec. 31

5 p.m., Mary, Mother of God Mass, AA

#### Saturday, Jan. 1

10 a.m., Mary, Mother of God Mass, EA

### Protestant services

#### Sunday, Dec. 12

10:15 a.m., Christmas Cantata, AA  
6 p.m., Tree Lighting Ceremony, EA

#### Thursday, Dec. 16

9 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel present "The Light in the Light," AA

#### Friday, Dec. 24

6 p.m., Christmas Eve Worship, AA

#### Friday, Dec. 31

10 p.m., Gospel Watchnight Worship, AA

## POST SHORTS

Clinic will be closed in observance of the federal holidays Dec. 24 and 31. There will be no Saturday Walk-in Clinic on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

Training holidays will be observed on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, with minimal staffing.

Any TRICARE issues can be addressed by calling 1-877-874-2273.

The Dental Clinic will be closed Dec. 24 and 31.

The Dental Clinic Shuttle will not operate from Dec. 20 through Jan. 3 due to Student Exodus. The APG Shuttle is available during this time if Soldiers have appointments.

The Dental Clinic Shuttle will resume normal operation on Jan. 4.

The Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office will be closed Dec. 24, 27 and Jan. 3, and will close 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 31. Normal hours of operation for the Outreach Office are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 410-676-6800.

The Thrift Shop will be closed Dec. 17 through Jan. 5.

Donna's Pit Beef will be closed Dec. 20 through Dec. 31 and reopen Jan 3.

Donna's now serves hot breakfast sandwiches including egg and cheese; ham, egg and cheese; and beef, egg and cheese, 6 to 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call 410-272-7730.

## Santa drives through APG early

Santa Claus is coming to APG and will be on a fire truck driving through Aberdeen Area housing at approximately 5 p.m., Dec. 19 and Edgewood Area Housing Dec. 21, same time. This is going to be a drive through, but he will wave as he goes by.

## TRICARE conducts briefings

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will hold TRICARE briefings in their Readiness and Training Conference Room, building 2501, 8 a.m. and noon, Dec. 13 and 8 a.m. and noon, Dec. 22. The briefings will be conducted by

HealthNet Federal Services

## Ragdoll cat found

The APG Veterinary Clinic is trying to locate a woman that stopped by the clinic looking for her lost cat. She did not leave her name.

The "ragdoll" cat has been located. The woman is asked to call or visit the clinic, 410-278-3911.

## Social Hour at Top of the Bay

Table tennis, darts and other activities are available at the Friday socials, 4 to 8 p.m., at Top of the Bay every Friday.

For more information, call MWR Registration.



# Morale, Welfare & Recreation

## Activities

### Operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center's operating hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the first and third Friday of every month.

If this happens to fall on a training holiday, then, on the Thursday prior, the office will be open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail [mwr\\_registration@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil).

### MWR Registration specials

MWR Registration and Leisure Travel Center has some gift suggestions for the holidays.

2004 White House Ornaments are available for \$15.

2005 Baltimore Entertainment Books are available for \$30. Supplies are limited. The book offers discounts and coupons on dining, movies, hotels, car rentals and much more.

Carnival Cruise Gift Certificates are on sale for a limited time starting at \$450 for two

guests. All sales end Dec. 31.

For more information, call MWR Registration and Leisure Travel Center, 410-278-4011/4907.

### Bowling specials

Buy 'Save-a-Card' at the APG Bowling Center. A 20-game card only costs \$30. It is valid for bowling Monday thru Friday.

The offer runs thru Dec. 31. For more information, call the APG Bowling Center, 410-278-4041.

A Christmas Special runs through Dec. 17. Cost is \$2 per entry, bowl 10 frames but only one ball per frame and the head pin must be hit to score.

One in every 10 will win a ham for Christmas.

A New Year's Eve Bowling Special begins 10 p.m. and ends 1 a.m. at the APG Bowling Center. Bowl all night for just \$10 per person plus finger foods and party favors. Bowlers must be signed up by Dec. 27.

Active Duty Rent-a-Lane special will be held 1 to 6 p.m., Jan. 8. Cost is \$8 per lane per hour and includes shoes. A lane will only be rented to

groups of four or more.

See bowling scores, week ending Dec. 4 at [www.apg.news.apg.army.mil](http://www.apg.news.apg.army.mil).

### New fitness class begins in January

A new fitness class will start in January, just in time to get in shape after the holidays.

For just \$48, take unlimited classes January thru March. Classes will vary between the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas.

Schedules will be posted in each facility and the Athletic centers.

For more information, call the APG Fitness Center, 410-278-9725, Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, 410-436-7134, or MWR Registration, 410-278-4907.

### ERC closes early today for holiday party

The Equipment Resource Center will be closed noon to 2 p.m. today for its annual Christmas Party.

### ERC winter rentals

The Equipment Resource

Center Christmas special includes ski and snowboard rentals.

Pick up on Dec. 23 and return by noon, Dec. 27 for a one-day rental fee.

Downhill skis, snowboards, and cross-country ski sets including boots and poles can be rented through March 31.

Ski equipment rentals range from \$80 to \$125 for season-long rentals. Ski racks and bibs are also available for a \$5 rental fee.

Winter campers should check out the A-frame camper, which comes equipped with a stove and sleeping area. The camper is available to rent for \$35 a night.

Skipper's Point campgrounds in the Edgewood Area offers travel trailer campsites, picnic tables, running water, 15 tent sites, barbeque grills and port-a-pots.

Campfires are allowed on the sites.

For reservations, call 410-278-4124.

Travel trailer campsites are available for \$5 per night.

Tent sites are available for \$3.50 a night.

Sites for Boy Scouts are

available for \$15 a night.

Outdoor Recreation's hours of operation are Monday through 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 closed on Sunday and federal holidays.

For more information, call 410-278-5789.

### Beginner Piano for Adults

Students in this class will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor. All other materials and supplies including the keyboards will be provided.

Classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan. 6 to Feb. 24, in the AA Recreation Center.

Cost is \$60. Register by Jan. 4.

### Sports Injury Prevention

This class is designed to help individuals and teams care for and prevent sports injuries. How to treat fractures, wounds, and soft tissue damage will be covered. Short and long term therapy for minor and major injuries and what to expect during the recovery period will also be addressed.

Classes will be held 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, Jan. 11 to 25, at the AA Recreation Center.

Cost is \$25. Register by Jan. 6.

### Introduction to Boxing

This MWR Boxing Symposium will introduce the participant to the sport of Olympic Boxing 1 to 5 p.m., Jan. 8, at Russell Gym.

All the necessary steps and procedures to reach the highest echelons of the sport will be covered.

This in-depth clinic will be instructed by experienced boxing officials and coaches who are certified and qualified to prepare each individual fighter to be the best he or she can be.

Cost is \$5 per person. Register by Jan. 6.

### NFL Pro Bowl Weekend

MWR is hosting a trip to view the NFL Pro Bowl Game

Feb. 10 to 14, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Cost is \$1,099 per person for double occupancy and \$1,399 per person for single occupancy.

The package includes roundtrip airfare through Los Angeles to Honolulu, airport transfers in Honolulu, four-night Waikiki Hotel accommodations, Pearl Harbor and Honolulu City tour, tailgate party on the shores of Pearl Harbor and NFL Pro Bowl Game tickets.

Reservations are limited and full payment is expected at time of reservation.

Reservations must be made by Jan. 3.

For more information contact MWR Registration, 410-278-4907/4011.

### Paint your own

Edgewood Area Arts and Crafts now has a "Paint Your Own Ceramic Studio."

The ceramic studio is open to all APG civilians, active duty military, contractors and reservists and their dependents.

No previous artist skills are required.

There is a wide assortment of gift and holiday items to choose from.

Hours of operation are 1 to 9 p.m., Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

Arts and Crafts is located in building E-4440, next to the Military Police Station.

For more information, call 410-436-2153.

### MWR looks out for singles through BOSS

The "Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers," BOSS, Program meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m., building 305, conference room.

The program is Department of the Army directed, installation managed and service member operated to support the overall quality of life, recreation and leisure and community service for single and unaccompanied service members and single parents.

For more information, call Joyce Founds, Morale Welfare and Recreation advisor, at 410-278-2621.

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

The following is a list of some new nonfiction DVDs available at the APG MWR Libraries:

**Barbarians: The Vikings, the Goths, the Mongols and the Huns.**

From the frigid North Sea to the Russian steppes, this ambitious A&E series tells fascinating stories of four of the most fabled groups of fighters in history, tracing 1,000 years of conquest and adventure through inspired scholarship and some of the most extensive reenactments ever filmed.

**Great Figures of the Bible** (presented by Elie Wiesel)

**Control Room** (a look at the Al-Jazeera TV network)

**Battle of the Bulge: the deadliest battle of World War II**

**Kitty Hawk: the Wright Brothers Journey of Invention**

**Last Voyage of the Lusitania** (National Geographic)

The library's Web site: [www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html](http://www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html) provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

**Holiday Sale**

Through December 24

Ruggles Golf Course Pro Shop  
5600 Block

Look for great deals on golf balls, apparel, golf clubs, pull carts, golf bag, and much more!

Gift certificates will also be available.

For more information, contact Ruggles Golf Course  
(5600 block; 410-278-4794/9452)

## Christmas holiday schedule for MWR activities

Directorate of Community and Family Activities  
Community Recreation Division

Activity	Friday Dec. 17	Saturday Dec. 18	Sunday Dec. 19	Monday Dec. 20	Tuesday Dec. 21	Wednesday Dec. 22	Thursday Dec. 23	
Arts & Crafts AA	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	
Arts & Crafts EA	9 a.m. - 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.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 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.	Closed	Closed	11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.	11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.	
Bowling Center	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.	1 to 10 p.m.	1 p.m. to 6 p.m.	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.	11 a.m. 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.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	
Fitness Center AA	5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Closed	Closed	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.				
Hoyle Gym/ Fitness Center	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 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.	10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	
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.	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	
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 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	
Activity	Friday Dec. 24	Sunday Dec. 26	Monday Dec. 27	Tuesday Dec. 28	Wednesday Dec. 29	Thursday Dec. 30	Friday Dec. 31	Sunday Jan. 2
Arts & Crafts AA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Arts & Crafts EA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Athletic Center	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 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.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Auto Crafts	Closed	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.	11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Closed	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Bowling Center	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed	Closed	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	11 a.m. to 9 p.m.	5 to 9 p.m.	10 p.m. to 1 a.m.	Closed
Equipment Rental Center	Closed	Closed	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Fitness Center AA	Closed	Closed	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Hoyle Gym/ Fitness Center	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Ticket and Registration	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Library AA	Closed	1 to 5 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Closed	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Closed	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Library EA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Recreation Center AA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Snack Bar	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Recreation Center EA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Snack Bar	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Ruggles*	8 a.m. to 3:30 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.	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

## 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 call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail [rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil), to complete a termination form.

### Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	(paranasal sinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Sarah Blevins	Richard Hoffman
Jeanie Bowman	Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy)
Michael Cain	Lydia Langley
Iris Campbell (chemotherapy)	Anita Koller
Holly Charsha	Beverly King (caring for husband)
Barbara Crossley	Danny Kopp (lung-cancer)
Cathryn Cruz (cancer)	Jin Kwon
Ruth Cunningham	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Victoria Cwiertnie (lyme disease)	Edward Myers
Jessica Dang	Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)
Carl Davis	Cheryl L. Roark
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	Matthew Ryan
Geraldine Eaton	Leigh Sanders
David Fletcher	Barbara Seker
Renee Gaffney	Sheilah Simberg
Charles Gambrell	Marguerite Soper
Cynthia Hairston (Surgery)	Alison Tichenor
Beatrice Heilpern	Linda Tignor
Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications)	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Melanie A. Hoffman	

## MDARNG

*From front page*

picking up the wounded and taking them to the combat hospitals."

The detachment's parent unit, the 1159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) belongs to the New Hampshire Army National Guard and is part of the 29th Infantry Division's aviation brigade. The Maryland detachment and its parent company will reunite at Fort Dix.

Members of the Maryland detachment were on scene rendering medical support immediately following the Sept. 11, 2001, Pentagon terrorist attack.

In 1998 the unit transitioned from the UH-1 Huey helicop-

ter to the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. Six of their Black Hawk aircraft will be transported by ship to the Iraqi theater to be used by the unit upon their arrival.

While there were many tearful goodbyes at Wednesday's farewell ceremony, the citizen Soldiers quickly began to focus on the mission at hand.

"I will miss her," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Brooks, a flight medic with the detachment about his wife. "She's the love of my life. But we're trained to do this, and regardless of the situation we'll just handle it."

"Saving lives, that's what it's all about," said Sgt. Travis Swonger, "doing what you can for them when they need it the most."

## Book week

*From page 4*

read Dr. Seuss's book, "Oh the Places You'll Go," to the Room 4 class. D'Ambrozio chose that Dr. Seuss book since it was his son Kaden's favorite book.

D'Ambrozio talked about the class's response to the book.

"They were really interested in it," D'Ambrozio said.

"The kids asked what the boy in

the book was doing," D'Ambrozio said. "The book has a lot of color in it and the pages are very busy."

Book week, now recognized in 23 states, has been celebrated by educators, librarians, booksellers, and families since 1919, according to the Children's Book Council Web site, [www.cbcbooks.org](http://www.cbcbooks.org).

The site included a copy of the Children's Book Week Proclamation, which stated that "the love of books and reading, passed from

adult to child, from generation to generation, and from peer to peer, is a lifelong treasure," and that the "Children's Book Week, [is] a celebration of the written word, and will encourage young people to discover the complexity of the world beyond their own experience."

The CDC youth enjoyed the book week according to Averett.

"The kids were very enthused," D'Ambrozio said.

## IMA

*From front page*

Once finalized and approved by the Army senior leadership, these standards will be uniformly applied to each of the 181 Army installations in the world. Some flexibility will exist to accommodate specific geographic or demographic needs, but the aim is consistency. Customers will find the same kinds and levels of services at one installation as they do at another.

"There is no such thing as a unique post, but there are unique situations. We're more like McDonald's than Burger King-you don't get it your way, but we'll adapt where we can," Johnson said.

Following the Director's overview, IMA Deputy Director Philip E. Sakowitz Jr. detailed the CLS implementation plan for the next two years.

Sakowitz told the garrison commanders they have a March deadline to submit detailed reports that validate services and costs with Service-Based Costing criteria and to compare the SSP fit with installation missions. Also due are implementation plans for each garrison.

IMA staff will use the information from this data call to adjust CLS criteria and finalize the model for implementation in fiscal year 2006.

In addition to the IMA leadership, conference attendees heard feedback and guidance from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment Geoffrey Prosch. Current garrison issues such as base realignment and closure; housing, utilities and lodging privatization; and environmental strategies from the Army perspective were discussed.

IMA leadership also got some perspective from two senior mission commanders, who have mission priorities that sometimes challenge the garrison's ability to adequately support.

Overall, the IMA role in supporting mobilization and deployments in support of two wars received high marks for enabling resource distribution and access that would have been unlikely or impossible without IMA as the central broker.

**Visit**  
**APG News**  
**online at**  
**[www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil)**

## 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 the APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147.

<i>Station</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Location</i>
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCY	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



**USMC takes Commander's Cup**

The Commander's Cup is awarded each December to the unit that scores the most points in intramural sports during the year. Units accumulate points by participating in Basketball, the Bench Press Competition, the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, Racquetball, Volleyball, Softball, Golf, the Deadlift Competition, Soccer and Football. Points are awarded for unit participation and division and post championship wins.

**Commander's Cup final point standings**

USMC	270
Company B 16th	245
Company C 16th	234
MRICD	151
Company B 143rd	96
203rd MI	86
HHC 16th	84
Company C 143rd	84
NCOA	78
Company E 16th	72
ATC	71
Company A 16th	63
HHC 61st	57
HHC 143rd	51
USAF	32
KUSAHC	28
520th TAML	23
CHPPM	23
HST	20
Company A 143rd	15
RDECOM	4
WOA	2

*(Editor's note: The APG Sports Office provides statistics. For more information, call Donna Coyne, 410-278-3929.)*



From left, Col John T. Wright, APG Garrison commander, presents the 2004 Commander's Cup trophy to the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment commander Maj. Dan Mielke and 1st Sgt. James Thompson as Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, right, looks on during the awards program at the Aberdeen Athletic Center Dec. 7.

**USMC wins 2004 Commander's Cup**

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

For the second consecutive year the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment walked away with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Commander's Cup trophy.

The Marines garnered 270 points during the 2004 intramural athletic season to take first place. Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion finished in second place with 245 points and Company C 16th was in third with 234.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, presented the awards assisted by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby and Donna Coyne, Morale, Welfare and Recreation intramural sports coordinator.

Earlene Allen, MWR senior programmer, opened the program, first introducing Ron Walls, a civilian employee from Phillips Army Airfield who sang the national anthem. Walls' rendition was so stirring that Wright gave him a Commander's Coin of Excellence.

"That was one of the best renditions of our national anthem I ever heard," Wright said.

He greeted the crowd of Soldiers and Marines, encouraging them to be proud of their accomplishments.

"It is to your credit and to your predecessors' credit that we have a sports program to prepare our service members mentally and physically," Wright said.

He hailed the Marines as those, "about to join units in combat," and asked all to

remember the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"Remember those who gave all for this country," Wright said. "I wish you all a great holiday and a safe return."

Capt. Ivan McPherson accepted the third place award for Company C 16th. Capt. Anthony Faucett and 1st Sgt. Bret Carlson accepted the second place award for Company B 16th.

"This is all due to the Soldiers and drill sergeants who took the time to contribute their skills to the unit sports program," Carlson said.

Faucett added that the award was a tribute to the unit's dedication.

"We're very proud of all of them," Faucett said. "Our thanks to our drill sergeants, past and present, for this award. We're going for the big cup next year," he added.

USMC detachment com-

mander, Maj. Dan Mielke and 1st Sgt. James Thompson accepted the Commander's Cup. Mielke thanked MWR and the APG Garrison for their support.

"We appreciate the opportunity to compete and be a part of this program," Mielke said. "It allows our Marines to exercise, develop leadership skills and build camaraderie with other teams on the installation. "It gets tougher every year," he said when asked about the Marines' ability to repeat as champions. "We really enjoy the competition because it definitely raises our game."

He added that he retires Dec. 14 and that the award was a nice end to his stay at APG.

"I'll remember this as one of the best sports programs I've ever seen," Mielke said.

Along with the top three recipients and team awards, the top individual award, Unit

Sports Representative of the Year, which goes to the individual who best represents their unit during the season, went to Sgt. Aaron Enns, USMC.

Mielke congratulated him as the one who made it all happen.

Enns said he was surprised at his selection.

"Basically, I just made sure we had teams and coaches for each event," Enns said, adding that he would step in whenever a coach could not be found. During the season he coached the Bench Press and Soccer teams.

"Overall our teams did real well," he said. "This is a really good sports program. It gives our Marines something to do outside of school and every one of them gave their all. They make me proud to be a Marine every day."



Ron Walls, a civilian with Phillips Army Airfield, sings the national anthem to open the Commanders Cup awards program.

**Intramural sports season winners**

Basketball	Company C 16th
Bench press	Company B 16th
Bowling	ATC
Deadlift	USMC
Flag football	HHC 16th
Racquetball	Company B 16th
Softball	USMC
Tennis	HHC 16th
Volleyball	USMC
3-on-3 basketball	Company C 16th
Unit Sportsmanship Award	Sgt. Bret Green, 203rd MI
Unit Sports Representative	Sgt. Aaron Enns, USMC

**APG delivers holiday warmth to Harford County needy**

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

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison's Headquarters Support Troop ended a month-long effort to bring the warmth of the holiday season to needy families in Harford County when they donated more than 100 coats and jackets to the Harford County Department of Social Services

Dec. 7. "Thanks to Aberdeen Proving Ground, a lot of Harford County families will be warmer this Christmas," said Pam Abramson, a family services social worker with the Harford County Department of Social Services.

HST commander Maj. Anissa McNeill and 1st Sgt. Lonza Hawkins led the delivery.

McNeill said the installations' noncommissioned officers and chapel staff came up with the coat drive idea.

"They knew this would be a godsend for a lot of families. All we had to do was find a place to donate them," McNeill said. "We chose DSS because they will give them away and not try to sell them like other places."

"This really boosts our

resources," Abramson said. "There's a year-round need but even more so at Christmas time." "This is so nice because so many parents don't have enough money at this time of year to buy their children new coats," she added.

Assisting in the delivery was Sgt. 1st Class Robin Thompson and Staff Sgt Brian Adams. Hawkins credited Staff Sgt. Beverly Williams and Adams with coordinating the coat drive, which began Nov. 1 and runs to Dec. 17.

Adams said the unit placed boxes at the PX, chapel and commissary, picked them up once a week and stored the goods in the unit storage area.

"Today we delivered more than 100 coats as well as toddler clothing and other items," Adams said. "This was a good task that could even benefit APG Soldiers."

Hawkins said the event was not only indicative of the giving spirit of the APG community, but of the HST motto.

"Our motto is 'Taking Care of Soldiers,'" Hawkins said. "We try to live up to that."

"Anyone wishing to donate coats has until Dec. 17 to bring them to the drop off points," McNeill said.



Maj. Anissa McNeill, left, commander, Headquarters Support Troop, and Pam Abramson, a family services social worker with the Harford County Department of Social Services, check out a toddler jacket, one of more than 100 collected during the Aberdeen Proving Ground coat drive for needy families.

**The Pentagon Channel is coming to Aberdeen Proving Ground**

USAGAPG-PAO

During the week of Dec. 20, Aberdeen Proving Ground workers and residents will have the opportunity to watch a variety of programs covering a broad spectrum of military stories on the post's Channel 21.

"We're very excited about this," said George Mercer, chief, APG Public Affairs. "The Pentagon Channel provides a wide variety of Department of Defense public affairs and information programs designed for military personnel, their families and the civilian work force. It adds a whole new dimension for all our viewers."

Programs to be carried on Channel 21 will include "Around the Services," a daily half-hour military news program, "Army Newswatch," a bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army and "Army Healthwatch," a half hour program on health issues concerning military personnel.

"We'll also be carrying programs of interest for our fellow services. We'll be showing 'Air Force Television News,' 'Navy-Marine Corps News,' and 'Your Corps,'" Mercer said. "We'll also be able to carry special programs like Department of Defense Town Meetings."

"It's all part of DOD's commitment to keeping the American military forces well informed. The aim is to provide the stateside military and the community the same access to military news and information available to those stationed overseas."

"The programs will be aired at different times during the week and many of them will be repeated several times a day to allow people with different schedules to be able to see them," he said. "We're currently running tests of the system and expect it to be up and running next week. The APG News will be printing the schedule and we'll have daily schedules running as part of our regular on-air Bulletin Board and Calendar of Events. Stay tuned."

# ASAP celebrates holiday safety at open house

Story and photos by  
**Meghan Bowen**  
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers and staff celebrated holiday safety and a year of programs which promoted drug and alcohol awareness at the Army Substance Abuse Program Open House in building 2477 Nov. 9.

"We had some folks from both the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas attend the party," said Cindy Scott, ASAP coordinator. "Everyone at the office kicks in to make it happen."

Airmen Basic Richard Morgan and Andrew Pascarella, 361st Training Squadron, Detachment 1, U.S. Air Force, helped to decorate the office tree with candy canes wreaths, and then stayed to help clean up.

Guests were given their choice of foods prepared and provided by the ASAP staff.

"New this year we made little recipe cards that people have been taking home with them," Scott said.

The cards included recipes on

how to make sausages with a chile and grape jelly sauce as well as a Sunshine and Perk-A-Punch, both non-alcoholic beverages.

"Those of us who have been stationed in Germany have had a wine version of the Perk-A-Punch," Scott said.

Some guests noticed a display of alcohol bottles, which were not meant for public consumption. Each



These glasses of fake alcoholic drinks with miniature cars are used by the ASAP staff to help connect the consequences of drinking and driving in people's minds.

bottle was labeled with a title that included a disease caused by alcohol abuse, such as 'Bottled in Haste: Ulcer 69' and 'Cancer of the Esophagus: Sour Mash Whiskey.'

"People have actually tried to drink from these before," Scott said referring to the display bottles.

"My favorite is the baby's bottle filled with beer caps which is labeled

drinks and a bar across it to deter driving under the influence."

Scott noted the unit prevention leaders who helped spread the word about the ASAP open house and other programs.

"We had a couple of unit leaders take 60 to 70 keychains because they wanted to give them out to everyone," Scott said. "The commander from Kirk [U.S. Army Health Clinic] came over and took about 90 of them because she wanted to give them to the Soldiers there."

Scott also gave out two new pieces of information during the open house.

One was a pamphlet which included "a lot of good tips on how to spot a drunk driver and how to host a safe party," which was the theme this year, Scott said.

Scott also distributed sheets of yellow sticky notes for people to take and use as nametags at their holiday parties. The nametags included the slogans 'Be nice to me, I'm a designated driver' and 'You

'When you use, so does your baby.'"

Another symbol of alcohol abuse prevention was a red keychain tree constructed by the office on a wall by the entrance.

"At the front door we keep a basket of keychains which are shaped like a stop sign," Scott said. "They have a car with glass

Drink, You Drive, You Lose.'

Scott summed up ASAP's work in the community over the past year.

"We've just been doing everything we can this year to get the word out, in all of the different environments that we've been in as staff members, awareness class training, meetings, planting a "druf-Free" tree with the community youths, and handing out MADD red ribbons at the installation gates," Scott said. "If people would just stop and think about drug and alcohol abuse for one minute, then everything we've done has been worthwhile."



Cindy Scott, Army Substance Abuse Program Program coordinator, hangs a red key chain on the tree which promotes awareness about the risks of driving under the influence at the ASAP Open House Nov. 9.



A collection of fake alcohol bottles labeled with titles that include a disease caused by alcohol abuse, such as 'Bottled in Haste: Ulcer 69' and 'Cancer of the Esophagus: Sour Mash Whiskey' sits on display.

## Family Corner—Enriching the military life

### ACS holiday party draws hundreds

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

Partridges in pear trees were just about the only thing missing from the Army Community Service Holiday Party held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Dec. 7.

An assortment of games, presents, treats, and a visit with jolly old Saint Nick were the high points of the festive occasion, which in its third year, drew more than 300 Soldiers, civilians, family members and guests.

Celestine Beckett, ACS director, Resheemah Bugg, coordinator of the Exceptional Family Member Program, and the rest of the ACS staff led a host of volunteers who included about 35 noncommissioned officers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Basic NCO Course and firefighters from the AA Fire Department.

Sgt. 1st Class Lewis Anderson, senior small group leader, said the NCOs were volunteers in the school's community service commitment.

"They're all motivated," Anderson said. "More wanted to come but we already had more than we needed."

The NCOs served as greeters, operated game booths, served snacks and refreshments, and distributed gifts as Santa's helpers to dozens of youths who posed for photos with Santa and Mrs. Clause. La'mont Harbison, Directorate of Information Management, provided the photographic support.

With face painting, games, like pin the nose on Rudolph, and tables full of holiday treats, there was more than enough to keep parents and youths busy. Most said they enjoyed the evening.

"It was a great event," said Naomi Folger, the wife of Staff Sgt. Foster Folger of Company B, 22nd Chemical Battalion, as she watched over her children Shanell, 7, and Karriem, 5. "The kids are having a great time. This is the first time we've been to anything like this," Folger said.

As she watched her son Alden, play with Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, Kiersten Newby said the family was "really enjoying themselves."

"He's having a great time

although he misses his daddy," Newby said, noting her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Newby is entertaining troops in Iraq with the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own).

Ruby Clinksdales, an APG

civilian with the I.D card office, chuckled as she and her daughter Nina, 3, watched her blindfolded son, Liam, 6, try to pin a red nose on Rudolph the reindeer. She said it was the family's first outing to the ACS

event.

"They've played all kinds of games and had a great time," Clinksdales said. "I was really surprised to learn something like this was going on. What a nice thing to do for families."



Liam Clinksdales, 6, gets a helping hand from Sgt. Cyrus Coles, from Class 66-05, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, during the Army Community Service holiday party at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center.



Col. John T. Wright plays 'Santa Claus' with Alden Newby, 3, the son of Sgt. 1st Class Joseph and Kiersten Newby during the ACS holiday party