

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Sept. 8, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Weekend gate operations

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Labor Day holiday.

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area and the Wise Road Gate in the Edgewood Area will close at 8 p.m., Sept. 3, and reopen at 4 a.m., Sept. 7.

PWOC holds fall meeting

The Protestant Women of the Chapel want to welcome everyone to its "Fall Kick-off" 9 to 11:30 a.m., Sept. 2 at the Post Chapel. Friends are also welcome. Babysitting is available.

For more information, call Annette Emerick at 410-272-4460 or Pam Poore at 410-272-7759.

Mosquito fogging scheduled

Fogging for the Aberdeen Area begins at 6 p.m., on Tuesdays, and in the Edgewood Area on Thursdays at 6 p.m. FTX areas are fogged on alternate Mondays.

Training areas can be fogged in advance, upon request.

For more information, call 278-3303.

Tennis courts closed for repairs

Plumb Point tennis courts are closed for repairs and will reopen as soon as possible.

Holiday postpones Social Hour at Top of Bay

There will be no Social Hour or lunch at Top of the Bay on Sept. 3.

It will reopen for lunch on Sept. 7.

Saturday evening mass discontinued

The 5 p.m. Saturday evening mass is discontinued.

The Sunday 8:45 a.m. mass at the Aberdeen Area Chapel and the 10:45 a.m. mass at the Edgewood Area Chapel will not be affected.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

DA photo policy change

Effective immediately, military personnel are no longer required to forward

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Spring time for the APG Bowling Center

Mexico sweeps Ripken World Series



Players storm the field, dumping a bucket of water over the Mexico team coach and other players in celebration of their 4-3 victory over West Raleigh, N.C., winning their second consecutive Cal Ripken World Series Aug. 22 at Ripken Stadium. See story on page 12.

Photo by MATT BUTTON

Army plans disposal of chemical agent mixtures

CMA/ABCDF

Army officials are working to develop a plan to safely dispose of 19 ton containers holding both mustard agent and non-agent substances in storage at the Chemical Agent Storage Yard and the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Historical records indicate that the non-agent substance in these containers is primarily oil.

The records indicate that the stockpile originally includ-

ed 22 mixed-content containers.

Three of the containers were drained May 2003, May 2004 and June 2004. One was empty and the other two were fully drained and the contents successfully neutralized.

"Our on-site laboratory analyzes each batch of wastewater, also known as hydrolysate, for detectable mustard agent and for a wide variety of chemical compounds," said ABCDF lead scientist Dan Taylor. "The analytical results for all of the hydrolysate produced, including the batches with neutral-

ized mixed-contents, are closely examined by all parties involved prior to shipment off-site for disposal. This examination includes ensuring that the hydrolysate meets the waste acceptance criterion of the receiving facility."

Two of the 19 remaining mixed-content mustard containers were being prepared for draining when the discovery was made. These containers will remain inside the ABCDF until a decision is made on how best to process the contents in accordance with regulatory requirements. The remaining 17 mixed-con-

tent containers are in storage at the CASY building.

"We will continue our coordination with the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency on the management and destruction of these containers," said Joseph Lovrich, ABCDF site project manager.

"As soon as we discovered that the agent in these containers was mixed with oil, we notified MDE immediately and initiated the appropriate course of action," Lovrich said.

Since beginning disposal

operations in April 2003, workers at the ABCDF have safely neutralized more than 36 percent of the Aberdeen mustard agent stockpile.

More information about storage and disposal operations at ABCDF is available at the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency's Web site, <http://www.cma.army.mil>.

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency is responsible for safely storing and eliminating the United States' aging chemical weapons and agent stockpiles and for the safe elimination of recovered chemical materiel.

APG honors 'great patriots' at retirement ceremony

Story and photos by Meghan Bowen APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground honored three members with combined service of 97 years at a ceremony hosted by Brig. Gen. William Lenaers, commanding general, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, at Top of the Bay Aug. 25.

"Thank you for joining us at this retirement ceremony where we recognize the contributions to the Army and the nation by this retiring Soldier and her civilian teammates," Lenaers said.

Honorees included 1st Sgt. Pamela Irle, an operations specialist with the Noncommissioned Officer Academy; Susan Krs, administrative assistant with the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; and Marilyn Root, a budget analyst with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Carol A. VanSchenkoff, gave the invocation.

"The pageantry of our military ceremonies is not typical of the tough, demanding, and often dangerous work that Soldiers accomplished during their careers," Lenaers said, "sometimes under the harshest of conditions, often far from their families."

Lenaers introduced the civilian retirees.

"Our Department of the Army civilians also contribute mightily, and swear the same

oath of allegiance as our Soldiers," Lenaers said.

1st Sgt. Pamela Irle

Irle, a Florida native, entered the Army in January 1985 and has served in Georgia, Saudi Arabia, Belgium and twice in Germany.

Irle's past awards include the Good Conduct Ribbon and medals for Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, Army Achievement, Kuwait Liberation and for her service in Southwest Asia.

She is also authorized to wear the Samuel Sharpe Award as well as the Driver's and Mechanic's Badge.

"I felt very proud to have served," Irle said. "We had a good chain of command which made things nice."

At the ceremony, Irle was presented with a Meritorious Service Medal, Presidential Certificate of Appreciation and a certificate of retirement.

"I have so many people to thank. I'd like to especially thank Brigadier General Lenaers, Colonel Kevin Smith, and Colonel Meredith and his daughter who were the first to visit me while I was in the hospital for back surgery in June of 2003," Irle said.

Irle commented on her plans for retirement.

"I'm going to stay around here [APG] for a while and then eventually go back to Georgia, where some of my family lives," Irle said. "I'm sad to leave the Army family,

but I have to carry on."

Susan Krs

Krs, a Baltimore native, began her civil service career in 1967 after graduating from Kenwood High School.

Krs started her civilian service in the U.S. Army Publications Distribution Center in Middle River.

She briefly worked at the Commissary at Fort Holabird and then transferred to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare at the Social Security Administration in Woodlawn before returning to work at the Publications Center for 23 years.

She received many awards during her career including letters of appreciation and commendation, performance and special act awards, and the Commanders Award for Civilian Service.

She was presented the Department of the Army Superior Civilian Service Award, as well as certificates for retirement and appreciation.

Krs commented on the retirement experience.

"It's overwhelming. I'm proud to have served my country for 37 years in the civilian capacity," Krs said. "I'd like to

thank everyone that I worked for and with over the years."

Krs plans to relocate to North Carolina, where she will spend her time fishing, listening to music, and volunteering for the Department of Aging as well as Post 8866 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Varnumtown.

Marilyn Root

Root, a Baltimore native, began her civil service in September 1960 as a clerk typist with Development and Proof Services, now known as the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test

See RETIREMENT, page 6



Photo by RALPH BROTH

Brig. Gen. William Lenaers, second from left, commanding general, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, and his wife Lorel, far left, congratulate retiree 1st Sgt. Pamela Irle, center, while fellow retirees Susan Krs, Marilyn Root and her husband Duane look on at the retirement ceremony held at Top of the Bay Aug. 25.

Watch Card

Observe and report:

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.
- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations,

or operational information.

- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation.
- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
- Unusual contacts, on or off post.
- Unusual aerial activity

near or around installation.

- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.
- Do not:**
 - Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
 - Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
 - Discuss force protection

measures, capabilities, or posture.

- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

Report any suspicious activity immediately to DOD Police:

Aberdeen Area, 410-306-

2222, 4-2222 or 911 Edgewood Area, 410-436-2222, 5-2222 or 911 Off post in Maryland, 1-800-492-TIPS (8477).

Your call may save lives.

Note - Do not take this card with you when on travel outside of the US.



Army News



Army report details more findings in Abu Ghraib investigation



Photo by RAINI WRIGHT

Gen. Paul J. Kern, commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command, and appointing authority for the investigation into any military intelligence involvement in detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib prison, briefs reporters on his team's findings Aug. 25 at the Pentagon.

Joe Burlas
Army News Service

The Army's latest findings on the detainee abuse that occurred in Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison late last year determined that abuse can be traced to issues affecting command and control, doctrine and the level of training and experience of Soldiers operating in a dangerous environment — facing almost daily deadly hazards, according to Army senior leaders.

Gen. Paul Kern, commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command and the officer ultimately assigned the responsibility to oversee the Army Regulation 381 Procedure 15 investigation into possible military intelligence personnel involvement in the alleged abuse at Abu Ghraib, briefed the press about results of the investigation at the Pentagon Aug. 25.

The investigation is com-

monly known as the Fay-Jones investigation, referring to its top two investigators, Maj. Gen. George R. Fay and Lt. Gen. Anthony J. Jones. It is just one of several investigations into various aspects of the overall issue of detainee abuse.

The results of an independent panel that reviewed Department of Defense detention operations, headed by former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger, was made public Aug. 24.

"This was clearly a deviation of everything we've taught people on how to behave," Kern said. "There are values that we treasure in the U.S. Army and in the United States that were not upheld in the report we turned in — that in itself is extremely troubling. There were failures of leadership — of people seeing these things and not correcting them. There were failures of

discipline — hallmarks against what we believe are the values and creed by which we live in the military that is very troubling.

The investigation identified 23 military intelligence Soldiers who were assigned to the 205th MI Brigade in Iraq, four civilian contractors working with the 205th and three military police Soldiers working at the prison who may have been involved beyond the seven already identified in previous investigations. Investigators also found that other Soldiers and civilians knew about the abuse and failed to report it.

The names of the MI and military police Soldiers have been forwarded with the investigation results to each Soldier's commander for determination whether the alleged abuser should be court-martialed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or if other action is appropriate.

The names and investigation results of the contractors have been forwarded to the U.S. Justice Department for possible criminal charges under federal laws.

"Our primary focus was to look at the 205th MI Brigade and how its Soldiers might have been involved in detainee abuse," said Maj. Maricela Alvarado, one of the Jones-Fay investigators and executive officer to Fay. "We found there was clearly some MI involvement in intentionally violent and abusive techniques in line with what we have all seen on TV and in the newspaper, some unauthorized use of guard dogs and the use of other unauthorized techniques,

and numerous cases of failure to report abuse that Soldiers had seen or were aware of, knew was wrong, but did nothing about it."

One major finding of the investigation was that no one in the chain of command above the 205th MI Brigade was directly involved in incidents of abuse at Abu Ghraib.

Further, it acknowledged that organizations and personnel above the 205th were indirectly involved through lack of oversight, failure to react to warnings, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross report that warned of some abuse, and policy memos that failed to provide clear, consistent guidance for execution at the tactical level.

For purposes of the investigation, detainee abuse was defined as treatment of a detainee that violates U.S. law or international law, or inhumane treatment without legal justification.

The last part of the definition, Alvarado said, is in accordance with the Geneva Convention. The convention allows different types of treatment for different categories of prisoners or detainees. For example, it forbids forcing officer prisoners of war to do manual labor, while allowing enlisted service members to do manual labor as long as that labor is not in direct support of the enemy war effort.

This investigation identified 44 alleged instances of detainee abuse committed by MP and MI Soldiers, as well as civilian contractors. In 16 of these instances, MI personnel allegedly requested, encouraged, condoned or solicited

MP Soldiers to abuse the detainees. The abuse, however, was directed on an individual basis and never officially sanctioned or approved. In 11 instances, MI personnel were directly involved in the abuse.

These individuals clearly chose to do the wrong thing in violation of their training and established policies, Alvarado said.

"There was no gray area — they knew they were doing wrong," she said.

The report found about half of the new alleged cases were Soldiers believing they were doing the right thing — either because the interrogation technique they used was allowed in other theaters at other times, or because they honestly believed the technique they used was authorized by higher up the chain of command, Alvarado said.

"We have MI operations going on in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, GITMO (Guantanamo Bay, Cuba) and Iraq — all with different sets of rules for what is authorized and what is not in the interrogation process," she said.

The report detailed multiple deployments of MI units with little train-up time for new missions prior to new deployments as part of the problem with Soldiers not knowing what may have been an approved technique a year ago in Kosovo not being right in Iraq today.

That problem was exacerbated in the 205th MI Brigade, Alvarado said, as investigators found no evidence that the brigade or its subordinate units conducted any refresher training once they arrived in Iraq.

The investigation also looked into reports of "ghost detainees" — individuals who were detained in military facilities but not logged into the military system. Alvarado said it was difficult getting an accurate number of how many ghost detainees were detained at Abu Ghraib since they were not in-processed, but investigators found evidence of about seven or eight ghost detainees held at Abu Ghraib. She said they were cases of other government agencies bringing in detainees and then telling Army personnel that they were to be kept off the books.

"The Army has certain rules to abide by and one is to document every detainee that comes into custody," Alvarado said. "It applies to every detainee brought into an Army facility. We clearly failed to follow our own policy."

The Army is moving on the report's recommendations, including training MI officers in interrogation operations, something currently not included in officer qualification courses. Another recommendation which has also been corrected is the placement of one sole individual responsible for overseeing both detention and interrogation operations.

"The good news out of the investigation is that the vast majority of MI Soldiers know what is right and what is wrong, and they are choosing to do the right thing in a very difficult environment," Alvarado said.

The investigation report is about 10,000 pages long with appendices. Investigators

See PRISON, page 6

Armed Forces Voters Week encourages voters to register

DoD

The Department of Defense announced plans for Armed Forces Voters Week, which begins Sept. 3. This event is being held to encourage all citizens voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, who have not registered to vote

or requested an absentee ballot this year, to do so as soon as possible.

On Aberdeen Proving Ground, Unit Voting Assistance Officers will hold rallies and various events within their organizations to encourage Soldiers and their family members to register to vote. VAOs have been working

diligently to educate Soldiers about the importance of voting and will continue to work with their commanders to ensure that all Soldiers stationed at APG are afforded the opportunity to exercise this right.

During these events, commanders and voting assistance officers will emphasize the importance of registering to

vote and requesting an absentee ballot. They will also use this opportunity to remind eligible personnel to return their voted ballots as soon as possible to allow sufficient transit time back to their local election official.

Questions pertaining to absentee ballots or voter registration should be directed to

your Unit VAO or the Installation VAO, Maj. Anissa McNeill, 410-278-3000.

The support of commanders and voting assistance officers is critical to the success of the Federal Voting Assistance Program, which can be contacted through the DoD Voting Information Center (VIC).

Citizens may reach the VIC

toll-free from 66 countries using the toll-free numbers listed on the FVAP Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

In the United States, call toll-free at 1-800-438-VOTE (8683), local 703-588-1584 or use DSN 425-1584.

Additionally, the FVAP can be reached via e-mail at vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

Volunteers needed to assist with eCYBERMISSION

Raini Wright
Army News Service

eCYBERMISSION, the Army-sponsored science, math and technology competition for youth, needs volun-

teers to serve as cyberguides, ambassadors and installation points of contact for this year's competition.

Volunteers are generally Army personnel who must

have an active security clearance. While applications are accepted year-round, Soldiers and civilians interested are encouraged to apply now through early September.

The program's mission is to generate interest among youth in science, math and technology and to communicate how important these areas are to the future success of our nation, said Kelly Strachko, eCYBERMISSION program manager.

Teams of three to four students, in grades six through nine, compete for monetary prizes and the opportunity for national recognition. Teams design projects that incorporate science, math and technology in the areas of health and safety, the environment, sports and recreation and arts and entertainment.

The program started two years ago and has grown from 903 teams competing during the first year to 1,624 teams this past spring. Officials esti-

mate that the amount of teams competing this year may exceed 2,000.

Anywhere from 400 to 600 volunteers will be needed.

Volunteers serving as ambassadors visit community groups within their regions to explain the program's key messages to educators while encouraging students to participate.

Cyberguides are scientists and engineers who serve as online mentors to provide guidance, support and answers to students' questions. Personnel who volunteer as installation points of contact will be the main channels of communication from the program's headquarters to the ambassadors and cyberguides located at the installations.

This program is so impor-

tant because our nation is no longer at the top in science, math and technology fields, said Karin Santos, who has been an eCYBERMISSION ambassador and installation point of contact at Fort McPherson, Ga., since the program's beginning. We need to support the community in these fields, she said.

Once an applicant is accepted as a volunteer, he or she receives continuous e-mail notifications about the program.

Cyberguides are needed for four hours per week while ambassadors are needed for 15 to 20 hours per month.

There is no standard time commitment for installation points of contact.

To learn more, visit www.ecybermission.com.

APG News

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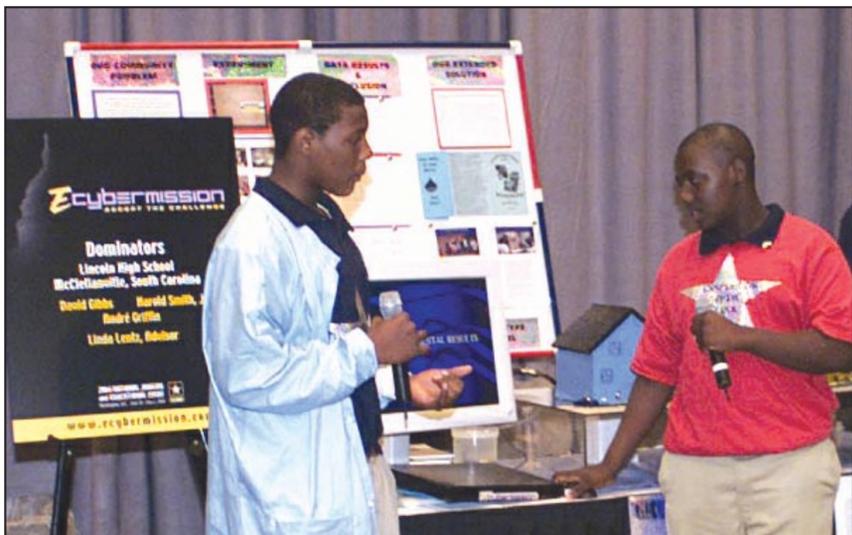


Photo by JOHN RUNYAN
David Gibbs, left, and Harold Smith, ninth-grade McClellanville, S.C., winners, present their project in June on improving water quality.

Family Corner—Enriching the military life

Knowing your rights--parents, children with disabilities

ACS

Parents of children with disabilities should become the best advocate they can for their children. To do so, it is imperative that parents know the law as it relates to their child's development and education.

Rights that apply to all children with disabilities include:

- Early identification of all children with disabilities, birth through 21.
- Evaluation to determine the nature and extent of the child's disability and the special education and related service needs, taking into account the child's participation in the general curriculum.
- Participation in the development of an individualized education plan and meeting at a time and place convenient for both the parents and the

school.

• Measurable annual goals and benchmarks/objectives for each need that results from the disability.

• Supplemental Services of: adapted physical education, driver education, behavior management training, self-help skills and other services as needed.

• Related aids and services including: counseling, occupational, physical and speech therapy, transportation, large print books, assistive technology, evaluations and other services to enable the child to benefit from regular or special education.

• Vocational education/transition from school to adult life.

• Placement in the least restrictive environment.

• Equal participation in planning the child's education-

al program.

• Confidentiality and the right to review and receive copies of the child's educational records.

• Written notice before the school proposes or refuses to change the child's educational program.

• Non-discrimination, including equal access to school facilities, programs, and services.

• Free appropriate public education even when suspended or expelled.

• Access to impartial due process hearing, medication and other complaint procedures.

• The right to an independent education evaluation.

• The right to have a copy of the procedural safeguards (parent rights) provided by the school, upon each notice of an

IEP meeting, upon notification reevaluation and upon filing of a complaint.

• The student's placement during due process hearings.

• To be notified of the procedures related to students who are placed in the interim alternative setting.

• To be informed about the child's progress at least as often as parents of children who do not have disabilities.

Additional information on Infants & Toddlers, Child Find, and Special Education Rights and Wrongs is available at Army Community Service, building 2754.

For more information regarding special education, call Reeshemah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator, at 410-278-2420.



ACS shorts



ACS offers Parent Information Exchange (PIE) for EFMs

The Parent Information Exchange, a support group for exceptional family members, will meet 6 to 7:30 p.m., Sept. 14, in building 2754.

The meeting will address the needs, concerns and upcoming events of military

families enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

PIE offers parents the opportunity to meet other family members with special needs.

Light refreshments will be served. Free childcare will be provided.

For more information or to register to attend PIE, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-2420.

ACS sponsors 'Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child'

The Exceptional Family Member Program will sponsor "Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child," a class that will focus on parents who have children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

The training will educate

parents on ADHD, behavior modification and child training techniques.

The class will be held, Oct. 19, 6 to 8 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754.

Free childcare is available but parents should call in advance.

Participants must register by Oct. 15 by calling Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-2420.

Health



DoD announces completion of TRICARE North Region

Department of Defense

Effective yesterday, eligible military healthcare plan beneficiaries in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia transition to the TRICARE Northern Region.

This transition completes the new North Region that began June 1 with the states of Illinois, Indiana, portions of Iowa (Rock Island Arsenal area), Kentucky, Michigan, portions of Missouri (St. Louis area), North Carolina, Ohio, portions of Tennessee (Fort Campbell area), southern Virginia, western West Virginia and Wisconsin.

"The completion of the TRICARE North Region transition marks an important milestone in our transformation of military healthcare services," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

The new contracts build on the best aspects of the TRICARE system, which has been developed over the last 10 years, making a strong program even better by providing incentives for improvements in quality care, access and claims payments.

DoD has also awarded additional specific contracts for mail order pharmacy, retail pharmacy, retiree dental care, the Uniformed Services Family Health Plan, TRICARE Global Remote Overseas, TRICARE health care for Puerto Rico, marketing and education programs, information services, national-quality monitoring, and claims processing for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.

"This new structure not only enhances our customer service efforts, increases benefit portability and improves access to care, but it also is designed to make our

See TRICARE, page 5

OC&S awards women's rights awareness

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Celebrating women's equality and the 14th Amendment, in conjunction with annual Women's History Month observances, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools recognized participants in its equal opportunity essay and display contest during an award ceremony at the school's headquarters in building 3071 Aug. 24.

Col. Kevin M. Smith, OC&S chief of staff, hosted the ceremony, presenting the awards.

Smith said the command takes time out nearly every month, "to observe groups that are a part of our Army family."

He credited the OC&S equal opportunity advisors with continuing to recognize all elements.

"The Ordnance Center and Schools does a great job in keeping women involved in what's going on," Smith said. "Women in the Army family excel every day. In every fashion they are making it happen."

The winners included essay winner, Drill Sgt. (Staff Sgt.) Careen Brooks, Company C,

143rd Ordnance Battalion, and essay runner-up, Sgt. Anthony Jones, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course Class 31-04.

The display winner was Katherine Hill, a 15-year old 9th grader from the John Carroll School, and the daughter of Lt. Col. Benjamin Hill, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.

Smith said their work would continue during the next observance for Hispanic Heritage month to be held in October, and added another requirement to the standard display and essay competition.

"I want to see outstanding essays and displays that recognize what this group has done," he said.

He challenged organizers to include Hispanic dishes as part of the competition, "to see who can come up with the best tasting meals," to further promote appreciation of "an ethnic part of our nation that will become a majority by the year 2007."

"We are all one Army," Smith reminded listeners. "We're doing good things and we're doing them everyday."

Essay winner Brooks said she enjoys participating in the

observances.

"As the EO representative for my unit, I participate in every one," Brooks said. She added that her essay focused on voting rights and that she learned a lot during her research.

"I enjoy writing. Every time I write I learn something new," she said.

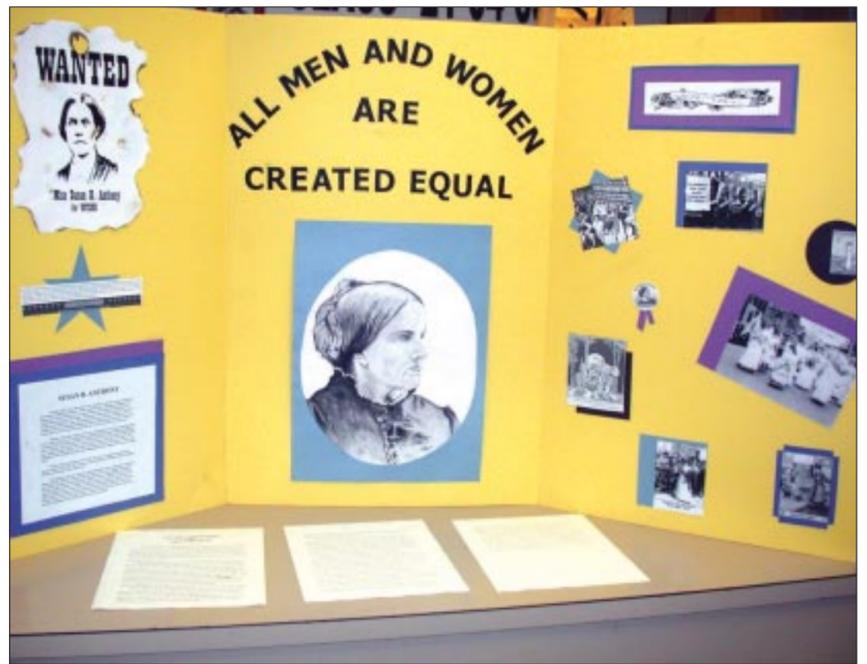
Hill added that she also enjoys writing and "putting things together." Her winning entry is on display in the Edgewood Area's MRICD.

"I learned that women can make a difference and that they are equal to men," Hill said.

Noting that she plans to major in speech and language disorders, due in part to her lifelong struggle with Cerebral Palsy, she added, "There's a world out there in which I want to make a difference."

A collective display by students from BNCOC Classes 504-04 and 31-04 was the runner up.

Additional participants received certificates of appreciation. For essays, they included Staff Sgt. Sally Johnson and Sgt. Anne Hailey, BNCOC Class 504-04; and Angela Thrasher, Northeast



A collective display on women in the early years of the struggle for equality by Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course classes 504-04, 31-04 and 26-04 sits in the lobby of building 4509 of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools NCO Academy.

Civilian Personnel Operations Center. Display contributors included Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course Class 26-04.

The next observance is for Hispanic Heritage Month. The

entry deadline for essays and displays is Oct. 20. Awards will be distributed 3 p.m., Oct. 28 in building 3071.

For more information, call OC&S equal opportunity advisors, Master Sgt. Arbel

Connor, 410-278-2529; Sgt. 1st Class Peggy McCormick, 410-278-5598; or Sgt. 1st Class Tasha Ahmed, 410-436-1076, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

Ignorance of the law—no excuse to avoid liability

Diane Schneider
ACA DOC-APG

Recent Government Accounting Office reports emphasize the need to educate all government purchase card participants to ensure public funds are spent appropriately.

Most cardholders and billing officials are not well versed in appropriations law, nor should they be, however, ignorance of this law is not an acceptable excuse to avoid liability.

Unauthorized services and supplies and those nonessential to the mission shall not be obtained with the GPC under any circumstances. Following orders of a superior, heavy workload, good work or service record, lack of experience,

supervision, or training; or financial hardship are not factors for relief from liability related to GPC fraud/misuse.

Cardholders should contact request legal advice prior to purchasing any items that would cause one to question the appropriate expenditure of taxpayer money.

Individuals involved in spending taxpayer money hold a public trust.

Government purchase card participants must ensure the highest ethical standards and sound business judgment are always applied when obligating government funds.

Intentional use of the GPC for other than official government business may be considered an attempt to commit

fraud against the U.S. government.

Fraudulent use of the GPC is a violation of the U.S. Code, and a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, for those in the military.

Non-criminal misuse of the GPC may result in the immediate cancellation of an individual's card, pecuniary liability, and negative administrative or disciplinary action against the cardholder or billing official.

For additional information regarding the Government Purchase Card Program, visit the APG DOC Web site, <http://www.apg.army.mil/aca/> or e-mail questions to credit-card@apg.army.mil.

Excerpts from essay contest entries

"It is important to understand that women in America in 2004 are privileged to be able to vote, even though they are still subjected to a male dominated society. As Election Day slowly approaches, it is important that every woman [of] legal voting age venture out to the polls."

Drill Sgt. (Staff Sgt.) Careen Brooks, essay winner, Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion

"During the 19th century and into the early 20th century, American women stared adversity in the face because of what they believed in."

Sgt. Anthony Jones, essay runner-up • BNCOC Class 31-04

"To me, women's equality is all about women realizing what we must do to achieve our goals and doing exactly that, despite the hardships that may be associated with our actions."

Angela M. Thrasher • NECPOC

"... A female hand might provide the guidance that would place world improvement upon our horizon."

Katherine Marina Lynn Hill, 15 • John Carroll High School

List of questionable purchases

To ensure the propriety of purchasing certain items, cardholders are responsible for ensuring these purchases are properly documented, and legal approvals are obtained from their servicing legal office prior to purchasing:

- advertising
- any form of entertainment
- bottled water
- business cards
- clothing
- commander's coins
- commemorative items
- conferences speaker's fees
- employee convenience items
- flowers and greeting cards
- light refreshments served at official meetings

- or lodging/rental cars/other travel costs
- luggage and briefcases
- office decorations and plants
- paper plates/paper cups/napkins/plastic cutlery/other personal stationary
- printing not through GPO
- professional licensure
- professional memberships
- refrigerators/microwaves/coffeepots/food/beverages
- seasonal decorations
- similar items advertising
- training in the next fiscal year
- working lunches

This list of questionable purchases is not all-inclusive.

TRICARE

From page 3

beneficiaries partners in managing the spectrum of their own health needs," Winkenwerder said.

Health Net Federal Services Inc., or Health Net, a government operations division of Health Net Inc., will provide healthcare services and support to the 2.85 million beneficiaries in the North Region, who may access healthcare information by contacting Health Net at 877-TRICARE or 877-874-2273, or visiting Web site, <http://www.healthnetfederalservices.com>. North Region eligible beneficiaries, who are not in TRICARE Prime, will have the opportunity to enroll.

Health Net also provides beneficiaries with: information on enrollment and network providers; procedures for filing claims; contacts for TRICARE assistance; view claim processing status and patient claims history; and locate a TRICARE service center or visit the virtual TSC, as well as access various programs that allow beneficiaries to manage their own health care.

Military treatment facilities

in all regions remain at the core of the military health system and its TRICARE Online Web site, <http://www.tricareonline.com> provides beneficiaries additional interactive tools and up-to-date, accurate information on a variety of health matters, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TRICARE Online also includes a medical dictionary, the new "Rx Checker," to find drug-and-drug or drug-and-food interac-

tions, an online health journal and more.

For information on the TRICARE benefit, beneficiaries may visit Web site, <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>, or consult their service and/or local MTF.

For more information on the contracts and the transition schedule, visit the TRICARE Web site, <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/contractsimplementation/default.cfm>.

Keeping safe and sober this Labor Day weekend

DSHE

To ensure a safe and sober holiday weekend for the members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community, the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment offers the following information about celebrating responsibly.

Myths and facts about alcohol and drunk driving

Myth: Coffee can sober up someone who has had too much to drink.

Fact: Only time sobers. It takes about one hour to metabolize each drink.

Myth: Hard liquor is more intoxicating than beer or wine.

Fact: a 12-ounce can of beer, a five-ounce glass of wine, and a 12-ounce wine cooler contain the same amount of alcohol and the same intoxication potential as an ounce-and-a-half of liquor.

Myth: Someone who has had too much to drink will look intoxicated.

Fact: Physical appearances can be misleading. Judgment is the first thing affected when someone has been drinking and important motor skills are next.

Being a responsible host

Social host responsibility involves everything from planning a party menu to assessing how guests will get home safely once the party is over. Responsible hosts can prevent alcohol related incidents.

When planning a party:

Plan lots of group activities or games.

Provide plenty of food so guests will not drink on empty stomachs.

Avoid salty snacks, which tend to make people thirsty.

Offer a variety of non-alcoholic beverages for the designated drivers and non-drinkers.

Do not push drinks. People don't need to drink to have a good time.

Use a non-



carbonated base, like fruit juice, in an alcoholic punch. Alcohol is absorbed into the blood stream faster with a carbonated base.

Ask guests to appoint a designated driver before the evening begins and ensure that person drinks only non-alcoholic beverages.

Be honest when inviting guests who are known to drink to excess. Tell them that drinking and driving is unacceptable at the party and that they need to find an alternate mode of transportation.

If despite all efforts, guests have

had too much to drink, take them home, arrange for a ride with a sober driver, or invite them stay the night.

Host responsibilities

How do I approach a guest who has had too much to drink?

It's important to remember that a host's actions could save a friend's life or that of an innocent victim. Pull the guest aside and politely but firmly tell them that you cannot let them drive home because you care, then help make arrangements for them to get home safely or stay the night.

Can I be held responsible if one of my guests is involved in a crash?

The laws vary from state to state, but hosts can be held responsible for the costs associated with automobile accidents resulting from a guest drinking and driving, including medical bills and property damage and can be sued for emotional pain and suffering.

What you can do to stop drunk driving:

Be a responsible party host.

Get involved at your command.

Meet and discuss drunk driving and alcohol abuse in the work center.

If you spot someone who is intoxicated, be a real friend and make sure they don't drive.

(Editor's note: Photo was taken by Meghan Bowen during National Alcohol Screening Day April 8. Crashed cars suspended in a gel-like substance in a drinking glass symbolize the dangers associated with drinking and driving.)

Not sure if you've had too many?



I'll check for you.

Drunk and drugged driving kills 16,000 people each year. More than 300,000 people are hurt and 1.5 million are arrested. One in three Americans will be affected by this violent crime in their lifetime. You, your friends, your family could be next.

This holiday, law enforcement agencies across the country will stop impaired driving in its tracks. This holiday, sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols will help make the roads safer for everyone.

So be prepared. If you drink, don't drive. Call a taxi, designate a sober driver, or plan on spending the night wherever you choose to celebrate.

Remember...
You Drink & Drive. You Lose.



Hinch, Sanders take 2004 Golf Championship

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

For the third year in a row, Patrick Hinch won the 2004 Aberdeen Proving Ground Golf Program Club Championship held Aug. 21 and 22 at Ruggles Golf Course. Capt. Shelley Sanders, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, won the Ladies Tournament.

This is Sanders' first win at

APG. She heads to the 2004 All Army Golf Trials, Sept. 13 through 18 at Fort Carson, Colo., for possible selection to the Armed Forces Golf Championship.

Hinch, with a score of 75-73, 148, held off John Gil De Leon, who finished second with 75-79, 154, and Matt Chavis in third at 81-78, 159.

Sanders dominated with a 75-78, 153 score. Louise

Gentry, 92-94, 186, finished second to Sanders followed by Diana Buettner, 90-98, 188, and Peggy Mowchan, 96-98, 194.

Tom Green, APG golf program manager, said the annual tournament drew 49 participants including six females.

"Scores were excellent for the difficult course and the competition was at a high level as well," Green said.

He offered congratulations to Hinch for his third win in a row and to Sanders for her first.

"She's new to APG but a real good player," Green said.

"The competition was more within myself than anything else," Sanders said. "I had a certain goal to obtain and I focused on that. If I won the tournament in the process, that was fine."

She said the tournament allowed her to focus on things she wanted to work on in preparation for the trials.

"The tournament and the course held special challenges," she said. "I had to play a different game, but it



Patrick Hinch, winner of the 2004 Aberdeen Proving Ground Golf Program Club Championship, displays a Tiger Woods-like follow-thru during the Aug. 21 and 22 tournament at Ruggles Golf Course.



Photos by TOM GREEN

Shelly Sanders, a captain with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, puts toward a first place win in the ladies tournament.

was a good warm up for what I have to come."

A senior's tournament is scheduled for Sept. 11 and 12. For more information, call Green at 410-278-4794.

Retirement

From front page

Center. She later transferred to the Travel Section as a Voucher Examiner in building 310 on APG where she began her career in Finance and Accounting.

Root received various awards during her career, which included letters of

appreciation and commendation, as well as performance awards.

Root commented on her years of service.

"After forty years of service I feel like I'm ready for retirement, but not full time yet," Root said. "I'm looking to participate in the Senior Environment Employment Plan [at APG] which employs people up to three days a

week."

Lenaers commented on the dedication of the retirees.

"This Soldier and her civilian counterparts have dedicated their careers to servicing America.

"Not only have they made countless contributions to our Army, they have served their communities and the nation as a whole," Lenaers said.

Lenaers wished the retirees

well and closed the ceremony with a few thoughts.

"The great patriots we honor today have made lives out of doing their duty.

"The Army is people, people like these, who grow to understand and live the Army values, who grow their replacements, teaching them loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage," he said.

Prison

From page 2

conducted 172 interviews with privates through the general officers and included civilian

contractors and detainees. The investigation started in late April and wrapped up in late July.

"We are recommending in our report that actions be taken to fix all these things," Kern said. "What I will tell you today is we have just returned from both Afghanistan and Iraq, that you will not find those conditions there today. We are doing a very thorough certification process with the people involved with detention and interrogations.

"There are people who are very clearly in charge of Abu Ghraib — Maj. Gen. Geoff Miller, who has brought organization, discipline and leadership to that prison facility," he said. "There are actions being taken in our schools to change doctrine, to improve training. We are training in theater for those who may have missed the school training. So the circumstances today, notwithstanding actions still to be taken on our report, are much improved."

Community Notes

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2 PWOC KICKOFF

Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold their Fall Kickoff, 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel. Bring a friend. Babysitting is available. For more information call Annette Emerick, 410-272-4460 or Pam Poore, 410-272-7759.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 6 ORIOLES OFFERS DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR LABOR DAY GAME

In recognition of Labor Day, the Orioles are offering discounted tickets to federal

government employees and their families for the 1:35 p.m. game against the Minnesota Twins.

Federal government employees, federal government contractors, military personnel and their family members may purchase left field lower box seats for \$20 each, or upper reserve tickets for \$8 each.

Individual tickets may be purchased in person at the Orioles ticket office or by calling 1-888-848-BIRD.

Fans will need to provide a valid government photo ID if purchasing tickets in person or the name of the federal government agency or department and ID number

if ordering by phone. Group tickets are also available for this offer.

Those interested in purchasing tickets for a group outing should call 202-296-7488.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 7 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Grace Assembly Women's Ministries invites everyone to attend their fall session Women's Bible Studies held 10 a.m., Tuesdays; 7 p.m., Wednesdays; 7 p.m., Thursdays; and 10 a.m., Saturdays at Grace Assembly of God, 2303 Churchville Road, Bel Air.

For more information, call the church office at 410-879-5340 or visit Web site, www.graceag.com.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9 GIRL'S NITE OUT

Grace Assembly of God, located at 2303 Churchville Road, Bel Air, will hold a "Girl's Nite Out," 6:30 p.m. The theme is "Good News" and includes a covered dish dinner, fun and fellowship. A video also will be shown, "Good News" by Ken Davis.

For more information, call 410-879-5340 or visit Web site, www.graceag.com.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12 SECOND ANNUAL RIDE FOR PRIDE

USO-Metro, American Legion Post 221, Seventh District Optimist Club, WSMD-98.3 STAR FM, and Honda PowerSports of Crofton present the second annual Ride For Pride.

The event will include a 40-mile ride through scenic Southern Maryland.

Police will escort the ride, and celebrity riders will attend both the ride and the post-ride party. To register in advance, go to www.usometrodc.org or visit Honda PowerSports of Crofton from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the day of the ride.

Donation is \$25 per rider, and sponsors an Operation USO Care Package. For more information, visit www.usometrodc.org.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13 BOATER SAFETY COURSE

The Bush River Power Squadron will conduct an eight-week boater safety course, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at Box Hill Community Center, 2920 Strathaven Lane, Abingdon.

Class size is limited. To register or for more information, call 410-515-0195.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18 MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS

The Military Order of

Foreign Wars Maryland Commandery will hold its 13th Annual Social, noon to 5 p.m. at the Gunpowder Military Reservation, Glen Arm. All-you-can-eat pit beef, ham, turkey and barbecue chicken, cole slaw, potato salad and more will be served from 1 to 4 p.m. Free admission to companions in good standing; cost is \$12 in advance for spouses and guests; cost is \$15 at the entrance.

For more information or to RSVP (affirmative replies only), call Col. Jack Kutcher at 410-836-2813 or 410-734-4396 or e-mail jfkutcher@comcast.net.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19 AMERICAN LEGION HOLDS BASKET BINGO

American Legion Post 194, 336 E. Main St., Rising Sun, is sponsoring a basket Bingo starting at 3 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 20 games. For more information, call 410-658-3915, or e-mail asketbingors@aol.com. Proceeds will benefit Boy Scout Troop 28.

MOVIES

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

THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

Friday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 4, 9 p.m.

Starring: Matt Damon, Franka Potente

When a Chinese vice-premier is executed by notorious assassin Jason Bourne,



it causes serious trouble and hubbub in the CIA. Why? There is no "Jason Bourne," as that name is just a cover for CIA agent David Webb. It appears that someone has taken the "Bourne" identity away from him, creating a diplomatic crisis between the United States and China. (Rated PG-13)

THE THUNDERBIRDS (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m.

Starring: Bill Paxton, Ben Kingsley

When dangerous situations

exceed the limitations of ordinary military and international security forces, the world calls upon the high tech assistance of international rescue, a mysterious band of fearless adventurers and their fleet of awesome, imaginatively engineered vehicles known as Thunderbirds. (Rated PG)



Deadline nearing for nominees

The deadline for nominating Harford County-based residents, employers and groups who promote the hiring of persons with disabilities as productive members of today's work force is Sept. 10.

Nominees will be honored at the Harford County Committee on Employment of

People with Disabilities' Annual Awards Luncheon on Oct. 21 at the Maryland Golf and Country Club in Bel Air.

Categories include Employee of the Year, Employer of the Year, Harford County Student Worker of the Year, Barrier-Free Design Award, Ruth Helen Thompson

Memorial Community Service Award and Print or Electronic Media Award.

For more information or to request nomination forms, call Sharon Grzanka, co-chair of the Committee, at 410-638-3373 voice/TTY, or at www.co.ha.md.us/services/disabilities.

POST SHORTS

hardcopy photos to the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center for Enlisted Soldier Promotion Selection Boards if the photo studio has the capability to upload photos electronically to the Department of the Army Photo Management Information System (DAPMIS).

Only selection boards held at the Human Resources Command in Alexandria for active Army officers still require hardcopy photos.

The APG Photo facility will no longer issue paper copies to enlisted Soldiers for the annual promotion boards. Requests for hardcopies for other types of selection boards will still be honored as well as for officers in the above category.

Any questions should be directed to the Soldiers' servicing Military Personnel Branch.

Installation staff contractor's training

All installation staff, medical, dental and contract personnel, who in the execution of their duties come into daily or frequent contact with Initial Entry Training Soldiers, are required to attend ISCTC.

The one-hour class covers IET policies and procedures, ethical conduct and Army values.

Deputy Installation Commander Col. John T. Wright and APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby conduct the training for appropriate garrison, Kirk U.S. Army Health/Dental Clinic and AAFES employees.

Directors, division chiefs and managers are responsible for ensuring employees attend this mandatory training.

Classes will be held 2 p.m., Sept. 15, 21 and 27, in building 4305, second floor.

To schedule employees to attend, directors, division chiefs and managers should call garrison S-3 Operations, 410-278-5225.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield service visit

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit Aberdeen Proving Ground on Sept. 14, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage.

No appointment is necessary.

The representative will be available in the Aberdeen Area only from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 236; and in the Edgewood Area, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811, the seminar area of the EA Conference Center.

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

Winter Expo at Outdoor Rec

Outdoor Recreation is having a Winter Expo Sept. 14, 12 to 5 p.m. in front of the Bowling Center, building 2342, showing an assortment of skis, snowboards, snow tubes, and more.

For those interested in winter sporting equipment, this is an opportunity to get fitted early for skis and snowboards.

For more information, call 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Johns Hopkins USFHP open forum

An open forum will be offered 1 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 3 p.m., Sept. 2 and 9, in the NCO Room at the APG Recreation Center, building 3326, on the corner of Raritan and Erie streets.

Representatives from Johns Hopkins will provide materials and answer questions about the USFHP, a TRICARE Prime option.

The forum is open all DEERS-eligible family members of active duty and retired uniformed services members, retirees of all ages, family members of Reserve/National Guard on active duty for 31 days or more, non-remarried spouses and unmarried children of deceased service members, Coast Guard family members, NOAA retirees and their family members, as well

as eligible family members of deceased NOAA members.

No pre-registration is required.

For information, call 1-800-80-USFHP (7347), or Ed Cramer, USFHP at Johns Hopkins, 443-287-2529 or e-mail ecramer3@jhmi.edu, or visit www.hopkinsmedicine.org/usfhp.

Join the MCSC for their Super Sign Up

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is open to spouses, surviving spouses or members of the U.S. armed forces (all ranks), active duty or retired, a spouse or surviving spouse of a Department of Defense employee or a DoD employee.

The club's purpose is to have fun and be involved in the Aberdeen Proving Ground community. The MCSC has many functions that involve camaraderie, enjoyment, education and fundraising.

Social groups include the Lunch Bunch, Gourmet Club, Book Club, Bunco and more.

Fundraising events generate money for scholarships and aid to various community organizations and offers both day and evening programs and activities, a monthly newsletter containing upcoming events and other helpful and interesting information.

Join the MCSC at one of the Super Sign-up events 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sept. 14 at Ruggles Golf Course, building 5600, or 7 to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 16, at 4670 Parrish Road, Edgewood.

For more information or to join MCSC, visit the club's Web site, www.apgmcsc.org.

APG plans Retiree Appreciation Day

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold its annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 to 11:45 a.m., Nov. 13, at the Aberdeen

Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

Representatives from area agencies to include, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Commissary, Post Exchange, Community and Family Activities and the Veterans Administration will be on hand.

The National Association for Uniformed Services will provide a guest speaker.

Following the program everyone is welcomed to stay for lunch at the Dining Facility, building 4503.

For more information, call Army retirees Col. Charles M. Shadle, chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-663-9263 or Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Decker, co-chairman, 410-306-1153.

Army Reserves holds high technology open house

Soldiers and civilians interested in high technology opportunities in the Army Reserve are invited to join the 311th Theater Signal Command for lunch and an open house Oct. 2 at the 311th's

headquarters, Fort Meade.

Visitors will examine satellite ground stations, walk through one of the region's best-equipped emergency operations centers and meet Soldiers who work on the cutting edge of Army signal technology.

The 311th's networking academy, where Reserve Soldiers take manufacturer-authorized certification courses, will also be featured.

Lunch with the Soldiers (reservations required) begins at noon and the tour program begins at 1 p.m.

For more information, call 310-677-1098/1077/1748.

Toastmasters

changes meeting date

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562, which usually meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, will meet 11:40, Sept. 7, at the Gunpowder Club in the Edgewood Area because of Labor Day Monday.

The club is open to anyone who wants to improve their communication, leadership and listening skills and overcome the fear of public speaking. The meeting lasts about an hour.

For more information or directions, call Len Kolodny at 410-734-76573.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Activities

New operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center new operating hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.*

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

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Social Hour at Top of Bay postponed

There will be no Social Hour or lunch at Top of the Bay on Sept. 3. It will reopen for lunch on Sept. 7.

Outdoor Recreation holiday special

Pick up equipment on Sept.

4 and return on Sept. 7, by appointment, for a one-day rental fee.

For more information, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Shore Pool closes, others remain open

The Shore Pool is closed for the season.

Olympic and Bayside pools will remain open with normal hours of operation through Sept. 6.

Back to School special at Chesapeake Challenge

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is offering \$1 off all go-cart rides on Sept. 6.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

Golf courses close temporarily

Ruggles Golf Course will be closed Sept. 13 and 14 for course maintenance, including the practice range. Exton will be closed Sept. 15.

MWR looks out for singles through BOSS

The BOSS "Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers" Program meets on the last Wednesday of every month in the Recreation Center, building 3326.

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.

'Laugh til your sides Hurt' Comedy Show

"Laugh til your sides Hurt" Comedy Show, A Ricky Shackelford Production, will be held Sept. 18 in the APG Post Theater. Red Bone, Kevin Anthony, Justin Schiegel and Larry Lancaster will be performing. The show is open to the public.

Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show begins at 9 p.m. Cost is \$10 for upper level and \$15 for lower level in advance; \$20 at the door.

An 'after party' will be held in the AA Recreation Center immediately following the show for all ticket stub holders. Cost without the ticket stub is \$5.

Purchase tickets at www.apgmwr.com or at MWR Registration, 410-278-4907/4011.

For more information, contact MWR Registration at 410-278-4907/4011 or e-mail mwr.registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Winter Expo at Outdoor Rec

Outdoor Recreation is having a Winter Expo Sept. 14, 12 to 5 p.m. in front of the Bowling Center, building 2342, showing an assortment of skis, snowboards, snow tubes, and more.

For those interested in winter sporting equipment, this is an opportunity to get fitted early for skis and snowboards.

For more information or to

see something in particular, call 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Refunding Shirley Caesar concert tickets

Refunds for the Shirley Caesar Concert will be given at MWR Registration and Ticketing Office, building 3326 in the Aberdeen Area. The receipt or ticket must be presented in order to receive a refund. All requests must be in by Sept. 30.

For more information, call 410-278-4907/4011.

MWR Handball Classic

A round robin singles tournament where winners will be selected on win/loss record percentage will be held 6 to 11 p.m., Sept. 10, in the APG Athletic Center.

Trophies will be presented to the winner and runner-up in each division.

Players may only enter one event. Categories will consist of male and female advanced, intermediate, beginner and

novice. Register by Sept. 7. Cost is \$10.

3 on 3 Volleyball competition

This round robin competition will be held 6 to 8 p.m., every Tuesday, Sept. 14 through 28 in Russell Gym. Cost is \$30 per team.

The winning teams will be selected based on their win/loss percentage.

Trophies will be presented to the top three finishers.

Register by Sept. 9.

MWR Horseshoe Pitching Tournament (doubles competition)

This doubles elimination competition will be held in Hoyle Gym on 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sept. 26.

United States horseshoe rules apply.

This will be a cash prize tournament based on the number of entries.

Register by Sept. 9.

Cost is \$5 for active duty and \$10 for civilians.

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

Fall, winter driver education classes

Silas Summers, Rules Driving School, Inc. will instruct State Certified fall and winter Driver's Education Classes at Child and Youth Services, building 2752, room 210.

Seven classes with 10 weekday sessions each will be held (no classes on holidays).

Sept. 8 through 21, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Sept. 22 through Oct. 5, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Oct. 6 through 19, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Oct. 20 through Nov. 2, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Nov. 3 through 16, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Nov. 17 through Dec. 2, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Dec. 6 through 17, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Cost per student is \$295 plus \$18 registration/membership fee.

A minimum of three students class size, 20 students maximum is required.

Teens/family members 15 years of age or older of military and civilian (or retired) personnel and contractors who work at APG, or sponsored teens are eligible to attend.

Adults may also register on a case-by-case basis.

To make an appointment to register and pay the fee, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571, or Pat Palazzi, 410-278-7479, Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, room 110, building 2752, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A parent/student orientation session will be conducted during the first class of each session.

Students should arrive on time and be picked up in a timely manner.

For more information, call Rules Driving School, Inc. at 410-939-7008 or 410-937-2184, or Ivan Mehosky, APG School Liaison Office, 410-278-2857.

Registration for the APG School of Ballet and Dance begins

APG Child and Youth Services is extending registration for the School of Ballet and Dance by appointment 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, through Sept. 9, at CYS Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, room 110, building 2752.

Classes include ballet, modern dance/lyrical movement and tap character, and will be taught by renowned instructor Karen L. Williams

For more information, or to make an appointment to

register and pay the fee, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571 or Pat Palazzi at 410-278-7479.

Students ages 3 through 18 of military and civilian employees at APG and sponsored personnel are eligible for sign-up.

The date for determining age eligibility is Oct. 1, 2004.

Classes cost \$95 per student per discipline and include one hour of instruction per week for 22 weeks and a recital.

A \$15 annual registration/membership fee is required for students 6 years of age and up, with a 20 percent discount for each additional child and 10 percent discount for each additional class.

Classes cost \$105 per student per discipline if a sponsor is required, plus a \$15 registration fee for students age

six and up.

Aberdeen Area

Classes will be held at Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, Ballet Room.

The schedule of classes for ages 4 and 5 will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday, starting Sept. 21.

Ballet classes will be held every Wednesday, starting Sept. 22. For ages 6 to 8, classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; ages 9 to 12, classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; ages 13 to 18, classes will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tap Character classes will be held every Friday, starting Sept. 24. For ages 6 to 8, classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; ages 9 to 12, classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; ages 13 and up, classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Modern Dance/Lyrical Movement also will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. every

Friday, starting Sept. 24, for ages 12 and up.

Ballet classes (Mom and Me) will be held 9 to 9:30 a.m. every Saturday, starting Sept. 25 for 3-year olds.

Edgewood Area

Classes will be held at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E-1902, Gymnasium.

The schedule of classes for ages 6 through 8 will be held 4 to 5 p.m., every Saturday, starting Sept. 25.

For ages 9 through 12, classes will be held 5 to 6 p.m., every Saturday.

A mandatory orientation session for parents will be held 6:30 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 10 at the Aberdeen Youth Center.

APG BOWLING CENTER NEWS

Bowling special

Red Pin night will be held Sept. 3. Just throw a strike on a red head pin and select a prize from the "prize bowl."

Leagues forming

Fall and winter leagues are now forming. All leagues are handicap leagues. Handicaps usually are 90 percent of 200. To determine handicap, after bowling the first three games, total the scores and divide by three to get an average. Take that average and subtract

from 200 then multiply by 90 percent.

So whether a good bowler or not, this handicap helps all bowlers compete against bowlers that are.

Monday Night Crazy Trio - Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 27. Cost is \$8 per person per week for 12 weeks. Team is comprised of any combination (all men, women, mixed). Cash prizes are awarded at the end of league.

Monday Night Football Widows Doubles League -

Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 27, and costs \$8 per week per person for 12 weeks. Cash prizes are awarded at the end of league.

Tuesday Rock & Roll Doubles League - Bowling begins at 6 p.m., Sept. 28, at a cost of \$8 per person per week for 12 weeks. Cash prizes will be awarded at the end of league.

Wednesday Night Mixed - Male and female bowlers are needed to fill existing team vacancies. A team consists of two women and two men or

three women and one man. Also, the league will welcome anyone bringing in their own team.

Bowling begins Sept. 8 and ends sometime in April 2005.

For more information, call Dolores Huff, league secretary, 410-679-1718.

Thursday National Guard - There will be a meeting 7 p.m., Sept. 9, at APG Bowling Center to determine the cost and number of weeks.

Team should be comprised of four per team (three men or

women one man or woman, two men two women).

Friday Fun Bunch - There will be a meeting 6 p.m. Sept. 10 at the APG Bowling center to determine costs and number of weeks.

Team is comprised of four bowlers (two men and two women).

Saturday Youth League - Bowling for 28 weeks for ages 5 and up begins 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 11. Early signup is Aug. 28.

Consideration will be given to other scheduled

sports events. A year-end banquet guarantees a trophy to all participants.

There will be raffles and giveaways throughout the season.

Saturday Cosmic Doubles League - Bowling begins 2 p.m., Sept. 25 for 12 weeks for \$10 per person per week. Signup is limited to first eight teams.

Any combination of bowlers forms team (all men, all women, mixed). Cash prizes will be awarded at the end of league.

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, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Sarah Blevins
Barbara Boyd (total right joint and hip replacement)
Michael Cain
Iris Campbell (chemotherapy)
Melanie Carns
Juanita Carter
Barbara Crossley
Thomas Davie
Carl Davis
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)
Natalie G. Dennison
Geraldine Eaton
David Fletcher
John Furmankiewicz
Renee Gaffney
Charles Gambrell

Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications)
Melanie A. Hoff-man (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Richard Hoffman
Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy)
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Shannon Richards (maternity leave)
Cheryl L. Roark
Matthew Ryan
Leigh Sanders
Marguerite Soper
Alison Tichenor
Linda Tignor
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)

ARTS & CRAFTS

To register for classes held at the Edgewood Arts & Crafts, building E-4440, 410-436-2153, call or visit during hours of operation or at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011.

Woodshop orientation

The woodshop orientation is a safety course, required to use the woodshop. Class runs 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sept. 4. Cost is \$5.

Ceramics

This basic ceramics class teaches the fundamentals of mold pouring, glazing and painting, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 11.

Cost is \$15 including supplies.

Stained glass

This beginning class will teach students how to make a simple sun catcher using the copper foil method, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 18. Cost is \$25 including supplies.

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 books available at the APG MWR libraries:

Better Off: flipping the switch on technology by Eric Brende

This memorable personal story of how Brende and his wife fared in a mutual-aid agricultural society without telephones, processed food, and cars, will warm the heart of anyone dreaming about an alternative, close-to-the-land lifestyle.

The Corporation: the pathological pursuit of profit and power by Joel Bakan

The Perfect Soldier: special operations commandos, and the future of U.S. Warfare by James F. Dunnigan

Powerful Medicines: the benefits, risks, and costs of prescription drugs by Jerry Avorn

The library's Web site, 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.

APG families host World Series players

Illustration by JOLYN JANIS

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Three hots and a cot were just a few of the things Aberdeen Proving Ground families provided for guest baseball players to the Cal Ripken World Series held Aug. 14 to 22 at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen.

Four APG families welcomed nine players from Mexico, Hawaii, and Washington into their homes for the duration of the series, now in its second year.

Sgt. 1st Class Craig Dyer, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, and his wife, Kay, welcomed Jordan Larkin, pitcher, and Anthony DiLiberto, short stop, from Kennewick, Wash. Their next-door neighbor, Jennifer Jones Sgt. 1st Class John Jones, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and his wife Jennifer, hosted the player's teammates, outfielders Trevor Rowell and Nolan Sprotelli.

Also, for the second year in a row, retired Sgt. 1st Class Saul Martinez, a toxic materiel control operator, U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, and his wife Cynthia, CHPPM, hosted Ivan Tinoco-Lopez, Jacinto Garcia-Peregrina and Filipe Hernandez-Ortiz, three players from the defending Mexico City championship team.

Mexico repeated as series champions during an exciting finale, outscoring the team from West Raleigh, N.C., 4-3, Aug. 22.

Hernandez-Lopez turned out to be the team's most valuable player, driving in one run, scoring a run and hitting the game winning single in the top of the sixth inning.

All agreed the event left them grateful for the experience and for their friends.

"We thought it would be a good experience for our children," Kay Dyer said of their two boys, Hunter, 8, and Zachary, 10. "They got along so well. My boys will be sad when they leave."

The noncommissioned officer in charge of the Directorate of Health Promotion and Wellness, Craig Dyer noted that he took leave to help shuttle the players to games and practices.

"The kids were good and the games were great," he said. "We'll probably volunteer to do this again next year."

With four girls, Callie, 10, Alexis, 8, Sierra, 5, and Taylor, 3, Jones said she was surprised at how well they got along with their guests.

"This is our first year hosting and they're just loving it," she said. "They're all friends now."

With neighboring yards, the players were able to spend time with their teammates as well, Jones added.

Martinez, who hosted four players last year while serving as the team's

interpreter, said organizers were happy to have his services again.

"These kids are awesome," Martinez said. "You can see in their faces how excited they are just to be here and play in a real stadium. They're loving it and we love having them here."

Another couple repeating as volunteers was George Martin, a civilian police officer with the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, and his wife Connie. The Martins hosted two players from Oahu, Hawaii, the Pacific-Southwest champions.

This year, the Martins served as team captains, assisting other hosts and coordinating meals and transportation for the team. Also, Martin was tasked with inspecting the homes of potential host families for Ripken Baseball.

"The inspections are to make sure the boys will have their own beds, bathroom facilities and that there aren't 15 dogs in the place. That it's a place you would want your own kids to stay in," he said.

He said that their two young guests, pitcher Jarrett Arakawa and third baseman, Scott Sakaida, "loved it here."

"When it was time to go, Scott had to go back upstairs and look at his room one more time. He was upset about having to leave, the time went by too fast," Martin said.

He said that host families regularly get caught up in the activities and "root their hearts out," for the teams during games.

"It's easy to get caught up in it and that's good because these players play hard and need that support," Martin said. "My wife was devastated when we lost," he added referring to the team's loss to West Raleigh, N.C. in the semi-final game that determined which team would advance to the championship.

Martin said that volunteer hosts take on numerous responsibilities and that those considering hosting next year should plan their leave or vacation time around the series.

"You have to be ready to spend all your time with these kids," he said. "You should take leave or vacation time because you can't be in two places at once."

Uniforms must be washed daily and Ripken Baseball helps out with free laundry detergent, but other expenses can try families financially.

"Make sure you have enough in savings to take care of extras like souvenirs or outings," he added noting that the Aberdeen Proving Ground Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 116F sponsored a barbecue pool party and paid for other expenses incurred by host families for the Hawaii team.

"Most of all, you need to love kids and baseball," Martin said.



Photo by MATT BUTTON
Wearing a sombrero, Aberdeen Proving Ground host parent Saul Martinez cheers for the Mexico team as they battle it out against the team from West Raleigh, N.C.



Photo by MATT BUTTON
Mexico pitcher Ivan Tinoco Lopez hurls a pitch to the waiting West Raleigh batter during the final game of the Cal Ripken World Series.

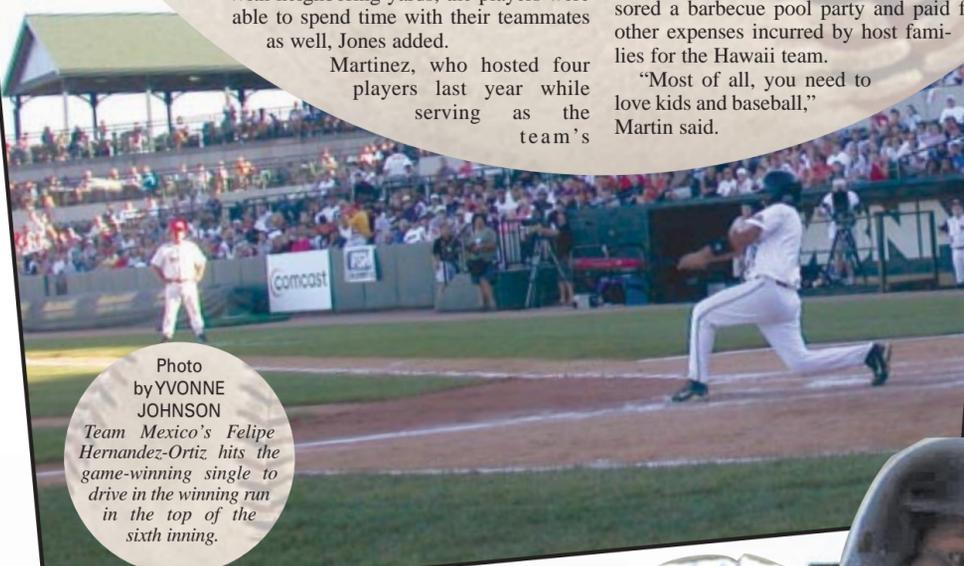


Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Team Mexico's Felipe Hernandez-Ortiz hits the game-winning single to drive in the winning run in the top of the sixth inning.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Team Mexico players, wearing their gold medals, hold the championship trophy high for fans to see after the team's second consecutive world series win.

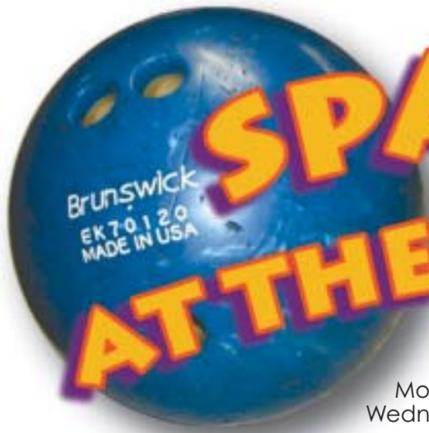


Photo by MATT BUTTON

Mexico's Felipe Hernandez-Ortiz rounds second and heads for third during the championship game of the Cal Ripken Baseball World Series game against West Raleigh, N.C.

Photo by MATT BUTTON

The team from Kennewick, Wash. stands tall as the national anthem is played before their game against Greenwich, Conn., at Ripken Stadium Aug. 14.



SPARE THE TIME AT THE APG BOWLING CENTER

Operating hours

Sept. 7 to May 2005
 Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
 Saturday, 1 to 11 p.m.
 Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m.

Prices

Monday thru Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. . . . \$1.75 per game
 Monday thru Friday, 6 p.m. to closing . . . \$2.50 per game
 Cosmic Saturday, 1 p.m. to closing . . . \$2.75 per game
 Sunday and holidays, 1 to 6 p.m. . . . \$1.75 per game
 Shoe rental. . . . \$1.50 per pair

Specials

RENT-A-LANE: Bowl-All-U-Want anytime Sunday thru Friday for \$12/hour per lane

Cosmic Bowl-All-U-Want: Bowl on Saturday only, for \$19/hour per lane. Office and organizational parties require a minimum of four lanes or 24 people. Shoes are included.

Sponge Bob birthday party package includes two hours of bowling; slice of pizza, chips and soda; paper goods; balloons; and a surprise gift for birthday child. Reservation must be for a minimum of six children or maximum of 24 children. A \$25 deposit is required one week prior to the party date.

Cosmic Saturday Gutter Duster costs \$7. No food is included.

Cosmic Saturday Extravaganza costs \$9 per child, and includes food.

Non-Cosmic Extravaganza costs \$7 per child, and includes food.

Non-Cosmic Gutter Duster costs \$5 per child. No food is included.



Snack Bar

The Snack Bar serves lunch Monday thru Friday and is open 11:30 a.m. until the bowling center closes. Some menu favorites include burgers and subs, pizza, wings, French fries, nacho's with cheese, drinks and more.

