

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, April 27, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Library changes hours

The new library operating hours are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Monday thru Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and closed on Friday.

Concert tickets for early birds

Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Aberdeen Proving Ground present The 2005 Miller Lite Army Concert featuring Terri Clark, with special guests Chely Wright, Julie Roberts and Miranda Lambert Aug. 20 on Shine Sports Field. Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the show will start at 7 p.m.

A \$10 early bird ticket special for APG government ID cards holders only will be held April 27 through 29. These tickets are only available at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011. Purchasers must present ID at time of purchase.

The \$10 tickets will go on sale to the public April 30, first come, first served. There are only a limited number of tickets available at this special price. Tickets can be purchased at www.apgmwr.com, MWR Registration, Hoyle Fitness Center and Ticketmaster.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Warrant officer briefings tomorrow

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks.

The Department of the Army Warrant Officer Recruiting team will visit APG 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on April 22, in building 4305, room 243B, to give briefings on the Warrant Officer program for Soldiers, Sailors, Air Force and Marines with less than 12 years of active federal service, but all service members are encouraged to attend.

For more information, [See SHORTS, page 5](#)

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Page 2

Ordnance Corps inducts 80

Pages 3

ASAP offers advice to parents, teens

Pages 4

Community Notes

Pages 8

MWR

Pages 12

Health & Safety

Pages 13

Veterans Voices

Congressman gets first-hand look at OC&S

Story and photo by
Khaalid Walls
OC&S

A key member of the U.S. House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence visited the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools April 11 to get a better understanding of their role in sustaining the warfighter in the ongoing Global War on Terrorism.

A Democrat for Maryland's second district, Rep. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger was briefed by Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, chief of Ordnance and commander of OC&S, during the afternoon visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Before the briefing, Ruppertsberger accompanied Boles to one of the dining facilities to eat lunch with a group of Soldiers from Maryland.

Boles then gave the congressman, who was last here two years ago, an overview of the technical training and combat survivability instruction that Soldiers receive at OC&S.

Boles called Ordnance Corps' Soldiers "the Army's pit crew." Like a race car driver relies on their pit crew to ensure vehicle maintenance, continuity and vitality on the pavement, the Army similarly relies on ordnance Soldiers to



Sgt. 1st Class Robert Potter, left, demonstrates the seating arrangement and comforts of the Stryker Engineer Support Vehicle to Rep. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger during his April 11 visit to the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Downer Hall.

have the technical expertise to maintain a multitude of weapons and vehicles on the battlefield, Boles said.

Boles went on to specifically outline several significant

missions carried out by ordnance Soldiers in supporting the Army's continuing effort against terrorism. One such mission was the disposal of several caches of captured

enemy munitions found in Iraq. He also described new courses developed in response to the lessons learned from Operation Enduring Freedom

and Operation Iraqi Freedom such as the Improvised Explosive Device Tech Course and the Global Anti-Terrorism and Operation Readiness

[See OC&S, page 7](#)

APG gate construction begins May 1

DLES

Over the next several months, the Aberdeen Proving Ground gates will undergo significant construction that will affect traffic flow onto and off the installation.

"Military and civilian personnel working on APG and visitors should adjust their schedules to accommodate for possible delays," said Maj. Joseph Darabasz, chief of Police Services Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security.

Construction is scheduled to begin May 1 starting with the Edgewood, Wise Road (Route 755) gate. On May 1 the Wise Road gate will be closed.

"APG will balance closure of the Wise Road gate by opening the Edgewood, Magnolia gate," Darabasz

said.

The Magnolia gate hours and entry control will be identical to the Wise Road protocol--government ID only, no trucks or deliveries. The Magnolia gate hours will be 4 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday and closed on Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.

Visitors should continue to enter the Edgewood area of APG via the Route 24 gate, which will be operational 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Visitors will not be permitted to enter the Edgewood Area through the Magnolia gate unless accompanied by a government ID card holder.

No other gates will be affected during this period. However, the public will be notified when other gates on Aberdeen Proving Ground are scheduled for construction.

ABCDF team receives Engineering Excellence Award

CMA

The American Council of Engineering Companies awarded the prestigious Engineering Excellence Award to the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility workforce April 11 in recognition of the design, construction, testing and start up support of the ABCDF Ton Container Cleanout system.

The TCC is designed to access, clean, decontaminate and cut in half steel containers that once stored mustard agent.

The team of engineers

responsible for the design included government and government support personnel as well as the ABCDF systems contractor, Bechtel National Inc., and Bechtel subcontractor, Merrick and Company.

ABCDF Process Facilities Design Lead Robert Hessian (Shaw E&I) and Bechtel Senior Engineer Paul Matz accepted the prestigious award on behalf of the team at the "Academy Awards" of the engineering industry in Washington, D.C.

The TCC system uses high temperature water sprayed at

Company G, 16th deactivates Brigade assumes IRR mission

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

With the successful execution of its seven-month mission to process and retrain members of the Individual Ready Reserve activated for duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom completed, Company G, 16th Ordnance Battalion cased its colors during a deactivation ceremony at building 4218 April 14.

Lt. Col. Richard B. Parker, 16th Ordnance Battalion commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. William Hart presided over the ceremony.

Parker said that under the leadership of company commander Capt. Song Huynh and 1st Sgt. Darrick Preston, the unit accomplished a "highly successful operation."

He said that in recognition of their efforts a brief history on the mission of the unit would remain in Ordnance Corps history.

"I extend thanks to you on behalf of a grateful nation," Parker said. "Many thanks for a job well done."

Huynh thanked Parker, "for the opportunity to perform this unique mission."

He said that the unit



Lt. Col. Richard B. Parker, right, commander of the 16th Ordnance Battalion, holds the Company G, 16th Ordnance Battalion guidon steady as battalion Command Sgt. Maj. William L. Hart, left, rolls up the flag for casing during the unit's deactivation ceremony April 14.

trained just over 100 officers and noncommissioned officers called to active duty.

"They had to undergo training they had not had for

years," Huynh said, "and most were dedicated and knowledgeable."

He praised the unit's

[See COMPANY G, page 13](#)

high pressure to remove chemical agent residual solids from drained containers, then thoroughly decontaminates the containers.

"The [one-of-a-kind] system design concepts originated

[See ABCDF, page 3](#)



Engineers inspect Ton Container Cleanout system during system checkout.

Courtesy of ABCDF

DoD reports to Congress on environmental progress

DoD

The Department of Defense reported to Congress April 12 the progress it continues to make on the environmental stewardship of military lands and their assets. In its fiscal 2004 Defense Environmental Programs Annual Report, the department describes the status of its four major environmental management programs.

Conservation--Management of DoD's natural and cultural assets, including inventorying natural and cultural resources on military installations.

Last year, inventory for biological resources on military lands rose nearly 80 percent.

Environmental Restoration--Cleanup of military properties contaminat-

ed from past defense operations.

At the end of 2004, DoD had restored 61 percent of its installations and properties.

Compliance--Sustainment of operations in compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations to protect human health and the environment while ensuring America's defense readiness.

In the first half of calendar 2004, 94 percent of DoD's permitted waste water systems met regulatory standards for discharge levels.

Pollution Prevention--Reduction in use of hazardous materials and generation of solid and hazardous waste.

In 2004, the department diverted nearly 61 percent of its solid waste from entering disposal facilities, exceeding

[See ENVIRONMENT, page 7](#)

Ordnance Corps inducts 80 officers

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Eighty lieutenants from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Officer Basic Course received an official welcome into the Ordnance Corps during a regimental induction ceremony in the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum April 12.

Maj. George Davis, OBC course director, led the ceremony in which each lieutenant received an ordnance crest from Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, OC&S commander and the chief of Ordnance, then were congratulated by Col. Francis R. Merritt, commander of the 61st Ordnance Brigade, and Chief Warrant Officer 5 James Wynne, regimental warrant officer.

Davis told the members of OBC classes 503-05, 3-05 and 4-05 that upon the successful completion of their training they have reached "a very important milestone in your military career."

"Today, you will join generations of Ordnance Corps Soldiers who have borne the special trust and responsibility to provide the armament for peace," Davis said.

He led a recitation of the Ordnance Creed then read the corps history.

Boles congratulated each lieutenant personally. "Thank you for being a part of our Army," he told the officers.

He added that upon assuming the leadership of the corps last fall, he felt it important that new ordnance officers be formally inducted rather than simply being issued the insignia.

"I decided to make it an official function so they can understand the significance," Boles said. "When they are out there trying to get things done, they can reflect back on this ceremony as the starting point of their ordnance careers."

"It's really something to place that crest in their hand," he said.

After receiving their crests and congratulations from Boles, the students reformed in platoon formations of four squads. Then, members of the first and third squads executed an about-face to face their classmates, and all took turns pinning the crests to each other's jackets.

One of the 80, 1st Lt. Roloydin Chris A. Sergio, an international student from the Philippines, received a Certificate of Affiliation instead of the crest.

Along with several of the newly crested officers, Sergio agreed that the ceremony held special meaning.

"I'm glad to have experienced this place and to be a part of this ceremony with my friends," Sergio said. "They took me under their wings and helped me enjoy my time here."

"The ceremony was amazing," said 2nd Lt. James Gruber, a Virginia native headed to Fort Campbell, Ky. "The general is an amazing speaker. It felt very nice to have that crest put on."

"It made me feel more a part of the corps," added 2nd Lt. Jessica Rodriguez from the Texas National Guard.

2nd Lt. Terrance Green, a former enlisted Soldier with eight years in the Army, said that it was an honor to be crested by Boles.

"He's very busy and we really appreciated him taking the time to crest us," Green said.

Davis closed the ceremony with an official declaration, addressing them for the first time as Ordnance Corps Soldiers.

"Be it known that class 503-05, 3-05 and 4-05 have achieved the required professional standards necessary to become ordnance Soldiers and henceforth affiliated with the United States Army Ordnance Corps," Davis said.



Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles congratulates international student 1st Lt. Roloydin Chris A. Sergio during the regimental induction ceremony at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum April 12.

Soldiers get encouragement from 'the man upstairs' during prayer breakfast

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion couldn't ignore the inspirational message they received from 'the man upstairs' during the battalions quarterly prayer breakfast held at the Maryland Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges Armory March 28.

The 'man upstairs,' better known as Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and chief of Ordnance, delivered the morning message as hundreds of Advanced Individual Training students looked on over meals of eggs, bacon, sausage, waffles, hash browns, fresh fruit, milk, juices and coffee.

Lt. Col. Robert M. Pastorelli, battalion commander, welcomed the assembled Soldiers, officers, noncommissioned officers and guests.

He said that although the gathering may be a first for some, all could appreciate "the spirituality of us as we build together."

As directed by Boles, the Soldiers were served first. They passed through a serving line manned by company commanders and first sergeants that included Capt. Kevin Rinaldi and Hercules Murray, Headquarters and Headquarters Company; Capt. Andrew Goddard, and 1st Sgt. Jlee Gross, Company A, 143rd; Capt. Jaimie Dejuyst and 1st Sgt. Danny George, Company B, 143rd; and Capt. Anthony Posy and 1st Sgt. Stanley Watts, Company C, 143rd.

Along with breakfast plates, 1st Lt. Morris Brown, Company B, 143rd executive officer, handed out 'food' for thought as he moved up and down the chow line spreading words of cheer.

With every "thank you, sir," he received, Brown responded with a "No. Thank you, Soldier."

"Thank you is a term they don't hear too often," Brown said about the troops. "Sometimes they get nervous around officers and NCOs. It's just a way to make them feel more comfortable and at ease."

After the meal, Boles walked among his Soldiers as he shared words of wisdom and encouragement. He said that with so much going on in the world and with the nation at war, it still was important for Soldiers to pause for events such as this.

"How many would say the Army you're in is different from the one the recruiter described," Boles asked, and then smiled at the large show of hands.

He shared the story of his mother, an Irish immigrant who once listened quietly while he complained about several problems he was having after she had called to ask how he was doing.

"She always had a feeling when to call," Boles said, "and when I was done she asked me, 'Are you gonna pray?'"

"Because if you're gonna worry, don't pray, but if you're gonna pray, don't worry."

Smiling, he told the Soldiers. "I've learned since then that God only asks of you the strength that you possess," adding that "praying is what every Soldier does each time

they reach out to a buddy."

"It doesn't take long to learn that you can't do this on your own," he said.

He encouraged the Soldiers to support and look out for

each other as they depart Aberdeen Proving Ground for points unknown.

"Thank you for what you do for this battalion and thank you for what you're going to

do for this nation," Boles said.

"And remember, If you're gonna worry..."

"Don't pray," the battalion shouted in response.

See COURAGE, page 3



Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, chief of Ordnance and commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, delivers the morning message to the Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion during a prayer breakfast in the Maryland Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges Armory March 28.

The Ordnance Corps Regimental Prayer

E.C. Starnes
OC&S

Our Father, we pray for the strength of mind, heart and body to continue to serve our Army and our nation. Help us remember and emulate the heritage of excellence set by those who established, nurtured and led the Ordnance Corps before us. May the shell and flame continue to light the way toward selfless service, dedicated professionalism and passionate patriotism as we support our nation's role as a leading force toward peace and liberty in the world.

Oh Lord, we ask that you provide us the wisdom to continually take charge of change and shape the Ordnance Corps to provide service to the line, on the line, on time. Guide us as we seek to establish our own heritage of courage and honor through our daily duties. Give us the strength to accept our responsibility to our fellow Soldiers as we seek to fix and arm the force.

Oh God of our Fathers, bless our efforts to provide the "Armament for Peace" and protect us if we must answer the call to arms to defend our faith, our liberty and our freedom. Teach us not to mourn those who have died in the service of the Corps, but rather to gain strength from the fact that such heroes have lived. Teach us to stand together in your name so that we may remain strong and that the Ordnance Corps shall remain the architect of readiness for our Army and our nation.

Amen.

APG News

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Staff

APG Commander Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau
Public Affairs Officer George P. Mercer
Editor Debi Horne
Editorial Assistant Marguerite Towson
Contract Photojournalists Yvonne Johnson
..... Vacant
Graphic Designer/Web Designer Blake Voshell
Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil



Educating parents, teens about drinking, drug use

Parlay International

Most parents are concerned about how their children will deal with alcohol and other drugs.

Some parents believe that it is less dangerous for their children to use alcohol. The truth is, alcohol is a drug and it is the drug of choice for most teens.

Parents educating themselves about drinking and drug use will help their teens cope wisely with decisions about drug use.

Why teens use drugs

Teenagers use drugs for many reasons, but their first notions about it may come from the behavior of their own family.

To help prevent teenage drug abuse, parents need to provide teens with plenty of love, good communication and calm, consistent standards about drug and alcohol use.

Even then, teens feel pressure to fit in with their peers. They may be influenced by stories that make it seem like “everyone drinks or takes other drugs.”

Adolescence is often a confusing time. Some teens use drugs in order to escape from unpleasant emotions or feel more confident – particularly if they often feel shy or insecure about how they look and act.

Symptoms parents should watch for

If a parent believes their teenager is using drugs, here are some symptoms to watch for.

- Discipline problems, constant arguing, lying and irresponsibility.
- Isolation, secrecy and less involvement in family activities.

- New interests or friends, especially older friends.
- Bad grades or poor school attendance.
- Hyperactivity, drowsiness or forgetfulness.
- Depression or mood swings.
- Change in speaking patterns.
- Weight gain or loss, junk-food cravings.
- Bloodshot eyes, use of eyedrops or incense, runny nose or coughing.
- Odd small containers in pockets or purse.
- Money problems.
- Alcohol, drugs or possessions disappearing from the house.
- Drug paraphernalia, such as pipes, papers and razor blades.
- Needle marks.
- Tremors.
- Hallucinations or delusions.

What parents can do

Some steps parents can take if they believe their teenager has a drug or drinking problem include:

- Learn more about alcohol, other drugs and dependency.
- Find out about drug treatment programs available to teens and families.
- At a time when parents can remain calm, and their teen is sober, talk calmly and honestly about the changes parents see and about the harmful consequences of drug abuse. Parents and teens should talk about seeking treatment together.
- Parents should take care of themselves. They need to get plenty of rest, eat properly and exercise.
- Talk with other parents and join a support.

ABCDF

From front page

during research and development testing conducted at Aberdeen Proving Ground under the Army’s Alternative Technologies and Approaches Project,” Hessian said.

“Merrick developed innovative design solutions for

each of the process stations to meet the challenging conditions and satisfy safe handling requirements from remotely operated stations,” said Bechtel Aberdeen Project Manager Mark Seely.

“The design had to further withstand the scrutiny of design reviews by a number of government entities as well as

project engineering, safety, environmental and operational staff,” said ABCDF Site Project Manager Joseph Lovrich.

ABCDF technicians began TCC operations in early January 2005.

To date, workers have successfully cleaned and shipped to an off site facility for recy-

cling more than 75 containers.

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.

For more information, visit www.cma.army.mil.

Company G

From front page

cadre, who also consisted of mobilized Soldiers and three civilians assigned to the unit.

Capt. Ilya Dashevsky, commander Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, assumes the IRR mission. He said that three cadre members would remain, performing the same jobs.

“My intent is to leave as much as possible in place,” Dashevsky said. “The cadre

has invaluable experience we will need to continue this mission.”

The Company G, 16th cadre included Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Forbis, operations NCO; Staff Sgt. Nerzhin Santiago, training NCO; and Staff Sgts. Stacy Ruggiero, Antonio Castillo, Anthony Manske and Nathan Staff, platoon sergeants; Kenneth Telsee, office administrator; Rowena Jacobs, supply clerk, and Kristine Rivera, administrative clerk.

Staff said the mission was “challenging from the begin-

ning.”

“We had to organize the policies and procedures as well as conduct three weeks of training,” he said.

“Our being activated Soldiers away from our families helped us relate to those assigned here,” Santiago added.

Telsee, a retired first sergeant, is one of three who will remain with the mission. He said it was exciting to be a part of returning Soldiers to active duty.

“Being former Soldiers, we were able to communicate bet-

ter and keep them motivated,” he said, noting that those who moved on from APG were headed for assignments in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“That made their training all the more important,” he said. “They left here knowing that what they were called to do had a cause and a purpose.”

Courage

From front page

“And if you’re gonna pray...’
“Don’t worry!”

As the entire battalion stood and applauded, Pastorelli presented Boles with a battalion T-shirt and plaque.

“We hold [prayer breakfasts] to promote spirituality, a sense of togetherness and teamwork,” Pastorelli said, adding that various topics “soothe anxieties before moving on to their next units.”

Capt. Anthony Taylor, battalion chaplain, offered the invocation and closing prayer and Spc. Christopher M. Churilla, chaplain assistant, gave a scripture reading. Taylor said that attendance to the breakfasts is not mandatory and Soldiers can opt for physical training instead.

“This builds esprit de corps, and the chapel unit ministry team offers events they usually respond well to,” Taylor said. “We offer them things to think about like the commander did during his talk. He talked about ‘mom.’ That’s something we can all relate to.”

Invited guests to the breakfast included Elder Stan Gordon, Winona Gordon and Ellis Bailey of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Walt Cronin, director of the Military Christian Center in Aberdeen; and Ron Pennington of Grace Assembly Church in Churchville.

Pastorelli said that the guests work closely with the Soldiers of the battalion. From the Gordons who hold services at both post chapels, to the Military Christian Center Aberdeen Hospitality House, which offers Soldiers hot meals, overnight accommodations and transportation to area attractions, to the Grace Assembly which provides transportation to and from its services.

“We love having the Soldiers around us. They are an inspiration,” Pennington said.

Cronin said the hospitality house has been in operation for 53 years.

“As a young Soldier in the 1950s, I used the same center,” Cronin said. “It’ll be there as long as it’s needed.”

Community Notes

SATURDAY APRIL 23 BULL ROAST

The Pilottown Rod and Gun Club, located on Belle Manor Road, Conowingo, will hold a bull roast, 1 to 5 p.m., to benefit the Rod and Gun Club. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-378-2221, or Pat Job, 410-658-5628.

Tickets cost \$15 per adult; cost for children ages 6 through 12 is \$7; children under 6 years of age eat free. Tickets are available at the door. Music, games, food, cake walk and more will be available.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Port Deposit Heritage Corporation will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards. Food, beverages, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will

be available. No smoking is allowed.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332 or Joanne Bierly, 410-378-3320.

MCSC CAR WASH

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will hold a car wash from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Aberdeen AutoZone on Route 40 (Rain date is April 30 at the Edgewood AutoZone on Route 40). This is MCSCs last fundraiser of the year. All proceeds will benefit APG and the surrounding community.

SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION (SAV) HUNT

Ever wonder why some grass grows underwater? Join The Estuary Center for canoeing and underwater grass exploration 1 to 5 p.m. This free event is for ages 12 and older. Youths 12 to 16

must be accompanied by an adult.

Learn how to identify different plants, why they are an important resource to the Bay and what plants grow in the area.

For information, directions, or to make a reservation (required), call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, x1688.

TUESDAY APRIL 26 FREE HOME BUYING SEMINAR

Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union is offering A Home Buying Seminar 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the APGFCU Operations Center in Edgewood, 1321 Pulaski Highway.

Guest speaker Cathy Werner of RE/MAX American Dream will cover topics such as market analysis, qualifying for a mortgage, selecting the right loan program, what a buyer wants vs. what the buyer can afford, negotiating and home inspections.

To reserve a space, call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555, ext. 5451. Open to the public.

THURSDAY APRIL 28 FREE HOME SELLING SEMINAR

Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union is offering A Home Selling Seminar 6 to 8 p.m. at the APGFCU

Operations Center in Edgewood, 1321 Pulaski Highway.

Guest speakers Cathy Werner of RE/MAX American Dream and Robert Brendel of Stonegate Title will cover topics such as market analysis, costs of selling, for sale by owner, negotiating and home inspections.

To reserve a space, call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555, ext. 5451. Open to the public.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Cecil County ladies Auxiliary to the Fireman's Association will be held 7 p.m. at the North East Fire Hall, North East. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards. Food, baked goods, door prizes, raffles and beverages will be available. No smoking is permitted.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, Linda Slicer, 410-287-9672 or Nora Ryan, 410-642-6440.

FRIDAY MAY 6 REGISTRATION FOR PRE-K/K

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold its annual pre-kindergarten/kindergarten registration for the 2005 to 2006 school year, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parents are reminded that Roye-Williams has a full-day kindergarten. Kindergarten registration packets may be

picked up at the school beginning April 18 for completion and returned on registration day for children who will be five years of age as of Sept. 30, 2005.

Pre-kindergarten registration packets may be picked up after 9 a.m. on May 6 for children who will be four years of age as of Sept. 1, 2005.

When application forms are received, they will be checked for completeness and stamped with the date/time they were received. Parents who register their child for pre-kindergarten prior to June 16 will be notified prior to June 30 of their child's acceptance/non-acceptance into the program.

Parents are requested to bring their child's birth certificate or verification of birth, Social Security card and all immunization records. The school also requires proof of residency, which can be in the form of a property tax bill, rental lease, or utility bill (dated within the last two months prior to registration), which contains the parents' name and address. Parents must also bring a copy of their 2004 Federal Income Tax Return.

SATURDAY MAY 7 TURKEY SUPPER

The Pilottown Rod and Gun Club, located on Belle Manor Road, Conowingo, will hold a turkey supper, 1 to 5 p.m., to benefit the Rod and Gun Club. Tickets cost \$9 per per-

son for a family-style dinner – eat-in or carryout.

Children under 6 years of age eat free. Tickets are available at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-378-2221, or Pat Job, 410-658-5628 or 410-378-0096.

TUESDAY MAY 10 BENEFIT CONCERT FOR TSUNAMI VIC- TIMS

The North Harford High School Choral Program will stage a benefit concert at 7 p.m.

"Out of the Deep--A Prayer for the Children" will be performed by the North Harford High School choirs at Kennard-Dale High School in Fawn Grove, Pa.

Proceeds will go to the Samaritan Children's Home in Sri Lanka which was devastated by the tsunami last year.

Guest conductor will be Paul Head from the University of Delaware.

The NHHS choirs are under the direction of former Harford Teacher of the Year Martha Banghart.

Businesses or individuals may participate by purchasing sponsorships. Individuals or groups can buy tickets at \$10, \$15 or \$20.

For more information or to purchase tickets/become a sponsor, call Benefit Concert Chairperson Mimi Hatch at 410-692-2465; or visit www.northharfordchoralarts.com.

The concert has also been dedicated to the memory of Judith Famous, former Harford elementary instrumental music teacher, who passed away earlier this year.

MAY 12, 13, 14 32ND ANNUAL EAST COAST RALLY

The Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Trust (WAC/BGMVT) will host the 32nd Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ripken Stadium. Cost of admission is \$6 per person; a three-day pass costs \$15 per person.

Free admission with proper ID will be offered for children 12 years and under; and military, law enforcement, and fire fighters with valid ID card.

Proceeds from the event to benefit several military museums, war memorials, non-profit charitable and civic organizations.

For more information, e-mail Tom Buonaugurio at william.buonaugurio@dtc.army.mil.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.

THE RING 2

Friday, April 22, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 23, 9 p.m.

Starring: Naomi Watts, David Dorfman

Rachel Keller (Watts) moves to a small Oregon town with her son, Aidan, to start a new life. When a few locals are killed and a strange videotape reappears, Rachel begins to realize that trouble has followed her from Seattle. (Rated PG-13)

ICE PRINCESS

Saturday, April 23, 7 p.m.

Joan Cusack, Kim Cattrall, Michelle Trachtenberg

Casey, a brainy high-school girl (Trachtenberg), goes against the wishes of her domineering mother (Cusack) when she decides to pursue her dream of becoming a figure-skating champion. Casey teams with a new coach, Tina

(Cattrall), a former skater who's since fallen from grace. (Rated G)

AAFES PRE-SCREENING

HOUSE OF WAX (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, April 30, 7 p.m.

Starring: Elisha Cuthbert, Chad Michael Murray, Paris Hilton

House of Wax is a remake based on the 1953 horror classic. A group of friends on their way to a college football game falls prey to a pair of murderous brothers in an abandoned small town. They discover that the brothers have expanded upon the area's main attraction – the House of Wax, and created an entire town filled with the wax-coated corpses of unlucky visitors. Now the group must find a way out before they too become permanent exhibits in the House of Wax. (Rated R)

Post Shorts

call Master Sgt. Elijah Mobley at 410-306-2054.

KUSAHC holds daytime Tobacco Cessation Classes

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is offering daytime tobacco cessation classes for four consecutive Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. beginning in May. 4. Pre-registration is required.

All TRICARE PRIME beneficiaries are invited to attend.

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

Sewage overflow restricts water exposure

Heavy rains in early April caused sanitary sewer overflows in the Swan Creek Basin and Spesutie Narrows areas.

The City of Aberdeen has posted "No Water Contact" signs in these areas until early May. Any water contact activity should be avoided.

For more information, call Dennis Overbay, 410-306-1844.

New program seeks support

APG's Minority College Relations Program is currently seeking tenant activities to open their doors to college students seeking mentors, individuals/group research projects and internship opportunities, to complete degrees in human resources management, mathematics, and sciences and engineering. For more information call the MCRP manager at 410-278-1131 or email the Minority College Relations Team at APG-MCRT@apgarmy.mil.

Submitting Hometown News

Telling a story is the main purpose of the Hometown News Program. The program informs the public of activities and accomplishments of Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians and helps project a positive image of the Army.

In addition, relatives and friends get to share the pride of the accomplishments when a Hometown News Release appears in local newspapers.

For more information about the Hometown News Program, call 410-278-1151.

USAWOA meetings scheduled

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association meets on the third Thursday of the month at noon in the Warrant Officer Hut located on School Street.

For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pete Hill, 410-278-4195.

2005 Army Birthday Ball announced

Celebrate the Army's 230th birthday in a memorable evening of dinner, entertainment and dancing at the 2005 Army Birthday Ball, 5:30 p.m., June 18, at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The evening will honor the history and heritage of those who have come before and answered the call to duty for 230 years.

All U.S. Army Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians, contractors, retirees, veterans and their guests are invited.

Tickets cost \$60 each and include dinner and entertainment. A limited number of discounted tickets at \$20 each will be available for Army Staff Sergeants and GS-7 civilians and below.

Free parking will be available at the Pentagon South Parking lot, and shuttle service will transport guests to the hotel. Parking will also be available at the Hilton, but spaces are limited. Commercial parking is available at other facilities in the area.

Guests will be required to check in for the ball either at the Pentagon or the hotel with government issued photo identification, such as a military I.D. card or a driver's license.

For more information or to register, visit Army Knowledge Online at www.us.army.mil and follow the link to the ball. Seats are limited.

ACS sponsors "Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child"

The Exceptional Family Member Program is sponsoring "Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child," a class that will focus on parents who have children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m., May 18, at Army Community Service, building 2754. The training will educate parents on ADHD, behavior modification and child training techniques.

Free childcare is available, but arrangements must be made in advance. Participants must register by May 13. To register, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-2420.

Office Eagle holds customer appreciation days

The Office Eagle Base Supply Centers will hold customer appreciation days 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 19 in building 320 and May 20, 3007 Bush River Road.

Free food, product presentations and an opportunity for

the staff to thank its patrons are part of the activities.

For more information, e-mail ralonso@bism.org.

Vacancy for Youth Supervisor at ChalleNGe Academy

The National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy is currently accepting applications for a youth supervisor with a starting hourly salary of \$11.73. The position offers a challenging career working with teens between the ages of 16 and 18. Position is currently contractual, full or part time, but can lead to a permanent state position. Anyone interested should call 410-306-1839 or 410-306-1801.

EEO Office Showcases new Web site

The Installation EEO Office will activate its new Web site May 1. The site contains its strategic plan, EEO related policies, and in-depth complaint processing procedures with timeline.

The site also provides links to the Outreach and Special Emphasis Programs, Military EO Program, and DA EEO and Civil Rights Office.

Visit the site either through the Garrison Installation Support Offices link or the APG web site, <http://www.apg.army.mil>.

Dental coverage update for Reserve retirees

Reservists who retire from the services are able to waive a standing one-year waiting period for certain dental services due to a new TRICARE rule.

Previously, reserve retirees had to be enrolled for 12 months before being covered for bridges, dentures and certain other dental services.

According to the new TRICARE ruling, as long as a reservist joins the Delta Dental plan within 120 days of his or

her retirement date, and provides a copy of their retirement orders, they can request the one-year waiting period be waived.

More information can be found at <http://www.trdp.org> or 1-866-567-1658.

RAB meeting scheduled

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., April 28, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the J-Field and Canal Creek Study Areas.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

Commentaries Book review

Military Innovation in the Interwar Period

John Brand
ARL

This book is a collection of ten superb essays on military innovation. Seven deal with how the military and political establishments of the major powers coped with or embraced the changes in military technology and doctrine in the period between World Wars I and II. Three of the essays extend beyond that to innovation in general, including peacetime and past and future patterns of change.

The book is a must-read for the military professional, especially one working in the current environment of change driven by so many agendas:

domestic political gains, change driven by the enormous growth in capability in basic technologies, by domestic activists with an international agenda, and so on. Much of this has been seen before and the experience of the past applies now.

The essays concentrate for the most part on specific technologies: armor, radar, the aircraft carrier, attack aviation, etc. The relevant experience of each of the major powers is outlined and contrasted with the others. Thus, in the case of armor doctrine and materiel development we were the dead hand of the social side of the British Army regimental sys-

tem effectively stifling progress in spite of the fact that blitzkrieg was in a sense invented by a Brit, J. F. C. Fuller in his Plan 1919, and in spite of the brilliant field experiments on the Salisbury Plain. The military and political system of the French is explicitly shown to be strictly CYA and careerist, with the usual disastrous effects.

The Germans as everyone knows, proceeded on the basis of rigorous intellectual honesty in the developmental stages, until the Party finally intervened.

The essays dealing with the other technical areas are equally brilliant. The usual warn-

ings can be extracted:

Beware of doctrine running roughshod over facts (Who needs escort fighters; the bomber will always get through! Convoys? Who needs them? Submarines? Un-British! and so on).

Conversely, without a clear picture of where you want to go, you may very well get an inadequate capability (British carrier aviation vs. the United States and Imperial Japan, in spite of the fact that the British invented carrier aviation in World War I).

Beware of social strangulation of initiative--the British upper class stratification and regimental system, the French strangulation by virulent careerism. Beware of technical over-reach--the German advance submarines at the end of World War II--and so on.

These cautionary tales are especially important in a service being driven to a new form in doctrine and materiel, as ours is right now.

This book is not light reading. It is a scholarly work, very dense and loaded with documentation so that, if you disagree with assertion, you can look it up and make up your own mind. If, as it is said, amateurs study tactics and professionals study logistics, then the true professional studies the underlying bones and sinews of the fighting organizational system. This includes its sociology and its institutional logic, and how people think and behave as they move their services and their nation into an uncertain and dangerous future.

This book is a good map of how it has been done before, badly as well as successfully. It is available at the OC&S library.

(Editor's note: This book was edited by Williamson Murray and Allan R. Millett, Cambridge University Press: (1966.)

Environment

From front page

one year early the 2005 goal of 40 percent.

"The defense environmental programs are well estab-

lished and succeeding in reaching our environmental priorities," said Alex Beehler, assistant deputy under secretary of defense for environment, safety, and occupational health. "We will continue to meet the environmental chal-

lenges ahead and demonstrate progress with increasing transparency."

The fiscal 2004 Defense Environmental Programs Annual Report to Congress is available at <http://www.denix.osd.mil/DEP2004>.



Channel 21 features Pentagon channel programming

The Pentagon Channel will feature the following programs on Channel 21. These programs are subject to change each week and will be updated accordingly.

Monday

Studio Five, 9 a.m., 3:30 and 9 p.m.
The American Veteran, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Tuesday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Your Corps, 10:30 a.m.
Studio Five, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 7 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Studio Five, 9 a.m., 3 and 9 p.m.
The American Veteran, 1 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 9:30 a.m., 4 p.m.
Your Corps, 5 p.m.

Thursday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 p.m.
Studio Five, 7 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
Navy/Marine Corps News, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Friday

Around the Services, 5:30 and 8 a.m., noon, 5:30 and 8 p.m.
Studio Five, 7 and 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 3 p.m.
Your Corps, 4 p.m.

Saturday

Your Corps, 4 a.m.
Around the Services, 5:30 a.m.
Battleground, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 7:30 a.m.
Your Corps, 1:30 p.m.
Opportunity Showcase, 3 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 5:30 p.m.
The American Veteran, 6:30 p.m.
Studio Five, 8 p.m.

Sunday

Army Newswatch, 5:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Battleground, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Freedom Journal Iraq/Air Force Prime Time, 10:30 a.m.
Your Corps, 11 a.m.
Army Newswatch, noon
Navy/Marine Corps News, 3 p.m.

Army Newswatch – Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army

Around the Services – From the Pentagon Channel NewsCenter, daily half-hour program featuring military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world

Studio Five – A conversation with the military: Weekly interviews of Defense Department about today's top issues

Your Corps – Monthly view of the men and women of the Marine Corps

Freedom Journal Iraq – A daily news program produced by American Forces Network Iraq. The program focuses on military missions, operations and U.S. military forces in Iraq

Air Force Prime Time - A weekly topical news program covering Air Force events and people for all of Europe, Southwest Asia and Africa. Produced by the Air Force Broadcasting Service, Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany

Opportunity Showcase - A monthly program dealing with a variety of subjects that benefit small business owners, transitioning military members and other subjects of opportunity-produced by the United States Air Force

The American Veteran - A half-hour video news magazine designed to inform veterans, their families and their communities about the services and benefits they have earned through their service to America and to recognize and honor that service

Battleground - Every weekend, this series features historic films from World War II, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. A Pentagon Channel Original Series

OC&S

From front page

Course, where students go through intense classroom and range training, which provide them with the skills necessary for deployment.

Col. Francis Merritt, commander, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School and 61st Ordnance Brigade, then briefed Ruppertsberger before he visited Downer Hall to learn about Stryker maintenance.

Merritt explained the OMMS mission, structure and student strength. He also gave a thorough breakdown of a typical AIT training day, which illustrated the rigorous discipline ordnance Soldiers receive in addition to their military occupational specialty training.

After arriving at Downer Hall, Ruppertsberger was led by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Potter in an overview of the maintenance training that Soldiers receive on the

19-ton, eight wheeled Stryker Engineer Support Vehicle.

Potter described the vehicle's lane marking system and mine detection devices, along with its other capabilities. He also described the unique capabilities of the Forward Repair System, which is essentially an entire repair garage in one highly-mobile unit.

After his visit, the congressman said he appreciated being able to see the work of the individuals who are behind the scenes.

"Most people only see the Soldiers who are fighting on the frontlines," Ruppertsberger said. "It is equally important to recognize and honor the Soldiers who support the warfighter."

Boles thanked Ruppertsberger for his visit and presented him with a Chief of Ordnance coin.

(Editor's note: Khaalid Walls, a recent graduate of the Department of the Army Intern Program, reported to OC&S April 4 as the public affairs officer.)



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Lunch options on APG



AA Recreation Center Snack Bar

Building 3326
Serves lunch Monday thru Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-2621.

Ruggles Golf Course

Sutherland Golf Clubhouse
Building 5600
Lunch is served Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday thru Sunday, 7 a.m. to dusk.
For more information, call 410-278-7263.

Top of the Bay

Building 30
Lunch is served Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-3062.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar

Building 2342
Specials for April 25 through 29
Grilled cheese with bacon, fries, drink, \$4.35
OR
Wing Dings or Wing Zings, fries, coleslaw, soda, \$7.25
For more information, call 410-278-4041.



Activities

Operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center is open from 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 that is a training holiday, the office will be open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Thursday prior.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Spring tune up time

Come to the Automotive Craft Center, building 2379, and get that vehicle ready for spring and summer. Tune the vehicle, change the anti-freeze, change the oil and rotate the tires; the Automotive Craft Center has the space available.

Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

For more information contact Ed Dela Cruz, 410-278-5178 or e-mail ed.delacruz@usag.apg.army.mil.

Pass, Punt and Kick Link Up 2 Golf

This class begins April 22, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Course.

Cost is \$99 for E1 through E5, \$109 for authorized players and \$129 for the public. Fee includes 7-hours of instruction time, 3-hours on-course playing experiences with instructor (1 to 4 holes each time), rental club usage (if needed), greens fees and cart fees during on-course playing sessions, and 15 free buckets of range balls for outside practice on the driving range.

For more information or to register, call Ruggles Golf Course at 410-278-4794 or MWR Registration at 410-278-4907 or visit mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

British Soccer Camp

This camp begins the first week of August, with a mini soccer camp 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and a half day camp 10:10 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. at the Youth Soccer Field.

Cost is \$69 for Mini Soccer and \$98 for half-day camp. Fun games, competitions and challenging skill-building activities will captivate and enlighten young players.

Register early and receive a free jersey. All participants

will receive a T-shirt and soccer ball.

During the half day camp (for ages 6 to 17) players will be taught technical instruction in all areas of the game. Emphasis is placed upon individual skill development and fundamental tactical awareness through the coaching mix of maximum participation, progressive practices and small-sided games.

Registration runs through July 15 at CYS Central Registration, 410-278-7571/7479 or Edgewood Youth Services, 410-436-2862.

Bowling specials

Customer Appreciation Day will be 6 p.m. to closing, April 27. Games cost \$1 each or \$7 per hour per lane. Shoe rental is \$1. Cosmic Rent-A-Lane is 6 p.m. to closing, April 30. Rent a lane for \$12 per lane per hour.

Racquetball Tournament

This round robin competition will be held 6 to 11 p.m., May 5 at the APG Athletic Center. There will be a male and female advanced, intermediate, beginner and novice categories. Trophies will be awarded to the top three competitors in each category based on a win-loss percentage. No one will be allowed to enter more than one division. Cost is \$10. Register by May 3.

APG Talent Search

APG MWR is hosting a talent show 7:30 p.m., June 4, at the APG Post Theater. Admission is \$3 for active duty and \$5 for all others.

Tryouts will be held at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 3 p.m., May 7, and the Edgewood Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140, at 2 p.m., May 8. Register by April 29, at MWR Registration, building 3326, or call 410-278-4907/4011.

Prizes will be given to 1st place winners in all categories and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the overall talent search.

Talent categories are vocal soloist male/female, instrumental soloist, rap male/female, spoken word male/female, vocal group (max of 5 people), vocal instrumental (maximum of 10 people), dance and comedian.

Harlem experience

Visit historical Harlem, New York, June 11. Experience the history and

renaissance of Harlem, beginning with lunch at Sylvia's Restaurant, the Queen of Soulfood, then travel back in time with a tour of the Apollo Theater and the Cotton Club. There will be plenty of time to shop.

The bus will depart 7:30 a.m. and return at 10 p.m. Cost is \$80. Register by April 29.

McDonald's LPGA tickets

MWR has tickets to see the McDonald's LPGA Championship Tournament June 9 through 12 at the Congressional Country Club in Potomac, Md. Cost is \$8 for general admission, \$30 for Season Badges (daily admission and transportation to and from designated parking areas) and \$60 for Hall of Fame Badges (VIP Hospitality facility). Reserve tickets by May 20.

Youth Tennis

The Youth Tennis program teaches the fundamentals of tennis including skills, rules and strategies. The program will have a tournament and skills competitions throughout. The program will be held Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., June 22 to Aug. 3, at the CRD Tennis Courts.

Cost is \$40 per child. Registration will be held May 2 to 20 at CYS Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479, or the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902, 410-436-2862, by appointment only.

Junior golf

Junior golf teaches the fundamentals of golf including chipping, putting, driving, sand play, iron play and course management. The rules of the game and proper golf etiquette will also be taught.

The program will have a tournament and skills competitions throughout. Aberdeen Youth Services will hold Junior Golf on Tuesday and Thursday, June 21 to Aug. 4, at Ruggles Golf Course and Edgewood Youth Services will hold Junior Golf on Monday and Friday, June 20 to Aug 5 at Exton Golf Course. Times will be 8 a.m. for ages 7 through 9, 9 a.m. for ages 10 and 11, and 10 a.m. for ages 12 to 17. Cost is \$65. Register May 2 through 20 at CYS Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479, or the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902, 410-436-2862, by appointment only.

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

Learn to play chess

Youth Services offers free chess classes for APG students in 3rd grade or higher at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, and Edgewood Youth Center, building E-1902.

Classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., Mondays, for students 6th grade and higher and for 3rd through 5th graders. Classes will be held at the Edgewood Youth Center 4:30 to 5:15 p.m., Wednesdays for students 3rd grade and higher. Instructional booklets and chess sets are available to all participating students. Round robin tournaments will also be conducted. Sign up with Charles Heinsohn at the times stated above, or call him at 410-278-3868.

Driver Education Classes scheduled

Youth Services will present state certified Driver's Education classes 30 hours of instruction each and will begin on a Wednesday and end on Tuesday of the second week. There will be no classes on holidays. Parents and students must attend the first hour of class together (April 27 and 30, May 11 and 25, etc.) to review rules and procedures.

Building 2752, Rodman Road, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.

May 11 through 24
June 8 through 21
July 13 through 26
Aug. 10 through 23
Sept. 14 through 27
Oct. 12 through 25
Nov. 9 through 22

Conference Center, building E-4811, 6 to 9:15 p.m.

April 27 through May 10
May 25 through June 7
June 27 through July 12 (closed July 1 through 4)
July 27 through Aug. 9
Aug. 24 through Sept. 8
Sept. 28 through Oct. 11
Oct. 26 through Nov. 8
Nov. 28 through Dec. 9

Saturday classes, Conference Center, building E-4811, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

April 30 through May 28
June 4 through July 9
July 16 through Aug. 13
Aug. 20 through Sept. 24
Oct. 1 through 29
Nov. 5 through Dec. 3

Students should bring their lunch to classes on Saturdays April 30 through May 28.

The cost is \$295 plus \$18 registration/membership fee for teens or family members 15 years of age or older, of military, retired, DoD (and DA) personnel and contractors who work at APG per student. Adults may also register on a case-by-case basis.

Registration will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, room 110, building 2752. A minimum class size of three students is required, 21 students maximum.

To make an appointment to register and pay the fee, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571 or Pat Palazzi at 410-278-7479.

For more information about the Teen Driver Education program, call Greg Williams, Rules Driving School, Inc., at 410-939-7008 or 937-2184, or Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

Join the boat club

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity is accepting applications for the 2005 season. Membership is open to active duty military, full time Army National Guard, retired military, APG DoD/Nonappropriated Fund civilian employees, retired APG DA civilians, and long-term contractors with government ID card.

Membership requirements include performance of 10 hours of work and standing assigned security watches. Members must provide proof of identification, boat registration and liability insurance.

Costs are:
• \$20 per foot for a moored boat with parking lot space for trailers
• \$11.50 per foot for moored boat only
• \$8.50 per foot for a boat on a trailer in a parking lot space
• \$8 per foot for ramp access only

Applications can be picked up at the SIBA Club house, building 36 or at Outdoor Recreation.

Opening for the season on April 9. This is a designated work day for members.

For more information, call 410-278-4124.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Library changes hours

The new library operating hours are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Monday thru Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and closed on Friday.

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.

Women's Golf league registration

The Women's Golf League will hold weekly gatherings, tee times 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., May 5 through Sept. 29 at Ruggles Golf Course.

The registration fee costs \$10 plus weekly greens fees.

There will be set groups for individuals not

having a foursome. It's just for fun, no competition involved. All skill levels are welcome.

Register by May 5 at MWR Registration or Ruggles Golf Course, 5600 block, 410-278-4794.

2005 Tee Time Golf Pass now on sale

The 2005 Tee Time Golf Pass, on sale at Ruggles Golf Course for \$45, offers discounts at 362 courses in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Tee Time members pay only the cart fee at these courses. More than 210 courses offer either one free play with one paid or discounted player's fee. Tee Time members save from \$10 to \$40 each time they tee it up. Almost 150 courses offer free green fees in 2005.

More than 50 courses on the pass are within an hour's drive of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Tee Time Golf Pass retails for \$50.

For golfers who like to travel, the addition of courses in Williamsburg and Atlantic City is welcome news. Mays Landing, Harbor Pines, McCullough's Emerald Isle, and Twisted Dunes in Atlantic County join The Links at Brigantine and Cape May National in offering superior

discounts on the Jersey Shore.

Two nationally acclaimed venues in Williamsburg, The Tradition at Royal New Kent and The Tradition at Stonehouse, were added to an already strong line-up of layouts in Tidewater, Va.

More than a dozen quality layouts in the Ocean City, Md., area are included. Pinehurst and Myrtle Beach are two other destinations featuring courses in 2005.

Sign up for swimming at APG

Swimming lessons

The cost is \$35 per person and 10 percent off for additional family members. Each class consists of 10 lessons conducted Monday - Friday, at the Shore Pool, building 2031, and Bayside Pool, building E-4654. Lessons will be 45 minutes of instruction, 10 minutes of practice time, and 5 minutes to clear the pool.

Youths

July 11 through 22
10 to 11 a.m. - Level I, 3 to 15 year olds
9 to 10 a.m. - Level II and III, 3 to 15 year olds
8 to 9 a.m. - Level IV, V and VI, 3 - 15 year olds

Adult Lessons

Aug. 1 to 12
7 to 8 p.m. - 16 years old and older
All swimmers need to bring Red Cross Card upon signup to determine their level of certification. Each class is limited to the first 21 participants.

Register at the Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center (building 2407; 410-278-4124) or Hoyle Fitness Center (building E-4210; 410-436-7134).

Active military priority registration will run May 2 through 31. Registration for all other eligible personnel will begin June 1.

Pool passes

Pool passes go on sale May 2 at the Equipment Resource Center, 410-278-4124 or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, 410-436-7134.

Daily fee

\$3 per person (authorized patrons 6 years old and older)
\$5 per person (guest 6 years old and above)
\$1 per person (guest 5 years old and below)

Individual monthly fee
Active military E1-E4 - \$10
All others - \$20
Family monthly fee
Active military E1-E4 - \$20
All others - \$40
Individual season fee
Active military E1-E4 - \$30
All others - \$50
Family season fee
Active military E1-E4 = \$60
All others = \$100

Concert tickets on sale

Army MWR and Aberdeen Proving Ground present The 2005 Miller Lite Army Concert featuring Terri Clark, Chely Wright, Julie Roberts, and Miranda Lambert Aug. 20 on Shine Sports Field. Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the show will start at 7 p.m.

A \$10 early bird ticket special for APG government ID cards holders only will be held April 27 through 29. These tickets are only available at MWR Registration, building 3326,

410-278-4907/4011. Purchasers must present ID at time of purchase.

\$10 tickets will go on sale to the public April 30, first come, first served. There are only a limited number of tickets available at this special price. Tickets can be purchased at www.apgmwr.com, MWR Registration, Hoyle Fitness Center and Ticketmaster.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Health & Safety

Tool educates Soldiers on driving risks

Army News Service

In the 15 months since the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center launched the first of three modules of the Army Safety Management Information System 1, the online tool has made steady progress in providing risk awareness to Soldiers, according to center officials.

The Personally Owned Vehicle module – deployed Dec. 10, 2003 – processed 340,457 by March 23, and though it is still too early to draw any definitive conclusions from such a small sample size, the trend in the accident data is promising, according to Larry Kulsrud, ASMSIS-1 program manager.

“If you take the Army’s POV accident rate and apply it to the average number of ASMSIS-1 users over the last 12 months, (you find) we should have had about 6.5 fatalities,” Kulsrud said. “We’ve only had three, so the fatality rate among ASMSIS-1 users is slightly less than half of that of non-users.”

Using the POV module is mandatory for Soldiers going on leave, pass or temporary duty, and Kulsrud said he believes a majority of the Army is enforcing this requirement.

Kulsrud attributes the effectiveness of the tool to two factors – the personalization of risk management and the involvement of leadership in travel decisions.

The tool personalizes risk management in several ways. Photographs of actual POV wrecks – accompanied by educational safety information – initially catch the user’s attention. After the user answers a series of questions about his trip, the tool accesses the five accident cases most applicable to the user’s data from the USACRC’s database. By viewing these cases, a user sees that accidents have happened to Soldiers just like him embarking on the same or similar POV trips, Kulsrud said.

“If a private leaving Fort Rucker and driving to Atlanta for the weekend does a risk assessment, he’ll see accident cases where young Soldiers – maybe not necessarily a private, but young Soldiers in his grade band – leaving Fort Rucker and driving to Atlanta were involved in an accident,” Kulsrud said.

Along with the accident cases the tool identifies hazards and recommends controls so the user can make adjustments to his initial assessment and recalculate the trip’s risk level.

Leadership enters into the process after a user finishes the final risk assessment. An e-mail notification is automatically sent to the user’s supervisor, who can look over the assessment and discuss with the user any other control that might reduce the

level of risk. For example, the supervisor might suggest modifying the time of departure, the number of miles traveled each day or the frequency of rest stops.

Capt. Jeffrey Lesh, commander of A Company, 1st Battalion, 210th Aviation Regiment, said he thinks the ASMSIS-1 heightens awareness of safety issues among users.

“By conferring with their supervisors and reviewing accident data presented during the process, each Soldier will stop and think before acting,” Lesh said. “That millisecond can make the difference.”

“As a leader, I think it’s our responsibility to ensure our Soldiers are prepared, both on and off duty,” Lesh added. “I know that ASMSIS-1 has made me think more about POV safety when briefing Soldiers and when using the tool for my own trips.”

Use of the tactical aviation and ground modules of the ASMSIS-1 – deployed in June and September 2004, respectively – is not mandatory, and the number of completed risk assessments for each reflects this fact. Even though the ground module has been available for less time, it boasts 2,930 assessments versus the aviation module’s 1,834, as of March 23.

The USACRC is working on making the ASMSIS-1 tool available on the Secure Internet Protocol Router Network – called the SIPRNET – so Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan can access the aviation and ground modules, Kulsrud said. Also in the works is a possible collaboration between the aviation module and the Aviation Mission Planning Station, or AMPS.

Kulsrud said the center already has a design document for the POV module’s first revision based on user feedback and lessons learned. One of the many improvements to be made is the integration of mapping software so users will see a trip map highlighted with information on construction zones and recommended rest stop areas.

Brig. Gen. Joseph Smith, commanding general of the USACRC, envisioned an automated risk management tool in mid 2003 after the Secretary of Defense challenged the services to reduce the number of accidents by at least 50 percent throughout the next two years. The center subsequently developed the idea into the ASMSIS-1, which is also currently being used by the Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

TRICARE Benefits Explanations going paperless

Healthnet Federal Services

While many people don’t look forward to managing a ton of paperwork, most are hesitant to lose access to it. Health Net and its claims processing partner, PGBA, LLC, (PGBA), are now offering the best of both worlds.

Effective May 2005, members will receive a TRICARE Explanation of Benefits in the mail only if they owe more than their copayment on a medical claim or if check is received.

The EOB will identify any additional out-of-pocket costs that the enrollee owes to their provider, so it is very important to review the EOB when receiving one.

If a member needs a refresher on benefits and copayment amounts, visit the “Benefits” section of Health Net’s Web site, www.healthnetfederalservices.com.

Otherwise, member EOBs are available whenever needed.

Go to Health Net’s Web site at www.healthnetfederalservices.com and, on the claims page, register for the

www.myTRICARE.com Web site by PGBA. The EOBs are available and can be printed.

If members would rather have paper copies of their EOBs mailed, they should sign onto myTRICARE.com and change their mailing preferences.

This same option is available by phone at 1-877-TRICARE. Follow the automated prompts and select the “claims” option.

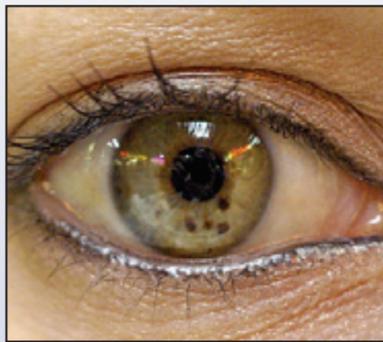
Annual benefit summaries

Still need one more reason to access claims information on the Web? While visiting the Health Net Web site and logged in as a myTRICARE.com member, take a moment to check out the latest features.

Members can now click on the benefits summary tab and see an annual summary of their TRICARE benefits. Available in calendar and fiscal year format, this summary offers a review of the TRICARE benefits member access during the year.

This can be used as a tax tool too.

Protecting the eyes



DSHE

In spite of safety programs and protective equipment, every day more than 2,000 working people in the United States suffer an eye injury.

Damage to the eyes is usually caused when something unexpected happens. It could be a sudden splash of caustic chemical or an airborne sliver of metal.

Workplace injuries are the leading cause of accidental vision loss and blindness. Of the 2,000 injuries per day, 10 percent to 20 percent will be disabling because of temporary or permanent vision loss.

Many of those injured say they didn’t think they needed to wear eye protection or were wearing inappropriate eyewear.

Doctors at the American Academy of Ophthalmology say proper eye protection is a matter of vital importance, especially in construction, manufacturing and automotive repair.

Eye health includes more than accident prevention. As more people use computers, eye fatigue and difficulty focusing have become common problems.

In themselves, computer screens don’t damage vision.

To reduce eye fatigue, computer users should take frequent breaks and rearrange their workstations for easier access to their computers.

Wearing proper glasses or contact lenses can often relieve eye fatigue.

Sometimes heating and air conditioning systems can make eyes feel dry and scratchy, like something is in the eye. Over-the-counter eye drops usually relieve symptoms. If the problem continues, see an eye care professional for an evaluation.

Wear eye protection when there is even the slightest chance of an injury and make changes in the workstation to relieve eye fatigue.

The eyes will be safer and healthier if extra efforts are taken.

(Editor’s note: Information was compiled from various Web sites.)

April Workplace Eye Health, Safety

Eye safety awareness

DSHE

Common causes of eye injuries

- Flying objects (bits of metal, glass)
- Tools
- Particles
- Chemicals
- Harmful radiation
- Any combination of these or other hazards

Preventing an eye injury

- Know the eye safety dangers at work—complete an eye hazard assessment
- Eliminate hazards before starting work. Use machine guarding, work screens, or other engineering controls)
- Use proper eye protection.
- Safety eyewear should be worn whenever there is a chance of eye injury. Anyone working in or passing through areas that pose eye hazards should wear protective eyewear.

Safety eyewear protection

- Non-prescription and prescription safety glasses
 - Goggles
 - Face shields
 - Welding helmets
 - Full-face respirators
- The type of safety eye protection to be

worn depends on the hazards in the workplace. If working in an area that has particles, flying objects, or dust, at least wear safety glasses with side protection (side shields). If working with chemicals, wear goggles. If working near hazardous radiation (welding, lasers, or fiber optics) use special-purpose safety glasses, goggles, face shields, or helmets designed for that task.

Differences between lenses

Glass lenses

- Are not easily scratched
- Can be used around harsh chemicals
- Can be made in your corrective prescription
- Are sometimes heavy and uncomfortable

Plastic lenses

- Are lighter weight
- Protect against welding splatter
- Are not likely to fog
- Are not as scratch-resistant as glass

Polycarbonate lenses

- Are lightweight
- Protect against welding splatter
- Are not likely to fog
- Are stronger than glass and plastic
- Are more impact resistant than glass or plastic
- Are not as scratch resistant as glass

Frequent deployments require more emphasis on vaccinations

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

Frequent, short-notice deployments around the world demand that the military step up its emphasis on keeping the force vaccinated for contingencies it may face, according to the Defense Department’s deputy director for the Military Vaccine Agency.

The expeditionary nature of the force requires that DoD plan ahead to provide its members the best possible protection against disease and illness when they deploy, Army Col. John Grabenstein said during an April 14

interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

“Vaccinations have always been about planning ahead,” Grabenstein said. “We try to anticipate what is going to happen at the other end of that plane flight to the deployment area.”

As a result, he said, DoD is conducting more surveillance about infections and disease that troops need to be protected against, Federal Drug Administration-approved vaccines to counter them, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines for administering these vaccines.

DoD is also making a greater effort to ensure service members’ shot records are up-to-date. This way, when a short-notice deployment occurs, the affected troops need only those shots specific to their deployment area, not “a big, long laundry list of vaccines,” Grabenstein said.

This effort includes more screening of Reserve and Guard troops, checking their immunizations records each fall when they receive their flu shots to ensure they’re current. Grabenstein said reserve component troops generally require more shots than their active component counterparts when preparing for deploy-

ments.

When entering the military, all troops receive a basic list of immunizations: meningococcal; tetanus and diphtheria; measles, mumps and rubella; and poliovirus. Other vaccines are frequently prescribed for travel to specific international locations or for certain occupations, Grabenstein said.

Other vaccines protect against bioweapons such as anthrax and smallpox. The Defense Department put its anthrax vaccination program on hold last fall pending legal challenges, but supports findings that the vaccine is safe and effective.

Grabenstein said mandatory immunizations for military protect the fighting force and keep it fighting, much as body armor does.

Since the first vaccine, against smallpox, was introduced in the late 1700s, he said, no other medical technology has surpassed immunization in protecting people against disease. “It’s the biggest success story in all of medicine,” he said.

(Editor’s note: For more information, visit the Military Vaccine Agency’s site, <http://www.vaccines.army.mil/>.)

KUSAHC improving access to care

KUSAHC

The General Medicine Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is reorganized and streamlined. Adult patients previously reporting to two separate areas for primary and wellness care will report to one strategically located clinic adjacent to the KUSAHC main waiting area. Patient care areas have been refurbished and modernized to provide improved access and egress.

“Our goal to our beneficiaries is to provide easily accessible treatment in a caring environment,” said Janice Spellman, patient advocate. “If patients should have any questions, call me at 410-278-1724.”

An upcoming expansion at KUSAHC will be the relocation of the Medical Records Room on the first floor.

This relocation is necessary to accommodate the large number of medical records on file for KUSAHC beneficiaries.

“The relocation of the Medical Records Room will allow for the expansion of the pharmacy by the end of the fiscal year,” Spellman added.

More information will be provided upon completion of renovations.

KUSAHC emphasizes infant care

National Infant Immunization Week, April 24-30

KUSAHC

“Our children, we love them, protect them – immunize them,” said Lt. Col. Kathleen J. Wiltzie, deputy commander for Preventive Medicine and Wellness, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. “A vaccination is an act of love.”

The purpose of National Infant Immunization Week, April 24 through 30, is to promote the benefits of immunizations and to focus on the importance of immunizing infants against 12 vaccine-preventable diseases by age two.

“Protecting children with vaccinations will protect them from measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib disease), Hepatitis B, varicella (chickenpox), pneumococcal disease and influenza,” Wiltzie said. “Children who are not immunized increase the chance that others will get a vaccine preventable disease.”

For more information, visit the Preventive Medicine Clinic on the third floor at KUSAHC, call 410-278-1964, or visit the closest public health department.

Veterans' voices

Ordnance Corps remembers E.C. Starnes

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps paused to remember a long-time servant during a memorial for the late Ed Starnes April 4.

Starnes passed away Feb. 19, exactly one month after retiring from his position as the OC&S public affairs officer after 36 years of government service, 18 with OC&S.

Maj. Douglas W. Duerksen, 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain, and Dr. Aileen Tobin, OC&S director of Plans and Operations, led the ceremony that included remarks by Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, OC&S commander and the chief of Ordnance, and Maj. Gen. Mitchell H. Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, G-3, U.S. Army Materiel Command, and former chief of Ordnance.

Starnes' wife Claire, and his sons, Sean and Bryan, were in attendance as well as members of the Water Witch Fire Company where Starnes served as an emergency medical technician for six years during which time he held the office of president and vice president and received awards as a top responder for fire and EMS response.

Stevenson said he was at a loss for words because as the chief of ordnance he had never given a speech that Starnes hadn't written.

"He was my communications coordinator and communicate he did," Stevenson said.

He said that it didn't take him long to learn that Starnes was the driving force behind the outreach program with the community school, the designer of the OC&S Web site and the major contributor to the Ordnance Magazine.

"But it was not until 9-11 that I realized the true measure of the man," Stevenson said. "If you remember that was a confusing time for all of us, not knowing where to go in the wake of the attack on our nation ... but out of all that confusion came Ed Starnes, leading us through it, designing innovative techniques for keeping our students, cadre and family members informed about what was going on, providing guidance to us in our interaction with the media, helping us to see ourselves. He was a rock and we all leaned on him then."

"Ed never had a job he could not handle," Stevenson said. "To quote one of our former chiefs and a retired 4-star general, he made the corps better."

Boles said he came to represent the eleven chiefs of ordnances that Starnes "so nobly served."



Ed Starnes

"He made us better Soldiers, made Aberdeen a better place to serve and as you've heard he made his community a better place to live."

-Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles
OC&S commander and the chief of Ordnance

He said that when the commandants learned of Starnes' death, "the essence of their grief was summed up in retired Gen. John T. Coburn's note that read, "What a loss. Ed was a national treasure. And he loved the Ordnance Corps."

"We gather today to share our sorrow, insure that Ed's family knows the depth of our love for him and them and finally, to draw strength from each other in the struggle to accept Ed's passing," Boles

said. He recalled that he presided over Starnes' retirement ceremony, calling it "a simple meeting in my office with the close friends he worked with, and Claire," Boles said.

"Thirty days later he went to heaven." He said Starnes' final article for the Ordnance Magazine in which he detailed the new Warrior Training at the Noncommissioned Officer Academy ended with a quote from Proverb chapter 27, verse 17: "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

"Ed sharpened all of us around him," Boles said. "He made us better Soldiers, made Aberdeen a better place to serve and as you've heard he made his community a better place to live."

Tributes to Starnes included those from Water Witch fire chief Wayne Tome Sr. and the Rev. George E. Hipkins.

Tome's voice choked with emotion as he described Starnes' eagerness to learn all he could when he began as a medical technician.

"He was the kind of person who would quickly find out what was going on if he didn't know," Tome said. "He joined the department and grew as an emergency responder who was very dedicated to his job and to his friends."

Boles read the Ordnance Prayer, which was written by Starnes, and a lone bagpiper played Amazing Grace during the moment of silence that ended the ceremony. Claire Starnes, a Vietnam veteran who retired as the editor of the Ordnance Magazine in 1994, said that she and Starnes met in 1971 and married in 1973.

Collaborating on projects together or alone, Starnes had won many awards, military and civilian, she said.

"We had traveled to every state in the union but two, and we were planning to visit those two in the next year," she said.

With Starnes' retirement nearing the couple had moved to New Hampshire and were looking forward to a quiet future, she added.

She thanked the command for the memorial service calling it "awesome and truly touching."

"One part of Ed's legacy is communities coming together," she said. "This was a great example of that right here."

Ed Starnes speaks of years of federal service in own words

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Edward C. Starnes retired as the public affairs officer/communications coordinator for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Feb. 19, thus ending a 36-year federal career in Army Public Affairs in which he started out as a Soldier journalist and ended as the voice of an Army corps.

Starnes' previous assignments included serving as a U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command intern with the Indo-China Refugee Task Force receiving Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees during the "Boat People" migration from Vietnam in 1975, and serving under Gen. Omar N. Bradley at the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and School at Fort Bliss, Texas, 1976 to 1981.

He said that of all his awards and decorations, one of the highlights of his career was winning the Keith L. Ware journalism award for a publication devoted to the 175th anniversary of Fort Monroe, Va.

"This is where I met and worked for now retired Sgt. Maj. Gary Beylickjian as he began publishing the Post -30- [Army journalist magazine] and running the Army newspaper program in its earliest days," Starnes said.

He said that the Aberdeen Proving Ground sex scandal of 1996 ranks as the most memorial event of his career because he got to work with and learn from media professionals from all over the world.

"There were TV and print media journalists from throughout the U.S., France, Germany, England and Japan," Starnes said, adding that, several hundred media visited during the first several weeks and a group of about 30 were in the pool that covered

the courts-martial for several months after.

"This included the New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Dateline, 60 Minutes, and TV affiliates from Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York," Starnes said.

He said that he will remember most the "tremendous variety of people," he met over the years.

"Overall I have many memories of lieutenants who eventually retired as generals, lower enlisted who later became senior NCOs, and Soldiers and civilians who have accomplished amazing things under pressure," he said.

One thing Starnes was particularly proud of was having served as an emergency medical technician with the Water Witch Fire Company for the past six years.

"I have seen people at their worst and best during some extremely intense moments as an EMT," Starnes said.

Finally, he thanked his "best friend and partner for most of the 35 years I've been involved with the Army," my wife Claire.

During his retirement, which took, place Jan. 18 in the office of Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, OC&S commander and chief of ordnance, Starnes received letters of congratulations from President George W. Bush and Brig. Gen. Mari K. Eder, deputy chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army; and the DA Superior Civil Service Award; Certificate of Retirement; Certificate of Appreciation; and Official Commendation.

His wife, Claire received the OC&S Certificate of Appreciation.

(Editor's note: This article was being prepared when the staff at APG News heard of Starnes' unfortunate end. We decided to hold it to run with the memorial story as a tribute to Ed.)

Shorts / events

VA seeks vets exposed to chemical agents

Military.com

The Department of Veterans Affairs has launched a national campaign to locate veterans exposed to mustard gas or the chemical agent Lewisite during their military service.

Lewisite is a blister-producing chemical to which many veterans were exposed as part of chemical testing programs during World War II. Veterans of this era were also exposed to mustard gas during testing sponsored by the Department of Defense.

Any veterans who suspect they were exposed to either mustard gas or Lewisite during their service is strongly encouraged to contact VA by calling 1-800-749-8387 or visit the VA benefits Web site, <http://www.vba.va.gov>.

New help for severely injured vets

The Department of Defense has opened the Military Severely Injured Joint Support Operations Center, a 24/7 service to help severely injured service members find jobs and answer questions they and their families might have.

The MSIJSO Center offers help through a 24/7 toll-free number, 1-888-774-1361.

In addition the DoD has partnered with Military.com to provide an online Career Center designed to connect Severely Injured Service members with benefits, resources, and employment opportunities to help ease their transition. The Career Center can be found at <http://www.military.com/support>.

VA centers offer grief counseling to military families

In an unprecedented expansion of its traditional client base, the Department of Veterans Affairs is offering grief counseling to families of service members who die while on active duty.

VA's Office of Readjustment Counseling offers the counseling services at its 206 community-based Vet Centers throughout the United States, including Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The program also serves families of reservists and National Guardsmen who die while activated for federal duty.

No medical diagnosis is required to seek help, and services are completely confidential.

Families requesting more information or services can also contact the VA's Readjustment Counseling Service directly at 202-273-9116 or by e-mail at vet.center@hq.med.va.gov.

MAY 12, 13, 14

THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

32ND ANNUAL EAST COAST RALLY

The Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Trust (WAC/BGMVT) will host the 32nd Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ripken Stadium. Cost of admission is \$6 per person; a three-day pass costs \$15 per person. Free admission with proper ID will be offered for children 12 years and under; and military, law enforcement, and fire fighters with valid ID card.

Proceeds from the event to benefit several military museums, war memorials, non-profit charitable and civic organizations.

For more information, e-mail Tom Buonaugurio at william.buonaugurio@dtc.army.mil.

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| Audrey Alba | gia condition) |
| Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia) | Richard Hoffman |
| Dianna Blevins | Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy) |
| Sarah Blevins | Beverly King (caring for husband) |
| Jeanie Bowman | Danny Kopp (lung-cancer) |
| Iris Campbell (chemotherapy) | William B. McLean (kidney failure) |
| Steven Clarke | Joe McMonagle |
| Barbara Crossley | Karen Milton |
| Dawn Crouse | Tess Ramos (total hip replacement) |
| Ruth Cunningham | Boyd Richards |
| Victoria Cwiernie (lyme disease) | Cheryl L. Roark |
| Carl Davis | Leigh Sanders |
| Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo) | Barbara Seker |
| Geraldine Eaton | Suzette Shields |
| John Gage | Joyce Steinger |
| Renee Gaffney | Alison Tichenor |
| Charles Gambrell | Linda Tignor |
| Miriam Garcia | Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant) |
| Susan Gorhan | Marenda Tate |
| Beatrice Heilpern | Gary Tudor - (heart valve replacement) |
| Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications) | Gerard Yursis |
| Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyal- | |

Army retirees authorized to purchase, wear physical fitness uniforms

AAFES

The Chief of Staff of the Army has authorized Army retirees to wear the Physical Fitness and Improved Physical Fitness Uniforms. The IPFU is immediately available at all Army & Air Force Exchange Service Army MCSS locations and online at www.aafes.com

Army officials recognize that throughout the year, retirees continue to show their support to, and affiliation with the Army.

"This authorization allowing retirees to wear the PFU or the IPFU symbolizes recognition to our retirees' commitment to continued fitness practices and membership within the Army's family" said MCSS Army Program Manager Maj. Rachel Danielson. "We are very pleased with this announcement and will continue to support our valued retiree customer base."

All personnel, including retirees, who wear the PFU or the IPFU are authorized to wear the clothing as currently worn by personnel in the active Army. Uniform wear policy is described in Army Regulation 670-1 Wear and Appearance of Army Uniform and Insignia.

For those who haven't worn the uniforms in a while,

AAFES includes the following guidelines as a courtesy to its retired customer.s

- Retirees may wear parts of the PFU or the IPFU with civilian attire off the installations
- When wearing the PFU or the IPFU as a complete uniform; i.e. trunks and short-sleeve shirt/sweatshirt or sweat-pants with short-sleeve shirt or sweatshirt retirees will:
 - Wear only authorized accessories corresponding to those worn by personnel of the active Army
 - Keep the sleeves down on the sweatshirt or jacket, the legs down on the pants, and they will tuck the T-shirt inside the trunks
 - Not roll or push up the sleeves of the IPFU sweatshirt or the IPFU jacket
 - Wear the sleeves of the IPFU sweatshirt cuffed or uncuffed; they may not cuff the IPFU jacket sleeves
 - Wear the black knit cap pulled down snugly on the head, with the bottom edge of the cap folded up; retirees will not roll the edge of the cap.
 - Pregnant retirees are authorized to wear the T-shirt/sweat-shirt outside the trunks/sweatpants.

Auxiliary supports Blue Star campaign

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Bernard Tobin Post 128 in Aberdeen used a visit from their national president to kick off the 2005 American Legion Blue Star Salute, with a dinner at the post for two Aberdeen Proving Ground service members and their families as their guests on April 2.

The salute, which peaks on Armed Forces Day, honors service members of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

The salute gives communities a chance to use Armed Forces Day to boost morale during the ongoing War on Terror, to thank local service members for their sacrifices and to encourage all Americans to recognize and honor the military in general, according to ladies auxiliary national president Sandi Dutton of Beltsville.

"I am so proud that the American Legion Auxiliary is a full partner in this Blue Star Salute to Armed Forces Day," Dutton said.

"Our members are already doing so many wonderful things to assist military families. It's only natural to organize this special celebration as a way of saying 'thank you' to the newest generation of American veterans and their families."

The two families included Sgt. Paul Villalobos and his wife Daisy of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, and Pfc. Thomas Peltier and his wife Staci of Company A, 22nd Chemical Battalion.

Led by Ann Brown, ladies auxiliary president, and Post Commander William E. Conlon, led the festivities welcoming guests and representatives from Sen. Barbara Mikulski and Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger who presented citations commending Dutton on her work with children.

Known for her enthusiasm and love of community service projects, Dutton took over as national president in September 2004. She said that with constant travel being a part of the job of holding national office, she has visited more than 40 states over the past six months and will have visited them all before her term expires this fall.

She announced that one of her pet projects, Creative Arts, netted \$6,061 during her visit to Maryland, of which \$455 came

from the Aberdeen community.

Creative Arts is a veteran's therapeutic project that encourages creativity to battle mental fatigue and loneliness.

"We are cosponsors with the VA to help hospitalized veterans," Dutton said, noting that last year, 3,000 veterans in 103 VA centers around the country participated in painting, dancing and using project kits.

Dutton said that anyone wanting information on American Legion Ladies Auxiliary programs or other programs within the American Legion Family, should access the Web site, www.legion-aux.org.

American Legion Auxiliary Programs

Americanism - The Auxiliary's Americanism program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship and strives to uphold and promote American ideals and the principles of democracy. The goal of the Auxiliary's Americanism program is to educate every citizen on the fundamentals of American government, the Bill of Rights and the value of active, informed involvement in the home, in the Auxiliary organization and in the community.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund - The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is supported by contributions from Auxiliary Units and members. It provides temporary emergency financial assistance to Auxiliary members who have exhausted all other personal and community resources. For members who find themselves suddenly single, deserted, divorced, or widowed, with no skills to support themselves or their families, the Displaced Homemakers Fund provides immediate aide to help the member acquire new job skills through schooling or job training.

Children And Youth - The Auxiliary's Children and Youth program strives to improve conditions for all children. The program works to preserve the integrity of the family unit and takes a realistic approach to the needs of children by considering the physical and spiritual, as well as the emotional and educational aspects, of each situation. The Children and Youth program cooperates with public and private community agencies and organizations and supports essential legislation for children at the national, state, and local levels.

Community Service - Auxiliary members study community

needs, recommend projects, raise funds and donate their time to accomplish their specific objectives. Special attention is given to the selection of each project to ensure that the work of other organizations is not duplicated. Auxiliary Units also provide assistance on Community Service projects sponsored by American Legion Posts and work with other organizations to implement practical, worthwhile projects for the benefit of the community. Some examples include, blood drives, first aid and CPR training, child safety programs, support for women in shelters, donations to shelters for the homeless, tree plantings, recycling programs, and disaster and emergency preparedness programs.

Junior Activities - Junior Auxiliary membership for girls under the age of 18 is a training ground, which prepares young women for active adult membership. Junior activities and programs reflect and support the work of the Auxiliary and instill the ideals of the organization. The Junior program is an important step in the transition from childhood to responsible adulthood.

Legislative - Auxiliary members are encouraged to get involved and stay informed on local and national issues of special interest to the organization. They keep in close contact with their legislative representatives about issues, which concern veterans, young people and entire communities. Auxiliary members know there is strength in numbers. Many beneficial laws have been passed because of Legion and Auxiliary support.

Poppy - The Poppy Program is the oldest and most widely recognized Auxiliary program. Each year around Memorial Day, Auxiliary volunteers distribute millions of bright red crepe paper poppies in exchange for contributions to assist

disabled and hospitalized veterans. The program provides multiple benefits to the veterans and to the community.

The hospitalized veterans who make the flowers are able to earn a small wage which helps to supplement their incomes and makes them feel more self-sufficient.

The Auxiliary plays a necessary and important role in the life of America's veterans.

For more information about the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary visit www.legion-aux.org.



'Help Our Troops Call Home' contributions approach \$2 Million

AAFES

On April 15, 2004, the Department of Defense made an unprecedented move; it authorized the Exchange Services to sell prepaid calling cards to any individual or organization that wished to

purchase cards for deployed troops. Never in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's 109-year history had the organization sold anything to anyone other than authorized customers, primarily active-duty, guard and reserve mem-

bers, retirees and their family members. As the first anniversary of this decision [arrives,] the since-named "Help Our Troops Call Home" program is within striking distance of the \$2 million mark.

As of April 12, AAFES'

calling card initiative had generated \$1,980,030 to help Airmen, Soldiers, Marines and Sailors stay in touch with loved ones back home. Those funds were used to purchase and distribute 78,431 Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards.

Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards purchased through the "Help Our Troops Call Home" program can be sent to individual service members or "any service member" through the American Red Cross, USO, Air Force Aid Society or the Fisher House Foundation. These charitable partners have distributed 26,767 phone cards since the "Help Our Troops Call Home" program began last year.

"The outpouring of support over the course of the past 12 months has been inspiring," said AAFES' Chief of Corporate Communication Lt. Col. Debra Pressley. "The decision to allow the Exchange Services to work directly with the American public has provided a textbook study in how to safely and effectively support our troops."

Sixty-four AAFES phone centers throughout Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom have been critical in keeping deployed troops and their families in touch. Troops using Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards at these calling centers generated nearly 20 million total minutes of calls in February alone.

The Military Exchange 550- and 200-Unit Prepaid Phone cards offer the best value for troops who enjoy calls home from any of AAFES' call centers in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. In addition to offering the lowest rates, Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards do not expire and are not subject to any additional charges or connection fees.

The "Help Our Troops Call Home" initiative allows any American to make a direct contribution to the morale of troops who find themselves far from home.

Individuals, organizations and businesses can log on to www.aafes.com and click the "Help Our Troops Call Home" link or call 800-527-2345 for more information.