

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, April 6, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Daylight Savings Time begins April 3

Clocks should be turned forward one hour before retiring for the night on Saturday. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m., Sunday.

### RAB meeting tonight

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., March 31, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Aberdeen Area Study Areas.

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

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

### HST command position available

Headquarters Support Troops, U.S. Army Garrison, will hold a change of command in mid-June. Anyone interested in applying for this position should contact Maj. Anissa McNeill, 410-278-2104 or Barbara Bryant, 410-278-1511. Candidates need to be promotable majors or captains. Branch is immaterial.

### KUSAHC offers Heat Injury Prevention Training

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will conduct Heat Injury Prevention Training 9 to 10 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m., March 31 at the Edgewood APG Conference Center, building E-4810.

For more information, call Preventive Medicine Clinic, 410-278-1769/1964.

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# Sunrise service brings message of hope



Maj. Jeff Watters, chaplaincy resource manager, delivers the morning message during the Easter Sunrise Service at the Edgewood Area Chapel on Easter Sunday, March 27.

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

A message of warmth and devotion greeted those who braved a chilly morning to attend the Aberdeen Proving Ground Easter sunrise service at the Edgewood Area Chapel March 27. The location of the service was moved into the chapel from McBride Parade Field due to below normal temperatures.

Lt. Col. Carol Van Schenkof, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, led the program's chaplains in attendance, including Maj. Jeff Watters, who delivered the morning message; Capt. Anthony Taylor, 143rd Ordnance Battalion; and Capt. Yun Kim, Protestant chaplain.

The congregation included Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, chief of ordnance and commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, and Lt. Col. Robert Pastorelli, commander of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, and their wives.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) brass quintet provided musical selections. The Gospel choir opened the program with "He Arose," and the Protestant choir sang, "Our Savior is Alive."

Watters said that the reason for the season might be overlooked as people enjoy the traditional holiday candies and treats and family reunions.

"It's a glorious family time, but there's more to Easter than candy and family," Watters said. "It's about God, and it's about Christ's resurrection."

He said that there were two things people should consider when questioning what difference the resurrection "makes in our lives today."

"The fact that he rose gives us power for living, strengthens us on a daily basis, and gives us power to work through our difficulties," Watters said. "And it gives us hope in dying."

The fact that he rose tells us there is hope beyond the grave.

"Remember, Jesus said that if you put your faith in me, I will help you through that time of death," Watters added. "As you go from here, remember that Easter is about Christ and faith."

The congregation dined on pastries and coffee after the service. Staff Sgt. William Benjamin, Garrison chapel noncommissioned officer in charge, commented on the preparations for the installation's second largest Christian event of the year.

He said he and RDECOM senior chaplain assistant, Sgt. 1st Class Vada Jones, have been coordinating the sunrise service a combined 11 years between them.

Coordination includes disseminating information about season schedules as well as the sunrise service, reserving the parade field, state flags, sound technicians, and the band, purchasing flowers and refreshments, and providing transportation to those in need of a ride from the Aberdeen to the Edgewood areas.

He credited Sgt. DeAngelo Coatie, Spc. Chris Chrilla and Pfc. Steven Presser, chaplain assistants with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, with providing the needed transportation along with their other duties.

"Our assistants come from OC&S, the Garrison and RDECOM," Benjamin said. "But they all came together as one team."

"Everything went well thanks to them and Sgt. 1st Class Jones and I appreciate their efforts," he said. "We're not successful unless they're successful."

The installation chaplain assistants include Spcs. James Hyde, Chad Emrick and Chris Montoryo, APG Garrison.

(Editor's note: See photo of the Protestant Choir on page 2.)

## Change in procedures for CAC holders

DLES

Effective Monday, April 4, Common Access Card, or CAC, issuance, renewals and PIN resets at the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas Badge/ID Offices, Physical Security Support Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, will be by appointment only.

"We are trying to provide the best customer service possible and we hope this will best suit everyone," said Wilbur Townsend, chief, Physical

Security Support Division, DLES.

Individuals will need to contact the Badge/ID Office in AA, 410-306-2381 or EA, 410-436-3360, between 7 and 8 a.m. to schedule an appointment. The Badge/ID Office may have to reschedule appointments due to DEERS/RAPIDS network difficulties or other unforeseen problems, as needed.

Appointments will be scheduled on 15-minute intervals. See CAC, page 14

## APG Police urge seatbelt use

DLES

The APG Police will join more than 100 law enforcement agencies across Maryland in an intensive effort to educate constituents about the lifesaving and injury-reducing benefits of safety belt use April 5 through June 5.

"We are pleased to join the State of Maryland in being a leader in safety belt and child safety seat compliance," said Community Policing Officer Michael Farlow. "This is a direct result of the commitment and dedication that our community and our law enforcement personnel have made to a program which undoubtedly saves lives."

"In an attempt to provide the best services possible to our Soldiers and civilians, the APG Police plan to introduce community based programs and events throughout the year that include a focus on seat belt usage," Farlow said. "On April 16, during the 'Spring Fling,' we have invited the Maryland State Police to demonstrate their Seat Belt Sled. All are encouraged to participate."

During the statewide observational surveys that were taken in the spring of 2004, Maryland's statewide seat belt use rate was 89 percent. On APG it was 95 percent. But even with the large majority of the installation buckling up, the 5 percent who do not, put themselves in danger by riding unbuckled.

"Our highest priority on APG is to protect and pre-

serve the lives of all our Soldier and civilian personnel," said Maj. Joseph Darabasz, chief of the Police Services Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security.

This annual campaign provides an opportunity to join the State of Maryland as partners to reduce the loss of lives and the severity of injuries that result from unbuckled occupants in motor vehicle crashes.

"As a team, we want our message to be clear to people of all ages," Darabasz said. "If they are not buckled up, at least one member of our law enforcement partnership will stop them and issue a ticket - because we care about the people we serve."

The APG Police will be conducting outreach programs at the child day care center and other tenant and organizational venues.

"We welcome and encourage additional inquiries," Farlow said.

The "Buckle Up Religiously" campaign component will be conducted at both the Edgewood and Aberdeen chapels.

"We ask our leaders (military and civilian) to join our partnership by encouraging their personnel and family members to 'Buckle Up,'" Darabasz said.

For more information on how to make this the best campaign ever, contact Farlow, 410-273-6412 or e-mail him at michael.farlow@usag.apg.army.mil.

## Army installations to receive higher priority for funding

Army News Service

The Army has begun implementing a new policy that will increase annual funding for installations.

Army leaders have set a goal of funding installations at an annual rate of 90 percent of validated requirements for base operations services and for sustainment, restoration and modernization. The Army will continue to program to the goal of 95 percent for SRM set by the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The new policy will increase funding for installations.

"Our installations serve as our flagships of readiness," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker. "The environment in which our Soldiers train, our civilians work, and our families live plays a key role in attracting, recruiting, and retaining the high quality people the Army needs. To enhance combat effectiveness and enrich the work-

place setting, we are reinforcing our commitment to our Army family."

"The Army leadership has made an important decision that recognizes the vital role installations play in the Global War on Terrorism," said Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson, IMA director. "This is the highest level of funding ever committed to installations, and it recognizes the need to give Soldiers and their families services and facilities equal to the service they give this nation."

The Army Budget Office will distribute the funding in phases through the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and the Installation Management Agency. Funds will come from other parts of the Army's budget as the Army identifies programs lagging in execution during its annual budget review. IMA will program the funds

See FUNDING, page 3

## APG water tower gets facelift

Marguerite Towson  
APG News

The old red and white 125 foot-water tower has stood guard over APG since World War II.

To continue to improve the quality of the drinking water at APG, the tank is receiving a major overhaul from the City of Aberdeen.

"The top has been replaced, and the entire interior and exterior structure will be refurbished," said Directorate of Installations Operations' Dennis Overbay, contracting officer's representative for the City of Aberdeen.

Replacing the top - at a weight of 31,700 pounds - was the first step and cost \$92,000.

"The replacement was necessary due to its deteriorated condition," Overbay said.

The next step will include cleaning, painting and resealing the interior.

The tank interior will be cleaned and resurfaced to insure the 500,000 gallons of water stored will be of good quality. The entire exterior will be sandblasted and repainted. A special approved containment system will be built around and over the tank during this process.

A desert tan color has been chosen for the water tank and a Garrison logo will be added and include "Aberdeen



Photo by DENNIS OVERBAY  
A 300-ton capacity crane, the largest piece of equipment with an extendable boom, lifts the deteriorated roof of the 125-foot water tower. The replacement steel roof on the ground includes a railing system to accept the telecommunication dishes from Cingular.

Proving Ground."

The overall cost of the project is \$365,000.

Shawn M. Sunderlin, health

and safety manager with the City of Aberdeen, reviewed and approved the existing lift

See WATER TOWER, page 15

# OC&S remembers women's history

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

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools completed its commemoration of Women's History Month with an award ceremony for participants in its essay and display competition in building 3071 March 24. The competitions are held in conjunction with equal opportunity ethnic observances.

The awardees included display winner, Headquarters, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, led by Spc. Benjamin Smith; and display runner-up, Karen Lopes, administrative officer and Mary Samples, training technician with the Wheel and Track Automotive Division.

Other entries included the NCOA Advanced Course, class 073-05 and Officers Basic Course Class 05-05. Col. Kevin M. Smith, OC&S chief of staff, hosted the ceremony.

Directing attention to photographs of the OC&S chain of command and former chiefs of ordnance on the lobby walls, Smith said the ceremony was a perfect way to recognize women in the service of our Army and our armed services. He noted that women are included among OC&S top Soldiers and civilians.

"We have women everywhere throughout the rank and file of the Ordnance Corp," Smith said. "They are showing every day that they are leaders."

"In Iraq, female leaders are making day-to-day decisions that keep Soldiers alive," he added. "They are living proof that you can have the utmost confidence in their capabilities."

Smith encouraged all to participate in the next observance in April, which remembers the Holocaust, and, "to take time to recognize programs that recognize our most precious resources."

"My challenge to you is to really get out and garner support for this," Smith said. "Take this as a personal and professional challenge that we really want to do a good job during this observance."

The OC&S will hold a display and essay competition for the next EO event, the Days of Remembrance/Holocaust observance, during April. The deadline for submissions is April 19 and the award ceremony will be held 2 p.m., April 28, in building 3071, second floor.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Arbel Connor, 410-278-2529, Sgt. 1st Class Peggy McCormick, 410-278-5598, or Sgt. 1st Class Tasha Ahmed, 410-436-1076.



From left, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Women's History Month first place display, submitted by Soldiers from Headquarters Company, Noncommissioned Officer Academy and the runner-up display by Karen Lopes and Mary Samples of the OC&S Wheel and Track Automotive Department, sit in the lobby of building 3071 prior to the award presentation ceremony March 24.

## RDECOM celebrates one year

**Trinace Johnson**  
RDECOM

One year ago this month the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command was established by the Department of the Army. This cleared the way for the transference of personnel to the command, which began with RDECOM's provisional creation Oct. 1, 2002.

At that time, RDECOM's mission was to put the right technology into the hands of the Warfighters quicker. That philosophy remains the same today.

With more than 17,000 military and civilian personnel, full-time contractors, and a responsibility for 75 percent of the Army's science and technology objectives, the command not only sought out, but developed the latest in high-tech equipment, machinery and technology.

To create RDECOM, the Army took eight of its labs and research centers and

put them all under one command. The logic behind the merge was to create a "synergy" or combined energy where people could more easily share technological resources with one another and release products faster under one command.

This past year RDECOM saw a change at its highest level when Maj. Gen. John

ing the concept. General Nadeau is sustaining RDECOM and improving it."

"We're growing and becoming members of a team," said Dr. Robin L. Keesee, RDECOM deputy to the commander.

He said that RDECOM was in the process of defining and centralizing goals while keeping in step with the rapidly changing Army.

Keesee held that the configuration of RDECOM is much more appropriate and Soldiers in the field have a much better opportunity to see fielded technology.

Belmonte said that in the past year, continued efforts from RDECOM labs and centers have resulted in more of a technology presence in theater, thus shortening the link between the warfighter and RDECOM scientists and engineers.

"Our technology should be there for Soldiers without them giving it a second  
*See RDECOM, page 15*



C. Doesburg relinquished command to Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau Oct. 28, 2004.

"The change of leadership came at the perfect time," said Richard B. Belmonte, RDECOM assistant chief of staff. "General Doesburg did an excellent job getting the [RDECOM] concept and sell-

ing the concept. General Nadeau is sustaining RDECOM and improving it."

"Our technology should be there for Soldiers without them giving it a second  
*See RDECOM, page 15*

## Keesee named deputy to commander RDECOM



*Dr. Robin Keesee*

RDECOM

Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, has announced the assignment of Dr. Robin L. Keesee as the deputy to the commanding general, RDECOM, effective March 6.

"Dr. Keesee is eminently qualified for this crucial position based on his many distinguished qualifications and outstanding potential," Nadeau

said. "We look forward to his continued success and proven leadership as he helps in these challenging times to direct our RDECOM to the new horizons that are so vital to the continued success of our warfighters around the world."

Keesee will direct the Army's intensified research, development and acquisition process for fielding technologies that sustain America's Army as the premier land force in the world.

Keesee earned his doctorate in human factors in the Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research

at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1976.

He was commissioned in the U.S. Army Reserves from ROTC at VPI in June 1970, at which time he received his bachelor's in industrial engineering. He performed his active duty training from June to September 1971, and was MOBDES to the Comptroller Directorate at the U.S. Army Materiel Command from 1971 to 1976.

In June 1982, Keesee joined the Army Research Institute, and was assigned to the Systems Manning Technical Area of the Systems Research Laboratory until August 1983, when he became chief of the Research Coordination Office at the Training and Doctrine Command in Fort Monroe, Va. In August 1984, he was reassigned to the ARI Headquarters in Alexandria, Va., as chief of the Plans, Programs and Operations Office, where he served until his appointment as director of the Systems Research Laboratory. In August 1992, he transferred to the Human Research and Engineering Directorate, ARL, where he was until his appointment in May 2004 to RDECOM.

Keesee is a member of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, Society of Logistics Engineers, Alpha Pi Mu, and Sigma Xi, and a senior member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers.

Keesee has been serving as acting deputy to the commander since May 2004.

## CMA receives Army Community Relations highest honor

**Sandra Clawson-Free**  
CMA

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency Public Affairs Office received top honors in the Fifth Annual Army Community Relations Awards of Excellence presented on March 10 in Vienna, Va.

CMA received the prestigious Chief of Public Affairs Special Award of Excellence, which may be presented to an Army organization to recognize extraordinary Community Relations Outreach contributions for the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Start of Operations entry. The submission detailed public outreach activities leading up to the start of agent disposal operations.

CMA's award-winning team was comprised of public affairs professionals from the Umatilla, Ore., facility as well as members of the CMA public affairs headquarters staff in Maryland.

Each year, the Army's Community Relations Awards Program recognizes the best of the Army's worldwide community relations initiatives during the previous fiscal year in three categories: individual accomplishment, ongoing programs and special events. Judges have the distinction to bestow the

Special Award of Excellence for programs that fall outside the norm.

Judges from academia, public relations agencies and government used specific criteria to evaluate this year's entrants. Criteria included increasing public awareness; fostering good interactive community activity, and maintaining the Army's reputation. More than 30 entries were received from Army commands from around the world.

As of March 2, 2005, CMA has safely destroyed 11,166 tons of chemical agent, more than 43 percent of the munitions originally stockpiled in the United States.

All of the chemical agent and weapons on Johnston Atoll in the Pacific Ocean were the first to be destroyed.

Last week, the CMA facility here at Aberdeen Proving Ground, became the first facility in the continental United States to destroy its stockpile.

Currently, chemical weapons are being destroyed in Tooele, Utah; Anniston, Ala.; and Umatilla, Ore. Disposal operations are set to begin in the coming months in Pine Bluff, Ark., Newport, Ind.

## APG News

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

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## Choir sings praises



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

### Celebrating the resurrection

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Protestant Service Choir sings "Our Savior is Alive" during the Easter Sunrise Service program at the Edgewood Area chapel March 27.

# APG Police Academy receives accreditation

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

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Academy soared to higher heights, March 19, when it was awarded one of the highest accreditations in the country for police training facilities during the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. conference and commission hearings in Birmingham, Ala.

Robert Krauer, director of Law Enforcement and Security, and Police Academy Commanader Capt. Erick Stone attended the conference and accepted the honor.

"I'm exceptionally proud of the academy and its track record, Krauer said. "Captain Stone and his staff worked tirelessly on this project and their efforts continue to get us ready for the upcoming agency-wide law enforcement assessment scheduled for April 30."

Krauer said that less than 10 police agencies nationwide have managed to attain the national training standard with less than 10 more in the assessment stage.

"I'm confident that we will also be deemed worthy of the national level law enforcement services accreditation," Krauer said.

Stone said the preparation process for accreditation is time-consuming and meticulous. He gave all credit to his staff of instructors, who included officers Lyle DeShaw, Raymond J. Kinlein; John La Cotti; Matthew Kerstetter and Thomas W. Wardrope, a retired Maryland state trooper who is the academy's lead instructor.

"We have more than 1,200 files to maintain and ensure they are ready for inspection," Stone said. "The files are designed to demonstrate that we have procedural policies in place and that we are following the policies."

The academy trains police officers from installations and organizations from within the Department of Defense.

Graduates' files are maintained on every officer's progress through the academy from in-processing to graduation.

In addition, training resources available to students include a computer based library system of U.S. laws, codes, federal regulations and local and installation policies and procedures.

Stone said that the academy is the most consistent and professionally operated agency in the DoD system.

"When you mention DoD police programs and CALEA, people think of Aberdeen Proving Ground on a nationwide basis," Stone said. "We are considered to be on the same level as agencies in places like Fulton County in Atlanta, and Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery and Kent counties in Maryland.

Wardrope agreed, adding that the academy's role is critical to the DoD force protection mission.



From left, Capt. Erick Stone, commander of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Academy, reviews file input procedures with officer Lyle DeShaw in preparation for an April records inspection by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., as officer Tom Wardrope, the academy's lead instructor, looks on.

"With so many outside agencies coming in, what we teach during the country's heightened status can make a difference in more places than just here," Wardrope said. "We push the students to the limit but we do that for a purpose, to make sure the reinforced training is there."

A veteran of 30 years in law enforcement, Wardrope said he appreciates working with the academy's group of professionals.

"Even though I'm lead instructor it's still a learning process," he said. "I try to keep an eye open and treat people the way I want to be treated. I've been doing this for over 30 years but I'm still learning."

"We instruct our officers to understand that their customers are the people who come on the installation whether they are military or civilian," Stone added. "Our military personnel and civilian employees deserve and demand an effective police department. When these service members deploy they need to feel that their families are secure."

"We take pride in what we do and in what we've accomplished," Stone said. "This accreditation proves that we have met or exceeded the national standards in law enforcement."

## Funding

From front page

to provide infrastructure upgrades and services that have been most lacking during recent months.

The new 90-90 funding renews the Army's commitment to improving the quality of life for Soldiers and their families.

Funding installations to 90 percent of requirements provides a more predictable level of funding that gives garrison commanders more control in managing their communities.

Col. John T. Wright, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, said that as of yet, no funds have been allocated to the garrison.

"We have yet to receive specifics, but our intentions once they are received will be to continue priorities as

they are laid out," Wright said.

"Specifically, as we continue to move ahead throughout the fiscal year, we will continue to focus on work orders for where our Soldiers are living, where our families are living and where our civilians are working," he said.

"We have no way to judge what this means to APG. When we get that information, the garrison will be making an evaluation as to where that funding should go.

"We have not cut back on programs and we are not planning to cut back," Wright said.

IMA planners are working to execute the new funding for maximum impact on the installations. Funding will be released through a phased plan over the balance of this year and through an annual funding program for future years.

# Taking steps against identity theft

Federal Trade Commission

Given the recent news of potential compromise of Government Travel Card information, there are options available to safeguard identity and credit. The news of the travel card issue does not necessarily indicate the accounts or personal information has gotten into the wrong hands.

The guidance below suggests actions that can be taken by anyone who suspects that identity theft or credit fraud has been committed against them.

How can someone steal an identity? Identity theft occurs when someone uses personal information such as name, Social Security number, credit card number or other identifying information, without permission to commit fraud or other crimes.

Identity theft is a serious crime. People whose identities

have been stolen can spend months or years - and their hard-earned money - cleaning up the mess thieves have made of their good name and credit record. In the meantime, victims may lose job opportunities, be refused loans, education, housing or cars, or even get arrested for crimes they didn't commit.

Anyone who thinks their identity has been stolen should:

- Contact the fraud departments of any one of the three major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit file. The fraud alert requests creditors to contact you before opening any new accounts or making any changes to your existing accounts. As soon as the credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, the other two credit bureaus will be automatically notified to place fraud alerts, and all three credit

reports will be sent to you free of charge.

- Close the accounts that are believed to have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. Use the ID Theft Affidavit when disputing new unauthorized accounts.

- File a police report. Get a copy of the report to submit to creditors and others that may require proof of the crime.

- File a complaint with the FTC. The FTC maintains a database of identity theft cases used by law enforcement agencies for investigations. Filing a complaint also helps the FTC learn more about identity theft and the problems victims are having so that they can better assist the consumer.

For more in-depth information on recovering from identity theft and help with specific problems, read *Take Charge: Fighting Back Against Identity Theft*.

Learn how to minimize risk or recover from identity theft with FTC top guides or visit <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/index.html>.

At minimum, everyone should carefully monitor the activity on their travel card and any other credit accounts on a regular basis.

# Community Notes

**FRIDAY  
APRIL 1  
SHRIMP AND BULL  
ROAST**

Holy Family House will sponsor a Spring Fling Shrimp and Bull Roast 7 p.m. to midnight, April 1, at Jarrettsville Gardens, 3825 Federal Hill Road. Music will be provided by DJ Jenny Z. Proceeds will benefit Holy Family House, a non-profit organization supporting Harford County's homeless families.

Tickets cost \$35 per person; must be 21 or older to attend.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-273-6700.

**SATURDAY  
APRIL 2  
CONFERENCE FOR  
CAREGIVERS**

The Geriatric Assistance and Information Network (GAIN) and the Harford County Office on Aging will hold the 8th annual "Caring for Those Who Care" Conference for caregivers, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the McFaul Activities Center, 523 West MacPhail Road, Bel Air.

The conference is free; space is limited. The deadline for reservations is March 29.

For more information or to make a reservation, call the Office on Aging at 410-638-3025.

**WACVA MONTHLY  
MEETING**

The Women's Army Corps Veterans Association Maryland Free State Chapter #70 will meet 11 a.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Citizen Center.

All women who have served or are serving in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Army Corps, Regular Army, Army Reserve, Army National

Guard and Army Nurse Corps are welcome to attend. Also welcome as associate members, are women of the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard.

For more information about the association, contact Sheila Smith, 410-273-1687 or visit Web sites [www.wacva.com](http://www.wacva.com) or [www.armywomen.org](http://www.armywomen.org).

**BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit VFW Post 8185 Men's Auxiliary 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 VFW Post 8185, 410-642-9297.

**WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 6  
DAV  
CHAPTER MEETING**

Bel Air Chapter 30 of the DAV will meet at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 39, 500 Conowingo Road, Bel Air.

For more information, call George Mitchell, 410-879-0861.

**SATURDAY  
APRIL 9  
WACVA CHAPTER  
114 MEETING**

The Chesapeake Beacon, Chapter 114, of the Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Perry Point VA Medical Center Outpatient Clinic, 10

to 11:30 a.m.

All women serving in the armed forces are welcome to attend and decide whether they would like to join the Women's Army Corps as regular members of the chapter (all women serving in the Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Army Nurse Corps, Women's Army Corps and Women's Army Auxiliary Corps), members-at-large (women who do not want to belong to a chapter at this time), or associate members (women in the Air Force, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard).

There is an on-going membership drive.

For more information, call or e-mail Wanda Story, 410-272-5040 or OkieGirlMD@aol.com or visit Web site [www.wacva.com](http://www.wacva.com).

**SUNDAY  
APRIL 14  
BIRD WATCHING  
TOUR**

Join the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center as they survey the park on foot to count and record the birds they hear and see, noon to 3 p.m.

The survey will assist the Center to keep valuable records of feathered residents.

There is no charge for this event.

Reservations are required. The Estuary Center is located in southern Harford County, just east of Edgewood and 18 miles northeast of Baltimore City at 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon.

For more information, directions, or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext 1688.

## MOVIES

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

**HITCH**

**Friday, April 1, 7 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 2, 9 p.m.**

Starring: Will Smith, Eva Mendes

While helping his latest client woo the fine lady of his dreams, a professional "date doctor" (Smith) finds his game doesn't quite work on the gossip columnist (Mendes) with whom he's smitten. (Rated PG-13)

**AAFES PRE-SCREENING**

**SAHARA**

**(FREE ADMISSION)**

Saturday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Penelope Cruz

Master explorer Dirk Pitt (Matthew McConaughey) takes on the adventure of his life when he embarks on a treasure hunt through some of the most dangerous regions of North Africa. Searching for what locals call "The Ship of Death," a long lost Civil War battleship filled with coins. Pitt and his wisecracking sidekick (Steve Zahn) use their wits and clever heroics to help Doctor Eva Rojas (Cruz) when they realize the ship may be linked to mysterious deaths in the very same area. (PG-13)

## POST SHORTS

### Blue Ribbon Campaign kick-off

The Army Community Services Family Advocacy will begin its Blue Ribbon Campaign celebrating Child Abuse Prevention Month, 11 a.m., April 5.

The kick-off event includes finger printing for children from birth to 18 years of age and an information table.

The public is invited to attend.

For more information, call 410-278-7478.

### Coffee house invites service members

All Aberdeen Proving Ground service members are invited to visit the Christian Coffee House, also known as "The Well," for a spiritually refreshing good time. Lounge on sofas and chat with friend, watch movies on the big screen TV, enjoy free refreshments, play games, listen to live music or join in with your own voice or instrument.

Located in building 4308, next to the Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion barracks, "The Well" is open every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. until everyone leaves.

For more information, contact Pfc. Steven Presser, chaplain assistant, 410-278-5395.

### Hydrant flushing begins in April

The City of Aberdeen is scheduled to start fire hydrant flushing in the Aberdeen Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground on April 4.

Flushing will take place between the hours of 4 p.m. and midnight, Monday through Friday, and should take approximately six weeks to complete. Signs will be posted in the Family Housing Areas while flushing is being performed.

Bayside Village, New Chesapeake Gardens – week 1  
Patriot Village – week 1-2  
Trailer Park – week 2  
Plum Point Housing – week 4 or 5

Hydrant flushing is subject to change due to the 1.5 mgd withdrawal permit.

For more information, call Dennis Overbay at 410-306-1844, or e-mail dennis.overbay@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Ed Starnes memorial April 4

A memorial service will be held 3 p.m., April 4 at the Aberdeen Area Chapel for Ed Starnes, the former public affairs officer for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, who passed away Feb. 19 in New Hampshire, one month after ending a 36-year career in government service, the last 18 of which he served with the OC&S.

Members of the Water

Witch Fire Company of Port Deposit, where Starnes volunteered as an Emergency Medical Technician, will participate in the service.

For more information, contact Steve Reimer, OC&S chief of plans and operations, 410-278-0555.

### ASAP Alcohol screening April 7

The Army Substance Abuse Program will observe National Alcohol Screening Day with screening booths, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. April 7 at the Post Exchange on the Aberdeen Area and at the Edgewood Area Shoppette. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions and offer pamphlets and other information.

For more information, contact Cindy Scott at 410-278-5319.

### ASAP site up and running

The new Army Substance Abuse Program Web site is up and running and accessible from the Aberdeen Proving Ground home page. Click on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the screen.

The site contains information, training schedules, links to substance abuse and youth awareness Web sites and online supervisor and alcohol training.

### Improving English skills

The Army Community Service Relocation Program offers English for Speakers of Other Languages classes for those needing a refresher course or for those with little or no English speaking or writing skills 9:30 to 11 a.m., Fridays, April 8 through May 13, at ACS, building 2754, Rodman Road.

The course is open to military personnel, APG civilians, retirees and adult family members 18 years and older.

The class is also designed for foreign-born adults providing an opportunity to improve their English comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills. An instructor from Harford Community College will teach all sessions. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669.

### Adult American citizenship class

The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer a free class for military personnel or family members, preparing to take the Immigration and Naturalization test for American citizenship 6 to 8 p.m., Fridays, April 8 through May 13, at ACS, building

2754 Rodman Road.

The class covers citizenship procedures, how to fill out applications, basic American History and the Constitution. Attendees must attend all sessions to receive a Harford Community College certificate for attending a Citizenship class. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, call Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

### KUSAHC closes on Saturdays

Effective April 1, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will no longer be open on Saturday.

For appointments, call the clinic at 410-278-5475. Clinic hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Active Duty Sick Call hours remain the same with sign in at 5:30 a.m. for both the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Troop Medical clinics.

### Flu vaccine for military eligible beneficiaries

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is encouraging all military eligible beneficiaries to get protected by getting a flu shot. Eligible health care beneficiaries include those who are active duty or retirees and their eligible family members.

The Kirk Immunization Clinic at Aberdeen is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon, closed each day for lunch noon to 1 p.m. and reopens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1 to 4 p.m. On Thursday afternoon, the hours are 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information or updates, call the Flu Vaccine Hotline at 410-305-FLUV (4-3588).

### Antiterrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) training schedule

Annual antiterrorism awareness training for civilian and military personnel is available at the Intelligence Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, building 4727, room 20, Deer Creek Loop, or online at [www.at-awareness.org](http://www.at-awareness.org).

The access word for the site is AWARE. After completion of the self-paced course, provide one copy of the certificate to training coordinators and keep one copy.

Training is held at on Tuesdays, 8 to 9:30 a.m. at DLES on April 5; April 19; May 3; May 17; June 7; June 21; July 5; July 19; Aug. 9; Aug. 23; Sept. 6; Sept. 20; Oct. 11; Oct. 25; Nov. 8; Nov. 22; Dec. 6; and Dec. 20.

### 20th Support Command schedules ceremony

There will be an assumption of command ceremony 10 a.m., April 15, at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810, for Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin W. Womack Sr., senior non-commissioned officer of the U.S. Army 20th Support Command (CBRNE).

For additional information on the ceremony, call Sgt. Maj. Mark Froom, 410-436-0315.

### Holocaust Essay, Display Contest

All military, civilian, and family members within the APG community are invited to participate in the Holocaust essay and display contest sponsored by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools. The theme for this year's observance is "Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice."

Displays may include models, posters and/or collages. Essays must be double-spaced, 12 fonts and two to four pages in length. The essay and display entry deadline is April 19.

The award ceremony will be held 2 p.m., April 28 in the Wadsworth Lobby of building 3071. Plaques will be awarded to first and second place winners in each category.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Arbel Connor, 410-278-2529, Sgt. 1st Class Peggy McCormick, 410-278-5598, or Sgt. 1st Class Tasha Ahmed, 410-436-1076.

### Law Day 2005 luncheon

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will sponsor the Law Day 2005 Law Day luncheon 11:30 a.m., April 28 at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker will be Paul W. Grimm, U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

Cost to attend is \$14, payable by check to John R. Lilly. Seating is limited. Proper photo identification must be provided to enter APG; allow 10 minutes to enter APG. R.S.V.P. by April 20 to Nora Farrell, 410-278-

1107, building 310, wing 1. No late responses or payments will be accepted after April 20.

### Mowing season approaches

The grass cutting season runs April 15 through Nov. 15.

Changes have been made to increase the services provided to highly visible and much traveled areas such as the Post Chapel, PX, Commissary, bowling Center area and Burger King. Other areas less traveled such as large fields and ranges will be allowed to grow a few inches higher as a cost saving measure.

Tenant activities requiring service above the basic level must provide such information to the DIO. Information must include the type of service and the date the service is required.

For more information, contact the Contracting Officer Representative George Phillips at 410-306-2311.

### 2005 National Gulf War Resource Center Conference

The National Gulf War Resource Center will hold its 2005 Conference May through

8, in Orlando.

The conference will center on a reunion of Gulf War veterans from 1991 and current veterans from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The NGWRC requests that organizations attend this event and share information with their members to ensure that the newest veterans do not fall through the cracks when they come home.

There will be information and discussions to educate veterans, the public, panelists, media and Congress. Presentations will include findings related to treatment and science related to exposures in the 1991 Gulf War and current needs of veterans from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

For more information, call Steve Robinson, 301-996-8450, e-mail srobinson@ngwrc.org, or visit the NGWRC Web site, [www.ngwrc.org](http://www.ngwrc.org).

The phone number for the Crowne Plaza Hotel is 1-407-856-0100, or visit the Plaza Web site, [www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hd/mcohn?irs=null](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hd/mcohn?irs=null).

# APG focuses on Alcohol Awareness Month

ASAP

Aberdeen Proving Ground has a special interest in underage drinking. At any one time there are between 2,000 to 2,500 young Soldiers residing on APG while attending Advanced Individual Training.

Alcohol Awareness Month is the national public awareness campaign focusing on issues related to alcohol use and abuse. The 2005 Alcohol Awareness Month focus is underage drinking.

Cindy Scott, Substance

Abuse Program Prevention coordinator said that the ASAP staff briefs both the 143rd and 16th Battalion, and 61st Ordnance Brigades' new advanced individual training Soldiers every Monday morning to ensure that the dangers and regulations regarding under age drinking and binge drinking are clearly understood.

"There are a number of different definitions for binge drinking ranging from an excessive number of drinks in one sitting to having periods of

uncontrollable drinking," Scott said. "In any case binge drinking is an unhealthy pattern of drinking that can be a sign of, or lead to, alcoholism."

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism defines binge drinking as "having five or more drinks for males or four or more drinks for females, in one session."

Binge drinking, along with many other alcohol related articles, will be featured in the *APG News* throughout

Alcohol Awareness Month including the topics of: "Alcohol Awareness," Medicines, Alcohol and Aging; "What You Should Know About Alcohol," "Over-The Counter Medicine and Alcohol Use," and "New Over-The-Counter Medicine Labeling Use" will be addressed as well as information on the work of Installation Prevention Team, the new Risk Reduction Program and upcoming policies for the safety of the APG community.

National Alcohol Screening

Day is Thursday, April 7, and again this year the APG ASAP will sponsor screening sites at both the Aberdeen Area Post Exchange and Edgewood Area Shoppette from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

"Jareta Coyle, ASAP Alcohol Drug Control officer, started this important community service program last year and she, along with the ASAP staff, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic personnel, and Soldiers serving as unit prevention leaders, will be at each site assisting with the question-

naire, answering questions, making necessary referrals and handing out substance abuse awareness materials and "free" participation items," Scott said.

Additional information on Alcohol Screening Day, Alcohol Awareness Month and ASAP information can be obtained by contacting any ASAP staff member at 410-278-3784/3810 or visiting the new ASAP Web Site by clicking on the blue ASAP box on the front page of the APG web site, [www.apg.army.mil](http://www.apg.army.mil).

## Knowing the dangers--medicines, alcohol and aging

ASAP

The Army Substance Abuse Program wants everyone to know about medicines, alcohol and aging.

As the body ages, the need to take more, and different kinds of medication tends to increase. Also, growing older means that bodies respond differently to alcohol and to medication than when they were younger.

Everyone should be aware that some medicines won't mix well with other medications, including over-the-counter medications and herbal remedies. Many medications do not mix well with alcohol.

Because medicine and alcohol misuse can happen unintentionally, it is important to know if there is a problem.

"There are some signals that may indicate an alcohol or medication-related problem: memory trouble after having a drink or taking medicine; loss of coordination (walking unsteadily, frequent falls); changes in sleeping habits; unexplained bruises; being unsure of yourself; irritability, sadness, depression; unexplained chronic pain; changes in eating habits; wanting to stay alone a lot of the time; having trouble finishing sentences; having trouble concentrating; difficulty staying in touch with family or friends; or lack of interest in usual activities," said Cindy Scott, ASAP Prevention Coordinator. "If you think you may be having trouble with alcohol or medications, and want to avoid problems, here are some things you can do:

- Talk with someone you trust
- Talk with your doctor or other health professional. They can check for any problems you may be having, and can discuss treatment options with you.

- Share your concerns with a friend or family member or spiritual advisor

- Talk with the Employee Assistance Program Manager for assessment and referral.

Take steps on our own:

- Read the labels of your medications carefully and follow the directions

• Look for pictures or statements on prescriptions and pill bottles that state not to drink alcohol while taking the particular medicine. If taking medication for sleeping, pain, anxiety, or depression, it is unsafe to drink alcohol

• If you have never been diagnosed with a drinking problem, one alcoholic drink a day is the recommended limit for anyone over the age of 65. That's 12 ounces of beer, 1.5 ounces of distilled spirits or 5 ounces of wine.

Sharing the right information with a health care professional is very important.

• Make a list for the doctor of all your medications (including doses), especially on the first visit. Keep it updated, and carry it with you.

• Remind the doctor or pharmacist about any previous condition that might affect your ability to take certain medications, such as stroke, hypertension, serious heart disease, liver problems or lung disease.

• Don't be afraid to ask questions if the meaning of a word is unclear, if instructions are unclear, or if more information is needed.

• Whenever possible, have the doctor or a member of the medical staff provide written advice or instructions," Scott said.

## Alcohol awareness questionnaire

ASAP

"The Army Substance Abuse Program continues to provide up to date and important alcohol use and abuse information to ensure that the Aberdeen Proving Ground community members have the best information to help them make the best choices," said Cindy Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator.

Do you have alcohol use concerns about a family member or friend?

How can you recognize signs of an alcohol problem in someone you care about?

Check all that apply:

— Guilt about drinking

— Drinking to calm nerves, forget worries or boost a sad mood

— Unsuccessful attempts to cut down/stop drinking

— Lying about or hiding drinking habits

— Causing harm to oneself or someone else as a result of drinking

— Needing to drink increasingly greater amounts in order to achieve desired effect

— Feeling irritable, resentful, or unreasonable when not drinking

— Medical, social, family, or financial problems caused by drinking

— Spending a great deal of time getting alcohol or drinking alcohol

— Drinking in risky situations such as before driving or engaging in unwanted/unprotected sex

*(Editor note: Source: Adapted from Greenfield, S. Educational Lecture for National Alcohol Screening Day, 1999. Updated by Richard Saitz, MD, MPH)*

### Interpreting questions

If any of the questions are checked, consider talking with a health care professional or contacting the Army Substance Abuse Program, Employee Assistance Program Manager William Sanchious, 410-278-5319, for assistance.

If a friend or family member may have an alcohol problem:

• Let the friend or family member know that risky drinking can lead to more severe alcohol problems including alcohol dependence (alcoholism), as well as injuries and unwanted/unprotected sex.

• Seek out resources in the local community such as AA, Al-Anon, and Alateen, as well as mental health clinics, therapists, clergy, doctors, and social workers who are knowledgeable about alcohol problems. Don't let pride or fear block efforts to get help for yourself, a friend or a family member.

• Use available resources. Encourage the friend or family member to get help, but remember the only person you can change is yourself. Don't hesitate to use the resources to help yourself.

• Don't make excuses for the drinker. Family members often try to protect a loved one from the consequences of his or her drinking by making excuses to others. Making excuses allows the loved one to avoid changing for the better.

• Choose a good time to talk with the drinker, such as shortly after an alcohol-related problem has occurred. Choose a time when he or she is sober, when both of you are calm and when you can speak privately.

• Be specific. Tell the friend or family member that you are concerned about his or her drinking and want to be supportive in getting help. Back up your concerns with examples of the ways in which his or her drinking has caused problems for both of you, including the most recent incident.

• Seek out the people and resources that can support you. Keep in mind that you are not alone. There is hope and practical help available.

For information, educational materials, or prevention education training or classes, contact Cynthia Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator, 410-278-3784, [Cynthia.Scott@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:Cynthia.Scott@usag.apg.army.mil), or William Sanchious, employee assistance program manager, 410-278-5319, [William.Sanchious@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:William.Sanchious@usag.apg.army.mil) or visit the ASAP Office in building 2477 and speak with an ASAP staff member.



# Army News



## DoD issues confidentiality policy for sexual assault victims

Department of Defense

The Department of Defense announced March 18 a new policy that establishes department guidelines for confidential, restricted reporting by victims of sexual assault.

Restricted reporting allows a sexual assault victim, on a confidential basis, to disclose the details of his/her assault to specifically identified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling, without triggering the official investigative process.

"Through our research, we have learned that providing confidentiality to victims will actually increase the probability that cases will be reported, cases that are currently unknown to us," said Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness David S.C. Chu. "While we want to sustain good order and discipline by holding those who assault their fellow service members accountable for their actions, first and foremost we want victims to come forward for help."

Many experts claim that sexual assault is the most under-reported violent crime in the nation and in the military.

Many victims are unprepared to withstand the rigors of a full-fledged investigation immediately following their assault. Rather than comply with the Department's former policy of mandatory reporting, some victims did not seek treatment, thereby denying themselves access to needed medical services and support.

Restricted reporting is intended to give a victim additional time and increased control over the release and management of his/her personal information, and to empower him/her to seek relevant information and support to make more informed decisions about participating in a criminal investigation.

A victim who receives appropriate care and treatment, and is provided an opportunity to make an informed decision about a criminal investigation, is more likely to develop increased trust that his/her needs are of primary concern to the command and may eventually decide to pursue an investigation. Even if the victim chooses not to pursue an official investigation, this additional reporting avenue gives commanders a clearer picture of the sexual violence within their command, and enhances a commander's ability to provide an environment, which is safe and contributes to the well-being and mission readiness of all of its members.

The Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, in conjunction with the military services, will coordinate specific implementation details.

The magnitude of this change requires extensive, in-depth training for all DoD personnel and specialized training for commanders, senior enlisted advisors, investigators, healthcare providers and others involved in sexual assault response.

To ensure consistent application across the military services, the confidentiality policy will become effective 90 days from the date the memorandum to the military departments was issued, which was March 16, 2005.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense will be working closely with the military departments to implement the policies in an effective and timely manner.

The joint task force will continue to provide oversight of the process.

The policy memorandum can be found at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Mar2005/d20050318dsd.pdf>.



Photo by CONRAD JOHNSON

Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, left, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, signs the 2005 Law Day Proclamation as Lt. Col. Steven M. Parke, staff judge advocate, looks on in RDECOM headquarters March 25.

## CG signs Law Day proclamation

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News  
RDECOM

Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command officially recognized the nation's annual Law Day observance by signing a proclamation in the presence of the installation's legal leaders.

Lt. Col. Steven M. Parke, staff judge advocate, and Capt. John Lily, legal assistance attorney, witnessed the signing in Nadeau's office March 25.

Nadeau said that the observance is, "a great opportunity for citizens to learn more about the military legal system."

"This is another mechanism to be actively involved in our system," Nadeau said. "If you are innocent, you are probably better off coming up on the military side of the house."

Parke agreed, adding that jury duty becomes an appointees' "assignment of duty."

"In the military, it truly is a panel of your peers," Parke said. "They know where you come from."

The Law Day observance will bring together a large contingent of legal practitioners from Harford County and the federal and military community, Parke said.

Information detailing the annual Law Day observance in May is listed in the *APG News*' Post Shorts on page 5.

## Contributions being accepted for AER

USAGAPG

Army Emergency Relief is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated solely to "Helping the Army Take Care of its Own." AER is governed under bylaws established by the AER Board of Managers and receives no funds from the federal government. AER is supported by voluntary contributions from Soldiers (active and retired) solicited once a year during the Army's annual fund campaign for AER. AER has been the

Army's emergency financial assistance organization since 5 February 1942 and is the only organization dedicated solely to helping Soldiers and their families in time of emergency financial need.

The annual fund raising campaign for AER began March 1 and will continue through May 15. Contributions may be made by allotment, cash or check.

In 2004, the AER Office on Aberdeen Proving Ground disbursed \$183,920.40 in assistance to 158 active duty Army, 39 Army retirees, seven Army widows, and three active duty Marines. "Contributions will assure continued availability of AER funds to meet the assistance needs of fellow Soldiers," said Marge Fissel, AER officer.

For information on donating to AER, contact a unit representative or AER Campaign Coordinator Maj. Anissa McNeill, 410-278-2104/3000, or Fissel, 410-278-2508.

## New TRICARE Reserve Select available to RC

OSD

TRICARE Reserve Select is a new premium-based health plan that may be available to certain members of the Reserve Component and their families, if specific eligibility requirements are met.

Effective April 2005, the Department of Defense will implement TRS -- a premium-based health care plan available for purchase by certain eligible members of the National Guard and Reserve who have been activated for a contingency operation on or after Sept. 11, 2001. TRS will provide comprehensive health care coverage similar to TRICARE Standard and Extra for TRS members and their covered family members.

TRS coverage is available to eligible RC members who have served on active duty, under Title 10, in support of a contingency operation on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Contingency operations include Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. RC Members will need to agree to continued service in the Selected Reserve for one or more whole years to qualify.

TRS coverage must be purchased. TRS members pay a monthly premium for health care coverage (for self-only or for self and family).

For more information and to subscribe for continuing updates, visit the TRICARE Web site, <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect/index.cfm>.

# THE ARMY ORDNANCE MUSEUM

## RESTORING HISTORY FOR THE FUTURE

### APG Restoration facility preserves military artifacts

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

The U.S. Army Ordnance Museum is in the sixth year of a restoration project of its fleet of military artifacts that has been so successful it is slated to become the Army's macro Artifact Restoration Facility.

Dr. F. William Atwater, the museum's director, said that the Center for Military History has committed to additional funding for the multi-million dollar project to restore the museum's aging artifacts.

In addition, the museum will become the restorer for the National Museum of the U.S. Army slated to open on the Army's birthday, June 14, 2009 in Fort Belvoir, Va.

"This is huge for the Ordnance Museum," Atwater said. "Not only will we be credited with restoring the

Army's priceless artifacts but the potential is there to loan them artifacts we have on hand here, like Gen. Pershing's staff car, which will bring even more prestige."

What began as an environmental project to halt storm water runoff of lead-based paints that were used on most of the dated items on display in the museum's tank farm, turned into a full-blown restoration program funded by the Installation Management Agency with help from the Ordnance Corps Foundation.

"The National Preservation Act and the National Antiquities Act says that if you have the only artifact left in the world, then you must take care of it," Atwater said.

"Well many items here are either the last in the world or the last in U.S. possession. These are significant pieces of the patrimony of the nation to which the U.S. Army is responsible."

Just over 100 vehicles, tanks and artillery pieces have been restored to date, with about 140 more to go, Atwater said.

"You see the end result every day when you drive by the tanks on Maryland Boulevard or on Fanshaw Field," Atwater said.

The restoration process takes place in a warehouse on the Aberdeen Area of the proving ground. Inside, contractors from EDSI, Engineering Documentation Systems, Inc., go through the laborious process of restoration that includes removing rust and paint with a 43,000 psi high power water blaster, and applying environmentally friendly paint that goes for \$100 per gallon.

There is a lot more to the process than just removing rust, said Jerry Kendrick, a retired master sergeant and EDSI project manager.

Kendricks' crew of five workers must enter each vehicle, inspect and remove any hazardous materials such as radium coated dials and old oils and lubricants.

Every step of restoration, from removal and replacement of equipment and parts, restoring corroded or worn away areas, cleaning, painting and even transporting the artifact back into the museum inventory, is photographed and cataloged as a part of that vehicles' history, Kendrick said.

"My folks follow procedures to the letter," Kendrick said, noting that safety is the top priority.

"There are a lot of ways to hurt yourself so we think safety first," he said.

On the project since its inception in 1999, Kendrick said that they find new challenges every day. One innovation instituted by the crew involved reusing the water from the blast bay. The water is run through a centrifuge system. Heavy metals, paints and other contaminants are filtered out. Workers configured the system so that totally clean water is pumped back into a holding tank for reuse through a water softener and compressor.

"This way we're not dumping the water outside," Kendrick said. A significant achievement by the EDSI crew involves the restoration of a Sherman Tank for the U.S. Marine Corps Museum at Quantico, Va. Kendrick said the crew had to design a special tool to remove each track link.

"We had to palletize the links so as not to damage them in any way," Kendrick said. The tank was restored from the inside out, with everything from new paint to rivets, making it a fully functioning piece of equipment. He said the restoration took about five months and 1,500 man-hours to complete.

"The engine and crew compartments are absolutely pristine, not a speck of dust or lubricants," Atwater said, adding that the tank will be displayed indoors.

Several ongoing activities include the removal of POL from a M-1921 self-propelled machine gun, the first of its kind in the U.S. Army and the only one left in the world.

"This is a significant possession," Atwater said, noting that the artifact has been on the installation since 1921. Its tracks had to be moved and restored separately.

"This was way ahead of its time," Atwater said. "It was the grand-daddy of all self-propelled artillery, built on a Holt Tractor chassis, which was a common farm tractor of the day."

"Pieces like this illustrate our legal and moral responsibility to preserve. If we don't preserve them, they are gone."

Another rare piece about to go through the process is an M-103 tank with a 120 mm gun. Constructed in the 1950s, the tank was so big the Army didn't want it so the gave it to the Marine Corps," Atwater said, and the Army went to the M-48 universal tank. He said the tank has to first be drained of lubricants and water that has collected inside of it before the restoration process can begin.

"When the restoration process is complete, this vehicle will look better than it did when it rolled off the assembly line," Atwater said.

Citing the "hugely important," ongoing museum expansion project that seeks to eventually provide 10 additional buildings for permanent protection of the museum's artifacts, Atwater said that pieces like the M-103, "illustrate the need for a larger museum so they can be stored inside and protected from the elements."

"If we don't do something today, 25 years from now, we'll be doing this all over again," Atwater said.



A U.S. M103 Heavy Tank sits in the Artifact Restoration Facility yard. The turret area was so large, the crew was even issued a hammock.

“When the restoration process is complete, this vehicle will look better than it did when it rolled off the assembly line.”

-Dr. F. William Atwater  
Museum director



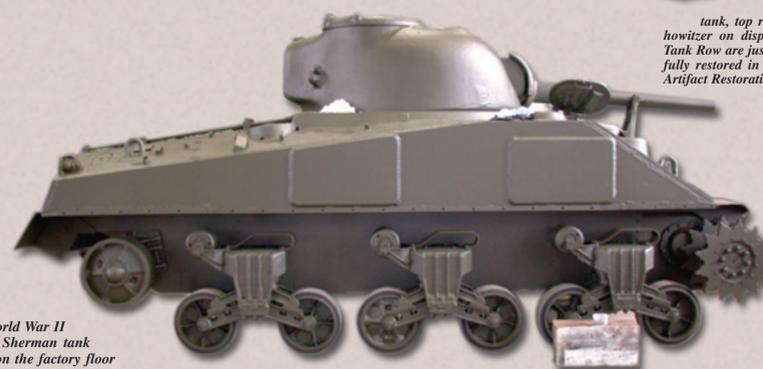
A skeleton tank engine is being drained of its lubricants in the restoration facility.



Corroded tracks from a rare M-1921 self-propelled gun illustrate the level of damage to many of America's priceless artifacts.



A German Leopard 1 tank, top left, a British MK-IV (Honey) tank, top right, and a U.S. M-55 self-propelled howitzer on display on Aberdeen Proving Ground's Tank Row are just a few of the artifacts that have been fully restored in the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum's Artifact Restoration Facility.



A World War II U.S. Sherman tank sits on the factory floor awaiting final detailing before being returned to the Marines.



A worker in protective gear uses a high power water blaster to remove rust from a 20 mm cannon inside the Artifact Restoration Facility blast booth.



During the cleaning process, small parts can be placed in the parts washer to have all the dirt and rust removed prior to painting and final reassembly.



# Morale, Welfare & Recreation

## 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.

Aberdeen Area 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. Edgewood Area 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.

### NASA Space Camp applications being accepted until tomorrow

Applications are being accepted for the 2005 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial Space Camp scholarship until April 1. Children of an active duty military parent enrolled in grades six through 9 are eligible to apply. The scholarship is funded by the Military Child Education Coalition.

Full tuition includes meals, lodging, program materials and transportation from the student's home base to nearest Space Camp.

For more information or to apply for the scholarship, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857, or visit Web site [www.space-camp.com](http://www.space-camp.com).

### Winter, spring Driver Education Classes scheduled

Youth Services will present state certified driver's education classes with 30 hours of instruction each. There will be no classes on holidays. Parents and students must attend the first hour of class together (April 13 and 27, May 11 and 25, etc.) to review rules and procedures.

#### The following classes are scheduled:

Aberdeen Area, building 2752  
 April 13 through April 26, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.  
 May 11 through May 24, 5:30 to 8:45 p.m.  
 Edgewood Area, Conference Center, building E-4811  
 April 27 through May 10, 6 to 9 p.m.  
 May 25 through June 14, 6 to 9 p.m.  
 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.

### Head Start taking applications for 2005 - 2006 school year

The Maryland Rural Development Corporation Head Start pre-school program will take applications April 1 through the end of June for the 2005 through 2006 school year. Classrooms are located in Aberdeen, Havre de Grace and Edgewood.

To be considered for eligibility, children must turn three before Sept. 1 of this year.

"Our comprehensive pre-school program consists of education, health, nutrition, transportation and family services," said Family Service Worker Pat Berenbrok. "This program is designed to meet the needs of low-income and special needs children and their families."

For more information, call 410-272-6366 ext. 14 or 410-939-5449 ext. 10 (for Spanish).

### New column—Expert educators answer parents' concerns

Is my child ready for kindergarten? How can I help a fifth-grader who hates math? What do you do about a teen who won't communicate?

'Ask the Learning Advisor' is a free weekly syndicated column which addresses these and other topics crucial to children's successful learning—building respect for rules and authority, dealing with peer pressure, discipline, homework, instilling good moral values, responsibility, thinking skills ... and more

It's interactive. All readers' questions submitted to the Learning Advisor receive a prompt, personal reply from education experts.

Download the columns now at no charge—and there's no 'catch.'

For complete information and to register, visit [www.parent-institute.com/media/](http://www.parent-institute.com/media/).

For more information, e-mail Laura Bono at [laura@parent-institute.com](mailto:laura@parent-institute.com) or call 919-403-8887.

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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

The following is a list of some new books available at the APG MWR Library:

**Back in Action: the inspiring true story of the first amputee to return to active command in Iraq** by Capt. David Rozelle

**By Duty Bound: survival and redemption in a time of war** by Brig. Gen. Ezell Ware

**Midas: a thriller** by Russell Andrews

**Burned: a Regan Reilly mystery** by Carol Higgins Clark

**Alice in Jeopardy** by Ed McBain

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

## Family Child Care providers needed

Family Child Care training will be conducted April 18 through 22 at the Edgewood Area Youth Center.

Applicants who are interested in providing home-based childcare at either the Edgewood or Aberdeen Area are encouraged to apply.

Being a professionally trained provider in a home environment offers many benefits: potential for over \$500 per week; self employment; free training in a marketable profession; opportunity to market your business on the army's FCC.Com website; transferable credit to Army installations world wide; free use of lending library; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, health, child development, safety, CPR, taxes), participation in the National CDA credentialing program, the USDA food program, and the National Family Child Care Home Accreditation program.

For more information and to pick up an application, visit the FCC office located in the Aberdeen Area on Rodman Road, building 2752 or call Aphrodite Corsi, 410-278-7477 or Derece Williams, 410-278-8720.

## Registering for the School Age/Middle School Services Summer Program

The Aberdeen and Edgewood Summer Program will run for nine weeks, 6:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, June 20 through Aug. 19.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed 1st through 8th grades. Sign up for the weeks needed. Tuition fees are based on total family income.

Waiting list forms may be picked up and dropped off 7:30 a.m., at the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902 or the Outreach Services building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-2582.

Waiting list forms will not be distributed or accepted at the Aberdeen Youth Services.

Registration will be held April 2 at the Edgewood Youth Services and April 9 at the Aberdeen Youth Services for all sponsors who have been offered openings by the Central Registration office.

Registration packets, an up-to-date physical and family income information must be completed prior to the registration appointment.

A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required per child at the time of registration for each week selected.

For more information, call the Outreach Services Office at 410-278-7571 or 7479.

## 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](mailto:mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil).

### Spring Fling parade

APG will host a community-wide Spring Fling April 16, featuring a parade at 9:30 a.m. followed at 11 a.m. by a variety of games, social leisure and sports activities, refreshments, and entertainment for the entire family.

The parade will begin in the vicinity of the post library, circle Fanshaw Field, pass the reviewing stand at the APG Athletic Center and end at the entrance to Shine Sports Field.

Following the parade, various give-aways and activities will be provided such as balloons, face-painting, caricature

drawings, magic show, meet McGruff, demonstrations by the police SWAT Team, Army Substance Abuse Prevention activities and information, Army Community Service, Child Youth Services, and Community Recreation activities.

In addition, Outdoor Recreation will host an expo featuring items of equipment that are available for rental.

### Coaches needed

The Child and Youth Services/MWR Youth Flag football program is in need of volunteer coaches for the 6- to 8-year old program.

Practices are 1 to 2 days per week for an hour each and games are on Saturdays, beginning May 7.

If interested, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

### Intermediate fencing

En garde! Intermediate fencing classes will be held 7 to 8 p.m., Tuesdays, April 5 through 26, at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326.

Students can fine-tune their movement and execution for

match conditions. Practice and develop strategies and techniques to assist students become successful tournament contenders.

Cost is \$35. All equipment will be provided.

Register by April 1.

### Fundamentals of drawing and painting

Learn basic drawing techniques while creating landscapes, still lifes and portraits, 6 to 7 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 5 through 28 at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326.

Choose water color (brush handling, controlling water volume on the brush and paper) or oil painting (the principles of composition, value, and contrast).

Students are responsible for materials. The instructor will provide a supply list at the first class.

Cost is \$40. Register by April 1.

### Storytelling Workshop

Susan Allen of Harford County Open Doors will present a free Storytelling Workshop for caregivers and parents, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., April 2 at Aberdeen Youth Services, building 2522.

The presentation will be followed with a book making class.

For more information, call Beverly Hartgrove, 410-278-9832 or Pat Palazzi, 410-278-7479.

### Statue of Liberty Tour

This tour, 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. in New York City, includes a ferry ride to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, admission into the Statue of Liberty and lunch. There will also be time to shop.

Cost is \$85. Register by April 7.

### Split Your Sides Laughing Comedy Show

"Split Your Sides Laughing" Comedy Show, Ricky Shackelford Production, will be held April 16 in the APG Post Theater with Laughin' Lenny, Howard "G", Rick Younger and Shelia "Strawberry" Gaskins.

Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show begins at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for upper level, \$15 for upper level in advance and \$20 at the door.

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

### Exton Opening Day Scramble

Exton's Opening Day Scramble will be held April 2.

It will be a 9 a.m. shotgun with a Captain's Choice Scramble.

Cost is \$20 for patrons, \$35 for authorized and Value Card Holders and \$40 for all others. Cost includes light food, a golf cart and prizes.

Register by April 1 at Exton Golf Course, building E-1200 block, 410-436-2213 or MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907.

### Ruggles Opening Day Scramble

Ruggles's Opening Day Scramble will be held April 9.

It will be a 9 a.m. shotgun with a Captain's Choice Scramble.

Cost is \$25 for patrons, \$45 for authorized and Value Card Holders, and \$55 for all others. Cost includes light food, golf cart, and prizes.

Register by April 7 at Ruggles Golf Course, building 5600 block, 410-278-4794 or MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907.



### 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

# Family Corner—Enriching the military life

## ACS shows support for abused children with disabilities

ACS

Children with disabilities are more at risk of abuse and neglect than children without disabilities.

The factors that place these children at higher risk include factors that place all children at risk of maltreatment in addition to other risk factors that are more directly related to disabilities, including:

- Societal attitudes about disabilities
- People's reactions to, and interactions with, children with disabilities (including family members and non-family caregivers)
- Factors that relate to the disability itself
- Program policies and procedures governing the care of children by others

Indicators of abuse for children with disabilities are the same as indicators of abuse for their peers in the general population.

Along with physical signs, two primary ways of identifying abuse are the child's reports and behavioral indicators.

Children with disabilities may exhibit behavioral indicators of abuse that are not recognized as abusive by their caregivers.

Changes in behavior may be attributed to their on-going problems, or inability to communicate appropriately.

Injuries resulting from physical abuse may be ignored if a child has visual or physical limitation. If a child has intellectual limitations, responsible adults may wrongly assume that the child is untrustworthy, especially if the report involves instances of abuse that seem unbelievable or improbable considering the circumstances of the child. Unless a child can communicate what happened, and "be believed," indicators of abuse for children with disabilities can be more difficult to recognize.

In the general population, child victims of abuse are at high risk for multiple problems, including depression, anxiety and low self esteem. Consequences of abuse may be more known in children with disabilities because of their already vulnerable physical and psychological state.

Research has shown that the longer abuse has gone on, the more damage may result. Since the child with disabilities who is abused is less likely to be identified, they are likely to suffer more damage because of long term abuse.

One of the major ways to prevent abuse is for society to believe that abuse can occur with all populations of children. The goal of prevention is to intervene before abuse and neglect can occur.

"Everyone can build strong commitments with our families, friends, neighbors and community to keep our children safe," said Reeshamah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program manager. "It's really important to instill confidence in our children so that they can count on us as trustworthy adults. Each of us acknowledges that child abuse is one danger that we can control."

Forming relationships with local Developmental Disability Councils and other local schools and agencies serving individuals with disabilities can strengthen the network of those who can provide assistance to families.

For more information call Bugg, 410-278-2420. (Editor's note: Throughout the month of April, ACS will publish articles related to Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Child. "Protecting all our children, all the time" is this year's theme.)

## Veterans' voices

### MOAA honors Maryland Veteran of the Year



Retired Col. Orville Hughes speaks at the Military Officers Association of America 2nd Annual Dining-Out, held March 18 at Vitali's Restaurant in Edgewood, after being named the Veteran of the Year by the Maryland Commission on Veterans Affairs.

### Harkins nominates replacements to Veterans' Affairs Commission

Harford County Government

Harford County Executive James Harkins has appointed Lawrence N. Adams, of Havre de Grace and Robert S. Banker, of Fallston, to the Commission on Veterans' Affairs. If approved by the Harford County Council, Adams would represent Disabled American Veterans on the commission, while Banker would take the chair reserved for the Korean War Veterans Association.

The new appointees would take the places of former commission members Joseph A. Crievello Jr. and Anthony C. Cirincione.

Their terms will be coterminous with the county executive; expiring Dec. 4, 2006.

For more information, contact the council office at 410-638-3343.

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

The Maryland Commission on Veterans Affairs has named retired Col. Orville Hughes, past state commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Maryland Veteran of the Year for 2004 to 2005.

The Susquehanna Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America honored Hughes during its 2nd Annual Dining Out at Vitali's Restaurant in Edgewood March 18.

Guest speakers included George Owings III, Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Veronica "Roni" Chenoweth of the Harford County Council.

Chapter president Roy Valiant, a retired warrant officer and current safety manager with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, hosted the ceremony.

Valiant said that the MOAA plans to hold a recognition dinner to honor a veteran every year.

"This year, Orville is our hero because of all the work he's done for veterans," he said.

"It worked out well that Secretary Owings could be here tonight to help us honor him," he said noting that Owings will be unable to attend the state dinner for

Hughes set for April 30

Owings called Hughes a "remarkable individual," and said that, "It's people like you who make this department function properly."

He noted that Hughes served the nation in four separate theaters during World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War, and that he was a POW listed as Missing in Action in Germany where he also earned his Purple Heart.

"Along with his wife of 53 years, Orville Hughes is what history is all about," Owings said.

Hughes received a proclamation from Chenoweth and a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol from Kathy Abbey who represented Maryland Congressman Wayne Gilchrest. He thanked all for their kind words, specifically thanking Senator Barbara Mikulski who participated in a Purple Heart award ceremony with him at APG Feb. 14.

"I can't say enough about what Secretary Owings is doing for veterans," Hughes said. "That staff does not operate without leadership and he is providing that leadership."

With comments from family and friends, Hughes got a little misty and ended asking all to continue to support veterans' causes.

"I can get a sentimental because I'm 83," he said.

### South Dakota giving veterans bonus

**Kayla Trebesch**  
South Dakota Division of Veterans Affairs

The state of South Dakota is paying a veterans bonus of up to \$500 to certain military personnel who were legal residents of the state for no less than six months immediately preceding entry into the armed forces, who are currently on active duty or were honorably discharged from the armed forces, and who served on active duty during one, or both of the following periods:

- Service Jan. 1, 1993 through Sept. 10, 2001 payment will be made only to those who served overseas and were awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary medal, Southwest Asia Service medal, Kosovo campaign medal or any other United States campaign or service medal awarded for participation in combat operations against hostile forces.

- All active duty between Sept. 11, 2001, through a date to be determined, qualifies for a bonus payment.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to SD Veterans Bonus, 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501 or by calling 605-773-4656. An electronic version may be requested by e-mailing Kayla.Trebesch@state.sd.us. Be sure to include name, street or PO box number, city, state and zip code.

### VA centers offers grief counseling

Military.com

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.

### VA offers women veterans health centers

VA

There are eight Women Veterans Comprehensive Health centers in the Veterans Affairs system located in Massachusetts, Florida, North Carolina, Illinois, California, Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

These centers, structured under primary care model, serve as prototypical health care centers for women veterans developing new and enhanced programs focusing on the unique health care needs of women veterans.

They often do research on medical and psychosocial issues of women veterans.

In 1993, VA established a new division within the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder devoted

to studying the impact of military trauma on women veterans.

The Women's Health Science Division, based at the Boston VA Medical Center, is the first of its kind in the country.

The center conducts clinical research addressing trauma-related problems of women veterans.

The studies are designed to improve the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of PTSD in women and provide training for professionals working with PTSD.

For more information about this center, write to VA Medical Center, Women's Health Sciences Division, 150 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130.

### CAC

From front page

vals. If the individual is not present at the time of their appointment, a new appointment must be scheduled.

"Walk-ins are strongly discouraged; however, they may be serviced if an appointment is missed or there is an opening in the schedule," Townsend said.

Effective Friday, April 8, the Aberdeen Badge/ID Office will be open on the non-RDO Fridays, 8 a.m. until noon and 12:30 until 3 p.m., and will continue to be closed on the Friday following payday (RDO Friday).

"We ask for your continued patience since we are currently in the process of reissuing the first round of CAC's that are expiring," Cheek said.

## General puts touch on induction

### Retired chief warrant officer entering Ordnance Hall of Fame

**Skip Vaughn**  
Redstone Rocket

"Hello, this is General Boles," said the voice on the other end of the line. Al Rose thought it was a prank call.

But it was legitimate.

Brig. Gen. Vincent Boles, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance center and schools and the Army's chief of Ordnance, was calling last December to congratulate Rose on his induction into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame.

Rose met Boles in person during the general's quarterly training briefing March 2 at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School. Boles made a special effort to meet Rose, a retired chief warrant officer in Explosive Ordnance Disposal who served three tours in Vietnam.

"I didn't get here without the legacy of the services of people like you," Boles told him.

A New Orleans native, Rose served in Vietnam in 1967 and 68, 1969 and 70 and 1971 and 72. After his military career, he worked as a senior management analyst before retiring in the late 1990s at the Aviation and Missile Command. He resides in Huntsville.

Rose is among 12 inductees this year in the Hall of Fame. Of the inductees, three are historical and nine contemporary. The induction ceremony is May 12 at the Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen.

"It'll be quite an event, we'll look forward to it," Boles told Rose. "And I'm really glad you'll get a chance to come up [to Aberdeen]."

Each year inductees are selected from among 40 to 50 nominees. This year, the board selected three of five warrant officer nominees.

"The three warrants, their files were unbelievable. And I just wanted to make sure I had a chance to come down and see you," Boles told Rose.

The general presented him a coin during a private meeting and then congratulated him again during a morning ceremony at OMEMS.

"I thought it was quite an honor," Rose said of his Hall of Fame selection. "I personally think it's a good way for singling out individuals and recognizing them, those who've made significant contributions. I also appreciate the general adding a personal touch."

Rose was notified by letter just before last Christmas and later received the phone call.

"It was great," he said of the holiday letter. "I was already happy — my kids were home, everything was

going fine. And on top of that, I get this letter from the chief of Ordnance. And then I get a phone call, a personal phone call. I thought it was a joke."

Rose, in his early 60s, is coping with Parkinson's disease. He and his wife, Charlotte, have four children and seven grandchildren. Their daughter Aiko Rose Brum, a retired Marine who resides in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, attended her father's ceremony at OMEMS. She is deputy public affairs officer for Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies under the U.S. Pacific Command at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki. Their son, Kyle, is an electrical engineer technician at Advanced Optical Electronics Company in Huntsville. Their son, Curtis, is a commercial electrician in Denver, Colo. And daughter, Jackie, is a systems engineer with Lockheed Martin in Huntsville, [Ala.].

Grandson, Phillip Rose, Aiko's son, is carrying on the family legacy of military service as an Air Force captain in operational research at Hanscom Air Force Base in the Boston area. The other grandchildren include Demeke, Lynduel, Kordae, Kyle Jr., Felicia and Kathlyn Charlotte.

# Hundreds participate in annual Easter egg hunt

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

More than 200 families from the Aberdeen Proving Ground community participated in the annual Easter egg hunt festivities at the Maryland Boulevard picnic area March 26.

Hosted by Army Community Service, the event featured the holiday egg hunt for age groups infant thru 3, 4 thru 7, and 8 and older.

Other fun-focused activities included posing for photographs with the Easter bunny, face painting and dancing to music provided by a deejay.

Celestine Beckett, ACS director, said that the holiday-focused event, which coincides with the Easter holiday observance, is for the entire community.

"Most importantly, this is a family event for the community," Beckett said. "Parents seem to enjoy it as much as the children."

Beckett thanked the APG Garrison, the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, and 18 non-commissioned officers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Basic NCO Course for assisting with the event.

"We really want to thank the post chapel for supporting us," Beckett added, noting that Spc. Chad Emrick, chaplain assistant, and his wife provided photographic and musical support.

"They have a great turnout and everyone seems to be enjoying themselves," added APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby. "This is just another example of how APG takes care of its own," Irby said.

Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Miller, small group leader, led BNCO Class 074-05. The NCOs hid the plastic eggs, barbecued hot dogs, assist-

ed in setup and cleanup and ran the face painting activities, Miller said.

"We have 18 volunteers out here to assist the ACS as part of our community service commitment," Miller said.

He thanked Sgt. Dennis Dash and Staff Sgt. Bryan Walker for donating the egg prize money.

Other volunteers included six from the AA Youth Center led by Lucinda McDowell, program assistant.

McDowell, lead program assistant Alician Lott, and youth volunteers Betty Jackson, Diana Rose, Katie Knoph and Glenda Coulson made 'Character Counts' bracelets and coordinated bunny egg painting activities for the youths.

"Whenever youth-focused activities are involved, we want to be a part of it," McDowell said. Despite the cool weather and an abundance of leaves that gave the setting a look of fall rather than spring, participants agreed "a good time was had by all."

"This is our first time at the egg hunt but it's a good event for kids," said Staff Sgt. Robert La Duke, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, as he watched his wife, Akeshia and daughters, Ke'Aundra, 5, and Jasmine, 15 months, pose for a photo with the Easter bunny.

"The best part of things like this is you get to meet folks you wouldn't meet otherwise," Akeshia added.

"She's been talking about this all week, and we're all having a great time," said U.S. Marine Corps Detachment Master Sgt. Michael Ryan as he and his wife, Staci, watched their daughter Alexia, 2, dance with the Easter bunny.

Army spouse Myriam Hudson laughed as



she watched her son Keith, 6, become Count Dracula during his face painting.

"He was so excited to come here," Hudson said. "This is great of them to do this for our kids."

When 'egg counter' Emrick realized there were two valuable eggs remaining to be found, he sent the children back to the field in search of the 'golden' eggs.

1st Lt. Glenn Young, Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion, beamed at his daughter Amber, 10, who found the much sought after Easter egg containing \$20.

"She's already planning what she plans to buy with it," Young said.

"This was a great event," he added. "I had as much fun as she did."

The family of the \$10 winner agreed. Retired Staff Sgt. Stuard Thacker and his wife, Ann said their daughter, Kaitlin, 3, was proud to have found the egg on her own.

"It was just excellent this year," Stuard Thacker said. "The kids did all the hunting and parents watched. This is all about having fun and they did it the right way."

## RDECOM

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thought," Belmonte said.

Collaborated efforts of labs and centers under RDECOM are responsible for the quick fielding of the High Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicle Armor Survivability Kit to reduce harm to Soldiers in the CENTCOM area of operations. From a personal account, 1st Sgt. Michael D.

Brown, Company E, 115th Forward Support Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas, said that while deployed to Iraq, his Soldiers personally used the Survivability Kit on their HMMWV.

"Halfway to my destination, my convoy was ambushed with heavy small arms AK-47, Improvised Explosive Devices and rocket propelled grenades," Brown said. "My vehicle was directly engaged with heavy small arms fire receiving multiple hits...and [the bullets] seemed to bounce off and then explode

immediately to my right.

"I am certain that without the kit being installed..., I would not make it home to my wife and daughter safely without even a scratch from this event," Brown said.

"One of the best things that we did was to provide support through some of our inventions to Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Col. Mark L. Grotke, RDECOM, chief of staff. "We played a part as a continuing effort across the command to support operations in Iraq." Grotke empha-

sized that the concept [the joint venture of the labs and centers] of RDECOM is crucial in order to keep moving forward with critical support for U.S. and coalition Soldiers.

Grotke said that one of the hardest things to accomplish this past year was to get all the employees who are now part of RDECOM, to accept the change.

"Getting thousands people to do something different than what they've been used to is kind of difficult. It's vital to keep the mind set of

RDECOM as opposed to individual organizations," Grotke said.

Grotke added that RDECOM was still having growing pains, but the one thing amongst the centers and thousands of employees that was universally agreed on was the need to maintain focus on supporting Soldiers, both abroad and at home.

"There are still inventions to invent and much needed support to our troops. The sky's the limit to what RDECOM can do."

## RDECOM elements

- U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL), Adelphi, Md.;
- Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC), Aberdeen Proving Ground
- Natick Soldier Center (NSC), Natick, Mass.;
- Simulation, Training and Technology Center (STTC), Orlando, Fla.;
- Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC), Redstone Arsenal, Ala.;
- Armaments Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC), Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.;
- Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC), Fort Monmouth, N.J.;
- Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC), Warren, Mich.;
- U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA), Aberdeen Proving Ground
- International Technology Centers in: Germany, France, United Kingdom, Japan,

Australia, Singapore, Argentina, Chile and Canada.

### Facts

RDECOM takes its technology out of the laboratories and puts it into the hands of warfighters in the shortest time; provides direct support of the Tech Base to Future Combat System and Future Force; to manage speed and complexity of technological change to operational needs, provides systems engineering, assessment, and analysis engineering support to PEO's/PMS, Materiel Management Centers and current force; and identifies foreign technologies for U.S. Army use.

RDECOM manages more than 17,000 military, civilians and direct contractors; a multi-

billion dollar annual budget; eight labs and Research, Development and Engineering Centers; the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; the Foreign Comparative Testing & Defense Acquisition Challenge Program; Regional International Technology Centers; Capability & Technology Integrated Process Teams; and the Agile Development Center. RDECOM operates worldwide with numerous direct liaisons to the field.

RDECOM also manages more than 300 international agreements; linkage to Combatant Commanders-FAST Teams; and the Engineer and Scientist Exchange Program.



## 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   | (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia 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                                      | Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)             |
| Dawn Crouse   | Boyd Richards                                  |
| Ruth Cunningham                                       | Cheryl L. Roark                                |
| Victoria Cwiernie (lyme disease)                      | Leigh Sanders                                  |
| Carl Davis  | Barbara Seker                                  |
| Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo) | Joyce Steininger                               |
| Geraldine Eaton                                       | Alison Tichenor                                |
| Renee Gaffney   | Linda Tignor                                   |
| Charles Gambrill                                      | Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant) |
| Miriam Garcia   | Gary Tudor - (heart valve replacement)         |
| Susan Gorhan  |  |
| Beatrice Heilpern                                     |  |
| Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications)         |  |
| Melanie A. Hoffman                                    |  |

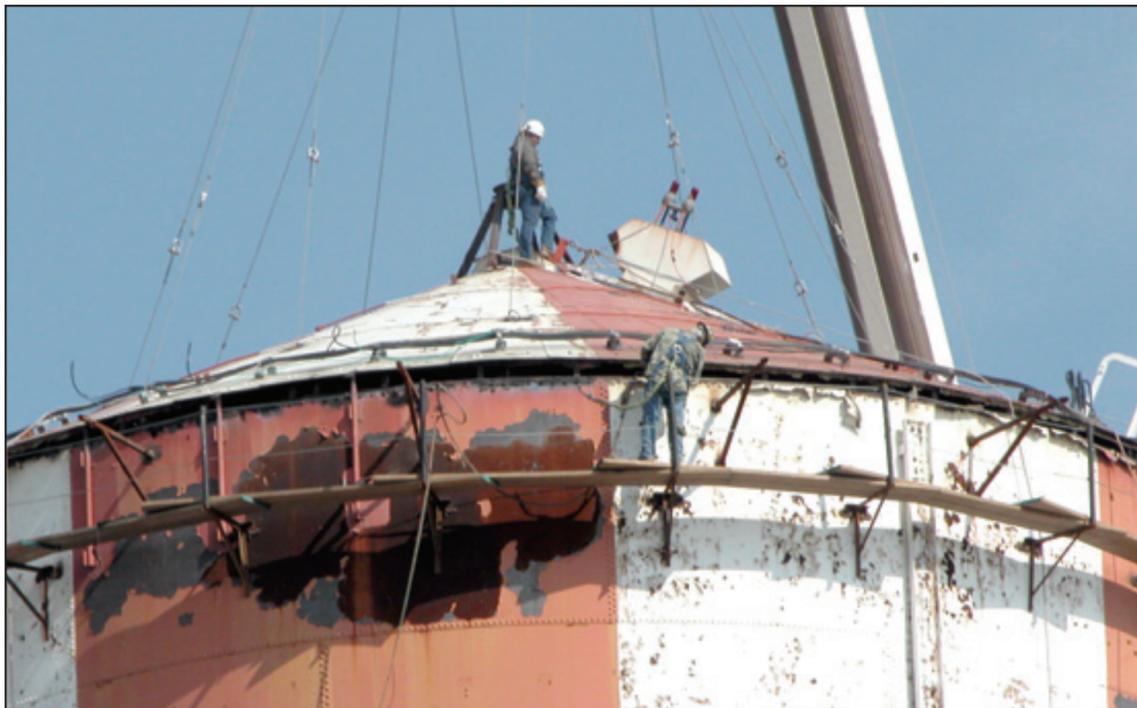


Photo by BLAKE VOSHELL

Posey McCormick, top, and Henry Thompson, welder on scaffolding, and other personnel not pictured from Pittsburg Tank and Tower, a subcontractor for the city of Aberdeen, remove an excess of 5,300 pounds of steel overhang to enable a direct lift of the old water tower roof.

## Water tower

From front page

plan, fall protection plan, containment and paint plans prior to removing the roof.

Eisenhart Crane Company provided a 300-ton capacity, \$5.2 million, drivable, re-tractable crane for the roof replacement.

Brackets were placed on the railings of the tank by Cingular

for satellite dishes to improve APG telecommunication reception downrange.

A required warning light for air traffic was also added.

The water tank when in use pressurizes the entire Aberdeen Area water system, boosting the fire flow protection post wide. The tank at 500,000 gallon capacity, can run Aberdeen Area of APG for approximately 12 hours.

Pittsburg Tank and Towers out of Henderson, Ky., is the prime contractor for the tank refurbishment.

The process is scheduled to be completed in two months.