

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Aug. 9, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Use both lanes

Drivers are urged to use both lanes as they approach the gates to APG's Aberdeen Area.

At the barricades, motorists should alternate the right of way – allowing every other car to move into the primary entrance lane, like a zipper.

This more efficient movement of traffic will speed up the process.

The provost marshal warns drivers who pull out in front of other vehicles, block traffic lanes or exhibit other aggressive tendencies, that they are driving on a federal installation and are subject to citations through the federal court system.

### Blue Cross visits APG

The APG Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the service benefit plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit Aug 8.

The representative will be available from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 236, and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811 (Seminar Area of Conference Center) to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

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

### KUSAHC closes early Aug. 11

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will close at 11 a.m., Aug. 11, for Organization Day. All services will close for the day after 11 a.m.

The staff apologizes in advance for any inconvenience this causes to the beneficiaries.

### 9th Area Medical Laboratory change of command ceremony

The 9th Area Medical Laboratory change of command ceremony is scheduled for 9 a.m., Aug. 9, on McBride Parade Field in the Edgewood Area.

Col. Thomas M. Logan will relinquish command to Col. David W. Craft.

In case of inclement

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# Soldiers urged to 'Own the Edge'

USACRC

In January 2005, the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff transformed the U.S. Army Safety Center into the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center directing the CRC to be the knowledge center for all Army losses and improve combat readiness.

The focus includes a cultural shift to managing all facets of risk and hazards at every level by improving training in Composite Risk Management.

Mindful of this mission, to outline the future of loss reduction and safety program efforts, the CRC launched the 'Own the Edge 2006' campaign earlier this year.

'Own the Edge 2006' aims to prevent accidents and loss of life among the Army's most precious resources – its Soldiers, according to USACRC commander Brig. Gen. Joseph Smith.

"Preventable accidents and fatalities are taking the lives of our Soldiers and

taking the strength from our battlefield and combat readiness," Smith said. "Our forces form the cutting edge; they are the leading edge; and by using Composite Risk Management ... to preserve combat readiness, our forces 'Own the Edge.'"

This concept of being on the edge and owning the edge follows each Army member

whether they are in combat, training or off-duty.

The edge extends into every action or decision that is made, and staying in the fight means that each person must

participate in maintaining the combat force.

### Defining owning the edge

Owning the edge means leaders must actively engage their Soldiers and

line between where the Soldier is operating with control and where the Soldier loses control and a preventable accident occurs.

The edge is different for each member of the Army team. It is defined by experience, abilities, skills, environment, mission and other variables--some seen and some unseen.

Owning the edge begins with knowing where it lies.

With the line of the edge drawn, Soldiers must then take the initiative to 'Own the Edge.' This is done through the use of CRM and becoming aware of all threats and hazards involved in any action or decision. Using CRM means asking "what is going to take me or my buddy out of the fight" and then using the Army tools and concepts to mitigate those risks.

'Owning the Edge' results in Soldiers pushing themselves to the limit while still remaining in control.

See **EDGE**, page 13

## Composite Risk Management



clearly establish performance expectations that include

both on-and-off post behaviors and actions.

Because Soldiers view themselves as warriors on the edge, the edge is that

## DSHE addresses recent bypasses at wastewater treatment facility

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Because of four recent bypasses from an Aberdeen Proving Ground wastewater treatment facility, the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, which oversees plant operations, wants the community to understand the causes and effects of the events.

Richard Wiggins, DSHE compliance officer and program manager of the water program, said that the recurrence of bypasses and overflows at the plant are due to heavy rains and aging infrastructure.

"These plants have been around a long time," Wiggins said. "Most of them are equipped with 1940s technology."

He said that the amount of sewage that passes through the lines is not the problem. The plant is equipped to handle up to 3 million gallons a day and the average is around 1 million, he said.

"This is small in comparison to larger facilities in the area that handle 13 million or more," Wiggins said.

Much of the piping that the wastewater passes through is made of terracotta material, similar to the materials used on rooftops in the southwest. This

material is susceptible to ruptures and damage, Wiggins said.

"As they settle over time it creates gaps," he said, "and when it rains, that water migrates down and channels into the piping."

During heavy rains, the capacity can go from 1 million to 10 million gallons in just hours, Wiggins said.

"With the plant designed to treat up to 3 million gallons and possibly hold up to 5 million, what you get is a bypass," he said.

In the event of an overflow, the plant will automatically bypass the biological treatment system, the second stop for untreated wastewater and send it through the final chlorine treatment stage which kills most organisms. Then it is dechlorinated before sending it out to the Bush River where treated water is normally deposited.

"Due to the repeated heavy rains APG has experienced four bypass events in the past six weeks. It's no fault of the plant," Wiggins said, "because it's doing what it was designed to do when the incoming flow exceeds plant capacity."

Although it sounds bleak when

See **BYPASSES**, page 2



Photo by CONRAD JOHNSON, RDECOM  
Nino Srou, a graduate student with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, left, explains the Unattended Ground Sensor (OMNISENSE) System to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston, right, and his aide, Staff Sgt. Shajn Cabrera, center, during a visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground July 27.

## SMA visits APG

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Installation Soldiers took advantage of a chance to air their concerns to the Army's top noncommissioned officer during a visit by Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston July 27.

Fresh from a trip to Iraq and Afghanistan visiting with Operation Iraqi Freedom troops, the SMA shared their concerns with APG Soldiers during a Town Hall meeting at the Post Theater.

The day included lunch with senior NCOs and a tour of the Joint Personal Effects Depot.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby led the group tour.

Preston said that the Department of the Army continues to address the situation of sustaining a deployed force with multiple rotations to the war zone.

"This is the first time the Army has sustained a long conflict with an all volunteer force," he said. "Soldiers are most interested in when the 12-month tours will be reduced."

"My answer is that if you look at Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq, combat support units are turning over at a very fast pace. As we get through the bulk of the transformation, we'll see things begin to level out."

He said that reenlistment goals were being met, noting that 61 percent of 101st Airborne Division's 3rd Brigade troops elected to stay with their units knowing that the unit will come upon its fourth deployment within the year.

"Where else can you find that kind of dedication," he said.

He encouraged all NCOs to continue to address the Army transformation to troops as well as family members.

"Families have a big impact," he

said. "We are all volunteers. The more we help our Soldiers understand the Army mission, the more they will understand the transformation."

He added that the Army secretary and chief of staff have a huge mission managing the nation's largest force.

"In one year we enlist more Soldiers than the total strength of the U.S. Coast Guard and all other services combined," he said.

Regarding the funding problems that he said "plagues all installation," he asked Soldiers to be patient and focus on reducing costs.

"It's not [the Installation Management Agency's] fault," he said. "It's the Army not having the money it needs to do what it needs to do. Consider what it costs to run the Army today, not just the war expenses but back home too."

"Senior Army leaders are our voices," he said, "and they are out there trying to get us the dollars we need."

During the tour of the JPED, Preston gave SMA coins to the unit's Soldiers and Marines, expressing his thanks to each for the job they do in processing the personal effects of service members and civilians wounded or killed in the War on Terror.

"I know it's a sad mission but it's an important mission as well," he said. "On behalf of our Soldiers and civilians, their family members and the Army Secretary and chief of staff, I want to thank you for all you do."

Before departing, Preston expressed his pride in all Soldiers, especially those deployed in OIF.

"They are an inspiration," he said. "They are motivated and committed to getting the job done over there. Most of that kind of esprit de corps you don't get to hear about in the media."



Photo by Neal Snyder USAEC  
Col. Michael P. O'Keefe, incoming commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, receives the Army field flag from Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, assistant Army chief of staff for Installation Management, during USAEC's change of command ceremony July 26.

## O'Keefe takes command of Army Environmental Center

Story by **KRISTIN MILLER**  
USAEC

A former Technical Escort Unit officer returned to Aberdeen Proving Ground July 26 to assume command of the U.S. Army Environmental Center during a ceremony on McBride parade field.

Col. Michael P. O'Keefe succeeded Col. Tony R. Francis, who moved on to an assignment as chief of the Full Dimension Protection Division in the office of the deputy chief of staff for Programs at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, Army assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, presented the colors to O'Keefe. Wilson noted O'Keefe's experience.

"As the newest commander he is the

best choice for this important and demanding position," Wilson said.

A field operating agency under the ACSIM structure, USAEC provides environmental program management and technical support products and services for Army training, operations, acquisition and environmental stewardship.

The 15th commander of USAEC, O'Keefe joined USAEC from an assignment as director of Requirements and Operations Integration and chief of staff for the special assistant for Chemical and Biological Defense at the Pentagon.

In 1986, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit (now the 22nd Chemical Battalion) at APG. He served as assistant S-3 (training/operations), company commander and operations officer for the battalion, leaving

See **COMMAND**, page 13

# Well-Being Action Council addresses grass cutting

Story by  
**HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

The budget for air conditioner repairs and the installation's grounds maintenance contract were the main topics of the monthly Well-Being Action Council meeting July 20 at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Main Post Chapel.

APG Garrison and deputy installation commander Col. John T. Wright updated attendees on the budget for Army Family Housing air conditioner repairs.

"Thanks to our collective effort to highlight the lack of resources, we did receive a modest amount of funds to assist us through the balance of the year," Wright said.

He said some residents think that air conditioners won't be repaired, and that is false.

"We will repair air conditioners and other things that are primarily related to health and safety," Wright said.

He reminded residents that there are two housing offices on the installation: the Housing Assignment Office and the Housing Project Management staff. The Housing Assignment is the primary office Soldiers encounter when they first arrive at APG, and the Housing Project Management staff handles policies and the budget for family housing service orders.

Some people have expressed dissatisfaction with the information they obtain when calling in the service orders or not receiving an answer to their questions. Wright said those people should call Command Sgt. Major Elvis Irby at 410-278-1509.

In addition, Wright explained that the Housing Project Management staff is working with their counterparts in the public works area of the Directorate of Installation Operations regarding grass cutting.

When the grounds maintenance contract was suspended in June, mowing in all areas of the installation stopped.

"The contract remains in suspen-

sion because we didn't receive the funding," Wright said. "[The tall grass] wasn't considered a health and safety issue at the time."

Since July 5 the garrison has implemented an "interim measure" which means that the garrison is internally cutting or will cut the common areas such as the single strip around sidewalks, bus stops and Army Family Housing areas, Wright said.

He said due to the limited amount of equipment the lawn won't be cut as often or as precisely as when the contractors cut it.

The workload of cutting the rest of the areas has been divided. Officials from Morale, Welfare and Recreation are using their equipment from the golf courses to mow their areas. Officials from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools have continued to mow their grass.

"We have informed all of the other mission organizations that it is their responsibility to take care of their [own areas,]" Wright said.

He said DIO is supposed to be cutting vacant houses' yards but it hasn't happened yet.

Wright said there's an APG policy that states if someone lives in a sequence of houses and there's a house in between them and a neighbor that's vacant, each neighbor is supposed to cut half of the yard.

Wright said in some cases houses are stand alone and have no one living next to them.

Residents who see these stand-alone houses without the lawns mowed should notify the Housing Management Office, he said.

## MWR

The Leisure Travel Office is selling Maryland State Fair admission tickets and wristbands for the rides. Tickets cost \$5 and children 12 and younger get in for free. Fairgoers can also see a free concert of singer and TV star Raven Simone Aug. 25.

"Children and especially young girls are into Raven," said Stacie Umbarger, manager of MWR Leisure

Travel Office. "That's a really good deal there."

Fairgoers can also see country singers Chris Cagle on Aug. 29 and Sawyer Brown on Sept. 1.

People can pay as they go for rides or buy an "all-you-can-ride" wristband at the center for \$16.

9/11 Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Remembrance Ornaments can be pre-ordered for \$16 each. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Pentagon Memorial Fund.

MWR will also sell the 2006 White House Ornaments for \$16.

For more information on tickets and events, call the Leisure Travel Office, 410-278-4907/4011.

In addition, chief of Business Operations Division Linda Holloway said that July 19 was Tim Brandenburg's last day at MWR. Doug Conley will serve as acting director for the next couple of weeks and then Regina Dannenfelser will serve as acting director until a new director is selected.

Holloway also thanked everyone for their support of the concert.

"It was very successful for us financially," she said.

The Friday night socials have been moved from Down Under at Top of the Bay to Ruggles Golf Course.

## Automotive Craft Center

All military employees are reminded that the Automotive Craft Center, building 2379, is open 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and training holidays. The self-help facility contains five hydraulic lift bays, nine general flat bays, three body shop bays, a paint room bay and a tire station. For more information, call 410-278-2884/5178.

## AAFES

The Cup, a gourmet coffee shop, is open to everyone. The hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday; 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday.

AAFES store manager Thea

Sarver announced that she will be leaving for Fort Dix, N.J. AAFES does not have a replacement yet.

## Commissary

A case lot sale is tentatively set for Sept. 1 through 3.

The Commissary is participating in the "What's in Your Closet?" campaign. Commissary members are encouraging residents to plan ahead for power outages during hurricane season and to buy batteries, water, blankets, first aid kits, etc. A checklist of additional items is available at the Commissary.

## DENTAC

The voucher program for military personnel will continue until 2009.

## KUSAHC

Parents are reminded to schedule school and sports physicals.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is still experiencing provider shortages.

"We're looking into hiring but that probably won't happen until September or October," said Lt. Col. Patrick Barrett, senior area commander of KUSAHC.

## DIO

DIO has been receiving many calls about electrical outages because of blown out transformers. Residents are instructed to call the service desk, 410-306-1400, if they have a power outage.

## DLES

The police department has concluded the Click It or Ticket campaign.

The APG police department is "one of the top compliants in the state," said chief of the Police Services Division Maj. Joe Darabasz.

Darabasz said the police department asks everyone on the installation to be "its eyes and ears."

"If you see anyone strange around your building or troop area give 911 a call," Darabasz said. "It's very important that we make sure the installation stays safe."

In addition, although drivers are only allowed to use a hands-free cell phone, members of emergency services are exempt from the policy.

## ACS

Army Family Action Plan issues were discussed at the U.S. Army Materiel Command video teleconference on June 14 and 15. Marilyn Howard, Army Family Team Building program manager and APG delegate Staff Sgt. Jennifer Devorak, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Comparative Medicine Division with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, participated in the mid-level teleconference.

Among the top five issues discussed, two were from APG.

The number one issue was accuracy of Health Net Referral Service.

Users said that information about specialty care doctors is not accurately shown on the Health Net Web site and that the information is outdated or does not have details about a specialist's field like pediatrics or adult medicine. Also, doctors are listed as TRICARE providers that no longer accept TRICARE.

The proposal to solve this issue is to insert a hyperlink to the webmaster on every doctor's page so when those who see outdated information can address it. The Web site should be updated more frequently so that readers can see whether or not a doctor accepts TRICARE.

The second issue was that pregnant Soldiers are required to leave the barracks by the eighth month of pregnancy. According to regulation, Soldiers are not allowed to apply for BAH until they have moved out of the barracks. This causes financial hardship to the Soldiers because they have to pay for expenses by themselves such as security deposits, rent and moving.

The recommendation to solve this issue is to let Soldiers apply and/or receive BAH at the beginning of the eighth month to avert financial hardships.

The next Well-Being Action Council meeting will be held 9:30, Aug. 17, at the Main Post Chapel.

## Bypasses

From front page

announcements are made to stay away from an area due to untreated sewage it's not quite as bad as it sounds, he said.

Kings Creek, where the latest event occurred, is already located in an off limits area, but the warning was issued because the law requires public notification.

Wiggins added that when a bypass occurs, state and local authorities are notified immediately.

"We work very closely with the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Harford County Health Department," he said.

Unlike an oil spill, no clean-up operation is initiated because the river will "flush itself out" within a month. Still, anytime there is an event, the waters are sampled for seven to 30 days after, he said.

"We sample from three different sites to determine the impact. This is required by law, and results are normally back within 48 hours," he said.

A global positioning system, or GPS, is used to establish the sample location sites. Wiggins said the information gathered will be even more valuable once they obtain background water quality data from previous studies by environmental organizations.

"This data is essential to make sure we haven't changed the water quality of the river," he said. "With the sample data we can determine when to make a public announcement that the river is deemed safe or if we need to extend the restriction."

"The solution is to repair or replace the infrastructure," Wiggins said.

"We have already repaired the Aberdeen facility but work remains to be done in Edgewood," he said, adding that the intent was to privatize Edgewood, but that is on hold due to funding. "More modern plants are designed to treat 80 million gallons a day and have a storage capacity to accommodate flow surges and population growth," Wiggins said. "That greatly reduces the chances of bypasses or overflows. In our case, the infrastructure is failing and until it is fixed these events will continue to happen."

## Officer rewarded for contributions to Click It or Ticket campaign

Story by  
**HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground police officer was recognized for his efforts during the 2006 Click It or Ticket campaign June 18 at the police station.

Click it or Ticket is a national public safety campaign to encourage seat belt usage while driving or riding in a car.

The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security staff awarded Officer Charles Grimasuckas with a certificate, a Go-Pher-It Click It or Ticket stuffed animal and Click It or Ticket pens for being the "top producer" of seat-belt enforcement during the campaign.

"Officer Grimasuckas is being congratulated for his distinguished proactive participation of the campaign," said Maj. Joe Darabasz, chief of the Police Services Division.

Grimasuckas discussed what it's like to be "top producer" of safety belt enforcement for the campaign.

"It's nice to be honored for the work that we do," he said. "I can't do it without my squad."

In addition, Grimasuckas said he wished he didn't have to write so many citations.

"I just wish people would drive more safely," he said. "Seat belts save lives. Everyone should use seat belts."

During the campaign, which lasted from April to June, the APG Police Department conducted night time seat belt enforcement, seat belt surveys and educational programs for the campaign. Officers conducted night time surveys

around the Child Youth Services. They also targeted Harford Boulevard and performed random seat belt surveys.

"We made two inspections 30 days apart," said APG Community Policing Officer "Big Mike" Farlow.

In addition, police officers and fire department officials were surveyed in the parking lot as they were coming into work.

Farlow also incorporated seat belt safety into the D.A.R.E. program.

"One of the D.A.R.E. units was traffic safety," Farlow said. "We gave the children [the Click it or Ticket] gophers and badges to make them a police officer for the day. They had to make sure their moms and dads buckled up."

Farlow said he received positive feedback from the children's parents.

The police department sent all of the percentages from the surveys and information on the D.A.R.E. unit to the state for the Maryland Chief's Challenge, a competition involving all Maryland police departments.

Last year the state of Maryland recognized the APG police and fire departments for record safety belt use on the installation.

The APG police department is still "one of the top compliants [of seat belt safety enforcement] in the state," Darabasz said.

Jack Beckwith was given a community service award for supporting the Click It or Ticket campaign. Beckwith provided static display vehicles to the installation to remind drivers of what may happen to them if they don't wear their seat belts.

## Letter to the Editor

To Whom it May Concern,

*I'm a retired Aberdeen Proving Ground employee and a disabled Vietnam veteran. About two weeks ago I went to visit an APG cemetery site because my sister, brother-in-law and nephew are buried there. I noticed that the grass has not been cut in a long time and is at least a foot high. I also noticed a few sink holes. This is really shameful and really gets me mad. Can you see what can be done? I would really appreciate it. It's the only right thing to do. I've e-mailed two different agencies and had no answer.*

Regards,  
Gary Sakay

Mr. Sakay,

I have inspected the cemeteries at Aberdeen and Edgewood and must agree with you, both areas require immediate attention.

Due to the sensitive nature, cemetery grounds require special care in that only push mowers are used and special care is taken not to damage the headstones when using trimmers.

Buzz Soltis of the Facilities Maintenance Division has assured me that the cemeteries will be maintained at a frequency of every other week.

If I can be of further assistance you can e-mail me at george.phillips@apg.army.mil or call me at 410-306-2311.

George Phillips  
Directorate of Installation Operations

# APG News

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

## Staff

APG Commander ..... Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau  
APG Garrison Commander ..... Col. John T. Wright  
Public Affairs Officer ..... George P. Mercer  
Editor ..... Debi Horne  
Editorial Assistant ..... Marguerite Towson  
Contract Photojournalists ..... Yvonne Johnson  
Graphic Designer/Web Designer ..... Heather Tassmer  
Web site ..... www.apgnews.apg.army.mil.



Photo by MIKE MATEJEVICH, ECBC

Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander, U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command, center, poses with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Advanced Design and Manufacturing Team, responsible for building mine clearing surrogates for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## ECBC builds mine clearing surrogates for training

Story by  
**JENNIFER GASKILL**  
ECBC

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center shipped the second of four mine clearing surrogate vehicles it is building for deploying warfighters in training at the National Training Center July 21.

Authentic mine clearing vehicles are urgently needed in the theater of war in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and manufacturers are shipping the vehicles overseas as quickly as they can be built, leaving none available for training the warfight-

ers who are preparing for deployment.

Working with the Army's Rapid Equipping Force, ECBC engineers found another solution -- to modify a readily accessible vehicle to meet the unit's training needs.

Using an M923A2 5-ton cargo truck as the base, the surrogate was fabricated to look like the real mine clearing vehicle from the outside and carefully engineered to accurately emulate its interior spaces.

The surrogate has an operational articulated hydraulic

arm and interior and exterior controls of the same manufacture as the authentic mine clearing vehicle.

Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commander of the U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command, was on hand to witness the second of four mine clearing surrogates to be shipped to the NTC.

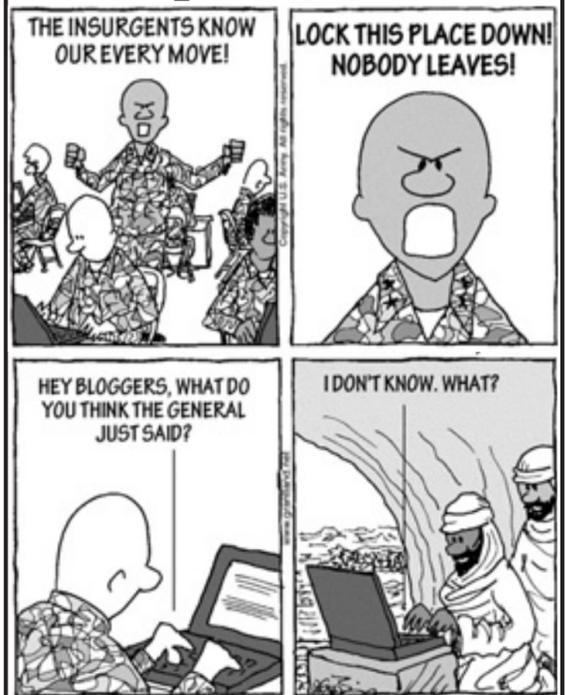
Just 40 days after requesting the surrogate vehicles, the first one was delivered July 18 and the second was shipped from Aberdeen Proving Ground July 21.

Two more are in production and will be completed in August.

Nadeau recognized the team's accomplishments stating that "your success is a monumental home run."

ECBC's mission is to develop chemical and biological defense technology for the warfighter and for homeland security applications. In order to fulfill this mission, ECBC has grown a robust capability in engineering design and is particularly equipped to respond to urgent needs, often fielding new equipment in weeks.

## On Cyber Patrol



As covered or mandated by AR 25-2

## POST SHORTS

weather, the ceremony will take place in the National Guard Armory.

For more information, call Pfc. Shakeita Lockett, 410-436-7268/7273.

### Working Woman's Scholarship nominations open

The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women presents an annual \$300 scholarship called the 2006 Dottie Dorman Working Woman's Scholarship to a deserving woman to pay for or offset college expenses incurred in pursuit of her continuing education.

#### To qualify nominee must:

- Be a female employee in any federal job in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County.
- Currently be pursuing college-level education studies.
- Prepare a short essay (not to exceed one type-written page) summarizing educational plans and explaining how this scholarship will be used.
- Provide the name; home and work addresses; home and work telephone numbers; e-mail addresses; name and telephone number of current supervisor (to confirm federal employment);

and name of nominee's educational institution.

Submit application to the Maryland Tri-County FEW Scholarship, c/o Suzanne Schultz, 952 Chesapeake Drive, Havre de Grace, MD 21078 no later than Aug. 12.

The winner will be announced during the APG Women's Equality Day observance and awards ceremony 10 to 11:30 a.m., Aug. 23, at the Edgewood Conference Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information, call Suzanne Schultz, 410-278-9514, or Melissa Smith, 410-642-2411, x5129.

### Change of command to reroute traffic

Roads leading to the Ryan Building (building 314) will be temporarily closed Aug. 16 to accommodate a ceremony for noting the change of command at the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

Barricades will be placed at three intersections: where Aberdeen Boulevard forks into Colleran Road and Longs Corner Road; where Johnson Street intersects Longs Corner Road; and where Longs

Corner Road intersects Plum Point Loop.

The shutdown will begin at approximately 8:55 a.m., and last no longer than one hour. During this time traffic will be diverted to an alternate route.

### APG Newcomer Orientation scheduled

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Newcomer Orientation will be held 1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 16, at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326.

All military, civilian personnel, retirees and their family members are invited and get acquainted with the military and civilian community at APG.

Representatives of support agencies/organizations will be present to discuss their activities.

For more information, call Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service, 410-278-9669.

### Blue Star Families of Central Maryland welcomes new members

The military families support group, Blue Star Families of Central Maryland, meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 109 located at 1610 Sulphur Spring Road in Halethorpe, Md.

Anyone who has a loved one serving in the armed forces, or is serving, and would like to meet other military families can attend.

For more information, visit Web site <http://www.geocities>

[.com/bluestarfamiliesofcentralmd](http://www.bluestarfamiliesofcentralmd.com) or e-mail [BlueStarFamiliesOfCentralMD@yahoo.com](mailto:BlueStarFamiliesOfCentralMD@yahoo.com) for additional information.

### Joining APG's Speaker's Bureau

Anyone who enjoys discussing their field of expertise or favorite hobby can become a member of APG's Speakers Bureau.

The APG Speakers Bureau enables military and civilian employees of APG to address on- and off-post organizations and local schools on a topic of their choice.

It is a voluntary community service offered without charge.

To become a member of APG's Speakers Bureau, call 410-278-1151.

### Registration open for UMUC Fall 2006

Registration has begun for the University of Maryland University College Fall 2006 semester, which begins Sept. 5. Aberdeen Proving Ground classes are available through distance education formats. Students are advised to register early, as some classes fill quickly.

For more information or to register, visit the APG office of UMUC in building 4305, room 210, or call 410-272-8269 or 410-306-2048.

Information about UMUC is also available online at [www.umuc.edu](http://www.umuc.edu).

### Scouts looking for a few good 'men'

Boy Scout Troop 429 is looking for scouts ages 11 to 17 and leaders. The troop's

meetings will begin after Labor Day. Meetings are held Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in building 5443.

Call Committee Chairman Fred Silva, 410-272-4570, or Scoutmaster Chris Lesniak, 410-392-6363, to get involved.

### Field assistance in science, technology program

The Field Assistance in Science and Technology Program is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command asset used to gain better insight into the technology needs of Soldiers in combat.

RDECOM is made up of eight national and nine international laboratories, all working to get technology to the Warfighter, quicker.

The Uniformed Army Scientist and Engineer program was also implemented over the past year, coupling military scientists and engineers with science advisors to further enhance communication between troop leaders and RDECOM.

To share a Soldier technology need or solution with RDECOM visit <http://www.rdecom.army.mil/business.html>.

### RDECOM looking for speakers

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Public Communications Office is enlisting the help of all RDECOM employees to represent the command in inspiring the next generation of great minds.

The office is seeking RDECOM employees, on a voluntary basis, to speak on topics that range from legal, to science to managerial and everything in-between to students and/or local civic organizations.

Interested RDECOM employees, to include HQ RDECOM, the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, U.S. Army Materiel Systems

Analysis Activity, System of Systems Integration, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, and the RDECOM Acquisitions Center, should call Trinace Johnson, 410-436-3142, or e-mail [publicaffairs@apega.army.mil](mailto:publicaffairs@apega.army.mil) for more information.

### Publishing Hometown News

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

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

For more information, call 410-278-1151.

### DoD offers free anti-spyware

The Defense Information Systems Agency has licensed free anti-spyware software for all government employees and armed forces personnel for use on personal computer systems.

Users must be on a ".mil" workstation to download the software.

To download the free anti-spyware software, visit the DISA Web site, <https://iase.disa.mil/sdep>, or the Navy's Information Assurance Web site, <https://infosec.navy.mil>.

At the INFOSEC site, click on the COMPUSEC tools tab and scroll down to the anti-spyware link, second from the top.

The software can then be saved to a local hard drive for writing on a CD-ROM or other portable media for home use. *(Editors Note: Information provided by [www.military.com](http://www.military.com).)*

*(Editors Note: More shorts can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Shorts.)*

## Upcoming chapel services

The Aberdeen Proving Ground chapels will celebrate Catholic mass for the Feast of the Assumption on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 11:45 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel (Aberdeen) and 7 p.m. at the South Post Chapel (Edgewood).

# Community Notes

## FRIDAY AUGUST 4 NG DOCUMENTARY MAKES MARYLAND DEBUT

'The War Tapes,' an award-winning documentary film made by three Army National Guard members on the ground in Iraq, will play at The Charles Theater, 1711 North Charles Street in Baltimore.

This is the first war movie filmed by Soldiers themselves on the front lines. For viewing times, call The Charles Theater at 410-727-FILM, or visit [www.thecharles.com](http://www.thecharles.com) or [www.thewartapes.com](http://www.thewartapes.com).

## SATURDAY AUGUST 5 TURTLETELEMETRY

Volunteer Opportunity – no experience necessary.

Take part in real science searching for and monitoring local box turtles.

Learn to use radio telemetry gear and consider being a regular turtle monitoring volunteer.

This program is from 10 a.m. to noon and is for ages 11 to adult, 11 to 13 with an adult. Registration is required.

For information or directions

to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

### ANNUAL CRAB FEAST

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 will have its "Annual Crab Feast" from noon to 5 p.m. The menu includes all-you-can eat crabs, barbecue chicken, Italian sausage with green peppers and onions, corn on the cob, assorted salads, baked beans, crab soup and draft beer. Absolutely no take outs. Tickets cost \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door.

Tickets can be purchased at VFW Post 6054 or by calling Post Commander Maurice Bishop, 410-272-3444, or Ladies Auxiliary President Linda Robinson, 443-857-8823.

### BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the USNTC Bainbridge Historical Association will be held at the VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 6 p.m., Bingo begins 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 person for all paper cards. Food, beverage and 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, Carolyn Spencer, 410-378-3219 or Brenda Conjour, 410-

273-7332.

## SUNDAY AUGUST 6 NATURE TALES

Explore nature through a story. Listen to a tale about an animal or a habitat. Story time may include meeting a live critter, a simple craft or acting out the story.

This program begins at 12:30 p.m.; no registration, free. For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext.1688.

## MONDAY AUGUST 7 TOASTMASTERS MEET

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562 will hold their next meeting 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. at the Gunpowder Club at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The club is open to anyone on or off post who wants to learn how to speak in public, improve their communication and listening skills.

For more information, call Len Kolodny, 410-734-6573.

## TUESDAY AUGUST 8 MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT

The Aberdeen Ironbirds will

hold Military Appreciation Night. Each Military Appreciation Night guest will receive a ticket to a sold out game vs. the Hudson Valley Renegades and a free limited edition Aberdeen Ironbirds baseball cap.

Free parking, free "first pitch" game program and more will be provided. Ticket prices range from \$7 to \$12, but ask about group pricing.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the IronBirds, 410-297-9292.

*(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Community Notes.)*

## MOVIES

**ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75**

**Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard To verify listing, call 410-272-9008, or visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) and click on "Movie Listing"**

### SUPERMAN RETURNS

Friday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

Starring: Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth, Kevin Spacey, James Marsden

Superman (Routh) leaves Earth to try to find his former home world of Krypton after astronomers have supposedly found it. When he finds nothing but remnants, he returns home to Earth only to find out that Lois Lane (Bosworth) is engaged to a relative of his boss, and that Lex Luthor (Spacey) is at it again - after swindling an elderly, terminally ill woman. The psychopathic Luthor vows vengeance against the Man of Steel and contrives a new sinister plot - using the crystals of Krypton to build a continent that will wipe out most of North America. Upon learning of Luthor's sinister scheme, Superman must again race against time to stop the psychopathic

Luthor before millions, possibly billions, are killed. (Rated PG-13)

### CLICK (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Aug. 5, 7 p.m.

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kate Beckinsale, Christopher Walken, David Hasselhoff

A frustrating bout with the television remote leads overworked husband and father Michael Newman (Sandler) to a nearby Bed, Bath & Beyond in search of a universal remote with the power to control all of his electronic devices. A curious peek into the back room leads Michael into the company of eccentric employee and talented inventor Morty (Walken). It seems that Morty has created a device that will not only allow Michael complete control over his television and stereo, but his entire life as

well. (Rated PG-13)

### WAIST DEEP

Saturday, Aug. 5, 9 p.m.

Starring: Tyrese Gibson, Shawn Parr, Henry Hunter Hall, Meagan Good

"I'll always come back for you," single father O2 (Gibson) tells his young son Junior (Hall). This parental promise is put to the test when O2 is suddenly plunged into a do-or-die situation; trying to go straight for Junior's sake, the recently paroled ex-con is forced to go back outside the law after his son is kidnapped in a carjacking. The only person who can or will help O2 get his son back is wily street-smart hustler Coco (Good), whose path fatefully crossed O2's just moments before the kidnapping. Can they outwit the underworld and save Junior and themselves? (Rated R)

## DOC announces PR cutoff dates for 2006

The Army Contracting Agency Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Contracting has established its fiscal year 2006 cutoff dates for submission of purchase requests.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting PRs by or before the dates shown below greatly enhances the ability of the APG DOC to meet customer needs. Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year-end.

Offices are advised to submit year-end requirements as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of funds going unobligated at year end.

The following schedule has been established for the submission of PRs for FY 06 and maintenance for FY 07: **(Items with expired dates will be handled on a case-by-case basis)**

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 – July 1\*
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 – Aug. 1
- Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million – July 1
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 – Aug. 15
- Services Over \$100,000 – July 1
- Delivery Orders and Task Orders Under Existing Contracts – Aug. 1
- GSA Schedule Procurements – Aug. 1
- Short-of-Award over \$2,500 – June 15\*\*
- Maintenance for FY 2007 – July 1 (FY 07 Contract Modifications and Options for Existing Maintenance Contracts)

\* There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is therefore required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.

\*\*Customers submitting "short-of-award" PRs, especially for services requirements, must seriously consider whether funding will materialize. A substantial amount of

effort is expended to prepare these pending actions and they must be prioritized after PRs that are funded and PRs that are subject to the availability of funds.

The above lead times can be affected by various factors, a few of which include: competition requirements, to include fair opportunity for services task orders over \$100,000 when using Federal Supply Schedules; obtaining sole, limited source or urgency approvals – the Justification and Approval process; t h e

all clothing, shoes and other items specified under the Berry Amendment, procured with DoD funding, is of domestic origin); and collecting data on the use of assisted acquisitions for analysis.

### Information technology

Desktop and Notebook Computer Purchases. To maximize cost savings, all Army desktops and notebooks 'shall' be ordered through the Consolidated Buy program utilizing the Army Desktop and Mobile Computing agreements.

For the poli-

Budgetary constraints may mean that customer-funded overtime may be the only method to provide the directorate with additional flexibility to accept requirements after the established dates.

### Individual contacts

Joyce Roberts, Contracting Division joyce.roberts@us.army.mil, 410-278-0869

Facilities Branch: For repair, alteration, construction, sale and removal of excess real property, services for base operations functions (including, but not limited to, utilities privatization, custodial, refuse, underground utilities locating, etc.), equipment-in-place and facilities contact Martha Mitchem, martha.mitchem@us.army.mil, 410-278-2362.

Services Branch: For general and specialized services for mission support; range testing of vehicles, equipment, ammunition; lease, rental, and maintenance of equipment; full food services; environmental services; equipment-in-place, and other base operations services, contact Shirley Kelly, shirley.a.kelly@us.army.mil, 410-278-0854.

Technology Branch: For ADP equipment; word processing equipment; software; general, specialized, and test equipment; instrumentation; supplies; and ADP maintenance and services contact Ginny Corona, Ginny.corona@us.army.mil, 410-278-0883.

The ACA APG DOC Web site is located at <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/aca/>.

The fiscal year cutoff dates for submission of PRs are located at this site under "Announcements, News, and Notes." For customer assistance, use the recently added link, "Customer Corner," for guides, templates, formats and helpful Web sites.

Purchase requests awarded "subject to the availability of funds" must be funded as soon as funds become available. The work must start and the contractors must be paid – this is not accomplished until the funds are certified.

### Preparation of PRs

When preparing PRs in PRWEB (formerly known as Acquiline):

Do not use any dashes or spaces in the PR number.

When preparing attachments for any electronic document to be used by contracting, submitters must use Normal, Times New Roman, 10. The contracting writing system used by Contracting cannot format correctly if a font other than Normal, Times New Roman, 10 is used or if any special characters are used in the document.

Do not use page breaks, section breaks, column breaks or special characters such as trademark signs, tm, ®, <, etc., in any document that will be used in a purchase order or contract.



review

process

accomplished by

the APG Small Business

Advisor to ensure all socio-economic programs will be appropriately addressed; front-end PR entry, and PD2 (PD2 is the DoD contracting automat-

ed system used at APG).

**New requirements affecting lead times**

When placing sole source orders for more than \$2,500 under Federal Supply Schedules, a Justification and Approval must be prepared and approved by a Contracting Officer.

When purchasing supplies or services over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$100,000) using non-DoD contract vehicles (which includes placing orders with GSA), proposed actions must be reviewed and approved considering:

- If the action is in the Best Interest of the Government – satisfying customer requirements, schedule, cost effectiveness (taking into account, discounts and fees), and contract administration including oversight.

- Other factors which must be addressed: determining that tasks or supplies ordered are within the scope of the contract; ensuring funding is used IAW appropriation limitations; providing unique terms, conditions and requirements for incorporation into an order or contract to comply with all applicable DoD-unique statutes, regulations, directives and other requirements (e.g.,

cy

memo

issued by

Army's Chief

Information Officer on July

22, 2005, Buying Schedule, Specs and Pricing, Submittal

Instructions, Request

Preparation, Exceptions, and

Frequently Asked Questions,

visit the Consolidated Buy

page at: [https://ascp.m-](https://ascp.mouth.army.mil/scp/cb/cb_index.jsp)

[ndex.jsp](https://ascp.mouth.army.mil/scp/cb/cb_index.jsp). Requests for these

items must be submitted to the

Directorate of Information

Management. For standard

requests, DOIM will approve

the request and forward it to

the ACA DOC for processing.

For non-standard requests,

DOIM will review and vali-

date the request and then forward

it to ACA. For more information,

contact the ACA APG DOC chief,

Technology Branch, 410-278-0883.

The contracting officer is

responsible for and this office's

policy is to determine the best

method of procuring any supply

or service based upon regulation,

urgency, delivery, socio-economic

concern and competition which

provides the best value at a

reasonable price.

Submission of requests after

the scheduled dates will be

considered on a case-by-case

basis and will require approval

by the chief of the Contracting

Division. The APG DOC will

do as much as possible to assist

customers in satisfying their

requirements after the cutoff

dates. However, the directorate

has a limited capability to process

late requirements.

# Preparing for severe weather

Story by  
**RON KRAVITZ**  
DSHE

The recent series of severe storms caused a lot of flooding throughout the area. Harford County is vulnerable to the effects of a number of natural emergencies, such as severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, flooding, fires and winter storms.

When severe weather threatens, the primary concern is family safety. But homes are important too. They require whatever forms of protection that can be provided. The key is to make plans and provisions for emergencies long before weather conditions become more than an unpleasant inconvenience. With the home maintained for emergencies, the focus can be on family safety.

A weather wise home is ready for the unexpected or sudden assault. Keeping structures and grounds in a good state of repair is a sound preventive measure. The best time to safeguard a house against damage by severe weather is during good weather.

Know the difference between a "watch" and a "warning." A flood watch means that flooding is possible; a warning means that floods have started or are about to start.

Make sure all doors and windows are secure. Wind inside a structure will push upward against the roof and try to lift it, while winds outside create a suction pressure, almost doubling the roof's load.

Lawn furniture, ornaments, toys, grills and exterior potted plants should be taken inside. Anything that can't be brought in should be tied down. Sheds, doghouses, playhouses, swing sets, and boat trailers should be secured with tie downs, turnbuckles and cable or stout rope. Mobile home tie downs should be inspected and secured.

Despite the best attempts to protect a house, damage



<http://www.bigfoto.com/themes/nature/sky/lightning-2a7z.jpg>

may still occur. Keep lists or video tapes of belongings as documentation for insurance purposes.

Dead or damaged branches should be removed; otherwise they could become flying objects creating the potential for personal injury or property damage.

#### Power lines

After the storm is over, the house should be inspected for damages. Be very aware of the hazards of downed power lines. If power lines are on the ground or hanging low from a pole don't assume that they are insulated. Stay at least 10 feet away from the wire and secure the area to keep others away. If a low or fallen line is discovered, do the following:

- Consider all wires energized and dangerous. Even lines that are de-energized could become energized at any time.

- A live wire touching the ground can cause electricity to travel through the ground, radiating outward from the contact point. Stay clear by

keeping the minimum approach distance to 10 feet.

- Do not attempt to remove a tree limb or other object from a power line. Electricity can travel through limbs, especially when they are wet. When cleaning up after the storm, make absolutely sure that no power lines are near before cutting or trimming damaged trees and removing debris from property. Fences and guardrails can also become energized if a downed power line contacts them.

- If a broken power line should fall on a vehicle, stay inside the vehicle. Use a cell phone to call for help. The metal of the vehicle can become energized. Warn others not to approach or touch the vehicle and have them call for help.

- If the vehicle must be exited because of fire or other life-threatening hazards, jump clear of the vehicle so that no part of the body touches any part of it and the ground at the same time. Jump as far as

**See WEATHER, page 13**



# Morale, Welfare & Recreation

## Activities

All services, classes and events are available to DoD cardholders, military, civilian, contractors, retirees, family members and guests. For information on these or any other events, please check out [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

### Social Hour moves to Ruggles Club House

The first evening Social at Ruggles Golf Course will be held 5 to 7 p.m., Friday, July 28. Light snacks will be provided; beer and sodas and additional food will be available for purchase.

The events will be held monthly, the last Friday of each month and is open to all mem-

bers of the APG community.

For more information, call 410-278-4794.

### Rolling Reader

The Harford County Public Library's outreach vehicle, the Rolling Reader, will join Child Youth Services in providing a free summer recreation program for children not enrolled in the CYS Summer Camp program. CYS will provide arts, crafts and game activities while children wait to go into the Rolling Reader to check out books. Children will be able to check out and return their books at the Rolling Reader or any Harford County Public Library. The Harford County Public Library's

Summer Reading Program, "Clue into Reading" includes a free tote bag upon registration. Fun activities encourage children to complete the program and receive a free book.

Library cards will be available on site for parents and children who do not have one.

Parents must bring a valid driver's license, military ID with orders, or a recent utility bill with a local address. Children under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian fill out a library card registration form. Forms are available through the Harford County Public Library Web site, [www.hcplonline.info](http://www.hcplonline.info), under "Library Services" or on the installation at Outreach Services, in building 2752, office 201.

Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Meetings will be held on Thursdays throughout the summer 11 a.m. to noon at Skipper's Point Park in the Edgewood Area, Aug. 3 and 17, and in the Aberdeen Area at the New Chesapeake Playground, Aug. 10.

**Army Community Services is located in building 2754, Rodman Road. For information about these or any other services that ACS offers, call 410-278-7474/2453.**

### Parent Information Exchange (PIE)

This program is for Exceptional Family Members and is 6 to 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. This support group is designed to assist military families who have family members with special needs. Its goals are to improve the members' ability to cope and discuss community resources. Free child care is available; call in advance if needed.

### Play Mornings

ACS offers a weekly play group on Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 to 11 a.m. for parents and children under 6-years-old to meet other parents while their children socially interact with each other. This

## APG soccer team wins New Jersey tournament, 2-0

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Under-13 girl's soccer team traveled to its first out-of-town tournament and came away winners when it won the Cherry Hill girls soccer tournament held at Fort Dix, N.J., June 10 to 11.



The APG Wave defeated the Burlington Township Falcons, 2-0 in the championship game.

Darrell Diamond, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center employee, coaches the team

along with John Walters and Kelly Hacker. Diamond said the team received "excellent support" from the tournament organizers at Fort Dix.

"The team received permission to camp at the Boys and Girls campground and they were allowed to eat in the dining facility with the Soldiers," he said. "They really enjoyed playing in the tournament as well as the unique camping experience."

The APG Wave team members include Erica Coley, Desirae Diamond, Katelyn Ferdiani, Briana Goode, Deborah Ince, Cathy Johnson, Emily Kappauf, Rachel Keeley, Brittney Lozzi, Sara Waldron, Chrissy Walters, Kayla Watson and Bianca Whiteside.

## Maryland State Fair tickets available

The Cow Palace, "Fire On The Midway" Chili Competition, "Battle of the Beast" Bullriding, food, rides and more await visitors to the Maryland State Fair at Timonium Fair Grounds, Aug. 25 through Sept. 4.



Admission tickets cost \$5 per person and include concert series with Raven Symone, Chris Cagle and Sawyer Brown. All-you-can-ride vouchers cost \$16 per person.

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger, 410-278-3931 or visit <http://www.bcpl.net/~mdstfair/>.

## Maryland Renaissance Festival tickets available at MWR

Discount tickets for the Maryland Renaissance Festival cost \$13.50 for adults ages 16 years and older and \$7.50 for children ages 7 to 15 years. Prices at the gate cost \$17 for adults and \$8 for children. The festival is open weekends, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Aug. 26 through Oct. 22. The Maryland Renaissance Festival is located on 1801 Crownsville Road in Annapolis. Handicapped parking is available next to the Main Gate. When entering the parking lot, follow the signs to the designated handicapped parking area.



For more information, call Stacie Umbarger, 410-278-3931 or visit <http://www.rennfest.com/>.

## SCHOOL LIAISON

### Roye-Williams holds Open House

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold an "Open House/Back to School Night," 6:30 p.m., Aug. 24.

Roye-Williams is combining its Open House and back to School Night to form a partnership between home and school before the school year begins.

The school store will be open for parents and students to purchase back-to-school supplies, and parents will be able to deposit funds into their child's lunch account.

For more information, call the school, 410-273-5536.

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Library, located in the Recreation Center, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

This week the Library is highlighting Alfred Hitchcock films in the "Featured DVDs" section.

The Birds	Strangers on a Train	The Trouble with Harry
Rear Window	The Man Who Knew Too Much	Notorious
Dial M for Murder	To Catch a Thief	Vertigo
Rebecca	Mr. & Mrs. Smith	Psycho
Frenzy	Topaz	The Wrong Man
Rope	North by Northwest	
Lifeboat		

### Computers available at the library

The APG MWR Library has 10 computers for public use, where individuals can access the AKO pages. Among the items available on The Army Libraries site on AKO are E-Books, the Automotive Reference Center, Homework Help and Test Preparations.

For example, a portal to trusted health care information resources for Soldiers and AKO users is on the AKO My Health page, <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/300434>.

My Health includes the following channels:

- Getting Started - Quick Links
- Reference Center
- Health Topics - A-Z Guides
- CNN Health News RSS newsfeed
- Links to MedlinePlus, TRICARE Online and Other Databases
- Deployment Health links
- Self-Assessment eTools
- Health Promotion & Wellness links
- Book Reviews on Diet Books and Weight Management Videos

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.

an ongoing program and play groups are held in the APG Chapel, room 5.

**For all SKIESUnlimited programs contact Central Registration for details and registration. An additional \$18 Central Registration Fee will apply if not already enrolled in the Child and Youth Services Program. Call 410-278-7479/7571 for an appointment to register.**

### Volunteers needed

Anyone interested in teaching classes such as kinder-musik, history, grammar, reading, and mommy and me tumbling, should call Sarah Behl, 410-278-4589.

For more information call 410-278-4589.

### Drivers' education

Several sessions of drivers' education are being taught on both Aberdeen and Edgewood. Students 15 to 18 years of age must attend and complete 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours in car instructions. Student must have a Learners Permit. Parents, guardians, or mentors must attend the first class with student. Cost is \$267.

At the EA Conference Center (building E-4811) location, classes are 6 to 9:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 7 thru 18 and Aug. 21 thru Sept. 1.

At the Aberdeen Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Blvd, Room 304, 6 to 9:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday, Aug. 14 through 29.

### Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu

Through practice, students will learn the best form of self-defense, developing leadership and teamwork skills.

Classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center, 6 to 7 p.m. for ages 7 thru 12 and 7 to 8 p.m. for ages 13 thru 18, Aug. 15 through Sept. 7 and Sept. 12 through Oct. 5. Cost is \$85.

### Basic automotive maintenance classes

\$5 Hands on training on basic vehicle maintenance is scheduled for the third Thursday of each month for men, women, or teenagers 16 and older. For \$5 participants will learn the most basic of automotive maintenance to help keep a motor vehicle oper-

ating and recognizing early maintenance problems associated with every day use including changing and discarding of oil and oil filters, changing and rotating tires, checking fluid levels and filling and use of all lifts and equipment available all while observing safety while working on vehicle. Sign up at the Automotive Center, building 2379.

### Martial arts classes

This Chinese style of martial arts will provide discipline, while physically developing the students and mentally preparing the students to learn how to defend themselves. They will learn a solid foundation in basic movements and progress to advanced techniques. The system also provides an extensive workable knowledge in the art of self defense for children, women and men of all ages. The instructor has 34 years of experience in the martial arts and is the owner and Master Instructor of the Scarlet Dragon Lung-Fu-Do System. Classes are held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday, Aug. 21 through Oct. 18, at the Aberdeen Youth Center. No class on Sept. 4 or Oct. 9. Participants must be 7 to 18 years of age. Cost is \$70. For more information, call instructor Michael Gilbert, 410-272-2712 or 410-306-1120.

### Babysitting classes

Training to become a Red Cross Certified Babysitter will be held 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Aug. 23, Sept. 12, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 28, Jan. 22 at Army Community Services, building 2754. Bring a bag lunch.

Participants must be between the ages of 13 and 15.

**For information on Outdoor Programs, call Charles Heinsohn, 410-278-3868. To sign up for a class, visit MWR Registration, located in building 3326, call 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail [mwr\\_registration@apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@apg.army.mil) or visit Web site, [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).**

### Wilderness Challenge

Join 80 other military teams in a three-day endurance event in scenic Fayetteville, West Va., Oct. 5 thru 7. Teams are made up of four active duty person-

nel and consist of any gender combination, however one team member must be female. Registration and clinics will be held on Thursday; mountain run, whitewater swim and whitewater raft race will be held on Friday and on Saturday, mountain bike, Duckie race, mountain hike, awards and dinner will end the event.

Registration is open.

Visit [www.ima.army.mil/northeast/newtemplates/sites/local/default.asp](http://www.ima.army.mil/northeast/newtemplates/sites/local/default.asp) for more information. For more information, call 757-788-5280 or DSN 680-5280.

### MWR Summer Fishing Tournament

This is a cash prize tournament Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 13 at Woodpecker Point Picnic Area in the Aberdeen Area. Winners will be determined by the biggest fish (by weight). Contestants must provide their own fishing equipment and bait. Tournament rules and state fishing laws will be enforced. Fishing license is not required. Registration deadline is Aug. 10. Fees are active duty, \$5; civilians, \$10 and families, \$15.

**For information on these or any other division of sports and fitness, call Ralph Cuomo, 410-278-2812.**

**To sign up for a youth sport, contact Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. All sports participants must have a current sports physical, due at registration and be a member of Youth Services.**

### Coaches needed

Anyone interested in volunteering to coach, or would like more information should call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

### Arts & Crafts

Aberdeen Arts and Crafts is located in building 2407. Edgewood Arts and Crafts is located in building E-4440. For information, call Debbie Brooks-Harris, 410-278-4207 or Holly Shisler, 410-436-2153.

### Pottery Studio

Edgewood Arts and Crafts Pottery Studio has everything needed to create a hand-painted work of art and nifty design tools. Prices range from \$3 to \$25.

## APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

### Week of July 31

Special #1: Chicken cheese steak sub (choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, pickles, onions), French fries, one cookie and soda for \$7.65

Special #2: American cold cut sub including bologna, ham and cheese and choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions, chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.95

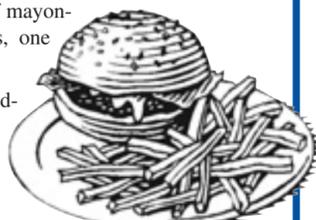
### Week of Aug 7

Special #1: Shrimp salad sub (choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions), bag chips, one cookie and regular soda for \$7.75

Special #2 Double bowlerburger with cheese (choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions), French fries, one cookie, regular soda for \$7.50

The snack bar has a variety of items to choose from including hot meals, burgers, subs, sandwiches, baskets and pizza.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.





Your health is KUSAHC's goal



# Avian Flu: The facts

DIO

Media hype about the avian influenza, or Bird Flu, has made it difficult to distinguish from the hysteria. The following is a brief summation about AI, no artificial hype included.

## Timeline

Despite popular belief the AI known as H5N1 is not a recent phenomena. AI H5N1 was first seen in Hong Kong in 1997. In 1998 the United States Department of Agriculture tested over 12,000 migratory birds in Alaska and approximately 4,000 birds on the Atlantic coast for H5N1. Since then testing efforts have continued in the United States, and other organizations, such as the Department of the Interior, have joined these efforts. In August 2005 a plan for early detection of H5N1 was officially established by the President.

## Defining avian influenza

Avian influenza is caused by a flu virus, specifically Type A influenza viruses. This type is then broken down into two main subtypes, classified by the antigen they produce. The 'H' subtype is so noted because of the hemagglutinin antigen it produces and there are approximately sixteen H subtypes. The 'N' subtype is so noted because of the neuraminidase antigen it produces and there are approximately nine N subtypes. The subtypes in all their combinations allow for 144 variations.

The AI is then further divided into two categories. The first category is Low Pathogenic Avian

southward migration. As the birds migrate the prevalence of the virus declines and reaches its lowest rate during the spring.

It is believed that the poultry industry actually plays a larger role in the spread of AI. AI viruses are spread through fecal matter, which is the most common vector of transfer, and other bodily secretions such as those from the eyes, nose and mouth.

In poultry farms the birds are raised in large numbers in small areas thus allowing for the rapid spread of the virus.

There are two methods of transfer for the virus. The first method is direct transfer which is the spread of the virus from a sick bird directly to a healthy bird. The second method is indirect transfer which is the spread of the virus from a sick bird, to an item (i.e. a piece of farm equipment), to a healthy bird. In recent studies, the AI virus was detected in fecal matter for up to eight days after secretion. In studies involving poultry houses the virus was detected for up to 100 days after culling the chickens.

## How does the AI virus get to humans?

The pathway of AI from a wild bird to a human is actually rather simple. For example, a wild bird infected with AI lands at a poultry farm and transfers the virus to the poultry stock. The virus then spreads through out the poultry stock and is shed in fecal matter. When people attend to the poultry stock they are then exposed to the fecal matter.

alert level remains at level 3 – limited human to human transmission.

## Signs, symptoms of AI

The signs and symptoms of AI are not consistent within birds. They can vary with strain, species, age and sex.

In domestic birds some common signs are coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge, and other respiratory abnormalities; decreased appetite, decreased activity, ruffled feathers, diarrhea, tremors and reproductive abnormalities such as soft shelled and misshapen eggs.

Unfortunately in wild birds these signs are unobservable thus is it very difficult to determine if a wild bird has AI.

## What is being done about AI in the United States?

There is currently no evidence that the HPAI, H5N1, exists in the United States. The U.S. government has initiated an interagency strategic plan for the prevention and early detection of the H5N1 virus. Birds will be monitored along the major migratory flyways of the United States. The major objectives of this plan are: (1) to investigate mortality in wild birds, (2) monitor live healthy birds, (3) monitor hunter-killed birds, (4) use of sentinel animals, (5) environmental sampling of water and bird feces.

The U.S. poultry industry is also on alert and being asked to flocks and take extra precautions to prevent cross contamination.

The U.S. government is also assisting international agencies such as the World Organization for Animal Health, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization to prevent H5N1's entrance into the United States through contaminated animals or people. The issue of poultry smuggling from contaminated areas is being closely watched.

## Is it possible to contract AI from eating poultry?

There is currently no evidence that AI is transmitted through the consumption of poultry meats. As always with the preparation of any meats poultry should be thoroughly cooked. A meat thermometer should be used to ensure that the poultry has reached an internal temperature of 165 F. This temperature will inactivate any bacteria or viruses which may be present in the meat. Safe food handling techniques should also be practiced. These include washing hands before and after handling any uncooked meats and avoiding cross contaminating food preparation surfaces. For example, placing uncooked meat on a cutting board to be used for vegetables.

Through the use of proper sanitation, contamination can be avoided as the virus can be deactivated through the use of simple cleansing techniques such as the use of a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution, commercial disinfectants, or hot water and soap. Thoroughly washing hands with soap and water or with an alcohol-based hand product is very effective for deactivating and



<http://www.motheearthnews.com/images/eggs/Best-Chicken-full-8.jpg>  
Illustration by NICK PENTZ

preventing infection from influenza viruses.

## What about the hunting, preparation of game animals?

There are currently no known cases of AI H5N1 being transmitted to humans from wild birds. To help prevent the spread of all AI viruses the following practical hygiene practices should be followed:

- Do not handle or butcher game animals that are obviously sick or are found dead.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while cleaning game animals
- Wear rubber gloves and avoid contact with fluid discharges and fecal matter while cleaning game animals.
- Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes immediately after handling game.
- Wash tools and working surfaces with soap and water and then disinfect them with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
- Place uncooked game in a

bag for transport.

- Cook game meat thoroughly to an internal temperature of 165 F.

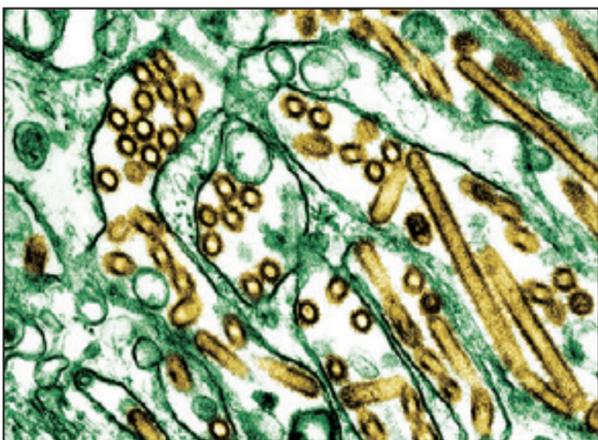
Dogs used in wild bird hunting are not currently considered at risk of acquiring AI H5N1. However, pet owners should consult their veterinarians for information about AI in pets.

## Preparing for an outbreak of AI

For more information on disaster preparedness contact the local Emergency Operations Center, <http://www.harford-countymd.gov/EOC/>.

## What happens if a dead bird is found?

If a dead bird is seen on Aberdeen Proving Ground, immediately report the incident to the Entomology office at 410-278-3303. A representative from the office will visit the site to collect the bird and determine if testing is needed. DO NOT handle the bird, and keep children and pets away from the area.



[http://www.sfdccp.org/UserFiles/Image/avian\\_flu\\_virus.jpg](http://www.sfdccp.org/UserFiles/Image/avian_flu_virus.jpg)  
Transmission electron micrograph of avian influenza H5N1 virus

Influenza and the second category is Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. The current viral strain, H5N1, falls into the HPAI category.

It should also be noted that the prevalence of the subtype of virus varies by bird type. The H subtype is very prevalent in shorebirds and waterfowl, and is associated with severe illness and mortality in chickens and turkeys.

## Methods of virus transfer

At this point the magnitude of the role wild birds play in the transfer of AI is unclear. Wild birds are considered natural reservoirs of the virus, both HPAI and LPAI, and AI can be found year round in wild bird populations as part of a natural cycle. For example, the highest rate of infection in waterfowl occurs in juvenile birds in the late summer as they gather for

However, this may only be for a limited amount of time and more often than not some form of protection (i.e. rubber gloves, respirator) is used. Other domestic farm animals however are also exposed to the virus and have no protection. This allows an opportunity for the virus to mutate and affect other animals such as cats and pigs. Once this transfer from birds to mammals has occurred the transfer from domestic animals to humans is a relatively short step. It should also be noted that direct transfer from fecal matter to humans has occurred.

Currently the most affected area of the world is Indonesia, where one human bird flu death is reported every 2.5 days on average. To date, there have been no confirmed cases of human to human transfers of the virus in that region however, several cases are under investigation. The current world pandemic

## LEAVE DONATIONS

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). For more information, call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail [rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil).

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

Michele Amrhein  
Sarah Blevins  
Debra Bonsall  
(daughter has brain tumor)  
Jeanie Bowman  
Gerald Brown  
Robert Brown  
Janet Cannedy  
Lisa Carroll  
Leroy Carter  
Barbara Cascio  
Rogelio Chevannes  
Barbara Crossley  
Lola Daniels

Shelia Davison  
(benign paro-xymsmal positional vertigo)  
Dawn Dean-Delbridge  
Lawrence Eaton  
Ashley Fisher  
Gregory Fox  
Renee Gaffney  
Susan Gorhan  
Sandra Green  
Shirley Gross  
Hester Hayes  
Melanie A. Hoffman  
(parasinusitis,

fibromyalgia condition)  
Rick Jernigan  
Carolyn Johnson  
Lydia Langley  
Robyn Lee  
Wayne Kaiser  
Beverly King (caring for husband)  
Louis McCarter  
William B. McLean  
(kidney failure)  
Sandra Miller  
Patricia Milwicz  
Mary Pettway

DeAnna Sampson  
William Sebra  
Barbara Seker  
Cynthia Shelton  
Linda Shoaf  
Ebonie Stinnette  
Alison Tichenor  
Gary Tudor (heart valve replacement)  
Christine Wheaton  
Jerry Williams (heart attack)  
Louis Winters  
Billie Wooten

## Where can more information on AI be found?

### More information on AI can be found at the following Web sites:

- Frequently asked questions about highly pathogenic avian influenza virus H5N1 and wild birds (SCWDS) - PDF format <http://www.uga.edu/scwds/Avian%20Influenza%20and%20Wild%20Birds%20Fact%20Sheet%20SCWDS.pdf>
- USGS National Wildlife Health Center [http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease\\_information/avian\\_influenza/index.jsp](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/avian_influenza/index.jsp)
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/issues/AvianFlu/WBAvianFlu.htm>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot\\_issues/avian\\_influenza/avian\\_influenza.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/avian_influenza/avian_influenza.shtml)
- Centers For Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/index.htm>

### The following local agencies may also be contacted:

- Maryland Department of Agriculture  
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Phone: 410-841-5880  
Fax: 410-841-5914  
<http://www.mda.state.md.us>
- Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
201 West Preston Street,  
Suite 500  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
Phone: 410-767-6500  
Fax: 410-767-6489  
<http://www.dhmd.state.md.us>

## KUSAHC SHOTS

### KUSAHC CLOSURES EARLY AUG. 11

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will close at 11 a.m., Aug. 11, for Organization Day. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this causes to the beneficiaries.



# Safety

## Preventing heat stress

DSHE

The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Installation Safety Office recommends learning and understanding the health hazards of heat stress during the summer months.

The following information is from the American Red Cross.

### Terminology

**Heat wave:** A prolonged period of excessive heat and humidity. The National Weather Service steps up its procedures to alert the public during these periods of excessive heat and humidity.

**Heat index:** A number in degrees Fahrenheit (F) that tells how hot it really feels when relative humidity is added to the actual air temperature. Exposure to full sunshine can increase the heat index by 15 F.

**Heat cramps:** Heat cramps are muscular pains and spasms due to heavy exertion. Although heat cramps are the least severe, they are an early signal that the body is having trouble with the heat.

**Heat exhaustion:** Heat exhaustion typically occurs when people exercise heavily or work in a hot, humid place where body fluids are lost through heavy sweating. Blood flow to the skin increases, causing blood flow to decrease to the vital organs. This results in a form of mild shock. If not treated, the victim may suffer heat stroke.

**Heat stroke:** Heat stroke is life-threatening. The victim's temperature control system, which produces sweating to cool the body, stops working. The body temperature can rise so high that brain damage and death may result if the body is not cooled quickly. Sunstroke is another term for heat stroke.

### If a heat wave is predicted or happening:

- Slow down. Avoid strenuous activity or do it during the coolest part of the day, which is usually in the morning between 4 and 7 a.m.
- Take frequent breaks.
- Stay indoors as much as possible. If air conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor, out of the sunshine. Try to go to a public building

with air conditioning each day for several hours. Remember, electric fans do not cool the air, but they do help evaporate sweat, which cools the body.

- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Light colors will reflect away some of the sun's energy.

- Drink plenty of water regularly and often. The body needs water to keep cool.

- Drink plenty of fluids even if not thirsty.

- Water is the safest liquid to drink during heat emergencies.

Avoid drinks containing alcohol or caffeine, which offer brief relief, but actually worsen the effects on the body. This is especially true about beer, which dehydrates the body.

- Eat small meals and eat more often. Avoid foods that are high in protein, which increase metabolic heat.

- Avoid using salt tablets unless directed to do so by a physician.

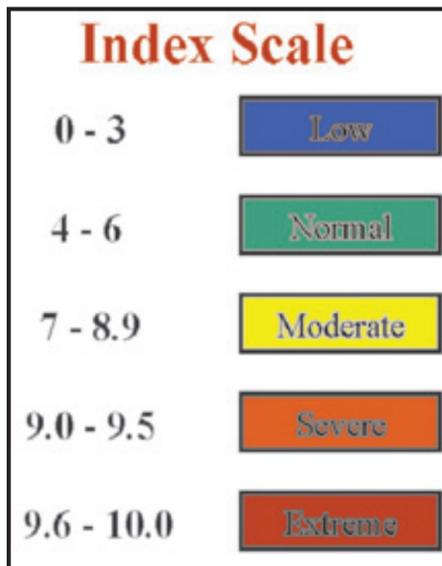
### Signs of heat emergencies

- Heat exhaustion: Cool, moist, pale, or flushed skin; heavy sweating; headache; nausea or vomiting; dizziness and exhaustion. Body temperature will be near normal.

- Heat stroke: Hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. Body temperature can be very high--as high as 105 F. If the person is sweating from heavy work or exercise, skin may be wet; otherwise, it will feel dry.

### Treatment for heat emergencies:

- Heat cramps: Get the person to a cooler place and have him or her rest in a comfortable position. Lightly stretch the affected muscle and replenish fluids. Give a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Do not give liquids with alcohol or caffeine in them.



[http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~jdwatts/index\\_web/index\\_scale.gif](http://climate.geog.udel.edu/~jdwatts/index_web/index_scale.gif)

- Heat exhaustion: Get the person out of the heat and into a cooler place. Remove or loosen tight clothing and apply cool, wet cloths, such as towels or sheets. If the person is conscious, give cool water to drink. Make sure the person drinks slowly. Give a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Do not give liquids that contain alcohol or caffeine. Let the victim rest in a comfortable position, and watch carefully for changes in his or her condition.

- Heat stroke: Heat stroke is a life-threatening situation. Help is needed quickly. Call 9-1-1 or the local number for medical emergencies. Move the person to a cooler place. Quickly cool the body. Immerse victim in cool water or wrap wet sheets around the body and fan it. Watch for signals of breathing problems. Keep the person lying down and continue to cool the body any way possible. If the victim refuses water or is vomiting or there are changes in the level of consciousness, do not give any food or fluids.

For more information, visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or call the Installation Safety Office, 410-306-1084/1057.

## OC&S gets the edge on safety

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools is continuing its efforts to "Own the Edge" in safety for its Soldiers and civilians. Recent programs, led by Keith Katz, who runs the Safety Center for the OC&S and for ordnance units at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., focus on summer safety issues, specifically seat belt and lawn mower safety.

Katz said the center tries to keep safety in the forefront by putting together resource books for unit commander safety briefings.

"We're focusing on monthly topics and putting information on book-marks and flyers for use in briefings or just as reminders to think safety," Katz said.

In addition the OC&S Web site carries a weekly Safety Tip from the National Safety Council, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and other safety advocates.

### Lawn mower safety

OC&amp;S

One of the most familiar chores of summertime is mowing the lawn. Despite this, the number of lawn mower injuries has steadily increased over the past 20 years. In 1986, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reported 37,000 people were treated in the emergency room for injuries sustained while mowing the lawn. Today, the estimated number of lawn mower injuries requiring emergency care numbers 80,000. This is two out of every 1,000 injury-related emergency department visits or half the number of patients treated for firearm injuries annually.

Common injuries attributed to lawn mower use include deep cuts, loss of fingers and toes, broken and dislocated bones, burns and eye and other injuries. Lawn mower injuries can happen to bystanders as well as users. The following guidelines can drastically reduce the risk of sustaining injuries from lawn mowers.

- Before starting, ensure the lawn is free of objects such as sticks, stones and toys. Bystanders should also clear the area due to flying object hazards. Objects thrown by a mower can reach speeds upwards of 170 miles per hour. To prevent clogs, grass should be mowed when dry.

- Visually inspect the mower. Safety features such as warning labels, foot shields and brake control systems should be present and in proper working order. Read the owner's manual to become familiar with the mower's capabilities and safety features.

- Wear proper safety equipment when using the mower. Personal protective equipment includes sturdy non-slip shoes (not sandals or sneakers), close-fitting clothes, earplugs and safety glasses or goggles.

- Start the mower out of gear on a level, solid surface outdoors. Manufacturers and safety officials recommend that mowers be pushed or used in a forward direction - never pulled. Manufacturers recommend mowing across a slope, never up and down.

- The mower's engine should be turned off and allowed to cool when refueling or performing maintenance. This allows for expansion space when the fuel is heated. Wipe any fuel that may have dripped onto the mower or the surrounding area during the refueling process.

### References:

American Institute for Preventive Medicine, [www.healthylife.com](http://www.healthylife.com); Consumer Product Safety Commission, [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov); Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, [www.jhsph.edu](http://www.jhsph.edu); National Ag Safety Database, [www.cdc.gov/nasd](http://www.cdc.gov/nasd); and the West Virginia University Extension Service, [www.wvu.edu](http://www.wvu.edu).

For more information visit the USAOC&S Web site, [www.goordnance.apg.army.mil](http://www.goordnance.apg.army.mil).

## Command

From front page

in 1991. After earning a master's degree and a doctorate in chemistry (biochemistry) from Arizona State University, he served as an instructor of general chemistry, and later as assistant professor and course director for biochemistry at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

O'Keefe also holds a master's in national resource strategy from National Defense University, a master's in business administration from Touro University International and a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from the University of California, Davis.

"I appreciate the great welcome," O'Keefe said. Now I'm here and I'm ready to continue all the great work this organization does for Soldiers." "Over the past few days, just meeting some people, I really feel I'm being welcomed into a new family."

Francis said he was thankful for his time at USAEC.

"I came into a super organization and now I'm leaving a super organization," Francis said.

The ceremony concluded with many USAEC employees and guests welcoming O'Keefe and his family at the Gunpowder Club.

The 35th Infantry Division Band from the Kansas Army National Guard, the Chemical Battalion Color Guard from the 22nd Chemical

Battalion (Technical Escort) and the Salute Battery from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools participated in the ceremony.



Photo by Neal Snyder, USAEC  
Spc. Patrick Martin of the 35th Infantry Division Band, a unit of the Kansas Army National Guard, reflects on his performance during the U.S. Army Environmental Center change of command ceremony July 26 on McBride Parade Field.

## Edge

From front page

Knowledge is the greatest weapon, and CRM is one tool Soldiers and civilians can use to protect themselves both on and off-duty.

For more information on the 'Own the Edge Campaign 2006,' visit the USACRC Web site at <https://erc.army.mil/> or contact Kelly Widener Chief, Public Affairs, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center at 334-255-3770 or e-mail her at [Kelly.Widener@erc.army.mil](mailto:Kelly.Widener@erc.army.mil).

### Own the Edge Campaign 2006

- Objective: Provide the Army tools and knowledge to improve combat readiness in their formations.

The 'Own the Edge' campaign calls upon all levels of our Army team— from senior leadership and commanders to Soldiers and civilians— to constantly ask themselves, "What can take me and my buddy out of the fight?" and

then use the tools and programs that can mitigate those risks and hazards.

### Actions:

'Own the Edge' encourages individual and unit safety, as well as continuous risk evaluation and hazard mitigation through the use of CRM.

Enhancing combat readiness in our force means we need the skill and experiences of each and every one of our Army team— Soldiers and civilians alike— to remain in the fight.

The 'Own the Edge Campaign 2006' is a critical part of the Army's transformation.

Our Soldiers are warriors on the edge. 'Own the Edge' implies that Soldiers can push themselves to the limit while maintaining control, thus giving them an advantage in any situation.

CRM enables them to think smarter, take control, and actually 'Own the Edge.'

### Why CRM?

CRM teaches Soldiers how to think not what to think.

This concept puts individual Soldiers and leaders in control of how far on the edge

they can operate. Once Soldiers internalize CRM, they begin making better-informed risk decisions wherever they are— be it in combat, training, at home or on the road.

When our Soldiers learn, understand, and apply the Army tools and concepts, they can 'Own the Edge' without even knowing they are managing risk because it becomes instinctive, intuitive and predictive.

The preventable loss of even one member of the Army team— Soldier, civilian or supporting contractor— is unacceptable.

Are your personnel equipped with the right safety tools and knowledge to stay in the fight? Tomorrow's mission depends on the readiness of the Army today.

### Own the Edge!

The Combat Readiness Center serves as the knowledge center for all losses, helping commanders connect the dots on loss prevention and providing leaders with tools to manage risk through the process of CRM.

## Weather

From page 7

possible away from the vehicle with both feet landing on the ground at the same time. Once clear of the vehicle, shuffle away, with both feet on the ground or hop away, with both feet landing on the ground at the same time. Do not run away from the vehicle as the electricity forms rings of different voltages. Running may cause the legs to "bridge" current resulting in a shock. Get a safe distance away.

- If there is a line down, call BGE at 1-800-685-0123, 1-800-735-2258, or 410-685-0123.

### Advanced warning

Fortunately, today's weather-predicting technology, coupled with electronic media, often affords plenty of opportunity - sometimes days - to make extra preparations for impending natural disasters.

Prepare a weather proof package that includes important family documents, such as birth certificates and insurance policies. Make sure everyone knows where the package is kept and assign a family member responsibility for it, in case of an evacuation.

Put together a safety kit including, but not limited to:

- A first aid kit and essential medications
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food and a Manual can opener
- A three-day supply of water (no more than six months old - mark the date) in a non-breakable container (one-gallon per person per day)
- Protective clothing, rainwear and blankets
- A portable radio
- A flashlight with plenty of spare batteries for each household member
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- An extra set of car keys
- Sanitation supplies

- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members

- Check battery-powered equipment, such as flashlights, portable radio and/or TV

- Keep additional, fresh batteries for each, and keep fuel-filled equipment outdoors, until ready to use

- Make sure everyone in the household knows where this kit is kept

### Emergency contact

Pick someone to call (a friend or family member out of state) in case an evacuation is required. Select a point of contact who can let others know the whereabouts of family members.

### Floods

Floods are the most lethal of all natural disasters. Less than a foot of gushing water can knock down the biggest person; a car can start to float in two feet of water.

In most floods, water rises slowly, allowing time for action. However, if the area is prone to flash floods, and

there is a warning, swift action is called for. A home owner may have to evacuate and seek higher ground right away. If driving and the car engine dies, get out and walk or climb to higher ground.

### Easy identification for 911 responders

Homeowners should have the house number displayed so that emergency equipment can find their house.

In an emergency, every second counts. Numbers should not blend in with the house. Dark on light or light on dark works well. If the house is off the roadway and/or has no mailbox, place a sign at the end of the driveway displaying the address information.

Know the nearest intersecting street to the address. This will help the operator provide directions to the location in cases of duplicate street names. Post a card with address, family name and telephone number next

to the telephone to assist children and visitors in providing that information in an emergency. Post all local county numbers for the area.

### When calling 911:

- Try to remain as calm as possible. Take a deep breath and speak clearly.

- Tell the operator the nature of the emergency: "I need the (Police, Fire Department, Ambulance).

- Know location. If help is needed at another location, advise the operator.

- Answer the questions the operator asks. They are necessary to determine the help that's required.

- Keep the answers short and to the point.

- Follow all instructions given by the operator.

- Stay on the line until the operator says it's okay to hang up.

- Turn any outside lights on and if possible send someone out to direct the emergency personnel in.