

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 14, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags, and place them on the curb.

Well Being Council meet- ing June 15

The Well-Being Action Council will meet 9 a.m., June 15, at the Aberdeen Post Chapel, Fellowship Hall. For more information, call Sheryl Speerstra, 410-306-4522.

JPED change of command ceremony

The Joint Personal Effects Depot change of command ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m., June 19, on Fanshaw Field.

Lt. Col. Deborah S. Skillman will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Louis S. Kilmon.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in the APG Recreation Center.

For more information, contact Capt. Carol Gardner, 410-278-0056, or carol.denise.garner@us.army.mil, or Staff Sgt. Karen King, 410-278-4990, or karen.i.king@us.army.mil.

Background checks for guest hunters

Applications for those who wish to hunt as a guest on APG will be processed 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 24, building 550B, The Archery Range on Student Drive.

Law enforcement personnel will be on hand to process all paperwork.

Authorized sponsors should inform their guests (Maryland residents only) to be prepared to be fingerprinted. They must present proof of identity, such as driver's license, passport, or government issued ID card. The fee is \$15.

For more information, call Michael Davis, The APG Bowman, Inc., 410-306-0572.

Youths participate in Challenge Program Invitational

Almost 600 National Guard Youth Challenge Program Cadets from 12 states, including those from APG, will compete in the 10th Anniversary of the

See SHORTS, page 5

Patriotism focus of Memorial Day ceremony

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Carrying on the tradition of honoring the nation's war-fighters through veterans and youths was the focus of the Memorial Day tribute held at the Edgewood Area Cemetery May 29.

Edgewood American Legion Post 17, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5337 in Abingdon and the Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi Council co-hosted the ceremony which featured music by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) led by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert Larsen, and a gun salute by the 143rd Ordnance Battalion Honor Guard led by Staff Sgt. John Richardson.

Special guests included Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, who offered remarks; Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander; and Col. James Jagielski, APG Garrison chaplain who gave



Timothy J. Baird of the Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi Council recites the poem "I Knew You Once," written by World War II combat crew member Scott Aylesworth, during the Memorial Day Tribute at the Edgewood Cemetery May 29.

the invocation. Post 17 Chaplain Marty Marzicola gave the benediction.

Nadeau said he intentionally kept his remarks short, preferring to focus on the "event itself." He commented on the variety of participants, particu-

larly the youths in attendance.

"We make a fuss about large ceremonies," Nadeau said, "but nothing beats a small ceremony like this."

The program's host, Timothy J. Baird, Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi

Council, recited the poem "I Knew You Once," by World War II combat crew member Scott Aylesworth. He remarked that the poem, "still rings true today."

"To those defending our country today, as we did in the

past, we salute you for doing the right thing so that others can enjoy the same liberty as we do," Baird said.

Members of the American Legion and VFW Ladies Auxiliaries and Junior Auxiliaries performed the traditional wreath laying as the crowd watched solemnly then all heads bowed as the Honor Guard fired a salute and the band's Staff Sgt. Robert Bauerle played "Taps" on trumpet.

The program concluded with the band's playing of the Military Medley honoring all branches of America's armed forces.

During a reception at American Legion Post 17, plaques and certificates of appreciation were presented to Nadeau, Wright, Larsen and the entire band.

"You folks make this day so special," Baird said.

Wright said that APG was committed "to supporting those who support us."

"It's important to continue interactions with veterans through these ceremonies," he

See MEMORIAL DAY, page 12

Army streamlines to one blue Army Service Uniform

Army News Service

Army service uniforms will be streamlined to one blue Army Service Uniform, the Army announced June 5.

"World-class Soldiers deserve a simplified, quality uniform," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston. "The blue Army Service Uniform is a traditional uniform that is consistent with the Army's most honored traditions."

"We have all of these variations of uniforms - green, blue and white," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker. "It makes sense for us to go to one traditional uniform that is really sharp and high quality and which Soldiers will be very proud to wear. And that's what we've done by adopting this blue Army Service Uniform that reflects simplicity, quality, utility and tradition."

Many Soldiers already own an Army blue uniform (now to be called the Army Service Uniform) and may continue to wear it.

Improvements will be made to the fabric and fit. Reduction of the number of uniforms will reduce the burden on Soldiers for purchases and alteration cost.

Introduction in the Army Military Clothing Sales stores should begin in fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. Introduction in the Clothing Bag should begin first quarter 2009. The Mandatory Possession Date is expected to be fourth quarter fiscal year 2011.

A wear-out date for the Army Green Class A and White dress uniforms will be determined at a later date.

The consolidation of Army service uniforms is part of a streamlining process.

In 2004, the Army reduced the number of battle dress uniforms from three to one when it adopted the Army Combat Uniform in place of the Woodland Green Battle Dress Uniform (winter and summer versions) and the Desert Combat Uniform. That uniform consolidation has been a resounding success in terms of Soldier acceptance and reducing the variety of combat uniforms with which they must deal.

Army Blue as a uniform color traces its origins back to the National Blue and was first worn by Soldiers in the Continental Army of 1779.

Besides tradition, the Army Service Uniform reflects utility, simplicity and quality.

"In utility, the blue Army Service Uniform provides a basic set of components that allow Soldiers to dress from the lowest end to the highest

end of service uniforms with little variation required.

In simplicity, the blue Army Service Uniform eliminates the need for numerous sets of green Class A uniforms, service blue uniforms and, for some, Army white mess uniforms (and tunics, for women). Streamlining various service uniforms into one Army Service Uniform reduces the burden on Soldiers in the same

manner that the Army Combat Uniform did for the field utility uniform.

In quality, the blue Army Service Uniform is made of a durable material that is suitable for daily use without special care.

Information about the blue Army Service Uniform and its composition is available at www.army.mil/symbols/uniforms.

Police Academy receives accreditation to become Regional Training Academy

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

The APG Police Academy has advanced to the next level having been chosen as one of the Regional Civilian Police and Guard Training academies during an accreditation ceremony May 24.

The U.S. Army Office of the Provost Marshal General and the U.S. Army Police School chose the police academy to provide an Army approved law enforcement training curriculum.

During the ceremony, Col. Rick Swengros, assistant commandant of the U.S. Army MP school, spoke on how this accreditation will affect the Army.

"A standard school for police benefits the whole Army," Swengros said. "[The accreditation] has been a process. Everything we do with Army accreditation we take very seriously."

The APG Police Academy will have met all MP School standards including training infrastructure, facilities and instructors once they execute the new curriculum, according to Swengros.

Reed and Swengros presented Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Robert W. Krauer, director of Law Enforcement and Security, a certificate for the accreditation.

"We appreciate the accreditation and welcome new cadets," Wright said.

Krauer said Mike Loe, program manager for the OPMG's Physical Security Branch for DA civilian police and guards and the Contract Security Guard Programs, and David Reed, chief of Law Enforcement Operations Branch at the USAMPS in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., visited APG over the past year to observe training and to help with APG's Police Academy becoming an Army Regional Academy.

Loe and Reed are responsible for designing and carrying out the accreditation to ensure DA civilian police and guards are trained to Military Police standards and improve security of garrisons in the continental United States.

"It's really important to keep standards high," Swengros said. "If you don't instruct police professionally they could make decisions that jeopardize lives and criminal cases."

Prior to this centralized program, officials of installations had to accomplish the training mission with local assets or hire outside organizations to train the police officers, Swengros said.

This created a problem because not all DA civilian police and guards were learning the same concepts and procedures from their instructors during training.

Now a select number of certified officers will train police at the police academy to ensure everyone is learning the same information, Swengros said.

White Sands Missile Range, N.M., will be the other regional site for training DA civilian police and guards. This site along with the APG Police Academy will temporarily add to the USAMPS Law Enforcement Academy at Fort Leonard Wood.



Photo courtesy of www.Google.com

Lynyrd Skynyrd returns to APG

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Tickets are still available for the Army Concert Tour featuring Lynyrd Skynyrd, 3 Doors Down and Danielia Cotton, coming to Aberdeen Proving Ground Shine Sports Field, 7 p.m., June 24.

For tickets, visit MWR Registration in building 3326, call 410-278-4907/4621/4011, TTY: 410-278-4110, FAX 410-278-9083, e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil or use Ticketmaster at 800-551-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com.

For more information, visit the MWR Web site, www.apgmwr.com.
Lynyrd Skynyrd
www.lynyrdskynyrd.com

Lynyrd Skynyrd has been described as "the definitive southern rock band."

The band reached prominence during the 1970s under the leadership of vocalist and primary songwriter Ronnie Van Zant, until his death in 1977.

The band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on March 13, 2006, recognizing it as was one of the most commercially

successful and critically acclaimed Southern Rock groups of the 1970s. Their distinctive triple-lead guitar sound made their songs "Freebird" and "Sweet Home Alabama" American anthems and staples of FM radio. Members inducted include: Ronnie Van Zant, Gary Rossington, Allen Collins, Leon Wilkeson, Bob Burns, Billy Powell, Ed King, Artimus Pyle and Steve Gaines.

The band, first called My Backyard, was formed in Jacksonville, Fla., in the summer of 1964 by teenage friends, Ronnie Van Zant (vocals), Allen Collins (guitar), Gary Rossington (guitar), Larry Junstrom (bass), and Bob Burns (drums).

During the 1960s, the band changed names several times. In 1970, Van Zant jokingly named the band after their high school gym coach Leonard Skinner and the name stuck, eventually becoming Lynyrd Skynyrd.

The band's popularity grew as it performed throughout the south in the early 70s.

In 1972 they signed with MCA Records and produced their first album in 1973, "Pronounced Leh-Nerd Skin-Nerd," with the single "Free Bird," that eventually reached 19

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Arts and Crafts winners announced

Inaugural D.A.R.E. program graduates 68 APG youths

Story by
KHAALID WALLS
OC&S

With their parents and community leaders cheering them on, some 68 students graduated May 25 from the APG Youth and Child Development Center's Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, D.A.R.E.

The nine-session D.A.R.E. program headed by APG Community Police Officer "Big Mike" Farlow warned children against the ills of crime, drug and alcohol use, and the dangers of household cleaners. It also encouraged teamwork, taught how to refuse drugs, and challenged students to write essays about staying drug free.

Col. T. John Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, opened the ceremony by congratulating the young people and urging them to let the values stressed in the program resonate beyond graduation.

"Stick together to help each other make the right choices," Wright said.

The graduation's keynote speaker, Alan Woods III, director of the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, echoed Wright's sentiments encouraging parents to reinforce the values stressed in the program.

"This is the stuff that helps you make better decisions throughout your entire life," he said.

Farlow closed the ceremony fighting back tears while thanking his family and reflecting on the success of the program, in which he said his family's support was critical.

The ceremony was an emotional first for the youth center and for Farlow, which came to fruition after a year in the



Photo by HEATHER TASSMER
Daren the lion, D.A.R.E.'s mascot, shakes hands with Michael Mitchell, a 4-year-old D.A.R.E. graduate, at the Aberdeen Youth Center May 25.

making. After a community survey last year, Farlow said the APG Police restarted a Crime Prevention/Community Policing Unit to better serve the APG population.

One of the unit's objectives was to focus on community programs and prevention-type training for the younger members of the community.

"The D.A.R.E. program falls right into that area" Farlow said.

Before heading up the program, Farlow was sent to a two-week training program to become a D.A.R.E.-certified officer, after which, he pitched the program to the Child and Youth Services Center staff, who were eager to launch a pilot program. The center will determine the program's usefulness and decide whether or not to continue it.

"I do believe that the pro-

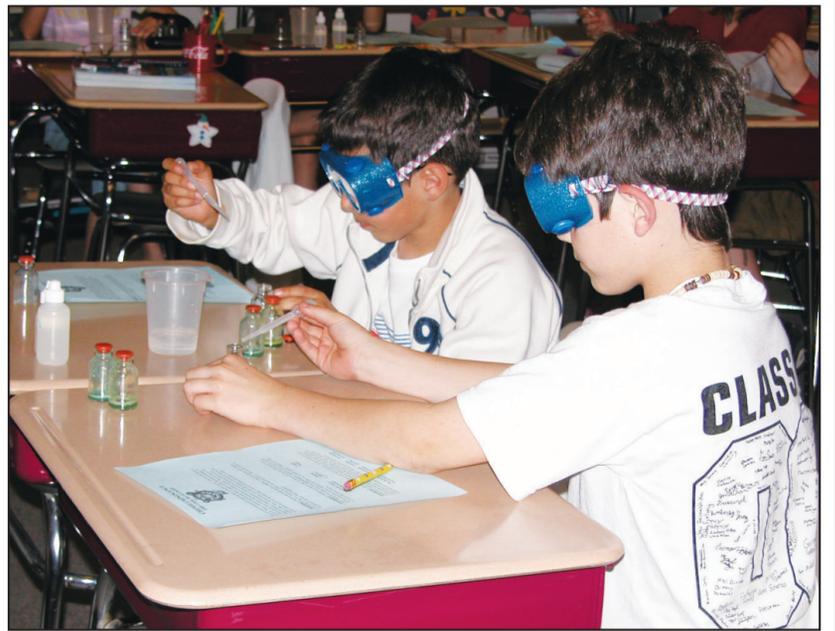
gram was very successful and I believe we will continue to teach it," Farlow said.

Judging from the reaction of both the children and parents at the graduation, the program will continue.

Farlow plans to pitch the program to the Edgewood Youth Center and looks forward to next school year's batch of youngsters.

Farlow said the D.A.R.E. program has paid big dividends in terms of prevention and that he believes it casts police officers in a new light.

"The best takeaway for the children was the opportunity to see the "police" in a different light. Now, instead of being afraid of a police car, or thinking that the police are going to get them, they understand that we are here to protect and serve, and that we are the good guys," Farlow said.



Emmorton Elementary students Garrett Kirk, left, and Patrick Hall, mix solutions during an experiment about chemiluminescence, a chemical reaction that makes light. After the solutions were mixed, the scientists turned off the lights so students could see a blue glow.

Emmorton Elementary students explore science through ECBC's 'Kids and Chemistry' program

Story and photos by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's "Kids and Chemistry" program at Emmorton Elementary School concluded Friday, May 19.

The goal of "Kids and Chemistry" "is to get kids excited and interested in science," said Suzanne Procell, ECBC's program director of "Kids and Chemistry."

"We also teach them how chemistry relates to everyday life," she said.

"Kids and Chemistry" is a program in which scientists and engineers visit fifth-grade classrooms to teach children about science at Harford County elementary schools. The program runs from September through November and February through May. Three sessions are conducted over a three-week period. Each session lasts an hour.

This partnership program was started in 2000 and is an "outreach program of the American Chemical Society," according to the ECBC Web site.

The students learned about chemistry through interactive labs. Scientists taught the children about "simple chemical reactions" and how to detect if a chemical reaction has occurred.

Fifth-graders learned about polymers or compounds during the first session of the program, Procell said.

They created polymers through chemical reactions to make slime while completing the "Jiggle Jelly" lab. Many of the students in long-term substitute Kimberly Bodnar's class said this was their

favorite experiment.

Students also learned about chemical reactions at the first session.

During the second session, scientists taught students about acids and bases and the scientific method in the "What's in a Color" lab.

"We used markers to decode words," said fifth-grade student Rachael Ermatinger. "We wrote with a white marker and smeared another marker over it to see what we wrote."

At the final session of the program, fifth-grade students learned about types of light, color and light, chemical reactions and rates of reaction.

During "The Cool Blue Light" lab, students experimented with chemiluminescence, the students learned that lightning bugs and fireflies light up because of a chemical reaction, bioluminescence.

The students had many positive comments to say about their experiences with the program.

"It was fun and I liked it," Patrick Hall said. "I liked it when the scientists took the caps off of light bracelets and mixed the liquids to make a pink color."

"I learned a lot of new science words and how to be a better scientist," MacKenzie Wilson said. "I liked it when we mixed things to make slime."

Kim Young has already used what she has learned through the program for her Mother's Day gift.

"I drew flowers with an invisible marker and wrote 'You are Special' for my mother," she said. "Then I colored over the words."

Teachers and administrators of the school appreciate the program as well.

"I think it's wonderful," Bodnar said. "The kids don't get a chance to do experiments as hands on [as during the "Kids and Chemistry session] here when they learn about science."

Bodnar, one of four fifth-grade teachers, said the classes alternate learning between social studies and science. She said the fifth graders are learning about social studies now so "it's nice to have a mix."

Peggy Kirk, the principal of Emmorton Elementary, said she hasn't had a chance to witness the students' experiments but she's heard positive things from teachers and students.

"Edith Buckler, the assistant principal, went to see them for a day and she said the kids were really engaged and enjoyed the activities," Kirk said.

The program is beneficial for the students because "science is an important part of their future," Kirk said.

"It gives them a chance to explore and enjoy learning about science," she said.

Procell is responsible for beginning the "Kids and Chemistry" program at ECBC. She found out about it from a conference she attended and was inspired to bring one at ECBC. After receiving permission from Jim Zarzycki, director, ECBC, and discussing it with administrators of Harford County schools, the program was "launched on a trial basis in 2000," according to Procell. ECBC scientists and the school administrators decided to continue it because of its overall success.

In addition to Procell, fourteen scientists from ECBC instruct "Kids and Chemistry." They are Chris Gaughan, Debbie Huffman, Dr. Marla DeLucia, Dan Nowak, Elaina Taylor, Lisa Neuendorff, Emily Davis, Lou Kosydar, Renee Anderson, Dr. Mike Simini, Robyn Little, Erin Shockley, Barry Williams, a contractor through EAI, and Jen Wolfe Pupa. Anderson's mother, Barb Korach, volunteered to see what the program was about. Another volunteer was Barbara Wolfe of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

Procell said "Kids and Chemistry" "hasn't changed much over the years."

"The program used to include a food lab but we retired it due to stricter food restrictions in schools," Procell said.

In addition, ECBC scientists have added more demonstrations during the "Cool Blue Light" lab and raised money so that students could bring home chromatography kits.

"This allows them to share what they've learned with their families," Procell said.



Barry Williams, a chemist from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, instructs students on mixing chemicals for an experiment.

Concert

From front page

on Billboard's Hot 100 charts.

Their second album, 1974's Second Helping, featured their most popular single "Sweet Home Alabama." The 70's also produced hits like "Saturday Night Special" and the double-live album One More from the Road, the band's second Top Ten hit. Lynyrd Skynyrd's sixth album, Street Survivors, was released in October of 1977. It would be the final album released by

the original line-up.

Lynyrd Skynyrd's legend was grounded in a plane crash that occurred on Oct. 20, 1977, three days after the release of Street Survivors. A chartered airplane carrying the band between shows from Greenville, S.C., to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, La., crashed near a forest in Mississippi. The crash killed Van Zant, guitarist Steve Gaines, vocalist Cassie Gaines, assistant road manager Dean Kilpatrick, pilot Walter McCreary and co-pilot William Gray. Other band members were injured, some

very seriously.

Street Survivors became the band's second platinum album, and was the #5 top selling album on the U.S. album chart.

The single "What's Your Name" reached #13 on the single airplay charts in January of 1978.

Lynyrd Skynyrd disbanded after the airplane tragedy. The survivors reunited in 1987 and received an overwhelmingly positive reaction by fans.

Now with several new members the band continues to perform and record new material.

APG News

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Capt. Benjamin Sheehan, left, ordnance officer, gives Gen. William Wallace, commander, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, an overview of officer training at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Forward Operations Base Warrior, May 22.

TRADOC CG says OC&S 'gets it'

Story and photo by
KHAALID WALLS
OC&S

The commander of the U.S. Army's Training and Doctrine Command paid a visit to the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools May 22.

Gen. William Wallace remarked that the warrior training in OC&S is some of the best he's seen throughout the Army.

"You guys get it," OC&S commander Maj. Gen. Vincent Boles quoted Wallace as saying.

Boles began the visit with an overview of the Ordnance Corps and its responsibilities as the second largest branch in the Army. He also discussed the successful placement of a TRADOC mandated "39 and 9 Battle Drills and Warrior Tasks" program into the training base.

The program ensures that each ordnance Soldier is proficient in basic battlefield sur-

vival techniques.

Wallace's visit also included a tour of the Ordnance Museum, lunch with drill sergeants, a tour of Project Warrior, and a briefing at Forward Operating Base Warrior, where junior ordnance officers learn battlefield logistics management skills.

After the tour, Wallace hosted a town hall meeting at the post theater where he discussed TRADOC's role as the "Architect of the Army," which he said means that his command is responsible for meeting "the demands of a nation at war while simultaneously anticipating solutions to the challenges of tomorrow."

He explained TRADOC's vital function in transforming the Army.

"We have an opportunity to touch every piece of the Army," he said referring to the fact that every Soldier will go through a TRADOC school at

some point in their career, whether it is advanced individual training for new enlisted Soldiers, basic and advanced noncommissioned officer training for noncommissioned officers, or training for the Army's newest officers.

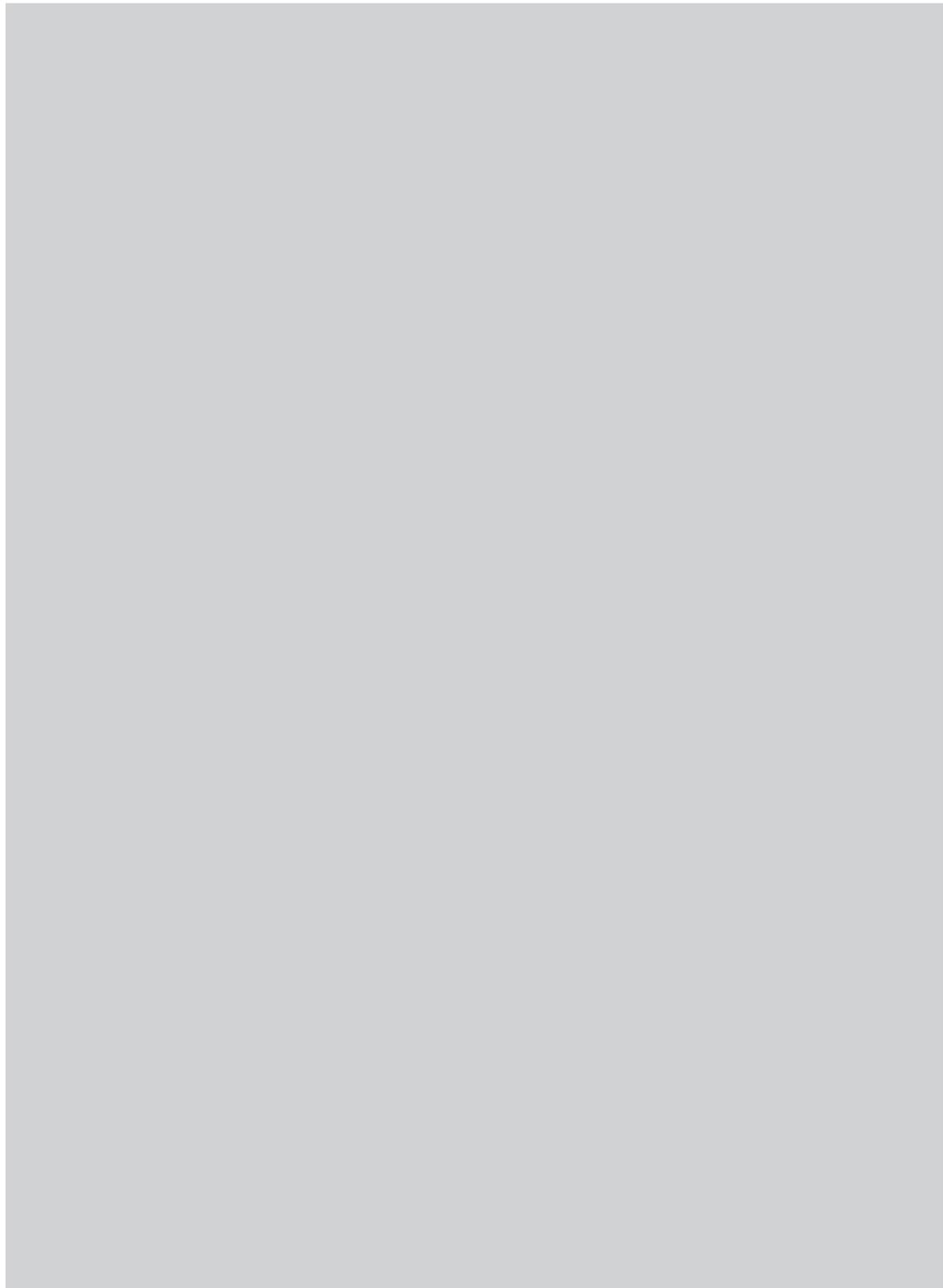
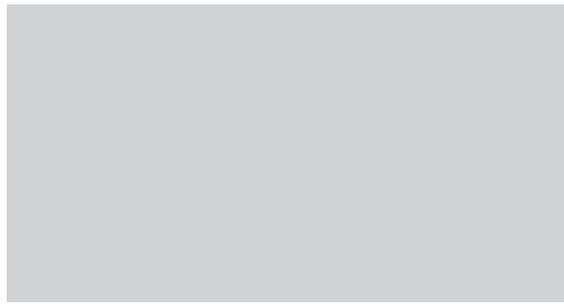
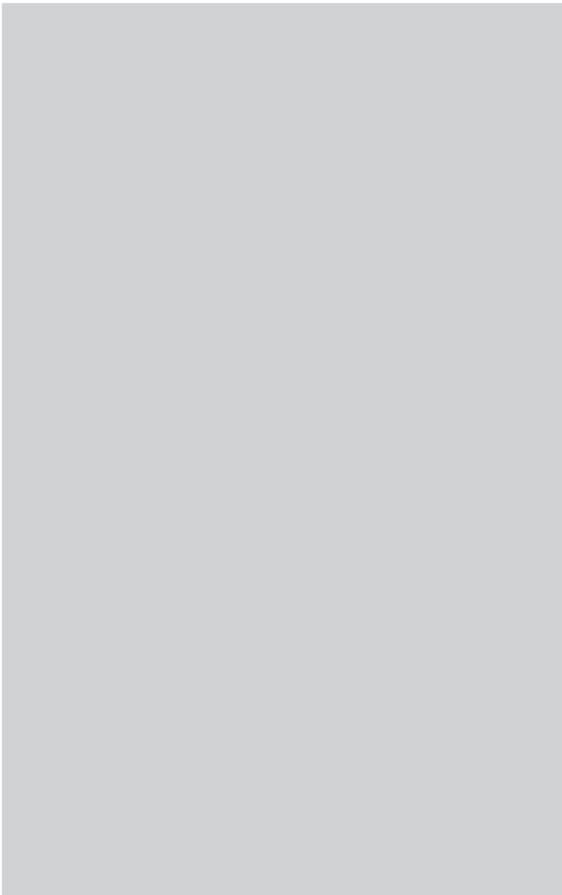
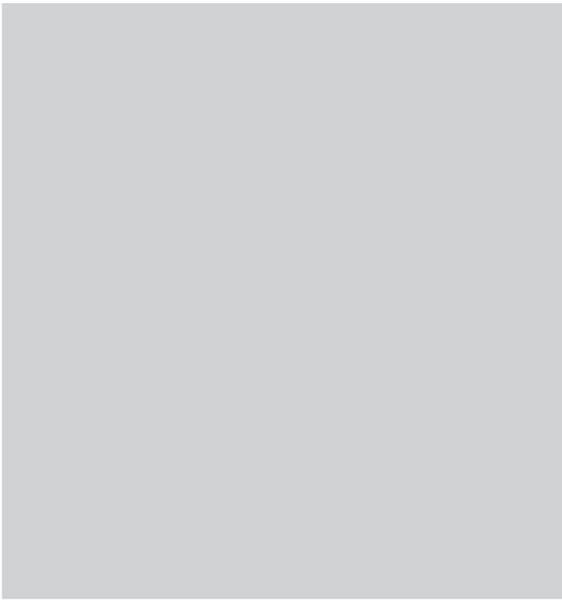
"TRADOC is the only command in the Army where every Soldier passes through at sometime in their career," Wallace said.

He also discussed the

impact that the Base Realignment and Closure law will have on the Army and TRADOC. He called BRAC an opportunity to develop a leaner and more efficient force.

"It's a chance to reduce time in the training base and stylize training to Soldiers in future units," he said.

He answered a few questions from the audience before departing.



MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-9008,
or visit www.aafes.com and click on "Movie Listing."

SILENT HILL

Friday, June 9, 7 p.m.

Starring: Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Laurie Holden, Deborah Kara Unger

Rose (Mitchell) travels to an abandoned town that has been appearing in her daughter's nightmares. Her husband (Bean) begs her not to go. Every now and then, the creepy mist transforms everything it touches. Rose quickly realizes that her child's dreams mean something and could be the key to the history of the haunting haze. (Rated R)

AMERICAN DREAMZ (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, June 10, 7 p.m.

Starring: Hugh Grant, Dennis Quaid, Mandy Moore, Willem Dafoe

On the eve of his reelection, the president (Quaid) decides to read a newspaper for the first time in years. His new knowledge of current events sends him hiding in his room for

weeks, so his chief of staff (Dafoe) books him as a guest judge on American Dreamz, a TV talent contest hosted by Martin Tweed (Grant). This prompts a terrorist plot surrounding the telecast that may derail the career of would-be pop star Sally (Moore). (Rated PG-13)

AKEELAH AND THE BEE

Saturday, June 10, 9 p.m.

Starring: Keke Palmer, Laurence Fishburne, Angela Bassett, Curtis Armstrong

Akeelah Anderson (Keke Palmer), an 11-year-old girl from South Los Angeles, shows a knack for spelling. Despite the objections of her mother, Tanya (Angela Bassett), Akeelah is tutored for the upcoming spelling bee season by Dr. Larabee (Laurence Fishburne); her principal, Mr. Welch (Curtis Armstrong); and the residents of her neighborhood. Akeelah's aptitude earns her an opportunity to compete for a spot in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. (Rated PG)

Community Notes

THURSDAY

JUNE 8

SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 10 years of age. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats and upper Chesapeake Bay. Reservations can be made with credit card.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

FRIDAY

JUNE 9

LIGHT HOUSE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Lighthouse Cruise on the Skipjack Martha Lewis at noon. Passengers will be treated to a three-hour cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area while enjoying a water view of the area lighthouses, Concord Point, Turkey Point, and Fishing Battery Island. Sandwiches and refreshments are included. Tickets cost \$30 per person. Credit cards will be accepted.

For reservations, call 410-939-4078.

MOAA APPRECIATION DINNER

The Susquehanna Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will host a "With Our Thanks" Appreciation Dinner 6 p.m., June 9, at Top of the Bay.

The dinner is to honor those state legislators who supported veterans' issues and bills during the recent legislative session. Representatives from the State Department of Veterans Affairs and the National MOAA headquarters will be on hand to provide comments.

The three-entrée buffet dinner is \$27 per person and is open to all members and those who may be interested in joining the local chapter.

For more information, contact Cathy Hampton, 410-272-7883 or e-mail hampton-training@comcast.net.

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

POST SHORTS

ChalleNGe Invitational, 9 a.m., through June 9, at the University of Maryland, College Park. Cadets from around the country will compete in a week of physical and mental challenges including basketball, volleyball, softball, GED Jeopardy, chess, drill team and complete a triathlon, to become the top program in the nation.

For more information, visit www.ngycp.org.

Call for nominees for FWP awards

The APG Federal Women's Program is accepting nominations for Outstanding Woman of the Year, Supervisor/Manager of the Year and Activity Most Supportive of FWP goals until July 7. These awards recognize those individuals (civilian and military) and organizations throughout APG including tenants that are exemplary in their support of FWP goals.

The winners will be recognized in a 10 a.m. ceremony Aug. 23 at the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4811.

For information on eligibility requirements or the nomination process, call Sheryl Coleman, FWP chairperson, 410-278-5964, Diane Siler, FWP committee member, 410-436-2681 or Kathleen Praesent, Equal Employment specialist, 410-278-1137.

Alert to APG community

Aberdeen Test Center will support a series of training exercises which may result in noise through June 9.

Residents and boaters in the surrounding communities may hear weapons firing and observe aircraft flying at low altitudes. Illumination devices may create flashes of light visible off-post. Activity may take place in the installation's restricted waters and/or in the air, over both land and water,

and may include weapons firing and use of air and watercraft.

For complaints or more information, call 410-278-1147, 410-278-1153 or 1-800-688-8705.

Bicycle Safety Poster Contest

The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security is holding a Bicycle Safety Poster Contest. All ages are invited to participate. Any type of drawing can be made with pencils, crayons, markers and chalk on 8 and one-half by 11 inch white paper. Names, ages and phone numbers should be

placed on the back of the posters.

Posters must be turned in by June 10 to any Child and Youth Services building or mailed to building 2752, APG, MD 21005.

Thrift Shop \$2 bag sale continues

Throughout June, the Thrift Shop will hold a \$2 bag sale in the Bargain Room.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of the month.

For information, call during shop hours only, 410-272-8572.

Visit APG News online at
www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

DTC celebrates Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

Story and photo by
HEATHER TASSMER
 APG News

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month was celebrated May 25, with the theme "Freedom for a Nation We Call Our Own" during a U.S. Army Developmental Test Command sponsored-program at the APG Recreational Center.

Judy Matthews, DTC executive officer, served as the

master of ceremonies. Mar Nieto, of the Filipino American Association of Upper Chesapeake, sang the national anthem and Chaplain (Capt.) Yun J. Kim provided a prayer at the beginning and end of the celebration.

Brig. Gen. Michael L. Combest, commander, DTC, in his welcoming remarks, said many pundits lament titles like "Irish-American," "African-American," "Asian-American" and other hyphenated American terms. He said these titles should be celebrated because they show people "a unique quality of this great nation."

Minh Duc Thi Sheridan, the keynote speaker, echoed the celebration's theme through her story of the challenges she and her family had to endure on their journey to America from South Vietnam.

Sheridan and her family boarded a ship in Saigon's har-

bor on April 29, 1975, to escape attacks from communists from the north during the fall of Saigon. Sheridan was only 12 years old at the time and Duom Dang, her mother, was six months pregnant with her brother.

While Sheridan and her family were on the ship, it "ran aground in the middle of the harbor." Then they transferred to another naval ship where they spent 10 days before reaching the Philippines.

"We had very little food and water and all we could hear was the constant moaning of grieving parents and sick children," Sheridan said. "At that time the ship seemed like the saddest place on earth."

Some of the people on the ship had lost their family or friends but all Sheridan and her family had lost was their home.

The passengers were also planning for the future,

Sheridan said. Questions ran through their minds on whether their families would stay together or would they have to go their separate ways when reaching America.

"Would they have hot sauce in rescue camps?" was another question they had, Sheridan said.

Sheridan said the passengers also wondered "would there be freedom for all and a nation to call our own?"

After spending three months on the ship and traveling to the Philippines, Guam and Hawaii, the ship finally arrived in Fort Chafee, Ark. With the help of a family friend and comrade, Col. Gerry Krueger, they settled in Edgewood, Md., in August of 1975.

Sheridan graduated from Edgewood Senior High School in 1981 and then attended the

See HERITAGE, page 7



Master Yoon Ho Choi performs an "Energy Dance" during the Asian Pacific American celebration May 25.

Energy rate increase encourages relaxed dress code

Story by
ED STAATS
DIO

By now everyone at APG is aware of the current energy situation and the recent trend in sky rocketing energy prices. On all levels APG is trying to make the “extraordinary efforts and sacrifices to conserve energy” that APG installation commander Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau spoke of this winter in his Interim Energy Policy Memorandum.

Recently, a new heating and cooling policy letter was sent to all activities advising how and when the air conditioning and heating will be turned

on/off. This new policy states that cooling will now be maintained in a range of 76 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

Along with that, the policy addresses employee dress code.

All adjustments to an activity’s dress code remain the responsibility of the directors or commanders. Any changes will need to be coordinated and approved by the individual activity heads.

“Within the garrison, directors are encouraged to adopt a more relaxed dress code during the summer months to allow for more comfortable

working conditions,” said Col John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander.

The objective in establishing a more relaxed dress code is to enable employees to project a professional, business-like image while experiencing the comfort advantages of more casual clothing.

“It’s important to remember that a casual dress code doesn’t mean there is no dress code at all,” said Robin Hoory, chief, Business Management, Directorate of Installation Operations. “Because all casual clothing is not suitable for

all activities, there will still be rules and guidelines to follow, depending on individual organizations and job requirements.”

A specific policy letter regarding the dress code for garrison employees is under development.

“In theory, casual dress should make getting dressed for work a lot simpler. However, research shows that while women do spend less time getting dressed for work when the dress code is casual, men actually spend more time figuring out what to wear,” Hoory said.

Heritage

From page 6

University of Maryland. In 2000, she started Metro Office Products with her husband, Greg, and her sister Ngoc Quynh. Metro Office Products is located in Belcamp, and sells office supplies and furniture.

Sheridan said the business is marketed nationwide.

“Asians in the U.S. represent 5 percent of the population,” Sheridan said. “We are as different from one another as snowflakes but we all have one thing in common,” she said. “We all left our country in which we were born.”

She said some left for opportunities in the United States, freedom, or because their country had been “taken from them by hostile others” just like in her country.

Sheridan said by utilizing opportunities in the United States, Asian Americans have “integrated themselves well” in the United States, noting that they are members of Congress, officers in the Army and have been linebackers for the Dallas Cowboys.

Sheridan concluded her speech by talking about where she gets her inspiration. She said she always remembers the day she left Vietnam--her mother “did not have a trace of fear.”

“[My parents] had a job to do and would not let their guard down until we got to Maryland,” she said. “Any problem I have doesn’t measure up to that,” she said. “Find your inspiration in your family.”

“We’re very grateful to have people like Minh (speak at the celebration) who have come to this country and made a life for themselves,” Matthews said.

The celebration also featured a martial arts demonstration by Master Yoon Ho Choi, owner of Elite TOMA in Belcamp. Choi performed an ‘Energy Dance’ to relaxing, soft music.

Choi was born and grew up in South Korea. He started learning martial arts when he was 5 years old. In addition, Choi is a doctor of Oriental Medicine. He earned his degree in Korea in 1992 and came to America in 1993. He taught in New Jersey, New York and Virginia before opening Choi, his first martial

arts school in Havre de Grace in 1995.

Audience members had plenty of positive things to say about the program.

“I liked the martial arts demonstration,” said Debbie Young of the Directorate of Information Management. “I wish I could be that flexible someday.”

Young said she is “intrigued by dancing” because she has trouble standing due to cerebral palsy.

Staff Sgt. Rolda Alexander, another attendee of the celebration, also enjoyed the martial arts moves.

“The demonstrations were good,” Alexander said. “I wish there would be more advertisements for the martial arts school so people on active duty could sign up and learn.”

“Minh’s speech was very inspirational,” she said. “Three months to get here is a long time.”

The program also offered food sampling, courtesy of Family Buffet in Aberdeen.

The Asian Pacific Islander Special committee is looking for new officers. Anyone interested in participating in the committee should contact the Equal Opportunity Office, 410-278-1100.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Travel Fair offers array of entertainment options

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Anyone who thinks "there's nothing to do around here," must have missed the Aberdeen Proving Ground Leisure Travel Expo held at the Post Recreation Center May 16.

From hotel rooms to ballparks, from hiking trails in Western Maryland to exploring the Chesapeake, there was something for everyone.

Vendors from all over the region 'hawked their wares' at the annual event hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Leisure Travel Center.

Stacie Umbarger, MWR Leisure Travel Center manager, said the 20 vendors in attendance were representative of the wide array of recreational and entertainment options in the Mid-Atlantic region.

"The travel expo is a way to acquaint our clientele with the numerous programs offered through MWR and various tourism outlets in the surrounding area and states," Umbarger said.

The vendors, most of whom offer special rates and discounts to military service members and civilians through

the Travel Center, said that they appreciate the patronage from APG.

From The Orioles organization, account executive Jacqueline Lee Olup provided the Oriole Bird who signed autographs and took photos with guests.

Olup gave away game calendars and baseball cards as well as information on the Jr. Orioles Club for Kids.

"We're here to promote Military Appreciation Night at Camden Yards," Olup said.

The event will be held Aug. 6 during the Orioles game versus the New York Yankees.

"We hope that Soldiers and their families can come out and enjoy the game while we pay tribute to their service," she said.

Julie Rankin, marketing promotions manager for the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C., said that customers can purchase tickets through MWR.

"The museum has the largest collection of KGB era equipment in the world," Rankin said, adding that through the end of June the featured exhibit is the Spy Treasures of Hollywood.

"It's a fun learning experience," she said.

Other family entertainment choices included Six Flags America which celebrates its 45th anniversary this year and is offering daily tickets for \$30.

"It's going to be a big party all year long," said marketing account executive Megan Holz.

Also, Kings Dominion, located near Richmond, Va., is hosting a big 4th of July Spectacular and also features specials for military families through MWR.

Closer to home, the National Aquarium in Baltimore features a new Australian exhibit, and the B&O Railroad Museum near Baltimore's Inner Harbor now operates the Ellicott City Station, both of which now are open Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition, the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore features a new parakeet landing exhibit, camel rides and coming soon, a giraffe feeding station.

The rest of the participants included Prime Outlets of Washington County; Medieval Times; Icelandair; Maryland Tourism; Prince William County, Va. Tourism; Busch Gardens; Washington Plaza Hotels; Choice Hotels International; the Wingate



APG police officer Daniel Rodriguez, right, gets an autograph from the Oriole Bird during the Aberdeen Proving Ground Travel Expo at the Post Recreation Center May 16.

Inn; Red Roof Inns; Wisp Mountain Resort and Ski Roundtop.

Program specialist Charles Heinsohn manned the MWR display table, distributing flyers about upcoming trips and classes, including dog training, ballroom dancing, introduction to canoeing and tennis and

jujitsu lessons.

For more information about these and other programs, contact MWR Tickets and Leisure Travel, building 3326, at 420-278-4907/4011, e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil, or visit the Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

The Aberdeen Library is now located in the Recreation Center. Hours 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.

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

SCHOOL LIAISON

Summer workshops for youths

Youths from ages 14 to 21 can get a jumpstart on future summer employment or set their goals for future careers with workshops offered in Harford and Cecil counties.

Bel Air Workforce Center Information

2 South Bond Street, Bel Air

Job Search 101

1 to 4 p.m., June 13 and 16

Career Planning

1 to 4 p.m., June 18 and June 23

Background Checks Security Clearances

1 to 4 p.m., June 27

First Real Job?

1 to 4 p.m., June 28, Aug. 8 and 11

For more information, call Frances Bond, 410-836-4603.

Cecil County Workforce Center Information

1275 West Pulaski Highway, Elkton

Job Search 101

10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m., June 19 and 26

Career Planning

9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., June 20 and June 27

Background Checks Security Clearances

9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., June 21 and 28

First Real Job?

10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m., June 22 and 29

1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 24

10 a.m. to noon, Aug. 31

For more information, call Joan Schwartzman, 410-996-0550.

Rolling Reader will bring books to APG children

The Rolling Reader, Harford County Public Library's outreach vehicle, will join Child and Youth Services to provide "Clue into Reading," a free Summer Reading Program for children not enrolled in the CYS Summer Camp program.

CYS will provide art, craft 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 program includes a free tote bag upon registration.

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. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Forms are available through the Harford County Public Library Web site www.hcplonline.info under "Library Services," or through the installation at Outreach Services, in building 2752, office 201.

The Rolling Reader will visit 11 a.m. to noon on Thursdays throughout the summer.

The Rolling Reader will visit Skipper's Point Park in the Edgewood Area June 22, July 6, 20, Aug. 3 and Aug. 17. The Rolling Reader will visit the New Chesapeake Playground in the Aberdeen Area June 29, July 13, 27 and Aug. 10.

Baltimore Ravens, Washington Redskins and many more.

Martial Arts

Lessons will be held Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7 p.m., June 21 to Aug. 16 at the Aberdeen Youth Center. The cost is \$35. 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.

Chess

Chess classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Students will learn the basic rules of chess, offensive and defensive strategies, how to gain advantage over opponents, what to do when behind, and how to move a piece to obtain superior board position.

Scrapbooking

Scrapbooking classes will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m., every Wednesday in building 2752. All materials are included except students will need to bring in their own photos. Students will make a new layout during every class.

Jujitsu

Jujitsu classes will be held 6 to 7 p.m., Monday at the Aberdeen Youth Center Gym. Grandmaster Soto, a 10th degree black and red belt, will be instructing.

Basic Auto Mechanic class

Basic Auto Mechanic classes designed to enable the student to perform maintenance on a vehicle's engine and accessories will be held 5:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday nights at the Automotive Crafts Center, building 2379.

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 or visit Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Beginning kayaking

Enjoy an instructional class designed to enable the student to become proficient in the safe operation of a kayak in open water beginning June 9.

The course will consist of hands-on training in the water. A hat, sunscreen, water, towel and a change of clothes are recommended. All equipment is provided.

Canoeing

This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of canoeing. Students will learn the various types of equipment and boating safety. The information provided will help them select the equipment and canoe best suited for their individual needs. The class will be held 5 p.m., June 30 at the Aberdeen Boat Dock.

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

APG sponsoring team in Army 10-Miler—runners needed

The APG Community Recreation Division Sports Branch is sponsoring a team in the upcoming Army 10-Miler, Oct. 8 in Washington, D.C. Team participation is limited to active duty Army personnel assigned to APG. A qualifying five-mile run will be held at Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, E-4210, in Edgewood, 8 a.m., June 11.

CRD will pay the entry fee, provide race day transportation and a team shirt to all qualifiers for the D.C. event. Qualifiers must provide a signed statement from their commander authorizing them to participate in the Oct. 8 event. Interested runners must pre-register no later than June 5. This is not a Commander's Cup event.

For more information, visit www.armymtenmiler.com or call Cuomo, 410-278-3812 or Capt. Kirk Pietsch, 410-436-9677.

All-Army Women's Softball

Apply to the All-Army Women's Softball team until June 15. AKO account holders can visit <https://armsports.cfsc.army.mil> to process the application, which will automatically route through their commander and sports director to the Army Sports Office.

All-Army Men's Softball

Applications will be accepted until June 28 to the All-Army Men's Softball team. If chosen to be a part of this elite team, participant will be asked to participate in the Armed Forces Championship at Elgin AFB, beginning Sept. 16. Other championship dates may arise. To apply, go to <https://armsports.cfsc.army.mil> using AKO account.

2006 Combative Tournament

A Grappling Competition will be held at the APG Athletic Center, building 3300 July 15. All active duty male and female Soldiers are encouraged to enter.

All Soldiers must pre-register by July 4. This is a team competition. Each unit may enter one person in each weight category. There will also be a drill sergeant "Hard Core Competition." For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Brian Sarjeant, 410-278-7400 or Staff Sgt. Jeff Dyer, 410-278-5150.

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.

Challenger Soccer Camp

Challenger Sports' British Soccer Camp includes individual skill development, professional British coaching staff, programs for all levels, daily world cup style tournament, free ball, free T-shirt and, as a bonus, if signed up 45 days before the camp, receive a \$30 British Soccer Replica Jersey. Camp dates are July 24 thru 28; times vary by

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.

Lynrd Skynrd, 3 Doors Down coming to APG

The Army Concert Tour will appear at Shine Sports Field on APG June 24. Gates open at 6 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m. Advance tickets cost \$30, day of show tickets cost \$35. To purchase tickets call Ticketmaster, 1-800-551-SEAT; visit the MWR Ticket Office in building 3326 or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E-4210 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.); via telephone, call 410-278-4907/4621/4011, TTV 410-278-4110; or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil. No refunds, concert is rain or shine.

Aberdeen Recreation Center Snack Bar

An alternative lunch choice is the Recreation Center Snack Bar in building 3326 where there are many choices for a quick lunch 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, dining inside or outside on the patio. Cheese steak subs, turkey burgers, pizza and much more are offered. It is open for dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Visit the MWR Web site for exact times or call 410-278-2621.

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.

ACS Lending Closet

The Lending Closet's objective is to assist arriving and departing families and Soldiers allowing them to borrow top quality items at no cost. It is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

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 dis-

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

Employment readiness class

Each month, ACS hosts a class to help people jump start their career. The next class is 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., June 14 in building 2754 on Rodman Road.

Volunteer instructors needed

For information on any SKIESUnlimited program or anyone interested in teaching classes such as kindermusik, history, grammar, reading, and mommy and me tumbling, call Sarah Behl, 410-278-4589. To register for classes, visit Central Registration, building 2752 or call 410-278-7571/7479.

Driver's 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.

Piano lessons

Lessons will be held Tuesdays and Fridays, June 20 to Aug. 25. The cost is \$136 for eight 30-minute sessions at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Space is limited, register now. Students will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

SpiritUnlimited Cheerleading Camp

Camp will be held 8 to 11 a.m., July 11 to 13 at the Recreation Center. The cost is \$60. The staff is made up of college and professional instructors from the University of Maryland,

Spesutie Island Boating Operation holds Safety Expo

Story by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

The Spesutie Island Boating Operation held its annual Safety Expo May 20 on Aberdeen's waterfront.

"The event was not only for those who own boats or SIBO members," said Tim Sprucebank, SIBO activities director. "It was for anyone who wanted to come."

Dean Hanson, commodore of the club, said not only club members were learning about the equipment. Children and moms were also shooting off flares and learning how to use safety equipment.

"It was great to see families getting involved," Hanson said.

The event was the first organized safety expo SIBO has had, Sprucebank said.

Sprucebank and Jerry Uber, a lieutenant of Main Line Sail and Power Squadron, led demonstrations on how to use the safety equipment.

Uber selected equipment for the demonstrations that "many people have but not many people use so that they don't use equipment for the first time during an emergency," Sprucebank said.

"Reading directions on how to properly use your safety equipment during an actual emergency is not the best time," he said. "Therefore, attending an event like this could save a life in an actual emergency and you already know how to properly use the equipment."

Sprucebank and Uber demonstrated how to ignite handheld and aerial flares. Then attendees practiced lighting the expired flares.

Boaters must remove the flare's cap and strike it off of a surface to light them, Uber said.

"It's not an easy thing to do," Uber said. "Sometimes it takes people four or five times to light the flares."

The safety expo is the best time to practice using flares because one must get approval to do so any other time, he said.

He said a lot of people aren't aware that flares have an expiration date on them. They expire 42 months from the date of manufacture. This is stamped on the side of the flare.

"It was [interesting] to see how many [were] duds and which brands lasted longer," Hanson said.

Uber said boaters don't have to throw flares away because they can still be used for back-ups. When boaters want to dispose of expired flares they should give them to the Coast Guard or Main Line Power Squadron so that they can be used in demonstrations.

Attendees also learned the different uses of personal floatation devices. The Type I PFD is a jacket to be used offshore, Uber said. Type II



Photo by DEAN HANSON, ECBC
A frogman from the U.S. Coastguard jumps from a helicopter during a search and rescue demonstration at Spesutie Island Boating Operation's Safety Expo May 20.

is a near-shore jacket which is used for lakes and rivers. Jet skiers use the Type III ski vest. Type IV is a ring boaters throw to rescue or retrieve people in the water and Type V is a special use device and is auto-inflatable.

"The newer auto-inflatable life preserver can be pricy but what price can you put on your life?" Uber said.

Nathan Abbott, a 12-year-old from Northeast Middle School, tried on an auto-inflatable vest and jumped into the water to show the audience how it worked.

"It was good to see how quickly the vests inflated so if you ever had to use them you wouldn't panic," said Tom Haug, fleet captain of the club.

Another demonstration Sprucebank and Uber gave was the heaving line. Sprucebank said this involves throwing a 100-foot-long rope attached to a monkey fist, a softball wrapped in nylon. He said this method can be beneficial for rescuing people who are farther away from the boat because boaters can throw the line 50 to 60 yards.

Uber said attendees participated in a contest to see who could throw the line into a life preserver ring. The first two people who were able to do the task won two new free adult-sized life vests.

Ryan Curley, a 16-year-old from Northeast High School who attended the event, said the contest was his favorite part about the expo.

"It looks easy but it's not," Curley said. "It took everyone five tries to get it in."

The Coast Guard Auxiliary and Main Line Sail and Power Squadron provided free vessel

safety checks to make sure the boats complied with state and federal regulations. Some of the items checked were the boat's horns, navigation lights and ventilation, according to a check list on the Vessel Safety Check Web site.

Uber said whether the boats pass or fail the inspection, boaters can take the inspection form to West Marine in Northeast and Havre de Grace to get a 10 percent discount on equipment.

A highlight of the safety expo was when the U.S. Coast Guard helicopter based out of Atlantic City arrived, Uber said. Coast Guard members performed a search and rescue demonstration where they dropped one of their frogmen into the water and retrieved him to simulate a water rescue. This event was pre-arranged and the Coast Guard was given the latitude and longitude of the SIBO's location at APG, Uber said.

"It was very fascinating to watch," Haug said.

"We were most appreciative of this professional display of piloting and seamanship," Uber said.

In addition to demonstrations, expo attendees viewed APG Fire Department and U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center boat displays.

Sprucebank said about 40 people attended the safety day.

Uber and officers of SIBO hope to get a better turnout of people next year.

"It's a shame more people didn't get to see it," Uber said. "It was a bit windy but you couldn't ask for a better day."

Uber said he always tells people "Safety is not an option; it's a requirement."

Boating safety tips

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard reports show that 676 people died from boating incidents in 2004, according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Out of the 484 who drowned, 90 percent of them weren't wearing life jackets.

In addition to wearing life jackets, there are other steps boaters can take to prevent boating injuries and deaths:

- Avoid drinking alcoholic beverages while boating.

Drinking alcohol affects the vision, coordination, decision making, and balance needed to maneuver a boat. Reports imply that alcohol was a factor in one-third of boating deaths.

- Complete a boating education course.

Lack of attention, carelessness, inexperience and unsafe speeds are initial causes of accidents.

The course teaches boaters rules and laws of operating a boat.

Seventy percent of boating deaths happened on boats where the operator had not taken a boating education course.

- Participate in the Vessel Safety Check Program.

The Vessel Safety Check Program is free and offered by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and U.S. Power Squadron volunteer organizations. Volunteers inspect safety equipment, give boaters information about safety procedures and explain how the equipment is used. For more information on the program, visit www.vesselsafety-check.org.

- Be aware of the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

All engines give off carbon monoxide. At first, the symptoms of CO can feel like those of seasickness. It only takes a few minutes for victims to die from the deadly gas. Possible exposure to CO includes floating or swimming near an inactive engine, using a motor generator to power air conditioning and operating "any gasoline-powered engine while docked and/or rafted with other boats operating engines and being in motion without the proper cabin ventilation. To avoid the poisonous gas, make sure all equipment is operating properly and use CO detectors.



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



Military health system transforming to address new challenges

Story by
SAMANTHA L. QUIGLEY
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department's Military Health System must transform to continue its commitment to protecting the health of its service members and other beneficiaries, a top DoD official told Congressmen March 29.

The armed forces have more than 275,000 service members in Afghanistan, Iraq and other areas around the world, said David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, March 28 in prepared remarks before the House Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

"The department is firmly committed to protecting the health of these and all service members before, during and after their deployment and [of] our other healthcare beneficiaries, who now number 9 million," he said.

Several changes in the military

health system will make achieving this goal possible, he said. One of the biggest will address the rising costs of health care.

The military health system has essentially doubled in size in the past five years from about \$19 billion in 2001 to \$38 billion this year, he said. Officials estimate expenditures could reach \$64 billion by 2015, he added.

"This rapid growth in cost clearly puts the sustainability of our health benefit at risk," Chu said. "The facts show that the expansion of TRICARE, high health inflation, the reduction in beneficiary cost shares, and sharp increase of usage by our retirees under 65 is responsible for this growth."

Beneficiaries paid 27 percent of total health costs in 1995. Today they pay only 12 percent. The DoD proposes to bring this into better balance by increasing cost sharing for retirees under 65. After a two-year transition, beginning in fiscal 2009, these premium and co-pay increases would

match the average percentage increase of the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program, he said.

Additionally, the department is proposing changes to pharmacy co-payments for all beneficiaries except active-duty members. These changes would encourage use of mail order and military treatment facility pharmacy refills and generic products.

"We also ask that Congress clarify to those who oppose the department our legal authority to obtain federal pricing discounts for prescriptions obtained at retail pharmacies," he said.

The department expects to save about \$735 million in fiscal 2007, if both premium and deductible changes as well as pharmacy program adjustments are implemented, he said. Between fiscal 2007 and 2011, expected savings will total \$11.2 billion.

DoD also has addressed internal efficiencies.

"We have implemented a number of actions in the last several years

designed to slow health care cost," he said.

A partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs and obtaining federal pricing for mail order and pharmacy services have contributed to this, Chu said. Consolidation of TRICARE contracts, regions and contractors also has led to significant administrative savings.

New healthcare contracts use best-practice principles to enhance quality of care, emphasize patient safety, improve beneficiary satisfaction, and control private-sector costs, he said.

However, Congress-imposed restrictions on funding adversely affect military treatment facilities as well as private-sector care, he said.

"We need the flexibility to move funds between direct-care and private-sector care," Chu said. This would allow DoD to set military treatment facilities' budgets based on workload output, not staff numbers, supply costs and other materials, he added.

DoD's medical health system also is revamping its infrastructure. Medical centers in the national capital area and San Antonio will be consolidated, he said. By contrast, some areas, such as Fort Belvoir, Va., will see significant enhancements.

"Another substantial change to the [military health system] infrastructure is the development of joint facilities as a result of increased collaboration with the VA," Chu said. "The most visible example today is at Naval Hospital Great Lakes."

There, an aging, oversized hospital is being replaced with a new outpatient facility at North Chicago VA Medical Center, he said.

Looking to the future, Chu said, DoD will adapt to new challenges by building on today's achievements.

"The transformation process is designed to provide the armed forces with world-class operational-medicine capabilities while delivering the outstanding TRICARE benefit to our beneficiaries," he said.

Memorial day

From front page

said, "especially in light of the draw-down of Soldiers due to the Base Realignment and Closure."

The past commander of Post 17 and coordinator of the Memorial Day observance for the past 10 years, Bob Dorsey, thanked all who supported the program, particularly Aberdeen Boy Scout Troop 802, the Warrior Brotherhood Veterans, U.S. military veterans motorcycle clubs and commander-elect of VFW Post 5337, Bob Gehr.

Dorsey thanked the Warrior Brotherhood President John Bloss who led the contingent of more than 20 Vietnam, Desert Storm and Korean War veterans.

"This ceremony has absolutely taken on more meaning since the start of the Iraq War," Dorsey said, adding, "I'm very proud of the veterans who take time out to honor fellow veterans for their ultimate sacrifice. Passing on this tradition to the young

and to our community will ensure meaningful Memorial Day programs for many years to come."

Rita Leno, the grandmother of two junior auxiliary members who assisted with the Wreath Laying ceremony, agreed.

"It's important to teach them about our country and our Soldiers," Leno said of her granddaughters Lauren Watson, 10, and Jewel Watson, 8.

Lauren Watson said she enjoyed participating.

"It reminds us about people who died for our country," she said.

Boy Scout Dru Inman, 11, who participated in the ceremony along with his brother, future Cub Scout Dreyk Inman, 5, said that it felt "pretty good," to be involved.

"This is all in keeping with the tradition of the Boy Scouts," he said.

The Inmans are the sons of Staff Sgt. Timothy Inman, the APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Memorial Day

www.usmemorialday.org

Originally known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who died in the service of the nation. While President Lyndon Johnson officially declared Waterloo, N.Y., the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1966, the holiday's origin is difficult to prove conclusively. There is evidence that organized women's groups in the south were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868, by Gen. John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in General Order No. 11, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

New York was the first state to officially recognize the holiday in 1873 and by 1890 it was recognized by all northern states. The south honored their dead on separate days until after World War I when the holiday changed from

honoring those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring American service members who died in any war.

Passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971, Public Law 90-363, Memorial Day is now celebrated in almost every state on the last Monday in May. In addition, several southern states have additional days for honoring Confederate war dead; Jan. 19 in Texas; April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 in Louisiana and Tennessee.

Moment of remembrance

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed in December 2000. The resolution asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans to "voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of Remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to "Taps."



Glass jar
Artist: Cyndi Krzysik



Ceramic pitcher
Artist: Jan Johnson

Untitled
Artist: Vince Minichiello



Mosaic peg rack
Artist: Barbara Barker

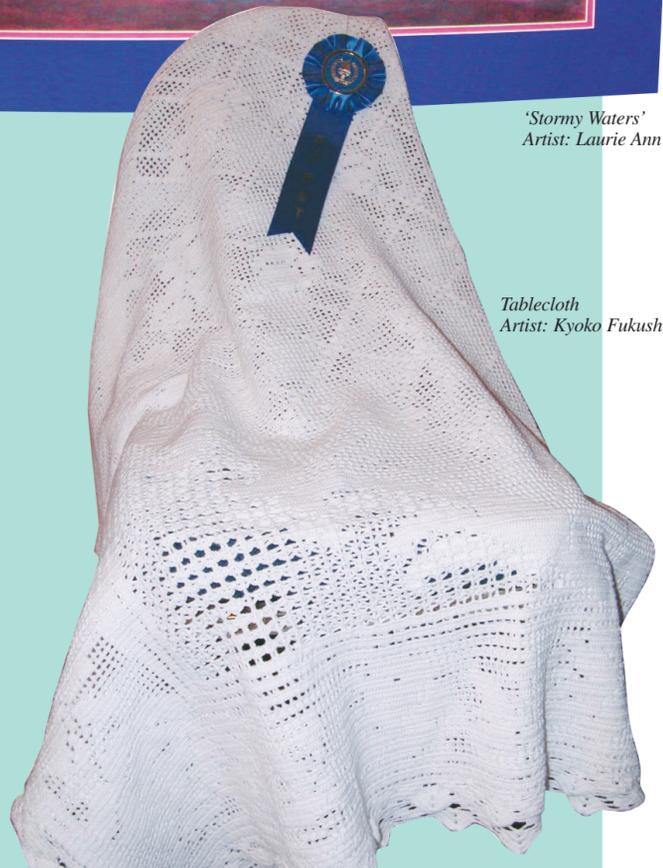


'Stormy Waters'
Artist: Laurie Ann Kweidorowicz



Best of Show
'Fading Jet Stream'
Artist: Toshi Peterson

Wood box
Artist: Robert Anderson



Tablecloth
Artist: Kyoko Fukushima

Arts and Crafts winners selected

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The winners of the 2006 Army Arts and Crafts contest, Local Level, were announced during a reception at Top of the Bay May 18.

Debbie Brooks-Harris, manager of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Arts & Crafts Center, hosted the program and Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, presented the awards.

The annual contest is sponsored by the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center. All authorized patrons of Morale, Welfare and Recreation are eligible to enter. After judging at the local level, first-place winners are forwarded to the next level of competition.

"From there, NERO selects which entries move on to the national contest," Brooks-Harris said.

She said the contestants included military and civilians, contractors, retirees and their family members.

"Most of them were already familiar with our services and much of the woodwork was prepared at the Edgewood Craft Shop," she

said. She added that this was the installation's first time participating in the national contest. "We were so happy we did," she said. "The level of participation shows that arts and crafts is alive and kicking."

She added thanks to all participants and to the Harford County Artist Association. "The judges really had a hard time," she said. Entries covered 11 categories including Best in Show and Honorable Mention. They included:

- Category 1 – Ceramics**
First place, Jan Johnson, pitcher/oriental painting
Second place, Roxanne Wright, pottery-thrown bowl
Third place, Jan Johnson, vase/oriental painting
- Category 2 – Wood**
First place, Robert Anderson, box
First place, Tyler Ehler, billiard bench
Second place, Owl cutout
Third place, box
- Category 3 – Fibers and Textiles**
First place, Kyoko Fukushima, tablecloth

- First place, Marian Brooks, baby quilt
Second place, Bunny Libby, cross stitch
Third place, Mary Alexander, crochet blanket
- Category 4 – Glass**
First place, Cyndi Krzysik, glass jar
- Category 5 – Metals and Jewelry**
First place, Deena Greenwood, beaded jewelry
- Category 6 – Mixed Media 3D**
First place, Barbara Barker, peg rack (Mosaic)
Second place, Cyndi Krzysik, Bear Box
Third place, Barbara Barker, aqua and beige shelf
- Category 7 – Drawings**
First place, Robert Drager, 'Dog'
First place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
Second place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
Second place, Vince Minichiello, 'Confusion of the World'
Third place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
Third place, Jacqueline Thornton, 'Glass Collection'
- Category 8 – Prints**
First place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
Second place, Jan Johnson, 'Hawaii Wave'

- Third place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
- Category 9 – Water-Based Painting**
First place, Toshi Peterson, 'Fading Jet Stream'
Second place, Lavinia Ellis, 'Girl in Park'
Third place, Vince Minichiello, Untitled
Third place, Jacqueline Thornton, 'Glass Collection'
- Category 10 – Oil-Based Painting**
First place, Toshi Peterson, 'Deer Creek'
First place, Karen Hileman, Untitled
Second place, Reba Wachter, 'Fruit & Vases'
Second place, Reba Wachter, 'Wild Turkeys'
Third place, Vince Minichiello, 'Beginnings'
- Category 11– Mixed Media-2D**
First place, Laurie Ann Kweidorowicz, 'Stormy Waters'
- Best of Show**
Toshi Peterson, Category 9, 'Fading Jet Stream'
- Honorable Mention**
Tyler Ehlers, Category 2, billiard bench