

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for May 24, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

KUSAHC Call Center closes for relocation

The Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Call Center will close at 2 p.m., May 19 for relocation, and will resume normal activity 6:30 a.m., May 22.

Library closes for relocation

The Post Library will be closed through May 23 to relocate from building 3320 to the Recreation Center, building 3326, with the Registration and Leisure Travel Center.

Boat club holds Safety Expo

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity will hold a Safety Expo 9 a.m. to noon, May 20, featuring boat inspections from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. only, a safety video, a flare display, a heaving line demonstration, Coast Guard representation, APG Fire Department and U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center boat displays and, weather permitting, other demonstrations. Coffee and donuts will be available. All are welcome.

For more information, call Tim Sprucebank, 410-278-5618.

DTC hosts Asian Pacific event

The U.S. Army Developmental Test Command will host an Asian Pacific celebration 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., May 25 at the Recreation Center featuring a martial arts demonstration by Master Choi and food sampling from the regions.

For more information, call Judy Matthews, 410-278-1017.

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 install-

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JPED becomes full-time unit during guidon ceremony

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

An organization with the most solemn mission on Aberdeen Proving Ground became a permanent entity last month as the Joint Personal Effects Depot unfurled its first-ever unit guidon April 21.

The JPED commander Lt. Col. Deborah Skillman and Depot sergeant major Master Sgt. Elder Williams led the ceremony. Guests included Col. James M. Gray, chief of staff, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools; Maj. Edward R. Taylor, commander, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment; Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby; OC&S Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks; and 1st Sgt. Bobby Barnett from Henderson Hall, who supports the Marines assigned to the Depot, as well as guests from the Department of the Army Human Resources Command.

The JPED is a centralized Department of Defense facility. Its staff is tasked with processing the personal effects of all Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guard person-



The first-ever unit guidon for the Joint Personal Effects Depot is unfurled by Spc. Samuel Payne, center, as depot sergeant major, Master Sgt. Elder Williams, left, and Commander Lt. Col. Deborah S. Skillman, right, look on during a ceremony at the JPED April 21.

nel and DoD civilians or contractors injured or killed in the War on Terror.

The process includes receiving, cataloging, photographing, cleaning, packaging, securing and shipping of all items.

William said the JPED was a war-time only mission but that changed after the start of the Iraq War.

"After we were established

here, the decision was made to keep it full time," Williams said.

With its permanent designation the only thing missing was a unit guidon, he added.

"This was a year in the making," he said, "getting approval and then ordering it, but it was worth the wait because of the positive impact it's already had on unit pride

and morale."

He said that recently completed \$1.5 million in renovations to the JPED facilities along with the unit's official designation cheers a staff tasked with a sad mission.

Skillman said that the unfurling of the guidon, "was a good moment for everybody."

"Everyone worked very

hard for that moment," she said. "We are all standing just a little taller because of it."

"The garrison has been extremely supportive of the depot," she said.

"All we do is take care of Soldiers and civilians," Williams added. "This lets them know that what they do truly matters."

The JPED

The Joint Personal Effects Depot was activated in September 2001 in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

It was originally located at Fort Myer, Va., where depot personnel processed the personal effects of service members and civilians wounded or killed in the attack on the Pentagon.

In March 2003, the JPED relocated to APG, with an expanded mission of processing the personal effects of service members, government civilians and contractors, as well as members of the media embedded with U.S. forces.

Located in buildings 3554 and 3556, the JPED also transfers personal effects from government control to individuals identified as the 'Person eligible to receive effects' in accordance with governing statutes.

DoD implements NSPS to Spiral 1.1 organizations

DoD

Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England signed the directive April 28 that implemented the National Security Personnel System, a new civilian human resources system, for about 11,000 employees on April 30.

Civilian employees from 12 DoD organizations, including the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, the TRICARE Management Activity, Naval Sea Systems Command, the Navy's Office of Civilian Human Resources and Human Resources Service Centers, Joint Warfare Analysis Center, Strategic Systems Program Office, Human Performance Center and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, the Army's Civilian Human Resources Agency, which includes the Civilian Personnel Operations Center and the Civilian Personnel Advisory Centers, the Secretary of the Air Force Manpower and Reserve Affairs office, elements of Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma and the Air Force Audit Agency, will be the first to transition to the system as part of Spiral 1.1.

Beginning the week of April 30, these employees were converted to pay bands that replace the General Schedule and were given new results-focused per-

formance plans that are clearly linked to their organization's mission and strategic goals.

"NSPS is critical to the department's overall transformation to a results-oriented, performance-based culture. It will help us attract and retain the talent we need to execute our national security mission," said England, who also serves as the NSPS senior executive. "Our senior leaders are ready, our employees and their supervisors are trained, and we are excited about achieving this major milestone."

Training of managers, supervisors, and employees has been a top priority for the department in preparing for NSPS. Classroom and Web-based training covering the basics of NSPS, with special emphasis on performance management, has been in high gear for employees over the last several months.

Managers and supervisors received additional training on setting clear performance expectations and evaluating and providing feedback to employees. One of the Web-based courses is available on the NSPS Web site <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/nsps101>.

Employees in Spiral 1.1 will convert into NSPS based on their permanent position of record and will experience no loss of pay in the conversion. Most

employees will actually see an increase in pay if they are eligible for a one-time, prorated "within-grade increase buy-in."

Employees can access a conversion tool in the NSPS 101 Course to see the value of their WGI buy-in as well as their career group and pay band. In addition to basic pay, Spiral 1.1 employees will receive local market supplements equivalent to the locality pay they get [currently].

The performance appraisal cycle for Spiral 1.1 employees began April 30 and ends Oct. 31, 2006. These employees will receive their first performance pay increases in January 2007. In addition, employees performing satisfactorily will receive an increase equivalent to the general pay and locality increase received by General Schedule employees in January 2007.

Mary Lacey, NSPS program executive officer, is visiting Spiral 1.1 organizations to meet with employees and senior leaders. "They need to know that NSPS is a flexible system designed to help them better meet their mission objectives," she said. "Their feedback is critical in helping us make the system better over time. We want NSPS to work for them and for all of DoD."



Army Community Service staff members, from right, Isolda McClelland and Stephanie Callahan, attend to customers at the information table during the Spouse Appreciation festivities in the Main PX May 10.

Community hails military spouses

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community turned out in force to celebrate military spouses during the Military Spouse Day festivities held at the Post Exchange May 10.

Visitors were greeted by Army Community Service staff members who distributed gift bags, Spouse Appreciation buttons, gift certificates, door prizes, decals and red, white and yellow silk roses.

The highlight of the event was a cake cutting by Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and his wife Tammy, and a 'Spring into Summer' fashion show featuring military spouses and family members strutting down a runway in colorful ensembles, all available for

purchase in the store.

In a take on wedding tradition, Tammy Wright playfully stuffed a piece of cake into her husband's mouth.

"This is what military spouses feel like doing sometimes," she joked.

Attendees included male and female military spouses, active and retired service members, and their family members. Several said they appreciated the gesture of recognition.

"My husband told me about it so we came out to join in," said Davida Raymore, the wife of Staff Sgt. Juan Raymore Jr. of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, as she watched her daughter Leah, 4, enjoy a piece of the celebration cake.

"It's nice to be appreciated," Raymore said.

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APG proclamation highlights child abuse prevention

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison drew community attention to two tough social issues, April 27, during a proclamation signing by Garrison commander Col. John T. Wright naming the month of April child abuse awareness and sexual assault prevention month in the Army Community Service conference room, building 2754.

On hand to mark the occasion was Maj. Noel Cuff, chief of Behavioral Medicine, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic; Master Sgt. Gail Brennan, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools equal opportunity advisor; Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Chavez, 61st Ordnance Brigade equal opportunity advisor; Joyce Guidish, clinical social worker, KUSAHC; and Aida Rivera, Army community Service Family Advocacy Program manager.

Special guests included Judge Angela Eaves, chair of the Harford County Commission on Domestic Abuse Prevention, and Alexis Fields Todd, S.A.R.C. Community Outreach and Development Specialist.

Wright thanked all for their continued support of Garrison prevention initiatives.

"We are a city within Harford County and we are very reliant of the surrounding community for everything they do to provide social services," Wright said.

Development stages determine children's behavior

An estimated 2,000 to 5,000 children will die this year from abuse

related injuries. Although parents usually don't set out to physically injure or neglect their children, it does happen.

Misbehavior is one of the top reasons children are abused. "Managing children's behavior is one of the most important, and sometimes most difficult job for parents," said Aida Rivera, ACS family advocacy program manager.

"Guiding children and teaching them the difference between right and wrong, and what is acceptable versus unacceptable behavior, requires effort, patience, persistence, consistency and an understanding of the ages and stages of child development," Rivera said.

Knowing how a child develops can help parents set realistic expectations for themselves and their children, and will help parents relax, avoid problems, improve parental skills and establish positive and long-lasting relationships with their children.

"Parents can become very frustrated by attempts to correct children's behavior that don't seem to work," Rivera said.

"A lot of the stress can be alleviated by knowing how children grow, and what can be expected of them during each stage of development."

Newborns and infants

Babies cry a lot. This is how they communicate hunger, pain, discomfort, fear and a need for attention. It is during this early stage that they begin to develop trust in the world around them, especially in their primary care-

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KUSAHC launches new program

Commander's Corner

COL. JOHN T. WRIGHT
APG Garrison Commander

Recently the U.S. Army Garrison APG Housing Office provided information to on-post housing residents regarding the outlook for maintenance and repair of family housing units. Additionally, last week's *APG News* highlighted the funding challenges facing the APG garrison in the Army Family Housing Maintenance and Repair account.

To date this fiscal year, the garrison has received less than 50 percent of the amount that was expended last FY to maintain the same number of quarters.

I have highlighted our shortfall to the Installation Management Agency leadership who understand the situation.

The austerity measures suggested by the Housing Office will be judicially implemented to sustain a quality residential experience for our families. Health and safety are our number one priorities for the execution of service orders.

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems are of primary concern for residents as we enter the summer months.

The homes of Bayside and Patriot Village are equipped with geothermal HVAC systems which are covered by an energy savings contract that provides the preventative maintenance and repair. All other homes are standard HVAC systems.

All residents should continue to submit service order requests for HVAC outages. A determination will be made on a case-by-case basis as to whether or not to repair or replace.

In some instances residents may be offered the opportunity to relocate to another housing unit either on a temporary or permanent basis during the repair process.

The Housing Office will work with residents on a case-by-case basis. As of May 13, we have nine service orders pending for HVAC repairs. Note: Residents should not attempt to repair or arrange repair of HVAC or other systems.

To dispel a widely held belief, the funding

formula for AFH is not based upon the Basic Allowance for Housing. Several nearby installations, Forts Meade and Belvoir, participate in the Army's Residential Communities Initiative or privatized housing. Under the RCI program the resident pays monthly rent, equivalent to their BAH, to a private housing management firm that is responsible for all maintenance, repair, utilities, and in some cases landscaping. Note: The BAH equivalent for the 652 occupied homes on APG is \$11.5 million, whereas our funding guidance for this FY is \$5.6 million. APG is slated to begin the RCI process in FY 2009.

All residents are encouraged to submit their questions or concerns to their Housing Area Coordinator, the Housing Office, the director of Installation Operations and the Garrison command sergeant major.

Updates will be provided as required through the *APG News*, the monthly Well-Being Action Council and command channels.



Deployment News

Military, families can get online mental health screening

Story by **GERRY J. GILMORE**
American Forces Press Service

Military members and families coping with the stress of overseas deployments and other potential health-threatening issues can now log onto the Internet to get help.

Service members from all components and their families can obtain a mental health self-assessment or screening through a Web site co-sponsored by the Department of

Defense and Screening for Mental Health Inc., a nonprofit organization, said Air Force Col. Joyce Adkins, a psychologist with the Force Health Protection and Readiness directorate at the Defense Department's Health Affairs office.

"The [online] screening actually gets you to where you need to be in terms of counseling," Adkins said. "Once you do one of the screening checklists, it will give you the bene-

fits that are available to you."

The Web site, www.militarymentalhealth.org brought online in January, augments other DoD mental health assistance resources, Adkins said. People logged onto the site are asked to answer a series of questions. The program "grades" the completed survey, Adkins said, and gives people an evaluation of their present mental health and provides assistance resources, if

deemed necessary.

Other DoD-endorsed health sites tell customers how to access mental health counseling services, but do not provide an online mental health screening program, Adkins said.

National Guard and reserve members returning from overseas deployments also are authorized to use the Web site, Adkins said. Returning reserve-component members have two years of health bene-

fits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"And, it's totally free to them," Adkins pointed out.

Such services are especially important today, Adkins said, because of the potential stressful effects deployments can have on both military and family members.

"It's a concern that people don't understand what their thoughts and feelings mean as they come back from deploy-

ment," Adkins said. "As they re-integrate with their families there may be conflict in the family that's not easily resolved."

The mental health screening Web site and other related programs available to service members and their families provide "a level of benefits and a level of service to help them understand what services are available to them for mental health issues," Adkins said.

Warfighters welcome battlefield beverages

Natick Soldier Center

Warfighters in Afghanistan and Iraq can enjoy a nice hot cup of coffee--thanks to scientists at the Department of Defense Combat Feeding Directorate, part of the Natick Soldier Center.

Researchers from the CFD developed a Hot Beverage Bag, which is a re-sealable high-density polyethylene bag. The HBB provides a safe, easy and convenient method for Warfighters to heat water for coffee, tea, cocoa and other hot beverages by utilizing surplus flameless ration heaters --which are sometimes left unused in Meals, Ready-to-Eat--and recycled MRE chipboard cartons.

The HBB enables Warfighters, who may be engaged in intense or extremely mobile operations where organized food service is not possible, a means to make coffee. The HBB may also be used for preparing hot water for sanitation (i.e., shaving and personal hygiene).

According to Stephen Moody, team leader for the Individual Combat Ration Team, the HBB is basically a plastic zippered bag with markings for different water levels (6, 8, and 12 ounces). The bag also includes instructions for heating beverages.

A few things prompted the creation of the HBB.

"It was noted during field evaluations that Soldiers often did not reconstitute their hot

beverages--coffee, cocoa or tea--because of the mess they would make in their canteen cup. This led to the idea for the inclusion of a bag that could also serve as a cup. Also, some Warfighters do not routinely carry a canteen cup," Moody said.

He said that the bag, which is used in conjunction with the flameless ration heater, creates a demand for unused FRHs thus reducing the number of surplus heaters and related waste disposal concerns.

"An FRH is included in every MRE. Since they are not always used to heat the entrée--there's not always time--there are often extra FRHs available," said Moody.

Response to the HBB, which has been included with the MRE (one per menu) since 2005, has been extremely favorable. The ability to make hot coffee adds greatly to the quality of life for Soldiers deployed to war zones, such as Afghanistan and Iraq.

"The feedback to date has been overwhelmingly positive. This is a very simple, dependable and inexpensive addition to the ration that is an enormous benefit to the Warfighter. Not only does it give the Soldier the opportunity to enjoy a hot beverage, it also helps to keep them hydrated by encouraging additional fluid intake," Moody said.

For more information, visit Web site <http://nsc.natick.army.mil/index.htm>.

Helmet stops bullet, saves Marine

Story and photo by **Cpl. Brian Reimers**
1st Marine Division

If anyone is proud to be labeled hardheaded, it's Pfc. Fred M. Linck. The 19-year-old from Westbrook, Conn., took an enemy shot to the head and walked away with little more than a sore noggin and a white bandage.

Linck of 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, was struck by a single enemy bullet on May 5.

"It seemed like just another day in the city of Fallujah," said Linck, an infantryman assigned to Company C. "But everything changed for me that day."

The young Marine had just gotten off of a security post and was tasked to be part of a reaction force. The force was gearing up to respond to a call for help in the city.

"We got some intelligence stating that there was a possible improvised explosive device on the corner of the main street in Fallujah," he said. "My team of Marines reacted to the call and showed up to the site. We immediately dismantled our vehicles and set up a cordon of the area."

Some of the other men in the team didn't think that this would be a normal mission.

"Something told me that this was going to be a setup, a pretty usual tactic for the insurgents to use against us," said Lance Cpl. Randon O. Hogen, a fellow infantryman and member of Linck's fire team.

Hogen's gut instincts were right. Somewhere in the shadows of the concrete buildings, an insurgent was waiting for the Marines.

"I was running back across the street after we had confirmed that the IED we responded to was in fact not one, when I heard the shot," said Lance Cpl. Kelvin J. Grisales, fire team leader and friend of Linck.

A single shot cracked through the air. Everyone jolted and not even Linck, who was hit, knew what happened.

"After the shot rang out, I remember hearing someone screaming 'Man down, man down,'" Linck said. "I realized a second later that man was me; I was on the ground."

It took a couple seconds for everything to

appear clear to Linck. The sounds of Marines calling for help weren't for anyone but him, but he was ready to get up and fight.

"I was pretty scared when I realized that I had just taken a round to the head, but the scariest part was that I was thinking about it and I felt fine," Linck said, who has only served with the battalion for a few months. "It felt as if I had fallen and hit my head, that's it."

The rest of his team did not know his status. They didn't take chances and followed their training, evacuating him out of the area.

"When we picked him up, he grabbed my hand and told me that he was pretty nervous," said 22-year-old Grisales, from Hartford, Conn. "All I could do was to try to reassure him that he would be alright, at the same time I was trying to do the same for myself."

Linck was transferred directly from the battlefield to the nearest hospital where he was treated and released without even a stitch in his head.

The issued helmet he wore stopped the majority of the round. A small piece of fragmentation from the round pierced through the headband inside of the helmet, causing a small laceration on his forehead.

"It was such a relief for us when we pulled up to the hospital and we found out that he was okay," Grisales said.

"I thank God that it happened the way that it did," Hogen added.

Linck doesn't discount divine intervention or luck, but trusts his gear more now than ever.

"I know for sure that if it wasn't for that helmet, I wouldn't be standing here right now," Linck said. "It pays to wear all the gear the way it is supposed to be worn."

"It is one thing to hear about what our gear is capable of, but this just makes it a reality," Hogen said. "It did exactly what it was supposed to do."

Linck [has] since returned to duty with a new outlook on life.

"It is kind of like a second lease of life," he said. "I want to make sure I do everything right."



U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Fred M. Linck was shot in the head and walked away from the incident in Fallujah, Iraq. The enemy round struck his Kevlar helmet, which saved his life by stopping the bullet. A piece of fragmentation caused a small laceration to the Marine's forehead. Linck is an infantryman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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

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Veterans' voices

Retired vets with combat injuries eligible for compensation

Combat-Related Special Compensation Program

Applying for the Combat-Related Special Compensation program can provide security for retired service members.

Just ask CRSC Army Ambassadors (retirees) Col. Bob Elliott, 1st Sgt. David Cole, Sgt. 1st Class Clint Meshew, Lt. Col. James Parker, or Capt. Joe Crawford, as they applied and joined more than 75,000 Army retirees who are receiving additional monthly compensation for their combat-related injuries.

The service members interviewed for this article are CRSC recipients and so passionate about the program that they have volunteered to help educate other eligible veterans and assist them in the claim process.

One of the best things anyone can do for a veteran is to tell them about CRSC. Even if they are not eligible, someone they know could be.

CRSC has begun to build the Ambassador's Program, a grassroots outreach campaign that is focused on recruiting help from passionate veterans.

CRSC recipients and other passionate veterans or Veterans Service Organizations can sign up to become official ambassadors and help spread the word. And, CRSC

makes it easy by providing downloadable tool kits on the CRSC Web site with vital CRSC information including an information document, frequently asked questions, talking points, video and slide presentations, and much more.

CRSC was enacted by Congress on Dec. 2, 2002. The program provides compensation for eligible military retirees with combat-related injuries.

The Army CRSC program is operated by the Army Human Resources Command under the direction of the United States Army Physical Disability Agency. CRSC provides dual compensation for eligible military retirees with combat-related injuries. This benefit provides a monthly tax-free compensation (full concurrent receipt option) that supplements Veterans Administration disability and military retired payments.

The service members interviewed for this article learned about CRSC through articles in Army Echoes or from one of the many in-person briefings Col. John Sackett delivers to retirees across the country. Sackett is the chief of the Army CRSC Division and is based in Alexandria, Va.

When retirees are asked, why they applied, there is a common answer,

"I risked my life for our country. That is what happens when we go to war, and even in peacetime you receive combat training. If you get injured in either, you are entitled to a just compensation," Elliot said.

Crawford told us that he "served faithfully for 22 years, got injured, and felt like he was being recognized by our country in receiving CRSC payments."

Most of the service members interviewed served in Vietnam and were injured or exposed to Agent Orange. However, retirees with other combat-related injuries from many wars and training are also recipients of CRSC. Just like the other 75,000 Army CRSC recipients, their supplemental payment was completely tax-free and paid retroactively, in most cases. They also received their CRSC payments easily through electronic deposit into their bank accounts.

"This replaces the money the VA took out of my retired pay. Not only is the money good and necessary, but I've enjoyed working with the CRSC staff because they are always helpful and courteous, and that is very important to me," Cole said.

Cole does not want money for his time, and Crawford

does not want reimbursements for his gas expenses making trips to tell other service members about CRSC. What they both want in return is a promise from each veteran to pass CRSC information onto other veterans.

The two veterans meet with other retirees to assist with their claim form submissions. This includes filling out the claim form, collecting personal and medical documents, and putting the entire package together to mail to the CRSC headquarters.

"I've really seen the impact that this program has had on veterans, not only receiving the money, but also the recognition has really changed their lives," Crawford said.

Crawford said it's easy to apply for CRSC. Veterans call the CRSC Call Center to find out if they are eligible. Then, they fill out the claim form and obtain the appropriate medical records and personnel documentation. Lastly, they send the claim into CRSC and, as Meshew remarked, "Each month the money just shows up." The entire adjudication and pay process on average takes less than three months (after submitting the claim packet).

More than 238,000 retired Soldiers are eligible for the CRSC program.

Retirees meeting the requirements are encouraged to apply for the program through their respective branch of service. Eligible retirees include those who are active, reserve, or medically retired with at least 20 years of service; are receiving retired pay; have retired pay offset by VA payments; and have a 10 percent or greater VA rated disability.

In addition, eligible retirees must have combat-related injuries (with documented proof) that were incurred in the

performance of duty under conditions simulating war (e.g. named exercises, field training), while engaged in hazardous service (e.g. flight, diving, parachute duty), through an instrumentality of war (e.g. combat vehicles, weapons, Agent Orange), or as a direct result of armed conflict.

Apply for CRSC today by contacting the service retired from.

To become an Army CRSC Ambassador, visit www.crsc.army.mil or call 1-866-281-3254.

Group hopes to improve benefits for disabled vets

Story by
PAUL X. RUTZ
American Forces Press Service

A grassroots group in Chicago hopes to help create a better system of support for service members returning from the Global War on Terrorism.

"Why should a family that has given so much already to this country be asked to sacrifice their American dream?" said Anna Sherony, the mother of a Marine who helped found "Wounded Heroes Foundation Inc."

The foundation is a non-profit organization started by Sherony and Cristov Dosev, a former Marine aviator. They believe addressing a few specific concerns will make homecoming much more bearable for veterans, especially those severely wounded.

The organization's concerns include:

- The need for qualified help with financial paperwork;
- The need to fill gaps in monthly pay between troops' medical retirement and the start of their Department of Veterans Affairs benefits; and
- The need for long-term help for veterans and their families, whose lives will always be affected by injuries.

Sherony started working with wounded troops in fall 2003. She said she has seen several families go bankrupt

or lose their homes as they tried to strike a balance between staying at their loved one's side and keeping up obligations back home.

A big success for wounded troops came in December, when the VA began providing automatic traumatic injury coverage to all troops injured while deployed since Oct. 7, 2001, as long as they're covered by Service members' Group Life Insurance, Sherony said.

"From my understanding, the execution of it has been fabulous," she said.

As the policy went into effect, military hospitals made sure experts were available to guide troops and their families through the new paperwork, Sherony said.

The VA also created an easy-to-follow chart that showed clearly who was eligible to receive benefits and what those benefits would be.

"I would love to find whoever came up with this ... and give them a big hug," she said. "Someone was really thinking. ... It took them about a year to implement, but they really did it right."

The policy doesn't distinguish between troops who are wounded by direct enemy action and those injured in other ways while deployed, which is a common sense and effective way to give wounded

troops what they deserve, Sherony said.

Although the insurance payout does not solve long-term problems for the permanently injured, it does help families stay away from having to sell their homes or use their life's savings while they travel to aid their loved ones' recovery.

Knowing successes like that are possible, Sherony said her group has compiled a simple list and begun collaborating with people in national government to see what else can be done to make the bureaucratic journey smoother for wounded veterans.

"They're pretty simple things that really take the burden away from our wounded heroes who have sacrificed so much already," she said.

For example, Sherony said, some laws on compensation for amputees should be reviewed. If both of a service member's hands and arms are amputated below the elbows, that person is eligible for a one-time lump sum of \$10,000 from the VA. If the amputation is above the elbows, that compensation jumps to \$50,000.

Another way to ease the financial burden might come from better coordination between departments serving wounded troops.

"The Department of Defense (processes) our kids

out or they voluntarily (leave), but they have to wait six to nine months for their VA benefits," Sherony said.

She suggested troops not be discharged from the military until their VA benefits are in place.

Dosev, the foundation's

See **WOUNDED**, page 4

APG offers Army drivers training

Story by
RON KRAVITZ
DSHE

So far this year the Army has had 104 Class A-C privately owned vehicle accidents. The Installation Management Agency is implementing a drivers' training program in order to reverse this trend.

In the 1980s, the Department of Defense conducted an in-depth survey and found that the military group most prone to having major accidents was under the age of 26. They issued instruction, DODI 6055.4, Section E3.3.1., which states "All military personnel under 26 years of age who possess a driver's license shall be given a minimum of four hours of classroom instruction in traffic safety designed to establish and reinforce a positive attitude toward driving."

The Army issued a message June 13, 2000, altering the AR 385-55 to more closely follow the DODI instruction. It calls for four hours of classroom instruction in traffic safety for all military personnel who have driver's licenses. This training is to be given "expediently after initial entry into military service."

The IMA has created an on-line "Accident Avoidance" course to fulfill one hour of the four-hour training requirement and can be accessed through Army Knowledge Online:

1. Log on to AKO.
2. Click on "My Training" in the left side column.
3. Access the ALMS (It's in red in the middle of the page).
4. Click on the "Training Catalog" on the top gray tabs.

5. Type "Army" in the product name line in the white ribbon on the left and click "Go."

6. The Army traffic program should appear on the first line.

7. Add to development plan or shopping cart.

The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Installation Safety Division now has a full time contract staff to administer the additional three hours of driver's training. The classroom instruction will be conducted every Thursday, with the first class starting today. There will be two classes each Thursday in building 5442, classroom 7. The first session is 8 to 11 a.m.; the second session will be noon to 3 p.m.

To register, e-mail ron.kravitz@apg.army.mil, or call 410-306-1084/1095.

5th Army WMD Civil Support Teams receive training at ECBC

Story by
JENNIFER GASKILL
ECBC

The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center is supporting the 5th Army in providing intensive training in chemical and biological incident management to four National Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams.

"The teams traveled to Aberdeen Proving Ground from Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont and Washington D.C., and are receiving chemical and biological defense classroom instruction as well as training on the use and capabilities of incident response and laboratory equipment," said Todd McKinney of ECBC's Advanced Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Training Team. "The teams are being trained using four scenarios involving the supposed use of weapons of mass destruction. The scenarios are being acted out at three locations on Aberdeen Proving Ground and one just off post property."

To construct the scenarios, ECBC experts used current hazard and intelligence information. Each scenario was developed to presumably involve a chemical, biological, radiological agent in a clandestine environment that will require the team to utilize all equipment and personnel.

The ECBC training team also provided classroom instruction on the history of chemical biological warfare, properties and characteristics of chemical agents, recognizing drugs versus chemical or bio-



Photo by TODD MCKINNEY, ECBC

National Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team executes one of the chemical and biological incident scenarios during their training.

logical materials, improvised dispersal devices, industrial agents and topics on laboratory and sampling methods. Instruction has been provided by ECBC subject matter experts.

Today, 32 states have National Guard Civil Support Teams, and another 23 teams are in the process of forming. Each 22-person team is designed to augment "first response" agencies and must be prepared to deploy within 90 minutes of notification in response to a man-made or natural event causing massive destruction to lives or property within the United States

or its territories. The teams are designed to provide assistance to a local incident commander in determining the nature and extent of an attack or incident; provide expert technical advice on response operations; and help to identify and support the arrival of follow-on state and federal military response assets. They also support local and state authorities at domestic incident sites by identifying agents and substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional military support.

Wounded

From page 3

co-chair and a retired Marine major, said helping the government find effective solutions to problems like these would allow the group to do much more for returning troops.

"[It would] do nine-tenths of our work because then we could focus on moral support, introducing them to mentors at college, or introducing them to folks in their community that can help them heal and get back into the workforce,-- whatever it is they have ambitions to do," Dosev said. "We don't want to be fighting bureaucracies. That's not an effective use of our time and effort."

Sherony said the group believes energy bills and property taxes are the two most problematic financial issues for disabled veterans in the long term. Eventually, the foundation hopes to persuade the government to get rid of property taxes for veterans who have received a 100-percent disability rating from the VA and allow nonprofit groups like theirs to build solar-powered, self-sufficient homes for those veterans.

For the time being, the all-volunteer foundation uses money it raises to help families get back on their feet, Dosev said. They help pay mortgages and energy bills, and grant money for plane tickets and hotel rooms so families don't have to choose between staying with their loved ones or making ends meet.

In March, the group joined America Supports You, a DoD program highlighting corporate and grassroots support for America's troops and their families. Dosev said he is proud to be a member of ASY and looks forward to using the connections it provides to better serve wounded troops.

"We're by no means the only organization out there helping," he said. "We're just hoping that through our efforts we might be able to ... help these guys and these women get back on their feet and back into society as effectively as we can."

He said modern medicine saves many more troops wounded on the battlefield than in previous conflicts.

"They are here now with us, and we have a responsibility to do what we can to help them," Dosev said.

Community Notes

**FRIDAY
MAY 19
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit Relay for Life will be held 10 p.m. at the Edgewood High School cafeteria. Doors will open 9:15 p.m. This event will take place during the Relay for Life event. Tickets cost \$12 for 12 games. Extra packets are available for \$5. Specials and raffles will be available. Light packaged snacks and beverages will be available. No Smoking.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**SATURDAY
MAY 20
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit Relay for Life - Bethany's Buddies, will be held at the Good Shepherd Catholic School, 800 Aiken Avenue, Perryville. Doors open at 6 p.m., Bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards, extra packs cost \$5 each. Refreshments, door prizes and raffles will be available. No smoking is allowed.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or JoAnne Bierly, 410-378-3320.

**PRIZE BINGO
LUNCHEON**

The Pilottown Rod and Gun Club, located on Belle Manor Road, Conowingo, will hold a Prize Luncheon Bingo to benefit the Ladies Auxiliary to the Rod and Gun Club. Doors open at 11 a.m., bingo begins at noon. Tickets cost \$15 and includes paper packet for 20 games and lunch; extra packets cost \$5. Cost for children under 10 years of age is \$10 with no extra packets. Tickets are available at the door. Door prizes, refreshments, raffles and more will be available. All children must be accompanied by an adult. No smoking is permitted in the club.

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

**SUNDAY
MAY 21
TIN FOIL MEAL MAGIC**

Learn a few outdoor cooking tricks. Lunch will be provided. The fee for this program is \$4 and is for ages 8 through adult. It runs from 11 a.m. to noon. Reservations are required.

For information, directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, extension 1688.

LEGION HOLDS BINGO

American Legion Post 194, 336 E. Main St., Rising Sun, is sponsoring a basket bingo. Games begin at 3 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 20 games. Proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 28.

For more information call 410-658-3915, or basketbingo@zoominternet.net.

**HORSESHOE
TOURNAMENT AND
PIG ROAST**

American Legion Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold a Horseshoe Tournament and Pig Roast 1 to 5 p.m. Entry fee is \$20 per person and includes a pig roast for participants. Food and beverages will be available. Draw for teams; double eliminations. To practice early, ask the bartender for horseshoes.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

**TUESDAY
MAY 23
RETIRED EMPLOYEES
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

The National Active and Retired Association of

Retired Federal Employees, NARFE, is seeking new members. The Bel Air Chapter 1770 NARFE will hold a social event/fund raiser, 5 to 9 p.m., at Friendly's Restaurant located on 353 South Main Street. A percentage of the profits from food and drinks purchased will benefit NARFE. Their primary mission is to protect the pay and benefits of both active and retired federal employees.

For more information, call Elaine Watkins, chapter president, at 410-420-6952.

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 24
WEDNESDAY WEE
WONDERS**

Join a naturalist and her wee one for a critter encounter and hike. This tree program is for children up to age 4 and runs from 1 to 2 p.m. Reservations are required.

For information, directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, extension 1688.

**SATURDAY
MAY 27
EXPLORE HABITATS
ALONG DEER CREEK**

Learn about the fascinating

species of plants and animals that can be found along Deer Creek, 10 to 11:30 a.m., at the Eden Mill Nature Center, located on 1617 Eden Mill Road, Pylesville. Children ages 6 to 8 can enroll in the Eden Mill Nature Center's upcoming Habitats along Deer Creek program. The cost is \$5 for members; \$6 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to pre-register, call 410-836-3050 or e-mail eden_mill@hotmail.com.

PICK UP STICKS

For one day only, get a 'Picking Permit' to find, make and take a walking stick home. The fee is \$3 and is for ages 6 to 11 with an adult and 12 to adult from 2 to 4 p.m. Reservations are required. For information, directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, extension 1688.

LOOM BEADING

Learn how to craft an intricate pattern on a loom to create a traditional Native American bead project. The fee is \$10 and is for ages 12 through adult from 1 to 3 p.m. Reservations are required.

For information, directions

to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center or to make a reservation, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, extension 1688.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 3
MILITARY HONORS**

The USO of Metropolitan Washington and DC United, Washington, D.C.'s MLS soccer team, will hold Military Appreciation Night events before and during the 7:30 p.m. game against the New England Revolution.

Five hundred free tickets are available at the USO's five family outreach centers located at Fort Myer Community Center, 228 McNair Road, building 405; Fort Belvoir, SOSA Recreation Center, 6900 Belvoir Road; Indian Head, 14 Strauss Avenue; Bellvue, Bolling AFB Community Center, One Cargo Court; and Woodbridge Run, 1400 Eisenhower Circle.

Events honoring the nation's military will include a pre-game festival, a military fly-over, exhibitions by military drill and performance teams and more. The USO Liberty Belles will perform the national anthem. DC United will present a check to the USO to help fund its efforts to "serve those who serve ... and their families" during the game.

All active duty service members, all ranks are eligible for the tickets.

For recorded information on these or other tickets, contact the USO TicketLine, 703-696-2551.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Cmty. 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 and click on "Movie Listing."

ICE AGE: THE MELT-DOWN

Friday, May 19, 7 p.m.

Animated

Manny the woolly mammoth, Sid the sloth, Diego the saber-toothed tiger and silly squirrel Skrat find themselves at the end of the Ice Age, and everyone is happy that the deep freeze is over. Until, that is, they learn that a huge glacial dam is about to break, flooding their entire valley. The only chance for survival: get the heck outta there, and fast! To do so, they enlist the help of a mammoth named Ellie. (Rated PG)

TAKE THE LEAD (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, May 20, 7 p.m.

Starring: Antonio Banderas, Rob Brown, Yaya DaCosta, Alfre Woodard

Former professional dancer Pierre Dulain (Antonio Banderas) tries to help a group of in-detention-kids to reform themselves through ballroom dance classes. It isn't the greatest idea, since the kids prefer hip-hop or rap. But Dulain catches their attention after a tango session and develops a new hybrid dance with the help of his students. (Rated PG-13)

LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN

Saturday, May 20, 9 p.m.

Starring: Josh Hartnett, Bruce Willis, Lucy Liu, Morgan Freeman, Ben Kingsley

A case of mistaken identity lands Slevin (Hartnett) in the middle of a war being plotted by two of the city's most rival crime bosses: The Rabbi (Kingsley) and The Boss (Freeman). Slevin is under constant surveillance by relentless Detective Brikowski (Stanley Tucci) as well as the infamous assassin Goodkat (Willis) and finds himself having to hatch his own ingenious plot to get them before they get him. (Rated R)

POST SHORTS

lation'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.

Thrift Shops holds \$2 bag sale in May

Throughout May, 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.

Hydrant flushing in May

Fire hydrant flushing in the Aberdeen Area of APG is scheduled through June 16. The city of Aberdeen will perform annual hydrant flushing starting with the family housing area starting at 4 p.m., Monday through Friday of each week.

Through May 19, flushing will include blocks 1000, 700 and 500.

May 22 through 26, flushing will include blocks 300, 200 and 400.

May 30 through June 2, flushing will include blocks 600, 3000 and 4000 blocks.

June 5 through 16, flushing will include blocks 3000 and 4000.

Unleaded fuel no longer available at Aberdeen fuel station

Due to mechanical problems, unleaded fuel cannot be dispensed at the Aberdeen Fuel Station, building 4029, and it is expected to be unavailable for about one month.

Drivers of Army owned-vehicles and equipment requiring unleaded fuel must gas up at the Edgewood Station, building E-4017. GSA vehicle operators must go to the Motor Pool in building 5256 to obtain a GSA credit card to purchase unleaded fuel at AAFES or commercial gas stations.

Diesel, compressed natural gas and bulk fueling is still available at the Aberdeen station.

For more information, contact Bill Arguero, 410-306-2280 or Richard Walter, 410-278-5582.

Thank a Military Spouse' Writing Contest

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation month, **Military.com** is holding its first-ever "Thank a Military Spouse" writing contest.

The Military.com editorial staff will judge all of the entries. The first place winner will win a 2 GB Apple iPod nano and 10 runners-up will

receive one Military.com T-shirt. The winners will also have their articles featured on Military.com and the upcoming Military.com newsletters. Deadline is May 20.

Now is the chance to acknowledge and appreciate a spouse's hard work while the service member is protecting the country.

For rules, visit http://www.military.com/spouse/ThankASpouse_Rules.

Traffic to be rerouted during ceremony

Roads leading to APG's Ryan Building, building 314, will be temporarily closed on May 23 to accommodate a ceremony dedicating one of DTC's conference rooms to a fallen Soldier.

Barricades will be placed at three intersections – where Aberdeen Boulevard forks into Collieran 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 9:55 a.m., and last no longer than one hour. During this time traffic will be diverted to an alternate route.

RAB meeting scheduled

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Thursday, May 25, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Other Edgewood Areas Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

Volunteer LPNs and RNs needed

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic needs volunteer licensed practical nurses and registered nurses to assist with clinical duties. Students are welcome.

For more information, call Maj. Kathy Reynolds-Presper, 410-278-1813.

American Legion holds Memorial Day Service

American Legion Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold its annual Memorial Day Service, May 29, 11 a.m. The club and bar will be closed during the ceremony. Refreshments will be served after the service.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

Family Child Care Providers needed

Family Child Care training will be conducted June 5 through 9 at the Army Community Services building on APG. Applicants who are

interested in providing home-based childcare in either the Edgewood or Aberdeen area are encouraged to apply.

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

Childcare is provided during the week of training.

For more information and to pick up an application, visit the FCC office located on APG on Rodman Road, building 2752 or call 410-278-8720/7140.

Veterans Appreciation Day

The Washington Nationals will host a Veterans Appreciation Day, June 14, at the Nationals vs. the Colorado Rockies baseball game. All veterans, active duty and their families are invited to attend the game at half price. For information and to purchase tickets, visit www.nationals.com/militarydiscount.

DC hosts National Memorial Day Parade

Washington, D.C. will host its second annual National Memorial Day Parade, noon to 2 p.m., May 29. The parade will begin on Third Street NW to Constitution Avenue and end at 15th Street NW.

The parade will pay tribute to American veterans from the Revolution to Operation Iraqi Freedom and honor active duty military personnel and all those who have died defending the United States.

For more information, visit www.nationalmemorialday-parade.com.

Perry Point hosts Eagles Nest 2006

The seventh annual Native American Festival honoring America's veterans will be held at the Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 3 and 4. Festivities on both days will include a grand entrance at noon, a flute presentation, dancing, drumming, Native American arts and crafts, souvenir traders, traditional and contemporary foods and other demonstrations throughout the day.

Bring a chair or blanket for lawn seating. The event is free and open to the public and vet-

erans and active duty service members and their families are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Al Milliner, 410-447-6392 or Debbie Rosenkrans, 410-642-1005.

KWVA chapter seeks members

Chapter 271 of the Korean Wars Veterans Association, KWVA, is looking for a few good members. Korean War veterans or any service member who has served in Korea is encouraged to attend the monthly meetings to learn about the latest goings on in the state and federal legislatures regarding veterans' benefits, to participate in community service projects, and to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow veterans.

Group members meet at American Legion Post 128 in Aberdeen on the last Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

For a membership application or more information, contact Nick Guerra, membership chairman, 410-272-0458.

Register for the 2006 Army Birthday Ball

Celebrate the Army's 231st Army Birthday Ball, 5:30 p.m., June 10, at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

All U.S. Army Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians, contractors, retirees, veterans and their guests are invited to attend the event. Tickets cost \$70 each and include dinner and entertainment.

A limited number of discounted tickets of \$40 each will be available for E-6s, GS-7 civilians and below.

For more information, or to register for the 2006 Army Birthday Ball, visit Army Knowledge online at www.us.army.mil and follow the link to the ball. Seats are limited.

EEO volunteers needed

The Equal Employment Opportunity Office is looking for volunteers for the following committees: Asian American/Pacific Islander, Black, Federal Women, Hispanic, Native American/Alaskan Native and Program for People with Disabilities

For more information or to volunteer, call 410-278-1137.

Catholic priests needed

The U.S. Army is in critical need of devout and spiritually motivated Catholic priests to lead this nation's Soldiers and families in their walk with God. To explore a life of service to God, church and country, visit www.goarmy.com/chaplain, e-mail chaplainrecruiting@usarec.army.mil or call 1-800-223-3735x61899/61082.

(Editors Note: More shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)

Days of Remembrance program features Holocaust survivor's story of endurance

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

With a quivering voice and tear-filled eyes, Holocaust survivor Emmy Mogilensky shared a heart-wrenching story about her experiences during the Holocaust, the Nazi persecution era that claimed the lives of 6 million Jews, during the 2006 Days of Remembrance Commemorative Program at the Post Theater May 10.

Mogilensky escaped Nazi Germany on a children's transport to England in 1939.

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory hosted the program which featured a candle lighting ceremony led by Rabbi Tzvi Schur of the Aberdeen Proving Ground

Chapel. Schur also delivered the invocation and benediction.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, gave remarks.

He said the Holocaust was, "one of the worst crimes against humanity," which actually totaled 11 million, counting the millions of non-Jews who were persecuted for other reasons.

"The state-sponsored, systemic persecution of Jews spanned 12 years," Wright said, "and we still see evil that exists throughout the world today."

"Although 61 years seems a long time ago, she survived to talk about it," Wright said of the guest speaker. "It is our responsibility to take the lesson and not repeat it. We cannot, we should not, and we will not allow this to happen again."

Attendees included APG service members and civilians, students from Bel Air Middle, Harford Tech High and Aberdeen Middle schools and cadets and cadre from the Maryland Army National Guard's Free State Challenge Academy.

Also, Sgt. Curtis Kearns, 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) provided music on keyboard and the band's Spc. Jessica Lear sang the national anthem and 'God Bless America.'

The program's host, Larry Burton, ARL, introduced

Mogilensky as one who "has dedicated her life to inform others about the Holocaust."

"She experienced ignorance, degradation and hatred and yet she persevered, and she is with us today to share her story," Burton said.

Mogilensky's story

Born in Cronheim, Bavaria in 1923, Mogilensky said that her life was typical for children in that region until the persecution of Jews took hold.

"One day the [non-Jewish] children formed a line and as we walked through, they beat us up," she said.

When she complained, the teacher responded, "What do you expect, you dirty Jew?"

"The day before they were our friends," she said.

The abuse continued until her parents sent her and her brother to different schools. In 1938 she was enrolled in a Jewish school in Nuremberg where she lived in a pension for young Jewish ladies.

Before long, her father was informed that the deed to their house was no good and that the family would have to move.

"My great-grandfather built that house and my father, my brother and I were born in it," she said, "and suddenly the deed was no longer good. We knew then that they wanted to get rid of us."

The state placed the family in a one-room house with one bed which the family was forced to share. Most of their relatives had already left



A commemorative plaque that was presented to Holocaust survivor Emmy Mogilensky after the Days of Remembrance program at the Post Theater on May 10 contains the photograph of the famous statue in the New York harbor that symbolizes the Allied rescue operation during World War II.

Germany she said and because of that, instead of normal girlish chatter about clothes and boys, she and her friends worried about where they would go if they were forced to leave their homeland.

"We were surrounded by countries where they spoke different languages and all we knew was German," she said.

One day a letter came informing her parents that they could select one child to send on a transport to England.

Addressing the assembled students, Mogilensky said, "When you go home today, ask your parents how they would choose which child to send to safety and which to remain in relative danger."

Her parents chose to send her, despite her protests, because she was the eldest, at age 15.

One night, a few days later, her mother packed a suitcase and her father took her to the train station.

"He kissed me and blessed me and put me on the train," she said, as her eyes filled with tears.

"You must excuse me," she said. "Every time I tell it, I relive it."

"There were 200 children on the train and 200 sets of parents on the platform," she continued. "The parents knew in all probability they would never see their children again. Can you imagine the pain on that platform that night?"

Just before the train doors closed a basket was shoved onto the train. Mogilensky said that because she was the oldest child on the train, the children looked at her expectantly, waiting for her to open it.

She said that despite a terrible premonition and fear of snakes, she slowly made her way to the basket, drew back the cover and found two sleeping babies.

"They were two beautiful little girls, obviously twins," she said. "My very first

thought was, 'How do we care for them?'"

She found two bottles of milk and two clean diapers in the basket and with help from the other children, which included gathering handkerchiefs from all the boys to use as additional diapers, she cared for the infants for the entire two-day trip.

The journey included crossing the Dutch border by train then boarding a ship to cross the English Channel.

"The channel is very choppy and most of the children got seasick," she said. "It was not a pleasant journey."

Upon arrival in England the children boarded another train to London. They were met by a large group of people willing to take children and raise them as their own, Mogilensky said.

"I wouldn't sit down until I made sure someone would take the babies," she said. "A nice lady came and took them and said she would keep them together since they were twins."

Mogilensky obtained the woman's address hoping to keep in touch with the twins. Before the day was out, "a very kind Jewish couple, both doctors, with no children of their own," took Mogilensky into their home.

"I became their daughter in every way," she said.

Atrocities against Jews were in full swing in Germany, however, and eventually Mogilensky called home to check on her family.

She was devastated to learn that her father had been taken away to the Dachau concentration camp. Her mother begged her to come home and Mogilensky made up her mind to go.

The next day, she was at the railway station to buy a ticket back to Germany when she ran into an old friend of her fathers. When she told him about her father he directed her to a door in the station.

"Go through that door and

tell them and they will release your father," he told her.

She said that when she approached the door she saw that it was marked 'SS Headquarters.'

"The SS were the German Army's storm troopers," she said. "I was terrified but I wanted my father back so I gathered what little courage I had left and went through the door."

She said that to this day she remembers every detail of the office on the other side of the door, especially the angry-looking SS officer behind the desk. He growled at her demanding to know what she wanted and she told him that she had been told that if she came there and asked, her father would be released.

"He looked me up and down and asked my father's name and address then said 'Get out!' Mogilensky said. "I never left any room so fast."

She journeyed home from there wondering "what would happen next."

She reached home to find her brother in anguish and her mother near a nervous breakdown.

"She was afraid to sleep alone so I slept in my father's bed to give her some measure of comfort," she said.

A few nights later there was a knock on the door, she said, and when she called out to ask who it was, a small voice answered, "It's daddy."

The family spent the rest of the night hugging and talking.

"I was overjoyed," Mogilensky said. "When my father put me on the train I really believed I would never see my family again."

Happiness was short-lived however as circumstances for Jews continued to worsen and for her safety, Mogilensky was again sent away on a transport in May of 1939. This time her brother followed on another transport in August.

See HOLOCAUST, page 15



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Library moving to Rec Center



Photo by MARGUERITE TOWSON
From left, Marine Pvt. Matthew Rentfrow, Joe Chaimangkol and David Hearne assist Elnora Smothers, library technician, and Mike Lacombe, librarian, during the library's move to the APG Recreation Center May 16. The library should be operational by May 23.

Community Recreation Division tennis courts in Aberdeen and Edgewood. The cost is \$40 and is open to youths age 7 to 17. Class begins June 21 and the cost includes a tournament. Pre-register through May 19.

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.

Stained Glass class

Students make a small sun-catcher using the copper foil method of stained glass. The class is held the third Saturday of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$35, including supplies.

Framing

This class covers the basics of matting and framing. Students must bring an 8 x 10 picture to class to frame. The class is held the last Saturday of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$45, not including supplies. This class is required to use the framing area.

Woodshop Orientation

Woodshop Safety Class is required to use the woodshop. It covers basic techniques while working in woodshop. The class is offered the first Saturday of each month from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and the cost is \$8.



The Army Concert Tour comes to 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.

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, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Arts & Crafts reception tonight

To see the local submissions for the 2006 Army Arts & Crafts Contest, stop by Top of the Bay 6 p.m., May 18.

Information on the Arts & Crafts program on APG will also be available.

Volunteer instructors needed

For information on any SKIESUnlimited program or to teach classes such as kin-dermusik, 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.

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. Cheesesteak 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 Service 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.

Employment readiness classes

ACS has two classes currently available. The customer service and telephone etiquette class will address simple yet crucial skills needed to ensure a positive interaction when assisting a caller or a customer. The class will be 11 a.m., May 23 in building 2754.

Each month, ACS hosts a class to help people jump start their career. The next two classes are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., May 31 and June 14 in building 2754 on Rodman Road.

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.

Gardening for the health of it

Learn the basics of gardening 5:30 p.m., Monday, May 22 at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326. This class will outline specific tasks to help improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. This seminar is presented by Harford County Master Gardener's Club. The cost is \$10.

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

All-Army Ironman Team

Army Sports is now accepting applications to compete in the Hawaii Ironman Championship. The competition is Oct. 17 thru 23. AKO account holders can apply at <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil>. Review the selection criteria on the Web site for more information that should be included on the application. Deadline is June 1.

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.armytenmiler.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://armysports.cfsc.army.mil> to process the application, which will automatically route through their commander and sports director to the Army Sports Office.

To sign up for a youth sport, contact Central Registration, building 2752, 41-278-7571/7479. 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.

Youth Tennis Program

The group will meet on Wednesdays, 9 a.m., at the

Technology Expo draws hundreds to APG

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

From cute gadgets to the latest innovations in information technology, all that and more was on hand at the annual Spring Information Technology Products and Services Expo held at Top of the Bay April 19.

The bi-annual event is hosted by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison, the Directorate of Information Management and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's Corporate Information Office.

Nearly 50 vendors set up displays, said Mark Flemister, Federal Direct Access, who along with his wife Donna, works with RDECOM and the DOIM to organize the events.

"The whole concept is to bring buyers and sellers together," Donna Flemister said. "Technology is here to stay and these vendors really enjoy coming to APG."

At the IBM display, Martin J. O'Dea, federal systems specialist, displayed items from the organization's server and storage product line.

"We like to get out, meet people and show off our products, and this is a good way to do it," O'Dea said.

Denny Twigg, an account manager with GovConnection, agreed.

"You can get well connected here," Twigg said as he showed customers how to use the company's newest notebook which also serves as a laptop with voice recognition that writes, erases and performs countless other tasks. "First and foremost it's a notebook that does a lot more," he said.

"This is the third expo we've done and it always goes over well for us," said Joe

Schauman, a government specialist with MSC Industrial Supply Company.

He said that many of the vendors on hand were also his customers.

"We specialize in industrial supplies, equipment and tools," Schauman said. "If you buy all these gadgets you'll need the tools to hook it up and that's where we come in."

His display included safety goggles and gloves, respirators, ear plugs and hand tools like insulated screwdrivers and electrical testers.

"My only account is with APG," Schauman said.

At the Alienware High Performance Systems display Kashef Mahmud, director of federal sales, said the company, which has been around since 1999, grew out of the gaming industry.

"We manufacture hardware that supports simulation applications," Mahmud said, "and we realize there is a need for this type of technology in the Army."

"Many people who are gamers are familiar with the name," he said.

The event enjoyed a record turnout," said Susan Suppa, one of the organizers from the APG Garrison.

The show has been sold out three weeks now and we were turning vendors away as late as yesterday," she said.

"With 47 exhibitors, it's the largest we've had," she added. "The only complaints have been about the parking."

Exhibitors in the Spring Technology Expo included:

AFL Telecommunications; Alienware; AlphaInsight; Army Knowledge Online; ASAP Software; Audio Visual Innovations; Avocent Corporation; BACO Enterprises; CDW-G;



Gary Leavens, a systems administrator with the Directorate of Information Management, left, chats with Harold Tucker, an Army Knowledge Online representative, during the Technology Expo at Top of the Bay April 19.

Clear Cube; Dell; Force 3; Gateway; General Dynamics C4 Systems; GovConnection; Graybar; GTSI; HP; IBM; iGov; Insight Public Sector; L-Com; Log Sec Corporation; MEDI; Metro Office Products; MPC; MSC Industrial; NEC Display Solutions; Nelson White Systems; Newark InOne; Office Eagle; PC

Mall Gov; Plug-In Storage; SEIDCON; SGI Federal; Southern Business Communications; Tally Genicom; Tech Depot an Office Depot Company; TriComm Group; Video and Telecommunications Inc.; Westwood Computer; Wright Line; XEROX Corporation and Xiotech.

RDECOM hosts AMC Retention Training Conference

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

In an effort to boost retention and maintain an experienced fighting force, the U.S. Army Materiel Command hosted a Retention Training Conference at Top of the Bay April 24 to 28.

Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Sgt. Maj. Elisabeth Jones, AMC command career counselor, and Sgt. Rebecca Hanner, RDECOM Retention NCO, hosted the event.

Jones said the training is held twice a year in different locations.

"This training is designed to bring retention personnel from AMC commands together to train and mentor NCOs, share ideas and receive new information," she said, adding that participants included members of the U.S. Army Forces Command and Training and Doctrine Command.

"Often times we forget that Army Retention encompasses the career of a Soldier, from initial entry to retirement," Jones added. "Retention isn't focused solely upon reenlisting Soldiers. We are focused on what counseling is necessary in the four phases so we can better advise Soldiers on their careers."

AMC Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Elder was the featured speaker for the opening ceremony. He told the NCOs from AMC installations around the country in attendance that "Soldiers are the centerpiece of our nation."

He said that the Retention NCO plays an important role in maintaining the lines of communication to Soldiers.

"The Army is in a transition," he said. "The priority is going to be on Brigade Combat Teams. We have to educate Soldiers so they know when they prepare to reenlist what their options are.

"The challenges are there," he said, noting that most Soldiers have the traditional NCO chain of command, consisting of the squad leader, platoon sergeant and first sergeant to "mentor them along the way."

"But we have to remember there are Soldiers in remote areas who don't have that professional development," he said.

"What we have to be able to do is identify skill and build on that."

He said that whether serving as full or part time retention NCOs, the focus remains the same.

"You will have to recognize those who can help you be successful," he said.

"The focus is on retaining good Soldiers and helping our commands bring in good Soldiers," he said, adding that installations can be the center of influence for the community through partnerships with recruiting commands and local schools.

"Our goal is to maintain our Army at the level it needs to be manned so we can proceed with the transformation," he said.

Also a key speaker was Sgt. Maj. Scott

Kuhar, Department of the Army, deputy chief of staff, G-1, who discussed retention challenges and reenlistment initiatives including Selective Reenlistment Bonuses.

He said that the DA's primary goals are to reenlist and transition Soldiers earlier; reenlist for longer periods and for the needs of the Army; provide for stability for units earmarked for deployment; and stabilize personnel for life cycle training.

"Retention is way ahead," Kuhar said, noting that the reenlistment SRB for Soldiers stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait is up to \$15,000.

"Command emphasis is crucial to continue to monitor the effects of multiple deployments, SRBs, bonuses and other programs," he said.

The training paused for award presentations. Steven Latour, RDECOM adjutant, was presented with a DA Letter of Commendation for a suggestion that was used in part to write a change in legislation that will provide a new incentive – non-chargeable leave – for reenlisting Soldiers.

Through the Army Suggestion Program, Latour recommended a standardized retention initiative that grants free leave time to reenlistees.

"My point was that money is not always what the Soldier wants or needs," Latour said. "Every Soldier has different needs. Location choices, time off to spend with the family and stability can be just as important."

He said the suggestion was made through the APG Suggestion Program office in building 324 in February.

"We got positive feedback fairly quickly and I'm just happy to see everybody excited about it," he said.

Retention awards went to career counselors Mater Sgt. Elijah Mobley, APG Post Retention; Master Sgt. Timothy Carlisle, Redstone Aviation Missile Command, Ala., and to Sgt. 1st Class April McDougal, Army Field Support Command, Rock Island, Ill.

The week ended with a special reenlistment ceremony when Gen. Benjamin Griffin, AMC commander reenlisted two Soldiers from the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) at Top of the Bay April 28.

Sgt. Daniel Moyer and Spc. Jessica Lear said that they were honored.

"It was a real pleasure and honor to have General Griffin be able to reenlist myself and specialist Lear," Moyer said. "His participation in the reenlistment made for a great memory. I'm truly grateful."

Lear added that Griffin's willingness to fly to APG for a "15-minute ceremony" was "incredible."

"General Griffin showed me that my leadership really cares about my Army career," she said. "For him to take time out of his busy schedule to do this just showed me, as a young Soldier, what it really means to be a great leader."

Four retire during April ceremony

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

One Soldier and three Aberdeen Proving Ground civilians were honored for their loyalty and patriotism during the Garrison Retirement Ceremony at Top of the Bay April 26.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, hosted the ceremony and presented the awards assisted by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby.

The retirees included Chief Warrant Officer 5 Robert N. Bargewell, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools; Marjorie "Sue" Cassidy, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Johnny L. Woods, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School and Peggy O. Morrison, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

Before reviewing each retiree's career, Wright noted that the four honorees had completed, "distinguished careers totaling more than 152 years of dedicated service to our nation and our Army."

"These outstanding Americans deserve to be extremely proud of their service and achievements and the roles they played in making today's Army the best in our nation's history and the best in the world," Wright said.

He thanked the retirees and their families for their service and sacrifice.

"On behalf of your country and the U.S. Army, thank you for your many contributions," he said. "We wish you good health, happiness and continued success."

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Robert N. Bargewell

Bargewell was awarded the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement and the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for his 39 and one half years of service. His wife, Janet received the Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation signed by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Shoomaker.

Bargewell enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in 1967, and then into the Army Reserves in 1980. He culminates his career as warrant officer proponent manager, reserve component with the office of the Chief of Ordnance.

He resides in Wasilla, Alaska. His wife Janet is a colonel in the Army Reserve, currently serving her second tour in Afghanistan.

Bargewell enjoys fishing, hunting, snowmobiling and home remodeling. His retirement plans include spending more time with his seven grandchildren.

Marjorie "Sue" Cassidy
Cassidy received the DA Certificate of Retirement and the DA Certificate of Appreciation for her more than 41 years of service.

Her husband Ronald V. Doenges received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Cassidy began her federal career at APG in 1964 after graduating high school.

She worked at the USAOC&S, APG Garrison and Joint Military Packaging Training Center before being placed in the Civilian Personnel Office where she ends her career as a division chief in the CPAC.

Her husband retired from a federal career with the Social Security Administration in 1992.

Cassidy's plans for retirement include continuing bicycle and fitness programs, attempting gourmet recipes and embarking on a trip around the country.

Johnny L. Woods

Woods was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award for his 28 years of service not counting 23 with the Army Reserve. He also received the DA Certificates of retirement and appreciation and his wife Charlene received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Woods served in the Army from 1963 to 1968. He joined the Army Reserve, retiring in 1996 with the rank of master sergeant.

He began his federal career in 1983 as a training instructor with the USAOC&S and culminates his career as the senior training specialist for the Tactical Support Equipment Department. His retirement plans include traveling, fishing and recreational camping.

Peggy O. Morrison

For her 40 years of service, Morrison was awarded the CA certificates of retirement and appreciation and her husband, Donald received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Morrison began her career as a clerk stenographer at Edgewood Arsenal in 1963.

She completed numerous positions, eventually transferring to DTC and culminating her career as a management analyst, local intern in the Management and Manpower Division.

Her retirement plans include enjoying her hobbies of gardening, bird feeding, arranging social events and watching sports.

Volunteers recognized as Tax Center closes

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Tax Center closed its doors April 15, but not without recognizing the service members and civilians who aided hundreds of customers during the 2006 tax season.

Col. Brian Brady, Staff Judge Advocate, led an award ceremony for the center's personnel in front of building 310 April 19. Brady said the volunteers "have rendered a valuable service to the Soldiers and civilians of Aberdeen Proving Ground."

"Thank you for coming out and making this happen," he told the awardees. "Without your support they would not get the tax service they deserve."

The Tax Center volunteers prepared nearly 2,000 tax returns, saving almost \$200,000 in tax preparation fees, and processed nearly \$1.5 million in tax refunds.

"These figures represent the highest level of service provided to the APG community," said Eric Feustel, supervisory attorney, Client Services Division. "This tremendous outcome is due to the contributions of the Tax Center staff and the state and federal representatives who assisted them."

The Army Achievement Medal awardees included Sgts. 1st Class Jeffrey Barnes, Ethel Burnett, and Johnathan Strommen; Staff Sgts. Robert Delaney and Sirena Yazzie; Sgts. Scott Bechtel, Richard Bell, Tendra Robert and Rikki Sanchez and Spc. Jazmine Ross.

U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgts. Rodney Roybal and Nilavanh Sosayachanh received a Meritorious Mast which is similar to the Army's Certificate of Achievement.

ACS volunteer Eugenia Whittenburg received a Certificate of Appreciation and Sandra Williams, installation tax coordinator, received a performance award.

In addition, Alinda Doughty of the Internal Revenue Service and Carol Parker of the Maryland Comptroller's Office received Garrison Commander coins of excellence.

Burnett was the noncommissioned officer in charge of the center. She said that the staff was successful because everyone counted on each other.

"We helped each other while helping customers," she said. "Things went very well overall. We were able to save customers a lot of money and that was their number one priority."



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



KUSAHC launches program providing additional health and wellness support to Soldiers

KUSAHC

As part of ongoing efforts to safeguard the health of Soldiers, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has implemented the Department of Defense Post Deployment Health Reassessment program.

The PDHRA is part of the force health protection program designed to extend the continuum of care for Soldiers' deployment-related health concerns. It provides education, screening, assessment and access to care for a wide variety of health and readjustment questions and concerns that Soldiers may have after returning from deployment.

"The purpose of the reassessment is simply to ask our Soldiers how they are doing after they have had some time to settle back into their lives" said KUSAHC

Commander Lt. Col. William Rice. "The program provides them with access to the help they may need to readjust to life after deployment."

The PDHRA Program will be implemented on all military installations and will include active duty Soldiers, armed services Reserve Soldier components, as well as separated and retired Soldiers.

The program is just one component of DoD's ongoing health and wellness outreach efforts included in its comprehensive deployment health program.

"Our number one priority is the health and wellbeing of our Soldiers," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs. "We are committed to the health of the men and women serving in the U.S. armed

forces. Our goal is to ensure they have access to the services they need to be healthy and ready for life during and after deployment."

"The PDHRA does not replace the pre-deployment and post deployment assessments, but instead adds an additional checkpoint along the continuum of care," Rice said. "By adding this later health check to our overall program we can provide added resources and support to our Soldiers and their families throughout their service."

The DoD Office of Force Health Protection and Readiness provides oversight for the PDHRA program, as well as all DOD deployment-related health initiatives. Force Health Protection and Readiness was created to provide guidance

and policies on proactive health services to better protect the health and fitness of all service members. Through the development of these guidelines and programs, Force Health Protection and Readiness seeks to proactively identify early warning signs of illness and injury. It will, also, provide the necessary treatment to safeguard the long-term health and wellness needs of all active, Reserve and separated Soldiers.

The Army continues to be committed to ensuring that all Soldiers returning from deployment are afforded every opportunity to address their healthcare needs and concerns. PDHRA will enable Soldiers to readjust after deployment and have access to healthcare services as assistance may be required.

DoD, Congress making progress on TRICARE changes

Story by
SGT. SARA WOOD
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department has been working hard with Congress for the past several months and has reached some conclusions about how the fee system for military health care should be changed, according to a top DoD official.

"It's universally agreed that there is a serious issue, a serious problem, with the growing health care costs within the Department of Defense, and the potential adverse impact that that might have to sustain our great health benefit," Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said in an interview.

"DoD has had a lot of good, transparent dialogue with members and committees of Congress, along with beneficiary organizations," Winkenwerder said. "There has been emerging agreement in some areas, specifically in the area of pharmacy costs. All parties agree that changes need to be made in the pharmacy co-payment system, and DoD has received some good feedback to modify its proposal," he said.

Congress is debating DoD's proposed TRICARE fee adjustments as part of the Fiscal Year 2007 National Defense Authorization Act.

A persistent rumor that the increase in TRICARE fees for military retirees will eat up 50 percent of their cost-of-living allowance is not true, Winkenwerder said. He asserted that the increases in TRICARE fees will be dramatically less than the increases in retiree pay.

All the senior DoD and military leadership support the TRICARE fee increase as a necessary means to sustain the military health care system, Winkenwerder said. The chairman and vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff, all the chiefs of staff, vice chiefs of staff, and surgeons general wrote a letter to Congress supporting DoD's efforts and asking Congress to work with the department, he said.

"Within the department, there's almost universal agreement about the problem and the proposal," he said. "But having said that, it's important that members of Congress and others get a comfort level or some level of agreement about what we're doing, and that we move forward together."

Changes to the TRICARE fee system are essential if the military is going to sustain its health benefit at the current level, Winkenwerder said. Unless financing continues to flow into the system now and in the future, it will be impossible to keep up the quality of care the military has grown accustomed to, he said.

"Something's gotta give; so, unless you can have that financing coming in, we're concerned that the system would really run into trouble," he said. "That's why taking action now or in the very near future is important, and waiting two years or beyond would not be a good idea, because it just makes the problem harder to solve."

Winkenwerder and other DoD officials have said that if the fee system is not changed, the health system will take up 12 percent of the DoD budget, at \$64 billion, by 2015.

The discussion so far about the TRICARE fee increases has been spirited and heartfelt, but always professional, Winkenwerder said. A lot of good ideas have been exchanged, he said, and he is confident about the future.

"We're optimistic about being able to make changes over the next months and into next year that would be the right thing to do and certainly very important to do," he said.



Dealing with affects of asthma, outdoor air pollution

Center for Disease Control

Air pollution can make asthma symptoms worse and trigger attacks. If a child has asthma, symptoms get worse when the air is polluted. Air pollution can make it harder to breathe. It can also cause other symptoms, like coughing, wheezing, chest discomfort and a burning feeling in the lungs.

Two key air pollutants can affect asthma. One is ozone (found in smog). The other is particle pollution (found in haze, smoke and dust). When ozone and particle pollution are in the air, adults and children with asthma are more likely to have symptoms.

Steps are necessary to protect the body's health from pollution. Get to know sensitivity experienced when air is polluted. Notice asthma symptoms when physically active. Do they happen more often when the air is more polluted? If so, the body may be sensitive to air pollution. Also, notice any asthma symptoms that begin up to a day after outdoor activity.

Indoor air pollution can trigger symptoms, like mold and dust mites.

It is important to know when and where air pollution may be worse. Ozone is often worse on hot summer days, especially in the afternoons and early evenings. Particle pollution can be bad any time of the year, even in winter. It can be especially bad when the weather is calm, allowing air pollution to build up. Particle levels can also be high near busy roads, during rush hour, and around facto-

ries. They will also be high when there is smoke in the air from wood stoves, fireplaces or burning vegetation.

Plan activities when and where pollution levels are lower is preferable. Regular exercise is important for staying healthy, especially for people with asthma. By adjusting when and where exercising will result in a healthier lifestyle and help reduce asthma symptoms when the air is polluted. In the summer, plan most vigorous activities in the morning. Try to exercise away from busy roads or industrial areas. On hot, smoggy days when ozone levels are high, think about exercising indoors.

When the air is polluted, try to take it easier when active outdoors. This will reduce how much pollution is breathed. Change activities so that they are less intense. For example, go for a walk instead of a jog.

Quick-relief medicine should be on hand when active outdoors. Be prepared for symptoms. This is especially important if starting a new activity that is more intense.

If asthma symptoms are present when the air is polluted, talk with a health care provider. Ask whether medication should be started prior to outdoor activities.

Get up-to-date information about local air quality. In many areas, air quality forecasts and reports are available on local TV or radio. Air quality reports are also available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/airnow.

Understanding asthma

KUSAHC

Asthma is a disease of the lungs affecting more than 15 million Americans, one-third of those children.

It affects the airways in the lungs making it hard to get oxygen to the blood. Without the steady supply of oxygen, the body's organs cannot function properly.

Symptoms include: shortness of breath; breathing gets harder and may hurt; it is harder to breathe out than in; tightness in the chest; wheezing and a persistent cough

Allergens or irritants trigger asthma

symptoms. Allergens can be found in house dust, animal dander, pollen and molds.

Irritants are from cigarette, pipe and cigar smoke; wood smoke; strong odors; weather changes; illness; emotions and exercise.

Learning to manage asthma takes a partnership with the patient's doctor to determine medicines needed and learning the allergens and triggers to reduce asthma attacks.

For more information, contact the American Lung Association at Web site www.aafa.org or call 1-800-7-asthma.

Preventing substance abuse on APG

Maintaining alcohol awareness

ASAP

Alcohol Awareness Month has ended, but not the education.

The Army Substance Abuse Program staff provided information on alcohol related issues and materials were made available across Aberdeen Proving Ground to increase alcohol use awareness throughout the month of April.

"The APG Alcohol Awareness Month Campaign reached hundreds of community members," said Cindy Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator.

"If you didn't see the APG News each week in April, the ASAP office published articles providing information about teen drinking, alcohol and medicines interactions, aging and alcohol, over the counter medicine misuse and alcohol facts," Scott said.

ASAP sponsored APG's third National Alcohol Screening Day April 6 at the Aberdeen PX and Edgewood Mini Mall. More than 200 individuals stopped for information and 134 participated in the survey, according to Scott.

"The majority of the respondent's scored under 8 points which put them in the low risk category," Scott said. "However, referrals were made for a number of young males with high scores due to their binge drinking."

Other community events ASAP participated in included the

"Spring Fling" held April 8 at Capa Field.

"Even though it was pouring, we still had more than 130 participants and 80 volunteers and staff," Scott said. "We had to postpone the Drug Free kite making and flying event until the Bike Rodeo in June."

The Bike Rodeo, which will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 17 near the Army Community Service and Child Development Services buildings, is the next community awareness event. ASAP will sponsor the drug free kite making and flying event, and offer a bike obstacle course using the Drug Driving Goggles. Displays and awareness materials will also be available.

ASAP is constantly looking for creative ways and opportunities to educate members of the community about substance abuse issues.

"Children and adults continue to be amazed at how similar many candies and medicines look alike in the "Medicine Cabinet" display," Scott said of her display.

In addition to the displays and information available at the Spring Fling ASAP booth, ASAP also offered "Drunk Ring Toss" as an awareness experience using the Drug Driving Goggles.

"The community never tires of activities with the goggles. We have offered drunk bowling,

remote car driving, bean bag games, and walking the line experiences and there is always a line waiting for a turn."

Throughout the year APG News will publish educational information about upcoming awareness campaigns using the newly designed banner for the ASAP office signifying "Preventing substance abuse on APG."

"Substance Abuse awareness and prevention programs must continue to educate the community at every opportunity available," Scott continued. "ASAP will continue providing APG with up to date Substance Abuse information and participate in opportunities to educate the community regarding substance abuse such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Summer Alcohol issues, National Red Ribbon, Prescription Abuse and Misuse, Over-the-counter(OTC) medications, Drug Free Youth Campaign and Drunk and Drugged Driving Campaign.

For more information contact Scott at 410-278-3784, e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@usag.apg.army.mil; stop by the ASAP office in building 2477 and speak with the ASAP staff; visit the new ASAP Web site, www.apg-intra.apg.army.mil/apg/asap/ or click on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the APG Web Page, www.apg.army.mil.

KUSAHC Shots

KUSAHC Third Party Billing, Collection Program

A third party Other Health Insurance Verification Card is always required (except active duty personnel) prior to picking up any pharmaceuticals.

If the card has expired or one is needed, visit the Patient Administration Office at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic to renew or update supplemental healthcare insurance information in patient's medical record. The card must be verified and updated annually. Timely renewal of the card will prevent delays in receiving services at KUSAHC.

All non-active duty beneficiaries are requested to review their third party billing card to ensure that it has not met the expiration date.

Magnets available

Important KUSAHC reference numbers are printed on magnets, available at KUSAHC.

"Emergencies Call 911 - No ER at Kirk

Appointment Call Center - 410-278-5475 (KIRK)

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URGENT CARE Referral after Hours,

Weekends and holidays - 410-278-1725

URGENT CARE While Traveling - 1-877-874-2273

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Spouse

From front page

"I think it's awesome," added retired Staff Sgt. Robert Williams, an instructor with the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

"I wish my wife could be here because she'd love it," he said, adding that his spouse, April Williams, works in the Post Recreation Center snack bar.

"She loves working with the troops," he said. "Even after all these years around the Army, we both do."

Military Spouse Day 2006

According to a letter issued by Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army, Gen. Peter J. Schoemaker, Army Chief of Staff, and Army Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth O. Preston:

"President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 23 as the first military spouse day to recognize the important role military spouses play in the readiness and well-being of our nation's armed forces.

"For 231 years, American Soldiers have

answered this nation's call to duty," the letter goes on to say.

"Today, our Soldiers continue to answer this call with their boots on the ground. What is different today is that our all-volunteer force is being tested for the first time in modern history in a long war. Our Army spouses, like our soldiers, have answered this call to duty and remain committed to our brave men and women as they face this dangerous and complex 21st Century security environment. Their dedication, devotion, and contributions make them integral to our Army of One.

"On Military Spouse Day, we pay special tribute to our Army spouses and honor their magnificent commitment to our Soldiers and the Army.

"Without their patriotism, sacrifices, and support, we could not sustain this high-quality Army, an Army that is the best it has ever been.

Although we enlist Soldiers, we retain families, and the Army spouse's support is a critical factor in a Soldier's decision to reenlist. We recognize that the Army spouse's answer to his or her own call to duty has been instrumental in sustaining all components of our Army, National Guard, and Reserves."



Channel 21 features Pentagon Channel programming

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

Monday

- ATS Reloaded, 5:30 a.m.
- American Veteran, 9:30 a.m.
- Army Newswatch, 11 a.m.
- Inside Afghanistan/FJ Iraq, 1 p.m.
- Around the Services, 5:30 p.m.
- Focus on the Force, 10 p.m.

Tuesday

- Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- RECON, 11 a.m.
- Focus on the Force, 1 p.m.
- Army Newswatch, 3 p.m.
- Freedom Journal Iraq/Inside Afghanistan, 4 p.m.
- Army Newswatch, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

- Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Army Newswatch, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
- American Veteran, 1 p.m.
- Inside Afghanistan/Freedom Journal Iraq, 2 p.m.
- RECON, 3:30 p.m.
- Focus on the Force, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

- Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Army Newswatch, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
- Freedom Journal Iraq/Inside Afghanistan, Noon
- Focus on the Force, 1 p.m.
- RECON, 3:30 p.m.
- American Veteran, 5 p.m.

Friday

- Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Army Newswatch, 10:30 a.m.
- RECON, Noon
- American Veteran, 2:30 p.m.
- Freedom Journal Iraq/Inside Afghanistan, 4 p.m.
- Focus on the Force, 6:30 p.m.
- ATS Reloaded, 7 p.m.

Saturday

- Around the Services, 5:30 a.m.
- Inside Afghanistan/VA News, 7:30 a.m.
- American Veteran, 1:30 p.m.
- Army Healthwatch, 2 p.m.
- ATS Reloaded, 5:30 p.m.
- Battleground, 7 p.m.
- RECON, 8 p.m.

Sunday

- ATS Reloaded, 5:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
- Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- Today's Military, 1 p.m.
- Around the Service, 7:30 p.m.
- Army Newswatch - Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army.
- Around the Services - From the Pentagon Channel NewsCenter, daily half-hour program featuring military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world.

RECON - A monthly information television program providing an in-depth look at a variety of topics, highlighting the accomplishments of U.S. military men and women.

Your Corps - Monthly view of the men and women of the Marine Corps.

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

Navy Marine Corp News - A weekly look at the men and women of today's sea service.

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

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

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

Focus on the Force - A weekly program highlighting missions, operations and people of the U.S. military.

Inside Afghanistan - Presents the latest from Operation Enduring Freedom, showing the activities of American troops in country.

ATS Reloaded - ATS-Reloaded revisits the best of the week and keeps viewers updated on information that's important.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Military family members model some of the latest styles during the Spring into Summer Fashion Show, a part of the Military Spouse Appreciation Day festivities at the Main PX May 10. Elizabeth Parker, center, looks comfy for the beach or boardwalk strolling in a lightweight sleeveless cotton top, denim shorts and sporty white denim purse. Clockwise from right, Pat Mena, models casual wear in a burgundy and paisley tunic, cropped khaki pants, a leather purse and comfortable sandals; little Justin Williams-Verasamey is ready for action in his white Spiderman T-shirt and bright yellow and black shorts; Dirk Pratt looks dapper in a navy blazer, yellow golf shirt and khaki trousers; and Alexis McFarlane is pretty in a pink and white short set with matching flip-flops.

Aware

From front page

giver, which is usually the mother.

Toddlers

Toddlers are on a continuous quest toward independence. During this stage, curiosity is second nature to them and they are always looking for new discoveries.

In their quest for self-reliance, they tend to want to do things for themselves. They develop a sense of ownership, often claiming all toys as their own, for example, they become wary of the dark and of strangers, they struggle with a sense of insecurity, and they begin to pet animals gently as they develop the art of self-control.

"Children in this age group are rambunctious, active and bold," said Rivera. "Behavior can be troublesome, but manageable, through the consistent application of various behavior-management techniques."

Preschoolers

Preschoolers are artists in search of large canvasses (possibly a living room wall) on which to express their creativity.

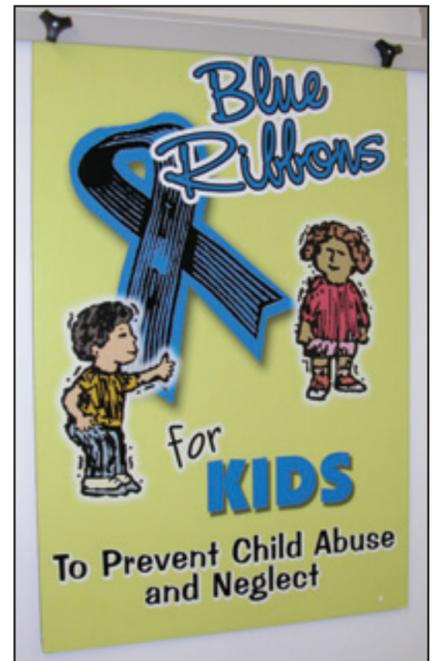
They are inventors and manufacturers, often following mom and dad around with "why" questions and imitating grown-up behavior.

"Preschoolers apply their vivid imaginations to all situations, and they use all sorts of words in an ever-expanding vocabulary, to tell funny and complicated stories," Rivera said.

Socialization is important in the lives of

preschoolers as they navigate and make their way farther out into the world. Children in this stage of development begin to interact more with their peers, establish friendships, and even create imaginary friends.

For more information on the ages and stages of child development and for additional parenting tips, contact Rivera, 410-278-7478.



Holocaust

From page 8

"My brother was on one of the last transports to come to England," she said.

Mail transports stopped as well, she added and it was months before the Red Cross set up a plan enabling them to send a 25-word message per month to their parents. In turn, her parents were able to respond with a 25-word message the following month.

"What would you say to your parents and what would they say to you if you could only use 25 words every other month?" she asked.

"I was very grateful to the Red Cross and I still have every message," she added.

"Needless to say, I never saw them again and neither did my brother."

Mogilensky assumed that her parents had perished in a concentration camp but learned years later that although they had been put on a train bound for a concentration camp with hundreds of other Jews they never reached it. Upon their arrival it was learned that the camp had been closed so SS troops removed all the passengers from the train and "shot them on the spot," she said.

In closing, Mogilensky remarked that whenever she shares her story people ask her what happened to the twins.

She said that the twins tracked her down years later and she returned to London where they enjoyed a "wonderful reunion."

"Please understand that they are okay," she said. "They have families and grand-children of their own."

"Thank you very much," she added, "for listening to me today and for giving me the opportunity to live my life again."

The audience seemed moved by Mogilensky's story and many remarked that she made a lasting impression.

"I learned so many things," said Mitchell Weaver, 17, a ChalleNGe cadet from

Hagerstown. "It's good for people to hear the experiences she shared," he said.

"It was an amazing and inspiring story," added 16-year old Harford Tech student Sara Hoch.

Her classmate, Rachel Lamneree, 16, agreed.

"I liked it a lot," Lamneree said. "My grandparents went through the Holocaust but they never talk about it. Hearing this opened my eyes. I thought I was gonna cry."

Pam Frye, ARL, thanked the Days of Remembrance committee members who included Sheryl Coleman and Ruth Ellen Forrest-Rogers.

"It was especially important to us to include young people in the audience," Frye said, "and they all raved about it. We were very pleased to present such a meaningful program."

Emmy Mogilensky

Mogilensky went on to serve in the British Army as a cook and eventually met her future husband, a U.S. Army Soldier stationed in England. At the war's end, she earned a Teachers Certificate from Borthwick College of the University of London and came to the United States in 1950, married and settled in Albany, N.Y. She continued her education at Empire College of the State University of New York and worked for the SUNY Central Administration for almost 20 years as a computer programmer, systems analyst and associate of Institutional Research.

She retired from SUNY in 1987 and moved to Baltimore. She became the program director of the Jewish Historical Society and Museum of Maryland. In 1994, Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke appointed her to the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities and in 1998 she retired from the Historical Society.

Today, Mogilensky has three children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She spends much of her time speaking and writing as a volunteer for the American Red Cross Holocaust and War Victims Search Center.

Her brother and his family live in New York.

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.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

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paroxysmal positional	Wayne Kaiser	Christine Wheaton
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