

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Feb. 21 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Holiday gate hours Feb. 19

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground in observance of the Presidents' Day federal holiday.

The Wise Road Gate in APG South will close 8 p.m., Feb. 16. The Harford Gate (Route 22) in APG North will close 10 p.m., Feb. 16.

The Harford Gate and Wise Road Gate will reopen at 4 a.m., Feb. 20. The Maryland Gate, APG North, and the Route 24 Gate, APG South, will be open throughout the holiday weekend.

Veterinary Clinic closing

The APG Veterinary Treatment Facility will be closed Feb. 19 for Presidents Day and Feb. 28 for end of month inventory.

Black History Month specialty meal Feb. 20

The Black History Month Specialty Meal will be held Feb. 20 in the APG North dining facilities, buildings 4503, 4219 and APG South, building E-4225, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Military personnel, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.65 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$3.15 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

SAME Chesapeake holds meeting

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post Monthly Meeting will be held 11:30 a.m., Feb. 22, at Top of the Bay. Guest speaker Sue Nevins, deputy chief of staff for Operations and Plans/G3 present will present a briefing titled, "Fort Monmouth Update on BRAC."

Space is limited and reservations are required. RSVP by Feb. 20 to Tony Price, 301-732-1154, or e-mail tonp@lindbergh-assoc.com or Sue Ahern at SAhern@mbpce.com. See SHORTS, page 3

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Budget request highlights Army equipment, training, quality of life

Army News Service

A three-percent pay raise for service members, an increase in ground forces and continued funding of the War on Terror are on the table now that President Bush delivered his fiscal year 2008, or FY 08, defense budget request and 2007 emergency supplemental request to Congress Feb. 5.

The total Department of Defense 2008 budget request is pegged at \$481.4 billion, an 11.3-percent increase over FY 07. The request will improve readiness through additional training and maintenance and by resetting forces following overseas deployments, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said Feb. 5 at a Pentagon news conference.

"We will transform our military to meet the new threats of the 21st century and provide the brave men and women on the front lines with resources they need to be successful in this decisive ideological struggle," President Bush said in his letter delivering the budget to Congress.

The President's emergency supplemental request for FY 07 is set at \$93.4 billion, with \$39.3 billion going to warfighting, supplies, support and maintenance. It also provides \$10.4 billion to defeat improvised explosive devices.

The requests must be passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate, both of which may make changes in the requests.

Pentagon Comptroller Tina W. Jonas told reporters that DoD has delivered more than 38,000 pages of explanation to members of Congress and their staffs to justify the issues in the defense budget request.

The 2008 "base budget" invests in four primary areas, Jonas said: readiness and support at \$146.5 billion,



Photo by SGT. 1ST CLASS ROBERT C. BROGAN
A Soldier watches for enemy action as fellow Soldiers board a U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter following a cordon and search operation in Tall Aswad, Iraq, Jan. 12. The Soldiers are from Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment. Part of President Bush's 2008 budget request calls for the purchase of 42 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

strategic modernization at \$176.8 billion, military pay and health care at \$137 billion and family housing and facilities at \$21.1 billion.

Jonas broke the military pay and benefits portion of the budget down further. The department's request provides a 3 percent pay raise for 2.1 million active-duty and reserve-component personnel. It provides \$15 billion for the basic allowance for housing and

\$4.3 billion for the basic allowance for subsistence. It also provides \$38.7 billion for military health care.

Growing the Army

Under the proposal, the active duty Army will grow to 547,400 Soldiers by the end of FY 12. It now has 484,400 Soldiers. The increase will allow the Army to field 48 brigades - up from 42 - and give Soldiers two years at their home stations for every year deployed.

If the budget is enacted as submitted, the Army will also receive \$130.1 billion in FY 08, for an increase of more than 20 percent.

The Army's Future Combat System will receive \$3.7 billion in research and development funds. Unmanned aerial and ground vehicles, non-line-of-sight launch systems, and command and control systems are highlighted in the program.

See BUDGET, page 2

SAFETY Insuring proper child safety seat installation

Harford County Government

While many parents feel their child is safe if they are restrained in a child safety seat while in the car, 80 percent of child safety seats are not installed or used properly.

National Child Passenger Safety Week is this week and Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Harford County Health Department would like to remind parents about the correct use of child safety seats and to encourage parents to make sure their child's safety seat is installed correctly.

The national Click-it or Ticket campaign will kick off May 21 and the APG Community Policing Office has joined with the Child Development Center to check seat installation for anyone who would like to ensure theirs are installed correctly.

Community Policing Officer Mike Farlow is available for child safety seat inspections at building 2200 by appointment by calling 410-273-6412.

"The inspection I do only takes a few minutes, but it's worth miles of reassurance to the parents that take the time," Farlow said. "Our security officers at the post entrances also make it a habit to glance into entering vehicles to ensure that all occupants are properly restrained, especially the children."

The Harford County Health Department also offers free child safety seat inspections for infant, toddler and booster seats on the first Wednesday and third Tuesday of the month.

"All brands of child safety seats have the same safety standards," said Kristen Tadkowski, a certified passenger safety technician and injury prevention coordinator with the Health Department. "It is important for parents to carefully read the instruction manuals before trying to install their child's seat. If a parent is in doubt, I can certainly check their child's seat and if it is installed incorrectly, I'll properly re-install the seat. I do a lot of inspections for them and even grandparents. I



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security police officer Dave Kauffman conducts a child safety seat inspection in an Aberdeen Proving Ground motorist's car.

encourage expected parents to call me before the ninth month of pregnancy."

The four levels for car seats

1. Infants (from birth to age 1 and at least 20 pounds)

- Infants can be placed in an infant seat or a convertible seat.

- Infants should be placed rear-facing in a back seat every time they ride in a car until they reach age 1 and 20 pounds.

- Put harnesses through the slots so they are even with or below the infant's shoulders. Be sure the harness is tight.

- Adjust the chest clip to the armpit level.

- Seat should not be reclined any more than 45 degrees. Check car seat instructions.

2. Toddlers (older than age 1 and more than 20 pounds)

- Toddlers should be placed in a forward-facing car seat in a back seat every time they ride in a car.

- Use the correct car seat with a harness for the toddler's weight and height.

- Put harnesses through the slots so they are even with or above the child's shoulders. Some seats require use of top slots when the seat is forward facing. Check instructions. Be sure harness is tight.

- Use a top tether if the vehicle and car seat are so equipped.

- Adjust clip to armpit level.

- A child is too big for the seat when the shoulders are above the top slots, the tops of the ears are above the back of the seat, or the weight limit is exceeded. Move child to a taller car seat or booster seat.

3. Boosters (4 years and at least 40 pounds)

- Use a booster seat correctly in a back seat every time the child rides in a car.

See SAFETY, page 11

DoD, VA announce plans for joint in-patient electronic record system

Defense Technology Information Center

The departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs announced plans for the joint acquisition and use of a new common inpatient electronic health record system. The two departments now have separate systems that require upgrade.

"I am very excited by the prospect of adopting a common, mutually beneficial solution to our in-patient health documentation needs," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs. "This collaboration is a further extension of the highly successful partnership we have established with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is another example of the commitment our departments have made to work hand in hand to provide continuity of care for our beneficiaries."

Both VA and DoD have been independently working on the enhancement and improvement of their respective inpatient electronic health record tools.

AHLTA, DoD's electronic health record is implemented worldwide and currently supports the documentation and management of outpatient healthcare for nearly 9 million beneficiaries. Management of inpatient care is a future capability planned for AHLTA.

The VA is planning to modernize Vista, its electronic health record, including its inpatient module.

Common need and the potential benefits led the two departments to discuss the feasibility of jointly implementing a common inpatient electronic health record.

Despite obvious differences in mission, such as DoD's requirements to support its combat theaters, pediatric and obstetrical patients and VA's requirements to support domiciliary care, both agencies believe that the similarities in clinical and business processes may make the adoption of a common inpatient EHR a viable option.

Jim Nicholson, secretary of VA who announced plans for the joint venture at a meeting of the American Health Information Community, called the agreement "groundbreaking" and said "it has the potential to further transform the way we care for our nation's veterans and active duty service members."

DoD and VA have made tremendous progress in their ability to share electronic health information as they move toward achieving interoperable electronic health records. Millions of records and data messages are already regularly transferred electronically between the two organizations. The success of their efforts has placed them at the forefront of the national effort to share health information.

Adopting a joint electronic solution for the documentation of in-patient health information will facilitate the seamless transition of active duty service members to veteran status. It will also make the inpatient healthcare data on shared beneficiaries immediately accessible to both DoD and VA healthcare providers. An added benefit of adopting a common tool is the potential for both agencies to realize significant cost savings through a joint development or acquisition effort.

Both agencies have agreed to conduct a study to examine their respective clinical processes and requirements and assess the benefits and the impacts on each department's timelines and costs prior to a final decision on a joint acquisition strategy for an inpatient EHR.



APG Forum

Commentary--Taking your lumps

Story by
TAMMY FLANAGAN
National Institute of Transition Planning

Are you planning to retire in 2007? If so, it's likely that you've been thinking about how to make the most of the lump-sum payment you'll have coming for unused annual leave. Many employees save up every hour they can before retiring at the end of the year.

But there are some misconceptions about how the lump-sum payment process works, so before you start counting on a big fat check, let's look at some facts you may not know.

The check comes from your agency, not the Office of Personnel Management. Payments for unused annual leave are issued by the payroll office of the agency you retire from, not by the OPM. Therefore, it comes soon after you retire (or resign, for that matter).

The check may reflect a higher salary than your final pay rate. An agency calculates a lump-sum payment by multiplying the number of hours of accumulated and accrued annual leave by the employee's applicable hourly rate of pay, plus other types of pay the employee would have received while on annual leave (such as across-the-board annual pay increases). The calculation excludes retention allowances paid for the sole purpose of retaining an employee in federal service. If an employee retires from a foreign post and receives a foreign post allowance, they should have this extra pay included in the lump-sum payment if they retire directly from their overseas assignment.

The check is (almost) limitless. There is no limit to the number of hours of leave an employee can be paid for. Back in the days when members of the Senior Executive Service were allowed to carry over unlimited amounts of leave from year to year, some retirees would receive payment for more than a year's worth of unused vacation time. Now, there are restrictions on the amount of leave employees can carry over. Most federal employees can only carry over 240 hours. Since 1994, SES members are typically restricted to 720 hours. During the last year of employment it is possible for an employee to accumulate an additional 208 hours of leave (Eight hours of leave per pay period for 26 periods). This means that a final annual leave balance could be as much as 448 hours, or for a high-level executive, 928 hours.

You may get one lump or two. Sometimes the lump-sum payment is made before the latest federal pay increase has been incorporated into an agency's payroll system. In these situations, employees will receive their initial lump-sum payment shortly after retirement and then a supplemental check reflecting the pay adjustment two to four weeks later. This situation typically occurs when an employee retires at the end of the leave year, right before the new pay increase takes effect. The 2007 pay increase will be included in lump-sum payments to those employees who retired at the end of 2006. Some

of those payments will require a supplemental payment to allow the payroll system time to catch up.

You have to earn the leave to be paid for it. That may sound obvious, but you'd be surprised at how many times I get this question. Some people think that you can retire at the beginning or middle of a year and be paid for all of the leave that you will accrue that year. Not true. If the balance in your leave account says "24 hours of annual leave," then you will be paid for 24 hours.

To earn leave you have to complete the leave period. If you are a full-time employee, you must complete the 80 hours of work for a pay period in order to accrue leave for that period. For example: To accrue leave for period 17 this year (which ends on Saturday, Sept. 1), you must finish the 80 hours of work for that period by close of business on Friday, Aug. 31 (assuming you work a Monday-to-Friday schedule). On the other hand, if you are planning to retire on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, you will forfeit the final leave accrual for leave period 26 unless you work a compressed schedule and complete your work week by Thursday afternoon. There is no such thing as a partial leave accrual or pro-rated accrual of leave in these situations.

You can get paid for other kinds of leave, too. If you have unused (and unexpired) compensatory leave, credit hours and restored annual leave, you will be paid for that, too. Comp time and credit hours are not projected to the salary of the future, but instead are paid at the salary you had when you earned the leave. You will not be paid for unused home leave. This type of leave is used only for people assigned to foreign posts outside of the United States and its territories.

Use your sick leave if you can. If you are sick or qualify to use your sick leave in a particular situation, then use it. This is true even if it means that by using such leave you will lose a month of service in the computation of your retirement. (Civil Service Retirement System and CSRS Offset employees receive credit for unused sick leave in their retirement benefits).

Suppose, for example, that John needs to take 80 hours of leave for a medical condition before he retires later this year. And suppose he has 80 hours of annual leave that he could take instead. If he uses the sick leave, he will lose a month of service in the computation of his CSRS retirement benefit. What should he do? Assuming his annual salary is \$65,000 (an hourly rate of \$31.14), using 80 hours of annual leave would cost him about \$2,500 in a lump-sum payment when he retires. On the other hand, a month of service in the computation of his

retirement is worth only \$103 per year. If John uses the annual leave and forfeits the \$2,500 payment, he would have to be retired more than 24 years before he breaks even.

What's withheld is different from your regular paycheck. Federal, state and Social Security taxes are withheld from the annual leave lump-sum check.

Retirement contributions, insurance premiums and Thrift Savings Plan deductions are not withheld. Most payroll systems use a "flat" withholding for federal taxes since the lump-sum payment could be quite large. If the payroll office withheld taxes as if the lump sum was a normal biweekly check, it might send you to the highest tax bracket for that pay period.

For Social Security purposes, income counts when earned, not paid. If you are eligible for Social Security benefits but younger than full Social Security retirement age (65-67, depending on the year you were born), there is a limit to how much you can earn and still receive full Social Security benefits. If you are younger than full retirement age during all of 2006, Social Security will deduct \$1 from your benefits for each \$2 you earned above \$12,480. But that income counts when it is earned, not when it is paid. If you have income that you earned in one year (such as annual leave), but the payment was made in the following year, it should not be counted as earnings for the year you receive it.

But Social Security does count the lump sum as earned income. Social Security will include the lump sum as wages for computing your benefits.

Employees who are subject to Social Security withholding (those in the Federal Employees Retirement System and CSRS Offset) will receive credit from Social Security in their earnings history since the lump-sum annual leave payment is subject to the 6.2 percent Social Security withholding tax.

Some people are paid the wrong amount. Just check out this story at <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0406/041306pb.ht> about a class-action suit involving employees whose agencies failed to take into account annual pay raises in calculating their lump-sum payments. (For more information about the case, visit <http://www.mylumpsumpayment.com/questionsAnswers.aspx>.)

I hope that clears up most of the questions you might have had about the lump-sum annual leave payment. If you need more information, see the OPM fact sheet at <https://www.opm.gov/oca/leave/HTML/lumpsum.htm>.

(Editor's note: Tammy Flanagan is the senior benefits director for the National Institute of Transition Planning Inc., <http://www.nitpinc.com/>, which conducts federal retirement planning workshops and seminars. She has spent 25 years helping federal employees take charge of their retirement by understanding their benefits.)

Commentary--Who are the real cyber bad guys?

On Cyber Patrol

The cyber universe can be like the streets of Falujah. The threats are constant and all around you. Only continuous watchfulness and using all available defensive strategies and tactics provides any kind of protection. Attacks are not usually life threatening, a successful cyber incursion can destroy vital data and computer infrastructures and certainly put lives at risk.

It's easy to paint a frightening picture of the cyber universe. Potential cyber threats and active cyber attacks are part of daily life. From Oct. 1 to Dec. 9 of 2006 over 15,000 incidents were reported by the Army Computer Emergency Response Team. That's an average of more than 200 incidents in any given 24-hour period. Those figures do not even count many other minor attacks that harmlessly bounce off the outer defenses of our networks. Even in civilian life there are signs of the growing threat. Major insurance companies now offer identity theft insurance. Spam – some containing extremely malicious code – is on the rise. Study after study predicts the increasing chances of a devastating cyber attack against the U.S. military, our national infrastructure and key businesses.

Just knowing who is attacking you is a challenge. Where are all these threats coming from? The answer may surprise you. Obviously we are under attack from the usual suspects: terrorists, rouge nations and state-sanctioned enemies. Yet, an unauthorized intrusion, a virus/worm/Trojan horse or a simple system scan can come just as easily from a student at the local coffee shop.

Believe it or not, just a few years ago most cyber attacks originated from the United States according to industry reports. Many others originated from countries that would be considered allies or at least friendly to the U.S. Obviously the sheer number of computers and users in these countries has something to do with those statistics. The point is that the threats come from every corner of the world and the only thing that will ensure safety is constant vigilance and the use of every available protection practice and technology.

The Internet is an incredible source of information, education, communication and entertainment. Our military relies heavily on the most sophisticated technology in the world. Businesses, from the drugstore to the car manufacturer to the electrical power company are heavily reliant on many kinds of computer technology. The use of technology is growing in the average household. This is happening worldwide, even in developing countries. We're not going to stop using it, so we need to protect ourselves. Whether uniformed, civilian or contractor personnel, we all need to make information assurance and cyber security practices as much of our daily lives as locking a home's front and back doors. Technology benefits far outweigh the risks...if you're smart about it.

Families of fallen may be owed benefits

Families First Casualty Call Center

Family members of fallen Soldiers may be eligible for additional enhanced benefits from the U.S. Army.

The president signed the National Defense Authorization Act 2006 increasing the Death Gratuity to a total of \$100,000 for all deaths retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, through Jan. 5, 2006. This legislation also provides an additional enhanced death benefit in the amount of \$150,000 for any active duty deaths occurring between Oct. 7, 2001 and Aug. 31, 2005.

The Families First Casualty Call Center has identified 3,500 families who may be eligible for the Enhanced Death Benefits and is in the process of attempting to contact these family members to notify them of their potential eligibility.

Beneficiaries who believe they meet the eligibility criteria may also contact the FFCCC to verify eligibility, obtain the proper forms and receive

assistance with completing and submitting their claim to the Defense Finance Accounting Service.

As a result of this combined outreach effort, more than 90 percent of eligible beneficiaries have been paid.

The FFCCC is a one-stop resolution center and was established to assist surviving family members of deceased Soldiers. The mission of FFCCC is to provide long-term support and advocacy and offer comprehensive resolutions to the families of fallen Soldiers by partnering with private and public organizations in addition to various outreach groups.

Families of fallen Soldiers may contact the FFCCC for further information concerning eligibility criteria or questions regarding enhanced death benefits, support, and referral information 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling toll-free 866-272-5841 or by visiting FFCCC online at www.armyfamiliesfirst.army.mil.

Budget

From front page

The Army is asking for just more than \$24 billion in procurement dollars. About \$4 billion will go toward aircraft purchases, including 37 armed reconnaissance, 44 light utility helicopters, 42 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and 29 CH-47 Chinook helicopters. The remaining funds are earmarked for aircraft modifications to current aircraft inventory.

Another \$3 billion will go toward Army combat and support vehicles, with the largest slice going for 127 Stryker combat vehicles and 180 armored security vehicles. The Army will spend another \$1 billion on weapons and other combat vehicles, including \$97.6 million for nearly 70,000 M-4 carbine rifles and \$35.3 million for more than 8,300 M-249 squad automatic weapons.

More than \$4.6 billion is earmarked for tactical and support vehicles. Communications and electronics equipment

rings in at more than \$5.7 billion, and other support equipment tops out at roughly \$2.3 billion.

The budget request highlights the importance of space-based systems for today's military. The request calls for \$6 billion for command and control, navigation, strategic/tactical communications and weather satellites. This includes the next generation NAVSTAR Global Positioning System satellite constellation.

The request also asks for \$2 billion to train and equip Iraqi security forces and \$2.7 billion for Afghan security forces. The request provides \$1.7 billion for coalition support efforts and \$1 billion to replenish the Commander's Emergency Response Program, which allows commanders down to brigade level to fund projects in neighborhoods that benefit the community and put unemployed Iraqis and Afghans to work.

(Editor's note: This article is combined from Armed Forces Press Release stories by Jim Garamone and Fred W. Baker III.)

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, Building 2201, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit

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21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@apg.army.mil.

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

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POST SHORTS

Military scholarship applications due

Now is the time to fill out and submit an application for a \$1,500 Scholarship for Military Children. Information and applications for the 2007 program are available at commissaries worldwide as well as online at the program Web site, <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Administered by Fisher House Foundation and funded by manufacturers and suppliers of groceries and services in the commissary system, the program has awarded more than \$4.6 million in scholarships to nearly 3,000 students since the first awards in 2001.

This year's essay topic is "If you were granted the ability to change the outcome of any event in history, what would you change and why?"

Completed applications must be turned in at any commissary no later than close of business Feb. 21.

RAB announces meeting

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Feb. 22, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Graces Quarters and O-Field Study Areas.

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

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

OC&S presents 34th Annual Gospel Night

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools will celebrate the 34th Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night, 4 p.m., Feb. 25 at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Theater. Admission is free and open to the public.

The theme for this year's observance is "From Slavery to Freedom: The Story of Africans in the Americas."

GEMS accepting student applications

The Gains in Education through Mathematics and Science Summer 2007 program at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory is open to student applicants in grades 7 through 12. The GEMS goal is to reach a diverse group of students from middle and high schools in the Harford, Baltimore, and Cecil County communities.

The program is limited to 100 students, so register early.

For more information, visit the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Web site, <http://www.usaeop.com>, or contact Dr. Sandra Young, 410-306-0679 or Dr. Rose Pesce-Rodriguez, 410-306-0885.

Army Band to change command

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) will conduct a change of command ceremony 3 p.m., Feb. 27 at the band's Rehearsal Facility in building 2184.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Frederick Ellwein will assume command from Chief Warrant Officer 5 Robert L. Larsen.

The presiding officer will be Lt. Gen. William E. Mortensen, deputy commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Doors open 2:30 p.m. The ceremony is open to the public.

For more information, call 410-278-8769, DSN 298-8769.

Corrected hours for APG Army Education Center

The new hours of operation for the APG Army Education Center are Monday and Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The center is closed on RDO Fridays (every other Friday). It is also closed for lunch, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

For more information, call Tressie Stout, education services specialist, building 4305, 410-306-2043.

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

Black History Month

BEP presents Lunch Time Movies

In commemoration of Black History Month, the APG Black Employment Program will present Lunch Time Movies 11:30 a.m., every Tuesday and Thursday at the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326 and the APG South Gunpowder Club.

APG North

- Feb. 15: "Proud"
- Feb. 20: "The Rosa Parks Story"
- Feb. 22: "Whispers of Angels: - A Story of the Underground Railroad"
- Feb. 27: "Glory Road"

For more information, call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988 or e-mail ronda.mckinney@apg.army.mil.

APG South

- Feb. 15: "Glory Road"
- Feb. 20: "The Tuskegee Airmen"
- Feb. 22: "Ali"
- Feb. 27: "Miss Evers' Boys"

For more information, call Sheryl Hale, 410-436-3502 or e-mail Sheryl.Hale3@us.army.mil.

Community Notes

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 17
"HOW TO PAY FOR
COLLEGE"**

Congressman Wayne T. Gilchrest of the Maryland First Congressional District will present two forums on "How

to Pay for College," 9:30 a.m. at Parkside High School, 1015 Beaglin Park Drive, Salisbury, Md., and 2 p.m. at Queen Anne's County High School auditorium, 125 Ruthsburg Road, Centreville, Md.

The events will feature officials from the federal and state government and Maryland College Savings Plans who will discuss programs for financial aid.

Representatives of the U.S. Naval Academy, West Point, Air Force Academy and Merchant Marine Academy will also discuss the benefits of free tuition in exchange for service.

Parents with children of any age are welcome to come and learn more about saving and paying for college tuition.

For more information or for directions, contact Gilchrest's office, 1-877-891-9719.

**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH CELEBRATION**

Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054

will hold its third annual Black History Month celebration at 3 p.m. The guest speaker is Dr. Joanne Martin, president and CEO of the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc. Other entertainment includes the Vernon Sewell Ensemble Choir from St. James A.M.E. Church, Havre de Grace, Praise Dancers, poetry reading and much more. Dinner will be available following the program. Admission is free.

For more information, call Linda Robinson, ladies auxiliary president, 443-857-8823 or 410-272-3444.

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 18
WOMEN'S DAY
PROGRAM**

The women of St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will host a program at 3:30 p.m. The Rev. Jeremiah G. Williams, Metropolitan United Methodist Church, Baltimore, will be the guest preacher. The program will benefit the church's 99th Annual Woman's Day program scheduled for March 25.

For more information, call 410-939-2267.

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 25
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit Boy Scout Troop 28 will be held at American Legion Post 194, 336 E. Main St., Rising Sun. Bingo starts at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for 20 games.

For more information call 410-658-3915, or e-mail basketbingo@zoominternet.net. (Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

MOVIES

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

ALPHA DOG
Friday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m.

**HAPPILY N'EVERAFTER
(FREE ADMISSION)**
Saturday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.

PRIMEVAL
Saturday, Feb. 17, 9 p.m.

Chapel News

Ash Wednesday service – Beginning of Lent

An Ash Wednesday – Liturgy of the Word – Service will be conducted at the Main Post Chapel 11:45 a.m. Feb. 21 and at the South Post Chapel 7p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Edgewood Area

Ash Wednesday Service – the beginning of Lent will be conducted 7 p.m., at South Post Chapel, Feb. 21. Everyone is welcome.

Celebration of Confirmation

A Celebration of Confirmation for Catholic 8th graders will be celebrated 6 p.m., March 2, with Bishop Frank Higgins from the Military Archdiocese in Washington D.C. officiating.



A display detailing the aspects of International Society of Logistics sits in the Top of the Bay lobby during the first anniversary luncheon of the Aberdeen chapter Jan. 31.

SOLE marks first anniversary

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground chapter of the International Society of Logistics, SOLE, marked the first anniversary of its charter with a luncheon at Top of the Bay Jan. 31.

The guest speaker was Louis A. Kratz, former Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense and current vice president and managing director, Focused Logistics, Lockheed Martin Corporation.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Paul M. Thurston, SOLE Aberdeen chapter chair, hosted the event. He welcomed special guests Sarah James, SOLE executive director; David Shaffer, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; and retired Navy Lt. Ed. T. Kreiner, president of the Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs and a Senior Logistician.

On behalf of Harford County Executive David Craig, Kreiner presented Thurston and the chapter with a Harford County proclamation declaring the week of Jan. 31 as the Society of Logistics week.

"This is for everyone involved in logistics in Harford County," Thurston said in accepting the proclamation.

During his remarks Kratz focused on the Department of Defense logistics transformation and the challenges of supporting the warfighter today and in the future.

"The bottom line is absolute demand and greater levels

of agility in supporting today's military," Kratz said. "We have to figure out how to achieve that agility for our war fighting customers demand."

He discussed the J-4 priorities which focus on "moving forward and bringing synchronization to the logistics mission," in line with the demands of the 21st century and where DoD wants to be in line with readiness objectives, supply chain structures, meeting materiel, maintenance and fuel demands and achieving global end-to-end distribution capabilities.

"We've got to be able to bear a costly enterprise," he said. Part of my job is delivering at a lower cost to the people that really matter. If we can deliver more, it's right for the Army, it's right for the nation and it's right for DoD."

He said that as a nation at war, significant resources are stretched but that the challenge can be met if industry joins forces with the government and that the challenges include financing current operation, logistics modernization and supplemental funding.

Kratz expressed confidence that both government and industry would meet the challenges successfully.

"I'm actually an optimist and I have great confidence in the American people," he said. "We have over two-hundred years of history of coming together as knowledgeable, dedicated patriots and we'll do it again."

"I know what we're capable of and we haven't seen our best yet."

Louis A. Kratz

Previously, Kratz served as the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics Plans and Programs), within the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. As such, he was responsible for guiding the Department of Defense's logistics transformation to meet the operational requirements of the 21st Century.

Kratz oversaw DoD's long range logistics planning to meet the requirements of the Quadrennial Defense Review and Joint Vision 2020. He led the core analytic team on supply chain logistics for the QDR and prepared DoD's inaugural Focused Logistics Roadmap.

Kratz led DoD's implementation of Total Life Cycle Systems Management and Performance-Based Logistics, including acquisition logistics policy development, career development and oversight of major weapon systems.

Kratz serves as the chair of SOLE's Logistics Education Board of Advisors; in 2005 he

See SOLE, page 11

Commissaries add registered dietitian to outreach program

Story by
BONNIE POWELL
DeCA

Customers have always been able to find healthy food at healthy savings in their commissary. They can also find healthy advice, now that the Defense

Commissary Agency has a registered dietitian on staff.

"We made a commitment to be the nutritional leader for the military," said Patrick Nixon, DeCA director and chief executive officer. "We're excited to have Maj. Karen Fauber as the

first DeCA dietitian, and we expect this to be a great opportunity for customers to obtain nutrition education through their commissary system."

Having a dietitian on staff is also a growing trend in the commercial grocery industry and more and more consumers indicate they look to grocery stores for nutrition education and guidance. After all, that's where they make most of their food purchase decisions.

DeCA and TRICARE have been partnering for two years on TRICARE's Healthy Choices for Life program, which focuses on the problems of alcohol abuse, tobacco use and obesity in military families.

"Since we are the grocery store of choice for millions of military families, we developed the 'It's Your Choice, Make it Healthy' program to tie into the weight management segment of Healthy Choices," Nixon said.

'It's Your Choice' does not aim to tell customers what is good or bad, but it does encourage them to think more about their choices.

"Weight management is a topic of primary importance for DoD [Department of Defense] patient education," said TRICARE Chief Medical Officer Dr. David Tornberg. "DeCA is making a significant contribution to our program by emphasizing healthier eating, and has taken the effort to

a new level by adding a registered dietitian to their team."

"Having a registered dietitian increases our ability to educate customers on how to make healthier meal choices – reading product labels at the commissary, enjoying more fresh fruit and vegetables and leaner meats, and preparing meals at home instead of hitting the fast food drive thru or spending hard-earned money on restaurants," Nixon added.

The DeCA dietitian is already on the job, having filmed a Pentagon Channel segment offering advice on how to shop for foods that will help consumers stick to their New Year's resolutions to lose weight.

"I really appreciate the leadership role commissaries are taking in advocating healthy food choices for military families," Fauber said, "and I am eager to be a part of DeCA's efforts in promoting 'It's Your Choice, Make It Healthy,' and providing nutrition education as part of the commissary benefit."

Fauber has 16 years of service with 10 years as an Army Reserve dietitian and six years active duty, including experience as a certified diabetes educator in Army medical facilities and public health clinics. She has also developed, coordinated and evaluated health and nutrition programs in Virginia and was the Virginia "5 A Day for Better Health" program coordinator.



Photo by CHERIE HUNTINGTON
Maj. Karen Fauber, the DeCA dietitian, is shown at the Andrews Air Force Base (Md.) Commissary during the filming of a segment for the Pentagon Channel. The segment, scheduled for release in the near future, will offer advice on how to shop for foods that will help consumers stick to their New Year's resolutions to lose weight.

Fauber has a bachelor's degree in dietetics from Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Ga., and a master's in education and human development from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. She completed her dietetic internship at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Some of the initiatives planned for the DeCA dietitian include an "Ask the Dietitian" feature on the DeCA Web site,

<http://www.commissaries.com>, and increased visibility for the recently revamped "5 A Day for Better Health" program, which focuses on fruits and vegetables.

Fauber will also work closely with DeCA home economist and Europe outreach specialist Kay Blakley, who is well-known for her "Kay's Kitchen" newspaper columns and recipes, and TV spots on American Forces Network in Europe.

AAFES NEWS

AAFES delivers pizza, movie, magazine to students who 'Make the Grade'

AAFES

Reading, writing and arithmetic are taking a back seat to electronics, clothes and toys at the PX/BX as students cash in on the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's (AAFES) "You Made the Grade" program.

Initiated in February 2000, AAFES' education rewards effort is designed to recognize above-average academic achievement. Qualifying students receive a coupon booklet that includes free admission to an AAFES Reel Time Theater, a complimentary slice of Anthony's pizza with drink and a free magazine, as well as other coupons.

"It is important to recognize our military families' superior students," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. "They have faced unique educational challenges that most civilian students will never have to contend with.

"To be able to maintain academic excellence despite adversities such as moving regularly or having a parent deployed shows the resilience and resolve of these students as well as the quality of their teachers," Eaton said.

Each "You Made the Grade" booklet

also contains an entry form for a quarterly savings bond drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds of \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000. To receive the booklet, students simply present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average to their local PX/BX.

Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card they receive, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar quarter.

For more information, military families can call the APG AAFES Store, 410-278-5784.

LAW

Taking advantage of tax credit, free tax help

IRS

Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral and IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson and the IRS' national partners launched Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day at a Treasury Department press conference Feb. 1. The

event kicks off a nationwide campaign to inform taxpayers about this important credit for working families and the availability of free tax help.

"The Earned Income Tax Credit helps Americans who work hard but need extra support to make ends meet – people who are often on the

first step of the economic ladder, gaining the experience and skills to land a better job and earn a higher income in the future," Paulson said. "Our goal is not just to help people get by. Our goal is to help people get ahead."

The Earned Income Tax Credit provides a refundable credit of up to \$4,536 for eligible families. EITC claimants are eligible for free tax preparation services provided at 12,000 volunteer sites nationwide or they can also link to Free File through www.irs.gov if they wish to prepare their own return.

In addition to providing help claiming the EITC, these free tax sites can help qualified taxpayers request their one-time

telephone excise tax credit.

"The IRS wants all eligible taxpayers to claim the EITC," Everson said. "Trained volunteers working at these free tax preparation sites can help ensure that taxpayers receive all the deductions and credits they are due. And, if you want to do your own taxes, there is always Free File which is available at IRS.gov."

Many organizations offering free tax help also are encouraging taxpayers to save a little money or open a bank account. The IRS is helping in this effort by creating a new split-refund program that allows all taxpayers to divide their refund among up to three financial accounts, such as checking, savings and retirement.

"Tax time is an ideal time to think about savings," Cabral said. "For many taxpayers, tax refunds are the largest checks they will receive throughout the year, and the new split-refund program gives individuals and families the opportunity to build a nest egg for the future."

During tax year 2005, more than 22 million returns received over \$41 billion in EITC. However, the IRS also estimates that as many as 25 percent of eligible taxpayers fail to claim this tax credit.

Eligible people who fail to claim EITC include Spanish speakers, individuals who are self-employed or have service jobs in private households, childless taxpayers, rural residents and recipients of other types of public assistance such as food stamps.

The credit was created in 1975 in part to offset the burden



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities

PIE changes name to Family Information Network

The Exceptional Family Member Program support group Family Information Network, or FIN, will replace the Parent Information Exchange, or PIE. The FIN will meet 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., every second Wednesday

during winter months through April in building 2754 first floor conference room.

For more information, call 410-278-2420.

Youth baseball and teeball

Register early for youth baseball and Teeball. Teams and space is limited. For base-

ball, the cost is \$35 for youths ages 5 to 15 (age as of April 30, 2007) and \$35 for teeball, ages 5 to 6. Practice begins the week of April 2. Games are held during the week. Parents interested in coaching please call Youth Sports at 410-306-2297.

Girl's softball

Register for softball for girls ages 7 to 18 (age as of Jan. 1, 2007). The cost is \$45 per child. Practice begins the third week of March and games start in mid-April. Teams play in the Eastern Harford County league. For more information call 410-306-2297.

Fast Pitch Clinic for Girls Softball

A Pitching Clinic for girls ages 8 through 14 will be held 6 to 8 p.m., March 6 and 13, at Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. The clinic will emphasize the proper fast pitch mechanics, the correct way to warm up, how to improve arm speed and control and tips for pitchers to practice on their own.

Registration fee costs \$5. Register through Feb. 28 during the spring sports registration period at Central Registration, building 2752 Rodman Road.

For appointments after 10:30 a.m., call 410-278-7571. Walk-in registration will be held 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Learn to salsa

Salsa dancing lessons will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., from through Feb. 21, Mondays at the Recreation Center's ballroom,

building 3326. Salsa is the blend of essentially Cuban and Puerto Rican dance music. Learn the fast-paced Latin dances which are popular today. These high-energy movements are perfect for most of the clubs in the surrounding area.

Basic plumbing class

This course will teach participants how to make plumbing repairs at their home or business, including how to repair pipes and stop leaks, what steps to take in emergency situations and when to look for warning signs and why.

Classes are for adults ages 18 and older and will be held 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays, through Feb. 28, in the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information and registration for all SKIES Unlimited programs, call Central Registration. An additional \$18 Central Registration Fee will apply if not already enrolled in the Child and Youth Services Program.

For more information or to make an appointment to register, call 410-278-7479/7571.

Child and Youth Services

There are immediate full-day openings for 3- and 4-year-olds at the APG North Child Development Center. All active duty military and activated reservists, DoD civilians and contractors assigned to APG are eligible for services. The center is open daily, 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call Central Registration at 410-278-7571.

MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel is located in building 3326. They may be contacted at 410-278-4011/4907, by e-mail at mwr_registration@apg.army.mil or on the Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Tickets available to see the Harlem Globetrotters

Tickets to the 2007 Harlem Globetrotters Blue Tour are on sale at MWR.

March 4: 1 and 6 p.m. at the Towson Center, Towson. Tickets for the 1 p.m. show cost \$17.50 and \$14.25 for the 6 p.m. show.

March 6: 7 p.m. at the Bob Carpenter Center, Newark, Del. Tickets cost \$16.50.

March 11: 1 and 6 p.m. at the Wachovia Center, Philadelphia. Tickets for both shows cost \$16.50.

March 17: 1 p.m. at the Verizon Center, Washington, D.C. Tickets cost \$13.25.

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus

Still 'The Greatest Show on Earth' tickets are available for shows March 7 through 18 at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore. Tickets cost \$19.50 for ages 2 and older (regular price is \$30 through Ticketmaster).

The last day to purchase tickets is March 1. Pre-order before they go on sale to the public on Feb. 4.

Contact MWR Leisure Travel Services Office, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Shopping trip to New York City

Go shopping with MWR in New York City, including a stop at Jamaica Avenue, March 24. Start at the famous Aqueduct Flea Market and then off to Jamaica Avenue, famous for bargains on many fine clothes. Finish the day shopping in Midtown Manhattan. Cost of the trip is \$60 per person.

The bus will leave 7:50 a.m. and return 9:30 p.m.

Tickets available for Toby's Dinner Theatre

Toby's Dinner Theatre has

two locations: Best Western Hotel and Conference Center located on 5625 O'Donnell Street, Baltimore, and 5900 Symphony Woods Road, Columbia, Md. (South Entrance Road between Route 29 and Little Patuxent Parkway).

Baltimore

You can leave your hat on for "The Full Monty" through March 18. Sunday through Thursday, tickets cost \$43 per person for adults and \$27.50 for children; Fridays, tickets cost \$44.75 per person for adults and \$29.50 for children; and Saturdays, tickets cost \$47.25 per person for adults and \$45.25 for children.

Columbia

"Hot Nostalgia" runs through Feb. 18; "George M!" from Feb. 22 through June 10, Sunday through Thursday. Tickets cost \$41 per person for adults and \$26.50 for children; Friday tickets cost \$42.25 per person for adults and \$28 for children; and Saturday tickets cost \$45 per person for adults and children.

Dover Downs Raceway Nextel Cup

Zoom on down to "The Monster Mile" Dover Downs Raceway Nextel Cup race on June 3. The bus departs 9:20 a.m. and returns approximately 8 p.m.

Experience the thrill of the speed, the unique white concrete track, the roar of the engines and cheers of the crowd.

Cost of the trip is \$130 and includes bus transportation and tickets - reserved seating on Turn 3, sections 139-149, rows 1-30.

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

Chance-of-a-lifetime trip to Cooperstown, NY

MWR will sponsor a trip to the 2007 Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony for Cal Ripken Jr., July 29. Cost is \$85 per adult and \$68 per child ages 12 and younger (one child per each paying adult). Cost includes round trip transportation and admission ticket into Cooperstown.

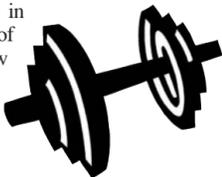
Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or for registration, call MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011, or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Fitness Center hours change

The APG North Fitness Center in building 320 is revising its hours of operation. Effective Feb. 26, the new hours are Monday thru Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Friday.

For more information, call 410-278-9725.



Amateur Boxing Night

Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host Amateur Boxing Night, 6 p.m., March 3 at Hoyle Gymnasium, 143rd vs. 16th. Doors open 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$10 for civilians and \$20 for front row seating. Admission is free for children six years of age and younger.

Purchase tickets at MWR Leisure Travel and Tickets, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or at Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E-4210, or call 410-436-7134.

CWF event

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a trip to Myrtle Beach, April 9 through 13. The price per person based on single occupancy is \$589; cost for double-occupancy is \$489; triple-occupancy costs \$469; and quad-occupancy costs \$459. Package includes motor coach transportation, lodging at the Sea Mist Resort, a guided tour of historic Charleston, Barefoot Landing, a visit to Broadway at the Beach, a performance at the Carolina Opry, four breakfasts, four dinners, plus all gratuities. Reservations will be accepted until all seats are full.

For more information or for reservations, call Angela Keithley, 410-278-4603/4771.

St. Patrick's Day Tourney

Ruggles Golf course will hold a St Patrick's Day Tournament, March 17, with a 9 a.m. scramble. Play your own team - play your own game and have a chance to win a \$1,000,000 Pot of Gold.

All tournament participants placing on close to pin holes will participate in the end of tournament shoot out. The winner will then attempt a hole in one for the Pot of Gold. Participants must be registered by March 15 at Ruggles Pro Shop, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Cost is \$15 for annual patrons and \$28 for all others. Optional 18-hole cart is available at \$13 per rider. Refreshments and prizes follow

the Shoot Out Contest.

For more information, call 410-278-4794/9452.



School age/middle school services summer program

The Aberdeen North and South Summer Program will run for nine weeks, June 18 through Aug. 17, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed first through eighth grades. Parents can sign up for the weeks that fit their schedule.

Tuition fees are based on total family income.

Waiting list applications may be picked up daily beginning 7:30 a.m., Feb. 20 at the APG South Youth Services, building E-1902, the Outreach Services building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-4658. Applications will not be distributed or accepted at the APG

North Youth Services.

Registration will be held Saturday, April 21, at the APG South Youth Services and Saturday, April 28, at the APG North Youth Services for all sponsors who have been offered openings by the Central Registration office. Registration packets, an up-to-date physical and family income information must be completed prior to the registration appointment.

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

For questions or further information, call the Outreach Services Office, 410-278-7571 or 7479.

Save on ski vacations through MWR

Visit MWR Leisure Travel Services Office for discounts on lift tickets to many local ski areas. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907.

Visit MWR Equipment Resource Center for great prices on full ski equipment and snowboarding outfits. For more information, call 410-278-4124/5789.

When customers take their receipts from either location to the other on the same day, they will receive an additional 5 percent discount on their purchase or rental. Discounts are good now through March.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Parent notification of school delay/cancellation due to weather

Harford County Public Schools will notify parents of any school delay/cancellation due to snow or hazardous weather using the Alert Now System (automated phone messaging.)

Parents will receive phone calls at 5:45 a.m. on the morning of the school delay or cancellation. Parents should be sure that the schools have up-to-date phone numbers.

Traditional media outlets (TV, radio) will

remain in effect as well.

If using the Internet, visit www.schools-out.com to get emergency information or other important school system information.

Families can also arrange to have emergency information sent directly to their e-mail addresses. For a small fee, the group will send emergency notifications directly to a cell phone.

APG 90th Anniversary Dawning of a new era in APG's 90-year history

90th Anniversary Celebration Calendar of Events

(All dates are subject to change and weather conditions.)

March

Women's History Month & Days of Remembrance - One Day (EEO)

- 7, Generations of Women Moving History Forward EA, EEO, 410-278-1137
- 20 thru 22, Army Family Action Plan, MWR, 410-278-7572
- 28, Town Hall meetings, APG South Conference Center, 9 a.m.; APG North Post Theatre, 2 p.m.
- 31, Easter Egg Hunt, MWR, 410-278-7572

April

- 14, Ruggles Golf Course holds APG 90th Anniversary Opening Day Golf Scramble, 8:30 a.m., MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452
- 21, Exton Golf Course holds APG 90th Anniversary Open Day Golf Scramble, 8:30 a.m., MWR Exton Golf Course, 410-436-2213
- 26, Law Day, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 410-278-1107

May

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (EEO)/APG Open House/Military Appreciation/ Ordnance Week Activities and Anniversary Balls

- 5, Spring Fest community event, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fire and Emergency Services, 410-306-0533
- 19, 10K Armed Forces Day Run, MWR, 410-278-3812
- TBA Military Appreciation Luncheon (sponsored by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce)
- TBA U.S. Army Soldier Show, MWR 410-278-4402

June

- 2 and 3, Ruggles Senior Club Championship, 9 a.m., age 50 and older, limited to annual, MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452
- 11, Ruggles Super Senior Tournament, age 60 and older, MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452

(Editor's note: This calendar will be updated as necessary. New or changed items will appear in bold print.)

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of Feb. 19

Special #1: Two hot dogs, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.25.

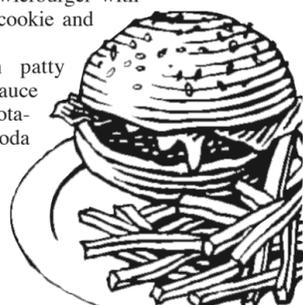
Special #2: Grilled ham and cheese sandwich, soup of the day, one cookie and soda for \$5.

Week of Feb. 26

Special #1: Double bowlerburger with cheese, french fries, one cookie and soda for \$7.75.

Special #2: Chicken patty topped with marinara sauce and provolone cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$6.95.

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





Sports

Pole Day Qualifying Completed; Martin Looks to Daytona 500

U.S. ARMY RACING

Mark Martin qualified 33rd in Sunday's Pole Day at Daytona International Speedway, and next up is Thursday's Gatorade Duel qualifying race, as they continue to get ready for Sunday's Daytona 500.

Martin's No. 01 U.S. Army Chevrolet toured the 2.5-mile oval in 49.109 seconds at 183.266 miles per hour. His qualifying result places him in the second Gatorade Duel 150-mile race. He will start 16th in the 30-car field.

Pole Day locked in the front row for the Daytona 500. David Gilliland took the pole and his Robert Yates teammate, Ricky Rudd, will sit on the outside pole. Gilliland's winning pole speed was 186.320.

Martin's Ginn Racing teammates - Sterling Marlin, Joe Nemechek and Regan Smith - are also seeded in the second Duel race.

"Qualifying really doesn't mean much out here unless you sit on the front row," said Martin. "We had a spectacular U.S. Army Chevy in the Bud Shootout last night and we have a great race team. We just need to make sure that these guys keep their chins up. We'll make it all back on Thursday I guarantee that."

"All the rest of this stuff is just filler," added Martin. "The 500 is all I care about and we had a great car last night and we'll have a better one on Sunday, so I'm really excited about what we have going on."

Martin and the team returned to action on Wednesday for practice as they prepared for Thursday's qualifying race.

The Gatorade Duel races will be televised on SPEED. The first race begins at 2 p.m. ET.



Photo by ANDREW COPPLEY, ARNEWS

Mark Martin qualifies 33rd in Pole Day at Daytona International Speedway Feb. 11. The U.S. Army Team is now turning its attention to Thursday's Gatorade Duel qualifying race, as they continue to get ready for Sunday's Daytona 500.

Comentary -- Golf tips from the Pro

By
DAVE CORRELL
MWR

Here we are again, approaching spring. If you're not one of those fortunate people that can travel to warm weather for the winter then you have accumulated some rust on your golf game. What are some of the steps you should take to prepare for the upcoming golf season? Let's break it down into several categories.

Equipment

- Replace those worn grips.
- Make sure you have the correct grip size for your hand size and ball flight preference.
- Have your loft and lie checked on all your irons and putter.
- Get rid of your long irons and purchase the much more forgiving hybrids.
- Think of investing in a push cart or light carry bag to encourage healthy walking this year.
- Find a ball you like and can afford and stick with it. Every ball responds differently on and around the green. Constantly changing ball brands and types makes it very difficult to develop feel and touch.

Conditioning

- Start stretching now. Pay particular attention to ham strings and the lower back.
- Strengthen your forearms and hands and work on your core muscles. These are the muscles required to produce a powerful and stable swing.
- Walk! Walk! Walk! Carts are nice but golf is a walking game.
- Be conscious of any extra weight that may limit your ability to make a full turn in your swing or walk 18 holes.
- Spend some time understanding what you need nutritionally to play 18 holes of golf.

Swing, Play and Practice

- Set some scoring goals on paper and commit time to practice.
- Make those swing changes that are needed to improve. Do yourself a favor and take a lesson. You should take a lesson before the season starts to get rid of old habits.
- Start practicing your short game, even if you only putt on the carpet.
- Establish a U.S.G.A. handicap.

Editor's Note: Dave Correll is the Golf Professional at Ruggles Golf Course. Contact him at 410-278-4794 or e-mail davecorrell@pga.com.

Applying for the All Army Sports Program

Applicants must use online application process

MWR

The All Army Sports program offers Soldier/athletes the opportunity to participate in more than 20 sports at an armed forces or higher level of competition.

Interested participants can visit the Army MWR Web site, www.armymwr.com, select Recreation, and click on the Army Sports link to see what sports are available and view the criteria for selection.

The DA Sports Office has implemented a new procedure for applying to the All Army Sports Program. An online application process has been developed to allow for an easier, more efficient application process.

The new All-Army Online application program is a Web-based information system that will allow any Soldier (Continental United States or outside the Continental United States), with Internet access, to apply for any All Army sport online.

Soldiers simply need to go to <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil> for a direct link to the All

Army application process. This link also provides detailed information about the program, the year's calendar, selection criteria, and points of contact at the DA Sports office.

This new process will simplify application submission for the Soldier and improve Army Sports office operations.

This system will provide complete and accurate collection of applicant data, especially contact information. The database will also provide retrievable archival capability for historical purposes.

Current procedures still require applicants to fax or scan and e-mail additional qualifying sports info/results. Planned upgrades include converting hard-copy or faxed applications to an electronic format and allowing athletes to attach competition video clips to further support their application.

Anyone interested should visit the web and check out the new look. But remember, to apply for the All-Army Sports program, it must be done online.

Sole

From page 5

was the inaugural recipient of the society's Von Braun Leadership Award.

Two earn Demonstrated Master Logistician status

James opened the program with a presentation of Demonstrated Master Logistician awards to two employees from the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Gregory A. Gouty and Kenneth B.N. Hill.

Remarking that Thurston was the first Demonstrated Master Logistician recognized on APG, James said the award was a fitting tribute to dedicat-

ed service.

"We initiated the program for men and women who spent their lives supporting the warfighter as logisticians," she said.

"This is an opportunity for old Soldiers like myself to continue their education and test themselves," Gouty said, adding his thanks to Thurston and James. "I wanted to test myself and with your help it happened," he said.

"It's a very good program," said Hill. "It's just a matter of you taking everything you've done and everything you've experienced and putting it to paper."

Gouty and Hill are retired warrant officers. Both taught courses to warrants and lieutenants in the Warrant and Officers Basic Course with the U.S.

Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School and now work for AMSAA as military operations analysts. In addition, Gouty is the president of the Aberdeen/Edgewood chapter of the Warrant Officers Association and Hill is the associations' Northeast Region director.

The Demonstrated Master Logistician, DML, is the highest of three levels of the demonstrated logistician awards given by SOLE.

The DML designation recognizes continued education and performance as a practicing logistician and identifies the awardee as having demonstrated significant core logistics competencies through formal education, lifelong learning and work experience.

Safety

From front page

- Use a booster seat until the child weighs between 80 and 100 pounds, is about 4 feet 9 inches tall and can pass the Safety Belt Fit Test. For most children that will be between 8 and 12.

- A booster seat uses no harness. It uses the vehicle's lap and shoulder belts only.

- Booster seats should not be installed tightly. They sit on the vehicle seat; the child buckles the lap and shoulder belt and wears the safety belt. Never use only the lap belt.

- Never place the shoulder belt under the child's arm or behind the child's back.

4. Safety belts

If the child passes the Safety Belt Fit Test in all vehicles used, then they are ready to use a safety belt in the backseat of the car.

- Have the child sit all the way back on the vehicle seat. Do their knees bend at the front edge of the seat? If they bend naturally, go to #2. If they don't, return to booster seat.

Buckle the lap and shoulder belt. Be sure the lap belt rests on the upper legs or hips. If it does, go to #3. If it rests on the stomach, return to booster seat.

Be sure the shoulder belt rests on the shoulder or collarbone. If it does, go to #4. If it's on the face or neck, return to the booster seat.

Check whether the child maintains the correct seating position while in the car. If the safety belt touches the face, neck or stomach, return to booster seat.

"When installing your child safety seat remember to make sure the seat fits tightly in the car," Tadkowski said. "A properly installed car seat will not budge more than an inch in either direction when pulled at the belt path."

For more information, call the Health Department, 410-638-8424.

Tax

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of Social Security taxes and to serve as a work incentive. The amount of the credit varies but it is generally determined by income and family size. Many states also have a local version of EITC which also can increase a taxpayer's refund.

Tax preparers and taxpayers can find a wealth of information at www.irs.gov. Both can use the EITC Assistant at www.irs.gov/eitc, which is an easy-to-use interactive tool to help determine if the taxpayer is qualified for EITC. This step-by-step online program helps answer questions about eligibility, filing status, qualifying children and credit amount. The EITC Assistant

also is available in Spanish.

For the 2006 tax year, the maximum credit is \$4,536 for a family with two or more children; \$2,747 for a family with one child and \$412 if the taxpayer does not reside with children.

The maximum amount of earned income allowed is higher for tax year 2006 than it was for 2005. See Fact Sheet 2007-13 for all eligibility requirements. Generally, a taxpayer may be

able to take the credit for tax year 2006 if the taxpayer:

- has more than one qualifying child and earns less than \$36,348 (\$38,348 if married filing jointly),

- has one qualifying child and earns less than \$32,001 (\$34,001 if married filing jointly), or

- does not have a qualifying child and earns less than \$12,120 (\$14,120 if married

filing jointly).

The maximum amount of investment income also increased to \$2,800 for tax year 2006.

The IRS reminds tax professionals that they must perform due diligence when preparing an EITC tax return. To help, the IRS created an EITC Tax Preparer Electronic Toolkit which is available at www.eitcfortaxpreparers.com.

In addition to on-line tools, the IRS also produces Publication 596, Earned Income Credit, which explains all the eligibility rules and also includes a worksheet to determine eligibility. The publication is available in English and Spanish.

For more information on the Earned Income Tax Credit or other tax related issues, contact the APG Tax Center at 410-278-2020.