

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Jan. 10, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Blue Cross visits APG

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the service benefit plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG Jan. 9. The representative will be available 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 236 and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811 (Seminar Area of Conference Center) to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, call Teri Wright, CPAC, 410-278-4331.

MLK observance planned for Jan. 11

The APG Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office and the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine will sponsor a Martin Luther King Day observance, 8:30 a.m., Jan. 11, in the Starke Recreation Center, building E-4140.

Guest speaker will be Turhan E. Robinson, civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for Maryland. Breakfast will be served 7:25 to 8 a.m.; cost is \$2 per person.

For more information, call Linda Patrick, CHPPM, 410-436-1023.

Italian specialty meal Jan. 16

The Italian Specialty Meal will be held Jan. 16 in the Aberdeen North dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Aberdeen South dining facility, 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.

The menu includes mine-strone soup, spaghetti with choice of meatballs or Italian sausage, baked meat

See SHORTS, page 5

ISSUE

HIGHLIGHTS

Page 2,3,4,6,7

2006 in Review

Page 5

Community Notes

Page 8

MWR

Page 11

KUSAHC reviews year of care

Page 12

Students raise money for Soldiers

Page 13

Soldiers aided through science, technology

Soldiers head home for the holidays



From left, Pvts. Christopher Olson, Hilario Camacho, Joseph Aranda and Michael Gurrusqueta, students from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, 16th Ordnance Battalion at Aberdeen Proving Ground, wait in line at the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport Dec. 17 to catch their flights home for the holidays.

Story and photos by **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
OC&S

The U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School conducted its annual holiday Exodus movement Dec. 17.

Activities began Dec. 16, to prepare Soldiers for the trip home to visit with family and friends.

Soldiers enjoyed a "Super Supper" with steak and shrimp Dec. 16 at the Aberdeen Proving Ground dining facilities before the long night ahead of them in preparation for the journey home.

Exodus marks a time when students and trainees in the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command depart Army schools and training centers for a two-week holiday.

During Exodus, OMMS students are granted 10 days of leave to spend the holidays with family and friends. Exodus also gives drill sergeants some time off to spend with their families and loved ones.

"I couldn't have a better group of drill sergeants, sergeants and NCOs," said Capt. Matthew Cox, commander of Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion. "Exodus will be good for them. They work long hours so I'm sure they're looking forward to spending time with their families."

The students are looking forward to the same.

Pvt. Dustin Thompson, 16th Ordnance Battalion, plans to spend his vacation with his girlfriend back home.

"I'm going to spend every day at the beach in Texas with my girlfriend," Thompson said with a grin.

Parents began picking their Soldiers up at 5 a.m. Sunday morning at the APG Recreation Center.

"It's an absolute blessing to have him home for the holidays," said Laurie Dauchert, mother of Pvt. Kyle Schoebo. Schoebo was greeted with hugs from his mom and fiancé Alexa Dodgson.

Soldiers took various modes of transportation home, but the majority of troops filled the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport Sunday morning along with Soldiers from Fort Lee, Va.

The United Service Organization's

volunteers at the airport were up early Dec. 17 to support the troops.

"The USO wants to make the troops' journey home as comfortable as possible," said Adrienne Trout, USO vice-president of Communications and Development.

As the premier USO facility, BWI USO gives the comforts of home to Soldiers waiting in the airport by providing things like snacks, a big screen television and a sleep room with nine sleeper recliners, all of which were donated in support of the troops.

The USO was filled with Soldiers playing handheld video games, chatting and watching movies on their laptop computers and portable

See HOME, page 12



Col. John Rooney, commander, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, welcomes Under Secretary of the Army Pete Geren Nov. 7 before taking him on an over-flight of post. Col. John Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, left, and Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering command and Aberdeen Proving Ground, center, look on.

Under secretary visits APG

Story and photo by **SUSAN HAGAN**
ATC

The Under Secretary of the Army visited Aberdeen Proving Ground Nov. 7.

Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, U.S.A. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, hosted the visit. Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison commander; Col. John Rooney, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center commander; and Jill Smith, director of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Weapons and Materials Research Directorate, also participated.

Pete Geren was provided an over-flight of APG's north and south peninsulas and ATC test facilities and ranges.

At one of ATC's test ranges, Geren observed an improvised explosive device shot on a Stryker vehicle driver enhancement package.

"The point is to enhance driver protection," Rooney said. "What we're going to get out of this test is an assessment of how the enhancements will protect the driver of the vehicle."

ATC has the ability to manufacture improvised explosive devices at their ammunition plant in order to recreate the threats Soldiers are encountering in theater.

Nadeau explained that repeatable, specific test parameters are brought to ATC, usually shot in around 24 hours, and then the results are provided back to the customer.

Geren also had the opportunity to witness an IED shot against an Interim Frag Kit 5 door.

ATC and ARL partnered together to create the Interim Frag Kit 5 in order to provide better protection for Soldiers traveling in high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles.

The WMRD provided Geren with briefings on Explosively Formed Penetrators and Advanced Electromagnetic Armor.

At another ATC test range Geren was briefed on the Stryker Mobile Gun System and fired the MGS's 105-mm main cannon.

Geren concluded his visit with drive/ride opportunities in an M1114 HMMWV equipped with Frag Kit 5, a Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles Low Signature Armored Cab and the Infantry Carrier Vehicle variant of the Stryker.

Before departing, Geren thanked Nadeau and others involved with his visit by presenting them with Under Secretary of the Army coins.

DTC commander receives star

Story and photo by **MIKE CAST**
DTC

The commander of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, received official recognition as one of the Army's recently promoted general officers during a ceremony Dec. 20 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Brig. Gen. Frank "Del" Turner III, who assumed command of DTC in August 2006, is responsible for all of the Army's programs to test the gamut of Army warfighting systems in development. As the senior leader of one of the three subordinate Army Test and Evaluation Command organizations, Turner oversees an Army command that employs nearly 7,500 people, with seven test centers at locations throughout the United States that conduct an average of 1,100 tests per day.

Gen. Dan K. McNeill, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, headquartered at Fort McPherson, Ga., presided over the ceremony. He lauded Turner for the work he did as his executive officer before the assignment at DTC, and for Turner's achievements in other Army assignments since receiving

his commission at West Point as a field artillery officer in 1977.

He noted the "huge mobilizations" that active Army, National Guard and Army Reserve units are undergoing and credited Turner with "tremendous service" in support of some of the Army's mobilization efforts.

"I want you to know I am humbled to be asked to promote this officer today," McNeill told ceremony attendees. "I can't think of a finer man, a man of sterling character, but also a man of intellect. It's not easy to go from field-grade status to the rank of general officer. The eye of the needle is incredibly small. He would never have had the chance to demonstrate his potential as a general officer without exhibiting what he can do. Everybody should be proud, not only proud for Del and his family but also proud for the Army and our country."

After receiving his stars from his father, Frank Turner Jr., and the flag of a general officer, Turner thanked numerous people for helping him plot a course to leadership in the Army, including his parents, whom

See TURNER, page 12



Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching, right removes the casing from the general officer's flag held by Sgt. 1st Class Mark Wharton, ATC, as Brig. Gen. Frank D. Turner III looks on.

Year in Review

2006



APG News

In this issue the *APG News* takes a look back at the most significant events and achievements to impact the installation, its service members, civilians, contractors and their family members during 2006.

Specifically, it focuses on improvements, innovations and events that help or honor the Warfighter during the ongoing War on Terror.

Each summary is listed chronologically by the date the original article appeared in the *APG News*. Readers can find the full stories in the *APG News* archives at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil.

The *APG News* staff wishes its readers a bright and happy new year.

APG improvements

Jan. 12

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Developmental Test Command and Aberdeen Test Center propose the construction of an automotive test track, the Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility, to support the War on Terror and enhance Army Future Combat Systems.

April 6

The Aberdeen Test Center and Program Executive Office Soldier hold a ribbon cutting ceremony Feb. 15 to officially open the Soldier Systems Test Facility, a state-of-the-art facility that will address current and evolving test requirements for the Soldier-as-a-System and integrations with other platforms.

March 2

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District and Aberdeen Proving Ground select real estate developer APG Development Partners, a joint venture between LCOR and Weston Solutions, to transform approximately 1,300 acres of APG into a state-of-the-art anti-terrorism and law enforcement training center, the Center for Security Training and Technology, under the Army's Enhanced Use Lease program. The Memorandum of Agreement is signed during a ceremony at Top of the Bay March 9 by Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander; James Turkel, chief, Army Corps of Engineers Real Estate Division, and R. William Hard, executive vice president, LCOR Incorporated.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

From left, Garden Club members Lisa Panozzo, Tammy Wright, Corinne Sicard and Gloria DeBerry, plant flowers at the entrance to Plumb Point Loop on Maryland Boulevard as part of the Military and Civilian Spouses Club post beautification campaign May 9. Club members not pictured are Claire Rice, Kathleen Rooney, Becky McAndrews, Sandy Matthews and Cheryl Boles.

April 20

The APG Main Exchange reopens its doors after months of renovation April 12. Upgrades include wider aisles, new flooring, lighting and fixtures as well as a wider variety of merchandise choices and seasonal items.

May 25

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses Club led by President Gloria

DeBerry and Garden Club members plant flowers around the installation including the Aberdeen and Edgewood main gates and at Top of the Bay as part of an installation beautification project. The Directorate of Installation Operations prepares and maintains the plots.

June 15

APG is designated a "Tree City" by the Tree City USA (c) program and the National Arbor Day Foundation for its community forestry program and environmental initiatives. In recognition the installation received a blue spruce sapling.

Oct. 26

Family Child Care and the Community Policing Unit, led by Mike

"Big Mike" Farlow, team up with Home Depot to pull weeds and plant fresh flowers and trees around the Child and Youth Services building and McGruff House Sept. 25.

The CYS Garden near the Edgewood Youth Center produces a 16-inch long cucumber along with tomatoes, green peppers, rosemary, peppermint, lemon verbena and flowers planted by staff members, children and youths.

Nov. 30

ATC officially opens the Littoral Warfare Environment Test and Training Facility, which can replicate the littoral region or shore zone and replicate 6-foot waves during a Sept. 21 ribbon cutting ceremony.



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY

ATC Munson Stryker: None of the existing automotive test tracks at the U.S. Army's Aberdeen Test Center can adequately support sustained high-speed testing of military vehicles. ATC envisions a test facility that will give it enhanced automotive test capabilities.

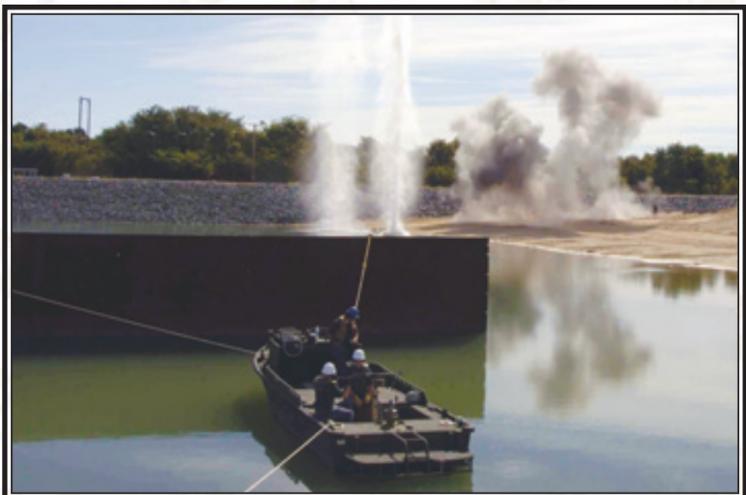


Photo courtesy of ATC

A series of small charges are set off to demonstrate the Littoral Warfare Environment's ability to test both surf and beach mines at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center.

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 8,800.

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 factor of the purchaser,

user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 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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Year in Review 2006



Photo courtesy U.S. ARMY
 Pictured in Kuwait, left to right, are Lt. Col Christopher Rasmussen, commander of the Forward Operational Assessment team; Claudia Wood of Yuma Proving Ground; Martin Bindel, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; Sgt. 1st Class John Collins of the FOA team; David Kronick of ATC; Robert Yokubinas and David Zupko of the Developmental Test Command; and Steven Vest of ATC. The ATC and DTC employees earned a prestigious acquisition award.

Soldier improvements

April 6

The National Defense Industrial Association honors Mark Simon, a mechanical engineer with the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, with the 2005 Army Civilian Tester of the Year Award for his efforts in overseeing the testing of armor kits for the HMMWV and other tactical vehicles involved in the War on Terror.

July 13

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command receives nine of the top 10 Army Greatest Inventions Awards during a June 22 ceremony in Arlington, Va.

Awards went to the U.S. Army Research Laboratory for the Persistent Threat Detection System and the Fido ® Explosives Detector; the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center for the Dual Band Antenna and the Countermeasures Protection System; the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command for the Combat Application Tourniquet™; and to the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering

Command for the Fixed Site/Vehicle Mounted Gunfire Detection device, the M100 Grenade Rifle Entry Munition, the M192 Lightweight Ground Mount, the Over-the-Horizon Command and Control Console and the M782 Multi Option Fuse for Artillery.

Aug. 3

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center ships the second of four mine clearing surrogate vehicles it built for deploying Warfighters in training at the National Test Center. Engineers in ECBC's Advanced Design and Manufacturing Team fabricated the vehicles from M923A2 5-ton cargo trucks.

Nov. 2

Col. John Rooney, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, receives the Secretary of the Army Acquisition Director of the Year Award (at the colonel level) during an Oct. 8 ceremony in Arlington, Va.

Other Army Acquisition Corps awards within the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command went to Marty Bindel, Steve Vest, Bob Yokubinas and David Kronick, ATC; David Zuplo and Mike

Lind, DTC; and Claudia Wood, Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz.

Also recognized were with Army Excellence in Acquisition Awards are DTC test managers Norm Harrington and Mark Simon and research analyst Michael Hubner and ATC senior test engineer David Strawbridge.

Year in Review 2006



Accomplishments

Jan. 26

Officer Eric Ouimette is named the APG Police Officer of the Year during a Jan. 19 ceremony at the APG Emergency Services building.

April 6

Staff Sgt. Joey Ybarra, 242nd Ordnance Battalion (EOD), Fort Carson, Colo., and Sgt. Bradley Enget, 705th Ordnance Company (EOD), Fort Polk, La., are named the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year during a March 10 ceremony hosted by Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin W. Womack Sr.

May 25

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce honors the APG service members of the year during the Military Appreciation Luncheon at Top of the Bay May 18. The honorees include Staff Sgt. Timothy Inman, 22nd Chemical Battalion and Spc. Joseph Kraft, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command APG NCO and Soldier of the Year; Staff Sgt. Veronica D. Moore, RDECOM NCO of the Year; U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools NCO of the Year Sgt. Nixon Pacheco; OC&S Drill Sergeant



Photo by MIKE CAST, DTC
Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Stanton sights down-range at one of the outdoor ranges on ATC. Proficiency with weapons such as the M4 Carbine he is sighting was one of the key requirements for the 'NCO of the Year' competition.

of the Year Sgt. 1st Class Kris Toman; OC&S Instructor of the year Staff Sgt. Alvin Martin; U.S. Marine Corps Detachment NCO of the Year Gunnery Sgt. Daniel W. Brugger; USMC Detachment Instructor of the Year Gunnery Sgt. Eric L. Darmstadt; U.S. Air Force Detachment NCO of

the Year Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Voneida; and USAF Detachment Instructor of the Year Staff Sgt. Charles R. Dettlinger.

June 22

Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Stanton, a Soldier assigned to ATC's Soldier System Test Facility, is named the DTC NCO of the Year for 2006.

APG employees receive

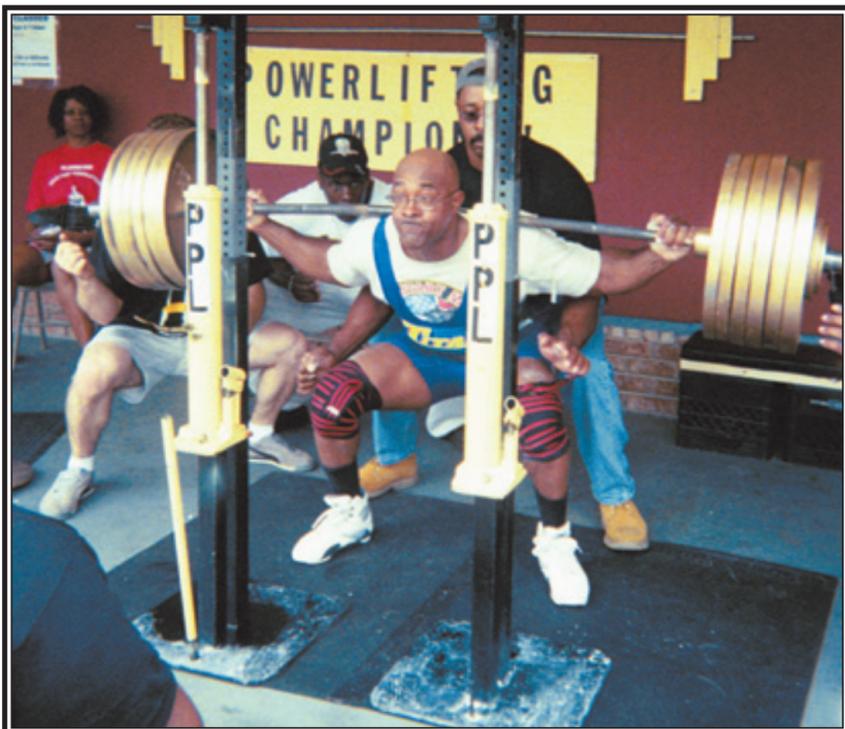


Photo courtesy of SGT. MAJ. MICHAEL BENNETT
Sgt. Maj. Michael Bennett, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, executes a successful 700-pound lift during the Amateur Athletic Union state championships in Georgia in April 2006.

nine gold and 81 silver and bronze awards during the Baltimore Federal Executive Board's Excellence in Federal Career Awards Program at Martin's West in Baltimore. APG gold awardees include Lt. Col. Shirley Torinsky, Lt. Col. Benjamin Hill and Staff Sgt. Shawn Dawson, U.S. Army Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ronald R.

Cingle, OMMS; Wilbert J. Brooks and Margaret Hockenberry, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Michael W. Hubner, DTC; Thomas Puckett, ARL; James D. Rogers, ECBC; Cynthia Bauer, U.S. Army Environmental Center and Michele Sauserman, ATC.

July 6

Sgt. Curtis Worsley, 22nd Chemical Battalion, wins the APG Talent Search contest at the Aberdeen Recreation Center May 20. Pvt. James Archat, Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion, takes second and Pfc. Robert Davis, Company B, 143rd, comes in third.

July 13

ECBC packaging specialist Nancy Waltman becomes the second woman inducted into the Military Packaging Hall of Fame of the National Institute of Packaging Handling and Logistics Engineers during its 50-year celebration June 6.

Aug. 17

APG boxer, Sgt. 1st Class Duane Edwards wins his fourth national title in the 35 and older middleweight division of the Ringside World Championships in Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 1 to 5.

Sept. 21

The Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility celebrates its 15th consecutive year without a lost-time accident in August.

"Strict safety standards, mandatory safety training for students and personnel; individual hands-on instruction in an agent-free environment; all have helped keep the CDTF free of lost-time accidents for more than 15 years," said U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

Director Michael Parker.

Oct. 19

The National Institute of Health announces the award of a "Countermeasures Against Chemical Threats (Counter-ACT) Research Center of Excellence" grant worth \$14.4 million over five years to MRICD.

Oct. 26

Staff Sgt. Marcus D. Murray, a health care specialist attached to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, is inducted into the Audie Murphy Club during a ceremony at Walter Reed Army Medical Center Sept. 8.

Nov. 23

Sgt. Maj. Michael Bennett, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, wins first place in the 2006 World Amateur Athletic Union 45 and older category during the national championships in Richmond, Va.

Dec. 21

Pvt. John McLean, Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, wins the APG Talent Search at Stark Recreation Center Nov. 18. Second place goes to Pvt. Brian Taylor, Company C, 143rd and Pvt. Latrice Bray, Company B, 16th, comes in third.

At age 42, Pfc. Russell Dilling fulfills his dream of joining the Army and is assigned to the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School for Advanced Individual Training at APG.

Company C 143rd wins the 2006 Commander's Cup Award for intramural sports. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion comes in second and USMC finishes third.

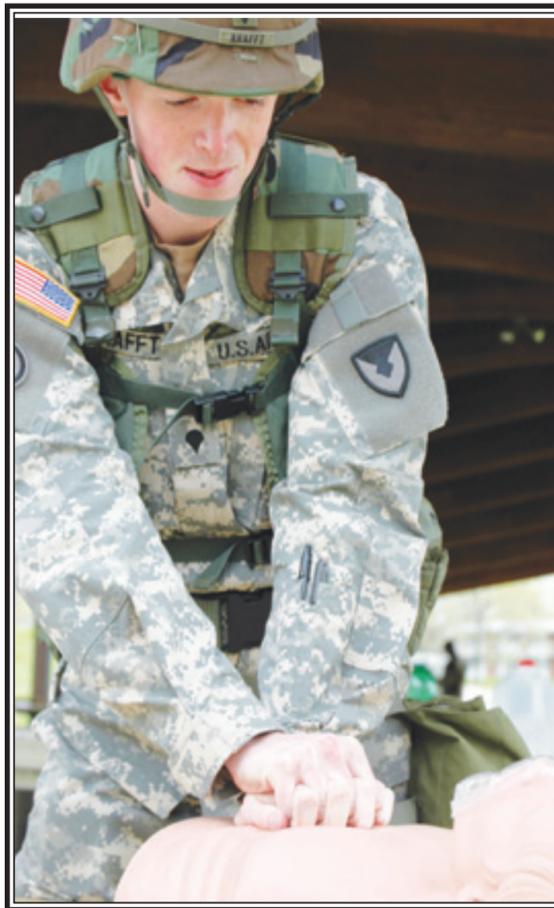


Photo by TRINACE JOHNSON, RDECOM
Aberdeen Proving Ground and RDECOM Soldier of the Year, Spc. Joseph Kraft, performs the correct way to do cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Community Notes

FRIDAY JANUARY 7 BASKET BINGO

American Legion Post 194, 336 E. Main St., Rising Sun, is sponsoring a basket bingo to benefit Boy Scout Troop 28.

Games start at 3 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 20 games.

For more information, call 410-658-3915, or e-mail bas-ketbingo@zoominternet.net.

SUNDAY JANUARY 14 AUXILIARY OFFERS SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 5337, 3705 Pulaski Highway in Abingdon offers breakfast the second Sunday of each month, 8 to 11 a.m.

The cost is \$6. The menu includes choice of eggs, omelets, sausage, bacon, pan-

cakes, French toast, potatoes, grits, cold cereal, fresh fruit, coffee, juice or milk. Proceeds benefit VFW programs.

For more information, call Linda MacArthur, 410-676-4456.

TUESDAY JANUARY 16 TOASTMASTERS MEETING

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562, which usually

meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 16 because of legal holidays on Mondays. The meeting will be held at the Gunpowder Club in APG South 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

The club is open to anyone on or off post who wants to improve their leadership and listening skills and overcome the fear of speaking in public. Lunch will be available.

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

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY JANUARY 19, 20, 21 MILITARY RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION TO MOTORCYCLE SHOW

The 24th Annual Baltimore International Motorcycle Show will offer free admission to all members of the United States military with military identification or wearing a uniform. The motorcycle show will be held noon to 10 p.m., Jan. 19; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Jan 20;

and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 21, at the Baltimore Convention Center. The show will feature new motorcycles, ATV and off-road dealers, discounts on new bikes and accessories, custom and antique motorcycle show and sports stars.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. will make a special appearance with his Number 8 car Jan. 19, and the U.S. Army drag racing team motorcycles will be on display the entire weekend as well as a driver.

For more information, call 301-808-2233 or visit www.internationalmotorcycleshow.com.

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."

TURISTAS

Friday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6, 9 p.m.

Starring: Josh Duhamel, Melissa George, Olivia Wilde, Beau Garrett

Brazil, beautiful women, pristine beaches, a friendly, open culture. Alex (Duhamel) is accompanying his sister Bea (Wilde) and her best friend Amy (Garrett) for their first time abroad - young Americans who have come to exotic Brazil for fun, adventure and the promise of foreign pleasures. The farther the group travels into this mysterious and isolated Brazilian community, the further they are from the pos-

sibility of escape - and the closer they come to the dark secret that waits for them in the lush jungle and underground caverns of the Brazilian jungle, and they must fight a primal battle for their lives in the most terrifying of all human traps. (Rated R)

THE HOLIDAY (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Jan. 6, 7 p.m.

Starring: Cameron Diaz, Jude Law, Kate Winslet, Jack Black

Iris (Winslet) is in love with a man who is about to marry another woman. Across the globe, Amanda (Diaz) realizes the man she lives with has been unfaithful. Two women who

have never met and live 6000 miles apart, find themselves in the exact same place. They meet online at a home exchange website and impulsively switch homes for the holiday. Iris moves into Amanda's L.A. house in sunny California as Amanda arrives in the snow covered English countryside. Shortly after arriving at their destinations, both women find the last thing either wants or expects: a new romance. Amanda is charmed by Iris' handsome brother Graham (Law) and Iris, with inspiration provided by legendary screenwriter Arthur, mends her heart when she meets film composer Miles (Black). (Rated PG-13)

POST SHORTS

lasagna, baked vegetable lasagna, veal parmesan, marinara sauce/ alfredo sauce, assorted pizza and calzone, garlic mashed potatoes, deep fried eggplant, Italian style green beans, toasted garlic bread, assorted pasta salads, assorted salad bar, assorted desserts, assorted breads, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

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

Former DoD secretary to speak at SOLE meeting

The Aberdeen Chapter of the International Society of Logisticians, SOLE, will hold its monthly meeting 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Top of the Bay Jan. 31.

The guest speaker is Louis A. Kratz, vice president and managing director of Focused Logistics at Lockheed Martin Corporation and former assistant deputy under secretary of defense (Logistics, Plans and Programs), with the office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics and Materiel Readiness). The topic of discussion is "Logistics Transformation: An Industry View."

There is no cost to attend. Lunch is 'pay as you go.'

To register in advance, contact Chief Warrant Officer 3 Paul Thurston, 410-278-5554, or e-mail paul.thurston1@us.army.mil; Paul Nelson,

410-436-4574, or e-mail paul.a.nelson@us.army.mil; or Sharon Meirose, 410-306-0350, or e-mail sharon.meirose@atec.army.mil.

NCOA holds Dining Out

The Noncommissioned Officer Academy will hold its 7th Annual Anniversary Dining Out Feb. 9 at the Comfort Inn Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood.

The anniversary will honor past NCOA commandants from 1987 to present.

Ticket cost is \$30 per person, and an RSVP must be received by Feb. 5.

Tickets will be on sale until Feb. 7.

For information and RSVP, contact June Conley, 410-278-8904, DSN 298-8904 or e-mail june.conley@ocs.apg.army.mil or Spc. Calandra Guidry, 410-278-9127, or e-mail calandra.r.stovall@us.army.mil.

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 Aberdeen 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.

The menu includes hearty vegetable beef soup, barbecued spareribs, fried chicken, southern fried catfish, baked chicken, oxtails in gravy, simmered ham hocks, steamed rice, baked macaroni and cheese, red beans and rice, collard greens, black eyed peas, green beans, corn bread, assorted salad bar, potato salad, cole slaw, assorted desserts, assorted breads, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

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

Trial Defense Service relocates

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Trial Defense Service has relocated from building 310 to building 305 on the first floor. Enter through the glass door, turn left past the elevator and follow the corridor behind the conference room. The office is on the left.

Telephone numbers will remain unchanged. For more information, call Nora Farrell, paralegal specialist, 410-278-2156/5389.

Mandatory Sexual Harassment training

The biennial Prevention of Sexual Harassment training for appropriated and non-appropriated fund supervisors and all other civilian employees serviced by the U.S. Army Garrison, Equal Employment Opportunity Office will be held at the Post Theater, building 3245, March 7, and Sept. 12 and at the Aberdeen South Conference Center, building E-4810, June 6.

Supervisor training is scheduled 8 to 10 a.m. Employee training is scheduled 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Request for sign language

Authorized exception to dual compensation laws

Current appropriated and nonappropriated fund employees are eligible to keep their full-time position and also be employed as a NAF flexible employee for the following hard-to-fill positions:

Bartender, NA-7405-03
Cook, NA-7404-04
Cook, NA-7404-05
Custodial worker (trainee), NA-3566-01
Custodial worker, NA-3566-02
Custodial worker (leader), NL-3566-02
Food service worker, NA-7408-01
Food service worker, NA-7408-03
Food service worker, NA-7408-04
Gardener, NA-5003-04
Motor vehicle operator, NA-5703-07
Operations assistant, NF-1101-01
Recreation assistant (aerobic), NF-0189-02
Waiter (trainee), NA-7420-02
Waiter, NA-7420-03

To apply for the above positions visit Web site, <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> for job listing and <http://cpol.army.mil/library/naf/jobkit> to apply.

For more information, call 410-278-8993.

Year in Review 2006



Honoring Soldiers

April 13

DTC commander Brig. Gen. Michael Combest, his aide-de-camp, Capt. Michael Lind, and Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching represent DTC in the 17th annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., March 26.

May 4

Seven members of the 20th Support Command's 734th Ordnance Company, 71st Ordnance Group (EOD) participate in the 17th annual Bataan Memorial Death March in memory of Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Jessen, 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) who was killed in Iraq.

May 11

DTC announces that its Command Conference Room will be renamed to honor Pfc. Eric P. Woods, an Army medic killed in Iraq.



Pfc. Eric P. Woods

July 20

Sgt. 1st Class Troy Weaver and his wife Kelly, a DaVita Dialysis employee, lead the collection of thousands of dollars in donated items and funds for use by the wounded warriors hospitalized at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and their family members.

Aug. 17

Members of Officer Basic Course Class 08-06 and Maj. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, OC&S commander, dedicate a tree at the Ordnance Museum to present and future warriors of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom Aug. 5.

Aug. 31

Wright throws out the first pitch, the 389th Army



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY
Sgt. Amanda Watkins, right, a flight medic assigned to the 1159th Medical Company, escorts stretcher bearers with a wounded Iraqi soldier to a waiting Black Hawk helicopter for evacuation.

Band (AMC's Own) performs, the OMMS Joint Color Guard present the colors and the Aberdeen Ironbirds take the field in camouflage uniforms during Military Appreciation Night at Ripken Stadium.

Sept. 14

NCOs from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion and Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course Class 33-065 hold three car washes to raise money to support wounded service members recovering at WRAMC.

Sept. 21

Fifty members of the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion's Black Knight Task Force, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Alan Ott, return to APG after a year-long tour in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sept. 28

Eighty-three members of several Harford County veteran motorcycle clubs form 'blasting thunder' as they ride onto APG to visit with and show support for the Soldiers of the 61st Ordnance Brigade.

Oct. 5

APG Soldiers and civilians turn out in force to wave flags and show their support for a fallen warrior's family during the funeral of Navy Petty Officer David Sean Roddy at Saint Frances de Sales Catholic Church in Abingdon Sept. 30. See photo below and top right.

Nov. 16

'Blasting thunder,' veteran motorcycle riders make a return trip to APG to visit with the Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion Oct. 21.

Dec. 14

Suzette Shields, a human resources specialist with the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center responds to Oprah Winfrey's kindness challenge, and is entrusted with \$1,000 to donate to the needy. Shields donates \$500 to the Baltimore Veterans Affairs hospital; \$200 to a Cecil County couple who have to drive to WRAMC to visit their wounded Soldier every day; \$200 for food and living expenses for the wife and three children of a National Guard Soldier in basic training and \$100 each for groceries for a single Soldier facing unexpected bills and for the widow of a retiree living on a fixed income. Shields appeared on stage with Oprah for the follow-up program which aired Nov. 27.

Dec. 21

Human resources technician and military spouse Kimberly Williams leads the effort by NECPOC employees from Branch F to donate 60 lap blankets to WRAMC patients.

Led by founder Carol Hansen, the group Quilts for Broken Hearts donates 30 quilts to WRAMC for hospitalized Soldiers. The group has donated 200 quilts to the hospital in the last two years.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
From left, Alan Killinger, an Army retiree and former employee of the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum, and Kathy Abey, district representative and coordinator of the Veterans History Project for the office of Congressman Wayne T. Gilchrest, hold up an American flag in support of the Roddy family.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, addresses children from the St. Joan of Arc School during the Freedom Walk festivities at Festival Park in Aberdeen Sept. 11.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
A crowd of onlookers wave American flags as members of the Patriot Riders Motorcycle Club ride escort the family of Navy Petty Officer David Sean Roddy, who was killed in Iraq, to the Saint Francis de Sales church in Abingdon Sept. 30.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Children line up on stage to spell the word 'celebrate' and tell which Soldier they are proud of and why during the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operation Center's Eye on the Soldier program at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center Dec. 14.

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Maryland Army National Guard Sgt. Joseph Beale, Company C 2224th Aviation, and his daughter Sara, 5, absorb the moment of their reunion at the Gen. Warren Hodges Armory during the unit's return from Iraq Oct. 26.



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Boys & Girls Clubs of APG receives NFL youth football grant

MWR

Boys & Girls Clubs of America has teamed with the National Football League and the NFL Players Association to provide youth an opportunity to participate in recreational initiatives that develop leadership skills and build teamwork.

Through the NFL Youth Football Fund, a charitable foundation created by the NFL and the NFLPA, the Boys & Girls Clubs of APG is one of 200 worldwide selected to receive a \$1,000 grant to expand flag football programs for area girls and boys.

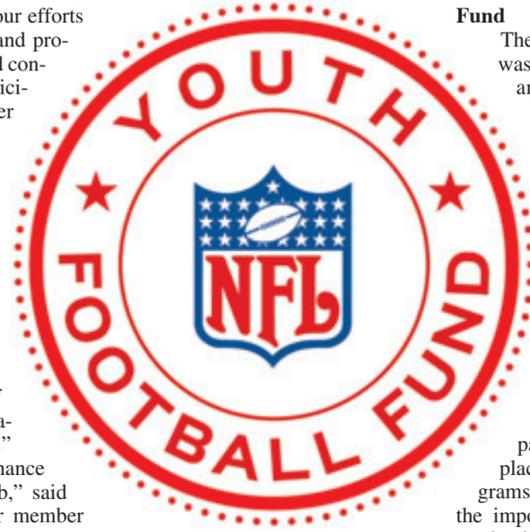
While sports are the hook to get many youngsters into Boys & Girls Club, they are not the only lessons learned.

"Activities such as football teach character-building and leadership skills, as well as how to work with people from diverse backgrounds," said William Kegley, Youth Sports

director. "The NFL Youth Football Fund grant will help us in our efforts to teach these life lessons and provide youth with positive and constructive activities to participate in this spring and after school."

"We have partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America on several worthwhile initiatives over the years," said NFL Senior Director of Youth Football Cedric Jones. "We are pleased to join them in their youth efforts while using our game of football as a positive educational resource for children."

"I'm excited about the chance to play football at my club," said Dante Walker, a three-year member of the Club.



About the NFL Youth Football Fund

The NFL Youth Football Fund was created in 1998 by the NFL and the NFL Players Association as a non-profit foundation to use football as a catalyst to promote positive youth development. The YFF provides youngsters with opportunities to learn the game of football, get physically fit, and stay involved in productive after-school activities with adult mentors.

The YFF also has provided youth football participants with safe and accessible places to play as well as programs and initiatives that address the importance of proper coaching, academics, health and safety and life

skills development. About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For almost a century, BGCA has been recognized as a network of community-based organizations that welcome all youth, regardless of their race, religion or gender.

BGCA (www.bgca.org) comprises some 3,900 neighborhood-based facilities annually serving more than 4.6 million young people, primarily from disadvantaged circumstances.

Known as "The Positive Place for Kids," the Boys & Girls Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 6 to 18 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff.

Key club programs emphasize character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation.

Activities

Winter leagues forming

Winter Bowling Leagues now forming. For more information,

call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041 or visit www.apgmwr.com for details.

SKIESUnlimited

For more information and registration for all SKIESUnlimited 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.

Elks national free throw competition Jan. 6

A "Hoop Shoot" Contest for all youths ages 8 thru 13 will be held 5 p.m., Jan. 6, at the Edgewood Youth Center.

Local winners will advance to district, state, regional and national competition. National Champions are enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Contestant age group will be determined by youth's age

as of April 1, 2007.

The "Hoop Shoot" is free, but contestants must register before the contest and show proof of age.

To sign up visit either the Edgewood or Aberdeen Youth Centers before Jan. 6.

For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

Child and Youth Services

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

Learn to salsa

Salsa Dancing lessons will be held 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., from Feb. 6 through 21, Mondays at the Aberdeen Recreation Center 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 the styles in use at most of the clubs in the surrounding area.

NASCAR tickets for the Nextel Daytona 500

NASCAR tickets for the first 2007 NEXTEL Cup event, Feb. 17 and 18 are now available. Save over \$45 on a two-day ticket to the 49th Daytona 500 and the Daytona 300 NASCAR Busch Series race - just \$115. Pre-race/Nextel Fanzone passes are available for just \$75. Last day to purchase tickets is Feb. 2.

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 under (one child per each paying adult). Cost includes round trip transportation and admission ticket into Cooperstown.

There are a limited number of seats available. 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.

Tickets available for Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic

MWR Leisure Travel Services has tickets for Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic, Feb. 7 through 11, at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore.

Cost of tickets for ages two and up is \$17.25 each. Opening night tickets cost \$13.25 each. The last day to purchase tickets is Feb. 1. All DoD ID card holders are eligible to purchase tickets.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, call 410-278-4907/4011 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Comedy Explosion coming to APG

A Comedy Explosion and After Party event will be held 9 to 11 p.m., Feb. 3, at the APG Post Theater. Doors open at 8 p.m.

The show will feature comedians Andy Hayward, Antoin Blackman and Rich Carucci. Tickets for active duty military cost \$10, all others cost \$15.

An After Party will be held at the Aberdeen Recreation Center immediately following the show. Free entry with Comedy Show Ticket Stub or \$5. Open to permanent party and civilians only. Door prizes will be presented.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit or call MWR Leisure Travel and Tickets, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or Hoyle Gymnasium, building E-4210, 410-436-7134.

Home buying, selling seminar

A Home Buying and Selling Seminar will be held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jan. 18, at the Aberdeen Recreation Center.

Attend this workshop to discuss housing as the major focus of a relocation from list to settlement and other topics.

An experienced realtor, banker, and home inspector will be available to answer questions.

For more information, call Marilyn Howard, Employment Program, building 2754, 410-278-9669.

New hours effective Jan. 2

Recreation Center

ABERDEEN RECREATION CENTER AND SNACK BAR, BUILDING 3326

Monday, closed; Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.;
Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.
Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 6 to 10 p.m.
Saturday, noon to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 10 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 5 p.m.

EDGEWOOD STARKE RECREATION CENTER AND SNACK BAR, BUILDING E-4140

Monday and Tuesday, closed
Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Snack Bar, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Friday, 6 to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 6 to 10 p.m.
Saturday, 2 to 11 p.m.; Snack Bar, 2 to 10 p.m.
Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.; Snack Bar, noon to 5 p.m.

Leisure Travel Services

The MWR Leisure Travel Services located in building 3326, will be closed on Mondays. The office will be open Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Upon customer request, appointments for full service items will be scheduled.

For more information, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Sports, fitness facilities

ABERDEEN ATHLETIC CENTER, BUILDING 3300

Monday thru Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ABERDEEN FITNESS CENTER, BUILDING 320

Monday thru Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays
Closed Friday preceding Monday holiday

HOYLE GYM, BUILDING E4210

Monday thru Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
For more information, call 410-278-3812.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Sesame Workshop expands military families initiative

With more than 700,000 children of military families under the age of five separated from their mother or father this holiday season Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit educational organization behind Sesame Street, has responded with a program geared to address the challenges military families face with deployment. The half-hour television special, titled "When Parents are Deployed," will be hosted by Academy Award winning actor Cuba Gooding Jr., premiering Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 9 p.m. ET/PT on PBS.

<http://newsblaze.com/story/20061204114303top.nb/newsblaze/TOPSTORY/Top>

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

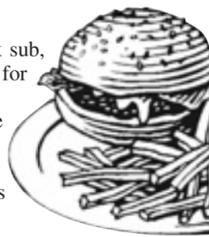
Building 2342

Week of Jan. 8

Special #1: Chicken cheese steak sub, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$7.85.

Special #2: BLT, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$5.75.

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



MWR announces winners of 101 Days of Summer contest

MWR

Several children and youths from Aberdeen Proving Ground had a chance to enjoy prizes as local winners of the 101 Days of Summer, a promotion from Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Tristen Darmstadt, the grand prize winner and the son of Gunnery Sgt. Eric Darmstadt, won tickets to an Aly and AJ concert where he, his family and friends will be able to meet the two stars from the Disney Channel.

The promotion involved children and youths filling out game cards every time they bowled.

The promotion began in June 2006 and ended in August 2006. Every time one of the contestants came in, they would have to bowl two games. Darmstadt bowled 45 games this summer.

The other winners included Willie Stackland, a Hoot DVD; Kayla Bare, Hoot

Soundtrack and book; Kaylen Platt, Aly and AJ CD; Stephanie Laird, THQ Video Games; Matthew Miller, portable DVD player; and Aaliyah Wade, IPOD shuffle.

The 101 Days of Summer promotion was the Army's first partnership with the entertainment industry.

For more about the promotion and other MWR activities, visit www.mwrpromotions.org.



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

James Addas	(benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	(kidney failure)
Sarah Blevins	Jeannette Dennis	Sandra Miller
William Bond	Marc Devecchio	Karen Moss
Debra Bonsall (daughter has brain tumor)	Susan Gorhan	Trudie Norman
Jeanie Bowman	Hester Hayes	Mary Pettitway
Kim Brooks	Cathleen Holmes	Carol Piper
Leroy Carter	Rick Jernigan	Greg Pryor
Stephen Carter	Carolyn Johnson	Barbara Seker
Rogelio Chevannes	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Joan Taeuber
Brett Christy	Lydia Langley	Alison Tichenor
John Daigle	Joyce Mauldin	Christine Wheaton
Shelia Davison	Louis McCarter	Louis Winters
		Charles Young

Local veteran receives Bronze Star

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A Harford County resident and Army veteran received thanks from a grateful nation when he was presented with the Bronze Star Medal, 61 years after earning it, during a surprise award ceremony at the Open Door Café in Bel Air Dec. 30.

Wilbur L. Iley, who served with Company F, 276th Infantry Regiment, 70th Infantry Division, received the prestigious award for his actions during the famous Rhineland Campaign in World War II.

Col. John T. Wright, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, pinned the medal on Iley as more than 100 family members and friends looked on.

Wright remarked on Iley's

unit and their accomplishments, noting that during their tour of duty in France the division liberated more than 50 towns, taking more than 600 prisoners of war but also sustaining more than 800 killed in action, while earning more than 400 bronze stars.

Focusing on March 4, 1945, Wright said "it was a hard day from start to finish," noting that Iley, then a master sergeant, led his platoon through 86 days of continuous combat and "devastating" enemy bombings after his lieutenant was injured.

"On behalf of the President of the United States, it is my privilege to present you with this award that you so richly deserve," Wright said.

He also presented Iley with an APG Garrison coin.

Iley was surprised and at a loss for words.

"This is a big surprise," he said. "I really appreciate everyone coming out for this. I'm really dumbfounded."

Iley was also injured by shrapnel that day and he spent the next two years in Army hospitals before leaving the Army in 1947.

He is also entitled to the Purple Heart and other medals, noted Peter Schlehr, Iley's son-in-law who organized the event.

"Due to a fire that destroyed the documentation and citations entitling him to this honor, it has taken a long time to catch up with him," Schlehr said. "Today, sixty-one years after leading a platoon and being wounded in combat, [he] is finally receiving his medal."

Iley and his wife Lois live in Fallston.



Peter Schlehr, far left, looks on as his father-in-law Wilbur L. Iley, left, receives an Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Coin from Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, right, moments after Wright presented him with the Bronze Star Medal he earned 61 years ago during a ceremony in Bel Air Dec. 30. Schlehr arranged the surprise presentation.



Commentary -- 2007 marks first anniversary of 'KUSAHC Health Notes' in APG News



Photo courtesy of MEDCOM

COL. WILLIAM RICE

It has now been a year since the establishment of a health information

page in the *APG News*, so it seems fitting to once again address the issues that affect your health care at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Notable improvements during the past year include the implementation of an electronic medical record that is accessible worldwide in all Department of Defense medical facilities; group appointments for our diabetic patients that allow them to see a doctor, a podiatrist, an optometrist, a dietician and receive diabetic education all in one visit (an accomplishment that ranks KUSAHC in the top 10 percent of the nation's medical facilities in diabetic care); and vastly improved medical support to APG's surety programs.

Further improvements in the future look promising. KUSAHC has recently hired, contracted, and been

assigned several new health care providers and nursing staff that have brought new energy to the organization, greatly increased access to care for all enrolled beneficiaries, and have improved return to duty times for Advanced Individual Training students reporting to sick call.

The KUSAHC pharmacy will soon undergo a renovation that will nearly triple its size and will include new and modern dispensing equipment.

TRICARE Online, www.tricare-online.com, is being updated so that appointments can be booked online rather than using the Call Center to call for an appointment.

And, we will be focusing even further on providing preventive health services such as breast cancer screening, colon cancer screening and cer-

vical cancer screening.

I would like to focus this anniversary article on obtaining access to our healthcare services. Since KUSAHC does not have an emergency room, call 911 for any medical emergencies. For urgent care, you may call the KUSAHC Call Center, 410-278-5475 (KIRK), to request a same-day appointment or use TRICARE Online to book the appointment. If no same-day appointments are available and you are in need of urgent care, you will be referred to a specific civilian urgent care facility. If urgent care is needed after hours or on weekends or holidays, call the Staff Duty Noncommissioned Officer, 410-278-1725, who will take the necessary information to ensure that a referral is put into the system. If you are traveling and urgent care is needed, call 1-

877-874-2273 (1-877-TRICARE). Patients should be aware that if you obtain medical care in a civilian facility without a referral, you may incur out-of-pocket expenses. The above information is also available on a refrigerator magnet. Please ask for one during your next visit to KUSAHC.

We are striving to make your healthcare experience at KUSAHC effective, patient-centered, timely and safe. We are doing this by promoting efficiency in our clinic practices, thereby allowing you more direct time with your healthcare provider; by providing healthcare that is evidence-based; by focusing on preventive health services; and by striving to ensure that your healthcare needs are met in a kind and compassionate manner.

DoD reports on 2005 health care quality

DoD Military Health System

The Defense Department reported to Congress on the quality of health care it provided during fiscal year 2005. The report covered medical management and population health; evidence-based practice and quality measurement; patient safety; patient satisfaction; and biosurveillance.

"Despite the demanding operational tempo, the military health system continued to meet the challenge of providing the world's finest combat medicine and aero-medical evacuation even while providing high quality care for beneficiaries at home," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs. "Our dedicated health care team accepts nothing less than the best care for our beneficiaries."

Highlights for FY 2005

Preventive medicine

In accordance with the military health system's proactive approach to preventive medicine and its goal to continually improve beneficiary health and wellness, TRICARE Management Activity implemented three healthy lifestyles demonstration projects addressing tobacco cessation, weight management and alcohol abuse prevention.

Biosurveillance

Always striving to find innovative ways to accomplish the mission, the department focused on biosurveillance to help identify potential threats and prevent causalities from environmental, occupational, operational, biological and chemical warfare events. The department's biosurveillance effort is comprised of three programs: the DoD-Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System; the Electronic Surveillance

System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics; and the Joint Medical Workstation. These three complimentary programs work to detect infectious disease outbreaks in communities and manage outbreak response capabilities.

Patient safety

The department's Patient Safety Program continues to lead the military health system to a culture of safety. During FY 2005, the department tailored the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's hospital survey on patient safety to assess direct care system staff perception about their facility's environment related to medical errors and patient safety culture. The results will be a baseline as the military health system tracks changes in patient safety over time.

Quality measurement

The department provides safe, evidence-based and patient-centered care—and constantly strives to make it even better. For complete details on the department's innovations for fiscal year 2005, the comprehensive health care quality report to Congress is available online at <http://www.tricare.mil/planning/congress/downloads/2006/ModifiReq.pdf>.

About the Military Health System

The military health system's mission is to enhance the Defense Department and the nation's security by providing health support for the full range of military operations and sustaining the health of all those entrusted to our care. Using military direct care and a civilian network of providers and facilities, the military health system serves 9.2 million uniformed services members, their families, retired military and their families worldwide.

Southampton Middle School students raise money for Soldiers

Story and photos by
HEATHER TASSMER
APG News

A team of sixth grade students at Southampton Middle School is raising money for injured Soldiers with the help of their teachers and a local school liaison as one of their service projects.

Section 6-C will donate the money raised from the service project to the Fisher House Foundation Inc.

The Fisher House program is a "private-public partnership" that helps fund each Fisher House where the families of injured Soldiers stay while in recuperation. These houses are located "at every major military medical center" and "enable family members to be close to a loved one at one of the most stressful times-during hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury," according to the Fisher House Web site, <http://www.fisherhouse.org/index.html>.

This project was led by Mary Jo Richardson, a sixth-grade math teacher, and coordinated by Eileen Campbell, the APG Harford County Public School liaison representative. Teachers Pat Bierbower, James Haas and Jeannine Ross also helped.

Campbell visited the school Dec. 11 to thank the students personally and talk to them about where they

wanted their donations to go.

The students began collecting pennies in October to buy phone cards for Soldiers, according to Richardson, a sixth-grade math teacher.

Then Campbell found out through making some phone calls that the Fisher House had sufficient phone cards at this time and the money would help more people if it was donated directly to the Fisher House program.

Richardson said that this project will continue after the holiday season and the sixth grade's goal is to raise \$3,000.

"The kids have been very excited about this project," Richardson said. "They have embraced it beyond belief."

This is just one of several service projects of the sixth-grade students. Richardson said they also conducted other service projects during the fall.

Campbell said Richardson told her the children were "very eager to meet someone from the proving ground."

Richardson also shared the children's reflections about helping injured Soldiers.

Kyle Johnson, one of the 6-C students, wrote the following in his reflection: "Bringing in money for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan touched me because if they were not

fighting for us, we would never be where we are today...to me of all that I have done in all my years of school that was probably the best accomplishment."

Another student, Noah Krach, wrote, "You probably have been home sick before... think about what they are going through."

"I feel proud to know I have done something good...to give back to someone who has given so much to me," Connie Dagostino wrote of their efforts.

Campbell wanted to come into the school and personally thank the students for "their kind donations."

Campbell quoted Donald Rumsfeld saying, "Something important [like this] is never easy. In every conflict in our country's history there was always someone saying let's throw in the towel. When Washington had lost several battles, public opinion said that the Revolution was wrong."

"I think I am just as impatient as you to get our service men and women out of Iraq, and then I think of the consequences," Campbell said. "I realize that I must support my country's efforts. You have done the same. In your giving you are demonstrating your support of our great nation."

Campbell told the students that

their donations would certainly "boost Soldiers' moods and states of minds."

In addition, she also talked with the students about how she came to be a school liaison officer and how her job relates to the military.

When Campbell first started working at the proving ground she was a training and curriculum specialist. She worked around children with their teacher at the Aberdeen Child Development Center.

She described the children of the center as "the strong of heart."

"These children often didn't get to see their moms or dads for eighteen-month stretches," Campbell said.

Her job responsibilities now include helping students who have parents serving in the military with school transitions.

She explained to the students that military children must move as much as six to seven times during their 13 years of school.

"They are making sacrifices for our country too," she said.

They also discussed ways of collecting more pennies such as placing the penny cans at parents' workplaces.

Campbell said that the Fisher House is a credible place to donate money.

"The administration fees for the foundation were only 2.4 percent which is lower than many," she said. **Students learn more about the Fisher House**

An operations officer from the Fisher House, Catherine McKenzie, visited class 6-C Dec. 18. She talked about the Fisher House and showed a video about injured Soldiers.

Peggy Trimboli, a registered nurse with Child and Youth Services, and Campbell were present at the same visit. Campbell said that the children were "very impressed" with the video. She said they saw a Soldier whose face was burned and learned more about what injured Soldiers experience.

McKenzie also spoke about Hero Miles, another program conducted by Fisher House Foundation Inc. that allows passengers of specific airlines to donate miles to those of the military undergoing treatment or their families so that they can see each other.

The students also plan to collect clothes in the spring for Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Southampton's team 6-C is delighted that they could help Soldiers through the Fisher House Foundation Inc., according to the Team 6-C teachers.

How do you feel about helping Soldiers?



Bill Dearth

I feel good about helping the troops. If they're injured, they can talk to their families [with our phone cards].



Kelsey Targarona

I feel happy about it. We are helping people who don't get to see their families very much. The Soldiers can tell their families how they're feeling.



Pete Dzuki

This is a good thing that we're doing. The troops shouldn't be worrying about financial issues.



Sarah Piazza

I feel good because everyone should be doing this. The [Soldiers] don't get to see their parents every day.

Home

From front page

electronics devices.

One Soldier from Harlingen, Texas, said he appreciates Exodus leave.

"This is my first time going home since I joined the Army; it's been six months," said Pvt. Richard Rodriguez, OMMS student. "Some Soldiers go years without seeing home."

Rodriguez said he realizes

that he may be deploying in support of Operation Iraqi or Enduring Freedom upon arriving to his first duty assignment. He said going home will mean a lot.

"I have a barbeque party and a lot of family and friends waiting on me when I get home," he said with a smile. He was sitting outside in the cold, on top of his bags, waiting for instructions prior to his bus trip to the airport. But the cold didn't bother him. He said it's warm in Texas. He showed

a picture of his girlfriend in his phone, and said he can't wait to see her.

Soldiers will return from Exodus, ready to complete their training in January, when they rejoin the ranks of Soldiers who are Army Strong.

"I want Soldiers to enjoy their vacation with family and friends and relax," said Col. Bobby Towery, OMMS commander. "They should return prepared to engage in our top-notch training, and continue to be Army Strong."



From left, Pvs. Cedric Hayes, Blake Broadway and Robert Loshbaugh, students from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, wait for their flights in the United Service Organization's facility at BWI Thurgood Marshall International Airport.



Pvt. Kyle Schoeboo, a student at the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, 16th Ordnance Battalion is greeted by his fiancé, Alexa Dodgson and his mom, Laurie Dauchert Dec. 17 for travel home for the holidays, at the APG Recreation Center.

Turner

From front page

he described as great examples of good character whose values he absorbed and applied to his own life.

"They provided the perfect example of how life should be led," he said in remarks at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Quoting a passage in the Gospel of Luke in the Bible, he said, "To whom

much is given, much is expected," adding that he feels a great obligation to serve the United States and support the men and women in uniform who are serving in a time of conflict.

"I have been privileged to have been born in this country, which is without a doubt the greatest country in the world," he said. "It is quite an honor to stand side by side with others serving this country and to come to work every day with people who are serving, whether

Soldiers in uniform or dedicated civil servants. I have been blessed by great leaders who have coached me along the way, and I welcome this promotion as an opportunity to meet my obligations."

In addition to his assignment at FORSCOM as executive officer to the commanding general and chief of its Training Division, Turner served in a variety of staff and command assignments in various Army field artillery units. He also served with

the Army's Recruiting Command and in the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel. He was chief of the Joint Vision 2010 Branch, within the Operational Plans and Interoperability Directorate of the Joint Staff as well as chief of Joint Forces Integration for the Joint Forces Command.

He earned a bachelor's of science degree in engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point and a master's of science

degree in industrial engineering from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. He is also a graduate of the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Parachutist Badge and the Army Air Assault Badge.



Photos courtesy of U.S. ARMY

A Soldier tests a chemical, biological protection suit in the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center's climatic chamber.

Science, technology testing stages not as easy as one, two, three

Story by
EDRIC V. THOMPSON
RDECOM

As thousands of scientists and engineers develop and test equipment annually, American Soldiers can feel confident that their equipment is the best available while battling the enemy on the battlefield.

"Our mission is to get the best technology into the hands of Warfighters in the shortest amount of time possible," said Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"We have more than 17,000 people hard at work focusing not only on the current fight and the current force but focusing on the future force," Nadeau said. "That's a tough balancing act -- determining today's priority versus tomorrow's priority."

Supporting the current fight, the current force and the future force is executed through the three mutually supporting elements of research, development and engineering.

Col. Steven Kihara, commander of the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate at Fort Eustis, Va., said that while different, the research, development and engineering stages of these science and technology programs are concurrent in their goal to develop a demonstrated, matured capability that the product manager can transition into operational systems.

Sometimes, the goal is to provide long-term, revolutionary future capabilities, such as lower extremity exoskeletons, devices which may reduce Soldier exhaustion by assisting in carrying backpack loads. More often than not, it's providing immediate solutions, like integrating man-portable satellite communications

technology with helicopters or simply replacing uniform buttons with velcro.

"Our purpose is to get the right product into a robust configuration that can be built to withstand operational and field conditions, and make sure that it is going to do the job it was designed to do," Kihara said. "Like a can of beans, it says what it actually is on the wrapper."

David Skatrud, acting director of the Army Research Office, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, said a key reason for the Army's current technological superiority is Army funded and managed basic research.

"Virtually all of the Army's weapon systems have many significant components that were invented or discovered under Army supported basic research," he said. "Furthermore, the research being performed today will improve current capabilities and provide revolutionary future capabilities."

In order to effectively solve Army problems, the U.S. Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, Md., uses the following to conduct research: small programs with single investigators who work primarily within university laboratories, larger university affiliated research centers and collaborative technology alliance research teams that focus on big challenges such as nanoscience and biotechnology for the Soldier, and ARL in-house programs which concentrate on Army-unique technology and needs-driven challenges.

These needs are identified by ARL and the seven research, development and engineering centers: Armaments Research, Development and Engineering Center, Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.; Aviation and Missile Research,



Feedback is important to the science and technology process. Soldiers in Yakima, Wash., evaluate menu items from Natick Soldier Center's Combat Feeding Program and provide feedback to Jeffrey Dunn, Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center.

Development and Engineering Center, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, Fort Monmouth, N.J.; Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground; Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center, Natick, Mass.; Simulation and Training Technology Center, Orlando, Fla.; and the Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, Warren, Mich.

Skatrud said the ARL programs are effective in rapidly providing solutions to the field.

"Each of these approaches to research has different expertise, resource demands and products, and operates in different environments, but the ultimate customer, the Soldier, is common to each," Skatrud said.

The U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command plays a central role in the S&T strategy by being the Army's advocate for warfighting requirements.

The Army Capabilities Integration Center and the Capabilities Developments Directorate identify the capabilities needed as well as the gaps in those capability needs. These requirements form the basis for determining what research areas should be pursued. Once the research has been conducted and approved, the requirements enter the development and engineering stages.

Kihara said that it is difficult to distinguish when the development stage stops and engineering begins because the cycles are parallel and concurrent type operations.

The Army research, development, test and evaluation regulations describe the development stage as efforts to create and integrate subsystems and components into system prototypes for field experiments. It is during this phase that RDECOM and the program executive office creates models and diagrams in response to user requirements from Soldiers or requests from TRADOC.

To help define shortfalls and the conditions in which they occur, Soldiers are brought in to give input before and after the prototypes are made.

Col. Bryan McVeigh, military deputy for TARDEC, said this provides a touchstone to prevent "designing in the dark" and ensures that the designers "aren't breaking something that's already working."

Once the design has matured, it moves to engineering, where concept becomes reality.

"This is where we start bending metal and breathing life into the system," McVeigh said.

Models and diagrams may look great, but there is the potential danger that the equipment may not function in reality or that its systems, which worked individually, may interfere with each other when combined. McVeigh noted that because systems have become so inter-dependent, it is unwise for designers to act independently. Therefore, collaboration is important throughout the lifecycle of the product.

"We can be developing the greatest computer network in the world," he said, "but if the product requires a 24-inch monitor and there's only space for a 19-inch monitor, we've got an unnecessary, and possibly costly, delay that could have been prevented through early and constant communication."

Consistent performance throughout production is another concern, hence the necessity of verification testing from the assembly line.

Before the Stryker was fielded, the Army Test and Evaluation Command ran more than one million miles of developmental and operational testing on a fleet of more than 300 Strykers to ensure that the system passed production verification testing and met Army requirements.

"This isn't the television show, Monster Garage," McVeigh said. "If I can't show repeatable, demonstrated results, we can't give it to a Soldier."

Once the equipment has finally passed the developmental test, it is turned over to a battalion or platoon for operational testing.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard Haddad utilizes his battlefield experiences from Afghanistan to advise the scientists and engineers at NSRDEC.

"When we test equipment responsiveness in a combat environment,

there is a sense of urgency to make sure that the Soldiers have confidence in what they're using," he said. "They immediately relate it to the deployment that's coming up in three months and try to get a sense of whether this is going to help or hinder the operation."

Sometimes it's the little things that add up to sink a project. Therefore, Kihara likens testing to an unmarked mine field where the testers try to step on all the mines in order to discover and fix any potential problems.

Haddad agrees with this analogy, noting that some equipment will work in one phase of the operation, but falter in another. Therefore, equipment must completely pass every stage of the evaluation before being approved.

The rigors of the testing depend on the system and its failure modes.

"If an aircraft part or a communications set up has a failure mode, you could lose an aircraft or inhibit the success of the mission," Kihara said. "Those types of things get a more rigorous test cycle because what's at stake is much higher."

Having been involved in the testing process at NSRDEC, Pfc. Joel Aldridge feels confident that when he's in the field, his equipment will have been thoroughly tweaked and taken through every possible situation.

"The scientists and engineers who put these studies together are some of the most dedicated people I know," Aldridge said. "They strive daily to come up with something new to make a Soldier's life easier; those are the people I tip my hat to."

Once the equipment has completed its operational and live fire testing requirements, a milestone review is conducted by the Milestone Decision Authority review board. Upon approval from the MDA, the program manager is authorized to begin full rate production, and the equipment is fielded to Army units.

Kihara said that it's at this point that the manager has a very tough job.

"He has to be able to balance his requirements, the capabilities of what his guys have, and the capabilities of what he needs against the money and



From Oakley Assaulter Goggles to antibacterial-treated uniforms, the Future Force Warrior program at Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center utilizes the science and technology process to develop and test new technology that will improve every aspect of the Soldier's uniform and equipment.

SALARY TABLE 2007-DCB

INCORPORATING THE 1.70% GENERAL SCHEDULE INCREASE AND A LOCALITY PAYMENT OF 18.59% FOR THE LOCALITY PAY AREA OF WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE-NORTHERN VIRGINIA, DC-MD-PA-VA-WV

(See <http://www.opm.gov/oca/07tables/locdef.asp> for definitions of locality pay areas.)

(TOTAL INCREASE: 2.64%) EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2007

Annual Rates by Grade and Step

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	19722	20380	21037	21689	22345	22730	23378	24031	24057	24664
2	22174	22700	23435	24057	24325	25040	25755	26470	27186	27901
3	24194	25000	25806	26613	27419	28226	29032	29838	30645	31451
4	27159	28064	28969	29874	30779	31684	32589	33493	34398	35303
5	30386	31399	32412	33425	34437	35450	36463	37476	38488	39501
6	33872	35001	36130	37259	38388	39517	40646	41775	42903	44032
7	37640	38895	40150	41405	42659	43914	45169	46423	47678	48933
8	41686	43075	44465	45855	47245	48635	50025	51415	52805	54194
9	46041	47576	49110	50645	52180	53714	55249	56783	58318	59852
10	50703	52393	54083	55773	57463	59153	60843	62533	64222	65912
11	55706	57564	59421	61278	63135	64992	66849	68706	70563	72421
12	66767	68993	71219	73445	75671	77897	80123	82349	84575	86801
13	79397	82044	84691	87338	89985	92632	95279	97926	100573	103220
14	93822	96950	100077	103204	106331	109459	112586	115713	118840	121967
15	110363	114042	117721	121399	125078	128757	132435	136114	139793	143471

Testing

From page 13

the time he has available," Kihara said. "So really, it ends up being the ability to balance money and available time to get the right capabilities to the guys.

In the end, Skatrud and Kihara point out that the key to successfully

fielding equipment lies in the Soldier who identifies the need and dictates requirements.

"Soldier input is critical," Kihara said. "It serves as a yardstick to measure and meet the capabilities gap." Therefore, hotlines, surveys and Web sites are in place to collect feedback on equipment.

Staff Sgt. Robert Atkinson of NSRDEC used a baseball analogy to

illustrate that all feedback, no matter how small, is significant to developing equipment and technology.

"If several guys hit singles and doubles, you're going to score more runs than if you depend on a single hitter to knock it out of the park," Atkinson said. "Likewise, if you get 100 Soldiers writing small concerns and observations, you'll help the Army accomplish its goals."

Human research volunteer, Pfc. Matthew Edwards believes that ultimately, it is the Soldier's responsibility to take advantage of this opportunity because it will help the Army as a whole.

"It's like the saying goes, 'silence is acceptance,'" Edwards said. "You might have the same problem as another Soldier, but it won't get fixed if you don't speak up or have the drive

to do something about it. No one will benefit, and someone could get hurt."

And it's through this participation in RDECOM that McVeigh finds satisfaction.

"When the first rocket propelled grenade round was defeated by Stryker's slat armor, I felt incredible," McVeigh said. "It's hard to put into words: we helped save a Soldier's life."