

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for July 18, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



### Well-Being Council meeting July 19

The next Well-Being Council meeting will be 9:30 a.m., July 19, at the Post Chapel.

### OSJA Client Services changes hours

To better serve the APG community, the Client Services Division will change its hours to Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning July 23. For questions, call 410-278-1583.

### ACS to celebrate its 42nd Birthday

Army Community Service will celebrate its 42nd Birthday with a picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 26, at Maryland Boulevard Park. Free tickets are available at the APG North ACS, building 2754 and the APG South ACS, building E-4630. For more information, call 410-278-4372.

### AAFES' Christmas in July starts tomorrow

The AAFES Main Exchange will hold Christmas in July, the 13th to 15th. The store will remain open until midnight on July 13 and then will open 6 a.m., July 14 with regular hours on July 15. There will be gift card drawings 6 p.m. to midnight, July 13 and all day Saturday. Customers must be present to win.

### Job vs. Career classes for teens

Army Community Service will hold Job vs. Career classes for teens, ages 13 through 18, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., at ACS Classroom building 2754. Classes will be held July 18 and Aug. 15.

Today's workforce offers many challenges and rewards. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job. The ACS Employment Program and Tina Mike, APGFCU Education director, will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process.

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## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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# Keeping cool at APG pools



Photo by HEATHER TASSMER

Members of Child and Youth Services cool off during the 80 degree morning heat at the Olympic Swimming Pool July 10. The Olympic Swimming Pool, building 3325, is open for Child and Youth Services Day Camp from 9 to 11 a.m. through Aug. 17. Open swim hours are from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. during the week and weekends. The Shore Swimming Pool, building 2031, does not offer open swim but only swimming lessons and rentals for pool parties. The Bayside Pool is open during the same hours as Olympic and both have lap swimming at 11:30 a.m.

# Army, DOE combine R&D efforts

Story by **LARRY D. MCCASKILL**  
RDECOM

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command recently established an expanded cooperative research and development program with the U.S. Department of Energy.

The initiative's goal is for the organizations to work jointly on identifying and developing advanced technologies to meet the needs of the current and future force to confront a wider range of threats around the world. RDECOM and its headquarters, the U.S. Army Materiel Command, have worked with DOE's national labs on selected programs. This

initiative substantially expands and broadens the partnership using a systematic process.

"Merging the collective technical programs provides for a wider array of innovative products and is highly beneficial to Warfighters and America," said David Shaffer, RDECOM deputy to the commander.

RDECOM's mission is to rapidly develop and deploy the best technologies available to meet the needs of Warfighters. Currently, RDECOM is collaborating with the DOE National Laboratories (Oak Ridge, Sandia, Pacific Northwest, Idaho, Berkley, Argonne, Brookhaven and Los Alamos), which draws upon the combined capabilities

and talents of more than 50,000 scientists and engineers.

"The National Labs that have signed the MOA are committed to making their technologies visible to the Army R&D community and developing a long term partnership with their Army counterparts," said Dick Davis, Oak Ridge National Laboratory director, Defense and National Security Programs and DOE's program representative. "These professional relationships are important to the long-term success of this technology exchange program."

A memorandum of agreement that was signed by the two organizations in 2006 provides for information sharing and exchange and collaborative R&D projects between RDECOM and DOE scientists and engineers to develop and deploy critical technologies needed by the Army. The agreement should help accelerate and increase the cost-effective development and deployment of critical technologies.

Under the terms of the MOA, the participating organizations agree to share information and strategies for developing and testing new technologies in

survivability, lethality, power and energy and other areas critical to military operations. The MOA established a comprehensive systematic exchange of technical requirements and sharing of information on advanced technologies of interest to both the Army and DOE.

Technical staff from the command and from the DOE National Laboratories hold focused technology workshops and information exchanges through quarterly video teleconferences on topics such as detection and defeat of landmines and improvised explosive devices, light weight armor for vehicles and the Soldier, survivable network communications required for the Future Combat System and other critical areas.

These exchanges result in interagency coordination of technical plans and investment strategies and future R&D collaboration.

In the long term, this coordination will improve the cost, schedule and performance associated with developing critical technologies for both agencies and for U.S. military forces engaged in conflicts around the world.

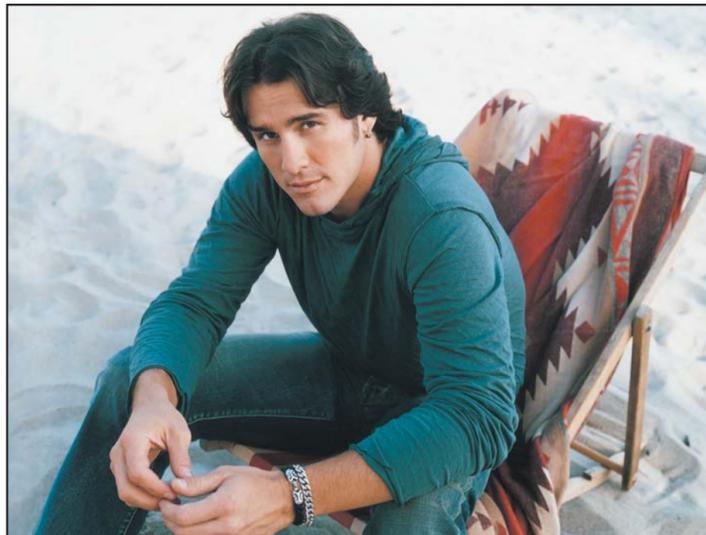


Photo courtesy of JOENICHOLS.COM

Special guest Joe Nichols will perform in the Army Concert Tour featuring Montgomery Gentry to be held at APG Sept. 29.

## Summer concert ticket special for APG community begins July 17

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Tickets for the Army Concert Tour featuring Montgomery Gentry with special guests Joe Nichols and Shauna Bolton go on sale at special reduced pricing for a limited time for the APG community July 17.

Tickets will cost \$20, a \$5 discount off the advanced ticket price, and can be purchased at Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Leisure Travel Office, located in the APG North Recreation Center,

building 3326 or at Hoyle Gym, building E-4210 in APG South. The special pricing is good through the month of July.

Montgomery Gentry performed for more than 10,000 screaming fans during their first visit to APG in 2004 and organizers anticipate another sellout for this concert.

Fans should be sure to get their tickets as early as possible.

For more information, visit the MWR Web site, <http://www.apgmwr.com>.

## Labor gives \$27.5 million for BRAC-affected employees

Story by **M.Z. HEMINGWAY**  
Federal Times

The Labor Department is awarding nearly \$27.5 million in grants nationwide to address layoffs forced by the military's 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process.

"Civilian workers at those bases will be provided employment services to help them find new jobs in high-growth industries," Secretary Elaine Chao said in a statement.

All of the states targeted for this funding have established key regional economic development partnerships to combine federal, state and local funds with private-sector assets and resources devoted to regional work force needs.

North Carolina's \$5 million grant will help workers at Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base transition to jobs in high-growth, high-tech industries.

Oklahoma received \$2.5 million to support education efforts aimed at employees in the region, which Emily Stover DeRocco, assistant secretary for Employment and Training, termed an innovative approach to BRAC work force challenges.

"Providing workers with in-demand education and skills not only will have the immediate effect of meeting employment needs, but also will lay the groundwork for long-term talent development and regional economic growth," she said.

Texas, Colorado, Florida, Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia are also slated to receive funds for employment and training.

# APG takes part in Havre de Grace Independence Day Parade



From left, members of the APG Fire and Emergency Services' Color Guard Chris Starling, André Fournier, George Dorbert and Loren Brown march in front of the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) during the Independence Day Parade in Havre de Grace June 30. The color guard won 2nd place for color guard presentation. The parade took place along Union Avenue.

Photos by HEATHER TASSMER



Col. John T. Wright, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, along with his wife Tammy, from left, and their daughters, Abby and Allison, wave to parade goers while riding on the APG Fire and Emergency Services' Sparky's Ride.



Col. John P. Rooney, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, rides on an Up Armored High Mobility military vehicle during the parade.

## From Iraq to BRAC: Garrison commander reflects on his command

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Nearing the end of his Army career as well as his term as the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, Col. John T. Wright took time to reflect on his final command, which was served entirely with the nation at war.

Wright said that he is leaving with a sense of pride in numerous accomplishments during the past three years and that because he is mindful of the "consistently professional performance of garrison employees," he is hesitant to take credit for any of it.

"I steer the ship, but it is the professionalism of these dedicated workers that gets things done," Wright said. "If we as an organization have been successful, it's the result of all of us pulling together. If I did anything, it was to encourage people to do the absolute best they can; not only for themselves but for the betterment of the entire mission."

Improvements under Wright's watch include the remodeling of the Post Exchange and Burger King, the addition of a Subway sandwich shop in the APG North Shoppette and the ongoing demolition of World War II era buildings.

Wright said that a very visible sign that APG is turning the corner is the recent repainting of the main water tower.

"It took a long time to get completed, and the original plan was to paint it red and white," he said of the tower's completion, adding that he and [former deputy to the commander] Joe Craten challenged the plan and were able to go with a "more neutral color" and include the APG Garrison logo.

Regarding other indications of progress, he commended garrison and other elements on the installation with their successes as well, noting the completed destruction of the mustard agent stockpile and successful closure of the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and successful efforts by U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and U.S. Army Research Laboratory biologists "working to ensure the bald eagle population is not only healthy, but growing in size," as is evidenced by the recent removal of the American symbol from the endangered species list.

"Continued revitalization in many respects is necessitated by the BRAC announcement in 2005," Wright said. "We were pretty much motoring along except for the Enhanced Use Lease which is approaching now."

He called EUL a "milestone in the redevelop-

ment of APG," and another indicator that "significant change is on the horizon."

"Before BRAC it [EUL] was the only thing we were looking forward to in the way of growth and opportunity," he said, adding, "For the last two years, our efforts in terms of planning analysis has been focused on preparing a layout for BRAC and for the departure of OC&S [U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools] and the arrival of organizations from Fort Monmouth, northern Virginia and others coming here for the most significant transformation at APG for fifty years."

He said that with the implementation of BRAC, the installation mission focus will shift to almost 100 percent test and evaluation and research and development.

"When they [OC&S] finally leave, it will be the end of an era," he said.

He said the changes will posture APG well for the future.

"What we do now, laying out facilities, road work, improving and in some cases building new buildings, will set the installation up for the [future]," he said.

Despite all the changes on the horizon, the day-to-day focus of the garrison commander is still taking care of Soldiers, Families and civilian employees and "making sure they have what they need," he said.

Wright credited Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, Craten, current deputy to the commander Tim McNamara and the garrison staff for "keeping the focus on and putting the fires out."

Finding the right people to fill positions is critical, and putting together the right team is important. This team was one of the best and no matter what, we just kept moving forward. The folks who've been doing the work deserve all the credit," he said.

Wright commended all installation directorates, including the BRAC Transformation Office, for their accomplishments, pointing out the achievements of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security's national accreditation for its police academy and the Fire and Emergency Services Division winning the Department of the Army's Fire Prevention Program of the Year award.

He also praised Army Community Service for its successful Spring and Fall festivals which provide informative safety messages to APG service members and Families, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation for successful concerts, youth sports and other programs that channel needed resources back into the installation.

He said that he and his wife are looking  
**See WRIGHT, page 8**

## Departing Garrison CSM discusses time spent at APG, Army career

Story by **HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

After serving 30 years in the U.S. Army, the Garrison Command Sergeant Major concludes his career July 12 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, where he has served in one of his most complex positions.

Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby said when he first came to APG, it was a challenging shift from serving as the command sergeant major for the 13th Corps Support Command Special Troops Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas.

"When I was first assigned here, I didn't know how complex the installation was," he said. "After I was on board here for a while, I learned the complexity of it, and it has been a very rewarding experience."

Irby said he was used to units being managed by one major command when he worked for U.S. Army Forces Command. APG is different because it has many units and agencies with unique missions and priorities, Irby said.

"When you're trying to mesh all of that together and make it run smoothly, sometimes it can be challenging but for the most part we've done well," he said. "Most people have been very helpful and participated in all different activities and supported them the best they can without hindering their mission."

"When you boil it down, we're all here for the welfare of people that we have sworn to take care of and protect and serve...whether it be the Families of the service members or the community in general," he said.

Another challenge Irby experienced was overcoming the changes the Army has undergone since the Global War on Terrorism.

"Life changed after nine eleven after we started to fight in the War on Terrorism," he said. "A lot of resources went to that focus. That is where they should be going...to the Soldiers, Airmen and Marines in the fight. They deserve all the equipment, vehicles, training and anything else our nation can give them because that is a hard, hard life dealing with the enemy."

In addition to supporting garrison organizations, Irby also ran "The Yard of the Month" competition where he would select yards that were intricately decorated.

Irby and former U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy H. Alcivar were instrumental in starting a Sgt. Audie Murphy Club at APG.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON  
Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby places a wreath of remembrance on the war memorial in front of the Elkton National Guard Armory during the Veterans Day ceremony hosted by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8175 Nov. 13, 2004.

The Sgt. Audie Murphy Club is an elite club for noncommissioned officers with ranks of corporal through sergeants first class.

Alcivar and Irby had to get permission from FORSCOM and other major commands in order to start a club at APG.

"Trying to get permission from the different major commands so their people could come to the Audie Murphy Board here and in turn get those records sent through the major commands or FORSCOM took a lot of coordination and a lot of research on our part to get it done," Irby said.

Irby said that he wanted to start an Audie Murphy Club at APG because there were many Soldiers who wanted to join.

"There are a lot of great Soldiers here so there needed to be an avenue for them to compete," he said.

**See IRBY, page 8**

# APG News

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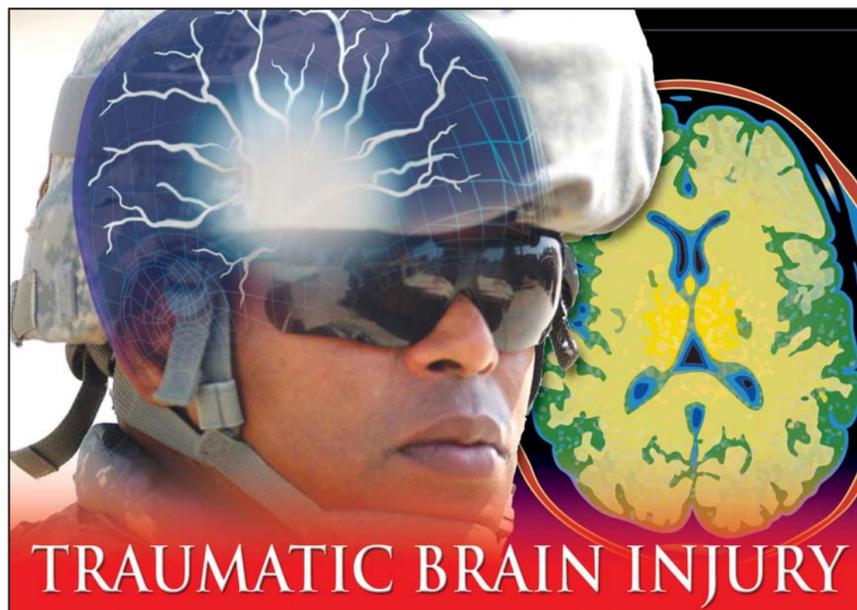
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# Deployment News

## Screening increases for mild traumatic brain injury



Graphic designed by MATT STALEY, FORT DETRICK VISUAL INFORMATION OFFICE

Story by  
**KAREN FLEMING-MICHAEL**  
U.S. Army Medical Research & Materiel Command

*(Author's note: The topic of traumatic brain injury has been in the forefront since Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom began, and TBI has often been called one of the "signature wounds" of these operations. The Defense Veterans Brain Injury Center has seen 2,229 patients with TBIs from January 2003 to April 30, 2007. Penetrating brain injuries are typically identified and cared for immediately; however, closed brain injuries may be missed, particularly with the presence of injuries, such as amputations, that require immediate medical attention. Causes of closed TBI other than blast include falls, motor vehicle accidents, and gunshot wounds to the head and neck.*

*This series of three articles explains the increased emphasis on screening for TBIs in theater and upon return, the work being done at the DVBIC to address TBIs and the research the center is undertaking to better diagnose and treat these injuries. The second and third articles will appear in subsequent APG News issues.)*

"Shell shock" and "getting your bell rung" are lay terms for traumatic brain injuries, which have been labeled as signature wounds of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Classified as mild, moderate and severe, the latter two forms of TBIs are often easier and obvious for medical personnel to diagnose. Because its symptoms can be subtle, diagnosing mild TBI is more challenging, but the military has been working on this issue since the last Gulf War.

"Previously, there was a belief during war time that penetrating brain injury is more common than closed brain injury but, because of the increased sophistication of the medical community and the lay community, we know how common mild traumatic brain injury can be," said Dr. Deborah Warden, national director of the DVBIC. The center, headquartered at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, operates nine sites across the country focused on care, research and education for service and family members with brain injuries.

In the summer of 2003, Warden and the DVBIC staff began screening patients to see how many had been involved in an incident -- a

blast, a motor vehicle accident, a fall or a gunshot wound to the head or neck -- when they could have sustained a mild TBI but did not seek treatment for it.

"As long as they could shake it off and stay with their unit, Soldiers were not inclined to say, 'I just got my bell rung and I have ringing in my ears, a headache and I feel a little nauseous,'" Warden said. "They just didn't want to leave their units."

To date, more than 35,000 service members have been screened for TBIs. Roughly 11 percent screened positive for a mild TBI; half had no symptoms. The data can't be extrapolated across the Army, however, because researchers don't know how representative the 35,000 who participated in the screenings are. The Army has taken action to find every Soldier who suffers a TBI.

Education and screening assessments are the two tools used in theater to increase awareness and detection of a TBI. In July 2006, the Army's Surgeon General sent a message to all Army commanders about the effect a concussion, the lay term for a mild TBI, could have on operational effectiveness. According to the message, "poor marksmanship, delayed reaction time, decreased ability to concentrate and inappropriate behavior that lasts for several days or longer" are all symptoms of a TBI.

The recommended treatment for a mild TBI is resting, not trying to suck it up and drive on.

"One of the significant things for the military is you don't have the luxury to hibernate at your desk or stay at home for a week [after a mild TBI]," said Kathy Helmick acting deputy director of Clinical and Educational Affairs for the DVBIC. "Because of operational readiness and needing your thinking skills and your physical prowess, [getting required rest] makes it a little more dicey."

Warden's treatment advice for mild TBI is straightforward: Soldiers need to take it easy, get lots of sleep and avoid a second head injury while their brains are getting back to normal.

In most cases, the brain can recover from one mild TBI, but two mild TBIs in quick succession causes a cumulative effect that's not as easily treated with rest.

"We really appreciate that the brain has a wonderful capacity to heal itself," Warden said. "Full recovery, in our civilian literature, is possible for a first concussion; it seems to be worse

if you get a second concussion right on the heels of the first."

Educating leaders seems to be making a difference. Warden pointed to a recent TBI case she saw at the DVBIC where a team leader noted one of his young Soldiers was moaning and confused after an IED explosion but about a minute and a half later, the Soldier was acting absolutely normal. Because the team leader was aware of the risk for TBI, he ensured the Soldier received treatment.

To find Soldiers who may have sustained but "shook off" mild TBIs, the DVBIC deployed a three-question screener created in 2004 as part of a research project on paratroopers at Fort Bragg, N.C. A similar screening tool is being used in the war zone immediately after a Soldier is stunned or dazed.

"The first two [questions] ask if they were injured and if they had mental status change during the injury to allow a diagnosis of possible concussion. The third asks what kind of symptoms the individual is having that are consistent with the types of symptoms we see after concussions," Warden said. "[Screening] is also important in terms of management and treatment: how you help this person now."

The Military Acute Concussion Evaluation, or MACE, tool, a standardized mental status exam, is also used to evaluate concussion in theater.

The military plans to include screening questions for TBI on the post deployment health assessment that every returning Soldier completes. The Department of Veterans Affairs also requested the DVBIC's screening tool for their clients.

"Their patients are potentially farther out than ours, so they may have a need to modify it in some way so it is more specialized to their particular population," Warden said.

Warden said she is optimistic that measures being taken in theater and during redeployment will ensure Soldiers get the care they need.

"I think that there are mechanisms in place to pick up these people. I think there are people who had concussions in theater and may have recovered completely and others who have not recovered completely," she said. "I'd like to think that the processes that we are putting in place are going to make it possible to make it much better in addressing the needs of a lot of those people, period."



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



# Enjoying a healthy and safe summer

Story by  
**DENISE MCKINNEY**  
KUSAHC

Many readers may recall 20th century composer George Gershwin's famous lyrics: "Summertime, and the living is easy..." While most Americans associate the upcoming summer season with outdoor fun - vacations, camp, cook-outs, holidays and a myriad of activities in warm sunny weather - they are less likely to think about the hidden dangers this fun might conceal.

Parents and children are reminded that proper planning and safety awareness will ensure that this summer will

be a happy memory maker.

## Limiting sun exposure

More than one million cases of skin cancer are diagnosed annually in the United States; 20 people die of skin cancer every day.

Dermatology experts report that 90 percent of these skin cancers are attributed to cumulative sun exposure.

The incidence of all types of skin cancers continues to increase in young people; this trend is especially worrisome to pediatric and dermatology experts.

Since the risk of developing skin cancer is doubled if a person has had five or

more sunburns in a lifetime, and the risk of life-threatening melanoma is doubled with just one blistering sunburn in childhood, it is imperative to prevent sun exposure in children as well as to acquire good preventive habits for a lifetime of sun safety.

Skin cancers can be prevented by limiting sun exposure. Both the American Academy of Dermatology and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend three simple measures: avoid exposure during the peak hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (shade or indoors); protect the skin with clothing (cotton, and a cap with a forward-facing brim); and use sunscreen generously.

The AAP also suggests that children wear sunglasses; check the label for ones which will block at least 99 percent of UV light. Sunscreen should be applied thoroughly to all sun-exposed areas about 30 minutes prior to going outside, and re-applied every two hours. Additional sunscreen should be rubbed on after

sweating or swimming. Use caution around reflective surfaces, such as water, which can reflect most of the sun. High altitudes will intensify the sun's rays; clouds will permit damaging sunlight as well.

The AAP states that sunscreens marked SPF 15 are sufficient if applied according to the above parameters. Products should be waterproof and broad-spectrum (blocking UVA and UVB), and children should use products designed for them. Caution should be used in applying sunscreens to infants under six months.

The AAP also recommends the application of zinc oxide to the nose, cheeks, tops of the ears and other areas often missed by sunscreen lotions.

A special word of caution is extended to teenagers involving the use of tanning beds or booths. The risk of developing melanoma is increased by 75 percent in persons who use tanning facilities before the age of 35. These individuals are also more than twice as likely to develop the less

aggressive skin cancers. Since newer sunlamps can be 15 times more powerful than the sun's rays this practice is especially dangerous.

## Practicing water safety

Many Families visit local beaches or community swimming pools during the hot Maryland summer or take advantage of opportunities for boating and other water sports. Parents should remember that children should be supervised at all times when in or around the water.

Inflatable swim rings or water wings are not safety devices and may cause children to venture into deeper waters. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Devices should be worn by all persons at all times while enjoying Maryland waterways.

As with motor vehicles, drinking and piloting a boat make for a dangerous combination.

## Biking safely

Bicycling is great exercise for the whole Family. At a time when childhood obe-

sity is a significant problem in this country, Family bike outings provide inexpensive quality Family time and lots of exercise.

Cyclists are reminded that all riders must wear helmets. Studies have shown that the most important factor in teaching children to always don their helmet is the example set by their parents. If parents wear helmets, children will also.

## Heat safety

Vigorous outdoor exercises should be limited when the heat and humidity are high. Fluids should be replenished often, about a cup of water every 20 minutes for an active teen, or 5 ounces for a smaller child. Children should be well hydrated before the start of active play. Light colored loose fitting cotton clothing should be worn on hot days.

For more information on summer safety, readers are directed to [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org), [www.skincancer.org](http://www.skincancer.org) or [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

## Commentary: Are you drinking enough water on hot summer days?

Story by  
**MAJ KAREN FAUBER**  
DeCA

While you are busy having fun this summer remember to frequently drink water. Water

is often the last beverage we reach for on a hot summer day. Yet it is the one you need the most.

It is estimated that 60 to 70 percent of your body is water.

Water is used by our bodies to get rid of waste in our organs and carry nutrients to all the cells. We lose water through perspiration, respiration, and elimination of body waste.



People who do not drink enough become dehydrated and feel lethargic; have headaches, muscle aches and cramps.

### How much fluid do you need each day?

- Men need about 3 liters (13 cups) of total beverages a day and women need about 2.2 liters (nine cups) of total beverages a day according to the Institute of Medicine.

- Exercise less than one hour and you need about one or two extra cups of water.

- Exercise more than one hour and you need at least two to three extra cups of water. Drink more if you are sweating a lot or the weather is really warm.

- During intense, long exercise periods it's a good idea to use a sports drink that contains sodium to replace the sodium lost in sweat.

- Replace fluid after exercise. Drink 16 ounces of fluid per pound of body weight lost during exercise as a general rule.

### Have trouble drinking water?

Water is the best choice for fluid replacement.

Sports drinks are beneficial for replacing electrolytes lost during long exercise periods. Juices are also good because they have vitamins and nutrients. Sodas and teas can have a lot of sugar in them so you may take in more calories than you need. Try adding a little lemon, lime or orange to water to help it go down. There are also a variety of flavored waters available in the commissary. Be aware of the calories as they add up quickly if you choose flavored waters.

If you drink alcohol remember to drink water. That six-pack of beer may appear to quench your thirst, but alcohol has a diuretic effect that causes the body to lose fluids faster than normal. This means if you drink alcohol, you need to drink an equal amount of water especially on hot summer days.

For a quick response on questions on water, fluid replacement or other nutrition topics, visit the DeCA dietitian forum at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

# Army notice of availability: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the realignment OF APG

DSHE

The Army has announced the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the realignment of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The FEIS evaluates potential environmental and socioeconomic effects that would occur upon implementation of realignment actions at APG pursuant to recommendations of the 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

The FEIS addresses alternatives that include renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities required to accommodate incoming military missions and a net gain

of about 4,400 positions as mandated by the 2005 BRAC Commission's recommendations at APG. Activities realigning to APG are administrative and research and development in nature.

The waiting period on the FEIS will end 30 days after publication of the notice of availability in the Federal Register by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A Record of Decision will be signed at the end of this 30-day period.

An electronic version of the FEIS is available for download on the U.S. Army BRAC Division Web site, [http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/nepa\\_eis\\_docs.htm](http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/nepa_eis_docs.htm). Paper copies of the DEIS are available for review at the following public libraries:

**Harford County Library, Aberdeen Branch**  
21 Franklin Street  
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001  
410-273-5608

**Elkton Central Library, Cecil County**  
301 Newark Avenue  
Elkton, Maryland 21921  
410-996-5600

**Harford County Library, Edgewood Branch**  
629 Edgewood Road  
Edgewood, Maryland 21040

410-612-1600

**Kent County Public Library**  
408 High Street

Chestertown, Maryland 21620  
410-778-3636

To obtain copies of the FEIS, contact Buddy Keesee at Department of the Army, Directorate of Safety, Health, and Environment, ATTN: IMNE-APG-SHE-R, Building 5650, APG, MD 21005-5001; e-mail Buddy.Keesee@us.army.mil, or call 410-278-6755 during normal business hours Monday through Thursday.

## Edgewood Acquisition Center announces purchase request submission schedule

RDECOMAC

The Edgewood Contracting Division of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Acquisition Center has established its Fiscal Year 2007 Cutoff Dates for Submission of Purchase Requests.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting purchase requests by or before the dates shown below greatly enhances the ability of the Edgewood Contracting Division to meet customer needs.

Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year-end.

Organizations are advised to submit their year-end acquisition requirements as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of funds going

unobligated at year end.

### FY 2007 Schedule

- Noncommercial Items More than \$100,000 - July 1

- Noncommercial Items More than \$100,000 (Competitive) - too late this year - need minimum of six months; however, there may be exceptions. Requests will be considered on an individual basis.

- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 - Aug. 1 (Competitive and Noncompetitive)

- Commercial Items between \$100,000 and \$5M (Competitive and Noncompetitive) - Aug. 1

- Short of Award over \$2,500 - action brought up to point of award pending receipt of funds - July 1

- Commercial Items Under

\$100,000 (Competitive and Noncompetitive) - Sept. 1

- Task Orders/Delivery Orders between \$2,500 and \$100,000 (Competitive and Noncompetitive) - Sept. 1

- Task Orders/Delivery Orders between \$100,000 and \$1 mil (Competitive and Noncompetitive) - Aug. 15

- Task Orders/Delivery Orders more than \$1 million

(Competitive and Noncompetitive) - July 1

Requests received after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require approval by the director, Edgewood Contracting Division.

For more information, call Gwen Johnson, 410-436-3352, or Carol Edmead, 410-436-4388.

## Procurement actions for services require additional lead time

APG DOC

Due to new regulation requirements, additional time is required to process service requirements. Customers should refer to Army FAR Supplement (AFARS) 5137.590 at <https://webportal.saalt.army.mil/saal-zp/procurement/afars.doc>.

The new approvals will become even more critical as the end of the fiscal year approaches.

The APG Directorate of Contracting will be developing templates to assist customers in preparing the required document and anticipate posting them to Web site <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/contracting.asp> by July 16.

The new requirement is applicable now and will affect service acquisitions projected to be awarded by Sept. 30.

Also, the acquisition strategy documentation is in addition to the Secretary of the Army's Policy for Civilian Hiring and Initiation/Continuation of Contracts for Service Personnel, which requires senior commander approval.

With few exceptions, acquisition strategy documentation and approval (referred to as

AMOAS) is required for services for more than \$100K. The following thresholds and approval levels apply and will incrementally require additional lead time.

“Service” means the engagement of the time and effort of a contractor whose primary purpose is to perform an identifiable task, or tasks, rather than to furnish an end item of supply.

“Acquisition of services” means one or multiple contracts or other instruments committing or obligating funds (e.g., fund transfer, placing orders under the Federal Supply Schedules or other existing contract, etc.) to acquire services for a specified requirement and includes (1) entry into a contract or any other form of agreement including, but not limited to, basic ordering agreements, blanket purchase agreements, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts, and similar ordering agreements and (2) issuance of a task order or any transfer of funds to acquire a service on behalf of the DoD.

For more information, contact the chief, Contracting Division, 410-278-0869.

Performance Based	Non-Performance Based	Approval Authority	Lead-times (Days)
\$100K up to \$10M	\$100K up to \$3M	DOC, APG	05
\$10M up to \$150M	\$3M to \$10M	PARC	15
\$150M up to \$500M	Over \$10M up to \$78.5M	HCA	140
\$500M or more	Over \$78.5M	DASA (P&P)	240+

Visit APG News online at  
[www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil)

# Community Notes

## FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

### JULY 13 THRU 15 "OPERATION HELPING HERO'S" FREEDOM RIDE

American Watercraft Association and Operation Second Chance for Charity Ride down the Chesapeake Bay, Potomac River will host Operation Helping Hero's Freedom Ride watercraft trek to benefit injured U.S. Soldiers.

The personal watercraft ride begins at sunrise on July 13 in Charlestown, Md., starting down the Chesapeake Bay and then up the Potomac River to the Quantico Marine Corp Base in Virginia where riders will spend the night. On July 14, riders will proceed up river

to Leesylvania State Park, Va., to join the American Watercraft Association's 3rd Annual D.C. Freedom Ride. They will then return to Quantico after the festivities. On Sunday morning the River Runners will begin the trip home following the same path.

For more information, call Jennifer Hall, 202-777-3503 or e-mail [jhall@clsdc.com](mailto:jhall@clsdc.com) or Jaclyn Simon, 202-777-3540 or e-mail [jsimon@clsdc.com](mailto:jsimon@clsdc.com), or visit Web site [www.east-empariverrunners.com](http://www.east-empariverrunners.com).

## SATURDAY

### JULY 14 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit The Men's Auxiliary of VFW Post

8185 will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards. Food, beverages, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will be available. No smoking is allowed. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or VFW Post 8185, 410-642-9297.

## MONDAY

### JULY 16

Gunpowder Toastmasters Club 2562 will meet 11:40 a.m. at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650, Parrish Road in APG South.

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

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

## TUESDAY

### JULY 17 HIGHLANDS SCHOOL PARENT WORKSHOP

The Highlands School, located at 708 Highland Road, Street, Md., will host a Parent Workshop, 10:30 a.m. to noon. The workshop, Finding the Answers for Auditory Processing Deficits, will feature an explanation of and strategies to use for auditory processing deficits. Parents of all children with reading comprehension difficulties are encouraged to attend. The workshop is free and open to the public. Seating is limited.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-836-1415.

## THURSDAY

### JULY 19 CAREER FAIR FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND SPOUSES

The military-to-civilian firm RecruitMilitary will present a Career Fair for military veterans and spouses, ecruitMilitary Career Fair for Military Veterans and Military Spouses 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the ballroom at Patapsco Arena, located on 3301 Annapolis Road, Baltimore. Admission is free.

The event is open to veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and reserves and military spouses.

More than 30 veteran-friendly organizations will conduct one-on-one interviews with the job seekers – organizations that will include corporate employers, law-enforcement agencies and other government employers, educational institutions, veterans service agencies and veterans associations.

For more information, call Drew Myers, president, RecruitMilitary, LLC, 513-683-5020 or e-mail [drew@recruitmilitary.com](mailto:drew@recruitmilitary.com).

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

## Cooling stations available in Harford County

The Harford County Department of Community Services has made several senior centers available as cooling stations for Harford County residents in need of relief from the heat. The centers are open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Centers include the Havre de Grace Activity Center located on Lewis Lane, Havre de Grace; the Edgewood Senior Center located on Gateway Drive, Edgewood; the Aberdeen Senior Center located on Franklin Street, Aberdeen; and the McFaul Activity Center located on MacPhail Road, Bel Air. In the event it is needed, arrangements will be made to extend the hours.

Outreach staff from the Harford County Office on Aging will contact frail and infirmed clients to monitor their comfort and safety throughout this extraordinary high temperature weather event.

For more information, call 410-638-3354.

## APG offers basic, experienced rider's courses

The Basic Rider Course and Experienced Rider Course is free and mandatory for any Soldier, civilian, retiree, Family member or contractor who wants to operate a motorcycle on post. Basic and Experienced Rider courses are scheduled through the next several months at building 5442, Range at Susquehanna and Havre de Grace Street, across from building 3073.

BRC, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., is designed for the novice rider who holds a learner's permit and has his/her own motorcycle. Dates are: July 31; Aug. 1; Sept. 5 and 6; Oct. 2 and 3; Nov. 12 and 20

ERC, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., is designed for the licensed motorcyclist who wants to sharpen his/her riding skills and has thier own motorcycle. The motorcyclist should have at least been riding one season. Dates are: Aug. 2 and 3; Sept. 7; Oct. 2, 3, 4 and 5; Nov. 1, 2 and 23

For more information or to register, call H. Mike Allen, Installation Safety Division, 410-306-1081 or e-mail [mike.allen@apg.army.mil](mailto:mike.allen@apg.army.mil).

## POST SHORTS

cess so they can achieve their own employment success.

Topics include:

- what employers are looking for
- how to apply for a job
- tips on resume writing
- interviewing experience

For more information or to enroll teens in this free class, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness, 410-278-9669

### ACS holds Waiting Families Support Group meetings

The Waiting Families Support Group is scheduled for 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays, at Army Community Service, building 2754 Rodman Road. This group is designed to provide resource information to assist spouses and Family members remaining behind while the military sponsor serves on unaccompanied tours, extended TDY, or deployments.

Meetings will be held July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.

For more information, call Marilyn Howard, ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road, 410-278-9669/7572.

### SOLE holds luncheon

The International Society of Logistics (formerly Society of Logistics Engineers) will hold a luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 23, in Top of the Bay's Gunpowder Room featuring guest speaker David Shaffer, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. Seating is limited.

For more information, contact Larry Seed, 410-297-9550, larry.seed@msaincorp.com, or Paul Nelson, 410-436-4575, paul.nelson@us.army.mil.

### ACS holds Job Fair

The ACS Employment Readiness Program in partnership with the APG Military Transition Assistance Program

will hold a Job Fair, 1 to 5 p.m., July 24, at the Aberdeen North Recreation Center. There will be various employers for full and part-time positions available. The Job Fair is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Employment Readiness Program, building 2754, 410-278-9669.

### ACS presents Smart Start Your Business seminars

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program in partnership with Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union and HCC SBDC will sponsor Smart Start Your Business seminars. This free 90-minute orientation program provides an overview of the ways to start a business, the skills and duties of a successful entrepreneur and how to write a strategic business plan. Other services offered by the SBDC will also be discussed.

Seminars will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 25, Aug. 22, Sept. 19, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14.

For more information or to RSVP, call 410-278-9669.

### RAB holds meeting

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its next monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., July 26, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Bush River Study Area.

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.

### Hunter safety classes offered

Hunter Safety classes will be held Aug. 6, 8 and 11. Registration deadline is July 27.

There is no fee for this class,

however donations are accepted. Hunter Safety classes fill quickly, so registering now.

An independent study class will be offered on Sept. 16 for students ages 16 and older. Students will receive a student manual and work book on Aug. 19. Students must complete the workbooks by Sept. 16.

For more information or to register, students should call Nita Snyder, 410-671-9070 and leave a message with a name and phone number.

An instructor will contact students to verify their space in the class and obtain additional registration information. Directions to the classroom will be provided at that time.

### CBRN Defense Course offered at Fort Bragg

The Fort Bragg CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) Defense School unit CBRN Defense Course is open to all military

personnel regardless of rank. The target audience is personnel that currently or will fill the positions of unit CBRN officer, noncommissioned officer or enlisted alternate.

Units are encouraged to send additional Soldiers.

The course consists of classroom instruction and hands-on training in chemical and biological agent identification, toxic industrial chemicals and toxic industrial materials identification, CS chamber operations, CBRN room operation, reporting, and equipment operation. A new addition to the course is a scenario-driven CBRN exercise.

To attain slots contact the CBRN Defense School, 910-396-8991/9143 (DSN 236) or a unit schools NCO. For more information, visit the CBRN Defense School Web site, <https://airborneteam.bragg.army.mil/cbrn>.

Registration closes three days before course start date.

<b>Course number</b>	<b>Course dates</b>
07-07	July 26 to Aug. 10
08-07	Sept. 7 to 21

### Veterinary clinic closes for inventory

The APG Veterinary Treatment Facility will be closed July 31 for end of month inven-

tory. For more information, contact the VTF, 410-278-3922/ 4604.

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



**BOSS News**

"Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers"

All Soldiers are welcome to attend events. Contact Sgt. Eugenia Richards, 410-278-2709, for more information on BOSS events.

**White water rafting/paintball trip**  
BOSS is going on a trip to the Poconos for white water rafting and Skirmish Paintball July 28 and Aug. 18. The one-day trip costs \$54.95. Price includes all safety equipment for both rafting and paintball. Lunch can either be purchased or brought from home. Transportation will be provided. For serious inquires, a \$15 deposit is required to hold the date and the rest of the payment is due two weeks prior to trip. The deadlines are July 13 and Aug. 3.

**Community service**  
The quarterly trip to visit the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington, D.C., is Aug. 15. The starting point is at the APG North Recreation Center at 6:30 a.m. The group will return no later than 5 p.m.

# Parker inducted into Hall of Fame

## Former PM receives highest honor from Chem Corps Regimental Association

Story by  
**KATHERINE DEWEESE**  
ACWA

The former Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives was inducted into the Chemical Corps Hall of Fame at a June 27 ceremony held during the Worldwide Joint Chemical Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Conference and Exhibition at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., home of the U.S. Army Chemical School.

Michael A. Parker, who retired from federal government service in

April, was honored for distinguishing himself throughout his career as a far-sighted leader who transformed vision into innovative accomplishments. He was lauded for his evolving vision for more than three decades of service that met the needs of Warfighters and the nation with unprecedented results.

"It is both a great honor and humbling to be recognized by the Chemical Corps Regimental Association with induction into the Hall Of Fame," Parker said. "The Corps has produced many great leaders both

civilian and military who have mentored me across my career. These great leaders were the foundation for the contribution to the Corps and the nation that I have made. The ability of the Corps to produce high quality leadership bodes well for the future of the Chemical Corps and the security of our nation."

Created in 1989, the Chemical Corps Hall of Fame award is the highest form of recognition the regiment offers. The award honors those who are judged to have made a legacy of landmark contributions throughout

their career and life, or performed the most significant of actions contributing to the overall history and traditions of the Chemical Corps and the defense of the nation.

In addition to service as program manager for ACWA, Parker also served as the director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency from 2003 to 2007. Prior to that, he held many other key positions in APG South, including deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command; technical director of the Chemical

Research, Development and Engineering Center; and acted as project manager for Binary Munitions.

Among his awards and decorations are the Presidential Rank Award at the distinguished and meritorious levels, the Defense Department Distinguished Civilian Service Award, and the Army Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service and Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Parker lives in Bel Air with his wife Sue. The couple has two daughters, Jennifer and Jessica.

## Irby

From page 2

After serving in positions such as squad leader, section sergeant, platoon sergeant, first sergeant and command sergeant major, Irby has learned a lot of

lessons about leadership.

"When you first start out as a private or a private first class, the only person you have to be accountable for is yourself," he said. "As you grow and become an NCO, you are put in charge of other Soldiers, and you have to set a good example for them."

With these tasks, the NCO is "accountable for the good and bad" things Soldiers do, he said.

"Sometimes you don't have direct responsibility for what they've done but you have an indirect responsibility because they are under your charge," Irby said. "You may not have a clue of what they were doing, but when the smoke clears, you're still responsible because that comes with the territory of being a leader."

The lower ranking Soldiers help the NCOs to become better leaders just as the NCOs help them to become better Soldiers, he said.

"As we get promoted up through the ranks, we know we didn't get there on our own," Irby said. "We have some responsibility but we got there on the backs of those young Soldiers that are under us. They are the ones that push you because if they don't function, you're not successful. There are no bad Soldiers just some training challenges, and we have to work through those."

Having spent 30 years in the Army, Irby has a large coin collection from leaders he has worked with. Although each coin is special to him, Irby said one that he remembers the most is the coin he received while stationed in the 2nd Army Cavalry Regiment in 1989.

Irby, a sergeant first class at the time, and his colleagues conducted Common Task Testing for the squadron.

"Out of all the years I have done sergeant time training, that was the most memorable sergeant time training I have ever done because [Sgt. Maj. Gene McKinney] had gathered all the senior non-commissioned officers to be evaluators," he said.

The training was held in a huge parade field where McKinney, all the first sergeants and master sergeants first assessed all of the other people that were going to be evaluators for the rest of the squadron. The CTT took the senior NCOs all day, Irby said. The senior NCOs and master sergeants eventually ran all the stations after McKinney and the first sergeants evaluated the other leaders.

"Every Soldier in the squadron had their squad leader march them through each station and that squad leader would be the first one to test," Irby said. "Then after they [the Soldiers] would test and they got a 'Go', the squad leaders

stood and watched each one of their Soldiers come through and test."

If a Soldier failed, the squad leader would re-train them and march them through the station again. The squad could not leave until all of its Soldiers passed the stations, he said.

It took two weeks for the squadron to pass all of the stations.

At the end of the ceremony, McKinney gave all of the evaluators a coin.

"That [experience] was instilled in me and I kind of used that model as I became a first sergeant and sergeant major throughout my career," Irby said. "That sticks out in my mind most from all the coins I received. All of the coins are earned, but that coin was truly earned."

Serving in the Army has allowed me the opportunity to meet friends that last a lifetime, Irby said.

"Some friends that I met as a private I still stay in contact with today," Irby said. "Some I have crossed paths with while I have been assigned to different installations."

He said that he will miss all of the friends he has made at APG but plans on keeping in contact with them by phone, e-mail and periodic visits.

Irby said overall, working at APG has been a positive experience.

"I've had a lot of great leaders: Major General Doesburg, Major General Nadeau, Colonel Mark, Colonel Wright and Ms. Diane Devens," he said. "I've had a great relationship with all the commands on the installation to include the NCO leadership."

He said he'd like to thank the commanders, past and present garrison team and Headquarters and Headquarters Company employees for their dedication and help throughout the years.

He expressed appreciation for dedicated employees who are not in uniform.

"A lot of people don't realize that people that are not in uniform are just as committed as those wearing the uniform," he said. "The majority of them have either worn the uniform, their spouse or someone in their Family has worn the uniform or they have grown up around uniformed personnel all their lives."

Irby said his post retirement plans include returning to Texas and starting a limousine business. He plans to spend time with his son Kory who is still in high school. Irby's other son Kevin is stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash.

"The first couple of months I'm going to go on vacation," he said. "I'm just going to relax, enjoy life and decompress."

## Wright

From page 2

forward to returning for the 90th Anniversary Gala to be held at Ripken Stadium Nov. 10.

"Next year will be a real adventure," he said. "The survey crews you see now are just the beginning. The ninetieth anniversary will serve as closure of one chapter and the opening of a new chapter."

Wright said that overall he

enjoyed working with community and business leaders and chairing monthly Well-Being meetings, and he complimented the *APG News* calling it, "One of the best Army newspapers I've seen in terms of original content."

He said he hopes his legacy states that "Colonel Wright was caring and passionate about providing for Soldiers and their Families."

"I hope the community will look back and say that over the last three years, APG as part of the Northeast Region has truly

come into its own as a partner and as a very good steward of the environment," Wright said. "There is great potential here, and the quality of life is fantastic."

He thanked former APG commander Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau and Diane Devens, director, Installation Management Command - Northeast Region, for their support during his tenure.

"They were a pleasure to work with, and I thank them both for providing me the guidance and the latitude to accomplish the mission," Wright said. "Most of all, I thank my Family for their love and understanding throughout my military career and for putting up with all the missed events and unaccompanied assignments. My Family and I have greatly enjoyed our time at the top of the bay. We have made many friends here, and look forward to returning to northeastern Maryland in the future."



# Veterans' Voices

## Volunteers needed to read names at Vietnam Veterans Memorial All 58,256 names to be read to mark 25th anniversary Nov. 7 through 10



Photo by SPC. JOE ALGER

Former 1st Infantry Division Soldiers visit the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C., during the 87th annual reunion of the Society of the 1st Infantry Division July 20 through 24.

Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has put out a nationwide call for volunteers to help read the 58,256 names inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the days leading up to the 25th anniversary.

From Nov. 7 to 10, a platform will be erected in front of The Wall, and the names will be read continuously for up to 19 hours a day. Reading will stop during the overnight hours, according to Jan C. Scruggs, founder and president of the Memorial Fund. Nearly 2,000 individuals are needed to help with this project.

"We created The Wall to ensure that we never forget those brave men and women who served their country so ably," Scruggs said. "By reading the names aloud, we once again remember each individual. On the twenty-fifth anniversary of The Wall's dedication, this seemed especially significant."

There are two registration deadlines for those interested in reading names. Those who

want to read specific names have until Friday, Aug. 17 to send in their requests. Volunteers for general reading have until Friday, Sept. 14 to register. Notification of reading times will be sent to all volunteers by Oct. 1.

Registration materials can be downloaded from the Memorial Fund's Web site, [www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org), and either mailed or faxed back. Instructions are included with the forms.

The Reading of the Names will take place at The Wall for 65 hours over a four-day period, beginning with an opening ceremony Wednesday, 3 p.m., Nov. 7, volunteers will read names for about eight hours, from 4 p.m. to midnight. Every day after that, names will be read from 5 a.m. until midnight.

The Reading of the Names has taken place in Washington, D.C., just three other times in The Wall's history. The first time was in November 1982, before The Wall was dedicated. That time, the names were read aloud in Washington National Cathedral. For

the 10th and 20th anniversaries, the names were read at The Wall.

Established in 1979, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is the nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to build the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Today, through a series of outreach programs, it is dedicated to preserving the legacy of The Wall, promoting healing, educating about the impact of the Vietnam War and is building the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Center, an underground educational facility, near The Wall.

## Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program offers respite care

ACS

A recent enhancement to the Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program is the addition of Respite Funding.

"Respite means a temporary break or time away," said Isolda McClelland ACS, EFMP manager. "It can be as simple as time to take care of business that an EFM caretaker may not be able to handle while taking care of their loved one, or having a couple of hours to relax and take time for themselves."

The Department of the Army has

approved funding for respite care for Family members of active duty service members enrolled in the EFMP. Eligibility for respite care will be based on the EFM's medical condition and specific guidelines established by DA.

A qualifying Family is eligible to receive a maximum of 40 hours of respite care monthly for each certified EFM. If the qualifying Family receives respite care from another source, they will not qualify for the EFMP respite care for that month.

"Respite applications can be picked

up and returned to my office. Providers will be expected to go through the respite training provided by my office," McClelland said.

There will be a Respite Care Information and Overview Session 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Aug. 9, in the ACS Conference Room, building 2754 Rodman Road.

For more information on how to access Respite care thru EFMP, contact the ACS EFMP Program Manager, 410-278-2420/7572 or e-mail [isolda.mcclelland@apg.army.mil](mailto:isolda.mcclelland@apg.army.mil).

## Working Woman's Scholarship nominations open till Aug. 10

FEW

The Maryland Tri-County chapter of Federally Employed Women presents an annual \$300 scholarship called the 2007 Dottie Dorman Working Woman's Scholarship to a deserving woman to pay for or offset college expenses incurred in pursuit of her continuing education.

### To qualify nominee must:

- Be a female employee in any federal job in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County.
- Currently be pursuing college-level education studies.
- Prepare a short essay (not to exceed one typewritten page) summarizing your educational plans and explaining how this scholarship will be used. Indicate in the essay whether you are currently receiving federal aid for education, whether you are involved in a RIF, and what the promotion potential is in your current federal position.
- Provide the name; home and work addresses; home and work telephone numbers; e-mail

addresses; name and telephone number of current supervisor (to confirm federal employment); and name of nominee's educational institution.

- Submit application to the Maryland Tri-County FEW Scholarship, c/o Suzanne Schultz, 952 Chesapeake Drive, Havre de Grace, MD 21078 no later than Aug. 10.

The winner will be announced during the APG Women's Equality Day observance and awards ceremony, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Aug. 22, at the APG South Conference Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground.

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



# MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

## Activities/Events

### Visit the King Tutankhamun Museum exhibit

Spend a day with MWR in Philadelphia, Aug. 18, beginning with a visit to see King Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs Exhibit at the Franklin Institute Science Museum. Other historical areas of interest in the beautiful city of Philadelphia will be available.

Cost of the trip is \$60 per person and includes bus transportation and admission to the King Tut exhibit.

For more information or to make reservations, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR-LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

### Do-it-yourself New York City tours

MWR has scheduled several trips to New York City – eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, watching a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more.

Trips will take place July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20 or Nov. 17. Cost of the trip is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 8:25 a.m. and will return 10:30 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or visit MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR\_LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

### Beat the summer heat with 'Links to Lanes'

Nine holes of golf, two games of bowling with an APG Bowling Center meal ticket costs \$20 per player during July and August. Participation in APG North and South must

be completed within the same week. The golf portion may be played Monday through Friday after 4:30 p.m. The bowling portion may be completed anytime the lanes are available.

For more information on this special, call 410-278-9452 or 410-278-4041.

### See the Wiggles

See Sam, Murray, Jeff and Anthony in "Racing to the Rainbow," 3 p.m., Aug. 10, at the Baltimore 1st Mariner Arena. Tickets cost \$29.75. Seats are located on 200 level.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, APG Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr\_registration@apg.army.mil.

### Aberdeen Ironbirds tickets

Tickets are available for the following Aberdeen Ironbirds games:

- Staten Island Yankees (Military Appreciation Night), 7:05 p.m., Aug. 16,
- Oneonta Tigers, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 6

Tickets cost \$13.50 per person and include a complimentary Ironbirds hat.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at APG North Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr\_registration@apg.army.mil or visit Web site [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

### MWR begins daily bus trips to Atlantic City

Roll the bones on daily trips to Atlantic City. MWR Leisure Travel Services offers daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal and Tropicana casinos for ages 21 and over.

Cost of the trip to Trump

Taj Mahal is \$28 per person with \$22 back in cash and a \$5 buffet coupon. Cost of the trip to Tropicana Casino is \$6, no bonus back.

The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood at 9 a.m. and return at 9 p.m.

Customers should note that the trips are selling out two weeks in advance. Call ahead to reserve a seat.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services at Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr\_registration@apg.army.mil.

### Orioles Baseball tickets available at MWR Leisure Travel Services

All game seats are located in Section 40 Row WW seats 11 and 12, Row XX seats 11 and 12. Tickets cost \$49 each.

Call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr\_registration@apg.army.mil.

- Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Wednesday, July 25, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Friday, Aug. 10, 7:05 p.m.
- Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Thursday, Aug. 30, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Thursday, Sept. 6, 7:05 p.m.
- Boston Red Sox, Friday, Sept. 7, 7:05 p.m.
- New York Yankees, Friday, Sept. 28, 7:05 p.m.

### Disney High School Musical on ice

Tickets are available for Disney High School Musical: The Ice Tour, Nov. 2 through 4, at the 1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore.

For more information, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail mwr\_registration@apg.army.mil.

## Golf enthusiast scores lowest round at Ruggles Breaks course record

Story and photo by **HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

An APG golfer makes golf his life and work, and this dedication to the sport led him to play his lowest round of golf ever June 11 at Ruggles Golf Course when he shot an eagle and six birdies to receive a score of 64, eight under par.

"I felt great when I was playing that day. It felt like I couldn't make a mistake," said Patrick Hinch.

Hinch said he usually shoots around par or below. In his 15 years of golfing, he has also experienced two holes in one. He has been the winner of the Ruggles Golf Championship the last five years.

Hinch said he began playing golf with his parents when he was four years old.

"When we got to the greens, we would let him tip and putt," said Sheryl Forbes, Hinch's mother.

Forbes said she has seen "tremendous improvement" in her son's golfing throughout the years.

"He started outplaying me when he was eight years old," she said.

She said Hinch has really kept up with playing throughout the years with his friends and spent a few years in the APG Youth Golf program.

In addition to playing golf, he also worked at Ruggles Golf Course for two years and currently works at Exton Golf Course as a cashier.

"I play golf every day," Hinch said. "That is what is nice about working on a golf course. As soon as you get off work, you can go play. It's relaxing for the most part and it's a lot of fun."

Although he enjoys playing golf at both Ruggles and Exton, he said his favorite course to play is Mountain Branch in Joppa.

"I like to play Mountain Branch because I think it fits my game the best, and the course is always in excellent condition," he said.

Hinch also said he likes to watch the pros every week on TV especially his favorite golfers, Sergio Garcia and Ernie Els.

His advice to other golfers is, "If you hit a bad shot forget about it. 'Don't let it stay with you because it can ruin a round.'"

Dave Correll of Ruggles Golf Course said that Hinch's achievement is an unofficial record for the black tees.



Patrick Hinch gets ready to shoot the ball at Exton Golf Course where he works as a cashier. Hinch scored a 64 on June 11, an unofficial record for the black tees at Ruggles Golf Course. He has also won the Ruggles Golf Championship the past five years.

## Sports

### Registering for Challenger Soccer Camp

Challenger Sports' British soccer camps are the largest camps in the U.S. The camp includes individual skill development, professional British coaching staff, programs for all levels, daily world cup style tournament, free soccer ball, free T-shirt and a bonus British

soccer Jersey if youths register 45 days before the camp.

Soccer Camp is scheduled for July 23 through 27.

Camp for ages 4 and 5 will be held 8:30 to 10 a.m., and costs \$72 per child; ages 6 through 14 will be held 10:10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and costs \$102 per child. Camp will be held at the Youth soccer field (APG

North) on Bayside Drive.

For registration, go to [www.challengersports.com](http://www.challengersports.com) and click on find a camp, click on type of camp (British Soccer camps) type in the APG zip code (21005) and click on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

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

## Upcoming golf events

### Senior Golf Special

Ruggles Golf Course is offering a Senior Golf Special to golfers age 55 or older: play Monday through Thursday until 2:30 p.m. for \$33. This special may not be used with any other discounts. Tee time registration is recommended.

For more information, call 410-278-4794 or e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil.

### Summer Scramble

Ruggles Golf Course will hold a Summer Scramble open to all golfers, July 21 with an 8 a.m. start. Entry fee costs \$30 for annual patrons, \$45 for authorized patrons with a value card, and \$55 for guests and includes range balls, cart, hot dog with soda on turn, appetizers with beverages and prizes.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-4794, or visit the Pro Shop at Ruggles.

## ACS upcoming events

All scheduled events will be held at the Army Community Service Center, building 2754, Rodman Road unless otherwise noted.

The Parenting Lunchbox will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., on Tuesdays through July 31, for parents of children from ages birth to 16. This workshop is for parents, whether experiencing difficulties or simply searching for a fresh approach to effectively communicate with children.

A Support Group for Survivors meets 6 to 8 p.m., each Tuesday. The topic is "Talking it Out." The support group is open to adults affected by unhealthy relationships including domestic and/or sexual violence.

A Support Group for Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse will meet 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, starting Aug. 7. "Let's Talk About It," provides emotional support, begins the healing process, and shares experiences and resources.

The Relocation Program will hold a Home Buying and Selling Seminar class, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 18, at the Aberdeen North Recreation Center, building 3326.

Family Information Network Meeting, or FIN, support group meets 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the second Wednesday of the month. It is designed to provide education, information and support to those Families who are living with or caring for an exceptional Family member.

Army Community Service will celebrate its 42nd Birthday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 26, at the Maryland Boulevard picnic area.

Another Dynamic Huggable Delightful Child is a six-week series planned for August. The focus will be to educate parents on ADHD, behavior modification and communication techniques.

Victim Advocacy APG 24-Hour Hotlines: Domestic Violence is 410-652-6048; Sexual Assault is 1-410-322-7154.

**Army Entertainment and Aberdeen Proving Ground MWR present**

**ARMY CONCERT TOUR**

**MONTGOMERY GENTRY**

with Special Guests

**Saturday, September 29**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Tickets On Sale Soon. Watch for Early Bird Ticket Specials... Show starts at 7 p.m.**

**For details go to [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com)**

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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.)

<p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26, Army Community Service Birthday Picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> </ul> <p><b>September</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29, Army Concert Tour</li> </ul> <p><b>October</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> </ul>	<p><b>November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10, APG 90th Anniversary Gala, Ripken Stadium, 7 to 11 p.m. Ticket sales begin Aug. 21. Exhibitors welcome. For more information, call 410-278-1150.</li> <li>• 15, Military Family Movie, ACS, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.</li> </ul> <p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5, ACS Christmas Party/Tree Lighting Ceremony, 410-278-4372, 6 to 9 p.m.</li> </ul>
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(Editor's note: This calendar will be updated as necessary. New or changed items will appear in italic bold print.)

# APG mainstay Charles Shadle dies at 85

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Retired Col. Charles McCall Shadle, a fixture in the Aberdeen Proving Ground military retiree and boating communities died June 29 at St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson. Services were held July 2 and internment was in the Bel Air Memorial Gardens. Shadle was 85.

The former APG deputy post commander, Shadle served in the Army during World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. After his retirement he continued to serve the community first as the Harford County deputy chief of the Water and Sewer Division of the Department of Public Works, then as the director of the Department of Public Works, director of Facilities and Operations, the director of Intergovernmental Relations and director of Licenses, Permits and Inspections.

In the early 1980s, then County Executive J. Thomas Barranger, appointed Shadle as his director of Administration, where he served until the end of Barranger's term in late 1982.

Born at Edgewood Arsenal, Shadle was the son of the late Brig. Gen. Charles Stricklen Shadle and Martha Grace Shadle. He attended Bel Air High School and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1940. After his discharge in 1943, he joined the Army and was commissioned as an officer in March 1944, serving with distinction until his retirement 30 years later in 1974.

He was a life member of the U.S. Army Retired Officers Association, was president of the APG Retiree Council, and he served on the Fort Meade retiree council.

He devoted much of his retirement years to volunteer activities including the Coast Guard Auxiliary, which he supported for 32 years while organizing search and rescue operations and teaching boater safety.

Shadle's military assignments included the Philippine Islands, Korea, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Colo.,



Photo by LISA R. RHODES (SOUND OFF)

Aberdeen Proving Ground, and as associate professor of military science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Shadle's awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Shadle is survived by his wife of 61 years Hildegard Marie Shadle; two children, Mary Kathleen Swain of Bel Air and Charles Shadle and his wife Andrea, of Killeen, Texas; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Photo by DONNA MILES

Medics from the 3rd Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, encounter a vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices as they train at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

## Joint organization trains troops to defeat IEDs

Story by  
**JENNIE HASKAMP**  
Joint IED Organization

American Forces Press Service

Service members need to learn the techniques, tactics and procedures for defeating improvised explosive devices before they deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan, according to officials with the Joint IED Defeat Organization.

"IEDs are the number one killer on the battlefield," said Army Brig. Gen. Robert W. Cone, director of Joint IED Defeat Organization's Joint Center of Excellence at Fort Irwin, Calif. "I don't think we're doing enough to address that at home stations."

"Our training audience is typically on their way to Iraq for the third time," said Cone, a Manchester, N.H., native and 1979 West Point graduate. "Our customers want to train here to attack the network - we can't give them the basics and expect them to learn the rest in theater."

The Joint IED Defeat Organization, known as JIEDDO, is attacking the IED threat using a balance of intelligence, training and technology. Originally formed as the Army's IED Task Force, the group has transformed into a combined joint service, interagency, multi-national program designed to leverage all available resources and technologies in a coordinated campaign to defeat the IED threat, according to the organization's mission statement.

JIEDDO officials have set up four training centers, known as Joint Centers of Excellence, one for each branch of service. The centers ensure troops have a chance to train before deployment with the equipment they will use in the IED fight and in conditions that more closely mirror theater situations, JIEDDO officials said. Training centers are located on the Marine base in Twentynine Palms, Calif., a Navy facility in Indian Head, Md., Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and the Army's Fort Irwin, Calif.

JIEDDO hosted an IED Defeat Seminar the week of May 21 at the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin. The four-day seminar was designed to identify gaps in counter-IED training as well as make participants aware of training JIEDDO now provides for units heading to Iraq and Afghanistan.

In his opening remarks at the seminar, Cone emphasized three important counter-IED training issues and encouraged the audience to make the training more of a priority in pre-deployment work-ups.

He spoke of the need for better integration of technology onto the battlefield, the need to increase home station training and the importance of tailoring all counter-IED training to fit the audience.

Cone asked the leaders and trainers to start evaluating where changes can be made in home-station training. Then, shifting from training to communicating, he challenged leaders to share information at home and while forward deployed.

"We are a community of practice," he said. "If you're not participating in these VTCs [video teleconferences] we have, then you're a day late and a dollar short."

He said a breakdown in communication and information sharing is the leader's fault and the troops lose as a result.

"We need to share information and ideas," Cone said. "Shame on us if we're doing something here at NTC that they're not doing at the Joint Readiness Training Center [on Fort Polk, La.]."

Switching back to training, Cone addressed JIEDDO's role in home-station training. He reminded leaders to take advantage of JIEDDO and the training centers' resources all the while recognizing their own responsibilities.

"We need to take an appetite suppressant when we talk of what JIEDDO can do for us," he said. "JIEDDO is a great asset, but ultimately, the responsibility of training Soldiers and Marines lies with the commander."

Opening a two-hour panel discussion, Army Brig. Gen. Joe E. Ramirez Jr., deputy commanding general, Combined Arms Training Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., likened the IED fight to a game of chess.

"For every move we make, the enemy makes three," said Ramirez, a Houston native. "Multi-National Corp Iraq told me the enemy changes Techniques, Tactics and Procedures (TTP) every two to three weeks."

Brig. Gen. Ramirez, who served as deputy chief of staff for U.S. Central Command before being stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, echoed Brig. Gen. Cone's thoughts on information sharing.

"You can't rely on the last time you were there," he stressed to the audience. "If you haven't been to theater in the last four months-you're not up to date. Our biggest task is staying current and relevant."

Brig. Gen. Ramirez reminded the leaders and

See IEDS, page 14



## Heat savvy can save lives

Story by  
**LORIYERDON**  
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

As hot weather poses potential risk to Soldiers and Family members alike, individuals need to realize that heat injury prevention is not only a command and leadership responsibility, but a personal one too.

Heat injuries are avoidable yet can affect anyone. Individuals not used to hot weather, especially when it's combined with high humidity, are particularly susceptible. Young children, individuals with a long-term illness, and Soldiers that work in enclosed environments such as aircraft cockpits or vehicle interiors specially run the risk of becoming heat casualties. The use of supplements may also increase the chance of dehydration.

"Leaders and Soldiers must do more than just have water available," said Col. John Campbell, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center command surgeon. "Using composite risk management to assess and mitigate the potential health effects Soldiers might suffer during hot weather is critical."

According to the Army's Office of the Surgeon, 220 heat stroke cases were documented in 2006; of those, 57 Soldiers were hospitalized, 163 were outpatients, and two died. The injuries happened both in garrison and operational environments, and occurred during physical fitness training and testing, training exercises, and other activities including recreational exertion and non-exertion activities.

The best defense against a heat-related incident is prevention. Before engaging in an outdoor activity or mission in the heat, the identification and assessment of potential hazards, such as a high heat category or the physical exertion level of the activity, can reduce an individual's chance of becoming a victim of heatstroke, heat exhaustion or heat cramps.

"Training is the priority and Soldiers learn how to cope in the heat," said Maj. Karl Strellner, 198th Infantry brigade S-3 at Fort Benning, Ga. The 198th Infantry Brigade (One Station Unit Training, Infantry) conducts training for drill sergeants four months prior to June 1, when the weather typically begins to get hot.

"Our drill sergeants practice daily man-down drills, immediate actions, checks on combat lifesavers bags, certification updates on combat lifesaver courses, IV sticks, caloric intake classes, and system checks of the HVAC (air conditioning units)," Strellner said.

In addition to the training that drill sergeants receive, trainees are immersed in proper hydration methods, hydration tracking mechanisms (Ogden cord/tying a knot in 550 cord on their uniform every time they drink a quart of water) and battle buddy care. Drill sergeants monitor

heat conditions and adjust training accordingly.

By developing and implementing controls, leaders reduce the chance of a Soldier in their formation succumbing to a heat injury. Having sufficient hydration sources and providing rest cycles as needed are some of the measures that leaders can take.

Applying similar control measures when off duty can also protect Family members. Drinking more fluids, avoiding alcohol or drinks full of sugar or caffeine, and staying indoors when possible are several ways to beat the heat. Additionally, wearing a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses and putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher, diminishes the possibility of a heat-related incident.

"Soldiers have a responsibility to look out for each other and speak up when a comrade is in trouble," Campbell said. "Someone always knows when a Soldier isn't at peak performance level; buddies should make leaders aware of these situations to thwart a possible heat injury."

Mike Allen from the Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Safety and Health, Installation Safety Division said that there are other things to do to protect against heat injuries.

"Tell your supervisor immediately if you think you are getting sick from the heat, don't hesitate by saying 'that this can wait and that I am probably alright,'" Allen said. "Procrastinating in the heat can kill, we have to be proactive, aggressive and smart. It is very important to know the location(s) of the closest drinking water supplies, e.g., building 3073 first floor, better yet always have water with you."

Allen said that it is wise to choose water over sodas and other drinks that contain caffeine or sugar.

"In the heat it is best to avoid alcohol altogether," he said.

The symptoms to watch for regarding heat injuries are discomfort, sweating, headache, poor concentration, muscle pain, cramping, dizziness, fatigue, irritability, loss of coordination, vomiting, blurry vision, confusion, lack of sweating, fainting and seizures, according to Allen.

"We all need to look after one another in the heat," Allen said. "If anyone looks like they are not okay, check them out. It is far better to be safe than sorry."

For more information on heat injury prevention, visit [http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/heat/#\\_HIA](http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/heat/#_HIA) and for more information on the 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign, visit <https://crc.army.mil>



## Protecting against lightning, thunderstorms

Story by  
**RON KRAVITZ**  
DSHE

### What everyone needs to know now

Determine the danger: Anyone who is outdoors when they see or hear a thunderstorm coming or feel their hair stand on end should immediately stop what they are doing and seek shelter.

Flash-to-bang: When anyone sees the flash of lightning, count the number of seconds to the bang; every 5 seconds equals one mile.

### Outdoor safety

30 seconds

- Suspend all outdoor activity if thunderstorms are imminent.
- Get into a hardtop vehicle and keep away from all metal.
- Move to a sturdy enclosed building.

If caught outdoors and no shelter is available

• Stay away from tall trees. If there's no shelter, crouch in the open and keep as far away from a tree as it is tall.

### Indoor safety

Utility lines and metal pipes can conduct electricity.

- Do not use electrical appliances (except those used for weather information) and unplug unnecessary ones like computers and turn off air conditioners to protect from power surges.
- Do not use a corded telephone except in an emergency.
- Do not bathe or shower during a thunderstorm.

- Avoid contact with anything that conducts electricity.
- Stay away from doors and windows.
- Avoid contact with concrete walls or floors which may contain reinforcing bars; carports; open garages; covered patios; washing hands or doing dishes.

**No place is completely safe from lightning, but some are safer than others 15 seconds or less**

Lightning could strike where someone stands (three miles or less)

- Avoid being the tallest object around. Get as low as possible but don't lay flat on the ground. Squat on the balls of the feet to have minimum contact with the ground. Place both hands over both ears and place head between knees.
- Get below the tree line, when in the mountains and into a small grove of trees.
- Toss metal golf clubs, fishing rods, tools and anything with metal in it away
- Get out of the water. If in a boat, crouch down in the center away from metal. Swimming or doing anything in the water isn't safe.
- If with a group of people: Stay away from each other; spread out.
- Avoid high places, open fields, unprotected gazebos; try to get indoors.

A severe thunderstorm watch is when thunderstorms are possible in the area.

If a severe thunderstorm has been reported or indicated by radar with possible hail, high winds, lightning and heavy rain, take necessary precautions at once.

## Revisiting water survival skills

Story by  
**LORIYERDON**  
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

Off-duty drowning accidents have claimed the lives of more Soldiers to date this fiscal year than they did for all of fiscal 2006. The Army has lost 9 Soldiers this fiscal year to drowning accidents.

While there are risk factors involved with water-related activities, such as consumption of alcohol, adverse weather, nonuse of a personal flotation device or unpredictable undertows, there are many proven preventive methods to mitigate these risks, which individuals can take in order to protect themselves, their Family members and friends.

The Orange County California Fire Authority reports that a swimming pool is 14 times more likely than a motor vehicle to be a contributing factor in the death of a child age four and under. Isolation fences around pools and the supervision of children, whenever they're near water, decreases the opportunity of drowning. Bathtubs and five-gallon buckets also pose drowning hazards, especially for children.

"Drowning is preventable," said Stephen J. Miller, fire captain for the Orange County California Fire Authority. "It's called the silent killer, because when a child is underwater screaming for help, you will not hear them. Even adults should never swim alone."

This month, while swimming at a lake with several other Soldiers, a Soldier accidentally drowned. As the group prepared to leave, they were unable to locate the Soldier. Local authorities later discovered his body floating in the water. Alcohol may have been a contributing factor in the accident.

In May, a Soldier died in a watercraft accident when his kayak, he and another Soldier were using, overturned. When they became caught in a strong current, the second Soldier was able to swim to shore. The victim was not wearing a PFD.

Using the buddy system, heeding beach warning flags, not overestimating swimming abilities and swimming in approved areas, preferably with lifeguards, are some examples of how individuals can reduce their risk of becoming a drowning fatality.

"You can't walk away from a boating accident," said Jeff Hoedt, chief of U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety. "Just taking a basic boating course can minimize the chance becoming a fatality."

Each year, the U.S. Coast Guard collects data on reported recreational boating accidents and the most recent report shows that



Photo courtesy of U.S. COAST GUARD  
*Boating Under the Influence is illegal in every state and the U.S. Coast Guard enforces a federal law that prohibits BUI. The USCG also raises awareness of the risks involved with boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs.*

fatalities are down 6 percent from the previous year. Of those fatalities, 87 percent of the victims were not wearing a personal flotation device. Additionally, approximately 70 percent of all reported fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received boating safety instruction.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons offer free Vessel Safety Checks for all recreational boaters and personal watercraft users. In addition to ensuring that onboard safety equipment is functional, VSCs also verify that boater's safety equipment is in compliance with state and federal regulations.

"Vessel safety checks are voluntary and do not have law enforcement implications," said Hoedt.

Safety checks may help to prevent accidents. For example, a Soldier was fishing on an inflatable pontoon boat and drowned when the pontoons on the boat separated, submerging the Soldier. He was not wearing a PFD.

"Drowning only takes a few seconds to occur and can take place in as little as two inches of water," Miller said. Miller is also a member of the National Drowning Prevention Alliance and Swim for Life Foundation and on the Drowning Prevention Network of Orange County SAFE Kids.

For more information on drowning prevention, online boater's safety course, and the 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign, visit <https://crc.army.mil>.

**Preliminary Loss Reports**  
for the week of 7-13 JUN 07

**7**  
U.S. SOLDIERS DIED IN ACCIDENTS  
- 6 Soldiers Injured

- A Soldier was killed in a pedestrian accident June 7 in Stockholm, Sweden. The Soldier was jogging when he was struck by a bicycle, fell and sustained a fatal head injury. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**
- Six Soldiers were injured in a personnel injury accident June 6 at approximately 0900 local at Ft. Hood, Texas. The Soldiers were participating in a 12-mile road march that began at 0500 local. Fifty Soldiers were reported to have suffered from heat-related injuries during the march. Six of those Soldiers were treated at a local medical facility. **COST: 6 Soldiers Injured**
- A Soldier was found unresponsive June 12 at Ft. Hood, Texas after an extensive four-day search by hundreds of Soldiers. The Soldier was participating in a timed Land Navigation Exercise as part of the Warrior Leader Course June 8. When he did not return in a reasonable time a search was initiated. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center is investigating the accident. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**
- A Soldier was killed in a diving accident June 9 at approximately 1600 local in Denmark, N.Y. The Soldier was swimming at Kings Falls/High Gorge in the Deer River with 11 other Soldiers. He jumped into the river from a cliff, submerged and then reemerged showing signs of distress. Another Soldier jumped in to help but could not find him. The Soldier's body was later found by local officials. The area is listed as an off-limit area by the local installation. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**
- A Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident June 11 at approximately 1645 local in Killean, Texas. The Soldier was operating his Suzuki GSX-R1000 when he collided with a 1999 Ford Taurus that was turning left crossing his lane. He was wearing a helmet and had attended an Army-approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation course. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**
- A Soldier was killed in a ground guide accident June 11 at approximately 1000 local at Ft. Campbell, Ky. The Soldier was ground guiding an M985A2/HEMMTT, attempting to connect it to a trailer. As the truck was positioned to hook up to the trailer, it pinned the Soldier. The Soldier was evacuated to a nearby medical center where she later died. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**
- A Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident June 12 at approximately 0030 local in Garden City, Kan. The Soldier was operating a borrowed 2001 Kawasaki Ninja ZX-6 when he tried to negotiate a curve and lost control of the motorcycle, went into a ditch and struck a barbed wire fence. He was not wearing a helmet or other required PPE. He was also driving on a DUI restricted license, which limited him to driving to and from work. Speed was a contributing factor. **COST: 1 Soldier Killed**

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## IEDs

From page 13

trainers of bi-monthly virtual teleconferences available to units all around the world. He said the feedback he receives from theater relates specifically to training and TTPs.

He urged the leaders and trainers at the seminar to place more emphasis on battle staff training.

"They need to address defeating not only the IEDs, but the network, the bomb maker and the financier," he said. "We need to assess how we train our battle staff."

Ramirez emphasized home station training needs to be more of a priority for reserve and active-duty units. He suggested changing the mobilization process to allow for

pre-deployment training.

"The tip of the spear is absolutely the priority," said Ramirez, using a moniker commonly applied to forward deployed units. "We need to work harder to prepare them here to be the tip of the spear over there."

Another panel member, Marine Col. Niel E. Nelson, commanding officer of the Marine Corps' Engineer School located on Camp Lejeune, N.C., spoke of the importance of training troops at entry-level service schools.

"It's easier to form a habit than break one," Nelson said. "We get the kids right out of boot camp and the young lieutenants straight from The Basic School-and start teaching counter-IED techniques right then."

Nelson said instructors at the Marine Corps Engineer School teach that every movement is a route clearance movement.

"Teach that early enough," the 1984 graduate of San Diego State University said, "and they'll take it to theater with them whenever they deploy."

Nelson encouraged units across the Corps to conduct counter-IED training prior to attending Mojave Viper, the Marine Corps' premiere, live-fire pre-deployment training in Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Nelson's closing statement was met with a volley of "hoos" from the Army, "oorahs" from the Marines and a scattering of applause from the audience.

"This isn't a Marine Corps thing or an Army thing," said the Bethpage, N.Y., native. "We might have different words and different uniforms, but we have the same mission - keep people alive, keep them aware and keep them going forward."

# Vacation Bible School provides lessons of Jesus in Galilee



From left, Kary Monet Francisco and Hannah Newby clap while singing "More than a Man" during Vacation Bible School in the Post Chapel.

Story and photos by  
**HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

Children learned and experienced the traditions, clothing, foods and what the marketplace looked like during Jesus' time during Vacation Bible School at the Post Chapel June 25 through 29 while celebrating the theme "Holy Land Adventure Galilee by the Sea: Catch Jesus in Action."

The children were separated into 12 groups for the 12 Tribes of Israel. They gathered in the chapel to sing songs led by Clarence Weaver and Ilene Barksdale, including "Love the Lord," "More than a Man" and "King of Kings."

Each evening the groups learned about Jesus' life and ministry in Galilee through four stations: the Bible Point, Drama, Arts and Crafts (the Marketplace) and the Bakery.

They heard stories of how Jesus saved his followers from a storm and healed those who had sicknesses or other health issues. Before leaving each night, each child received a paper

fish that had a Bible verse printed on it so they could have a reminder of each lesson.

On the last night, the children were told the story of Jesus feeding more than 5,000 people with just a few loaves of bread and two fish.

At the Bible Point station, led by Amy Shipley and Wilhemina Bess, children read the story from Group Publishing's Galilee Gazette and wrote prayers of their own on Bible scrolls.

"We are teaching them about sharing and unselfishness," Bess said. "Jesus was unselfish, and we want them to share, love one another and be unselfish too."

Drama station leaders Diana Stanley and Anthony Sykes and child volunteer David Stanley acted out reactions to the massive feast. Diana played the role of Tiva, the mother of Josea, the boy who gave Jesus his lunch, which he fed to more than 5,000 people. David played the role of Josea and Anthony played the role of Andrew, a man who was carrying leftovers. Tiva didn't know Josea had given Jesus his



Katharina Hohman decorates a prayer placemat during Vacation Bible School at the Post Chapel June 29. This year's theme was "Holy Land Adventure Galilee by the Sea: Catch Jesus in Action."

lunch. She scolded Andrew for taking her son's lunch and was surprised to find out the good deed Jesus performed with it.

After the Drama session ended, Sykes reflected on the lesson of the story.

"God had a purpose to let people see what Jesus could do," he said. "This part of the story allows you to realize Jesus will take care of you."

The children also made crafts each night at the Marketplace to match the theme of each story. They decorated prayer placemats to emphasize the story of the massive feast.

Olivia Wheaton, a craft coordinator, said that the children also made Jesus sandals out of carpet and string, woven baskets out of raffia, potpourri bags and shell necklaces during the week.

"We're having a lot of fun," Wheaton said. "We've been keeping them busy and entertained with the crafts and emphasizing the Bible story of the day."

A variety of food was available during the week at the snack station. The last snack of the week was bread and honey. The station's leaders, Cindy Sepulveda and Deena Branson, also distributed fish sticks, hard boiled eggs, cookies, fruit shish kabobs and matzo crackers and cream cheese.

"We try to relate the story to each snack," Sepulveda said. "Hard boiled eggs are something Jesus ate during the Passover meal so we taught them about the tradition and why the people had Passover."

In addition to learning about Jesus through the stations, the children also learned the Hebrew greeting of "Shalom" which means "peace."

Each time the children entered a station

room they touched a wooden box on the walls near the doors that was modeled after a mezuzah, a decorative case inscribed with the Shema prayer hung on doors of Jewish homes.

Attendees and their Families gathered in the Fellowship Hall for a picnic at the end of the week. The picnic ended with the breaking of a piñata and children diving for candy.

On the final night, the children received a certificate of attendance. All of the volunteers received a certificate of appreciation and either a ceramic cross or set of notecards.

Gerri Merkel, director of Religious Education for the chapel, said about 70 children and 20 adult and 10 teen volunteers attended VBS this year.

Merkel described VBS as "a challenging and stretching" program.

"[It was] one that all of us had to do more studying and research than our usual preparation," she said. "The children were wonderful with all their enthusiasm and energy. This is a wonderful age to learn about Jesus and grow in faith. Special thanks for the generosity and dedication to all our volunteers."

Several children said they had a good time at VBS.

"I like the crafts and the songs the best," said 8-year-old Brianna Nubine. "I feel happy when I sing the songs."

"I like everything about Vacation Bible School," said 9-year-old Alexia Spencer. "I like all my tribal leaders, and I love worshipping the Lord."

"I like to talk about Jesus," added 9-year-old Darren Loeffler. "This week I learned that Jesus heals people."

# 22d Chemical Battalion Soldiers praise Southampton Middle School students

Story by  
**HEATHER TASSMER**  
APG News

Soldiers from the 22d Chemical Battalion and the Child and Youth Services school liaison visited Southampton Middle School June 14 to praise sixth-grade students for their second donation to injured Soldiers and their Families.

The Soldiers included 1st Sgt. Richard E. Davidson, Pfc. Juanita Cisneros, Sgt. Michael J. Brown and Eileen Campbell, school liaison, commended the students. Then the Soldiers showed them a slideshow of pictures taken in Iraq.

The pictures were of military equipment, desert scenes and animals, Campbell said. The pictures also showed where the Soldiers lived.

At one point, Davidson pretended the students were military personnel and he was the trainer of personnel, Campbell said.

"Three or four boys were really into it [Davidson's presentation]," Campbell said. "[Davidson] wanted the students to know the names of tanks and weapons. The students would memorize these names and repeat them back to him when he called on them. They gained an understanding and a greater appreciation for Soldiers serving in Iraq through the TOP briefing," Campbell said.

Davidson said he was eager to "have the opportunity to repay" the students' kindness.

"I appreciate what they [the students] have done for us," Davidson said. "I go out of my way to give back to them because they have given so much to us."

He said he has also visited other Harford County schools to show students the slideshow presentation and answer students' questions.

"The students always enjoy the pictures," he said. "The younger ones get excited seeing the tanks. The older students ask what it is like to be in combat and want to know what it's like to live over there [in Iraq and Kuwait]."

## Fisher House service project

About 100 students, led by Mary Jo Richardson, a sixth-grade Southampton Middle School math teacher, started collecting pennies for the Fisher House Inc. fundraiser in October.

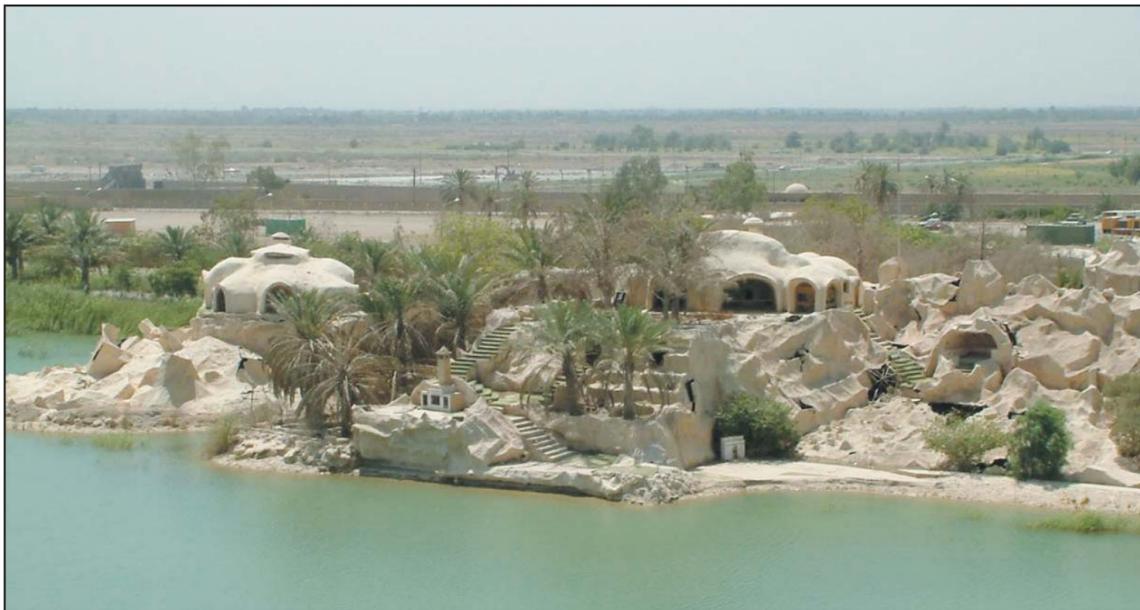
The Fisher House Inc. is a "private-public partnership" organization that helps fund each Fisher House where the Families of injured Soldiers stay while in recuperation.

The students' first check to the Fisher House Inc. was \$1,040 and during the second half of the school year, the students raised an additional \$755.56, Campbell said.

Other teachers that assisted in collecting and counting pennies were Jeannine Ross, Pat Bierbower, James Haas and Jason Gunning.

Campbell said that while talking to a representative from The Fisher House Inc., she learned that the students' donations were used toward the Center for the Intrepid, a rehabilitation center for Soldiers in San Antonio, Texas.

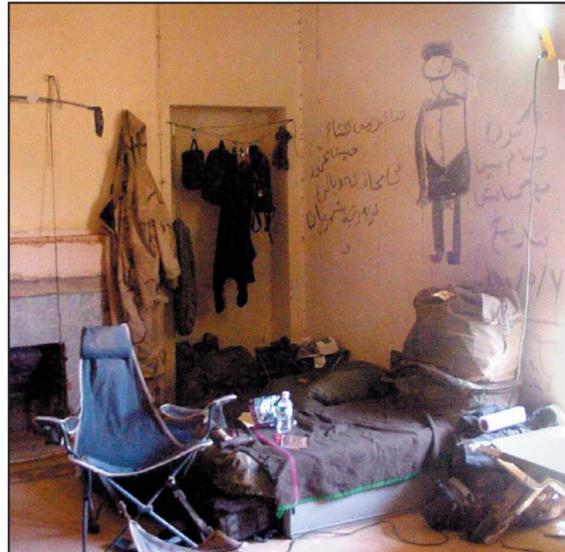
For more information about the Fisher House Inc., visit <http://www.fisherhouse.org/index.html>.



This is a photo of a playground Saddam Hussein had built for children that 1st Sgt. Richard Davidson, 22d Chemical Battalion, showed Southampton Middle School students June 14.



1st Sgt. Richard Davidson showed Southampton Middle School students a picture of a camel spider to give them an example of the dangerous animals that live in Iraq. Davidson said he has seen camel spiders that were up to 18 inches.



Students were shown a picture of Soldiers' living quarters in Iraq.

Photos courtesy of 1ST SGT. RICHARD DAVIDSON

# FCC providers hold fashion show for kids

## Staff member departure and provider accreditations announced

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Family Child Care providers celebrated the onset of summer with a Fashion Show and Fruit Fest for their children at the home of FCC provider Adriane Fletcher June 26, hosted by FCC director Aphrodite Corsi.

Dressed mainly in cool shorts and T-shirts, the little ones strutted down a tablecloth 'catwalk' and then enjoyed ice-cooled fruits on the 90-plus degree day.

Fourteen providers and 29 children participated in the event, which is one of several FCC hosts throughout the summer.

"Get-togethers like this pull everyone together and makes the job more fun," said Beverly Hartgrove, Child and Youth Services training and curriculum specialist. "Otherwise you just go to the playground everyday."

Hartgrove said that the providers and children recently visited the Baltimore Zoo and that an outing to Aberdeen Proving Ground's Olympic Pool also is planned for July and August.

"We try to keep everybody together. It makes for fun, safe events that the kids and the providers can enjoy, and it lets them know we care," Hartgrove said.

Three providers who received national accreditation under Hartgroves' watch were on hand for the celebration. They included Tiphonie Simpson, Chaka Martin and Ann Marie Bogues.

Teresa Mayo and Elvia Pomerat

are both awaiting decisions on their accreditation.

The celebration also served as a surprise farewell to Hartgrove, who retires in August after a 22-year career.

Mayo and Pomerat praised Hartgrove and said that she would be missed.

Simpson thanked Hartgrove for pushing her to earn an associate's degree in early childhood education and her accreditation which she received in March.

Bogues, an on-post provider from Bayside Village, said that the training here [at APG] is some of the best she's been exposed to in her seven years as an FCC provider.

"They really push you to be the best," Bogues said. "Miss Beverly, Miss Aphrodite and Miss Alexia [Baker] make sure you take advantage of the opportunities available for you. I'm more appreciative because I know what it's like not to have any help at all."

Hartgrove said that she will miss the fun but that she also looks forward to gardening and relaxing.

She said she started out as an outreach worker and eventually reached a training position in 1991.

"I've loved it," she said. "It's not the administrative part of the job; it's the fun part of the job."

She said that she was proud of all providers who have achieved or are striving to achieve accreditation.

"I ask a lot of them and they just step up to the plate," she said. "That's a sign of quality."



Clockwise from top, Roccean Williams, 6, Chantel Mayo, 11 and Andrey Clark, 8, parade comfortable looking summer wear during the Family Child Care fashion show at the home of Adrienne Fletcher who decorated her patio with colorful posters, bottom left.

