

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for April 16 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



E-mail address change for editor

The address to send input to the editor of the APG News has changed to editor-apg@conus.army.mil. An alternate address is debi.horne@us.army.mil.

Any e-mail that was sent to the editor March 24 through April 4 was not received and should be resent.

For more information, call Debi Horne, editor, 410-278-1150.

Defense Technology and Intelligence Career Fair today

The Army Community Services Employment Readiness and Transition Program will co-host a Defense Technology and Intelligence Career Fair, noon to 4 p.m., April 10, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

Job seekers with any security clearance, IT, technical scientific, military, government, chem/bio warfare, contractor or intelligence background are highly encouraged to attend. Participants can meet with many different employers and recruiters.

For more information or to see a list of exhibitors and jobs being offered, visit www.TransitionCareers.com.

APG hiring grass cutters

The Aberdeen Proving Ground summer hiring program is accepting applications through April 21 for 35 grass cutters. Duties may continue through November.

Qualified persons must be at least 16 years old and pass a physical.

Apply through <http://acpol.army.mil>. Click on Employment, Search for Jobs, scroll to state, enter MD, then Announcement Number NEAG08699269D. The job is listed as Laborer, WG-3502-02 earning \$15.23 an hour.

Applicants can also build a resume on line through this Web site. For assistance, call Suzanne Schultz, 410-278-9514.

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April is 'Month of the Military Child'

Story by **HARRY NOYES**
MEDCOM

April is the Month of the Military Child, but it would be an error to conclude that the Army waits until April to focus attention on its children and adolescents.

Children, adolescents and the Family are year-round concerns for an all-volunteer force that is mostly married. Over half of Army Soldiers (about 51.5 percent) are married and nearly half (47.1 percent) have children. The impact of deployment and war on these children looms large in the morale of their military parents, with implications for performance and safety in the war zone and for career retention when they return home.

Army leaders, themselves mostly married and with children, clearly recognize this and

consider it both a moral and a professional duty to provide a support system for Army children.

In the Army Medical Department, the emphasis has been on proactively addressing the intense emotional stress that war and deployment create. While the nature of the impact varies with age, all military children are impacted in some way. Army pediatricians and behavioral-health experts have developed an array of programs and tools specifically designed in a developmentally appropriate way to address these emotional issues. The project is called the "Military Youth Deployment Support Video Program."

But Army medical personnel cannot do it alone. Many Army children are cared for by civilian pediatricians under

See CHILDREN, page 11



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Maryland Army National Guard Sgt. Joseph Beale, Company C, 2/224th Aviation, reunites with his Family, daughter, Mary, 4, in his arms, and wife Shannon holding daughter Hanna, 3, at the Gen. Warren Hodges Armory on Aberdeen Proving Ground during his unit's return from Iraq Oct. 26, 2006.

APG promotes child abuse prevention

Army Community Service

April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Aberdeen Proving Ground joins Army communities nationwide in commemorating the month.

"Child abuse prevention efforts are a year-around focus for the Department of the Army," said Aida Rivera, ACS Family Advocacy Program manager.

The success of these efforts can be seen in a recent memorandum from Under Secretary of Defense Dr. David S.C. Chu, which states that there

has been a 33 percent decrease in the rate of substantiated child abuse cases Army wide.

"Child abuse diminishes the quality of life for service members, their Families and the entire community," said Celestine Becket, ACS director. "But abuse can be prevented through concerted activities targeted at increasing awareness and promoting the use of available Family services."

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, 2.6 million reports concern-

ing the safety and well-being of approximately 4.5 million children were made nationwide in 2002. In about two-thirds (67 percent) of these reported cases, the information provided was sufficient to prompt an assessment or investigation. Of the investigations conducted, 896,000 children were found to have been victims of abuse or neglect. That is an average of a little over 2,450 children per day, almost one million children a year.

"That is a significant number of child abuse cases," Rivera said. "It demonstrates that

while our prevention efforts are making a difference, we still have quite a way to go."

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the ACS Family Advocacy Program will present a variety of activities and articles in the APG News throughout the month of April designed to create awareness and provide education and information on existing programs and services.

• April 21: De-Stress with ACS, ACS Center, Building 2754

• April 24: Child Safety

Puppet Show, Aberdeen Area Child Development Center

• April 26: Child Abuse Information Booth, APG Commissary

• April 29: Child Safety Puppet Show, Edgewood Area CDC

"We encourage the entire community to come out and participate in FAP programs and activities, not just during April, but throughout the entire year," Rivera said. "The more we know about child abuse, the more we will be equipped to prevent it."

Pentagon to phase out SSNs on ID cards

Story by **RICK MAZE**
Air Force News

Social Security numbers will disappear from the ID cards of military Family members by the end of the year, temporarily replaced by the Social Security number of the military sponsor in a half-step toward better identity-theft protection, defense officials said April 3.

In 2009, the Defense Department will take the next step of phasing out full Social Security numbers on all ID cards for service members and civilians, replaced by just the last four digits. Using those digits, combined with other identifying information, is a common practice in the private sector.

New cards will be issued as old cards expire, defense officials said.

Officials described the ID card changes as part of a phased approach to improving identity protection for service members, civilian employees and their Families. The first step was to improve security over military databases. A second step was to remove Social Security numbers from TRICARE health system ID

cards, defense officials said.

Getting Social Security numbers off the ID cards of Family members is considered a high priority because they make up about 2.2 million of the 3.4 million people who have military-issued common access cards.

Congress has been pressing the DoD to move faster because of the risk of identity theft.

A Social Security number, along with a name, address and a few other easily discovered facts, make it possible to get credit in another person's name.

The House Armed Services Committee has been pushing for several years for the Pentagon to stop using Social Security numbers altogether, but it has faced resistance because the number is used in both personnel and payroll systems.

The Pentagon has also resisted removing Social Security numbers from the dog tags of service members and from the ID cards of civilian employees who deploy overseas because the numbers are part of the information used to comply with terms of the Geneva Conventions, defense officials said.

Phishing e-mail to MWR patrons turns out to be Army exercise

FMWR

More than 10,000 Soldiers, civilians and Family members with military e-mail addresses received an e-mail March 30 promising free tickets to area theme parks, with a link to a Web site that appeared to belong to the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command.

These e-mails were sent without the knowledge or consent of the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command or installation MWR offices. These e-mails were "phishing" e-mails developed by the Army Computer Emergency Response Team in a Global Computer Network Defense exercise, Bulwark Defender 08 (BD08) to test the defensive posture of the Army LandWarNet.

FMWR officials were not alerted to the exercise in advance because the unit "limits the number of trusted agents" in phishing exercises of this

type, according to ACERT officials.

FMWR reacted decisively by informing their patrons that the offer was not legitimate, distributing a press release to media outlets world-wide in an effort to warn as many customers as possible, and coordinating through Army legal and information technology offices to have the bogus Web site shut down.

When ACERT officials finally confirmed late Monday the e-mail and Web site were part of their exercise, FMWR began coordinating with ACERT to prepare messages and media responses addressing the phishing scam, and more importantly, the breach of trust it represents to MWR customers.

"From the outside, looking in, the customer has no way of knowing FMWR was not involved in this exercise," said Laurie Pugh, public affairs officer for FMWR. "We have no idea

See PHISHING, page 11

EMD protocol offers six questions to help save a life

Story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG NEWS

When someone is confronted with an emergency situation, it is normal to panic, but doing so could cost a life. During a call to 911, it is vital to listen to all questions asked by an emergency communications dispatcher and answer clearly and calmly.

Sergeant Elizabeth Wooten, a member of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police, recommends that when someone calls 911 they should stay calm, stay with the victim, be patient and listen carefully to a list of six questions that all APG emergency communications dispatchers are required to ask.

These six questions are part of The National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch Protocol, a medical priority dispatch system that has saved lives.

Wooten said the pre-described questions direct the emergency communication dispatchers to what the problem is, which will direct them to a card that will give pre-described instructions on how to help the victim. This allows the victim to get care faster.

She hopes that more people will be aware of the importance of these questions.

"Some people get impatient or don't understand the purpose of answering all the questions, but it is important for the caller to stay on the phone the entire time, so that the dispatcher can relay information to the caller that could help the victim," Wooten said. "We want to be able to provide life saving instructions until we can get responders on scene."

Wooten said that it is important that the caller stay with the victim through-

out the phone call so that they can help the victim with the recommendations of the emergency communications dispatchers, if it is safe.

"On March 29, a 14-year-old boy was having a seizure and not breathing. Veronica Callahan, an emergency communications dispatcher, was able to relay information to the caller on how to save the boy," Wooten said.

Wooten said that EMD Protocol is being used throughout the United States, and is proven to be very effective in saving lives.

"A majority of jurisdictions are going to this, because it is very helpful," Wooten said. "In the future we hope to use a computerized version of this system."

National Academy Emergency Medical Dispatching Protocol entry questions:

1. What's the address of the emergency?
2. What's the phone number you're calling from?
3. What's the problem? Tell me exactly what happened.
 - a. (not obvious) Are you with the patient now?
 - b. (not obvious) How many (other) people are hurt (sick)?
 - c. (choking) Is she/he still choking now?
4. How old is she/he?
 - a. (Unsure) Tell me approximately, then.
5. Is he/she conscious?
6. Is she/he breathing?
 - a. (Hasn't checked- 2nd party caller) You go check and tell me what you find.

New policy taking effect for evaluations

Story by **HRC**
Army News Service

Since April 1, the U.S. Army's Human Resources Command now requires that all Officer Evaluation Reports and Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reports be electronically submitted using "My Forms" on Army Knowledge Online.

The new requirement was announced in MILPER Message 08-51, which notes that rating officials must sign evaluations with digital signatures using the CAC and use the latest form versions.

"The Army made this decision in order to prepare units to submit evaluations in a fully electronic environment. We're laying the groundwork for a smooth transition to Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System (known as DIMHRS) in October 2008," said Lt. Col. Chelsea Ortiz, from the Evaluations Systems Office at HRC.

Dario Velasquez, who runs the Reports Processing Branch for Regular Army and Reserve OERs and NCOERs, said he looks forward to the change.

"Electronic submission is reliable, See EVALUATIONS, page 11

Two retire during March ceremony

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

An Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldier and civilian employee were honored for their service to the Army during a retirement ceremony at Top of the Bay March 26.

Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. William L. Hart, 16th Ordnance Battalion, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, and Allen L. Penhollow, a communications clerk with the Communications Management Division, Directorate of Information Management, retired with more than 57 years of combined government service.

Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halstead, chief of Ordnance, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, hosted the event and presented awards to the honorees. She was assisted by Command Sgt. Maj. Luis A. Rivera, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, OMMS. The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band opened the event with

the national anthem.

Halstead said she was honored to lead the ceremony and on behalf of the U.S. Army, thanked both retirees for their service.

"Our journey in the military and in civilian service is not about the patches on our uniform or the promotions that we get, it is about if we made a difference in this journey," Halstead said. "When you look back and reflect, it ought to make you feel good to know what you achieved but also how you connected in people's lives. Without a doubt you touched more lives than you can possibly realize."

Halstead pointed out that the retirees are part of a greater purpose.

"No matter how many times we hear the national anthem, it makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand up. It reminds you that what you are involved in is bigger than self, it is wonderful and positive," Halstead said. "Even though you are retiring, the heart of that ser-

vice lives in you."

Command Sgt. Maj. William L. Hart Jr.

Hart was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with certificate signed by Halstead. He also received the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement from the Armed Forces of the United States of America signed by Gen. George W. Casey Jr., chief of staff, and the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, signed by President George Bush.

His wife, Tanika, received the DA Certificate of Appreciation signed by Gen. Casey.

Williams was born in Pine Bluff, Ark., Dec. 27, 1965. He enlisted in the Army in May, 1985. Over his 23-year career, he had many overseas assignments including El Salvador, Haiti, Kuwait, Guatemala, Panama and Honduras.

Throughout his career he served as a mechanic, squad leader, section chief, maintenance control supervisor, platoon sergeant, first sergeant and division maintenance ser-

geant major.

Hart said that education was a priority in his life. His civilian education includes associate's and bachelor's degrees from Columbia College of Missouri, and he holds a master's in human resources development from Webster University of Missouri.

"I am thankful to leave in good health and good mind," Hart said. "I thank God that I made it through my career with my wife still by my side."

He added that he is satisfied because he had accomplished his career goals.

"It was a blessing to obtain the rank of command sergeant major," Hart said. "I have two sons in the military; they are going to carry on the torch."

Hart plans on staying in Maryland for two years until his wife retires. Then they will move to Rockwell, Texas, so that they can spend more time with their Family. He also enjoys running, golf and fishing.

Hart and his wife have six

children, three sons, William 21, U.S. Marine Corps; Christopher, 19, U.S. Air Force; and Josue, 10; and three daughters, Ketzalyn, 22; Carolyn, 19; and Ninoshka, 16.

Allen L. Penhollow

Penhollow was rewarded the Department of the Army certificates of Retirement and Appreciation signed by Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG garrison and deputy installation commander.

Penhollow, who has been a Cecil County resident for more than 50 years, began his federal career at APG in November of 1972 in the commissary system. From there he transferred to the Motor Pool of the Transportation Division. Due to a reduction-in-force, he was transferred to what is now called the Directorate of Installation Operations. After working there for several years, he was caught in another RIF and was transferred to the Communications Management Division in DOIM where he completed his federal career.

Penhollow thanked his co-workers and supervisors for supporting him throughout his career. He also thanked his wife of 44 years, Jane, who died in February of 2006.

Penhollow credits God for his success in his career and Family life.

"My relationship with God was the sustaining force in my life," Penhollow said. "He helped me through hard times."

Penhollow enjoys singing, especially Elvis impersonations, which he usually does for retirement luncheons. Penhollow plans to spend more time with his Family during retirement. He also plans on doing service projects to help his community.

He has three children: Ronald, Charlotte and Jonathan, and three grandsons. He is eagerly anticipating the arrival of his first granddaughter, due in late April. He plans on moving to the south in the future to be closer to his Family.

Assessing risk during prom season

DLES/KUSAHC/ACS

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Police and leaders of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and Army Community Service would like to stress the importance of safety during prom season.

The prom can be one of the most memorable times of a young adults' life, as it has been for many of their parents.

As the prom season approaches, parents and schools have an even greater concern than usual about their teen and responsible decision making.

"Please take the necessary precautions to ensure that the memories your child makes are enjoyable and happy ones that they can reflect on with their children," said Detective Mike Farlow, Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security.

"The most important thing a parent can do is to have an open line of communication with their child," he said. "Letting them know that they can call a parent no matter what situation they may find themselves in could be the difference between them taking a deadly risk or not."

Many parents and guardians have significant concerns about their child who has just acquired a driver's license.

"It is common to ask, 'Will my son make good decisions every time he gets behind the wheel?'" "Will my daughter take unnecessary risks today even though she has had no issues so far?" said Ann Laughton, RN, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. "Safe Teen Driver reports that one of the most important steps to 'assure safety while driving is to develop a contract that lays out the rules for driving and the consequences for deviating from those rules.'"

The magazine recommends that all discussions start out on a positive note with the goal to have a contract that is focused on 'responsibility.' Parents/guardians need to reinforce what is going well with their teen and the parent needs to feel confident that good behavior will continue.

Parents and/or guardians should explain the purpose for having a contract and spell out what is expected and what will be enforced by both sides.

It is good to have a draft of expectations and consequences ready for discussion. Parents/guardians should be ready to stand firm on those items that are not negotiable. It is also helpful to have a list of those that are negotiable so that there can be a sense of win-win for both parent and teen.

"Once consequences have been

identified, be prepared for both you and your teen to live up to them," Laughton said. "The most difficult part of the contract is to mean what you say."

"Parents/guardians should not develop a contract that as a parent you are not willing or able to support one hundred percent. This contract agreement is not as changeable as the weather," Laughton said. "Commitment to responsibility is learned by children by watching and living with their responsible parents or guardians. Inconsistency and breaking the rules as the parent will show lack of commitment on the parents' part and assure failure."

Another concern that some parents have during prom season is dating violence and sexual assault.

"Teen dating violence is defined as a pattern of coercive behaviors that one partner exerts over the other for the purpose of establishing and maintaining power and control in a relationship," said Aida Rivera, ACS Family Advocacy Program manager and Installation Sexual Assault Response coordinator. "This behavior can take various forms to include emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, limiting independence, isolation, threats and intimidation, harassment and minimizing, and denying and blaming."

"In establishing a contract agreement, parents should educate their teens about what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable behavior. Teens should trust their gut instinct. If a situation doesn't feel good, they should get away from it as soon as they safely can," she said.

"While we would like to think that our children are not targeted by individuals who want to cause them harm, the truth is that it does happen. Teens should be aware of their surroundings, how to get away from a potentially dangerous situation, and they should know someone really well before letting their guard down and totally trusting them," Rivera said. "They should never accept anything to drink from a stranger, and if beverages are left unattended, they should toss them out."

For more information on things that parents can do to help keep their teens safe, contact the ACS Family Advocacy Program, 410-278-7478.

For more information and assistance, see www.safeteendrivers.org/drivingcontracts.htm.

"Please make sure you discuss with your teens the dangers of alcohol, drugs, misuse of prescription medications, sexual assaults and drunk driving before they leave the house this prom season," Farlow said.



<http://www.sxc.hu/profile/jansuncaption>

Being safe on prom night

APG ASAP Office

The Army Substance Abuse Program would like to contribute to this important topic by offering the following prom safety tips to parents.

"Prior planning and discussions are every bit as important as actual prom night rules," said Cindy Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator.

Plan ahead

Participate in the teenager's prom preparations. It can serve as an opportunity to start discussing prom details, such as whether there will be a post-prom party, who will be driving, and so on.

Before the prom, set aside time to talk with the teenager about the prom and about safety. Talking ahead of time helps avoid conflicts the night of the prom.

Discuss what limits and guidelines to set with the teen. Clarify the rules for the evening.

Speak with the teen about how they are expected to behave around alcohol and drugs. State views clearly. Remind the teen that underage drinking is illegal, and that possession of drugs is illegal. Include prescription and over-the-counter medicines as well as inhalants. All of these drugs are abused by some teenagers.

Be sure the teenager has safe transportation for the entire evening. It's best if all of these arrangements are ironed out ahead of time.

Stress that under no circumstances should the teen get into a car with a driver who has been drinking or using drugs. Discuss what they will do if this situation arises.

Revisit prior discussions about sex and risky behaviors. The prom is a good time to talk again with the teenager about risky behaviors like drinking, taking drugs, sex and unsupervised parties. Remind them that they can always call home for help.

Talk with the teen about peer pressure. Many teenagers view the prom as a night without boundaries -- a perception that can lead to unsafe behavior. Remind the teen that it's important to say no to their friends if they feel what they are doing is wrong.

Parents should know the teen's date or the friends they'll be going with. Invite their friends over before-

hand. Taking pictures is a good way to share in the teenager's excitement.

Consider holding a post-prom party at the house. Ask the teen how they would feel about hosting a party. Or, get together with a group of parents and host a party jointly.

Have a discussion with the teen about prom expenses, and who will pay for what. It's best to work out the details well ahead of time about who will pay for clothing, shoes, flowers, dining out, limousine rental or cab fees.

On prom night

On the night of the prom, review the specifics of where the teen will be for the entire evening. If the teen plans on attending a party before or afterwards get the address and phone numbers of the Families hosting the parties. Parents may want to contact each other to confirm the particulars of the evening and to offer assistance.

Remind the teen to call home if there is any change in plans. This includes even small changes, such as picking up an additional friend on the way to the post prom party.

Text a "Safe Prom" message to the teenager's cell phone.

If the teen plans on sleeping at a friend's house, contact the friend's parents to confirm the arrangements. Ask the teenager to call home once reaching the friend's house.

If available on prom night, let the teen know that if they run into trouble a parent will pick them up, regardless of the time. If a parent cannot be available, try to find a friend or relative who can provide transportation if needed. If this is not an option, urge the teen to call a cab, and be sure they have cab fare.

Try to stay awake until the teen returns home from the prom. That way, the parent will be available in case there's a change in plans, or in case the teen needs last minute transportation.

"Prom night should be a night to remember, not a night to regret. Together, we can empower our children to make safe and healthy choices," Scott said.

For more information call Scott, 410-278-4013 or e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@conus.army.mil.

APG News

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Preventing substance abuse on APG

Tips for drinking in moderation

<http://www2.potsdam.edu/hansondj/AlcoholEquivalence.html>

Know your limit. Most people find that they can consume one drink per hour without any ill effects.

Eat food while you drink. Food, especially high protein foods such as meat, cheese and peanuts, will help slow the absorption of alcohol into the body.

Sip your drink. If you gulp a drink, you lose the pleasure of savoring its flavors and aromas.

Don't participate in "chugging" contests or other drinking games.

Accept a drink only when you really want one. If someone tries to force a drink on you, ask for a non-alcoholic beverage instead. If that doesn't work, "lose" your drink by setting it down somewhere and leaving it.

Skip a drink now and then. Having a non-alcoholic drink between alcoholic ones helps

keep the blood alcohol content level down, as does spacing out alcoholic drinks.

Keep active; don't just sit around and drink. If you stay active you tend to drink less and to be more aware of any effects alcohol may be having on the body.

Beware of unfamiliar drinks. Some drinks, such as zombies and other fruit drinks can be deceiving as the alcohol content is not detectable. Therefore, it is difficult to space them properly.

Use alcohol carefully in connection with pharmaceuticals. Ask a physician or pharmacist about any precautions or prohibitions and follow any advice received.

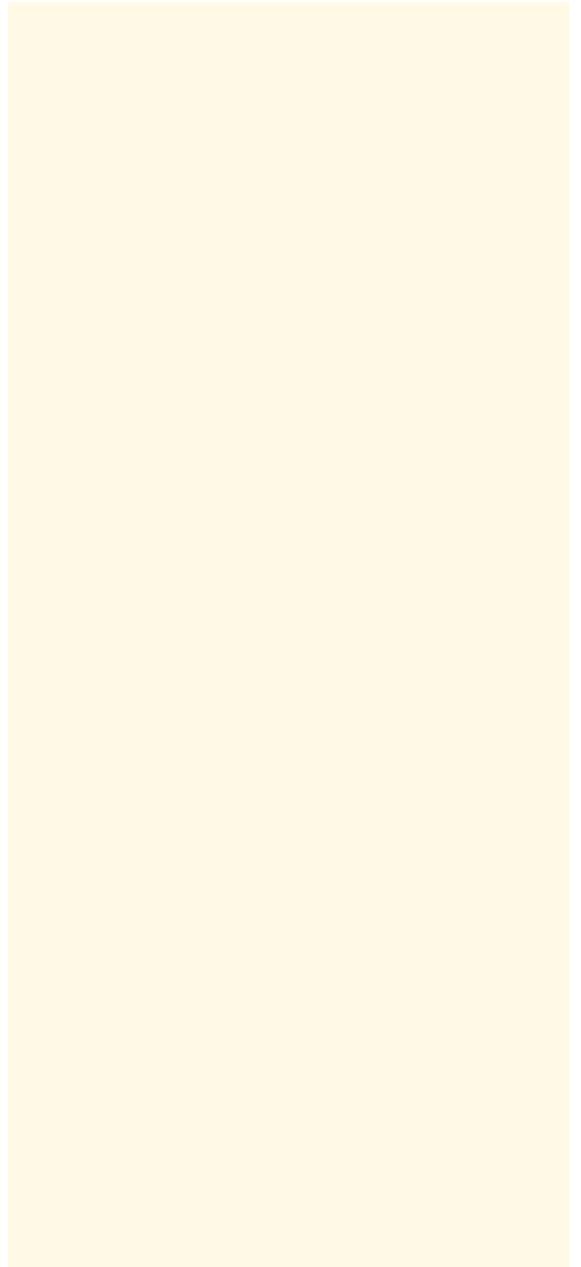
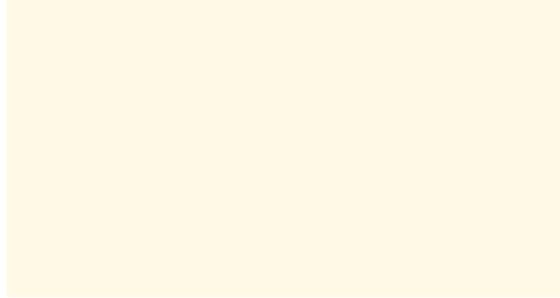
Remember...

A glass of white or red wine, a bottle of beer, and a shot of whiskey or other distilled spirits all contain equivalent amounts of alcohol and are the same to a breathalyzer. A standard drink is:

- A 12-ounce bottle or can of regular beer
 - A 5-ounce glass of wine
 - A one and 1/2 ounce of 80 proof distilled spirits (either straight or in a mixed drink)
- Vomiting or passing out after drinking are signs of a

drug overdose – not fun.

For more information, contact Cindy Scott, Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Substance Abuse Program prevention coordinator, 410-278-4013 or e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@conus.army.mil.



Operation Purple deadline approaching

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Military in all branches of the service with children ages 9 through 13 are encouraged to register for Operation Purple, a free summer camp program.

This year there are more spots available because the program has expanded to host military children at 64 different locations in 37 states and territories. Registration closes May 5.

Each camp is open to children of any member of the

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Guard and Reserves.

Camps are free to all participants thanks to a partnership with the Sierra Club and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation.

Operation Purple was developed by the National Military Family Association to support military children dealing with the stress of war.

The Operation Purple staff strive to create an open environment where the children can talk freely about having parents in the military.

"One of the best things about the program is that they build their own support network with other military children," said Michelle Joyner, director of communications for NMFA. "During Operation Purple we definitely want to celebrate the fact that they are a military kid. NMFA feels that they serve too. They should be proud of what they do and what their parents do."

Most of the camps create a military theme by using military terms for cabins. During the week, the children will be introduced to different parts of the military like Meals Ready to Eat, or MREs. They also bring in guest speakers from local military communities to have a question and answer session with the children.

"We want to take away the mystery of serving in the military. It reduces stress when kids understand what their mom or dad are doing when they are deployed," Joyner said. "We



Photo courtesy of NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION
Water sports is just one fun activity children get to experience while attending one of the 64 different Operation Purple summer camps in 37 states and territories. Registration closes May 5.

wanted to create a safe haven to voice their concerns."

The children also participate in "normal" summer camp activities like archery, horseback riding, swimming and hiking. They also do community service activities.

Joyner said that any military child can apply; however, priority is given

to those children who have a parent/guardian or Family household member deployed between May 2007 and November 2008. If all spaces are not filled with campers who meet the deployment criteria, the remaining camp slots are filled with any military child.

Transportation costs are not

covered, so it is recommended that children register for a camp close to where they live. There is an Operation Purple camp in Chestertown, Md., and two camps in Pennsylvania: Fombell and Wernersville. To view a map of the Operation Purple locations and to register, go to www.operationpurple.org.

APG military Family recommends Operation Purple

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Two Aberdeen Proving Ground Family members attended the Operation Purple summer camp program for the past two years.

Ronald Heilig, with the 20th Support Command Security and Intelligence Section, and Marcella Heilig, a Family readiness support assistant, said that they are pleased with the experience their children had at camp and highly recommend the program to other military Families.

"I think that NMFA [National Military Family Association] is a great organization," Marcella said. "It is an opportunity for military children to have fun and talk about a parent's upcoming or current deployment. Camps are usually expensive to attend, so being able to send my children to camp for free was a gift."

"This is a great opportunity for military children. It gives them a chance to be more independent and try new things," Ronald said. "Parents can feel safe sending their kids to camp because they have a good counseling staff and pay close attention to medical issues, for example they are well aware of a child's allergies."

Hunter, 14, and Margaret Judith, who prefers to go by M.J., 10, attended Operation Purple for the past two years and said that they had a great experience both years.

During Hunter's first year he attended camp on the main island of Hawaii, because his father was stationed at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

While attending camp he enjoyed hiking, swimming, the ropes course and visited an inactive volcano.

"While my Family was stationed in

Hawaii, my dad was deployed to Iraq, and I was bored at home without him. Camp gave me time by myself away from home, and something fun to do," Hunter said.

While M.J. attended camp at Hilo, Hawaii, she enjoyed fishing, boogie hoarding, surfing, team competitions and making s'mores.

"My favorite thing about camp in Hawaii was meeting new friends," M.J. said.

Last year Ronald was stationed at APG, and wasn't deployed. Operation Purple's policy is to give priority to children of deployed parents.

The children wanted to go back to camp, so they registered even though they were not guaranteed a spot at camp. Fortunately for them, Hunter and M.J. were chosen to attend camp by random selection. M.J. attended camp in Pennsylvania

See *CAMP*, page 5



APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary: Wishing a 'bon voyage'

By
BILL ARMSTRONG
APG Wildlife and Marine Law
Enforcement Division

Years ago, when I was just a wee lad growing up in the mountains of West Virginia, I overheard one of our next-door neighbors tell another, "Bon voyage!"

Later that evening, when our family was having supper, I brought up the bon voyage remark, wondering what it meant. My father, after inquiring about where I had heard it, explained that the neighbor was a Soldier in the National Guard and that he was on his way to some place called Korea, that the United States was involved in some sort of a "police action" there and our neighbor's unit had been called up to go. Dad went on to say that "bon voyage" was a wish for the neighbor to have a safe journey.

Recently we had a rather distinguished visitor stop by Aberdeen Proving Ground for lunch and a hastily arranged photo session. The visitor, a golden eagle, made a brief unannounced appearance at Edgewood, causing a brief flurry of excitement.

The golden eagle, a close relative of the bald eagle, our

nation's majestic symbol, was captured by Libby Mojica and Fletcher Smith, research biologists for the Center for Conservation Biology at the College of William and Mary, which is currently involved in a research project at APG with Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"We don't normally see very many of them this far east," Fletcher said. "They're primarily a western bird. We were thrilled about it."

"It was an absolutely gorgeous bird," continued Mojica, "maybe a year or two old. It'll really be interesting to see where it goes when it leaves here."

After recording the eagle's vital measurements (weight, length, age, etc.), the eagle was banded and fitted with a satellite-tracking device. After sticking around just long enough for a few pictures, the eagle decided, at least for the time being, that he'd seen enough of APG and continued on his way.

I wish him...bon voyage!

A funny thing (at least I thought it was funny) happened to one of my guys the other day down at Edgewood.

Seems he was scheduled for a hearing test, and while on his way over to the clinic he stopped to pick up a deer lying next to the road that had been struck earlier by an automobile. It had been dead for several hours and was as stiff as a board. Intending on disposing of the deer after completing his hearing test, he placed the deer on the rack attached to the rear bumper of the vehicle and drove on over to the clinic. As he pulled into the parking lot a group of young Soldiers were standing out front, apparently waiting for their drill sergeant.

After parking, the officer got out of the vehicle and as he did so he noticed that some of the young Soldiers had walked over and were peering down at the deer lying on the carrier with a questioning look on their faces.

"Well, this is the Emergency Room, ain't it?" the officer asked them in a stern voice.

"Yes sir! Right over there, sir," one of the Soldiers stammered, pointing quickly toward the clinic entrance.

As the officer turned and walked toward the clinic he heard one of them say in a very serious voice, "I don't know

about you guys, but if you ask me, I think he's a little too late. That deer is dead."

And so, to those young Soldiers, perhaps on their way to Iraq or Afghanistan, I also say, "Bon Voyage....May the good Lord keep you safely in the palm of his hand."

(Editor's note: To read more about tracking eagles at APG, see www.apgnews.apg.army.mil, Archives, March 6, page 15.)

Camp

From page 4

and Hunter went to a camp in New York.

"We went to a horse ranch last year. That was fun to be able to do something different," Hunter said.

"I enjoyed 'BB gunning' at camp last year, because it was my first time," M.J. said. "I also enjoyed the team competitions. We competed to see who had the cleanest bunk. We never got

the cleanest."

The children are planning on registering again for camp this year.

They are looking forward to going, if they are selected.

"We highly recommend that military Families with camp-aged children register for Operation Purple. This year the program expanded so more spots are open," Marcela said. "You feel like the children have gone through the same experiences with having a parent deployed, so they can relate to each other."

POST SHORTS

MCSC offers scholarships

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is accepting applications for scholarships. Scholarship categories for the 2008-2009 academic year include high school senior, undergraduate student, graduate student and non full-time, continuing education or technical program student.

Applications are available for download at www.apgmcsc.org. Applications must be mailed to MCSC-Scholarships, 2806-A McCloskey Road, APG, MD 21005 and postmarked by April 10 to be considered. Applicants are required to be either a current MCSC member or Family member to apply.

For more information, call Colleen Shull, 410-435-1526.

ROA scholarships available

The Reserve Officers Association offers \$500 merit-based scholarships for both undergraduate and postgraduate study at accredited colleges and universities. Undergraduate scholarships are available for children and grandchildren of ROA members; and graduate scholarships are available to ROA members. Sponsors must be ROA members and membership is available to any active, reserve, retired, or former Officer who served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service or NOAA. Application deadline for the 2008-09 school year is April 10. ROA membership

and scholarship applications are available at www.ROA.org.

For more information, e-mail questions to grallen@comcast.net.

'Retired Federal Employees' meets April 15

Susquehanna Chapter 1522 of National and Retired Federal Employees Association for Harford and Cecil counties will meet 11:30 a.m. at the Havre de Grace Methodist Church social hall located on Congress and Union avenues, Havre de Grace. A light lunch with potluck will be served. Guest speaker William McIntyre will give a presentation on the archeology and history of Garrett Island. A business meeting will follow at 1:15 p.m.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-3973.

MCSC accepting welfare requests

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is currently accepting requests for welfare funds.

Throughout the year, the club raises funds to provide scholarships and welfare monies to local schools, organizations, non-profit agencies, etc.

In order to be considered for the welfare funds (which will be distributed in May), a letter, postmarked by April 15 should be mailed to MCSC-Welfare Chairperson, 2806-A McCloskey Road, APG, MD 21005.

The request letter should include: purpose of the funds, amount being requested and

point of contact.

For more information, e-mail Susan Burnett, retorswb@aol.com.

Sign up for Strong Bonds Family Retreat

A Strong Bonds Family Retreat will be held at Harbor Inn in St. Michael's, Md., April 16 through 18.

"Strong Bonds" is a three-day and two-night marriage getaway for Army couples desiring to strengthen and enhance their marriage.

For more information, contact APG Chaplains' Office, 410-278-4333, or register online, <http://www.strongbonds.org/> and follow the prompts.

Annual Spring Technology Expo April 16

The Corporate Information Office of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Information Management will host the 2008 Annual Spring Information Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 16, at Top of the Bay.

Admission is free and open to all civilian, military and contractor personnel.

For more information or to register online, visit <http://www.fdaexpo.com/register.php?id=37>. Attendees can follow the link and register in advance for the spring show.

For more information, call Chris Zukowski, Corporate Information Office, RDECOM, 410-436-3873, e-mail Christopher.zukowski@us.army.mil.

OSJA provides special walk-in service April 16

In support of National Health Care Decisions Day, April 16, the staff of the Client Services Division will be available for special walk-in service 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., April, 16, to assist eligible clients with completing personal advanced medical directives.

Active duty service members, retirees and their Family members can expect to consult with an attorney on a walk-in basis and to leave with completed documents. All services will be provided without appointment and on a first-come-first-served basis in room 346, third floor, building 4305.

Civilian employees working on APG are not eligible to receive this service, however, those employees who live in Maryland can pick up free living will and health-care power of attorney forms from the office. These forms are approved by the Maryland Attorney General, Douglas F.

Gansler, and can also be found on the Attorney General's Web site, www.oag.state.md.us/Healthpol/AdvanceDirectives.htm. Civilian employees would need to consult a civilian attorney for questions about these forms.

For information about the services available at the Client Services Division in support of National Health Care Decisions day or for other services provided, call, 410-278-1583 or stop by building 4305, 3rd floor, room 346.

CPR, AED classes available

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Service is offering CPR and automated external defibrillator classes on APG.

Two classes will be held 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month.

In the Edgewood Area, classes will be held at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650 in the Osprey Room, on April 16, June 18, Aug. 20, Oct. 15 and Dec. 17.

In the Aberdeen Area, classes will be held at the Post Theater, May 22, July 16, Sept. 17 and Nov. 19.

Class size will be limited to 30 participants and will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis. Pre-registration will be required.

For more information or to register, call Raymond Campbell, 410-306-0566, or e-mail Ray.Campbell@apg.army.mil.

MOAA to hold career fair for military members, spouses

The Military Officers Association of America will host a career fair for active duty and retired military members and their spouses 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 17, at the Washington, D.C., Convention Center.

The career fair is open to all officers and enlisted personnel and their spouses, including active duty, National Guard, Reserve and retired. In addition to finding a new job, learn new techniques for working a career fair, how to write a powerful résumé, receive onsite résumé critiques, discover new negotiating techniques, and much more.

Participating employers will receive a CD containing a copy of all résumés submitted by job seekers.

For more information, visit www.moaa.org/careerfair or call 800-234-6622, extension 547.

USO-JETS third annual Military Spouse Career Expo

The USO of Metropolitan Washington and Joint Employment Transition Services will present the third annual Military Spouse Career

Expo, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 26, at the Fort Belvoir Officers' Club located on 5500 Schulz Circle, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Designed to empower military spouses through information, motivation and skill development leading to sound career choices, the program will include presentations on federal jobs, self-employment and alternative careers.

Breakout sessions will include Maximizing Your Education Benefits; 10 Steps for Federal Employment; Career Choices for Military Spouse; Your Winning Image; Evaluating Benefit Plans; The Ins and Outs of Volunteering; Writing An Effective Resume; Stress Management and Franchising 101.

The day will also include a "mini job fair" with national and local employers, information on home-based businesses and representatives from the Small Business Administration. Lunch is provided.

Attendance is free to military spouses.

For more information or to register by April 18, visit <http://www.usometrodc.org/Text/Spouses%20Expo.pdf>.

Installation Volunteer Recognition nominations, ceremony

Each year APG recognizes volunteers and their contributions to the post and surrounding areas. Nominations will close April 22.

The APG community will formally thank volunteers at a recognition ceremony and reception 7 p.m., May 15, at Top of the Bay.

For more information, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669.

RAB meeting April 24

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., April 24, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Other Edgewood Areas Study Area.

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

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

Training session on DFAS

The director, Edgewood Contracting Division, invites everyone to attend a training session entitled, "The DFAS Road Show," 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 8, at the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4810, main auditorium. Lunch will not be provided.

Topics covered include:

- How DFAS pays contracts (both contract pay and vendor pay)
- Accounting

- Electronic commerce initiatives (including WAWF)

- Special payment instructions

- Interest payments

- Conversion of contract financing

- Contract reconciliation

- DFAS customer service

- DFAS/DCMA liaison

For more information, to register or to RSVP by COB May 6, call Jennifer Zeman, 410-436-4492, or e-mail Jennifer.zeman@us.army.mil.

Registering for Operation Purple® Summer Camp

Registration for the National Military Family Association's popular Operation Purple® Summer Camp is open through May 5. Operation Purple will host children at 64 different locations in 37 states and territories.

Summer Camp in Maryland is located at Easter Seals Camp Fairlee Manor, a residential recreational camp on 250 acres on Fairlee Creek near Chestertown, Md.

The camp offers children ages 9 through 13 the opportunity to experience the joys and challenges of camp. Camp will be held Aug. 17 through 21 and includes campfire sing-a-longs, the high ropes course, swimming and boating, nature walks and arts and crafts. All activities are success oriented and are designed to meet individual needs.

Transportation costs are not covered.

Interested Families can sign-up to receive e-mail notices and announcements on the Web site.

For more information or to register, visit http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op_maryland.

JETS, USO-Metro host job fair for military

The Joint Employment Transition Services, or JETS, and the USO of Metropolitan Washington will host a job fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 16, at the Fort Belvoir Officers' Club, located at 5500 Schulz Circle, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Employers include area police and fire departments, federal agencies, health care agencies, defense and government contractors. All military I.D. card holders are eligible to attend. Military personnel should bring resumes and be prepared for on-site interviews. No children.

For more information, call Dawn Fincham, 703-805-2464, e-mail dawn@usometro.org or Cassie Camp, 703-696-0958, e-mail cassie@usometro.org.

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

Community Notes

THURSDAY

APRIL 10 HOME SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Visit the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center to check out the facilities and get a taste of the naturalist led programs that will be available beginning this spring. Each activity is adapted for ages 5 to 10 and 11 to 17. This program will be held 1 to 4 p.m. for Families. The program is free but registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

FRIDAY

APRIL 11 SINGING FROG HIKE

Venture out for an evening hike in the marsh to listen to the music of frogs. Wear boots and bring a flashlight. The hike will take place rain or shine. Meet at the Bosely Conservancy. This program will be held 8 to 9:30 p.m. for ages 6 through adult (Families). Cost is \$3 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SATURDAY

APRIL 12 TRAIL TREK

Bring lunch and water for a splendid day hike with volunteer Eugene Burg along the banks of the Susquehanna for three and one half miles. Meet at the Susquehanna State Park. This free program will be held 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 10 to adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

A Community Electronics Recycling event will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for electronic equipment at St. Ignatius Church located on 533 East Jarrettsville Road, Forest Hill. Computers contain hazardous materials that should not be mixed with regular trash.

The public is invited to donate their old computers, CPU's, speakers, fax machines, scanners, printers, keyboards, cell phones, stereos, mice and microwaves free of charge. A contribution of \$10 per monitor will be requested. Do not bring television sets. Tax donation receipts will be provided.

For more information, call 443-866-5101 or e-mail computers@aceweb.com.

HEALING HERBS II - LEMONBALM LIP BALM

Explore the medicinal and therapeutic values of herbs and wild plants. Take home a product made from some of the highlighted plants. Today's session uses lemonbalm in a lip balm to soothe dryness and soreness. This program will be held 11 a.m. to noon for ages 14 to adult. Cost is \$4 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

CHILDREN'S GARDENING II

Have fun growing food and flowers at the estuary and at home. Enjoy crafts, games and science disguised as fun, while learning about seeds, life cycles and growing food and flowers in a watershed-friendly way. This program will be held 1 to 2 p.m. for ages 5 to 10. Cost is \$5 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

TOTALLY TURTLE

Come learn about the wild

world of turtles. Discover the difference between land and aquatic turtles and join some turtle friends. This free program will be held 2 to 3 p.m. for ages 6 to adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BULL AND SHRIMP ROAST

The Harford County Municipal Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 128, will be hold Bull and Shrimp Roast, 3 to 6 p.m. at the Aberdeen American Legion located on 44 North Park Street, Aberdeen. Tickets cost \$30 per person and include an all-you-can-eat bull and shrimp roast, DJ, games, beer and soda. A cash bar will also be available.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call David Swain, 443-876-4419 or e-mail dswain@aberdeen-md.org.

CASINO NIGHT

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold Casino Night, 5 p.m. to midnight. First come, first serve - four Texas hold'em tables. Many games of chance, a cash bar and food will be available.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

BULL AND OYSTER ROAST - PRIDE OF BALTIMORE II VISIT

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will host its 14th annual Bull and Oyster Roast to benefit the Skipjack Martha Lewis, 6 to 10 p.m. under a heated tent in Hutchins Park (foot of Congress Avenue) in Havre de Grace.

The Pride of Baltimore II will visit Havre de Grace to aid in the celebration of the event. Both ships will be docked in Frank Hutchins Park during the event. There will be an open house on the Pride II, noon to 5 p.m.

Tickets cost \$40 per person in advance, or \$50 at the door. Reserved tables of 10 cost \$500.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078, or visit Amanda's Florist, Bank of Memories, Java by the Bay or the Havre de Grace Visitor's Center, 1-800-851-7756 or 410-939-2100.

SUNDAY

APRIL 13 DISCOVERY WALK

Join a naturalist on a nature walk to discover what creeps, crawls and flies around Leight Park. This free program will be held at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

COOKING ON A STICK

When thinking about cooking on a stick, hot dogs and marshmallows are probably the first things that come to mind. Come explore some new recipes and enjoy some great food. This program will be held noon to 1 p.m. for Families. Cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per Family. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

TROUT LILY TREK

Hike over hill and dale to search for ephemeral spring wildflowers. Such prizes as trout lilies, bloodroot, spring beauties and rattlesnake plantain await the patient, observant, intrepid springtime hiker. This free program will be held 1:30 to 3 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Ages 8 to 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 16 WATER QUALITY TESTING HOME SCHOOL PROGRAM

Learn different methods to test water quality and how to evaluate the results. Age 5 to 10 focus will be on the ponds around the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center. Ages 11 to 17 will conduct the Otter Point Creek survey from a pontoon boat. This program will be held 2 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$5 per student. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

CRITTER DINNER TIME

Come watch turtles, fish and snakes eat and learn more about them. This free program will be held at 1:30 p.m. for all ages. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

TALKING STONE

Hear a Native American story and paint a talking stone. This program will be held 2 to 3 p.m. for ages 4 to 8. Cost is \$2 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

STARRY, STARRY NIGHT - CANOE TRIP

Bask in the beauty of the rising almost-full moon while paddling the marsh loop accompanied by stars, beaver and who knows what else. This program will be held 7 to 9:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

FRIDAY

APRIL 18 PRIZE BINGO AND DINNER

The Water Witch Fire Company, Port Deposit, will hold a Prize Bingo and dinner to benefit Krafty Survivors-Relay for Life, at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 5 p.m. and dinner will be served 6 p.m. Bingo starts 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 per person and includes paper packet for 20 games and ham dinner. Extra packs cost \$5 each. Cost is \$10 for children ages 6 and

under for a single card pack, no extra packs. Early birds 6:45 p.m. (tickets purchased separately). Tickets are available at the door. Door prizes, refreshments, raffles and more will be available. All children must be accompanied by an adult. No smoking is permitted.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-642-9297, 410-658-528 or 410-378-3338.

SATURDAY

APRIL 19 SATURDAY

NINTH ANNUAL SUSQUEHANNA RIVERSWEEP

The Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway will sponsor its 9th Riversweep, Annual Earth Day Shoreline Cleanup, rain or shine, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. during low tide. Volunteers will meet in one of three locations: the Community Park in Perryville, Marina Park in Port Deposit and Tydings Park Gazebo in Havre de Grace.

Participants are urged to wear old clothes and bring gloves. Riversweep draws individuals, Families and youth groups together for a day of hard work and fun.

Free lunch and T-shirts will be provided to participants who register in advance. An Earth Day celebration will follow at Havre de Grace Maritime Museum located on 100 Lafayette Street.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.hitourtrails.com/Riversweep.html> or call 410-457-2482.

EARTH DAY 2008 FESTIVAL

An Earth Day celebration will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Aberdeen Festival Park located on West Belair Avenue, across from the Aberdeen Library. The free event is for all ages and will include live music, a rock climbing wall,

a "moon bounce," tie-dye, recycled games, prizes and face painting.

For more information, to register or for directions, call 410-297-4215.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the USNTC Bainbridge Historical Association will be held at the VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 6 p.m., Bingo begins 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards. Food, door prizes and raffles will be available.

For more information, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or Carolyn Spencer, 410-378-3219.

SUNDAY

APRIL 20 BIRDING BY BOAT - PONTOON BOAT RIDE

Join birder Phil Powers on a search for the beautiful marsh birds of Otter Point Creek. This program will be held 8:30 to 10 a.m. for ages 10 through adult. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for ages 13 and under. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BIRCH BARK CANOE

Make a model of a birch bark canoe while discussing a Native American craft. This program will be held 2 to 3 p.m. for ages 5 to 10. Cost is \$3 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

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



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

2008 Army Concert Tour presents
ZZ Top
Sunday, June 22
 visit www.apgmwr.com

Talent Showcase April 19

The Talent Showcase (featuring youths and adults) will be held 7 p.m., April 19, at the Post Theater.

For more information, call Earlene Allen, 410-273-7803 or 410-652-2737 or e-mail MWR-Events@apg.army.mil.

Nashville Star seeks military country musicians

A casting call will be held April 11 at Norfolk Naval Station, Va., for the NBC show "Nashville Star." Auditions are open to active duty personnel, National Guard and reserve members, retirees, veterans, Defense Department employees and their Family members. Defense contractors are eligible, but their Family members are not. There is no fee to audition.

Up to 40 people will be selected at the auditions, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 11, at Norfolk Naval Station's Devary Hall Theatre, also known as building C-9. Those who audition should be prepared to stay an extra day in

case they are called back to take part in a videotaping for "Nashville Star" on a Navy ship April 12.

For more information, call 757-444-4814 or e-mail nsmilitarycasting@martenvee.com.

Hershey Park Military Appreciation

Hershey Park will hold a special Military Appreciation event for military on April 20. This is a private event and the park will be open only to the military.

Take advantage of free parking and short lines before the park opens in May.

Tickets cost \$21 for all ages. Purchase tickets now as supplies are limited. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail MWR-LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

Hairspray on Broadway

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a bus trip to see Hairspray on Broadway, 2 p.m., April 19. Tickets cost \$140 per person and include bus transportation and Broadway play. This event is open to all DoD ID card holders.

"Hairspray" is based upon the New Line Cinema film writ-

ten and directed by John Waters. In this musical, it's 1962 - the '50s are out and change is in the air. Baltimore's Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion - to dance. The songs take the audience to the soundstage of a 60's-style dance show, to the streets of Baltimore, to a downtown rhythm and blues record shop.

Bus departs for New York at 6 a.m. There will be time for shopping and lunch prior to the show. The bus will depart Broadway at 5 p.m.

For more information, for reservations, or to purchase tickets, call Patti Harkins, 410-278-4603.

School age/middle school services summer program taking applications

The Aberdeen and Edgewood area's summer programs will run for nine weeks, June 16 through Aug. 15, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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

Tuition fees are based on total Family income.

Waitinglist applications may be picked up daily, at the Edgewood Area Youth Services, building E-1902, the Outreach Services, building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-4658.

Applications will not be distributed or accepted at the Aberdeen Area Youth Service building.

Registration will be held Saturday, April 19, at the Edgewood Area Youth Services and Saturday, April 26, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Services for all sponsors who

have been offered openings by the Central Registration office. Registration packets, an up-to-date physical and Family income information must be completed prior to the registration appointment.

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

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

Spring Golf Scramble at Exton

The Spring Golf Scramble at Exton Golf Course will be held 8:30 a.m., April 19, and includes greens fee, cart, continental breakfast, lunch and prizes.

Prices are \$20 for Annual Patrons, \$30 for Value Card holders/Authorized Patrons and \$40 for guests.

Register in the Pro Shop at Exton or Ruggles.

For more information, call 410-436-2213 or e-mail rubeneferguson@us.army.mil.

SCHOOL LIAISON

New graduation requirements

The 2005 Harford County Public Schools' Comprehensive Secondary School Reform Plan will require students that graduate in June 2009 and later to earn 26 graduation credits. The new flexible eight-period day, also called the block schedule, allows students 32 credit opportunities.

Prior to this students graduated with only 21 credits. The five additional credits include one more mathematics credit and four credits in the Career Pathways system.

Beginning in ninth grade, all students complete the "Living in a Contemporary World" course, which will be followed by career cluster courses to help them bet-

ter understand their interests and aptitudes. The ultimate goal of the Comprehensive Secondary School Reform Plan is to promote student success, as measured by increased scores on high school assessments, increase attendance rate, increase graduation rates, decrease drop-out rate and (increase) issues related to a safe and secure learning environment.

For more information, see the Student Education Planning Guide and courses at http://www.hcps.org/students/docs/2008-09_coursebook_front_end.pdf or http://www.hcps.org/students/docs/2008-09_coursebook_courses.pdf.

Roye-Williams holds registration for pre-K/K

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold its annual pre-kindergarten/kindergarten registration or the 2008 to 2009 school year, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 2.

Parents are reminded that Roye-Williams holds all-day kindergarten.

Kindergarten packets may be picked up at the school beginning April 16 and returned on registration day for children who will be five years of age as of Sept. 1, 2008.

Pre-kindergarten registration packets may be picked up after 9 a.m., May 2, for children who will be four years of age as of Sept. 1, 2008.

When application forms are received, they

will be checked for completeness and stamped with the date/time they were received. Parents who register their child for pre-kindergarten prior to June 11 will be notified of their non-acceptance into the program.

Parents are requested to bring their child's birth certificate or verification of birth, social security card and all immunization records.

The school also requires proof of residency, which can be in the form of a rental lease or utility bill (dated within the last two months prior to registration), which contains the parents' name and address. Parents must also bring a copy of their 2006 Federal Income Tax Return.

For more information on any APG school related topic, contact Eileen Campbell, 410-278-2857 or e-mail eileen.campbell@apg.army.mil.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of April 7

Special #1: Grilled cheese with soup of the day, one cookie and soda for \$4.25.
 Special #2: Double cheeseburger with bacon, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$6.95.

Week of April 14

Special #1: Turkey and ham wrap with lettuce, tomato, ranch dressing, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.25.
 Special #2: Nine wing dings or wing zings, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$5.95.

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



SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@apg.army.mil.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given 3:30 to 7 p.m., March 7 through April 18. Lessons cost \$102 per

student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Students are responsible for purchasing the required books for the course recommended by the instructor.

Brazilian Jujitsu

A Brazilian jujitsu program will be held at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Three sessions will be held

on Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 15 through May 15; and May 20 through June 19.

Beginner classes will be held 6 to 6:45 p.m.; advanced classes will be held 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

Through the practice of jujitsu and kickboxing, students will learn the best form of self-defense, how to defend themselves against bigger, stronger, and faster opponents and develop leadership and teamwork skills. All students will advance their skills no matter their gender, size, or natural ability.

Cost is \$85 per student, or \$240 per student for all three classes.

Tutors available for all grades

Private tutors are available for students in grades

1 through 12. Tutoring for grades 1 through 5 includes all subjects for non-before/after-school participants. Grades 6 through 8 includes all subjects. Grades 9 through 12 includes math and science only.

Tutors are available Monday through Friday, April 22 through May 13 and cost \$140 per student for four one-hour sessions. Times and days vary with each participant. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Private guitar lessons

Private guitar lessons for

ages 7 and over will be held 3:30 to 6 p.m., Tuesdays, April 22 through May 13.

An award winning singer/songwriter will teach students to play the guitar like they have always wanted. No experience necessary.

Cost of the lessons is \$132 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for four weeks. Students must provide their own guitar and also are required to purchase required for the course as recommended by the instructor. Books are a

one-time purchase. Parents can choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they register their child.

Private voice lessons

Ages 7 and over can register for private voice lessons, 3:30 to 7 p.m., Tuesdays, April 22 through May 13. An award-winning singer and songwriter will instruct students. No experience is necessary.

Singing lessons cost \$132 per student and includes one 30 minute session per week for four weeks. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they register their child.

Songwriting lessons

Ages 7 through 18 can take Songwriting Lessons, 6 to 7 p.m., Tuesdays, April 22 through May 13. Learn from an award winning singer/songwriter to write songs. No experience is necessary. Musical knowledge is preferred, but not required.

The class costs \$65 per student. Each session is one hour per week for four weeks. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Beginner Spanish 101

Hola! Habla Espanol? Beginner Spanish 101 is a great opportunity for children ages 5 and older, to learn Spanish through games and student-centered activities. The class is for students with little to no Spanish language experience.

Two classes will be held: 5:30 to 6:20 p.m. for ages 5 through 7; and 6:20 to 7:30 p.m., for ages 8 through 11. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, April 22 through June 3, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

The class will include hands-on activities such as games, songs, crafts, stories, and some familiar movies, all in Spanish.

Class price is \$55 per student with a minimum of six students per hour and a maximum of 16 students only. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Free movies at the Post Theater

MWR hosts free movies at the Post Theater, 7 p.m., Saturdays and 2 p.m., Sundays.

Movies are open to active duty, National Guard and Reserve personnel and their Family members, retirees, DoD civilians and APG contractors. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult regardless of the movie rating.

For more information or movie schedule, call the Movie Hotline, 410-278-8000 or check the APG MWR Web site, <http://www.apgmwr.com>.

Snack Bar will be open for all performances.





Veterans' Voices

South Dakota paying veterans bonus

South Dakota Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

South Dakota is paying a bonus to members of the armed forces who were legal residents of the state for no less than six months immediately preceding their period of active duty and who served on active duty during one or more period:

Aug. 2, 1990 to March 3, 1991 – All active service counts for payment.

March 4, 1990 to Dec. 31, 1992 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for the Southwest Asia Service Medal counts for payment.

Jan. 1, 1993 to Sept. 10, 2001 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for

any United States campaign or service medal awarded for combat operations against hostile forces counts for payment.

Sept. 11, 2001 to a date to be determined – All active service counts for payment.

Veterans with qualifying service before Dec. 31, 1992, and after Jan. 1, 1993, may receive two separate bonuses of up to \$500 each.

Applicants living outside of South Dakota may obtain an application by e-mail at john.fette@state.sd.us and include branch of the military and dates of service. To request an application and instructions by mail,



write to SD Veterans Bonus, 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501 or call 605-773-7251.

Applicants living in South Dakota may apply through the nearest County or Tribal Veterans Service Officer.

Phishing

From front page

how many of our customers this exercise has alienated."

FMWRC routinely sends e-mail messages to its customers and press releases to installation newspapers, inviting patrons to visit the official Web site to learn about new offers and promotions.

"The Family and MWR Command has spent decades and millions of dollars establishing our brand as one that can be recognized and trusted by Soldiers and Families," Pugh said. "We have yet to determine how much of that trust has been undermined by this exercise."

The e-mail and Web site created by ACERT were convincing enough to entice more than 3,000 people to click through, in part because of the use of the MWR Web graphics and logo, and in part because patrons are used to receiving similar messages.

"It's important to be alert to potential

phishing attempts," Pugh said. "But it's also important for FMWRC to be able to use e-mail and our Web site as an effective marketing tool."

All legitimate e-mails from FMWRC will come from a .mil address, and links will direct patrons to www.armymwr.com. When in doubt, do not click through the e-mail. Type www.ArmyMWR.com directly into a Web browser and see if the offer is advertised on FMWRC's official Web site.

ACERT officials sent a follow-up email to the original 10,000 recipients of the "phishing" email describing the exercise and asserting the e-mail was non-malicious.

Their second e-mail reads, in part:

"For those individuals responding to the ACERT phishing attempts regardless of what you submitted, no personal data was collected or transmitted.

This exercise illustrates how hackers can turn the popularity of a trusted resource such as the MWR Web site against unwitting personnel by using real information and activities openly available on the Internet.

We apologize for any inconvenience or false hope these e-mails may have caused. As users of Army network and information systems, you play an integral role in the Information Assurance and Network Security posture for the Army. As you know, phishing e-mails are a common method used by hackers to infiltrate Army networks and systems. Your ability to identify and respond to phishing attempts is paramount to the defense of critical information systems that make up the Army LandWarNet. Soon, you will receive another e-mail from the ACERT that will provide education on how to identify "phishing" attempts as illegitimate.

We appreciate your participation in this exercise. Everyone plays a part in the security of the Army networks and systems. It is important for everyone to know the MWR brand can be trusted, so please forward this e-mail to anyone you may have shared the original "phishing" e-mail with."

Anyone with questions or comments in the conduct of the exercise should contact the ACERT, 703-706-1113.

Evaluations

From front page

quick and provides virtually error-free documents for final review and processing at the HQDA level," Velasquez said. "Because we're getting a better product from the units, our examiners are able to push the evaluation to the Soldier's Official Military Personnel Records File more quickly."

Additional benefits of completing evaluations within the My Forms Portal include:

- Digital signatures eliminate the need to print hardcopy forms.
- Forms have embedded wizards which help rating officials navigate through the process, providing guidance and policy.
- Administrative information on both rated officer and rating officials can be automatically filled from the Integrated Total Army Data Base.
- With just one key stroke, rating officials have the ability to create an evaluation report from the counseling/support forms. All required information transfers from the counseling to the evaluation form, reducing the need to cut and paste or retype data.
- Rating officials route forms behind My Forms and useTrack to monitor the history of the form throughout the process. Users may also e-mail forms outside the portal but they lose the benefits of My Forms' tracking.

- Reduces the need to expend resources on special mailing costs.
- Eliminates printed copies and paper without compromising the personal nature of evaluations.

Exceptions to this requirement include evaluations from deployed units, Army National Guard NCOERs which are mailed to state and territory points of contact, and classified OERs and NCOERs. These reports may be submitted in paper format.

Deployed units continue to retain all available options for military evaluation submission, to include electronic submissions in My Forms, mailing hard copy reports, and OERs by e-mail (once established as an authorized sender).

All other units must submit OERs and NCOERs electronically or request an exemption to use paper format per guidance provided in the MILPER Message.

"Go to our Web site, read the training slides, and go to My Forms. For units that have never tried submitting evaluations electronically, the best way is to just get out there and do it," said Sgt. Maj. Arlita Crawford, chief, NCOER Policy.

Training on the total My Forms process and specific aspects of electronic submission of evaluations is available under the "What's New?" heading at the Evaluations, Selections, & Promotions Web page at www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/MSD/msdweb.htm.

Those with questions on this directive should refer to the MILPER message first, and if that does not address their questions, officials at HRC can be contacted at tapcmse@conus.army.mil.

Children

From front page

the TRICARE military health-insurance program, especially when Families of deployed Soldiers return to the spouses' hometowns for extended-Family support. Also, much of the pain these children feel emerges in the school setting.

So the Army Medical Department, with help from the American Academy of Pediatrics, is focusing a lot of effort on getting the word out to civilian pediatricians and other health-care providers who care for children as well as school-system professionals. The message is twofold: be alert for indications of emotional pain in the military children they are treating or who are in their classes, and be aware of the programs and self-help tools available to military Families – in essence, recognize and respond.

The program is "on the cutting edge of emotional and behavioral science with these developmentally appropriate, psycho-educational, resiliency-based, preventative deployment-support resources," said Maj. Keith M. Lemmon, an adolescent medicine specialist and pediatrician at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash. Lemmon is the vice president of the Uniformed Services West Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, an assistant professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and a leader in the development of these resources.

"These products and the follow-on concepts we are working on are directly in line with the battlemind training concepts the rest of the Army is doing for Soldiers," Lemmon said.

"Battlemind" is a package of training sessions that teach troops and Families what to expect before Soldiers leave for the wars and what common problems to look for when readjusting to home life after deployment.

The youth program includes two Army-made videos for adolescents and school-aged children that can be conveniently viewed/downloaded at the American Academy of Pediatrics Deployment Support Web site, <http://www.aap.org/sections/uniformed-services/deployment/videos.html>. They will also be available for ordering in DVD format through the Military One Source at 1-800-342-9647 or <http://www.military-onesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>. Those videos are:

- "Military Youth Coping With Separation: When Family Members Deploy," a half-hour video of teenagers discussing their feelings and how they cope with issues that arise when a parent is deployed. The video is narrated by Cameron, a teen who experienced Family deployment and takes the audience through multiple interviews with older children and teens who have also experienced separation during deployment. The interviews are candid and capture the true feelings and coping strategies of military youth. The video accentuates the inherent resiliency of military children and thanks them for their personal service and sacrifice to the nation. (Also on the AAP Web site and in the video packaging is an Interactive Military Youth Stress Management Plan that can help an older child or adolescent understand deployment-related and other types of stress and develop a personal plan to cope with it.)
- "Mr. Poe and Friends Discuss Family Reunion after Deployment," in which cartoon characters talking about deployment issues affecting children ages 6 to 11. The animated host, Mr. Poe, interacts with Families at the airport as they await the return of their loved ones who have been deployed. Mr. Poe mentors and provides guidance to children and Family members as they discuss the challenges and accomplishments accompanying various stages of deployment. The video features the voices of real military children, parents and youth serving professionals who have experienced deployment. The video accen-

tuates the inherent resiliency of military children and thanks them for their personal service and sacrifice to the nation.

For pre-school kids, the Army experts recommend a Sesame Street product:

- "Talk, Listen, Connect: Helping Families During Military Deployment," available at <http://www.sesameworkshop.org/tlc>. Families can view and download Sesame Street Workshop videos for children and Families. A bilingual DVD kit is designed to help military Families with children ages 3-5 cope with feelings, challenges and concerns experienced during various phases of deployment: pre-deployment, deployment and homecoming. Sesame Street is scheduled to come out with a phase II product later this month.

In addition, there are written articles that help to place these various resources in context:

- "Videos help children with absent parent," an article about the videos, can be found at <http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/news/releases/20070724teenvideo.cfm>.

- "Child resiliency program plants community seeds," an article about an outreach program to a school, is at <http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/news/releases/20070726childresiliency.cfm>. Madigan Army Medical Center was awarded the 2007 Military Child Education Coalition's "Pete Taylor Partnership Award" (Individual Program) for its outreach program within the Clover Park School District that helps military children to better cope with the deployment of their parents.

The Military Youth Deployment Support Video Program will be getting special support from the American Academy of Pediatrics during the Month of the Military Child. A link entitled "April is the Month of the Military Child" will be featured on the AAP home page throughout the month of April. The message is that the AAP is proud to support the military and civilian pediatricians and Families caring for military children and adolescents.

FCC providers hold Spring Fling for children

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Family Child Care providers, parents, Marines and children gathered at the Aberdeen Youth Center to celebrate spring by having FCC's annual Spring Fling March 18.

"This event gives us a chance for the providers and the children to get together with an organized activity to celebrate a special occasion," said Heather Bethoney, FCC provider.

The activities at the event included a visit from the Easter Bunny, pin-the-tail on the bunny, ring-toss, musical chairs, egg relay, creating bunny masks and an Easter egg hunt. The event concluded with pizza and juice for lunch.

Bethoney added that FCC participates in gym day every Tuesday at the Aberdeen Youth Center. They also come together to have activities to celebrate other holidays.

Adriane Fletcher, a child care provider who brought six children to the event, said that she likes introducing the children to new activities.

"This is an activity that is different from their routine," Fletcher said. "Change is good for the kids."

"Family Child Care is an organization for the military, which helps to accommodate Soldiers with child care for their children while they are at work," said Tiphonie Simpson, an FCC provider who runs a day care from her home. "The providers meet quarterly to discuss child care issues and to plan events. It is for child care providers, for on post homes and homes off post," Simpson said.

Simpson's son, Terry Hopson, dressed up as the Easter Bunny for the event.

Ten Marines from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, volunteered to run games for the children. Many Marines added money to the Easter eggs for the children.

"We normally do cleanup at APG or drills that test our knowledge while waiting for our classes to begin," said Pvt. Joe Hutchinson. "Platoon Sergeant Robertson asked for volunteers for this event. It was something new to do for the day, and we like volunteering for kids. I am the uncle of four, and working with kids reminds me of my nieces and nephews back home, plus it is for a good cause."

Aphrodite Corsi, FCC director, thanked the providers for bringing the children and helping with the event. She said that Bethoney and Simpson were instrumental in organizing this event.

Anyone interested in becoming an FCC provider or needing child care can call 410-278-7140/7477.



Nevaeh Bethoney, daughter of Family Child Care provider Heather Bethoney, enjoys candy she found in an Easter egg.



Marine Pfc. Elias Wilson, left, watches as Nigel Fletcher, right, 4, prepares to throw a ball dart.



Marine Pfc. Daniel Roberts, left, plays with a toy with Ashley Flores, right, 2.



Dominique Moeller, 5, puts her egg into her basket during the Easter egg hunt.



Karl Brown, 4, shows off his large collection of eggs.



Venice Hiatt, right, 2, spends some time with the Easter Bunny, Terry Hopson, who is the son of Tiphonie Simpson, a Family Child Care provider.