

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Aug. 27, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Retirement ceremony Aug. 27

The community is invited to attend the Aberdeen Proving Ground retirement ceremony, 11 a.m., in the Top of the Bay Mezzanine Room.

James B. Johnson, executive director, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, will host the ceremony on behalf of APG commander Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr.

The retirees include garrison employees Albert N. Brown, Richard B. Dunham and Willa Lynn Rosier.

For more information, call 410-278-2952.

Free Family Movie Night in the Park

"Shrek the Third" will be shown free of charge, 8:30 p.m., Aug. 22, at the playground area between Peace Court and Flag Court in Patriot Village. Popcorn also will be provided free of charge. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and non-alcoholic beverages.

For more information, call 410-278-3609.

Registration now open for UMUC Fall 2008

Registration has begun for the University of Maryland University College Fall Semester, which runs Aug. 24 to Dec. 20.

Online session 1 runs Aug. 24 to Dec. 20

Online session 2 runs Sept. 8 to Dec. 14

Online session 3 runs Sept. 21 to Dec. 14

Online session 4 runs Oct. 5 to Dec. 14

At Aberdeen Proving Ground HRMN 300 Human Resource Management will be offered.

Students are advised to register early, as some classes fill quickly. For more information or to register, visit the APG office of UMUC in building 4305, room 210, or call 410-272-8269 or 410-306-2048.

Information about UMUC is also available online at www.umuc.edu.

RecruitMilitary Career Fair in Baltimore today

RecruitMilitary, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, American

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ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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13 thru 15; 18
thru 21

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DHS marks 5th annual national preparedness month in September

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced July 2 that more than 1,200 national, regional, state and local businesses and organizations have pledged their support and joined the 2008 National Preparedness Month Coalition.

Sponsored by the department's Ready Campaign, National Preparedness Month helps to raise awareness and promote action by Americans, businesses and communities on emergency preparedness.

"As we approach our fifth National Preparedness Month, I want to thank the hundreds of coalition members who are making a difference in their communities by helping raise the basic level of preparedness in our country," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "Individual preparedness is the cornerstone of emergency preparedness. Experience shows that if Americans take steps ahead of time, they stand a much better chance of coming through an emergency unharmed and recovering more quickly."

The Ready Campaign and Citizen Corps (www.citizen-corps.gov) are specifically encouraging individuals across the nation to take important preparedness steps. These steps include: getting an emergency supply kit, making a Family emergency plan, being informed about the different emergencies that may affect them, as well as taking the necessary steps to get trained and become engaged in community preparedness and response efforts.

National Preparedness Month Coalition members have agreed to distribute emergency preparedness information and sponsor activities across the country that will promote emergency preparedness. Membership is open to all public

See **PREPARE**, page 5



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Working the D.A.R.E. display, Amy Hurst, a Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security administrative assistant, watches Devon McLeod, 8, select items for an emergency preparedness kit at the D.A.R.E. table as from left, Kaili Long, 4, Xiara Long, 9, look on. The game was part of the community's introduction to the Army Ready program.

Community fights crime with National Night Out

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security hosted its biggest community event of the summer during National Night Out Against Crime festivities at the McGruff House in Patriot Village Aug. 5.

The annual event, observed in all 50 states and on military installations

worldwide, celebrated its 25th anniversary this year.

Dozens of housing area residents attended the three-hour event that included displays by law enforcement personnel, community service organizations and the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Fire and Emergency Services Division.

Under the direction of

DLES director Robert Krauer, community policing officer and detective Mike "Big Mike" Farlow organized the event which draws a larger crowd each year.

"I'm incredibly proud of how this event unfolded," Krauer said. "There was a terrific turnout by the community to interact with "their" police officers, fire fighters and other commu-

nity support groups.

"Detective Farlow has an incredible sense for identifying what we can do for the people that live and work at APG and bringing it all together. This is but one example of the community merging together for a very important purpose, keeping everyone safe and secure.

"I can't express enough how pleased I am as to how

all of the represented organizations worked together to make this year's Night Out so special. What a great event, and the hot dogs and hamburgers were mighty tasty," Krauer added.

Law enforcement

Law enforcement displays included the DLES Traffic Section in which officer Andreas Sexton displayed

See **CRIME**, page 16

TRAFFIC ALERT

Expected changes in AA/EA areas of APG

DIO

On or about Saturday, Sept. 6, Ricketts Point Road will be closed to through traffic at the service entrance to building E-3302. Access to buildings north of E-3300 will not be affected. Access to E-3300 and buildings south of E-3300, including range access, will be via Otto Road.

Closure is now scheduled for only one day but may require a second day or even be delayed until the following weekend if weather becomes an issue.

This closure is required for Grimberg Construction to install a new storm drain

outfall from the Sample Receipt Facility.

Meanwhile in the Aberdeen Area, work on the new Maryland Boulevard entrance control facility is progressing. The next big traffic change will occur sometime in early to mid-September when the new golf course access road will open. When this occurs, all golf course traffic will be diverted to the new entrance and the old entrance will be closed. Additional announcements will be made prior to this change over.

For more information, contact Jerry Norris, Directorate of Installation Operations, 410-306-1159.

Chaplaincy changes responsibilities during stole ceremony on July 27

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

In a symbolic exchange of responsibilities, the Aberdeen Proving Ground chaplaincy conducted a stole ceremony at the Edgewood Area chapel July 27.

Installation Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon led the ceremony, which involved removing the stole from around the neck of Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim and placing it on Chaplain (Capt.) James Lester, 61st Ordnance Brigade, who assumed the duties of leading the Protestant services at the Edgewood Area Chapel. With the exchange, Kim becomes the deputy installation chaplain.

"He will be my go-to guy," Colon said.

Prior to the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and a member of the Edgewood Protestant Service, awarded Kim the Meritorious Service Medal. In addi-



Command Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon, Jr. center, removes the stole symbolizing pastoral leadership of the Edgewood Chapel Protestant Service from Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim before placing it on Chaplain (Capt.) James Lester, 61st Ordnance Brigade, during an exchange in responsibility at the Edgewood Area Chapel July 27.

tion, Kim's wife, Susie Jin Kim and son Emmanuel Jin Kim, 16, were awarded the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Public Service.

Robinson remarked on the musical Family's devotion to the congregation noting how they regularly performed during the weekly services with Kim's

strong voice leading congregational hymns, his wife a former opera singer, performing choral selections and their son accompanying them on cello.

"He is one of those individuals whose presence and awe makes you feel [his message] personally," Robinson said. "They are a

See **CHANGE**, page 12

ID Card/CAC office to close for software upgrade

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Identification Card section, located in building 4305, first floor, will be closed Aug. 25 thru 27, reopening Aug. 28.

The reason for the closure is to upgrade existing Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System/Real-Time Personnel Identification System (DEERS/RAPIDS) software in preparation for the new Common Access Card (CAC).

During the closure, ID card facilities at Fort Meade, 301-677-9586; National Guard Headquarters, Baltimore, 410-702-9050; and the Air National Guard, 175th Wing, Baltimore, 410-918-6698, will serve APG customers requiring assistance. Customers should call ahead first to ensure prompt service.

Janet Dettwiler, APG director of Human Resources/adjutant general, said the next generation cards will contain technology that will enhance the security of federally controlled facilities and computer systems and ensure a safer work environment for service members, federal employees and contractors.

"The next generation CAC will meet the guidelines established by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12," Dettwiler said.

With the system upgrades come changes in the verification process. ID card section work center supervisor Ivan Willie said that more than 600 sites are being upgraded DoD-wide and that they are in the 35th week of a 50-week schedule.

"The biggest change for customers will be the requirement to present two valid forms of identification with at least one ID containing a photo," Willie said. "This Department of Defense upgrade comes about with Family members in mind. It has features requiring solid identification of who they are to update the system."

The current system requires only one form of identification but with the upgrade, two forms of identification must be presented and scanned into the system before a CAC can be issued.

Robert Mehlbaum, SI International program manager, said "current card holders will not need to renew their cards until thirty days prior to their expiration."

Changes to DEERS/RAPIDS will not affect the current process of obtaining the DA Form 1602 Civilian ID Card. These cards are generally issued to those employees who do not require computer access. This office, located in building 4305, room 145 will remain open during the system upgrade.

As a means of increased card security, DEERS will require the scanning of two forms of identification before issuing a new ID card, he added.

See **CAC**, page 4

APG Unit Ministry Teams celebrate 233rd Chaplain Corps Anniversary

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Aberdeen Proving Ground Unit Ministry Teams and their Families celebrated the 233rd Chaplain Corps Anniversary July 25 at the APG Aberdeen Area Post Chapel by gathering for a service that honored the role of past and present chaplain's in the Army.

The official birthday of the Corps is July 29, 1775, when the Continental Congress recognized chaplains with an updated pay scale for officers and enlisted Soldiers.

Maj. Young Kim, deputy

installation garrison chaplain, opened the service with a prayer and welcome to the attendees.

Col. Ruben Colon Jr., installation garrison chaplain, invited chaplains who have recently moved to serve at APG to the front where he introduced them and gave them a Chaplain's Coin.

Those that received a coin were Spc. Sonny Cooper, a chaplain's assistant and funds clerk; Maj. Jeffery Zust, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command chaplain; Capt. James Lester, 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain; Capt. Kurt O'Donnell, 16th Ordnance

chaplain; Spc. David Besikof chaplain assistant; and Capt. Chad Davis, 143rd Ordnance chaplain.

While giving out the coins, Davis remarked that he had previously served with Lester in Iraq.

"It is a blessing to serve with him again," Davis said.

Colon said that he is proud of the new chaplains, remarking that some have been "baptized by fire," facing difficult situations in their units within days of starting their service at APG.

"I know God has guided these chaplains to APG at the right

time," Colon said.

After introducing the new chaplains, Sgt. Luis Rodriguez, an assistant chaplain and funds clerk, sang a song that he wrote while in Iraq, called "Everything to Me."

Colon, who delivered the message to attendees, spoke of the importance of chaplains past and present. He remarked that chaplains serve an important role in the Army by providing support to Soldiers and their Families.

"We are proud of the history of chaplain's by taking care of Soldiers," Colon said. "God is using you. You are making his-

tory by humbly serving the Soldiers. It is wonderful to be part of the chaplain's tradition; God is using you in order to continue that tradition."

After the service, attendees took part in a fellowship dinner.

Cooper, who recently moved with his wife, Desiree, from Wisconsin, remarked that this service was a good chance to be able to assemble in a small group to meet other chaplains and their Families.

"It was a nice, quaint service," Cooper said. "My wife and I are still trying to adjust to the new area and meet new people."

VBS rounds up youths for week of spiritual education



Parents and children sign in at the registration table for the 'Avalanche Ranch' Vacation Bible School at the Main Post Chapel Aug. 4.

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Approximately 75 Aberdeen Proving Ground youths enjoyed a week of biblical instruction with a western theme during the annual Vacation Bible School held at the Main Post Chapel Aug. 4 to 8.

Station volunteers and class leaders donned cowboy hats and western wear to emphasize the theme for the week, 'Avalanche Ranch,' which focused on strengthening an understanding of God. Daily themes, such as 'God is Real,' 'God is Strong' and 'God is Awesome,' were reinforced with music, dance, drama and arts and crafts focused on explaining each theme.

Gerri Merkel, director of Religious Education, said the success of the program was due to the dedication of parents and volunteers who worked to make the event special for everyone.

"The volunteers spent many hours in training and planning for their particular station or task, which resulted in a very informative and fun program for the children," Merkel said. "The three APG religious education coordinators - Sandra Hohmann, Protestant; Clarence Weaver, Gospel; and Olivia Wheaton, Catholic, were a great asset to a smoothly running program."

The coordinators started off each evening with sing-alongs to set the mood. The children were separated into age groups with names such as Colts, Prairie Dogs

and Wagon Wheels and then under the guidance of group leaders rotated between classrooms where class leaders led discussions and arts and crafts projects.

During an Aug. 4 class in the Wild Bible Adventures classroom, leaders Tony Sykes and Diana Stanley shared the Old Testament stories of Moses who delivered the Hebrews from slavery and Rahab, a woman of ill repute who assisted in the fall of Jericho by hiding Joshua's Israelite spies in her home.

"Most of this encourages them to read the Bible," said Sykes, an Army retiree and member of the chapel's Protestant Service.

Stanley, a sophomore on summer vacation from Alaska Pacific University, said she was volunteering her time along with her mother who is a member of the Catholic Service.

"If the children can identify with Moses then they can identify with the leaders who came after Moses," she said.

The lesson was again reinforced in the "Chuck Wagon Chow Service" fellowship hall where volunteer Chantay Averett, Gospel Service, led children in assembling trail mix snacks that had a purpose for each ingredient. For example, pretzels resembled spyglasses symbolizing Joshua's spies, red licorice was the rope Joshua used to pull his spies out of hiding and the M&Ms stood for 'mighty men,' "the spies who believed in one true God," Averett said.

Group leader Joel Wheaton, Catholic Service, led the Texas Rangers and Cow Pokes groups, assisted by Denise Day. A staff sergeant with the U.S. Air Force Detachment, Wheaton said he and his wife volunteer to make a difference in children's lives.

"It's all worthwhile if it brings them closer to God," he said.

During the "Cowpoke Crafts and Mission" session, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jack Peters of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Metalworking Services Division and a member of the Catholic Service, guided youths in the crafts group in decorating badges for the evening's theme, 'God is in charge.'

"Even though I'm the sheriff, God is in charge," he told the group.

Peters said it was his first year volunteering.

"My wife roped me into it," he said with a smile.

The final evening began with an indoor picnic in the fellowship hall. Participants enjoyed hot dogs grilled by volunteers Jerry Nook, a member of Protestant Service, and Farrell Dreisbach of the APG Garrison Plans and Analysis Division and a 30-year member of the Protestant Service.

Dreisbach said he has been cooking for the chapel, "for a long time."

"I help out any time there's cooking to be done," he said.

Volunteers and attendees said they thought the week was a huge success.

"They didn't just learn things, they had to apply them in different exercises," Weaver said. "The volunteers and team leaders did a wonderful job mentoring and leading the children."

"I just loved watching them grow spiritually," Olivia Wheaton added. "We tried to teach from different perspectives in ways they could understand and remember. Our volunteers were very prepared and really knew their stuff."

Kathleen Santana and Cathy Day of the chapel's Catholic Service who worked in the Wild West Theater class, said they have been volunteering as group leaders for nine years.



In the Wild Bible Adventures room volunteer Tony Sykes of the Protestant Service, dressed as Moses, leads children in a review of the lessons they learned during Vacation Bible School Aug. 4 thru 8.

APG News

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Commentary: A new school year means work for everyone

By

COL. JEFFREY S. WEISSMAN

APG Garrison and Deputy Installation Commander

With the end of summer children of all ages prepare to return to school and life gets busier for all. Children and parents worry about supplies, clothes, homework, behaving in class, and perhaps a new school or making new friends.

Being a deploying parent or the child of a deployed parent can make things a lot more difficult.

Aberdeen Proving Ground is committed to reducing the conflict between Soldiers' mission requirements and their parental responsibilities. School Transition Services under Child and Youth Services is aggressively working to ease the transition pains of both children and the Soldier parents.

The installation is deeply involved in leveling the playing field for transitioning military children and youth. This



on school adjustment and academic success.

APG participates on the Maryland Task Force on Education Issues Affecting Military Children which is working to identify and examine educational issues that affect the children of military Families. The task force will make recommendations for improving the transition of military children and is studying joining the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children.

I urge every APG military Family to fill out the Impact Aid

forms sent home by schools for verification. Congress has added \$30 million to the DoD budget for a Department of Defense supplement to Impact Aid. Funding is divided among heavily impacted school districts in which military children make up at least 20 percent of the enrollment.

These funds, distributed by the U.S. Department of Education, are an important source of income for our local schools and help to ensure military children a quality education.

I also encourage Families to sign up for free or reduced lunch programs when they qualify. Registration will make additional funds available for this.

I also want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the presence of school buses and children at bus stops requires all motorists to adjust their schedules to slow down and prepare to stop when they see a bus with flashing yellow lights. When the lights are flashing red, all other vehicles

must stop so the children can safely get on and off the bus.

Children need to take responsibility as well. Children of all ages need to remain alert while waiting for the school bus and exercise extreme caution while getting on and off the bus.

Finally, let me remind everyone to be aware of daily traffic conditions here on post. Read the APG News and visit the APG Web site for traffic alerts. Be prepared for delays as you travel on the installation. There are many construction areas and extra construction traffic. I remind you to be courteous drivers and follow the directions of the flaggers to stop or proceed. Always be alert and expect the unexpected. All drivers and pedestrians are responsible for observing traffic laws.

Please join me in our commitment to provide a safe and supportive environment for the Soldiers, their Families and all who work and visit APG. Each one of us must do our part.

Commentary: HCPS making a difference for students

By

TERI KRANFELD

Harford County Public Schools

The first day of school is fast approaching, and we are preparing for the more than 37,800 Harford County students to cross the threshold of the 54 schoolhouse doors to start a new school year full of possibilities.

The summer months have been full of rest and relaxation for students – but the school system has been all a buzz, working to enhance, improve and prepare for the start of a new school year.

I am the new manager of Communications for Harford County Public Schools, hired to fill the shoes of my predecessor, Donald Morrison, who served the Harford County school system and community for more than 24 years.

I have a big job ahead of me, but I am excited to embark on this new adventure.

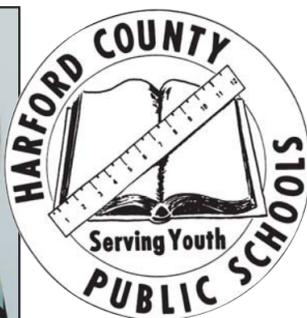


Photo by AMANDA SPENCER, HCPS

The way in which we practice school communications has evolved over the past decade and we will continue to grow and change to cater to the needs of our community.

As I enter my new employee role for the system, I will also begin another new chapter in my life, as a parent of a Harford County Public School kindergartner.

Sending your child off to



school can be a scary experience – trust me, I know – but it doesn't have to be. I will be going through this experience with you – so, allow me to set your mind at ease.

We have the very best, caring for and educating your child and mine. From the friendly face of the bus driver, the "red carpet" greeting from the nurturing school staff and a world class educational experience, your child's academic experience is bound to be a successful one.

Exciting things are happening. We have a new board president – new to the helm of president, but no stranger to the Board of Education.

Patrick L. Hess took over as board president July 1 and started his term with a goal of improved communications from the board and the school system. The Public Information Office has begun writing a Communications Strategic Plan for the system with help from public relations professionals in the community. In addition to communication, the Board of Education of Harford County has named five other key initiatives that the system will focus on for the 2008-09 school year.

The other initiatives are student achievement, elementary redistricting, exploring the possibility of school uniforms and middle and high school

reform.

I encourage you to learn more about these initiatives through our Web site, www.hcps.org, and take advantage of every opportunity to provide us input and feedback. Your involvement in the decision-making process is the key to success.

Don't miss an important opportunity to receive timely information from your school and the district. Log onto www.eschoolnewsletter.com and register your e-mail address. In addition to the AlertNow call that you will receive for inclement weather/emergency information, we will also send an accompanying e-mail. Schools will also use the e-mail service to update you on important issues and upcoming events.

Did you just move to the area or are you getting ready to join the Harford County Family? Find out what school your

child will attend with our School Locator. Log on to www.hcps.org and click on the "parent" tab at the top of the page. This page is chock full of information you will need to get your child registered and prepared to start the new school year.

Harford County Public Schools takes pride in providing an education that will change the lives of our children and shape our future. We are teaching students and preparing them for careers that do not yet exist. We encourage you to become involved in your child's academic life. Together, educators and Families can make a difference for students.

Again, I will be going through this experience with you, and if there is anything I can do to help, don't hesitate to ask. I wish everyone a successful school year, and I look forward to meeting you.

Recap, schedule of APG/HCPS Partnerships in Education activities

Story by

EILEEN CAMPBELL

FMWR

The 2007-2008 school year included many activities bringing together partners from Harford County Public Schools and organizations from Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The 2008-2009 school year promises to be just as exciting with the many activities listed below.

Aberdeen High School

The Command and Staff Department, specifically Chief Warrant Officer 4 Larry Giles may work with school counselors on the Peer Helper-Student to Student (S2S) Program. The S2S program assists new students in Finding the Way, Academic Requirements and Building Relationships, while building the leadership skills of the 'ambassadors.' The latter will be eligible to apply to attend the Frances B. Hesselebein's Student Leadership Program planned for November in West Point.

Aberdeen Middle School

Beth Oleszczuk, counselor, has U.S. Army Materiel Systems



Photo by MARY DOAK

ECBC Technical Director Rick Decker observes Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's "Chemical Reactions Sleuth" presentation as students from Aberdeen Middle School demonstrate what they learned during the Technology Needs Teens event May 28.

Analysis Activity scientists mentor strong math students through experiments at biweekly meetings and Aberdeen Proving Ground field trips. Her-M-Squad, students of military Families (some deployed) enjoy Operation Military Kids' activities as well as Soldiers talks on Iraq. Oleszczuk and Vivien Gurrera assisted with the Aug. 15 Jump Start for students moving to AMS area

over summer. The SLO is communicating with the APG Military Intelligence group to provide motivational talks.

Churchville Elementary

The 20th Support Command (CBRNE) is interested in partnering with Churchville this year. Commander Col. Raymond Van Pelt has suggested that APG School Liaison schedule the meet-

ing with Principal Thomas Smith.

Edgewood Elementary School

Recognized for their longevity of partnership, the U.S. Army Environmental Command (Bob DiMichelle and Deborah Elliott and others) provide a repertoire of activities for Veteran's Day, Winter Reading Day and Read Across America Day, and a 5th Grade Picnic.

Edgewood High School

Exciting plans for this school year include Headquarters and Headquarters Company involvement with Team Sports Training (several Soldier sponsors were awarded school sports' letters last year), Advance Automotive Recovery Department training, motivational 'Army Strong' field trips to Forward Operating Base Wolverine, involvement with the Varsity Football team on game nights, a field trip to Walter Reed Soldiers' wards and laboratories, a car wash to raise funds jointly, and possibly a joint Soldier/student Buddy activity with Perry Point. Capts. Julius Boyd and Gaetano Snow,

1st Sgt. Jeffrey Grimes, Sgt. 1st Class Frederic Banks, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Roger Cupolo and John Wallace (retired Navy) will be busy this year. Edgewood also has a Peer Helper-S2S program that is growing stronger with new students moving to the area.

Edgewood Middle School

Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion received homemade pins and snacks from EMS students this summer, while permanent-party were given tie-dye T-shirts in flag colors. The SLO spoke about the 143rd Soldiers' vital support for all Soldiers in Iraq, as students thanked Soldiers in patriotic style. The 143rd plans to assist with Dr. Lawrence Rudolph's Beautification day. New AP Laurie Namey and Capt. Aaron Istre will lead the event on Aug. 23 and 24. Peg Taibi and SLO work with an M Squad when Family members are in the mid-east. Maj. Kenneth McCrory and Sgt. 1st Class William Fisher are planning to work with Rudolph.

See PARTNERS, page 21

Commentary: Extracurricular activities support high school students' success

By
EILEEN CAMPBELL
FMWR-APG School Liaison

What will your high school student be this year? A child who leaves at 2:35 or a child 'engaged' in his/her education?

Lt. Col. Greg and Kim Gadson encouraged their two children to be engaged in the activities available upon their arrival at their new school, field hockey and football (when their Family dynamics changed forever with Greg's loss of both legs in an Iraq bomb-



ing.) Although both children were new to those particular sports, their parents' expectations and their own fine example of personal sacrifice contributed to their children's success in school. The children demonstrated personal resilience.

Military Families realize that countless transitions require active involvement in their new schools. Extracurricular activities are the answer.

Howard T. Everson and Roger E. Millsap, authors of "Everyone Gains: Extracurricular Activities in High School and Higher SAT Scores," claim that students who run out the door at the close of school are at a disadvantage. Engaged students participate in any number

of extracurricular activities including music, art and drama clubs, intercollegiate and intramural athletics, and other academic and vocational clubs.

These two scientists studied 19 measurable variables; 3 latent variables; socio-economic background, high school achievement, and extracurricular activities; and two observed variables (i.e., the SAT verbal and mathematics test scores) in a methodologically strong study of ECAs on high-stakes tests, such as the SAT.

Participating in ECAs at the high school level seems to be one of the few interventions that helps low-status, disadvantaged students—for whom traditional educational programs are often ineffective—as much as or more than their more advantaged peers. Research [by Camp in 1990, Gerber in 1996, Holloway in 2000 and Marsh & Keitman in 2002] verifies this. (See editor's note below.)

"Participation in extracurricular activities provides all students—including students from disadvantaged backgrounds, minorities and those with otherwise less than distin-

guished academic achievements in high school—a measurable and meaningful gain in their college admissions test scores. The important reasoning abilities measured by tests like the SAT, evidently, are indeed developed both in and out of the classroom."

Kenneth R. Ginsburg, MD, wrote "A Parent's Guide to BUILDING RESILIENCE in Children and Teens, Giving Your Child Roots and Wings." He wrote of the importance of children making connections within the school community, within an extracurricular activity or program such as teams, dance groups, or gaming clubs. CONNECTIONS are one of the seven crucial Cs in building resilience and combating stress.

"Connections show children that they are part of a safe and supportive community," stated Ginsburg. "If parents find or help their children find and join organizations that promote the same values they cherish, parents' efforts to instill these values may be reinforced. They also learn that parents are the only ones who expect them to play fair, be honest and loyal and show responsibility... Connections contribute to a child's character."

As the Aberdeen Proving Ground School Liaison Officer, I suggest parents look at the academic test results, but also at the school's interest in providing clubs and activities. Several secondary schools will provide lists of activities in spread sheet format with sponsors names, locations, date, time and requirements.

Colleges have considered the College Board Research, such as the one sited above, and are expecting a variety of extracurricular experiences from applicants.

Student success is the result of his/her academic, physical and highly important social experiences.

(Editor's note: See <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/research/pdf/1168cbTEXTv2.pdf> for research results in this area.)

CAC

From front page

Examples of acceptable forms of photo IDs are U.S. military ID cards, driver's licenses or ID cards issued by a state or outlying possession of the United States or a U.S. passport.

Customer service representatives cannot accept identification that has expired, Mehlbaum said.

Additional forms of identification include U.S. Social Security cards, voter's registration card, original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal authority or outlying possession of the U.S. bearing an official seal, certification of birth abroad issued by the Department of State and U.S. citizen ID card.

This requirement applies to all individuals seeking to have any military ID card.

These changes, along with the installation of new updated encryption equipment will serve to further enhance the security of personal information stored on the CAC card as well as provide increased security in areas where the CAC is used for entry control.

For more information regarding CAC requirements, contact the APG ID card section, 410-306-2353/2389/2404/2348.

Retired astronaut speaks to Edgewood Area youths

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

A retired NASA astronaut gave a first hand account of space travel to children at the Child Development Center and the Youth Center at the Edgewood Area July 17 in hopes to spark scientific curiosity in children.

Don Thomas, who worked for NASA for 20 years, was invited by Eileen Campbell, Aberdeen Proving Ground school liaison officer. Thomas is now the director of the Hackerman Academy program at Towson University.

Thomas said that the goal of this program is to get children interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or what is commonly known as the STEM subjects, and also get teachers excited about these subjects.

"With BRAC [base realignment and closure] there will be an increasing need for workers with a scientific background," Thomas said. "We need to get children excited and interested about scientific careers early in their life."

According to Education Weekly, more partnerships are forming between businesses and schools to get children interested in STEM subjects to make the U.S workforce more globally competitive.

Thomas decided that he wanted to be an astronaut in 1961 after he watched Neil Armstrong land on the moon from his television. Armstrong was the first astronaut to land on the moon, sparking curiosity in many children and adults about space travel.

Thomas told the children that he studied long hours to achieve his goals. He told the children that they too could achieve their goals if they persevere.

"You all have a dream that you can achieve if you work hard," Thomas said.

He told the children that despite going to top schools and getting high grades his application was rejected four times by NASA before being accepted in the program.

"You might not always achieve



Don Thomas, a retired NASA astronaut, demonstrates to children at the Edgewood Area Child Development Center how a rocket launches into space by using a model rocket during his visit July 17. Thomas is the director of the Hackerman Academy program which is part of Towson University. This program works to attract more students to the disciplines—science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM.

your goals on your first try, but keep on trying," he said.

Thomas demonstrated to the kids with a model rocket what happens to a space shuttle when it goes up in space. He also showed pictures of a space shuttle from space and pictures of earth from space.

"A space shuttle travels five miles every second, so if we were traveling in a space shuttle we could go to Baltimore in a few seconds," he said.

He added that a space shuttle goes around the earth every 90 minutes. He said that he enjoyed viewing earth's landmarks from space and seeing the sun rise and set.

Thomas demonstrated to the children how the astronauts go about their daily routines of hygiene, eating, sleeping and exercising in space by showing pictures.

"In space you are weightless, so if you wanted to sleep on the ceiling you can do that, you just have to be strapped in," he said.

Thomas brought a package of freeze dried potatoes and spinach

that astronauts eat in space.

"The food was hard but I think it would taste good," said Aaliyah Rodriguez, 4.

The children were enthusiastic about his visit.

"I liked seeing pictures of the earth from space and the moon," said Imani Pabon, 4.

"I thought the astronaut was really cool, I learned a lot about gravity and space," said Bruce Morgan, 9.

After the visit, Campbell asked the Edgewood Youth Center children to write a follow-up note to the astronaut. They drew pictures about their dream jobs, pictures of Thomas, or wrote thank you notes.

"Receiving the letters and pictures from the children made my day," Thomas said.

Thomas plans to visit more local schools and youth centers in hopes to spark interest in the STEM subjects.

To learn more about Thomas and the Hackerman Academy program visit <http://www.towson.edu/main/discovertowson/donthomas.asp>.

Prepare

From front page

and private sector organizations. Groups and individuals can register to become members by visiting www.ready.gov, and clicking on the National Preparedness Month banner.

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Joseph I. Lieberman and Ranking Member Susan M. Collins, along with House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Bennie G. Thompson and Ranking Member Peter T. King, will serve as honorary Congressional Co-Chairs of National Preparedness Month 2008. Together, they will lead the effort to increase public awareness about the importance of emergency preparedness on Capitol Hill and throughout the country.

For more information

on the Ready Campaign and National Preparedness Month, visit www.ready.gov or www.listo.gov. Information is also available by phone at 1-800-BE-READY or 1-888-SE-LISTO.

About Ready Campaign

February 2008 marked the Ready Campaign's fifth year at the Department of Home-

land Security. Launched in 2003 in partnership with The Advertising Council, Ready is designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. It has proven to be one of the most successful campaigns in Ad Council's more than 65-year history. Since its launch,

the campaign has generated more than \$703.2 million in donated media support. Individuals interested in more information about family, business and community preparedness can visit www.ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY to receive free materials.

DA assists Families in school transitions

FMWR APG School Liaison

Aberdeen Proving Ground Child and Youth Services together with the Military Child Education Coalition will sponsor a Transition Counselor Institute for secondary and elementary school guidance counselors Nov. 12 and 13 at Fort George G. Meade. The Department of the Army is providing funding.

The institute is in its eighth year; the first TCI was held in San Diego in July 2000. The institute is held in three phases.

Aberdeen Proving Ground held TCI I in 2005, but Harford County Public Schools Supervisor of School Counselors, Cydney Wentzel and APG School Liaison Officer Eileen Campbell both agreed that personnel retirements and time lapse would suggest that a repetition of the TCI Phase I would be the best choice.

"School counselors will better understand the needs for promoting smooth transitions and improve the predictability for their military and military-connected students," Campbell said.

The Phase I topics are:

- The military life
- Challenges for K-12 students in transition
 - Critical issues
 - Research on military students and the impact of transition
 - Understanding the differences in school requirements
 - Sending school and receiving school responsibilities
 - Informing, involving, and supporting military

Soldier speaks on building resilience for school transitions

FMWR-APG School Liaison

The military installation's School Liaison Officer meets with in-and out-processing Soldiers to assist them with their children's transitions.

At Aberdeen Proving Ground, the opposite occurred. First Sergeant Michael Slocumb of the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion stopped by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Child & Youth Services offices to have his paperwork signed, and the SLO received the assistance. Rather than giving him guidance on how he might assist his Family with college preparation or the academic summer slump, Slocumb shared his Family's methods for year-long academic improvement.

They are noteworthy:

- Visit libraries one to two times per week including (summer reading programs)
 - Practice assessment tests on **BrainChild.com** (from 50 states)
 - Math practice – March-2Success.com (ASVAB), ACT, SAT, sites
 - Summer Travel – best with Family
 - Tour areas of duty
- "Setting expectations (of those above are necessary) for when you are not there," the Soldier was stationed here at APG for the past nine months without his Family.

Slocumb hadn't always been a proactive parent on academics. His attitude changed significantly after the 9-11 attacks.

At the time, his eldest son had been moved through

parents

• What works for students, parents, colleagues/teachers

• Resources available at APG, technologies, and MCEC

• Exploring proven practices and procedures

• Sharing-building the professional network as a "safety net" for military students

Continuing education and or graduation credits are available to attendees. For more information visit <http://www.militarychild.org/TCI.asp>

"In fact, it is a readiness and retention issue for our military," said Cathy Franks, former high school teacher and TCI trainer from MCEC. "If the Family is happy and having good experiences, we're more likely to keep that well-trained individual in the military rather than having them leave the military when their time of service is up. We're a traveling institute. Just as our military-connected children are mobile, we're also mobile."

Franks said the institute makes a difference for military students, their parents

and their schools.

"Part of the institute is simply bringing counselors together from all over the world," she noted. "Having them all together in the same room helps them learn from each other. They share ideas, and that's an important part of the institute."

Harford County Public School counselors presented an idea at a previous institute that led to the pro-

duction of an MCEC poster with the graphics of silhouetted active teens and the label: "PCS-Positive Change of School" was their [civilian] interpretation of a much-used Army acronym.

MCEC developed a curriculum addressing the needs of the transitioning students, Franks noted.

"We want to meet the needs of the counselors so the counselors will meet

the needs of the students," she said. "We're training the counselors because the counselors are very often the first person that's there to help the military-connected child as they move from place to place.

"I look forward to meeting the HCPS elementary school counselors at this event, as they were excluded from the October 2007 training, due to lack of space. We are see-

ing military Families living off-post, expanding county wide. Families are going north to Meadowvale Elementary, south to William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary and Joppatowne Elementary, and west to Ring Factory and Abingdon Elementary. Military Families tell us that they are pleased that we are getting the word out about the difficulty of military transitions," Campbell said.

Community Notes

THURSDAY

AUGUST 21 SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area for a relaxing sail and a beautiful sunset. Call for times. Reservations can be made with credit card.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY

AUGUST 23 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Port Deposit Heritage Corporation 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 \$12 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 Joane Bierly, 410-378-3320.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

AUGUST 26, 27 AND 28 FREE CAREER PATH WORKSHOPS

Open Doors Career Center Women's Employment Program will hold free Career Path Workshops for women who are unemployed and age 35 and older. Workshops will be held 10 a.m. to noon, Aug. 26 (Self-Esteem); Aug. 27 (Skills Assessment); and Aug. 28 (Job Hunting

Chapel News

The Main Post Chapel is currently taking registrations for the 2008 - 2009 Religious Education Programs.

Protestant

- Children's Church (all year round)
- Sunday School – Pre-School to Adult
- Protestant Youth Group
- Protestant Women of the Chapel
- Protestant and Gospel Men of the Chapel

Gospel

- Children's Church
- Sunday School – Pre-School to Adults
- Gospel Youth Group
- Women of Grace (Protestant and Gospel)
- Bible Studies

Catholic

- Religious Education Classes (Pre-School to Adult)

- Sacramental Classes – Penance/Eucharist/Confirmation/Baptism
- Catholic Youth of the Chapel
- Catholic Women of the Chapel
- Prayer Group (also Prayer Chain)

Groups of all faiths sponsor retreats, pilgrimages/excursions to religious sites, music festivals, the "Halleluja Harvest" (alternative Halloween), social and fellowship events such as "Taste of Home" meal for all military, St. Patrick's meal, Hispanic dinner, German Octoberfest, Italian celebration, Seder Meal and more. Volunteers are always welcome to assist with any of the programs. Religious Education Training is available for all volunteers.

For more information, call Gerri Merkel, APG director of Religious Education, 410-278-2516 or DSN 298-2516, e-mail gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil.

Worship schedule

Aberdeen Area

Main Post Chapel, building 2485

Catholic

Confession 8 a.m.
Sunday mass 8:45 a.m.

Protestant

Worship 10:15 a.m.

Gospel

Sunday School 11 a.m.
Worship service noon

Edgewood Area

building E-4620

Catholic

Confession 10 a.m.
Sunday mass 10:45 a.m.

Protestant

Worship 9:15 a.m.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

and Six Areas of Readiness). Registration is required.

For more information or to register, call Linda, 410-297-6590.

THURSDAY TO MONDAY

AUG 28 THRU

SEPT 1

CAR SHOW, SALE BENEFITS VETERANS

The 29th annual Bel Air New Car Dealers Labor Day Weekend New Car Show and Sale, is being held at the Festival at Bel Air on Route 24 in Harford County, 5 to 9 p.m., Aug. 28; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Aug. 29 and 30; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 1.

For every automobile sold, \$20 will be donated to the Harford County Commission on Veterans' Affairs to help needy veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

The New Car Show,

which features gifts and prizes, free moonbounce and more than 300 cars on the lots with better than 30 mpg, is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.BelAirCarShow.com or call 410-893-1700.

WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 3 TO 7

OUTWARD BOUND WAR VETERANS EXPEDITION

Outward Bound Wilderness offers veterans expeditions for those who served in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Course Number CEC910 expedition will be held in Leadville, Colo., and includes backpacking and rock climbing in the Colorado Rockies. Under this program, all Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans,

including current and former members of the active and reserve components of the U.S. military are eligible to participate. It doesn't matter what current military status is (active, inactive, discharged, retired) as long as Soldiers deployed in support of OEF or OIF combat operations while in the military.

For more information or to call an admissions advisor, call 866-467-7651, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., MST, or visit http://www.outwardboundwilderness.org/email_us.html.

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 12 MARGARITA NIGHT

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer Margarita Night, 6 to 8 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The historical dredger will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area as margaritas are served and Jimmy Buffet tunes play. Also includes light refreshments and beer. Credit cards are accepted.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

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

POST SHORTS

Legion and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network will hold a free hiring event for veterans, service members transitioning from active duty, National Guard and Reserves and military spouses 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 21, at the M&T Bank Stadium (Raven's Stadium) in Baltimore.

Meet with representatives from government contractors, private industry, law enforcement, education, transportation and more from local, state and national organizations.

Dress for success, bring plenty of resumes and be prepared for on-the-spot interviews or applications.

For more information or to register as a job seeker, visit the RecruitMilitary Web site at www.recruitmilitary.com

Petty Racing comes to APG

The #43 General Mills race car will be at the front entrance to Dining Facility building 4503, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 26. There will be prizes and games. All are welcome to attend.

Heart screening at KUSAHC, Aug. 25 through Sept. 4

Walter Reed Army Medical Center Cardiac CT mobile will visit the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Aug. 25 through Sept. 4. Call today to schedule a screening, which is a 15-minute non-invasive process.

Those who will benefit from a heart screening include men and women over 50; individuals with high cholesterol, diabetes, or high blood pressure; individuals who have smoked in the past or still smoke; individuals who have had Family members with heart disease, heart attack, or

stroke; and individuals who are obese or sedentary.

If anyone answers yes to one or more of these questions, then call KUSAHC today for a screening, 302-731-4402.

FWP Women's Equality Day

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program will observe its annual Women's Equality Day awards program 10 a.m. Aug. 26, at the Ball Conference Center, building 3074. The event will honor the outstanding woman of the year, supervisor/manager of the year and the organization most supportive of FWP efforts.

For more information, call Diane Siler, 410-436-2681.

FEW Membership Tea

The Aberdeen Proving Ground chapter of Federally Employed Women will host a membership tea for present and new members 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jareta Coyle, Aug. 27.

For more information and directions, contact Coyle at 410-278-3810 or Suzanne Schultz, 410-278-9514.

No walk-in service at Client Services Division Aug. 28

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division, will not see walk-in clients for attorney consultation on Aug. 28.

For more information, call 410-278-1583, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Blood Drive Aug. 28

Save lives and donate blood at the Armed Servic-

es Blood Program blood drive, noon to 4 p.m., Aug. 28, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, Erie Street.

For more information, call Alan Smith-Hicks, 410-306-1206; for appointments, visit the Armed Services Blood Program Web site www.militarylifeforce.com.

RAB meeting scheduled

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Aug. 28, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Westwood 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.

Free Home Ownership Workshops

Army Community Service will offer free Home Ownership Workshops, 1 p.m. every Thursday, Aug. 21 through Sept. 25 at ACS, building 2754, Rodman Road. Participants may sign up for any scheduled classes: Aug. 21, 28; Sept. 4, 11, 18 and 25.

These free educational workshops are designed to guide military Families and DA civilian employees through most of the financial and administrative hurdles of purchasing or selling real estate.

Topics of Discussion include Learn Effective Ways To Buy and Sell Real Estate; New and Exciting First Time Buyer Programs; The Four Keys to Home Ownership; Competing Successfully in Today's Market;

Breaking Through the Down Payment Barrier; The Home Financing Process, Selecting an Area; and more.

For more information or to register, call the Relocation Readiness Program staff, 410-278-2464/7572.

Phone number for Wildlife and Marine changes

The new telephone number for the Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Office in the Edgewood Area is 410-436-6181.

Vet clinic closed Mondays

Until further notice the post Veterinary Treatment Facility, located in building 2479, will be closed on Mondays. Regular hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call ahead for an appointment.

The clinic closes for lunch, federal holidays and on the last business day of the month.

For more information, call the VTF at 410-278-3911/4604.

Thrift Shop holds \$1 bag sale in August

The Thrift Shop will hold a \$1 bag sale in August for all items displayed in the parking lot.

The shop will be closed Sept. 6.

For more information, call 410-272-8572 during store hours: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of the month.

Consignments are taken 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Infant/Child First Aid, CPR Class

An Infant/Child First Aid and CPR class will be held 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., for ages 13 and older, Oct. 17, building 2752, Child and Youth Services administration building. The class costs \$5 per person.

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire tickets available

Tickets are available for the 2007 Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, located on 2775 Lebanon Road, Manheim, Pa.

Tickets cost \$22.50 each for adults and \$9 for children ages 5 through 11. The Renaissance Faire will be held on weekends through Oct. 26. Enjoy a marvelous trip back in time to the days of yore featuring 35 acres of Jousting Knights and Royal Delights. Tickets are good for any day entrance to either the Celtic Fling & Highland Games or the PA Renaissance Faire.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the

FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_registration@apg.army.mil.

Free babysitting courses

Become a certified babysitter after taking the free 4-H/Army Child and Youth Services babysitting class for ages 13 and older.

The classes will be held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 19 and 20 at AA Child and Youth Services, building 2752 and Nov. 3 and 4 at the EA Child and Youth Services, building E-1902. The objectives are to familiarize participants with the responsibilities of babysitting. This class is open to all DoD ID card holders.

For more information, to register or for an appointment, call Central Registration Office, 410-278-7571/7479.

MWR presents Stepping Up

FMWR presents Stepping Up, performed by Step Afrika, 7 p.m., Oct.

4, at the Post Theater. Step Afrika celebrates stepping, an art form born at African American fraternities and sororities, based in African traditions. As the first professional company dedicated to stepping, Step Afrika's intricate kicks, stomps and rhythms mixed with spoken word pound the floor and fill the air.

Advance tickets cost \$15 for active duty military, \$20 for all others and \$25 at the door. This event is open to the public.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Leisure Travel Office, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Hoyle Fitness Center, building E4210 or call 410-436-7134.

York County Fair (Grandparent's Day)

Treat the grandparents to a day of midway games, local and Amish food and fun. End the day at Cracker Barrel Sept. 7. Cost is \$37 per person. Bus departs Golden Ring Terminal at 9:10 a.m.

Contact FMWR Leisure

Travel Services for more information at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, calling 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mailing mwr_registration@apg.army.mil.

Dolphin Watch and Wildwood, N.J.

Come watch the playful dolphins of Cape May, Sept. 4. Enjoy a two-hour cruise with free coffee and Danish. Finish the day off with a nostalgic stroll down the boardwalk. Have lunch and do a little shopping before heading back home. Cost is \$59 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation, dolphin watch and trip to Wildwood.

The bus will depart Best Western at 6:45 a.m. and return at approximately 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call FMWR Leisure Travel services, 410-278-4011 or visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/trips.html>.

Army 10-Miler—runners needed

The FMWR Community Recreation Division Sports Branch will sponsor two

teams from APG to compete in the Army 10-Miler, Oct. 5, in Washington, D.C. Team participation is limited to active duty Army personnel assigned to APG.

For more information, call Ralph Cuomo, 410-278-3868, e-mail ralph.cuomo@us.army.mil or visit www.armytenmiler.com.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

FMWR has scheduled several day trips to New York City—eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, seeing a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more, Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Nov. 15.

Cost is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. and will return 10 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or visit FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

The Course at APG



July 1 thru September 30, 2008

Save and Play the Golf Courses at Aberdeen Proving Ground:

Ruggles Golf Course: \$30
Exton Golf Course: \$20

Monday thru Friday (weekends after 2:30 p.m.) Includes greens fee with cart

**Must present coupon for special; coupon not valid with any other discount; cut here or go to www.apgmwr.com for coupon

Eligible patrons are: active duty military, retirees, veterans, DoD civilians, APG contractors and Harford County residents.

SKIES Unlimited

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

SKIES Unlimited gymnastics program

Gymnastics classes will be held Sept. 13 through Nov. 8 on Saturdays. Class groups include ages 2 and a half to 4, 9 to 10 a.m.; ages 5 to 7, 10 to 11 a.m.; and ages 8 to 18, 11 a.m. to noon.

Youths not already enrolled in the child and Youth Services Program will pay an additional \$18 registration fee.

To register, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 410-278-4589, or e-mail stacie.umbarger1@conus.army.mil.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., on Fridays, Sept. 12 through Oct. 17 and Oct. 31 through Dec. 12. (No class Nov. 28.) Classes will also be given 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on Saturdays, Sept. 13 through Oct. 18 and Nov. 1 through Dec. 13. (No class Nov. 29.)

Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.

Students are responsible for purchasing the required books for the course recommended by the instructor.

Private Voice Lessons

Ages 7 and older can register for private voice lessons, 4 to 7 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 29 through Oct. 27 (no class Oct. 13), at the Aberdeen

Area Youth Center, building 2522. An award-winning singer/songwriter will instruct students. No experience 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.

SKIES Unlimited offers Driver's Ed

Drivers Education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Monday thru Thursday, 6 to 9:15 p.m. Classes will be held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304, Aug. 25 thru Sept. 10 (no class Sept. 1); Sept. 15 thru 30; Oct. 6 thru 22 (no class Oct. 13); Oct. 27 thru Nov. 12 (no class Nov. 11); Nov. 17 thru Dec. 3 (no class Nov. 27) and Dec. 8 thru 23.

Class includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

Cost is \$295 per student. Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between 15.9 and 18 years of age. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

Taekwondo classes offered

Taekwondo promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning. Classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 15 through Oct. 8, and Oct. 20 through Nov. 12, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. (ages 6-11) \$65 per student and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (ages 12-18) \$75 per student.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants.

Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

Change

From front page

tremendous Family, and he is a tremendous individual."

Colon said the traditional ceremony was "much the same as a change of command or responsibility," and that the stole is a "Holy symbol of ordination."

"In some ways a stole is like a police officer's badge, which is a symbol of his authority to protect us," Colon said. "For a chaplain, the stole is a symbol of his commitment to care for his flock."

"The stole is commonly referred to as the Yoke of Christ," he added.

Kim said that he enjoyed watching the service grow through several activities that included a picnic service, a Christmas Eve candlelight service, a volunteer dinner and a trip to the Sights and Sounds Theater in Pennsylvania.

"Each Sunday there was no musician and my wife and son supported the service," Kim said. "Now [there is] a contract pianist and choir director as well as a new pastor. I don't worry about the service anymore. I know it will continue to grow, and I'll continue to pray for the congregation."

Susie Kim said that the Family would return to visit and worship with their Edgewood chapel "Family."

"We loved it here," she said. "The council members, the musicians, we were all like Family. I want to thank the Careys the Davies and all the other members for all their love and support."

Emmanuel Kim, a Perry Hall High School student who has been playing the cello for seven years and also plays with the Baltimore County Orchestra, said he was honored to be awarded for supporting his parents.

"I come from a musical Family," he said, adding that supporting his

father's ministry musically is "just part being a Family."

"My mom convinced me the cello was a good instrument for me and she was right," he said. "This [music] is something we all love."

Kim became the senior pastor for the Protestant Service at the Aberdeen Area Chapel Aug. 10.

What is a stole?

The stole is a liturgical vestment of various Christian denominations. It consists of a band of colored cloth, formerly usually of silk, about seven and a half to nine feet long and three to four inches wide, whose ends may be straight or may broaden out. The center of the stole is worn around the back of the neck and the two ends hang down parallel to each other in front, either attached to each other or hanging loose. The stole is almost always decorated in some way, usually with a cross or some other significant religious design. It is often decorat-

ed with contrasting galoons (ornamental trim) and fringe is usually applied to the ends of the stole

In Protestant churches, the stole is most often seen as the symbol of ordination and the office of the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Stoles are often given by the congregation (sometimes hand-made or decorated) as a love gift at ordination or at other life milestones. Generally, Protestant clergy wear the stole in the same manner as Catholic or Anglican priests—around the back of the neck with the ends hanging down the front (though not crossed). Stoles are commonly worn by ordained ministers in Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and other denominations. The clergy of some other Protestant denominations will wear stoles, though normally those in the less liturgical churches will wear either a pulpit robe (with a preaching scarf) or simply a suit during church services.

Youth centers offer relief for parents

CYS
The three words, "back to school," can be the cause of anxiety and excitement for children and parents alike. There are back-to-school sales for everything from clothing to school supplies, taking last-minute vacations, and then there's the task of making arrangements for care for children and youths.

Aberdeen Proving Ground Youth Service centers (one in Aberdeen and another in Edgewood) can relieve this problem for parents, offering a worry-free place for school-age, middle and high school children.

Both centers meet Department of Defense and Department of the Army standards to conduct school-age programs. This certification is APG's "license to operate" and is considered to be the equivalent of state licensing.

"We are also accredited by the National After School Asso-

ciation," said Norma Warwick, director of APG South YS. "This national accreditation focuses on a higher level of performance than DOD certification and is measured against national standards and professional benchmarks."

The centers offer four core service areas daily: sports, fitness and health options; life skills, citizenship and leadership opportunities; arts, recreation and leisure activities; and academic support, mentoring and intervention services.

There are options and services available in all CYS programs for school age children, middle school youths and teens. Partnerships exist with schools and MWR activities and include affiliate membership in Boys & Girls Club of America and active 4-H Clubs. The Baseline Programs are Technology Lab(s), Homework Center(s), a Youth Council, Youth Sponsorship, Games and Leisure Activities, Volun-

teer Community Service Opportunities, Workforce Preparation, Individual/Group Sports & Fitness Activities, Affiliate memberships in Boys & Girls Club of America and active 4-H Clubs.

"If all of this sounds like a place you want your school-age, middle school and high school children to spend their time, the first step is to determine what you're looking for in terms of child care and recreational activities," Warwick said. "APG's Youth Services offers Before and After School Programs, Open Recreation Programs and are the host locations for several sports and instructional programs."

APG North Youth Services-building 2522, off Bayside Drive

This facility boasts several activity rooms, including an art room, game rooms, middle school room, teen lounge, dance

room, snack bar, technology lab, homework center, gymnasium and two outdoor patios.

"Both Youth Center programs offer club activities as well," said Renee Main, Program Manager in APG South. "4-H, D.A.R.E., Ultimate Journey, S.M.A.R.T. Girls, photography, cooking club and various tech clubs are offered to youths ages 6 to 12. The tech club, photography club, cooking club and others are offered to the middle school and teen groups. These clubs among others help foster leadership opportunities and life skills."

For more information about the Before and After School Programs, Open Recreation Program, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and 4-H, call 410-278-9061/4995.

APG South Youth Services-building E-1902, off Scully Drive

This facility contains a teen

lounge, game room, school age services room, technology lab/homework center, gymnasium and an outdoor patio.

For more information about the Before and After School and Open Recreation Programs, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and 4-H, call 410-436-2862/2098.

APG Youth Sports Director
Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297

APG SKIES

Find out what classes and instructional programs are available from driver's education and karate to piano lessons and tutoring. Programs are offered within the youth centers, in addition to satellite locations.

For more information, call 410-278-4589.

Registration for all of these programs are conducted through Child & Youth Services' Central Registration located in building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479.

Commentary: Navigating the 'Special Education' maze

By **ISOLDA MCCLELLAN**
ACS

Parents have often been confused, frustrated and generally perplexed in their attempts to understand how school officials make decisions about the education of their children who have special education needs.

Parents, talk with your child's teachers, administrators and counselors. Find out more about the evaluation and eligibility procedures for Individual Education Plans, Section 504 plans, grievance and due process hearings. Parents often feel that the schools have built a complex special education maze through which

only educators can find the way, but this is simply not the case.

One of the basic principles of the Individuals with Disability Education Act is that procedural safeguards must be in place to ensure that the rights of children and their parents are protected and that there are clear steps to follow in case there is a dispute.

Contact your schools; ask for copies of these policies and procedures take a well-read copy with you to your meetings. This will signal the school that you are serious about your child's education, and you know the rules.

At Army Communi-

ty Service you will find information and workshops about these topics and more by contacting Diana Hayes, Exceptional Family Member program manager, in Army Community Service, building 2754, or call 410-278-4372. Parents can also pick up a copy of "Special Education Rights... And Wrongs" from the Maryland Disability Law Center when visiting the office.

(Editor's note: Although author no longer works at APG, the information in this commentary remains relevant. Diana Hayes is currently acting in this position.)

Youth sponsorship provides connections to ease moves for DA youths

FMWR

Aberdeen Proving Ground Child and Youth Services and Army Community Services are partnering to provide an effective youth sponsorship program for newcomers.

While the ACS Relocation Program manager will assist with adults, CYS Youth Center's directors and assistant directors will support in connecting children.

Access to these programs will be through the APG Web site, www.apg.army.mil. Click on CYS and Youth Sponsorship. This will put Families in direct contact with one of APG's Youth Center directors.

"Making connections within the first two weeks of a move is most important," said APG School Liaison Officer Eileen Campbell. "The Youth Sponsorship Program is a great program which is designed to match relocating military

youth with current youth at Aberdeen Proving Ground."

It allows youth to contact, communicate and connect with one another before or during their arrival.

Renee Main, program manager of the Edgewood Area Youth Center, is enthusiastic about the students building connections with the help of teachers and the Internet.

"This will really be a benefit to the children coming into the program," Main said.

Students currently on post will build leadership skills while meeting new friends, participate in fun activities, grow in the understanding of military needs and earn volunteer hours.

Parents of youth interested in a program such as this should contact the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, 410-278-4995 or the Edgewood Area Youth Center, 410-436-2862.

Schedule of 2008-2009 HCPS-Elementary Education back to school orientations

School	Open House/Sneak-A-Peek	Back-to-School
Abingdon	August 22, 5-7 PM	September 3: 5:30-Gr 5, 6:30-Gr 1, 7:30 Gr 3 September 4: 5:30- PreK & K, 6:30 Gr 2, 7:30-Gr 4
Bakerfield	August 22, 4:30-5:30PM	September 8
Bel Air	August 21 st - New Students 9-10 AM or 6:30-7 Returning Students 6:30-7:30 PM Back to School Picnic August 21, 5 PM	Back to School - August 26, 7 PM
Church Creek	August 21, 4-6 PM	September 17, 6-8 PM
Churchville	New Parent Orientation Aug 19 2PM & 7 PM Sneak-A-Peek August 21, 4:30-6:30 PM	September 3, 7 PM
Darlington	Sneak-A-Peek August 22, 3:30-5:30	September 3, 7 PM
Deerfield	Sneak-a-Peek FIRST GRADE ONLY August 22, 2:30-3:30 PM	August 27, 6-8 PM
Dublin	Back-To-School Night August 28 th , 7 PM	
Edgewood	Open House for New Parents August 19, 6:30 PM Sneak-A-Peek August 21 st , 2-4 PM	September 4, 6-7:30 PM
Emmorton	August 22, 3:30-5:30	September 3, 7 PM
Forest Hill	August 21, 4:00-6:00 PM	September 11, 7 PM
Forest Lakes	August 22, 4-6 PM	September 4, 7-9 PM
Fountain Green	August 22, 4-6 PM	September 3, 7 PM, Grades K-2 September 4, 7 PM, Grades 3-5
G. Lisby/Hillsdale	August 21, 3:30-5:30	September 4, 6:30-8:30 PM
Hall's Cross Roads	August 22, 4-5:30 PM Opening Day Breakfast, August 25, 7:45 AM	September 3, 6-8:30 PM (Lite-dinner will be served)
Havre de Grace	New Parent Orientation- August 22, 4:30 PM August 22, 5-7 PM	September 10, 6:30-8:30
Hickory	Meet & Greet - August 22, 2-4 PM	September 10, 7-8:30 PM
Homestead/Wake	Back-to-School Nights August 27 7-9 Homestead Building - August 28 7-9 Wakefield Building	
Jarrettsville	August 22, 2-3 PM	September 3, 7 PM
John Archer	Back-to-School Night, September 16, 6:30 PM	
Joppatowne	August 21, 5-6 PM	August 27, 6:30 PM
Magnolia	August 21, 4-6 PM	September 25, 7-9 PM
Meadowvale	August 21, 4-6 PM	September 4, 6:30 PM
Norrisville	Open House for Kindergarten-August 22, 4-5	September 2, 7 PM
North Bend	August 21, 4-6 PM	September 8, 7-9 PM
North Harford	August 21, 6-8PM	
Prospect Mill	August 22 - 1-2 PM 5 th Gr. @ Southampton 2-4 PM at PMES	PreK & K - September 9, 6:30 1 st Grade-September 10, 6:30 2 nd Grade - September 11, 6:30 3 rd Grade-September 15, 6:30 4 th Grade - September 16, 6:30 5 th Grade - August 27, 6:30
Ring Factory	August 22, 4-6 PM	September 4, 7-9 PM
Riverside	Sneak-a-Peek - August 22, 4-6 PM	August 27, 6-8 PM PreK-2 nd Grade August 28, 6-8 PM 3 rd -5 th Grade
Roye-Williams	August 21, 6:30 PM	
Wm. Paca/OPR	August 22, 4-6 PM	September 3 - OPR, 6-7:30 PM September 4 - Paca, 6-7:30 PM
Wm. S. James	August 22, 5:30-7:30 PM	September 16, 7 PM
Youth's Benefit	Sneak-A-Peek August 21 st A-M 4:30-5:00 PM N-Z 5:30-6:00 PM	September 9, 6:30-8 PM-K and 3 rd September 10, 6:30-8 PM - 1 st and 4 th September 11, 6:30-8 PM - 2 nd and 5 th

(Editor's note: To view the secondary schools orientations, visit <http://www.hcps.org/Students/docs/SecondaryBacktoSchoolNight.pdf>.)

Resilience

From page 7

four high schools and his youngest son through four middle schools, and he hadn't thought much about it. Realizing their sacrifices were due to his Army career, Slocumb was determined to provide a greater commitment to his family.

He joined the PTAs and insisted on frequent conferences, sometimes just to commend teachers on their efforts. He recalled one conference when he spoke of his attitude about his son's behavior, "Talking is acceptable, but disrespect is not."

The first sergeant spoke about serving schools by providing his unit for bus duty. His Soldiers would demonstrate order by welcoming students as they arrived to school in a systematic yet respectful manner. Teachers took note of his enthusiastic manner and his PTA involvement, and he was asked to join the Board of Education while stationed at Fort McPherson in Atlanta. There he researched funding and assistance provisions and discovered that the Free & Reduced Price Meal Program monies were to be spent on lunches, but also on support of extra teachers to reduce teacher/student ratios. He thinks the ideal is closer to 12/1. He refused to allow his son to attend a high school recommended by his son's coach due to a 30/1 ratio. He settled for a school which boasts 22 students per teacher.

The Slocumb Family has set their priorities on academics and discovered the strengths of Army resilience.

Visit
APG News
online at
www.apgnews.apg.army.mil



Staying aware of school bus safety

Installation Safety Office

Summer is almost over and the new school year starts next week. Exercising at its best begins for many parents: shopping for new clothes, shoes, sneakers and hopping store to store purchasing items from the now infamous school supply list.

Some children will be going to school for the very first time, and others will be making it their last year at the bus stop. Parents should have a common goal on their school preparation checklist other than checking off items on the school supply list – safety should be at the top of that list.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 24 million students nationwide start their school day with a trip on the school bus. Although, NHTSA reports that riding on a school bus is nearly eight times safer than riding in a passenger vehicle, an average of 11 school-aged pedestrians are killed by school trans-

portation vehicles each year. Whether they walk, ride the bus or travel by car, parents should teach children these few tips to ensure they get to and from school safely.

Students, parents and drivers all play an important role in school safety. Following these common sense practices will help kids get off to a safe start for the upcoming school year.

Safety tips for school bus riders:

- Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic.
- Line up facing the bus, not along side of it.
- Stay away from bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals to enter.
- Use handrail to enter and exit the bus.
- When exiting the bus, be sure that drawstrings and straps don't get caught on handrail or in door.
- When exiting – take five giant steps away from bus.

• Never reach under the school bus to get anything that has rolled or fallen beneath it. If something is dropped near the bus – always tell the bus driver.

• Wait for a signal from the bus driver before crossing the street. Walk at least 10 steps away from the front of the bus so the driver can see student.

• Do not play in the street while waiting for the bus.

Safety tips for walkers and bike riders:

- Never walk alone – always travel with a buddy.
- Pay attention to all traffic signals and crossing guards along the way. Never cross the street against a stop light.
- Always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.
- Avoid ill-fitting clothing that could get caught in spokes or pedals or restrict movements, and wear reflective colors and material to be more visible to street traffic.

• Walk bicycle across all intersections.

Tips for Car Drivers and Passengers:

- Everyone in the car should wear a seatbelt, as they lower the risk of injury in the event of a crash.
- Know what's behind the vehicle before backing up.
- Remind teenagers to take extra precautions if they are driving to school or riding with another teenage driver.
- Remember – 20 mph in school zones.
- Stay alert near bus stops.
- YELLOW FLASHING LIGHTS – bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children.
- RED FLASHING LIGHTS and extended stop arm – stop at least 20 feet from the bus when behind or meeting. The only time stopping is not required is on the other side of a divided highway.
- Stop between 10 and 30 feet from the school crossing when a crossing guard directs.

Backpack safety-distributing the load

Installation Safety Office



Backpacks are a popular and practical way for children and teenagers to carry schoolbooks and supplies. When used correctly, they are designed to distribute the weight of the load among some of the body's strongest muscles. However backpacks that are too heavy or are worn incorrectly can cause problems for children and teenagers. Improperly used backpacks may injure muscles and joints. This can lead to back, neck, and shoulder pain, as well as posture problems.

Look for the following to help children choose backpacks safely:

- Wide, padded shoulder strap – Narrow straps can dig into shoulders. This can cause pain and restrict circulation.
- Two shoulder straps – Backpacks with one shoulder strap that runs across the body cannot distribute weight evenly.
- Padded back – A padded back protects against sharp edges on objects inside the pack and increases comfort.
- Waist strap – A waist strap can distribute the weight of a heavy load more evenly.
- Lightweight backpack – The backpack itself should not add much weight to the load.
- Rolling backpack – This type of backpack may be a good

choice for students who must tote a heavy load. Remember that rolling backpacks still must be carried up stairs. They may be difficult to roll in snow.

To prevent injury when using a backpack, do the following:

- Always use both shoulder straps. Slinging a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles. Wearing a backpack on one shoulder may increase curvature of the spine.
- Tighten the straps so that the pack is close to the body. The straps should hold the pack two inches above the waist.
- Pack light. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of the student's total body weight.
- Organize the backpack to use all of its compartments. Pack

heavier items closest to the center of the back.

• Stop often at school lockers, if possible. Do not carry all of the books needed for the day.

• Bend using both knees, when you bend down. Do not bend over at the waist when wearing or lifting a heavy backpack.

School can, and should be, fun and exciting for children. They get to see their friends every day, learn new things. Parents should give children the tools, the knowledge and the resources to take care of themselves when a parent cannot be there, and parents and children alike can relax and enjoy the school year more. Following the safety tips can help assure the safety of children as they enter another school year.



Health Notes

'See Victory' helps protect kids' eyesight when playing sports

Story by

MARY KATHERINE MURPHY
CHPPM

"Operation See Victory" is a health promotion campaign that helps protect children's eyes when they participate in recreational activities.

Lt. Cmdr. Brian Hatch, Navy optometrist and staff member at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine's Tri-Service Vision Conservation Program, brought "See Victory" to the Department of Defense. The program was originally intended to work through DoD optometrists; however, DoD recreational facilities, health promotion/community health staff and individuals who think they have use for it may also participate.

"Operation See Victory" provides a kit with a range of tools that can be used to spread the word on how important it is for children and adults to wear eye protection when participating in sports. The kit includes posters, brochures, trading cards, mini prizes, a DVD, a sports-related eye injury article that can be adapted for local publication, and an eyeball for display. "Operation See Victory" kits can be set up at a table or booth at a health fair, sports sign-up, sports physicals or any location where eye protection would be relevant.

The program was made to be simple and easy to implement.

"We had to develop some kind of program that could

be taken by a local optometrist and be individualized to the needs of a local installation," Hatch said.

The program designers did ground work and creation of the kit; those who receive the kit are responsible for getting the information out to their community.

Hatch got the idea for the program while attending the annual Armed Forces Optometric Society meeting. There, he learned about the American Optometric Association's Keep Injury Down in Sports (K.I.D.S.) program. According to the AOA, about 40,000 eye injuries occur in the United States during sports or recreational activities each year. This works out to an eye-related emergency room visit every 13 minutes, AOA says. By far, the majority of these occur in people under age 25. Sadly, some lead to irreversible vision loss.

The good news is that 90 percent of these injuries are preventable through use of the proper protective equipment.

When Hatch looked at the numbers, he found the reason for "Operation See Victory." The program ultimately targets more than seven million DoD youth up to age 17. They were deemed the best target audience because Hatch found that 43 percent of sports-related eye injuries occur in children under the age of 15. DoD children also are generally extremely active and have access to Family and Morale, Welfare and

Recreation facilities.

Through the program, Hatch and his colleagues at CHPPM hope to bring greater sports-related eye injury awareness to parents, guardians, coaches and sports program directors who work with young athletes, and offer tips for obtaining the right sports eye protection.

"Operation See Victory" also advises on the different types of sports eye protection and provides tips on purchasing the right eyewear. Protective eyewear for use in sports should meet the following criteria:

- Meet or exceed ASTM standards for the specific sport.
- Accommodate prescription lenses if needed.
- For outdoor sports, have 100 percent UVA & UVB protection.
- Add comfort by decreasing light transmission through tinted lenses, and by reducing glare through an anti-reflective coating.
- For water and snow sports, reduce surface glare through polarized lenses.
- Stay in place through use of sports bands or retention straps.

For more information on eyewear standards, visit the American Optometric Association at <http://www.aoa.org/x7679.xml>.

Those interested in implementing "Operation See Victory" should visit http://www.afos2020.org/TEMP/OSV%20index_files/Page552.htm. Materials are available through October 2008.

Arrive early for KUSAHC clinic appointments

KUSAHC

Schedules are loaded with shopping, work, school activities, social functions, doctor appointments, everything scrambling for time. Along with all the other planning in daily lives, it is best to be prepared well ahead of an appointment date and time.

At Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic with the scheduling of patient appointments, it is crucial to be on time.

When calling for an appointment, confirm address and telephone numbers with the Call Center. Should there be a problem, the clinic will be able to contact the patient.

Patients are reminded to report 15-20 minutes prior to the scheduled appointment time. Be sure to plan for unforeseen circumstances such as an accident

or construction delays. A patient's timely arrival allows for a smoother processing of their care and does not cause delay for others.

Late arriving patients may not be able to see a provider if they have already started seeing other patients. Clinic leadership will try to provide other options.

KUSAHC has a Triage Nurse on staff to assist patients with any immediate medical concerns. When clinic schedules are busy, the patient's appointment may be rescheduled, the patient may wait for a possible cancellation or other opening in the schedule, or wait to be seen after all other patients have been seen. Providers and clinic personnel are not required to stay after normal clinic hours (lunch or end of day) to accommodate a late patient.

It is important to make time for health. Health is KUSAHC goal!

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-306-0173, or e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Donald Adamson	Hester Hayes	Michael Querns
Neoma Amberman	Jerome Hesch	Judith Ratledge
Angela Barnett	Linda Hindman	Carolyn Reedy
Karen Blades	William Horn	Reta Reynolds
Debra Bonsall (daughter has brain tumor)	Sinclair Joe	Steven Sadler
Jeanie Bowman	Mollie Kilby	Gloria Scott
Michelle Brooks	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Barbara Seker
Jane Calahan	Dana Kirkley	Donna Sexton
Donna Cianelli	Paul Kuwik	Algie Shaw
Joyce Clark	Glenn Kresge	Mark Shipman
Barbara Crossley	Frantz Midy	Melvin Showell
John Daigle	Karen Milton	Willie Stevenson
Liesolette Dorsey	Cheryl Mitchell	Angela A. Taylor
Wayne Doyle	Marie D. Nowak	Carrie Theiss
Lisa Foust	Dorothy Nowak	Mary Wade
Rita Fowler	Cindy Orwig	Joyce Woods
Miriam Garcia	Adrienne Pearson	Charles Young
		Barbara Zenker

Students get passport to success at Edgewood Elementary School

Story by
ALLI KARTACHAK
U.S. Army Environmental
Command

Children of military Families are known to have a much different experience growing up compared to the average child. They are constantly on the move—changing schools, atmospheres, friends and environments.

So Edgewood Elementary School has recently modified its process to welcome the children of military Families and other students new to the school by creating something called “a student passport.”

The passport works as an introductory guide for new students to become familiar with key adults in the school. Each passport is filled with names of school professionals such as teachers, secretaries, counselors, special area teachers, custodians and of



Third-grade students John Paul Giere and Sade Jennings visit Edgewood Elementary School Principal Lisa Sundquist and have their passports stamped.

course, the principal.

“Everyone wants to be recognized, and it gives each new student a chance to belong,” said Edgewood Elementary School Principal

Lisa Sundquist. “The passport sets the tone for a much more positive atmosphere.”

Students with passports are escorted to classes by classmates and are

introduced to the school’s staff throughout the day in order to promote positive, focused behavior during free time and in between classes. As staff members

meet a new student, they stamp the passport under their specific name.

“The passport lets students engage in the school’s academic programs while allowing them to be introduced and supported by professional staff at Edgewood,” added Sundquist.

The student passport was created during the summer 2007 team training to address needs relative to meeting new students immediately upon their enrollment at the school.

“I was very impressed with the manner in which the passports were developed and the potential they have to ensure a smooth transition to a new community for Families that move every three to four years,” said Maj. Gen. John. A. Macdonald. “I had been raised in the military and would have appreciated the passport for

myself as I attended twelve schools before graduating from high school.”

The passport has been effective so far by allowing the staff and students to form positive relationships and to improve transition to, and awareness of, a new school community, according to Sundquist. As a result, it has been recognized by Harford County Public Schools as one of 11 curriculum award winners for the 2007-2008 school year. These curriculum awards recognize new and innovative strategies for promoting student achievement.

This school year use of the passport will be expanded to include an additional student group. It has recently been translated into Spanish to help orient new Hispanic students entering the school.

M-Squad helps children cope with military life

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Aberdeen Middle School students in the M-Squad, a group of 53 AMS students who have a significant adult in the military, gathered for their last meeting of the year in the school’s multipurpose room June 6. These students were treated to a special visit from student Soldiers of Class 503-08 of Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer’s Course who gave a presentation to the students about military life.

Sgt. 1st Class Eugene K. Romero and Sgt. 1st Class Joseph R. Klinzing, who were the class leaders for the project, said that the class wanted to do a project where they interact with the community while clearing up any misconceptions that the students might have about serving in the military.

Romero added that they wanted show that military children are special and that they make sacrifices by frequent moves and coping with parents’ deployments.

After the presentation,



M-Squad students left, Annesa Johnson, an incoming 7th grader, and Keyon Ringgold, an incoming 8th grader, talked to Staff Sgt. Robert Steinburg, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Robert Johnson, right, members of Class 503-08 of Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer’s Course, about military life during their visit to Aberdeen Middle School June 6. M-Squad is a support group for students who have a significant adult serving in the military.

while the students ate pizza, the ANCO students and Senior Small Group Instructor Sgt. 1st Class Kristian Penafiel split the M-Squad into groups answering questions that they had about military life.

Elizabeth Oleszczuk, a 6th grade counselor and the leader of M-Squad, said that children in the M-Squad are encouraged to share their experiences and strategies about adjusting to a Family

member’s deployment.

Having a support group for military children is particularly important at AMS, which has a large population of military children, being so close to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

“We have had an M-Squad in previous years, but this year the number in M Squad has really increased,” said Oleszczuk, “This year there were close to fifty kids.”

Asia Jackson, an incom-

ing freshman at Aberdeen High School whose father is in the military, said that her father is going to be deployed to Korea soon.

“In M-Squad, we discuss what our Family is doing in the military and if they are deployed,” she said.

“We journal about our experiences, and we wrote letters and created banners to send to the troops, and we also created artwork to hang up around school to show our support.”



A banner made by M-Squad students hangs at Aberdeen Middle School in honor of Veteran’s Day 2007 to show their military support.

Jackson added that the M-Squad proof read about 1,000 letters that AMS students wrote to the troops around Christmas time. They also have handed out red, white and blue ribbons for AMS students to wear to show their support of the troops.

M-Squad also sent professional graphics cards and letters to anonymous Soldiers on Veterans’ Day last year, using the Operation Military Kids Mobile Lab Activity, a mobile computer lab.

“I joined the M-Squad because I wanted to tell other people about my experiences with the armed forces,” said Brett Valcourt an incoming freshman who said he has an uncle and cousins in the military. “When I am with my

cousins, I hear about how difficult being in the military can be, for instance, sometimes they can’t come home and spend Christmas with the Family.”

Tajai Dunmeyer, who is entering the 7th grade, said that his mother has been deployed once to Kuwait and that she might be deploying again soon.

“I joined in April to take some of the stress away,” he said. “I don’t want her to be deployed, but I know that she has to go. When she is deployed I try to stay in touch with her by phone.”

Oleszczuk said she is looking forward to the upcoming school year, where she will continue to lead the M-Squad.

2008-2009 HCPS school calendar

August 2008

- 25 Opening of schools for K-12 students
- 27 Opening of schools for pre-k students

September

- 1 Labor Day – schools and offices closed
- 29 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 30 Rosh Hashanah – schools closed

October

- 9 Yom Kippur – schools closed
- 16 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 17 Maryland State Teachers Convention – schools closed
- 31 Teacher staff development day – schools closed for students

November

- 3 Teacher staff development day – schools closed for students
- 4 General Election Day – schools and offices closed
- 6 Half-day conference for parents of pre-K students (schools in session)
- 21 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 26 Thanksgiving holiday – two hour early dismissal
- 27 and 28 Thanksgiving holiday – schools and offices closed

Notes:

1. This calendar contains the potential for 187 student days – seven more than the state minimum requirement of 180 days. The seven days may be used as make-up days for any days lost due to inclement weather or other emergencies.
2. Any of the five days listed at the end of the school year (June 11, 12, 15, 16 and 17) not needed as inclement weather/emergency make-up days will be dropped

December

- 23 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 24 through 4 January – winter holidays – schools closed
- 24 Christmas Eve observance – schools and offices closed
- 25 Christmas Day – schools and offices closed

January 2009

- 1 New Year’s Day – schools and offices closed
- 5 Schools reopen after winter holidays
- 16 Elementary teachers’ planning time – schools and offices closed
- 19 Martin Luther King Jr. birthday – schools and offices closed
- 26 and 27 Teacher staff development days – schools closed for students

February

- 13 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 16 President’s Day – schools and offices closed

March

- 20 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.

April

- 3 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 6 and 7 Teacher staff development days – schools

closed for students (potential inclement weather/emergency make-up days)

8 through 13 Spring vacation – schools closed

14 Schools reopen after spring vacation and teacher staff development days

May

- 15 Elementary teachers’ planning time – elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 25 Memorial Day – schools and offices closed

June

- 1 Elementary teachers’ planning time – Elementary students dismissed at 1 p.m.
- 2 Commencement exercises for Edgewood and Fallston High schools
- 3 Commencement exercises for Bel Air, Havre de Grace and North Harford High schools
- 4 Commencement exercises for Aberdeen, C. Milton Wright and Joppatowne High schools
- 5 Commencement exercises for Alternative Education (morning), John Archer (afternoon) and Harford Technical High School (early evening)
- 8 Schools close at the end of the day for Pre-K students (with no inclement weather/emergency days used)
- 10 Last student day (if no inclement weather/emergency make-up days are needed)
- 11 Teacher staff development day/last day for teachers (with no inclement weather/emergency days used)
- 18, 19 and 22 Potential teacher staff development make-up days

and the last day of the school year will be adjusted accordingly. In addition, if a sixth inclement weather/emergency make-up day is needed, Monday, April 6 will be used; if a seventh make-up day is needed, Tuesday, April 7 will be used.

3. The school year will not exceed 180 days for students and 190 days for teachers with the last day of the teacher school year scheduled the day after the final student day (unless April 6 or 7 is used as a student make-up day – in that case, one (June 19) or two (Monday, June 22) additional days would be added to the end of the teacher year.

APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary: Be tough or die

By
BILL ARMSTRONG
APG Wildlife and Marine Law
Enforcement Division

I'm forever amazed by the resilience and toughness of wildlife. Injuries that would put most people down for the count and necessitate an emergency "911" response are for the most part suffered in silence by the critters.

Sometimes I think that's why, after 40 some years of being a game warden, I often find that I prefer the company of critters over that of being with people.

Several years ago when I was working down in West Virginia, I got a telephone call one morning from a local farmer asking me to stop by. When I got there I found him sitting on a hay bale in the barn bottle feeding a fawn.

"Whatcha got there," I asked, taking a seat beside him.

"Was mowing hay this morning and ran over it with the mowing machine. She musta jumped up just as the sickle bar hit her; took the bottoms off'n three of her legs. Cut 'em off slicker 'n a whistle," he said.

Bending down I examined the



Photo courtesy of APG WILDLIFE AND MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION. Injured young osprey chick hangs from nest for four hours after getting tangled in nylon rope woven into its nest. An adult osprey overhead gives encouragement.

fawn, and sure enough, the bottom two or three inches of the two back legs and the right front leg were gone. The spotted fawn couldn't have been more than a couple of days old.

"Brought her up here to the barn and pulled the hide down over the bones and sewed 'em up. Give her some penicillin.

She's tough; never made a sound the whole time. Thought maybe I ought to call you and see what you wanted me to do," he continued.

"Well," I said, shaking my head, amazed at the sight of the fawn nursing the bottle, "you probably shoulda just put her down. I've heard of 'em loosing one leg and

making it, but three legs? I doubt she'll ever make it."

Well, to make a long story short, the fawn made it. A couple of times that summer I saw her out in the farmer's pasture, and guess what? The following year she gave birth to a set of twins.

Which brings me to an incident that happened just the other day down at Edgewood Area. It seems that a young osprey chick got one of its talons tangled up in some nylon rope that had been woven into the nest by the adults. As the chick attempted to make its maiden flight, the nylon rope was just long enough to let it clear the nest and there it hung, upside down a couple of feet beneath the platform. For more than four hours those of us on the ground watched helplessly as it struggled valiantly to free itself.

Finally, with the help of the guys from the Directorate of Installation Operations and one of their "bucket" trucks and the folks from the Fire Department, Marine and Wildlife Enforcement Officer "Bart" Roberts and Battalion Chief Steve Hinch were

able to reach the bird and gently cut away the mass of material from the osprey's leg.

Absolutely exhausted, the osprey recovered overnight at the EA Wildlife Office, and much to the relief of the young osprey's parents, was returned the next morning to the nest. Four days later, after a whole lot of encouragement from the parents, the chick left the nest to join the other ospreys at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Can you imagine a person going through an ordeal like that? Hanging upside down and struggling for four hours? Why, there would be months and months of bed-rest, physical therapy, millions of dollars in doctor's bills and lawsuits up the kazoo.

Like I said, I'm forever amazed by the critters. For them there are only two options: be tough or die!

Many thanks to Wade Schneider and Hinch for their help, and to Lyndell Barber, Keith Pomraning, Mike Teti and Butch Goad from DIO, the same for your gracious assistance. You guys sure did a good job, and we really appreciate it.

Crime

From front page

traffic and safety regulations, materials for documenting accident scenes and handheld and vehicle-mounted laser guns.

A variety of weapons, including a 12-gauge collapsible shotgun, a 9mm pistol and an H&K-MP5 submachine gun along with other tactical equipment and body armor dominated the Special Reaction Team display, manned by team members Matt Long and Jeremy Rondone, and K-9 dog handler Chris Damko exhibited equipment used in training and handling the unit's four-legged police officers.

At the DLES table, officers Amber Holdford, Wade Norbutas and Gregory McNeill distributed information about community-based policing, domestic violence, abductions, gang information and NetSmartzKidz.org, an online portal for parents, children and educators devoted to child safety.

The officers visit community groups and area schools to talk about gang awareness and keeping children safe.

Marine and Wildlife officers Matthew Stewart and Charles Volz displayed the division's new Zodiac Rib Boat, a lightweight patrolling vessel to be used in force protection, security and search and rescue,

along with cold water suits and other equipment.

"We patrol APG waters daily with this and other vessels," Stewart said.

At the D.A.R.E. table, detective Michael Dawson and DLES administrative assistant Amy Hurst guided children through an emergency preparedness game in which they selected items to include in an emergency kit.

"These are emergency preparedness kits we made for the Army Ready Program to help kids recognize things they may need in an emergency," Dawson said.

From the D.A.R.E. table, children visited Linda Nogle of the Garrison's Army Ready program.

"We're readying them for National Preparedness Month which will be in September," Nogle said.

Community organizations

Soldiers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance Schools' Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Class 20-08, assisted organizers as part of the academy's community service project requirement.

"Nineteen of us are here to help with setting up, manning stations, anywhere they need help," said Staff Sgt. Kelly Haun-Odom, the group's leader.

Participating organizations included Army Community Service whose representatives, Diana Hayes and Sabrina Patter-

son, gave away ACS bags and pamphlets on smart parenting, relocation assistance and other reading materials.

Other community groups on hand included Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic where community health nurses Ann Laughton and Sunaina Singh distributed patient health education kits and reading materials. The Army Substance Abuse Program representative Cindy Scott educated children about the effects of alcohol, leading them in a bean bag toss game using drunk driving glasses, and the APG Federal Credit Union, manned by Regina Fuller and Linda Ross, financial and member services representatives, distributed membership information along with Frisbees, water bottles and other free gifts.

"We feel it's important to participate in these kinds of events to be a part of the community while helping people build their financial health," Ross said.

Kenny Singleton, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, manned the Outdoor Recreation display which featured a canoe and kayak available for rental. Singleton said new rental listings are now available and that monthly passes are still in effect for the swimming pools which close for the season Sept. 1.

"We're also getting in new items to replace some of our aging rental equipment such as folding chairs, tables and barbecue grills," he said.

Fire and Emergency Services

Firefighters from the DSHE brought plenty of equipment, including a ladder truck, fire engine and the demonstration trailer that includes a 'smoke house' and tornado simulator.

In the bedroom portion of the trailer, firefighters Dave Clark and Doug Farrington taught children how to escape from a smoke-filled room and then demonstrated how an approaching tornado might feel and sound with special effects that included an emergency news broadcast, a lightning storm, produced by strobe lights in the trailers windows, and the freight train-like sound of an approaching tornado.

Family reactions

Parents said they were impressed with the festivities which included a complimentary meal of burgers, hot dogs and refreshments and a children's bounce house.

Bobi Baker, who brought her children Alex, 12, and Joey, 8, said the Family lives on nearby Liberty Court.

"This is our first time at the Night Out, and the kids have really enjoyed it," she said. "It's nice having something like this close to home."

"It's important for children to be able to talk to police and firefighters," added Baker's friend Daniela Klein who brought her 13-year old twins Damian and Cassandra. "We're all having

a great time," she said.

Tennille Mason, a contractor with the Directorate of Human Resources, brought her children, Carolyn, 8, and Xavier, 4.

"This is our first time here, and the kids are having a ball," Mason said. "They really have a lot of things for them to do."

Also attending for the first time, Staff Sgt. Lilly Dillon of the Non-commissioned Officer Academy, who brought her son Malik, 7, said she liked the convenient location of the event.

"It's pretty interesting that they brought this to the kids," she said. "It's better than having to drive somewhere to enjoy it. This is right in the neighborhood."



Children inside the Fire and Emergency Services Division's demonstration trailer practice staying low and exiting through a window as the 'room' fills with smoke.

What is National Night Out?

www.nationalnightout.org

National Night Out is America's night out against crime.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, National Night Out is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. The campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from more than 10,000 communities in all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military installations worldwide. In all, more than 35 million people participated in National Night Out 2007.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The NATW is a nonprofit, crime prevention organization which works in cooperation with thousands of crime watch groups and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Since 1981, NATW has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of organized crime and drug prevention programs nationwide. NATW's network has grown to include over 6,500 crime, drug and violence prevention organizations.

National Night Out, 'America's Night Out Against Crime,' was introduced by the association in 1984.



Officer Matthew Stewart of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security's Marine and Wildlife Division shows Carolyn Mason, 8, and her brother Xavier, 4, a set of deer antlers at the division's display booth during the National Night Out Against Crime at the McGruff House in Patriot Village Aug. 5.

Commentary: Taking the mystery out of Homeschooling

By
LAURA ALLEN
and **CHEL SHUPP**

APG LIONS Homeschool Co-op

We want to help Families considering homeschooling and take the mystery away for those who are curious.

No doubt, if you are a homeschooler or considering the leap yourself, there are many things to consider. No pressure, but the entire fate of your child's education lies in your disorganized hands. (Or is that just us?)

Parents choosing the homeschool path have to overcome many obstacles. Not only is it necessary to consider the physical aspects of choosing a curriculum, knowing the rules and making the connections, but you must also overcome the mental snags that can trip you up.

In the next few paragraphs we will address the dreaded socialization questions, the child's education and the parent's sanity. These subjects seem to cause the most controversy.

First, we will address the stereotype of socialization--the weird kids who do not have the ability to interact with other young kids since they live in a bubble, right?

We think socialization is the number one question that has been posed to us and probably one of our bigger concerns.

Most people can't get past the misconception that homeschool children will ultimately become sheltered alien children that have little to no social skills in the real world.

We must tell you, there are real concerns about the kids becoming different from other children. However, has anyone noticed the attitudes and actions of some children who we want our children to socialize with? Is it really so wrong to allow innocence to dwell in our kids for just a while longer?

Unfortunately, our children are exposed to so many kids who continuously view games, movies and music that would make an adult blush. Please, do not misunderstand; we are not advocating homeschool



Photo by SHELL SHUPP

Daniel Bauerle, left, listens to homeschool mom Deborah Bauerle during a lesson about the diets of owls at the Aberdeen Proving Ground LIONS Homeschool Co-op. Other Co-op students, from her left, are Kirk Bauerle, Karl Bauerle and Tyrin Shupp. Trey Shupp sits at the front table.

for the "sheltering" aspect. On the contrary, homeschooled children, if properly guided, have plenty of opportunities for peer interactions through city sports, co-ops, umbrella groups, church, scout groups and more. That leaves plenty of birthday parties, outings and sleepovers with friends to fill a calendar year with no problem.

Another benefit of homeschooling is having a relationship with the friends your children spend time with. As a homeschooler, you simply have the ability to know what your children are exposed to for just a bit longer as their attitudes and understanding of the world develops.

The second subject of concern is the academic aspect of teaching at home.

Before making my [Laura Allen] final decision to homeschool, I made a phone call. Since we are a military Family, there is a chance that one of our children might decide to choose the military as a career. With that in mind, I called the mother (or father) of all schools, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. I asked the officer who answered the phone if they accept homeschooled children.

To my very pleasant surprise, he informed me, most assuredly, that they accept homeschooled children every

year. He offered a few tips to make sure they qualify when the time is right. He said that every homeschooler who applies has no problem qualifying academically; they are usually at the top of the charts. He also told me to keep them in sports, scouts and church, and they should be fine. What a relief. If West Point considers homeschooled children an asset, there might be something to it.

Do not be afraid of teaching your children, by the way. The books are scripted and lesson plans are drawn out for you, if you wish.

Keep in mind that Aberdeen Proving Ground has a homeschool co-op where we help each other teach and guide the children in various subjects. You are not alone.

For the final and most important facet of homeschooling we really need to be focusing on our own needs for a moment. Just put aside socialization and academics.

We want to talk about the sensitive nerves and short fuse that most of us acquire, miraculously, upon our child's birth. It wasn't there before, so where did it come from? Let's talk about a parent's ability to spend 24 hours a day with their children. No more coffee and cheesecake outings with the friends and no more grocery shopping alone.

These are very valid

concerns and they are in our opinion, one of the biggest obstacles to overcome. You must wake up one day, and make a decision, the hardest decision of your life. You have to decide if you are willing to sacrifice your own comfort for the well-being of your little ones.

Again, please understand, we completely believe that private and public schools can be a wonderful place for a child to develop as long as the parents are involved. However, if you have a place in your heart where you know homeschooling has always been tugging at, then you must be willing to give up a few pleasures of your own.

What you get in place of time alone is the benefit of knowing your children, not just knowing about them. It is amazing what you learn about them when you slow down the fast paced life and enjoy time with your kids. This is important whether you homeschool or not. You get to watch all of their light bulb moments as they begin to grasp a subject. You get the peace of mind that you know who is influencing your child, and most of all, you get off-season rates when you go on vacation. Did we say that out loud?

Seriously, know there is a huge support system out there. You are not alone and if you are the Fami-

ly member or friend of a homeschooler, remember, the only reason it seems strange is because it is still a mystery to you. Ask questions and take the mystery out of it.

APG LIONS Homeschool Co-op

The APG LIONS (Learning In One's Natural Style) Homeschool Co-op is a group of parents and homeschooled youths who meet weekly for classes, projects, physical fitness and other activities. Academic classes are conducted by the parents and guest instructors and Aberdeen Youth Center instructors. The center's director Penny Branham, has worked hard to provide additional staff for special projects.

The Co-Op will meet every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. beginning Sept. 24 at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Membership is open to all government ID card holders.

Parents who are homeschooling for the first time are encouraged to join.

There are many reasons to join a co-op.

Some parents like to use the co-op for core classes such as history, science, gym, health and art. This means the co-op provides the main instruction for some students taking the load off of mom and dad.

Also, the co-op provides additional learning for children in addition to their current curriculum such as Bob Jones, Abeka, or other curriculums.

Either way the time spent at a co-op should be structured, fun and stress-free for both child and parent.

The LIONS Co-op also provides a time for students to interact with each other. Whether it is in a class, the gym, or just hanging out together they get to connect with someone other than the teacher in their lives. The Co-op is all about a partnership between parents, each taking turns teaching classes or helping out in areas that they feel comfortable in. The different skills and talents offered to others is what makes the program so successful.

Whether it is teaching children to play chess or teaching them to read sheet music, that commitment can go a long way.

Come out and join the LIONS Homeschool Co-op every Wednesday to see what the LIONS have to offer children and to share what you have to offer others.

To learn more about the APG Lions Homeschool Co-op, call Chel Shupp, 443-655-0271 or e-mail her at ccttshupp@comcast.net.

LIONS Homeschool Class Schedule for September 24, 2008 includes:

- LEGO Robotics for Middle/High School
- Speech
- Book discussion
- Healthy habits – cooking and nutrition
- Art* Certified Art Instruction
- *minimum cost required
- Gym
- Homework help by certified teacher
- Tutoring
- Computer lab

Some classes will have a maximum participation so sign up early.

Additional information

Hope Christian Academy is an Umbrella School that organizes and facilitates homeschool meetings at the Bel Air Library monthly. They can answer questions for those who are new to homeschooling, or new to the area.

For parents removing their children from the public school system for the first time, it makes for a much easier transition to be able to name an umbrella school for reporting purposes to the county.

The academy can provide guidance, accountability and help keep homeschooling parents on track.

For more information, call Lois Stimax, 410-638-9373.

Eileen Campbell is the APG school liaison officer for Harford County Public Schools and Homeschooling on APG. Call her at 410-278-2857 or e-mail her at eileen.campbell@us.army.mil.



Commissary News

Commentary: Send your child back to school with 'grow-and-go' foods

Story by
MAJ KAREN FAUBER
DeCA

Books, pencils, pens, calculators and book bags: it must be time for school again. It's hard to believe that another summer has slipped away; yet, the sound of that big, yellow bus is just around the corner. With all the back-to-school hustle and bustle it can be so easy to forget about the nutritional value of the food children will eat during the school day.

Research has shown that children's ability to learn and their attention span in school are greatly affected by the quality of their diet. We all want to give our children the best when it comes to food. Too often we are in a rush and go for what is most convenient which may not be a healthy choice. This is especially true at the beginning of the school year when we are trying to get back into a routine. Yet, for children, eating a peanut butter and jelly sandwich too often can get old quickly, and often it ends up in the trash can.

One way to keep children interested in their daytime meal and teach them the good nutrition is to involve them in planning their lunches and snacks. Try having them look for healthy lunch and snack ideas on the Web and plan a menu for a week or longer. Once they find healthy foods they like they will often request it. Have them write out a list and take them to the commissary to shop for those items.

While planning meals and snacks,

use the opportunity to teach young children about making healthy choices. Explain how "grow-and-go" foods will help them feel good and have fun at school. Grow-and-go foods are high in complex carbohydrates, good sources of protein, vitamins and minerals and contain a moderate amount of fat.

Suggestions for grow-and-go foods

Lunch and snack ideas

- B-n-B wrap (Banana and nut butter wrap)

Mash a banana and mix with any nut butter. Here is an opportunity to try a different butter like almond butter which is high in vitamin E and protein. If your child prefers, sprinkle with dried fruit or coconut for a different flavor. Spread it on a whole wheat wrap, roll it up and bag it.

- Turkey, ham, or chicken and hummus wrap

Spread some plain hummus on a wrap, add meat slices, any cheese (optional), lettuce and cucumber slices. Roll it up and bag it if. Hummus adds a unique flavor so if your children do not like it then use mustard or a little mayonnaise.

- M-n-C roll up (Meat and cheese roll ups)

Take any thinly sliced luncheon meat and your children's favorite cheese, roll it up and bag it. Also pack some whole grain crackers or pita chips for energy packed carbohydrates.

- Baby carrots, cucumbers chunks, grape tomatoes, hummus, whole grain crackers and pita chips

Put some hummus in a small container to use as a dip. Bag the carrots, cucumber chunks and grape tomatoes. Also pack some whole grain crackers or pita chips for energy packed carbohydrates.

Keep low-fat yogurt, cheese, sandwiches cold by using a frozen ice pack or a frozen juice box.

- Tortilla chips, plain yogurt, and salsa

Cut up tortillas in quarters, sprinkle a little salt on them and heat them in the microwave for a minute or two. Mix the yogurt, for protein and calcium with salsa or just put plain salsa in a small container for a dip.

- Cold pizza, pasta, or chips are OK now and then. All foods can fit into a healthy diet if eaten in small amounts.

Trail mix
Mix almonds, peanuts, dried fruit and whole grain cereal for a nutrient dense, energy-packed food and bag it. This is a great take it anywhere kind of food.

Cheese sticks, nuts, frozen yogurt, 100 percent juice boxes, dried fruit, fresh fruit and canned fruit all make great snacks and additions to lunches.

These are just a few nutritious lunch and snack ideas that may work for you and your children. For more ideas, go to <http://www.commissaries.com> and click on the DeCA Dietitian (the apple). Visitors to the site can post questions on the DeCA dietitian forum and look for useful nutrition information in the weekly column.

'Less is more' for 2X products

Story by
LYNDA VALENTINE
DeCA

The Defense Commissary Agency is currently stocking more than 20 2X concentrated products at commissaries worldwide, and has six 3X products on its shelves.

These "double" and "triple" concentrated products are more powerful than their unconcentrated counterparts and are user- and environment-friendly. They help save millions of gallons of water that would have otherwise been added to the product and come in smaller packages, which makes them less expensive to transport because more product fits into a single truck.

2X and 3X products also use less plastic per product than unconcentrated formulas, so they reduce the amount of trash produced annually by consumers.

The only downside to these concentrated products is "self-restraint," said Bill Wood, DeCA's category manager for nonperishable grocery items.

Wood said 2X and 3X items are formulated to give users the same cleaning results using less product; however, according to many Web sites and blogs, consumers are finding it difficult to pour half as much product as they normally use.

Why? Because often, product caps on 2X and 3X products are much larger than the amount of liquid required, which leads consumers to use more than is necessary for optimum results, Wood said.

"In addition, many say they can't get used to pouring out half as much because it just doesn't feel 'right,'" he said.

To break the habit and get the most out of a concentrated product, consider using a household measuring device, such as a measuring spoon or cup instead of the caps that come with the products. By figuring out the "recommended" amount and then using a measuring device equal in size to the amount needed, Wood said consumers will use only what they need and not overflow.

Customers can find these and more environment-friendly products at their local commissary, where savings of 30 percent or more always makes shopping at the commissary worth the trip.

High school students abhor them! Parents love them!

Online grades keep parents, students updated

Story by
EILEEN CAMPBELL
APG School Liaison

‘They’ are the Edline Accounts that allow high school students and their parents to view their child’s instructional data throughout the school year.

Jacqueline Williams, mother of Aberdeen Middle School student Danielle and Aberdeen Youth Center clerk, admits “I don’t know how we could keep our [middle school] students on track if we didn’t have it. It’s great. I can keep track of her grades, and I can communicate with her teachers.”

Parents can find the best dates and times to pick up their access code from the school office (parents will

need to present a picture ID to the school secretary) by looking on the school’s Web page, on their newsletters or bulletins. Some schools may give students their activation codes in their homerooms.

It only takes a few minutes to setup a private account that gives the parent direct access to their child’s important education information.

After getting the access code, go to www.edline.com. Click on “Is this a new activation?” Enter the access code. Be sure to enter it correctly, because this will be used consistently. Type in a screen name and a password. Parents may have as many

accounts as they have children in school.

Diligent HCPS teachers will design and publish Web pages that support the curriculum and their instruction. The students’ missed assignments, homework grades, quizzes and test scores will be on the sights. Some will even provide reviews and homework assistance.

Though teachers can change the information, students will have VIEW-ONLY sites.

This online system gives parents an opportunity to become more involved in their child’s education.

“Edline has been such a great tool for parents, not just to keep parents



informed, but to help parents partner with the schools to improve students achievement,” said Cindy Mumby, president of Bel Air High School Parent Teacher Student Association.

C. Milton Wright Edline Management Team provides this suggestion.

“Parents should not provide their Edline activation codes to their children. Parents and students are to have separate accounts, thus providing the ability for teachers to e-mail parents and students separately. Parents, please do not reveal your screen-name or password to your children. If your

child has your password, please change it. Students will have a separate account and activation code.”

Parents can find out more about this new program by attending their child’s Back-to-School Night. See page ___ for a list of Back to School Nights.

Students get a Jump Start at Aberdeen Middle School

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

New students, along with their parents, attended Jump Start Aug. 15 at Aberdeen Middle School to tour the school and meet some of the faculty before the school year starts.

The program was for parents and children who have moved to the Aberdeen school district during the summer.

Beth Oleszczuk, the 6th grade school counselor and the head of the Counseling Department, said that the goal of the program was to get the students and the parents informed about the school and also ease some of the fears that they might have.

“The more comfortable we can make it for our new students, especially the sixth graders who are new to middle school, the happier we will all be,” Oleszczuk said. “Students need to feel comfortable at school so that they can focus on their academics.”

Before touring the school, Oleszczuk and Vivien Gurrera, the 7th grade counselor, along with Eileen Campbell, Aberdeen Proving Ground school liaison, gave the students an orientation of important information that they need to know before starting school at AMS.

Oleszczuk went over the class schedule and some of the classes that they might be taking. She encouraged the students to take middle school academics seriously.

“The time to get serious about your future is now. Don’t wait until high school,” she said. “Grades are very important.”

She added that parents should ask their children to look over their homework every night, to make sure students are following through with their work. Parents can also e-mail and look at student’s grades and assignments on the internet through edline.com. (See article above)

Campbell talked to the students and parents about being involved in activities in school.

“When you are a part of something you are engaged, it no longer becomes a chore. You get excited about school,” she said.

Campbell said that taking part in activities and groups also prevents stress, and helps new students make friends.

Gurrera talked to the students and parents about preventing bullying. She said that although she doesn’t see bullying to be a major problem at AMS, teachers and the administrators want to be pro-active about the problem. She also said that the school tries to encourage positive behavior, like random acts of kindness, whenever possible.

One anxiety that most new students share is getting lost in the building during the first week of school. During the orientation students and parents were also given several handouts about AMS, including a map of the school.

Oleszczuk told the students that the building is sectioned off into planets of the solar system, to make rooms easier to find. For instance, 8th grade students take classes in the “Pluto” and “Neptune” area of the building.

During the tour, parent Crystal Gadson remarked that she went to middle school at AMS and now her daughter will also be attending.

“I am happy that I will be walking the same hallways as my mom did,” Ashantaye Gadson, a 6th grade student said. “I am looking forward to taking art classes and being on the soccer team.”

Crystal said that during the first couple of weeks she expects that her daughter will experience some stress from starting a new school.

“I am a little nervous to be starting a new school, especially finding my way around a new building,” Ashantaye said.

Crystal said that their Family lives on post and that this summer they moved to APG from Fort Hood, Texas. Her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Gadson, works for the 16th Ordnance Battalion.

“I think that Jump Start is important for both parents and children. It helps parents stay informed about what is going on with their children’s education,” Crystal said. “Parents that are new to the area can relax when they see that the counselors and the rest of the staff care about the children.”

AMS will have a back to School Night for all students and parents Sept. 4.

Aberdeen High School has field day for incoming freshmen

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Starting a new school as a freshman can be overwhelming, so teachers, administrators and members of the Aberdeen community held a field day July 28 so that students could have some fun and become more familiar with Aberdeen High School.

“There are a couple of purposes for the event,” said Nina Van Kleec, an Earth Science teacher who helped raise money for the event.

“We wanted the field day to be a community building day and have the students see that there are other new students who are going through the same situations,” Van Kleec said.

This was the first year that Aberdeen High School had a field day for its incoming freshman. In previous years, freshman would attend an orientation and tour the school. This year teachers and administrators at the school wanted to add a field day so that new students could have some fun and get to know teachers outside of the classroom.

“We wanted the freshman to get to know the faculty in a fun environment so that they know they have someone in the building who they can talk to,” said Mike Lichner, a technology education teacher, who also helped organize the event. “This year we have three events to get the students adjusted to the school. A few weeks ago we had a more formal orientation, today we are having a field day, and on the first day of school we are going to have a scavenger hunt so that the kids can become more comfortable finding their way around the school.”

Approximately 90 students attended the event, and Lesly Taylor, an art teacher who also helped organize the event, said that she felt that the turnout was good and that the event was successful.

Some of the day’s activities included face painting, an obstacle course, a three-legged race, jump rope, Frisbee golf, seed spitting contest and a tug of war.

The field day also gave students a chance to see what after school activities that AHS has to offer. For instance, The Latino Dancers and the AHS Dance Team, both extracurricular groups, performed for freshman, and were popular with attendees.

“I think extra curricular activities are important because they give students a niche for what they want to do in college,” said Kwantae Mallory, AHS Dance Team leader and a senior at AHS. “After I graduate AHS I want to study choreography or cooking.”



Aberdeen High School incoming freshmen Destiny Cole, left, Zhane Kelly, center, and Lakeiah Hayden, right, play Double Dutch jump rope while Christian Carpenter watches during field day July 28. This was the first year AHS held a field day for incoming freshman as part of student orientation process.

Most AHS extracurricular activities require students to maintain a certain grade point average, so these activities provide an added benefit of keeping the students motivated to study.

Amy Ferrigno, the AHS Dance Team coach, added that “extracurricular activities provide a positive route to graduation.”

Eileen Campbell, APG school liaison said, “I think extracurricular activities are important for new students because it helps them build positive relationships with their peers and teachers and enhance their learning. It is about checking in instead of checking out.”

AHS has a large population of military children, and many members of the APG community volunteer their time to support the school.

Keith Brusco, Aberdeen’s Parent Teacher Student Association president, NSA employee and father of Aberdeen student, Hunter, praised the school for the many opportunities it provides its students.

“There is no reason students graduating from AHS don’t have a laundry list of involvement, intrinsically, within the school, and extrinsically within the community. Students must be active to be competitive with college applications,” Brusco said.

Another example, the vice president of the Parent Teacher Student Association at AHS is retired Command Sgt. Maj. Fred Posadas, who has a son who attends the school.

“The PTSA is really looking forward to doing more community programs,” Posadas said. “I am grateful that many parents want to be involved. We couldn’t do the programs without them. We want to have this field day every year, and next year we want it to be bigger.”

Carlton Ford, the AHC assistant principal, also expressed appreciation for attending the event.



Incoming freshman James Fink, left, and Darrell Lyons, right, raced to the finish line during the three-legged race, part of Aberdeen High School’s field day activities.

parents, and added that he would also like to thank the teachers for planning the event.

“This field day really shows the staff’s dedication, which is huge,” Ford said. “They are not required to be here, they are taking time from their summer vacation to be here, and I really appreciate it.”

Many members of the Aberdeen community also showed their support of the field day by donating money and time to the event. For example, students kept cool in the hot summer weather by sitting under a tent donated by APG’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, and Aberdeen’s Rita’s Water Ice served free mango and grape water ice to students. Other local businesses, like Churchville Golf and Artic Circle (an ice cream and sandwich stand) donated prizes for the students.

Local dignitaries like Harford County Councilman Richard Slutsky, and former board of education director Selena Williams, showed their support by attending the event.

“Another goal of this field day was to get the community involved and inspire the students and get them to think about life outside of school,” said Amy Conwell, a teacher’s assistant who helped raise money for the event. “They see that members of the Aberdeen community care about their well-being. We hope to inspire these students to become responsible citizens.”

At the end of the event, the Aberdeen Ironbird’s mascot, Ferrous surprised students by making an appearance.

Freshman students seemed to enjoy the day’s events.

“My favorite part was seeing the Latino Dancers, I thought they were talented and entertaining,” Lakeiah Hayden said.

“I thought that the field day was a lot of fun; I got to know teachers and administrators at Aberdeen High School,” Talicia Taylor said.

“It was also fun to see friends who I didn’t get to see over the summer,” added Douglas Taylor, who is Talicia’s twin brother.

APG scientists and Engineers, HCPS teachers evaluate MWM effectiveness, discuss improvements

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Harford County Public School System teachers and scientists and engineers from Aberdeen Proving Ground gathered at the Harford Glen Environmental Education Center June 30 to evaluate and discuss ways to improve the effectiveness of Materials World Modules.

Fourteen APG scientists and engineers volunteered their time to work in 15 middle school classrooms in Harford County at the end of the school year to implement MWM. The goal of MWM is to get students interested in science, technology, education and mathematics, also known as STEM subjects, so that in the future a student might pursue a career in a STEM field.

MWM implements an "inquiry and design-based" education that was developed by the Center for the Advancement of STEM Education, or CASE. MWM encourages students to learn from hands-on projects and by asking questions pertaining to their project.

Students in Harford County worked on the sports modules, which is just one of the modules that students can study in MWM. Dr. Robert Lieb, a U.S. Army Research Laboratory research physicist who helps to promote and organize Army sponsored outreach efforts at APG, said that he chose the sports module because most middle school students enjoy playing sports.

Lieb said that due to base realignment and closure and APG 2012 many new jobs available at APG will require a solid background in the STEM subjects. Lieb said that he works to recruit scientists and engineers who are interested in volunteering their time to mentor students so that APG will have a qualified workforce in future.

Andrew Renzulli, HCPS supervisor of Science, and Mark Herzog, HCPS assis-



Photo by DR ROBERT LIEB, ARL
Mark Van Landingham, left, and Cliff Hubbard, two of the scientist and engineer mentors from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, train to teach the Sports Materials Module from the Materials World Module series. They are measuring the coefficient of restitution of a tennis ball rebounding from a foam surface. Interactions such as these are important physical properties that determine the nature of the sport.

stant supervisor of science, welcomed attendees to the evaluation.

"It's a very exciting opportunity to come together to discuss how we can improve MWM," Renzulli said.

Renzulli added that he would like to continue to work closely with APG scientists and engineers as his goal is to improve the STEM subjects in Harford County.

Bob McGahern, from the National Defense Education Program, gave opening remarks. The MWM program was developed by CASE and established in June 2006 with funding from the U.S. Department

of Defense.

"What you are doing here is very important," McGahern told attendees. "We really need your honest feedback to improve this important program. This program is very favorably endorsed by congress."

While MWM has been implemented in areas throughout the United States, this is the first time that MWM has been implemented in Harford County.

The evaluation consisted of a focus group that provided S&Es and teachers an opportunity to discuss positive aspects of the program and ways the program could improve to be more effective.

"Working in a classroom was a different experience; I never worked with kids before," said Joe Colburn from ARL. "The best part was seeing kids grasp the concepts."

Other S&Es agreed with Colburn that seeing students grasp the concepts presented was very rewarding.

A few teachers mentioned that inquiry and design-based learning seems to be more effective for students that have trouble learning from paper work.

"I saw some kids who I thought wouldn't make connections make connections," said Christopher Bley, a science teacher from

Magnolia Middle School.

Other teachers agreed with Bley that they saw excitement in several students while they worked on the sports material module.

Sue Procell, who works at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center and worked in Bley's classroom, said "I think MWM is a great way to get students engaged in a different way."

During the focus group, Lieb and other S&Es expressed that good communication with the teachers made the program effective. Both groups suggested that it was important to meet before working together in the classroom and to establish goals.

"I experienced wonderful support from the teacher I worked with," Lieb said. "Everything was planned carefully, we had good communication."

Kris Juffer, Action Research & Associates, Inc., who evaluated the program, stressed that teachers and S&Es must work together in order for the program to be effective. She said that she saw problems with MWM when S&Es and teachers

wouldn't work together.

"When the S&Es visit the classroom, it isn't a break for the teacher," said Juffer. "Teachers should be working with the students along with the S&Es."

Many of the teachers expressed that they would like to see MWM at a different time of the school year.

"Kids have a hard time focusing at the end of the school year," said Tammy Hart, a science teacher from Havre de Grace Middle School. "I still think that the program is great though. The kids liked doing something new and having a different person in the classroom."

Juffer presented preliminary results from surveys that were given to S&Es, teachers and students about the MWM process.

Juffer said that students

were given pre- and post-tests to measure the effectiveness of the program.

"The tests indicated that on average, students made significant gains in scientific knowledge via MWM," Juffer said. "On average the post tests showed a forty percent improvement on MWM material and a twenty-two percent improvement on HCPS curriculum items."

Juffer said that this suggests that MWM effectively teaches MWM science concepts, and it can reach students who didn't understand the regular curriculum. Juffer said that she plans to continue evaluating the students in the future to determine if students retain their knowledge of MWM concepts.

Kathleen Fresh, a science teacher at South Hampton Middle School, said that a positive aspect of MWM is that it gives students a positive role model who is currently working in a science and technology field.

"I think that the S&Es really made the difference. I think their presence made students think about the future. The S&E talked to the students about their education goals, which made what they were learning in the classroom seem more important."

James Pritchard, a science teacher from South Hampton, said that Lieb made a point to tell kids it was okay to make mistakes, because S&Es learn from mistakes.

"I don't think that I have ever taught the importance of making mistakes as well as Doctor Lieb did," Pritchard said.

"My students talked wonders about the S&E Susan Procell," added Bley. "Having an S&E in the classroom made them consider a career in science."

Renzulli concluded the meeting by saying he plans to implement MWM in HCPS in the future and is considering implementing MWM at a different time in the school year.

Partners in education Harford County public/non-public schools 2008-2009

School Liaison Officer: Eileen Campbell Phone: 410 278-2857

SCHOOL	Principal/POC	UNIT /POC	COMMANDER/ISG
Harford Co Public Schools Dr. Jacqueline Haas, Superintendent	Michelle Shaivitz Coordinator of Partnerships	US Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground	COL Jeffrey Weissman APG Garrison Commander
Harford County Non-Public School Council	Kathy Casey Council Chairperson	61st Ordnance Brigade/Ordnance Center & Schools	COL Dan Reilly OC&S Commander
Aberdeen Middle School	Chandra Krantz, P Lamont Holley, AP	Noncommissioned Officers Academy SFC Kristian Penafiel	CSM Robert Green
Aberdeen High School	Thomas Szerensits, P	Command & Staff Department CW4 Larry Giles	Mr. Gary Neuser
Churchville Elementary	Thomas Smith, P	20th Support Command (CBRNE) (To be determined)	COL Raymond Van Pelt (Tentative)
Edgewood Elementary School	Lisa Sundquist, P	Army Environmental Command Deborah Elliott	Robert DiMichele, Chief PAO
Edgewood Middle School	Dr. Lawrence Rudolph, P	143rd Ordnance Battalion SFC William Fisher	LTC Mary Mc Peak CSM Luis Rivera
Edgewood High School	Larissa Santos, P Robert Limpert, AP John Wallace	Headquarters & Hdqtrs. Co SFC Frederic Banks	Captain Julius Boyd
HCPS High Schools	Michelle Shaivitz	389th Army Band (AMC's own) SFC Jeremy Davis	CW4 Fredrick L Ellwein
Meadowvale Elementary	Blaine Hawley, P Donna LeBlanc	US Air Force Detachment SSgt Kristopher Eddy	Major Louis S. Cumming
Roye-Williams Elementary School	Susan Osborn, P	16th Ordnance Battalion SFC Anthony Manske	LTC Stephen Cheng Major Manuel Razo
Science & Math Academy	Donna Clem, Director	Army Research Laboratory Sheila Boyd	Jill Smith, Director of WMRD
St. Joan of Arc School	Dr. Jane Towery, P Kathy Ruth, AP	Joint Personal Effects Depot	LTC L. Scott Kilmon LTC Kelly Kyburz
All HCPS Schools Joppatowne Homeland Security	Michelle Shaivitz	Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Mary Doak	J. H. Zarzycki, Technical Director Jim Baker, Associate Director

Partners

From page 3

Meadowvale Elementary

The U.S. Air Force Detachment plans to read to students, drop-in Recess Kickball, assist with Patriot Program recitations and its final assembly. They may assist with EcoMustangs and Parent Education Nights. Some Soldiers may share their artifacts from their world travels when it suits the ME curriculum. Maj. Louis Cummings may speak on Veteran's Day. Staff Sgt. Kristopher Eddy will work with 3rd grade teacher, Donna LeBlanc.

Roye-Williams Elementary

The School's Top Hat Gala in September 2007, where good manners were featured, has had a great impact on improving behavior, and this year's partnership activities will begin with an activity helping stu-

dents recall those effective rules of conduct. The 16th Ordnance Battalion will support Read Across America. The 2008 Veterans Day speaker may be Lt. Col. Stephen Cheng. The SLO will contact volunteer organizations such as VFW or Lions' Club to request assistance with counselors' student mentor program. Principal Susan Osborne is interested in repeating the "Day in the Life of a Soldier" with her faculty and APG. The SLO and CYS Outreach Services will assist school with parent workshops in math, reading or behavior. (i.e., Pam Tabor may provide Everyday Math homework helps.) Fifth grade students will be provided Patriot Program support through the 16th Ordnance and Melissa Sexton's assistance.

Halls Crossroads Elementary

The Noncommissioned Officers Academy continues to assist in their campus beautification. Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garri-

son and deputy installation commander, plans to speak to students at their Veterans Day assembly. The U.S. Army Materiel Band participates yearly.

Harford County Middle Schools

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory will present Materials World Module, an Army sponsored educational outreach program designed to generate interest and understanding in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, curricula with 8th grade students. The program, initiated in the spring 2008, involved 1,313 students and 276 hours of study. Action Research & Associates found an increase of "10 percent more students would choose science as a career (from 32 percent to 42 percent)." Teacher Tammy Hart of Havre de Grace Middle believed the MWM supported her PIHERC Process instruction (Problem, Information, Hypothesis, Experiment, Record/Results,

Conclusion).

Havre de Grace High School, North Harford High School, and Harford Tech High School

Principals attended the Partnership in Education exercise in February 2008. Havre de Grace Principal Pat Walling invited the SLO to speak to faculty on military students' transition issues in June 2008.

Science & Math Academy

APG scientists were mentors for their first (2007/08) Senior Capstone Projects, and guest speakers for the school as needed. They provided informational tours to Fort Dietrick command in January 2008.

Secondary Schools in Harford, Baltimore, and Cecil counties

The GEMS program offers students the opportunity to explore new interests in science and math with unique hands-on laboratory experiences at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory on APG. See more information on the SLO Web site. Twelve- to 17-year olds working with APG scientists earn \$100 for the week and develop an understanding of authentic science processes.



Courtesy of HALLS CROSSROADS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Team member Shyla Sadler adjusts the Halls Crossroad Destination Imagination Team's robotic crab as Miles Thompson, a Trideum Corporation robotics engineer and enthusiast from the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, monitors her progress.



Photo by DEBORAH ELLIOTT, U.S. ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMAND
Kindergarten students Janiya Stewart, Daun Thomas and Alexcia Rinaldi take their turn to pet the Harris hawk at Edgewood Elementary School on Earth Day.