

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 11 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Command Sgt. Maj. Rivera retires June 6

Command Sgt. Maj. Luis A. Rivera, senior enlisted advisor to the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, will retire 4 p.m., June 6, at Ordnance Circle, in front of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools. Attendees are asked to RSVP with Denise Corbett, 410-436-5157.

Soldiers will have an opportunity for personal farewells during organizational day activities May 31 at the Edgewood Area sports field.

Traffic alert

On or about June 16, the Maryland State Highway Administration will close Edgewood Road (Route 755) from the intersection of Route 24 south to the intersection of Willoughby Beach Road. Traffic will be detoured from the intersection of Route 755 and Route 24 south on Route 24 to the intersection of Route 24 and Willoughby Beach Road, then east on Willoughby Beach Road to Edgewood Road, where APG South traffic can then continue south on Edgewood Road onto the Edgewood Area of APG. Construction is expected to last six to eight weeks.

Noise alert

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground will support a training exercise through June 20.

Residents and boaters in the surrounding communities may hear weapons firing, as well as aircraft flying at low altitudes. Illumination devices may create flashes or lights visible off-post.

Activity may take place in the installation's restricted waters and/or in the air, over both land and water, and may include weapons and use of air and watercraft.

Questions should be directed to 410-278-1147, 410-278-1153 or 800-688-8705.

Pools close for concert

Olympic Pool will be closed June 16 through 23. See **SHORTS**, page 6

Issue Highlights

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From left, Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; APG Garrison Chaplain (Col.) Ruben D. Colon; and Timothy J. Baird, Past Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi Council #6188, join the group of Veterans Service Organization members, veterans and Boy Scouts in honoring the flag during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Edgewood Area cemetery May 26.

APG joins community for Memorial Day observance

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

Marking his first Memorial Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground, the commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command thanked those who have served the nation in uniform as well as those still

serving during a ceremony at the Edgewood Area Cemetery May 26.

Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr. was the guest speaker for the program hosted jointly by the Edgewood American Legion Post 17, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5337 in Abingdon and the Knights of Columbus, Corpus Christi and St.

Francis Xavier chapters.

While introducing Robinson and remarking on his career, which includes serving as executive officer for the 69th Armor Regiment during the Gulf War, master of ceremonies Timothy K. Baird, Past Grand Knight, Corpus Christi Council, said he was grateful for leaders

like Robinson.

"I personally am glad for men like General Robinson who command our troops like leaders of the past," Baird said.

Robinson thanked the gathered veterans for inviting him and said that he "felt guilty about speaking today."

"I think one of you

should be up here speaking," he said. "Each and every one of you understands the purpose of sacrifice and the difference you have made to this nation."

Robinson talked about Spc. Ross McGinnis, the young gunner who died shielding his fellow Soldiers from a grenade blast in

See **MEMORIAL**, page 7

Volunteers save APG more than \$296,000

Story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG NEWS

During the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at Top of the Bay May 15, service members, civilians and organizations from Aberdeen Proving Ground were praised for saving the installation \$296,922.69

Sponsored by Army Community Service, the annual program included the selection of the Volunteers of the Year in six categories: military, civilian, retiree, family member, youth and organization. This was the first year that organizations and second place winners were recognized.

Celestine Beckett, ACS director, opened the ceremony by welcoming the audience and thanking them for their support.

"Through their work, volunteers demonstrate the kindness and generosity that makes the Army and the nation great," Beckett said. She added that winners will receive an APG Garrison Certificate of Appreciation, a plaque and a \$125 U.S. savings bond.

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, also thanked the volunteers for their gift of time to the installation.

"I am proud to recognize that APG benefits greatly from so many dedicated and caring individuals—Soldiers, Family members, retirees, civilian employees and youth—who willingly give their energy, talent and time," Weissman said. "Their dedicated service improves our quality of life transforming military installations into

some of the strongest communities in our nation and in the world.

"They come from a variety of backgrounds and from many different organizations on and off post, but they share a commitment to the happiness and welfare of the Army Family," he said.

Weissman added that their personal commitment to volunteering encourages others to volunteer.

"I ask you to continue to share your enthusiasm for volunteering. Let people know that no matter what a person's interests, there is always a need for talented, dedicated folks in the volunteer ranks," Weissman said.

Weissman and Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research

See **VOLUNTEERS**, page 12



Betty Bain, Unit Auxiliary 128, and Robert Hanson, the Officer of the Day from American Legion Post 128, present a wreath in tribute to Gold Star Mothers. Gold Star Mothers are those who have a son or daughter that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Story and photos by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG NEWS

Aberdeen veterans, local citizens and city and county officials gathered to pay homage to those who made the ultimate sacrifice as well as veterans of the past, present and future at the Aberdeen War Memorial, located in Festival Park, on May 26.

American Legion Post 128 conducted the ceremony in coordination with the City of Aberdeen, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10028 and Catholic War Veterans Post 1841.

The ceremony began at 11 a.m. with

an opening prayer by Betty Hale, a member of Unit Auxiliary 128, followed by the national anthem and recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Shannon Conlon, a junior member of Unit Auxiliary 128.

Aberdeen Mayor Mike Bennett provided opening remarks and welcomed those in attendance. Bennett thanked all who came out to participate and told them he was happy to see such a large crowd taking time to remember those who have fallen, service members and veterans who served and those still serving.

"Within our community, are friends and

See **CEREMONY**, page 11



TRAFFIC ALERT

Additional truck traffic results in changes

BRAC Office

C4ISR construction has started and with it comes additional traffic. There has been a large increase in the number of construction trucks hauling material for the C4ISR construction site through the 715 Gate. The additional traffic began May 27 and will continue for six weeks.

The inbound serpentine entrance at the 715 Gate has been removed to allow more efficient access to the 715 Gate. Signage is being used to direct vehicles to the appropriate lanes.

Trucks will be directed to the right lane; government ID holders and visitors will be directed to the left lane.

Government ID holders may want to use the 22 Gate to avoid traffic congestion.

Employees and visitors should allow additional time to reach their destination, and practice safe driving habits at all times.

For more information, call Ralph Cardenuto, 410-306-2259.

More major traffic changes coming

DIO

As announced several weeks ago, there will be an ongoing series of traffic changes as BRAC construction continues.

The next change will occur on or about June 9 and will again affect all traffic on Maryland Boulevard.

The current single lane one way traffic will be transitioned into two way traffic using the eastbound (inbound) lanes. Westbound (outbound) traffic will be diverted left into the eastbound lane just west of the Bush River/Deer Creek intersection and will be returned to the westbound lane just prior to the serpentine at the APG Route 715 Gate.

This scenario will remain in effect for approximately one month.

With these changes and the increase in construction traffic, government and RAPIDgate ID card holders may wish to use the Maryland Route 22 (Harford) Gate as an alternate route.

Once again, situational awareness, caution and good judgment are paramount for everyone's safety.

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

APG Fire and Emergency Services receives prestigious award

Story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG NEWS

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Fire and Emergency Services received the Outstanding Emergency Medical Services Program Award given by the Maryland Institute for EMS systems during an awards program held at the BWI Marriott Hotel May 21.

The program coincided with EMS Week, May 18 to 25, which promoted health and safety through awareness and education. Each year MIEMSS celebrates EMS Week by honoring men and women across Maryland who had contributed to the EMS system. This year the theme for EMS Week was "Your Life is our Mission."

See **EMS**, page 7

ACS holds sponsorship training

Story
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Sixty-eight Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel from different organizations attended civilian sponsorship training at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center May 14.

The training included a presentation about civilian sponsorship by Phyllis Ethridge, Relocation Readiness program manager and Sabrina Patterson, Relocation Readiness program assistant from Army Community Service and a question and answer session with information experts.

An estimated 2,000 employees are moving to APG within the next three years because of base realignment and closure. The sponsorship program provides a way to help commanders and directors exercise their basic responsibility of assisting new Soldiers, civilian employees and their Families to successfully relocate into the unit, organization or activity.

The program serves as a way for newcomers to learn more about their job, the APG community and nearby counties.

"We are trying to make sure that everyone who transitions to APG has a sponsor that is knowledgeable and proactive," Ethridge said. "This is the first time the sponsorship program has ever been done. It was done in response to the amount of people moving from New Jersey [and other locations] to APG because of BRAC."

Sponsors are supported by ACS and assist either new arrivals or personnel who are about to embark on a new assignment. Once appointed, the sponsors are responsible for assisting relocating personnel with their move by communicating with them to determine their needs before their arrival.

Sponsors that attended the training are all volunteers from various organizations working on the installation. All trained sponsors will receive a certifi-

cate from ACS and be ready for appointment when the need for a sponsor arises.

ACS also provided information packages to sponsors along with other handouts that provide important information about APG and nearby counties.

Michael Lombardi, U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command BRAC program manager, gave opening remarks.

"I want to thank the sponsors who are volunteering their time to make newcomers feel welcome," Lombardi said. "I also want to thank their supervisors for allowing them to take time to participate in the program."

Ethridge pointed out some key points to remember while being a sponsor.

"Being a sponsor is nothing more than being a friend," she said. "Keep in mind information you would want to know if you were moving to this area. Provide practical experience which will relieve some stress."

Ethridge said that the goal of the program is to have an advanced arrival sponsorship, so that the sponsor is assigned to the newcomer in advance.

Ethridge recommended that each sponsor do some research in advance about the area surrounding APG and anticipate some questions that the newcomers might ask, like numbers for doctors and veterinarians.

"Sponsors should be prepared for the unexpected, especially if they are faced with questions concerning Family members with special needs, elder care or assisted living facilities," Ethridge said.

Ethridge recommended that newcomers go to www.myarmylifetoo.com, [militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com), [militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil), and [militarymoving.com](http://www.militarymoving.com), for relocation and transition information, or to <http://www.apg.army.mil/cpac/> for more information on in-processing.

After the presentation there was a question and answer ses-

sion with subject matter experts: Transportation Division, Toni Evans; Child and Youth Services, Stacie Umbarger; Legal/Claims Division, Eric Feustel; ACS, Diana Hayes; Housing Division, Cecelia Howard; School Liaison/FCC, Eileen Campbell and Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Cindy Sepulveda.

After the training the sponsors shared their reasons why they volunteered to be a sponsor.

"I had to move to attend graduate school, so I know how hard it is to leave Family behind," said Sandra Young, U.S. Army Research Laboratory. "I am active in the area so I thought that I would be able to help them."

Michael Knoblauch, who is a supervisory budget analyst for the Aberdeen Test Center, said, "The people coming to APG are [being] put in an awkward position. If I were put in that position I would want them to do the same thing for me. This might mitigate negative feelings about coming to APG."

Asian-Pacific Americans hailed during annual commemoration

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

An array of cultural specialties from exotic foods to colorful artifacts, greeted visitors to the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month observance at the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center May 21.

Bernadita Schech, a human resources specialist with the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, G-1, hosted the event and greeted guests in Japanese, Korean, Guamanian, Hawaiian, Chinese, Vietnamese and Tai.

Schech said that Asian American cultures include sub-ethnic groups such as Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese and others from the Asian continent and that Pacific islanders are people with origins from Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific islands.

"They are of Polynesian, Micronesian and Melanesian cultural backgrounds," she said.

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, gave remarks and introduced the guest speaker, Josui Watson, director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Defense Security Service.

Weissman said that Asian-Pacific Americans are the most diverse group in America, "representing two centuries of immigration to America from more than fifty countries and islands."

He said that Asian-Pacific peoples have contributed to the development of the United States since the early 1800s and that they share "a commitment to freedom and liberty."

"We especially honor those Asian-Pacific Americans who protect the cause of freedom and serve in our nation's armed forces," Weissman said. "They set a powerful example for all Americans."

"Today's program honors Asian-Pacific Americans by showcasing their talents and cultural diversity while celebrating their contributions to the fabric of our nation," he added.

"I hope you find the rest of



Charlotte Pena models a Tahitian grass skirt and ceremonial headdress during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage celebration at the Stark Recreation Center May 21.

the program entertaining as well as inspirational."

The daughter of a Japanese mother and African-American father, Watson shared her life experiences growing up in a bi-racial and bi-cultural home. She said she lived in Japan until age 16 and was often ostracized by her peers.

"It was not so much because my father was an American but because he was black," she said.

Although she was able to "assimilate into society," she said she also experienced frequent discrimination, and when her parents separated at age 9, she said she was "faced with a quandary of which culture to embrace."

She said her mother assured her that things would get better, and after moving to the states, she said that although she gravitated toward the black culture she still remembered her Japanese roots.

"Over the years I learned that all of us have identity crises, even if only about which groups to join," she said.

She said she believes that her bi-racial and bi-cultural upbringing contributes to her role in actively supporting cultural awareness and diversity.

"The last time I went to Japan, I was amazed at the influence blacks have had on Japanese society," she added. "I guess mom was right, [tolerance] is a commitment that requires a great amount of time and endurance."

Weissman thanked Watson and the program's organizers and participants and presented awards to the winners of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month essay and display competitions. He invited all to continue to attend the installation's ethnic observances.

"These are great venues to come learn about the diversity of our nation," Weissman said. "It takes a lot of work by a lot of people, which we appreciate because we can't do it all ourselves."

Musical guests includ-

ed vocalist Angela Guan, an Edgewood High School student who sang a Japanese love song and modeled a red Kimono, and Nick Doak, a music education major from West Chester University, Pa., who played a rendition of "Sakura," the Japanese national anthem, on guitar. Entertainment included a fashion show by Annie Rosario, a retired APG Non-appropriated fund employee, who modeled a Mestisa, a lightweight sheer top and undergarment worn over a floral skirt, the traditional ensemble of women in the Philippines and Edgewood High School senior Jenny Nguyes who modeled a blue floral Chinese dress. In addition, Rosario's daughter, Charlotte Pena, and granddaughters, Cevina Epps, Cecilia Pena, Kianna Williams and Sanaya Brewington, performed a Tahitian dance, a hula dance and a stick dance dressed in ceremonial Tahitian and Hula outfits.

Other entertainment included a martial arts demonstration by Master Ramon Ramirez, owner of the Abingdon Martial Arts, Karate, Boxing and Kick-Boxing School on Route 40, and his assistant, Chelsea Monahan, a Havre de Grace High School senior. The two demonstrated basic self-defense and hand-to-hand combat techniques, using Nanchaku, Bo Staff and open hand Kata.

The program closed with a food tasting of Asian-Pacific dishes, some prepared by volunteers and others catered.

The food samples included chicken curry, fried rice, yaki mandu, lumpia, egg rolls, shrimp patties, Thai sauce, sake chicken, chicken on a stick, lo mein and chicken Kelaguen.

Staff Sgt. Wendy Spohn, the equal opportunity representative for the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band and a member of the Asia-Pacific committee, prepared a Thailand dish for the food tasting.

"It's a hobby, I really enjoy Asian foods," Spohn said. "I like the more traditional [meals], not what you'd find in restaurants."

Schech expressed her thanks to committee members and participants and said that even the guest speaker gave her "positive feedback."

"People seemed to enjoy everything, the program, the food and the exhibits," she said.

The winners of the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month essays were Wallace Ciepeila, associate director of Operations, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, first place and Pfc. Sha'Courtney Woods, 9th Area Medical Laboratory, runner-up.

Display winners were Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course Class 14-

08-52C, first place; and BNCOC Class 15 08-63B, runner up.

Josui Watson

Watson is the director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity for the Defense Security Service. She is responsible for policy development and overall management of the agency's EEO program including complaints processing, affirmative employment, disability and special emphasis programs.

She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., a master's degree in human resources administration from Central Michigan University, and she plans to complete her post-graduate studies at the University of Phoenix.

Watson formerly served with the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command at Fort Belvoir, Va., as a staff-level EEO complaints and affirmative employment program manager, prior to her selection to DSS in 2007. She also served as an adjunct faculty member with the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

Her highest award is the Superior Civilian Service Award. Watson has two daughters and one grandson and she resides in Lake Ridge, Va.

Asian-Pacific American Medal of Honor recipients

World War I	*Pfc. Frank H. Ono
Pvt. Jose B. Nisperos	*Staff Sgt. Kazuo Otani
World War II	*Pvt. George T. Sakato
Sgt. Jose Calugas	*Tech. Sgt. Ted T. Tanouye
Pfc. Sadao S. Munemori	*Capt. Francis B. Wai
*Staff Sgt. Rudolph B. Davila	Korean War
*Pvt. Barney F. Hajiro	Cpl. Hiroshi H. Miyamura
*Pvt. Mikio Hasemoto	Sgt. Leroy A. Mendonca
*Pvt. Joe Hayashi	Pfc. Herbert K. Pililaua
*Pvt. Shizuya Hayashi	Vietnam
*2nd Lt. Daniel K. Inouye	Cpl. Terry Teruo Kawamura
*Tech. Sgt. Yeiki Kobashigawa	Staff Sgt. Elmelindo R. Smith
*Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda	Sfc. Rodney J.T. Yano
*Pfc. Kaoru Moto	
*Pfc. Kiyoshi K. Muranaga	<i>*Awarded June 21, 2000, by President William J. Clinton. Nineteen of the 22 recipients were members of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team. With more than 18,000 individual awards and seven Presidential Unit Citations, it earned the distinction of being the most highly decorated unit of World War II.</i>
*Pvt. Masato Nakae	
*Pvt. Shinyei Nakamine	
*Pfc. William K. Nakamura	
*Pfc. Joe M. Nishimoto	
*Sgt. Allan M. Ohata	
*Tech. 5th Grade James K. Okubo	
*Tech. Sgt. Yukio Okutsu	

APG News

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APG riders learn to share the road



A convoy of motorcycles stops for a red light in Bel Air during the Motorcycle Safety Day 60-mile ride May 21.

Story and photo by
ROGER TEEL
U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools

Committed to fostering an environment of responsible motorcycle riding, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' 61st Ordnance Brigade conducted its 4th annual Motorcycle Safety Day May 21, providing APG riders the education and tools that could prevent accidents and promote safety on the road.

Coordinated by Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade commander Capt. Jacob Grabia, about 80 APG riders -- some old, some new -- took part in the all-day event.

"This is the second motorcycle safety day I've had the pleasure of planning and participating in," said Grabia, the lead organizer. "In more than eleven years of riding motorcycles in the Army, this brigade has the most comprehensive motorcycle program I have ever seen. I am extremely proud that my organization and my chain of command are committed to safety."

After a welcome by brigade commander Col. Bobby Towery, APG Safety Officer Bob McNabb delivered the message that carried the essence of the day.



"We're working to make roads safer for motorcyclists," McNabb said. "'Everybody' needs to pay attention."

Paying particular attention to safety equipment, some of it required to ride on APG or any military installation, McNabb, a long-time rider himself, asked what car drivers always say if they're involved in an accident with a motorcycle.

"I didn't see the motorcycle," the riders said, almost in unison.

"That's why we have to be visible," McNabb added. "The guidelines for wearing reflective personal protective attire of a non-blending color are pretty clear. Every rider must abide by the rules the installation commander has put in effect. APG has made it policy for all motorcyclists to wear a yellow, orange or green reflective vest along with the other required personal protective equipment. That's just the way it is."

"We want our people to

be highly visible during the day as well as during the hours of darkness," McNabb said. "By incorporating the bright vest for daylight with reflectivity for night, it is our objective to eliminate any room for error."

"You [also] must have a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training certificate in order to ride on base," he said.

For more information, call the APG Installation Safety Office, 410-306-1095.

Soldiers and civilian motorcyclists were also given a presentation by The Law Tigers, a national group of lawyers committed to representing the unique needs of motor-

cycle operators. The Law Tigers addressed changes in motorcycle law and safety issues at both the national and local level.

Next was a presentation by the World Wide Rydaz, a motorcycle mentorship group with strong Army origins, followed by riders and their motorcycles receiving a cursory safety inspection.

The group then took off on a 60-mile scenic trek through nearby Bel Air, historic Rocks State Park, and stopped for lunch at the Chesapeake Harley Davidson dealership in Darlington.

After burgers and hot-dogs, the group re-mounted and returned to the front steps of OC&S headquarters for an after-action review led by Towery. They also posed for a group photo.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics indicate motorcycle fatalities nationwide have more than doubled in the last 10 years. According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, more than half of all fatal motorcycle accidents involve another vehicle. Most of the time, the motorist, not the motorcyclist, is at fault.

To help educate non-motorcyclists, the MSF developed www.forcardrivers.com, a Web

site designed for motorists to enhance traffic safety. The site offers tips such as, "Ten Things All Car & Truck Drivers Should Know About Motorcycles," and provides video downloads to help car drivers learn how to safely share the road with motorcyclists.

"Teaching drivers to be

more aware of motorcycle traffic is as important as Soldiers practicing safe riding skills that will ultimately save lives," Towery said.

For more information on the 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign and the Army's Motorcycle Mentorship Program, visit <https://crc.army.mil>.

APG Outdoor Journal

MD Fishing Free for three days

By **BILL ARMSTRONG**
APG Wildlife and Marine Law
Enforcement Division

Looking for something to do with the kids that's not going to cost you an arm and a leg? Tired of them sitting in front of the television set or playing video games?

Why not take 'em fishing. Not sure whether they would enjoy it or not, or whether investing in a fishing license would be a waste of money? Well, there's an answer for that too. The state of Maryland

has three days this year set aside as "Free Fishing Days," June 7 and 14 and July 4, to promote outdoor recreational activity.

On those days you and the kids can fish to your heart's content in any of Maryland public waters without having to buy a license, and that includes even the premiere trout streams, where normally you would be required to purchase a trout stamp.

And not only is it free, it's also the right thing to do. Kids need to spend

more time with you outside, and if you use the KISS principle you might be pleasantly surprised at the results.

First of all, take the time and make sure that the time is "for the kids." It doesn't have to be all day, maybe just two or three hours, as long as it's "their" time. Keep the experience focused on them.

Secondly, take them someplace where it's certain that they will catch fish. Farm ponds and small lakes are great places.

The size of the fish isn't important either. Heck, just catching white perch and bluegills can be a ball.

Try using a bobber with live bait. You can get worms most anywhere, even at some of the Royal Farm or 7-Eleven stores.

And third, be patient with them. If they want to turn over rocks looking for critters, or seeing how far they can skip a rock, let them. That's all just part of growing up and they'll remember the experience with you forever.

So there you go, no excuses! For those three days, fishing in Maryland is "on the house."

For this you do need a license

I suppose by now most everyone who's interested knows that the rockfish season is open throughout the Chesapeake Bay.

I spent one evening trying my luck out on the Gunpowder River. Had a ball! Started out casting surface poppers along the shoreline south of Maxwell Point, just as the sun was disappearing below the tree-line. Caught and released two on the outgoing tide, both of them going about 20 inches. Then, when the tide turned to an incoming tide, I started drifting white perch in the water that swirled around Rickett's Point. There I caught two more rockfish, along with a bunch of nice catfish.

What a gorgeous evening! A beautiful sunset, no loud mufflers, no telephones, no boom-boxes! Just blue herons heading for Pooles Island, a couple of terns, and every now and then an osprey. It don't get much better than that.

I'm certainly no authority on catching rockfish, but for those of you just learning about rockfish and how to fish for them, here's a couple of things I've learned along the way: moving water and low sunlight. Rockfish like moving water, and it seems that as the sun goes down, rockfish have a tendency to migrate toward the shoreline looking for something to eat.

So, if you're looking to improve your luck, you might want to try to adjust your fishing time to coincide with the sunlight and the tides, it might just make a difference.



Photo courtesy of COMMAND SGT MAJ DAN EUBANKS, OC&S

Danielle Eubanks, daughter of Command Sgt. Maj. Dan and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jenifer Eubanks of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, poses with all of the trophies she won after entering a "Hoop Shoot" competition at the last minute which led to her winning the state championship.

Eubanks wins state title

Story by **ROGER TEEL, OC&S**

A fifth grade honors student at Roye Williams Elementary School never thought she would win the Abingdon Elk's Lodge annual "Hoop Shoot" free throw competition, but she did.

Danielle Eubanks, daughter of Command Sgt. Maj. Dan and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jenifer Eubanks, only went to the event to watch a friend shoot in the competition, but once there asked her mother if she could also participate.

The event was held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Youth Center in February. Eubanks won the 8- to 9-year-old category and then told her mother, "Mommy, I think I can go all the way to the finals."

Three weeks later in Chesterfield, Md., she won the district competition. She then proceeded to Frederick, Md., to compete for the state title. The states of Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia are combined for this event. Eubanks won and was crowned "State Champ."

Several weeks later she again competed at Frederick, for the regional title against competitors from several states. Eubanks placed third in this event and she said she was happy to go as far as she did.

"I liked the traveling, free hotels for me and my Family, all the dinners and the pool and pizza party for all the participants after the regional competition," she said.

She promised to practice in hopes of reaching the national finals next year.

DOC announces PR cutoff dates for 2008



ACA APG DOC

The Army Contracting Agency Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Contracting has established its fiscal year 2008 cutoff dates for submission of purchase requests.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting PRs by or before the dates shown below greatly enhances the ability of the APG DOC to meet customer needs. Between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30, the APG DOC receives more than 2,500 purchase requests for FY-end award. Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year-end.

The APG DOC encourages customer activities to coordinate their projected FY-end requirements with the DOC during the third quarter in order to discuss acquisition methods and identify those documents, reviews, and approvals required to accompany the procurement package. Incomplete procurement packages will not be accepted by the DOC during September and any "SAF" (Subject to Availability of Funds) actions will be accepted only by an APG DOC division chief. All purchase requests must be submitted to the APG DOC electronically. APG activities should consider maximizing use of their Government Purchase Cards to execute small dollar transactions for authorized items rather than submitting a purchase request to the DOC.

The following schedule has been established for the submission of PRs for FY 08 and maintenance for FY 09. These cutoff dates are not only for the PR, but includes ALL supporting documentation and approvals.

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 – July 1*
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 – Aug. 1
- Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million – July 1
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 – Aug. 15
- Services Over \$100,000 – July 1
- Delivery Orders and Task Orders Under Existing Contracts – Aug. 1
- GSA Schedule Procurements – Aug. 1
- Short-of-Award over \$2,500 – June 15**
- Maintenance for FY 2009 – July 1

(FY 09 Contract Modifications and Options for Existing Maintenance Contracts)

* *There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is therefore required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.*

***Customers submitting "short-of-award" PRs, especially for services requirements, must seriously consider whether funding will materialize. A substantial amount of effort is expended to prepare these pending actions and they must be prioritized after PRs that are funded and PRs that are subject to the availability of funds.*

The above lead times can be affected by various factors, a few of which include: competition requirements, to include fair opportunity for services task orders over \$100,000 when using Federal Supply Schedules; acquisition plan and/or strategy reviews and approvals; obtaining sole, limited source or urgency approvals – the Justification and Approval process; the review process accomplished by the APG Small Business Advisor to ensure all socio-economic programs will be appropriately addressed; front-end PR entry, and PD2 (PD2 is the DoD contracting automated system used at APG).

Other requirements affecting lead times

When placing sole source orders over \$2,500 under Federal Supply Schedules, a Justification and Approval must be prepared and approved by a Contracting Officer.

When purchasing supplies or services over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$100,000) using non-DoD contract vehicles (which includes placing orders with GSA), proposed actions must be reviewed and approved considering: if the action is in the best interest of the government – satisfying customer requirements, schedule, cost effectiveness (taking into account, discounts and fees) and contract administration including oversight.

Other factors which must be addressed

- determining that tasks or supplies ordered are within the scope of the contract;
- ensuring funding is used IAW appropriation limitations;
- providing unique terms, conditions and requirements for incorporation into an order or contract to comply with all applicable DoD-unique statutes, regulations, directives and oth-

er requirements (e.g., all clothing, shoes and other items specified under the Berry Amendment, procured with DoD funding, is of domestic origin); and

- collecting data on the use of assisted acquisitions for analysis.

All service requirements must be approved for purchase prior to submittal to the APG DOC IAW established agency procedures as directed by the Secretary of the Army memo, Army Policy for Civilian Hiring and Initiation/Continuation of Contracts for Service Personnel, Feb. 23, 2006.

Information Technology Desktop and notebook computer purchases

To maximize cost savings, all Army desktops and notebooks 'shall' be ordered through the Consolidated Buy program utilizing the Army Desktop and Mobile Computing Agreements. For policy memo issued by the Army's Chief Information Officer on July 22, 2005, Buying Schedule, Specs and Pricing, Submittal Instructions, Request Preparation, Exceptions, and Frequently Asked Questions, visit the Consolidated Buy page at: https://ascp.monmouth.army.mil/scp/cb/cb_index.jsp. Requests for these items must be submitted to the Directorate of Information Management. For standard requests, DOIM will approve the request and forward it to the ACA DOC for processing. For non-standard requests, DOIM will review and validate the request and then forward it to ACA.

For more information, contact the ACA APG DOC chief, Technology Branch, 410-278-0883.

The contracting officer is responsible for and this office's policy is to determine the best method of procuring any supply or service based upon regulation, urgency, delivery, socio-economic concern and competition which

provides the best value at a reasonable price.

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require approval by the chiefs of the divisions. The APG DOC will do as much as possible to assist customers in satisfying their requirements after the cutoff dates. However, the directorate has a limited capability to process late requirements. Budgetary constraints may mean that customer-funded overtime may be the only method to provide the directorate with additional flexibility to accept requirements after the established dates.

For more information, contact Joyce Roberts, Contracting Division, joyce.roberts@us.army.mil, 410-278-0869

Facilities Branch

For repair, alteration, construction, sale and removal of excess real property, services for base operations functions (including, but not limited to, utilities privatization, custodial, refuse, underground utilities locating, etc.), equipment-in-place and facilities, contact Kandi McDonald, Kandi.mcdonald@us.army.mil, 410-278-2372.

Technology Branch

For information technology equipment and services; word processing equipment; software; general, specialized, and test equipment; instrumentation; supplies; and IT maintenance, contact Scot Plank, Scot.Plank@us.army.mil, 410-278-0886.

Contact Renee Hodge, Services Division jacqueline.renee.hodge@us.army.mil, 410-278-0881 for the purchase of

base support and services for core customers; equipment-in-place; range testing of vehicles, equipment, ammunition; lease, rental, and maintenance of equipment; full food services and environmental services.

AEC Branch

For the purchase of all services covering clean-up work in support of the US Army Environmental Command's mission contact Alison Gannon, Alison.gannon@us.army.mil, 410-436-1661.

For customer assistance, go to the DOC web page and click on "Customer Corner." It includes guides, templates, formats and helpful Web sites.

Purchase requests awarded "subject to the availability of funds" must be funded as soon as funds become available. The work must start and the contrac-

tors must be paid – this is not accomplished until the funds are certified.

Preparation of PRs

When preparing PRs in PRWEB:

Do not use any dashes or spaces in the PR number.

When preparing attachments for any electronic document to be used by contracting, submitters must use Normal, Times New Roman, 10. The contracting writing system used by Contracting cannot format correctly if a font other than Normal, Times New Roman, 10 is used or if any special characters are used in the document.

Do not use page breaks, section breaks, column breaks or special characters such as trademark signs, tm, ®, <, etc., in any document that will be used in a purchase order or contract.

Community Notes

FRIDAY

JUNE 6 FIRST FRIDAY

The First Friday celebration, Swing Into Summer, will be held 5 to 9 p.m. in Havre de Grace. Events include live music, antique and special interest car show on Franklin Street, a beer garden, entertainment for the kids to include face painting by Bambini Face Painters and more. Shops and restaurants will have specials and will remain open late. Anyone with an antique or special interest vehicle is invited to join the car show and park on Franklin Street. The Main Street Booth and the Main Street Expo will be located at the intersection of Washington Street and Pennington Avenue, where there will be flyers listing specials and a free Walking Map.

For more information, call Marita O'Connell, Havre de Grace Main Street, Inc., 410-939-1811, or e-mail hdgmainstreet@verizon.net.

SATURDAY

JUNE 7 WALK THE ROCK

Upper Chesapeake Health invites everyone to join the Walk the Rock for Women's Health, 7:15 to 11:30 a.m., at the Bulle Rock Golf Course. There will be a 5K walk through Bulle Rock Golf Course followed by a lecture on women's health. Health screenings and

tickets to the Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament will be provided to participants.

The walk, screenings, lecture and tickets are free. Participants must use the LPGA bus transportation from Ripken Stadium. For more information or to register, call HealthLink, 1-800-515-0044.

NEW JERSEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Comcast will present the 20th Annual Appel Farm Arts and Music Festival, 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Appel Farm Arts and Music Center located on 457 Shirley Road, Elmer, N.J.

Active duty service members, Reservists and National Guard members with ID will receive a discount of \$5 off the regular ticket price. Family members over the age of 12 will be charged full admission, but children 12 and under are admitted free. Families are welcome to bring their own picnic coolers (no alcohol permitted).

Through June 6, tickets cost \$40 for adults, \$35 for students, seniors and members of the armed services; June 7, tickets cost \$45 for adults, \$40 for students, seniors and members of the armed services.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the event online visit www.appelfarm.org or www.comcasttix.com, or call ComcastTix, 1-800-298-4200. Patrons with hearing or speech disabili-

ties may call TRS 1-800-852-7899 or dial 711. The Festival is accessible to patrons with disabilities.

PERRY HALL BAPTIST COMMUNITY FAIR

Perry Hall Baptist Church, located on 3919 Schroeder Avenue, Perry Hall, Md., will hold a free Community Fair, 1 to 4 p.m. Events include free food, drinks, pony rides, jugglers, clowns, dunking booth, face painting, moonbounce, live music and more.

For more information, call 410-256-8880 or e-mail jhartman@perryhallbaptist.org.

SUNDAY

JUNE 8 WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 5K RUN FOR YOUR LUNGS

The Harford County Cancer and Tobacco Community Coalition and Charm City Run will sponsor the annual 5K Run For Your Lungs and 1-Mile Family Walk, 8:30 a.m., to celebrate World-No-Tobacco Day.

The event will begin and end in the lower parking lot of the Liriodendron, located on 502 West Gordon Street and continue onto the Ma and Pa Trail. Registration will be held 7:30 a.m. and the 1-Mile Family Fun Walk will begin at 8:45 a.m.

Events include a DJ, Balloon Entertainment, "Make

Smoking Disappear" Magic Show and more. The 5K run and 1-mile walk will take place rain or shine. Registration forms are available at Charm City Run located on 126 South Main Street, first floor, Bel Air and local businesses in Harford County.

For more information or to register, call Kelly Dees, 410-308-1870, e-mail kelly@charmcityrun.com or register online at www.CharmCityRun.com.

22ND ANNUAL CELTIC FESTIVAL

Steppingstone Museum, located on 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, will host an annual Celtic Festival, noon to 5 p.m. Cost of admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 12 and under and members, and includes the Loch Raven Pipes and Drums, sheep shearing and sheepherding demonstrations, spinning and weaving, Welsh clogging, Bonnie Wylie's Highland Dancers, amateur highland games competitions, vendors, food and more. New this year - learn to play cricket.

For more information or directions, call the museum office, 410-939-2299 or toll-free, 1-888-419-1762; or e-mail steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit Web site www.steppingstonemuseum.org.

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

Chapel News

Puppet musical show at Main Post Chapel this Sunday

A Puppet Ministry Program for all ages - young through young at heart - will be presented at the Aberdeen Post Chapel 5:30 p.m., June 8. Refreshments will be served 5:30 p.m., the puppet program begins 6 p.m.

For planning purposes, register on the sheet located in the Main Post Chapel entrance.

For more information, call 410-278-2516/4333.

APG Gospel Service June 20 & 21

All men of Harford County are invited to attend the Pillars of a Godly Man Conference at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, building 2485, June 20 and 21. The subject of the conference is "God's Purpose for Man." Admission is free. Registration is required. Deadline for registration is June 14.

God has placed everyone within this unique time for a specific purpose. What an incredible sight to witness men of strength and vision rise to pursue this challenge.

Praise and Worship will feature 3MConnection.

There will be fellowship breakout sessions throughout the conference. Guest speakers and teachers are from Harford County churches.

For more information about or to register, call Elder Clarence Weaver, 41-272-6583, or e-mail cweaver@aol.com.

Register for Vacation Bible School

The APG Main Post Chapel Vacation Bible School will be held 6 to 8:45 p.m., Aug. 4 through 8, for ages 5 to those completing grade 6.

This year's theme for VBS is "Avalanche Ranch" and includes a week of singing, crafts, drama, Scripture, goodies and much more.

Nursery care will be available for all adult volunteers.

The first VBS training for adult and teen volunteers is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., June 5, at the Main Post Chapel. For more information, call Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516 or e-mail gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil.

POST SHORTS

due to concert preparation and will reopen June 24.

Shore Pool will be open June 16 through 21; the pool will close June 22 for the concert and will reopen June 23. Beginning June 28, Shore Pool will open noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Customer Training on the Acquisition Process

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Edgewood Contracting Division and the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center will host a workshop entitled, "Customer Training on the Acquisition Process" to teach RDECOM customers about the acquisition process 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., June 10 in the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4810.

Training, provided by the staff from RDECOM ECD and ECBC, will include an overview of the contracting process

and Statements of Work and guidance on how they should be prepared; and the RDECOM EAC Web site, www.rdecom-ac.army.mil.

Tentative future workshop topics include preparing procurement request packages, solicitations and awarding contracts, to name a few.

For more information, e-mail Gwen Johnson, gwen.johnson@us.army.mil or Carol Edmead, carol.edmead@us.army.mil.

Native Americans honor veterans this weekend

The Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center and its Native American Program Committee will host the 2008 Natives Honoring Veterans Festival 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 7 and 8. Grand entry is at noon each day. This event is free and open to the public, will be held at the front gate picnic grounds and is rain or shine.

For more information, call Al Milliner, 410-447-6392 or Debbie Rosenkrans, 410-642-2411, ext. 5414

Military in Transition Virtual Job Fair June 10

A live online virtual job fair is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., June 10.

Attendees can register and visit this event through June 10. Participants can meet with employers from their home, office or from the field. This event is the first of a series of four virtual events designed to bring employers together with transitioning military, service disabled, Guard, Reserve and military spouses.

Hear presentations by employers, career experts, veteran advisors and others. Participate in on-line chats on topics of interest. Register now and receive daily updates. Login on June 10.

For more information

Upcoming Civilian Welfare Fund events/trips

July 26 - A day trip to New York City. The price per person for charter bus transportation is \$45.

Aug. 23 - "Spring Awakening," on Broadway, in New York City. Cost is \$150 per person and includes charter bus transportation and ticket for the show. Contains adult content, not appropriate for children.

Oct. 12 thru 20 - Mediterranean Cruise

Nov. 1 - Scrapbooking Crop

Nov. 20 thru 23 - Trip to Massachusetts

Nov. 29 - Trip to Sight and Sound, "Miracle of Christmas"

Dec. 6 - Ice skating, 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. Event is free and open to military and civilian personnel, contractors, retirees and their Families. Tickets are limited, make reservations in advance.

Dec. 13 - "Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular" - A favorite among many, starring the famous Rockettes.

For more information or to make reservations, call Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, 410-278-4603/4771.

or to register, visit www.careercentralonline.com, or contact B. Hughes, 703-647-7452, or e-mail BHughes@careercentralonline.com.

Blue Cross/Shield visits APG

The APG Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG June 10.

The representative will be available 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 211 and 12:30 to 1:30

p.m. in building E-4520, Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, Edgewood Area, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

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

Register for next Strong Bonds seminar

Register now for the next "Strong Bonds," an all-expense paid three-day, two-night couples training conference July 31 through Aug. 2 for 14 married

couples.

The training will be held at the Harbor Inn Hotel, St. Michaels, Md.

To register, visit <https://www.strongbonds.org/>.

For more information, contact the APG Chaplains' Office, 410-278-4333.

2008 Army Birthday Ball June 14

Register now for the 2008 Army Birthday Ball celebrating America's Army, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., June 14, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center located on 801 Mount Vernon Place N.W., Washington, D.C.

Tickets cost \$80 per person with a limited number of discounted tickets at \$40 per person available to GS-7, E-6 and below on a first-come, first served basis. Cost includes an elegant evening of dining, dancing and entertainment. The event is open to all active duty, National Guard, Reserve, DA civilians, government contractors, Family members, retirees, veterans and invited guests.

For more information or to make reservations, visit the AKO 2008 Army Birthday Ball Registration Web site, <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/137983> or <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal/index.jsp>.

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

AMC commander addresses AUSA chapter

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army heard an update about the ongoing Army and Aberdeen Proving Ground transformation from the commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command during a luncheon at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood May 7.

Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin thanked chapter president Mary Jane Jernigan, a division manager with QUANTUM Research International in Bel Air, for the invitation.

With several members of the Fort Monmouth community in attendance, Griffin commented on the proving ground's relationship with local businesses and the impending influx of thousands of jobs and opportunities into the region due to base realign-

ment and closure.

Griffin said that in no place is the importance of the local business community more evident than at APG.

He said that getting new products into the Army inventory and bolstering technology interests among local school students remain top priorities, and he thanked Jernigan and AUSA for supporting existing scholarship programs.

He said that he's watched how the community has "reached out to New Jersey and made them feel comfortable."

"I ask you to continue to do that," Griffin said. "It's tough enough to move the military. With civilians, many times you're dealing with people who've been in place fifteen to twenty years or more."

"I encourage you to continue to stay engaged with us as we move fur-

ther down the road," he added, "and I applaud your efforts to reach out to New Jersey and make them feel welcome."

Regarding BRAC, Griffin said that "at the end of the day," AMC will have two major entities – the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, and the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command – "right here at APG along with sixty-seven other tenants."

"Today's Army is the best trained, best equipped and most experienced in history," he added. "Readiness is a tremendous job that requires that we work in unity to maintain the force, and this is an opportunity for the Army to consolidate capabilities as we join CECOM with testing here at APG."

"It takes nothing away from the great work being done in New Jersey," he

said. "It's about looking to the future."

Community support is critical to the move, Griffin added.

"My greatest concern is taking care of people; those that choose to move as well as those who choose not to move," he said.

"We ask you to con-

tinue to reach out to that community. It's all about continuing to do the things we're noted for doing. Not only for AMC but for the nation."

The next meeting for the Aberdeen Chapter, AUSA is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 11, at the Clari-on Hotel in Aberdeen. The

guest speaker will be Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander.

Meetings are open to non-members as well as members. Seating is on a first-come basis. Cost is \$15. For more information, e-mail Valerie at vlk@orscorp.com.

Housing survey reminder

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

By now, Aberdeen Proving Ground housing residents should have received an Army Resident Assessment Survey.

The two-page survey is being distributed to all Army installations participating in the Residential Communities Initiative Family Housing Program.

Marilyn Spence of the APG Housing Office said that residents are urged to complete the survey and mail it back in the enclosed postage-paid envelope as quickly as possible.

The survey is the first of what will be an annual opportunity for Families to tell leader how well their on-post housing needs are being met.

Although APG has not transitioned to private operations under RCI, the survey is a 'precursor to privatization.'

"We want to know how our Families feel about housing and housing services," Spence said. "We urge all residents to fill out the survey and return it so their voices can be heard."

For more information, call Spence or Pat Hector, chief, Housing Division, 410-306-2010.

Memorial

From front page

Baghdad in November 2006 and whose parents received his Congressional Medal of Honor from President Bush June 2, remarking that the bravery of the deed was a direct result of the camaraderie shared among "all who serve."

"Through camaraderie you have shared something that is peculiar to you," Robinson said. "To me, that's what being an American is all about."

"On this special day let us remember each and every veteran and thank each and every [service member] for their service. Thank you for the difference you have made to our world," he said.

The program provided music, including the national anthem and TAPS by the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, led by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Frederick Ellwein; a rifle salute by the U.S.



The 61st Ordnance Brigade salute team renders a rifle salute during the Memorial Day program at the Edgewood Area cemetery May 26.

Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's 61st Ordnance Brigade salute team; the invocation by APG Garrison Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon; and the benediction by VFW Post 5337 Chaplain Emanuel Anderson.

The program closed with the traditional placing of wreaths at the cem-

etry gate. Presenters included Linda MacArthur, ladies auxiliary president, VFW Post 5337; Carol Carden, ladies auxiliary president, American Legion Post 17; and Pam Williams, ladies auxiliary president, Corpus Christi Council.

Baird closed with the poem, 'I Knew You Once'

by World War II combat crew member Scott Aylesworth, who then invited guests and participants to Post 17 for refreshments.

"As veterans, we are very proud of our armed forces," Baird said. "We thank them for their service, and we thank our veterans for their service of the past."

I Knew You Once

By Scott Aylesworth

*I knew you once upon a time
Like I knew many more,
I think I knew your last name
Before I learned the score
You worked and slept alongside of me
A member of the crew,
Not knowing you would soon be gone
Your life would soon be through
You did your duty on the gun
You were good at what you did
No one would think by watching you
That you were just a kid
I really don't know what it was
That hit you on that day
No time to stop, we carried on
No one knew what to say
Your place was filled by another kid
Who looked about the same
And now I wish I knew you then
I wish I knew your name.*

EMS

From front page

The award was presented by Robert R. Bass, M.D., executive director, MIEMSS, and Donald L. DeVries Jr., Esq., chairman, Maryland EMS Board.

Ray Campbell, EMS assistant chief, and Mike Slaymen, an APG paramedic, accepted the award on behalf of APG's Fire and Emergency Services Department. They received the award for their outstanding Public Access Automated External Defibrillator and their training and certification program for combat lifesaving.

"No one gets into this business for the thanks that you get but it is nice to be recognized on a state level," Slayman said.

The AED is a computerized medical device that can check a person's heart rhythm and can recognize a rhythm that requires a shock.

People with AED training can treat patients through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. The AED uses voice prompts, lights and text messages to tell the rescuer the steps to take.

"It is essential that people are trained to use the equipment so that they can be prepared in an emergency situation," Slayman said.

He said that the AED classes are vital because

time is critical when a patient goes into cardiac arrest.

"The chance of a patient surviving a cardiac arrest is higher if there is a person in the building that has AED training," Slayman said.

APG Fire and EMS conducts AED and CPR training once a month, and a combat lifesaving class for Soldiers once a quarter.

APG Fire and Emergency Services have been conducting CPR and AED classes for eight years and combat lifesaving classes for three years.

Previously, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic had conducted the classes. When APG Emergency Services decided to take

over the program they decided to take a hands-on approach to the class.

"We did not have a written program on how to conduct these classes with an interactive approach, so we came up with the program on our own," Campbell said.

He said he feels that students grasp the material better by taking this approach.

"We have a very aggressive public education program," Campbell said. "If you don't use the skills you lose them. We want to make sure the students have experience to do the job."

Slayman said that in the beginning the demand for people with AED training was mostly in "high

risk" environments/activities like the athletic buildings. Due to the success of the classes, the demand for AED training is growing.

Currently, there are 170 AEDs in various buildings around APG. Two thousand APG personnel have taken the class, and three lives have been saved as a result.

Slayman said that other installations and communities have used APG's AED and lifesaving combat classes as a model, so that they can conduct more effective classes.

"EMS is proud to receive this award," Campbell said. "We would like to thank APG. If it weren't for the people volunteer-

ing to take the program, we wouldn't be getting this award."

To register for CPR, AED and combat lifesaving, call Campbell, 410-306-0566. To register for CPR classes call Mike Davis, 410-306-0572. To register for combat lifesaving, call Dave Stewart, 410-306-0572.

Homeowners can take steps to avoid foreclosure--help available

Story by
ERIC FEUSTEL
OSJA

Foreclosure is a legal process in which a lender, such as a bank, repossesses and sells a home when the homeowner falls behind on payments to a loan secured by the home. The proceeds of the sale are first used to pay the expenses of the repossession and sale and are then used to pay the balance of the loan. If there is not enough left after the sale to pay the balance of the loan, the homeowner is responsible for paying the deficiency.

There are several different types of foreclosure actions, and foreclosure laws vary in each state.

According to a recent USA Today report, decreasing home values and rising adjustable interest rates have contributed to the more than 1.2 million home foreclosures in the United States.

The mortgage crisis has affected many service members which has led military support and financial advocacy groups to field an increasing number of requests for assistance from service members struggling to keep their homes.

Here are some tips provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for avoiding foreclosure. These tips can be found at <http://www.hud.gov/foreclosure/index.cfm>.

- **Don't ignore the problem.** The further behind you become, the harder it will be to reinstate your loan and the more likely that you will lose your house.

- **Contact your lender as soon as you realize that you have a problem.** Lenders do not want your house. They have options to help borrowers through difficult financial times.

- **Open and respond to all mail from your lender.** The first notices you receive will offer good information about foreclosure prevention options that can help you weather financial problems. Later mail may include important notice of pending legal action. Your failure to open the mail will not be an

excuse in foreclosure court.

- **Know your mortgage rights.** Find your loan documents and read them so you know what your lender may do if you can't make your payments. Learn about the foreclosure laws and timeframes in your state (as every state is different) by contacting the State Government Housing Office.

- **Understand foreclosure prevention options.** Valuable information about foreclosure prevention (also called loss mitigation) options can be found on the Internet at http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?_pageid=33,717348&dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL.

- **Contact a HUD approved housing counselor.** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds free or very low cost housing counseling nationwide. Housing counselors can help you understand the law and your options, organize your finances and represent you in negotiations with your lender if you need this assistance. To find a HUD-approved housing counselor near you, call 800-569-4287 or TTY 800-877-8339 or visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm>.

- **Prioritize your spending.** After healthcare, keeping your house should be your first priority. Review your finances and see where you can cut spending in order to make your mortgage payment. Look for optional expenses (cable TV, memberships, entertainment) that you can eliminate. Delay payments on credit cards and other "unsecured" debt until you have paid your mortgage.

- **Use your assets.** Do you have assets (a second car, jewelry, a whole life insurance policy) that you can sell for cash to help reinstate your loan? Can anyone in your household get an extra job to bring in additional income? Even if these efforts don't significantly increase your available cash or your income, they demonstrate to your lender that you are willing to make sacrifices to keep your home.

- **Avoid foreclosure preven-**



tion companies. You don't need to pay fees for foreclosure prevention help-use that money to pay the mortgage instead. Many for-profit companies will contact you promising to negotiate with your lender. While these may be legitimate businesses, they will charge you a hefty fee (often two or three month's mortgage payment) for information and services your lender or a HUD approved housing counselor will provide free if you contact them.

- **Don't lose your house to foreclosure recovery scams!** If any firm claims they can stop your foreclosure immediately if you sign a document appointing them to act on your behalf, you may well be signing over the title to your property and becoming a renter in your own home! Never sign a legal document without reading and understanding all the terms and getting professional advice from an attorney, a trusted real estate professional, or a HUD approved housing counselor.

Additional help

Federal Assistance through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Housing Administration

FHASecure, 800-CALL-FHA (225-5342) or visit http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?_pageid=33,717348&dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL: FHASecure is a refinancing option that gives homeowners with non-FHA adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs), current or delinquent and regardless of reset status, the ability to refinance into a FHA-insured mortgage. With FHASecure, the lender will not automatically disqualify you because you are delinquent on your loan, and the lender may offer you a second mortgage to make up the difference between the value of your property and what you owe.

Assistance in Maryland through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's HOPE Program, 1-877-462-7555, or visit <http://www.dhcd.state.md.us/Hope/Index.aspx>

Lifeline Refinance Mortgage Program provides a refinancing option to Maryland home owners who may be facing difficulties after financing their homes with adjustable rate or other unfavorable mortgages, or with mortgages that no longer fit their financial situation.

Bridge to Hope Loan Program is for homeowners who are experiencing financial difficulty caused by either a sub-prime or exotic mortgage that has, or is preparing to, reset. Department of Housing and Community Development's Bridge to HOPE Loan Program provides homeowners with a short-term gap loan to prevent foreclosure

Homesaver refinance Program provides a refinancing option to Marylanders who have sub-prime or exotic mortgages and are experiencing difficulties as a result of mortgage default, low credit scores and/or a mortgage greater than the current value of their home.

Assistance through Army Legal Assistance and Army Community Service: To make an appointment with an attorney from the Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate to discuss foreclosure actions, call 410-278-1583 or visit building 4305, 3rd floor, room 346, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Questions about financial management and debt counseling can be directed to the installation financial readiness program manager, Army Community Service, 410-278-2450.

IRS warns of economic stimulus scams

IRS

As the economic stimulus checks start going out and the IRS continues efforts to reach individuals who may still be eligible for these payments, be aware that scam artists are actively making the rounds using the proposed rebates as bait. The IRS has a mailbox in place for tax payers to notify them about scams.

The most recent scams brought to IRS attention are:

Rebate phone call

At least one scheme using the word "rebate" as part of the lure has been identified. In that scam, consumers receive a phone call from someone identifying himself as an IRS employee. The caller tells the targeted victim that he is eligible for a sizable rebate for filing his taxes early. The caller then states that he needs the target's bank account information for the

direct deposit of the rebate. If the target refuses, he is told that he cannot receive the rebate.

Refund e-mail

The IRS has seen several variations of a refund-related bogus e-mail which falsely claims to come from the IRS, tells the recipient that he or she is eligible for a tax refund for a specific amount, and instructs the recipient to click on a link in the e-mail to access a refund claim form. The form asks the recipient to enter personal information that the scammers can then use to access the e-mail recipient's bank or credit card account.

Audit e-mail

Using a technique calculated to get almost anyone's attention, the e-mail notifies the recipient that his or her tax return will be audited. This is the first scam of which the IRS is aware that uses this to

get the victim to respond. This e-mail is a phony. The IRS does not send unsolicited, tax-account related e-mails to taxpayers.

Changes to tax law e-mail

This bogus e-mail is addressed to businesses, accountants and "Treasury" managers. It instructs them to download information on tax law changes by clicking on a series of links to publications on businesses, estate taxes, excise taxes, exempt organizations and IRAs and other retirement plans.

Paper check phone call

In a current telephone scam, a caller claims to be an IRS employee who is calling because the IRS sent a check to the individual being called. The caller states that because the check has not been cashed, the IRS wants to verify the individual's bank account number. The caller may have a foreign accent.

What to do

Those who have received a questionable e-mail claiming to come from the IRS may forward it to a mailbox the IRS has established to receive such e-mails, phishing@irs.gov, using instructions contained in an article titled "How to Protect Yourself from Suspicious E-Mails or Phishing Schemes" <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=155344,00.html>. Following the instructions will help the IRS track the suspicious e-mail to its origins and shut down the scam.

Those who have received a questionable telephone call that claims to come from the IRS may also use the phishing@irs.gov mailbox to notify the IRS of the scam.

Tax payers can also visit the IRS Partner and Volunteer Resource Center on www.irs.gov; use Search keyword: "community network."

Army Birthday celebration schedule Child & Youth Services

Date	Time	Activity	Location
June 9 & 10	4:30-5:30	Building the "Army Story" books Read the Army Story books	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 9 & 10	4:30-5:30	Fence weaving-The American Flag	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 9-13	4:30-5:30	Army trivia & activities	Youth Center Aberdeen Area
June 11	4:30	Uniforms of the Past-online activity	Aberdeen Area Youth Center
June 11	4:30-5:30	Walk 233 paces, measure 233 feet from the Youth Center to the CDC	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 12	4:30-5:30	Bake cake for the Army Birthday barbecue	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 12	4:30	History of the Army activities-word search/crosswords	Aberdeen Area Youth Center
June 12	3:00	Parents are invited to have snack with their children to celebrate the Army Birthday. Cup cakes will be provided for the participants. All rooms will sing Happy Birthday After snack, all rooms will parade from the CDC to the YS building. All children and staff will dress in red, white and blue. Children will carry flags and musical instruments. The building will be decorated.	Edgewood Area CDC
June 12	3:30	The Army Birthday Story will be read in rooms 9, 10 and 11. All rooms will participate in a parade around the front loop of the CDC. Children will have flags, banners and instruments. Everyone will come back for cake and juice. Parent invitations and posters are being put up.	Aberdeen Area CDC
June 13	4:30	Decorate Cake	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 14	11:00-12:00	Army Birthday party barbecue and cake	Edgewood Area Youth Center
June 14	11:00-2:00	Army Birthday party cake (Summer Program Open House)	Aberdeen Area Youth Center



Army News

Army offers renewed incentives for captains to stay

Human Resources Command

In an effort to encourage more mid-grade officers to remain in service, the Army is again offering a "menu of incentives" for active component captains that includes options for a cash bonus, attendance at graduate school or the Defense Language Institute.

"The Army recognizes the tremendous experience and professionalism of the captains serving in our Army today," said Col. Brian Baldy, director of Officer Personnel Management, Human Resources Command. "This program is an effort to retain these great officers as the Army transforms and grows. We need to retain these quality officers and this program is being executed to do just that."

The incentives are available to eligible captains through Nov. 30.

The program is essentially the same as last year, HRC officials said, with minor changes. First, active component category officers and select Medical Service Corps and Army Nurse Corps officers in basic year group 2005 will now be eligible to participate. Qualifying officers in year groups 1999 through 2004 who did not participate in the first program will still remain eligible. Second, the branch of choice,

post of choice and Ranger School options will not be offered.

The menu of options available this year are:

1) The cash option, payable in the same \$25,000, \$30,000, or \$35,000 tiers based on the officer's accessed branch;

2) The Expanded Graduate School Program option, which is fully funded graduate school; or

3) The Defense Language School option, based upon a pre-Defense Language Aptitude Battery score.

An eligible officer will only be able to select one option in exchange for a three-year non-concurrent active duty service obligation if accepting the cash option, or a 3:1 active duty service obligation in the case of accepting the expanded graduate school program or attendance at the Defense Language Institute.

Human Resources Command estimates that about 8,400 officers will be eligible to participate in this year's program.

Officers must be in the rank of captain in order to participate. Promotable first lieutenants must wait and submit upon promotion to captain, HRC officials said. They said officers in year groups 1999

through 2001 who will become promotable to major during this time frame must submit their request prior to their effective date of promotion.

Last year 67 percent - 12,000 of 17,700 eligible captains - participated in the incentives program offered in November 2007. Several hundred officers from that same population who did not participate also expressed an interest in the incentives after the window closed, HRC sources said.

Of those officers who did participate in the last "menu of incentives" program, 94 percent of those 12,000 chose the Critical Skills Retention Bonus, known as CSRB. About 3 percent chose the opportunity to change branches, and the remaining 3 percent elected to take the graduate school, post of choice or military schooling options.

If the MILPER message does not answer all of an officer's questions, additional questions can be addressed to the branch manager at HRC. Alternate means are to e-mail HRC directly at OPMDRetention@conus.army.mil or visit the HRC Web site, https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/opfamdd/LDD_Home.htm.

Ceremony

From page front

Family members who have made the ultimate sacrifice," Bennett said.

Randy Conlon, a previous post commander of the American Legion Post 128, served as master of ceremonies.

"We will gather here each Memorial Day to ensure the memory of their sacrifice and service does not fade from the collective memory of this community, our state and our nation," Conlon said.

Robert Hanson of Post 128 served as Officer of the Day and escort during the laying of wreaths in front of the War Memorial. Each of the veterans' service organizations laid a wreath to commemorate the servicemen and women who have fallen. This was followed by a moment of silent prayer, a memorial salute fired by the Post 128 Honor Guard and the playing of Taps.

Guest speaker 1st. Sgt. Felix W. Alvarez from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Marine Corps Detachment, provided the key-



Shannon Conlon, 10, left, Church Creek Elementary School, and Rachel Acord, 12, Northeast Elementary School, sing the national anthem at the American Legion Post 128 Memorial Day ceremony held at the Aberdeen War Memorial May 26.

note address. Alvarez arrived at APG to be the detachment's first sergeant one month prior to the deployment of his former unit to Iraq.

Alvarez said that during that deployment his vehicle driver and two machine gunners made the ultimate sacrifice.

"Memorial Day has a special meaning for me as I feel the loss of former comrades," Alvarez said.

His heartfelt remarks were well received.

"He brought tears to my eyes," said Betty Bain, an Auxiliary 128 member.

Harford County Councilman Richard Slutzky provided closing remarks. Bringing greetings from the council, Slutzky emphasized Memorial Day as a time to "honor everyone who served in the military." He acknowledged his gratitude "to all men and women who have served and continue to serve."

Immediately after the ceremony, the crowd assembled for a luncheon at the Bernard L. Tobin American Legion Post 128. Luncheon guest speaker Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Spohn of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, and the APG 2008 Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, expressed his pride in service and his admiration for the men and women of all services.

"There are four occupations that change lives: inventor, scientist, politician and [serving in the] armed forces," Spohn said. "Only one is expected to give their own life."

"I am honored to pay tribute to our true American idols. All I ask of you is to remember the Soldiers and veterans not only Memorial Day, but everyday. We must never forget the sacrifices they made," Spohn said.

Aberdeen's War Memorial was erected in 1975 with the assistance of the City of Aberdeen and the local military fraternal organizations and has served as the backdrop of the annual observance of Memorial Day and Veterans' Day since that time.



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



TRICARE anti-tobacco campaign Web site takes the gold

DoD Military Health System

The www.ucanquit2.org Web site for the "Quit Tobacco—Make Everyone Proud" educational campaign is now a 2008 Gold Screen Award winner.

The campaign is sponsored by TRICARE Management Activity, part of the Military Health System.

The Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards competition is sponsored by the National Association of Government Communicators.

First place, second place, and awards of excellence were announced at the Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards reception

QUIT TOBACCO.

make everyone proud.

www.ucanquit2.org

and banquet April 29, in Albuquerque, N.M., in conjunction with the 2008 NAGC Communications School.

The Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards are the most recognized awards competition for government communicators.

Blue Pencil awards honor producers of publications, media relations, photography, visual communications and special communications. Gold Screen awards recognize entries for video and multimedia and the Internet. Open to all levels of

government and the military, the competition has more than 50 categories and attracts hundreds of entries each year.

The Quit Tobacco—Make Everyone Proud Web site's mission is to help 18 to 24-year-old active duty military personnel quit tobacco—for themselves and for the people they love. The Web-based cessation information and support tools on the site provide help to those wanting to quit tobacco and those helping others to quit.

On the site, users can develop a personalized plan for quitting; get information; play games; listen to podcasts; connect to federal, military, state, local and online

cessation programs and communicate privately with a trained cessation coach 7 days a week, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST.

Growth in visitors and visits per month has been steady since the Web site was launched in early 2007 and now amounts to more than 12,000 unique visitors per month.

The Web site targets both smokers and smokeless tobacco users who are active duty military personnel, aged 18 to 24 years, in pay grades E1 through E4. Tobacco use is higher among this group than among older either military, or similar aged civilians.

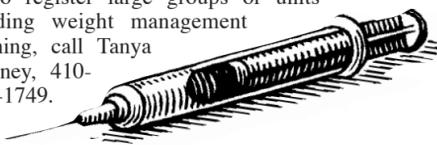
KUSAHC SHOTS

KUSAHC CONDUCTS WEIGHT MANAGEMENT CLASSES

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will conduct a weight management class, 9 a.m., June 12, in the RTC room (B-6, second hallway to the right, first floor).

Heart health will be discussed, which deals with high cholesterol and other factors, diabetic nutrition and weight management high cholesterol.

To register large groups or units needing weight management training, call Tanya Kenney, 410-278-1749.



LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Donald Adamson	Joyce Clark	William Horn	ing for mother)	Donna Sexton
Neoma Amberman	George Colletta	Sinclair Joe	Marie D. Nowak	Algie Shaw
Karen Blades	Barbara Crossley	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Dorothy Nowak	Mark Shipman
William Bond	John Daigle	Paul Kuwik	Cindy Orwig	Willie Stevenson
Debra Bonsall	Deborah DeFrank	Glenn Kresge	Adrienne Pearson	Angela A. Taylor
(daughter has brain tumor)	Wayne Doyle	Coby Lantry	Michael Querns	Carrie Theiss
Jeanie Bowman	Betty Genuardi	Joyce Mauldin	Gloria Scott	Charles Young
Jane Calahan	Hester Hayes	Frantz Midy	Joyce Scott	Barbara Zenker
Donna Cianelli	Jerome Hesch	Karen Milton (caring for mother)	Barbara Seker	

Volunteers

From front page

Development and Engineering Command, presented certificates and plaques to nominees and winners.

"What a great event, to recognize individuals that give of themselves to help other people. This is an amazing group of people," Robinson said.

Robinson added that the nominees and winners did not volunteer for the recognition but to help someone other than themselves.

The event concluded with the five first place volunteers signing the Army Family Covenant.

"To me the proclamation would not be complete without recognizing the work of the volunteers," Robinson said. "They volunteer not because of money, but because it is the right thing to do."

Military winners

"I just want to go where help is needed," said Sgt. 1st Class Celeste Hedrington, Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, who won first place in the Military category. "When I am asked to volunteer, I always want to help. I feel that I have something to offer from the heart, to anybody that is in need."

Hedrington volunteered more than 150 hours last summer planning and driving Soldiers and Families to and from FMWR events. Her dedication to Soldier morale has kept the Soldiers engaged in influential extra curricular activities that are outside the realm of the initial entry training environment, and helped to keep the Company B Uniform of Military Justice rate the lowest in the battalion.

She said that the Soldiers come to her to talk if they are having personal problems.

"I am a single mother of two boys," Hedrington said. "I think that being a mother has helped me become more understanding."

Also active in the community, she volunteered more than 30 hours at schools; more than 50 hours helping coordinate Relay for Life events helping to raise more than \$78,000 toward cancer research and heightening cancer awareness in and around the community and more than 45 hours as

a coordinator for religious youth retreats within her local house of worship.

Lt. Col. Karen Jordan, 16th Ordnance Battalion, received second place for her support and assistance to 25 Officer Basic Course classes that have performed community service projects.

She also volunteers outside of APG. She tutors and reads to Royce Williams Elementary School students among her many other volunteer initiatives.

"It was an honor just to be nominated, I was not seeking recognition," Jordan said. "I encourage others to volunteer."

Retiree winners

David Foster, a retired Edgewood Chemical Biological Center program manager, received first place in the Retiree category. He has been a member of the U.S. Army Gunpowder Neck Boating Activity #22, located on Lauderick Creek in the Edgewood Area, for 27 years and served five years as fleet captain.

As fleet captain, Foster is responsible for all vessel launches in the spring and haulouts in the fall, as well as all slip assignments and general vessel operations within the marina area. GNBA is home to 150 vessels. Foster routinely operated or coordinated all heavy equipment used to move these vessels, collectively valued at several million dollars, without mishap or injury. He is recognized for his management and coordination skills which minimized vessel owner complaints during this period.

"Working with boats is something I enjoy doing; it is my hobby as well as my pastime," Foster said.

Retired 1st Sgt. Jeffrey Averett Sr., who received second place in the Retiree category, was nominated based upon his length of service, variety of programs supported, and service as the APG Gospel Service choir director, parish council, men's fellowship leader, and coach for youth sports, for flag football and basketball. He has been an active volunteer for the APG Gospel Service for eight years. Under his leadership, the APG Gospel choir has participated in community outreach events and the APG choir provides music for the Perry Point VA chapel

service regularly.

"I enjoy volunteering. I do it for fun, and to help other people," Averett said. "I am thankful to be recognized."

Family member winners

Kathryn Grabia, a special education teacher and wife of Capt. Jacob Grabia, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, received first place in the Family category.

She has been an active volunteer for the HHC 61st Ordnance Brigade Family Readiness Group, concentrating her energies to provide dedicated and essential services to the Soldiers and Families within this organization.

Grabia ensures that the FRGs' new Family members are welcomed, sponsored, informed and befriended.

She has also planned, coordinated and executed numerous events and Family activities including: HHC Easter events, Christmas events, children's toy drives and more. She has also coordinated key speakers to come and discuss important matters with the company and Families such as TRICARE representatives, in order to better understand health benefits and customer care resolution procedures. Twice a week she meets with the leadership within HHC to ensure activities are planned and executed properly, making information dissemination a high priority.

Grabia has also recruited new volunteers and has trained various volunteer positions.

"I am honored to serve with Soldiers," Grabia said. "I know how hard it is to be a military Family member. I know how important a support network is, and I feel that being supported and having your needs met can make all the difference when your spouse is a Soldier."

"I don't think APG would be able to operate without volunteers," Grabia added. "I think that volunteers are the backbone of the community because there are so many diverse organizations here on post. When people think about volunteering, I recommend that they find their passion, whatever makes them happy is what they should do."

Dawn Kilmon, wife of Lt. Col. Louis S. Kilmon of the Joint Personal Effects Detachment, received second place in the Family member category. Last year she volunteered for the Military & Civilian Spouses' Club, JPED, School liaison program and the Thrift Shop.

"I am happy to be recognized for my volunteer efforts. There are so many volunteers on APG and so many deserving people," Kilmon said.

Civilian winners

Deneen Henson, a youth ministries leader for APG's Gospel Service, won first place in the Civilian category. She has been an active volunteer for the APG community for five years, contributing her time and energy to the APG Main Post Chapel through the youth ministry, choir, telephone ministry, parish council, Soldier and outreach programs, chapel dinners, chapel clean-up, youth ministry fundraising events and serving as the youth choir director.

For five years she has attended regular weekly choir practice and sang with the choir during the Sunday Morning Gospel Service. In addition, for the last year and a half, Henson has been serving as director for the youth choir. She is also involved in other chapel programs, like the Hallelujah Harvest, nursing home visits and the youth movie and game night.

"I am shocked to receive this award because there are so many people at APG that give so much," Henson said. "I like working with the youth, making sure they are doing what they are supposed to do. I want to do projects that serve the Lord."

Barbara Knapp, who works at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, won second place. Knapp volunteered by taking the responsibility of being the chairwoman of RDECOM's Holiday Food and Toy Drive, which provided holiday gifts and food to more than 125 Families.

She also volunteers at the Sexual Abuse Resource Center, and Harford County's Annual Winter Coat Drive and the March of Dimes and the Breast Cancer research program through sponsored walk-a-thons.

Her volunteer efforts

resulted in increased growth in donations and awareness to support those in need.

She is a RDECOM coordinator for the annual Bring Your Child to Work Day, a nationwide program designed to educate and involve children in their parent's careers. The annual event invites children of RDECOM employees to spend a day at work with their parents. Knapp organized activities and tours specifically designed to teach them more about what their parents do and where they work.

"There is a need for me to help others that have less than I do," Knapp said about her volunteer work. "It is the right thing to do."

Youth winners

Kelly Colopietro, the first place winner in the Youth category, is a high school senior at Aberdeen High School's Science and Math Academy. She has volunteered throughout her high school career at APG's Main Post Chapel, for the Catholic Service. Colopietro has served as a religion teacher's aide for three years and a religious education teacher for preschool and kindergarten students.

She also serves as an altar server, sings in the choir and is a lector/reader for the Catholic Mass.

"My mom has volunteered her time teaching Sunday school classes so I wanted to help out as well," Colopietro said. "I find it enjoyable. I want to be a pediatrician, so it is good experience working with kids," she said.

Rebecca Sandlain, who received second place in the Youth category, is a sophomore at Harford Technical High School who volunteers her time by being a Children's Church teacher at APG's Main Post Chapel.

"Rebecca's service during Children's Church is extremely valuable, important and needed," said Gerri Merkel, director of Religious Education who nominated Sandlain. "During Children's Church, Rebecca helps to supervise the children, assists with craft projects, sets and cleans up for each session and takes care of a special needs child so the teacher can focus on the lesson with the rest of the children."

"She also volunteers off post for the Girls Scout troop in her community," Merkel added. "Her volunteer service and spirit of giving is indeed appreciated."

"I am surprised and I am happy that Kelly and I were both recognized because we are friends," Sandlain said.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Howard, ACS Army volunteer coordinator, 410-278-9669.

APG Volunteer of the Year nominees Military

Spc. Christian Chavez
Staff Sgt. Demond Lyles
Spc. William Doucette
Staff Sgt. Joel Wheaton
Sgt. 1st Class Celeste Hedrington

Lt. Col. Karen Z. Jordan

Retirees

Jeffery Ignatius Averett, Sr.

James Branner
Lee Alvin Thompson
Walter Davies
David G. Foster
Bernadette Kovalsick

Civilian

Deneen Henson
Peggy Trimboli
Caron Jackson
Barbara Knapp
Karen Goodpasture
Larry Alejo
Richard McClain
Richard Carey
Catherine Day

Family Member

Angela Melissa Diamond
Shawna Floyd
Kathryn Grabia
Dawn Kilmon
Mary Manglapus
LeAnn Schueneman
Ann Porter
Susie Kim
Elise Baca
Odellia Stanely
Kim Tuttle
Myong Parker

Youth

Kayla C. Watson
Rebecca Sandlain
Kelly Colopietro
Emmanuel Kim

Organizations

Gunpowder Neck Boating Activity #22
Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers
Directorate of Health Promotion and Wellness
Military and Civilian Spouse's Club
U.S. Marine Corps Detachment
APG Thrift Shop
Audie Murphy Club
61st Ordnance Brigade
FreeState Challenge
1st Area Medical Laboratory

Being prepared for hurricane season

Story by
MARGUERITE TOWSON
APG News

June 1 is the official start of hurricane season. While Maryland hasn't faced the hardest devastation like so many southern and coastal states (Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana or Texas), Maryland has had its fair share of damage from Hurricanes Agnes, Floyd and Isabel. Hurricane Isabel delivered the most damage not from wind, but from storm surge, which flooded areas along the coast and resulted in severe beach erosion and power outage for thousands.

When a hurricane approaches and landfall is imminent, there are many precautions and protective actions homeowners should take, especially if they live near a flood plain or coastal area.

Before a hurricane

Take the following measures to prepare for a hurricane:

- Make plans to secure property. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8-inch plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.
- Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten the roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- Be sure trees and shrubs around them are well trimmed.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Homeowners with boats should determine how and where to secure their boat.
- Consider building a safe room.

Utility shut-off and safety

In the event of a disaster, homeowners may be instructed to shut off utility service in the home.

Because there are different gas shut-off procedures for different gas meter configurations, it is important to contact the local gas company for guidance on preparation and response regarding gas appliances and gas service to the home. Share this information with everyone in the household. Be sure not to actually turn off the gas when practicing the proper gas shut-off procedure.

If anyone smells gas or hears a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and get everyone out quickly. Turn off the gas, using the outside main valve if possible, and call the gas company from a neighbor's phone.

Water

Water quickly becomes a precious resource following many disasters. It is vital that all household members learn how to shut off the water at the main house valve.

Cracked lines may pollute the water supply to the house. It is wise to shut off the water until hearing from authorities that it is safe for drinking.

The effects of gravity may drain the water in the hot water heater and toilet tanks unless the water is trapped in the house by shutting off the main house valve (not the street valve in the cement box at the curb—this valve is extremely difficult to turn and requires a special tool).

Pets and livestock

Hurricane Katrina showed the public just how many people were unwilling to leave their pets behind. If pet owners couldn't take their pets with them, they wouldn't leave at all.

In 2006, President George W. Bush signed the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act to help ensure that America's pets and service animals aren't left behind in the next disaster.

Pet owners need to make special arrangements to care for their pets in times of disaster. Red Cross shelters do not accept pets, so owners need to prepare in advance to find pet-friendly shelters or motels, or Family members or kennels that can take care of animals in case of a disaster or evacuation. Farm owners also need to take special precautions for their livestock (including horses and other pleasure animals) and fowl.

Assemble a portable pet disaster supplies kit

Pet medications and medical records stored in a waterproof container and a first aid kit.

Sturdy leashes, harnesses and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that animals can't escape.

- Current photos of pets in case they get lost.
- Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter and pan and can opener.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and the name and number of veterinarians in case evacuees have to foster or board their pets.
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

Assemble a disaster supplies kit

Hurricane victims may need to survive on their own after a disaster. This means having food, water, batteries and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days.

Keep a sufficient stock of prescription medication on hand.

Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. Victims could get help in hours, or it might take days.

Basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, or even a week or longer. Or, residents may have to evacuate at a moment's notice and take essentials with them. Residents probably will not have the opportunity to shop or search for the supplies they need.

A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items that members of a household may need in the event of a disaster.

Basic disaster supplies

- Water
- Food (ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables, canned juices, milk, soup (if powdered, store extra water). Staples - sugar, salt, pepper, high energy foods - peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars and trail mix
- Be sure to include a manual can opener.
- Vitamins
- Foods for infants, elderly persons or persons with special dietary needs
- Comfort/stress foods - cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals, lollipops, instant coffee, tea bags
- First aid supplies
- Clothing, bedding and sanitation supplies
- Tools

Preparing to evacuate

Expect the need to evacuate and prepare for it. The National Weather Service will issue a hurricane watch when there is a threat to coastal areas of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

When a hurricane watch is issued, homeowner should:

- Fill the automobile's gas tank.
- If no vehicle is available, make arrangements with friends or Family for transportation.
- Fill clean water containers.
- Review emergency plans and supplies, checking to see if

any items are missing.

- Tune in the radio or television for weather updates.
- Listen for disaster sirens and warning signals.
- Prepare an emergency kit for the car with food, flares, booster cables, maps, tools, a first aid kit, fire extinguisher, sleeping bags and more.
- Secure any items outside which may damage property in a storm, such as bicycles, grills, propane tanks, etc.
- Cover windows and doors with plywood or boards or place large strips of masking tape or adhesive tape on the windows to reduce the risk of breakage and flying glass.
- Place vehicles under cover, if at all possible.
- Fill sinks and bathtubs with water as an extra supply for washing.
- Adjust the thermostat on refrigerators and freezers to the coolest possible temperature.

If ordered to evacuate

Never ignore an evacuation order. Authorities will be most likely to direct residents to leave if they are in a low-lying area, or within the greatest potential path of the storm. Be aware that most shelters and some hotels do not accept pets. If a hurricane warning is issued for residential areas or residents are directed by authorities to evacuate the area:

- Take only essential items.
- If there is time, turn off the gas, electricity and water.
- Disconnect appliances to reduce the likelihood of electrical shock when power is restored.
- Make sure the automobile's emergency kit is ready.
- Follow the designated evacuation routes—others may be blocked—and expect heavy traffic.

Portable electric generators and gas/charcoal grills - use and safety

During Hurricane Isabel (and previous storm power outages), Maryland residents turned to generators, fireplaces and gas and charcoal grills. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency urges the proper use of these power and fuel options to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas that can cause illness or death. It is produced by the incomplete burning of solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels. Appliances

fueled with natural gas, liquified petroleum (LP gas), oil, kerosene, coal, or wood may produce CO. Burning charcoal produces CO. Idling cars produce CO.

Tips to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning

- Never burn charcoal inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent.
- Never use a portable electric generator indoors or in an attached garage.
- Never use portable fuel-burning camping equipment inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent
- Never leave a car running in an attached garage, even with the garage door open.
- Never use gas appliances such as ranges, ovens, or clothes dryers for heating homes.
- Never operate unvented fuel-burning appliances in any room with closed doors or windows or in any room where people are sleeping.
- Make sure appliances are installed and used according to manufacturer's instructions and local building codes. Most appliances should be installed by professionals.
- Never service fuel-burning appliances without proper knowledge, skills and tools. Always refer to the owner's manual when performing minor adjustments or servicing fuel-burning appliances.
- Install a CO detector/alarm that meets the requirements of the current UL standard 2034 or the requirements of the IAS 6-96 standard. A carbon monoxide detector/alarm can provide added protection, but is no substitute for proper use and upkeep of appliances that can produce CO.

Review homeowners insurance policy

Homeowners should talk with their insurance agent about flood insurance options. Homeowners who live in a high-risk area and carry a mortgage from a federally regulated lender, are required to purchase a flood insurance policy. If the homeowner's property is located in a low- to moderate-risk flood zone, they may be eligible for a low-cost Preferred Risk Policy, which can start as low as \$112 a year.

Visit FloodSmart.gov or call 1-800-427-2419 to learn how to prepare for floods, how to purchase a flood insurance policy and what the benefits are of protecting property against flooding.

MDARNG Soldiers train with Baltimore County firefighters to prepare for hurricane, flood season

MOA formalizes agreement for providing assistance in water emergencies

Story and photo by
CAPT RICK BREITENFELDT
Maryland National Guard

Hurricane season officially started June 1, but the Maryland National Guard and the Baltimore County Fire Department didn't wait until then to get acquainted.

On May 17, a small detachment of Maryland Guard Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment (Security & Support) from the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, with two, high clearance five-ton trucks and a high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle traveled to Baltimore County Fire Department's station #17 to rehearse and train with the counties swift water and flood rescue teams.

The fire department and the Maryland Guard recently recommitted to working together and formalized their relationship with a memorandum of agreement, which lays out the guidelines, terms and conditions for providing assistance during inland water, open water and swift water flood emergencies in Baltimore County.

"This is a pioneer thing that is going on," said Fire Captain Robert D. Murray of Station #17. "This has never happened in Baltimore county or the state of Maryland."

Murray, who welcomed the Guard to his station, said he was excited about the memorandum.

"I want to make sure that you understand that we really want to make this thing work," he said. "This is not just a flash in the pan. If we have to go hot, you're coming - and it's going to happen."

In recent years, hurricanes, tropical storms and heavy rains have inundated Maryland residents with extensive flooding. The 2003 Atlantic hurricane season was one of the most destructive in the state's history as rainfall peaked at seven inches when Hurricane Isabel hit almost



Spec. Bob Walker, left, and Sgt. George C. Payer from the Maryland Guard's 1st Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment (Security & Support) from the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, lift a Baltimore County rescue boat into the back of a Maryland Guard high clearance five-ton truck during a May 17 training exercise. Soldiers from the Maryland Guard and Baltimore County Fire Department spent the day training and getting familiar with each other's equipment to prepare for a hurricane or major flood in the state.

every county in Maryland.

In the days leading up to and following the hurricane, more than 600 Maryland Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen answered the state's call by providing security, doing house-to-house inspections and establishing check points.

Murray said he remembers Isabel well and made a pledge to the Soldiers and firefighters attending the training to learn from that experience.

[The BCFD] struggled during Isabel, according to Murray, as his firefighters worked 24-hour operations and quickly

ran out of food and fresh water because everything was contaminated.

"I swear to God I will never let that happen again," Murray said. "We need the Guard and this is a joint effort."

Firefighter Mike J. Berna, who coordinates swift water and flood rescue operations for Baltimore County, said training together with the Maryland Guard before an actual flood emergency is critical.

"When the two resources don't work well together, things go south real quick," Berna said. "The rub and the problems

come when other resources show up to meet our resources and nobody knows what to expect or what to do."

Berna said the BCFD will rely heavily on the Guard's high clearance vehicles, but they must be specifically assigned to a detailed mission.

"What we want to avoid is having National Guard high clearance vehicles deployed to flood disasters with little to no training and unclear mission orders," Berna said. "We can't afford to have failed rescue attempts, or these vehicles being stranded in the flood zone themselves and in need of rescue."

If a major flood or hurricane occurred today, Berna said, the Guard's equipment would be critical to saving lives.

"We are now going to be able to get around to parts of our flooded county better because you have high clearance vehicles and we don't," Berna said.

He said his teams could have used more National Guard support and high clearance vehicles during Isabel.

"When we got into the flood zone like we experienced in Isabel, the flood was two miles away," Berna said. "We had to drag our boats half way because the water wasn't deep enough and we couldn't engage the motor. We were really burning up a lot of valuable time."

Sgt. George C. Payer, a Maryland Guardsman, who participated in the day-long training event, said he was glad to get the opportunity to train with the BCFD.

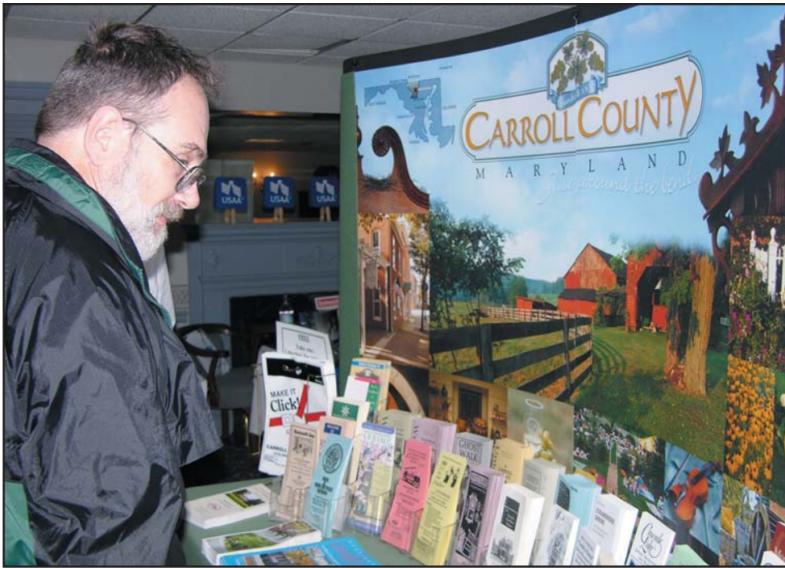
"You need to do these things," said Payer, adding that even the basic stuff like loading boats from a trailer to a truck and taking them back off is important.

"We're all in this together because we are all performing some kind of community service and we will have to work together," said Payer. "This is what being in the Guard is all about."



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Getaway options abound at FMWR Travel Expo



Jeffrey E. Dykeman, APG Garrison, checks out the Carroll County display during the Family and Morale, Welfare and Entertainment Travel Expo at Top of the Bay May 8.

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

Hundreds of Aberdeen Proving Ground employees and service members discovered local travel and leisure options during the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Travel Expo held at Top of the Bay May 8.

Vendors from around the region presented an assortment of entertainment and vacation choices from day trips to weekend getaways to Family vacations.

Shayna Buchanelli and Jennifer Testerman, FMWR recreation assistants, said

that attendance was high and visitors were taking advantage of the door prize offers that included free nights at the attending hotel/cottage resorts, a giant Mickey Mouse doll; tickets to Orioles' games, the National Aquarium, Kennedy Space Center, the U.S. Army Concert Tour featuring ZZ Top at APG on June 22, Toby's Dinner Theater, and the Ski Round top/Liberty/White Tail resorts.

"Everything's going pretty well," Testerman said. "People are having lunch then stopping in to chat with vendors."

Buchanelli said that early feedback indicated satisfaction by all participants.

"Customers are learning about travel opportunities and the vendors are happy to meet our customers," she said. "This is our first year running this event," she added. "We did the best we could this year, and we hope to make it bigger and better next year."

The National Aquarium of Baltimore display provided information about its Australia exhibit and its new 4-D theater. Jill Lejean, sales manager, said that discount tickets are available through APG's

Leisure Travel office.

"We always come to the APG [Travel Expo]," Lejean said. "Folks always show a lot of interest, and we like to touch base with our clients here."

Stephanie Rebant, Dee Slough and Andria Slough invited guests to come enjoy nature at their Berkeley Springs Cottage Rentals, nestled in the Shenandoah Valley in West Virginia. With 90 individually owned cottages, couples, Families or groups can enjoy everything nature has to offer, Rebant said.

"We started with one cottage and we've been in business about six years," she said, adding that they can accommodate groups of up to 50 people.

For more information, visit www.berkeleyspring-scottagerentals.com.

Representatives of the Harford County Rideshare Program also were on hand with information about carpooling advantages for government employees who can get paid to carpool, according to Ricardo Fleshman, VPSI Inc. project manager.

"We're trying to promote van pooling on APG," Fleshman said. "We provide information for all public transportation options, including MTA and MARC. Visit our Web site [www.harfordcountymd.gov/com-muter/vanpool.html] for

commuting options."

At the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra display, visitors learned about its Summer Nights 2008 and Holiday Spectacular concert series – for which FMWR is planning a bus trip. Group sales manager Kristen Pohl said it was the venue's second appearance at the Travel Expo.

"People are really interested in our Oregon Ridge concerts," she said. "It [Oregon Ridge] offers classical music along with other fun things to do."

Nearby daytrip options highlighted the Ellicott City display, which promoted its historic Roundhouse Museum and Ocean City special events that included the first-ever Ocean City Air Show that includes three overnight specials through the Boardwalk Hotel Group, June 10 to 11. In addition, through June 18, the city will be sponsoring a Salute to the Services celebration that includes special events honoring military, police, fire and medical emergency personnel.

"We love visiting APG to face-to-face with the people who serve our country," said Helen Arthur, promotions manager. For more information, visit www.boardwalkhotels.com.

"We're here every year and we always draw a lot of interest," added Ellicott City's Dana Kim, promo-

tions representative.

APG fans of the Baltimore Orioles are invited to attend Military Appreciation Night at Oriole Park Aug. 24, according to promotions representative Jackie Olup.

"We're restructuring this year with new grounds, new players and a new coach," Olup said. "There are lots of promotions including our all-you-can-eat section, kids running the bases events and other fun promotions. It's going to be a very exciting year for the Orioles. See you at the yard."

Jeffrey Dykeman, APG Garrison, said he came back to the expo after attending his first one last year.

"My wife has been wanting to attend the BSO concerts," he said. "This will be the summer we finally get there."

Other vendors included Hershey Park, Toby's Dinner Theater, Medieval Times, Carroll County tourism, Dutch Wonderland, Virginia Tourism, the Maryland Zoo, Choice Hotel Groups, USAA Insurance, Hyatt Hotels, BWI Sheraton, Westin Hotels and Best Western Hotel groups.

For information about r leisure travel, vacation or entertainment options, contact FMWR Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Aberdeen & Edgewood Area swimming pools

Aberdeen Area

Olympic Swimming Pool, building 3325

Open weekends only thru June 8
• Daily operation: June 13 thru Aug. 22
• Labor Day weekend: Aug. 30 thru Sept. 1

• Closes Monday, Sept. 1
• Daily operation schedule
• Child & Youth Service Day Camp: 9 to 11 a.m., June 16 thru Aug. 21
• Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Lap swim lane available during standard hours.

Weekend operation schedule:

Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
NOTE: Due to concert preparation, this pool will be closed June 18 thru 23 inclusive. Pool will resume normal operations on June 24.

Shore Swimming Pool, building 2031

Swimming lessons: July 7 thru Aug. 8. Levels 1-6, adult, parent/toddler; Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (To be determined by customer demand)
• Daily operation schedule: June 28 thru Aug. 17
• Open swim: noon to 5 p.m.

Weekend operation schedule:

June 28 thru Aug. 17, Saturday

and Sunday

Open swim: 12 to 5 p.m.
NOTE: Due to concert preparation, this pool will be closed June 18 thru 23 inclusive. Pool will resume normal operations on June 24.

Edgewood Area

Bayside Swimming Pool, building E-4655

Open weekends only: thru June 8
• Daily operation: June 13 thru Aug. 22
• Labor Day Weekend: Aug. 30 thru Sept. 1

• Closes Monday, Sept. 1
• Daily operation schedule
• CYS Day Camp: 9 to 11 a.m. (June 16 thru Aug. 21)
• Open Swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Lap swim lane available during standard hours.

Weekend operation schedule

Open swim: 11:30 a.m. thru 7 p.m.

Pool pass fees - FY '08

Daily passes
Daily \$5
Under 5 Free
Guest of eligible patron \$9
5 and under (guest) \$2
Active duty E1 - E4 \$2
Lap swim \$2

30-day pass

Individual:

E1 - E4 \$15
All others \$35

Family:

E1 - E4 \$35
All others \$70

Season passes

Individual:

E1 - E4 \$40
All others \$85

Family:

E1 - E4 \$80
All Others \$175

Swimming lesson fees

\$50 first Family member
\$45 each additional member
*10% discount for each additional child in a session.
*10% discount for each additional session.

Swimming lesson schedule

Shore Pool (building 2031) and Bayside Pool (building E-4655).

Session 1

June 23 to July 9 at Bayside Pool
Levels 4, 5, 6: 9 to 10 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
Levels 1, 2, 3: 10 to 11 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

Session 2

July 7 to 18 at Shore Pool

Level 1: 4 to 5 p.m., Monday thru Thursday
Levels 2, 3: 5 to 6 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Levels 4, 5, 6: 6 to 7 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Session 2

July 7 to 11 at Shore Pool
Adult: 7 to 7:30 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Session 3

July 21 to 25 at Shore Pool
Parent/toddler: 7 to 7:30 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Session 3

Aug. 21 July to 8 at Bayside Pool
Levels 4, 5, 6: 9 to 10 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

Levels 1, 2, 3: 10 to 11 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

Levels 1 - 6: ages 3 thru 15
Parent/toddler: up to 3 years old

Adult: 16 & older
Session 4: July 28 to Aug. 8 at Shore Pool

Level 1: 4 to 5 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Levels 2, 3: 5 to 6 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Levels 4 to 6: 6 to 7 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

To register for swimming lessons, call Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124.

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.

Free babysitting class

Become a Red Cross Certified babysitter after taking the free 4-H/Army Child and Youth Services babysitting class for ages 13 and older. The class will be held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 17 and 18,

at Child and Youth Services, building 2752. The objectives are to familiarize participants with the responsibilities of babysitting. This class is open to all DoD ID card holders.

Drivers Ed

Drivers Education

classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Monday thru Thursday, 6 to 9:15 p.m. (Classes are also available 2:30 to 5:45 p.m.) During the summer schedule, which begins June 23, classes will only be offered 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. There are no classes on federal holidays.

Classes are held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304, June 23 thru July 8; July 14 thru 29 and Aug. 4 thru 19. For more

information about the Edgewood Area class, call 410-278-7571.

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. Kids in the Kitchen.

Children ages 8 to 14

can join Chef Paul for Kids in the Kitchen at Super Suppers, located on Route 40, Havre de Grace, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., June 6. Cost is \$20 per student. A maximum of 8 students will be allowed. Get in on the fun by making great kid-friendly entrees for the Family. Children will make friends and food with others their own age while learning the importance of clean food preparation and nutrition. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Tickets: \$25 In Advance
\$30 Day of Show
www.apgmwr.com

Presented by:
US Army Entertainment G
Aberdeen Proving Ground Family and MWR

ARMY CONCERT TOUR
ticketmaster www.ticketmaster.com

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Sunday, June 22
Aberdeen Proving Ground

With Blind Melon
and Special Guest
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APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of June 2

Special #1: Chicken filet club sandwich on hamburger bun with cheese and bacon, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, French fries, cookie and soda for \$6.95.
Special #2: Purchase one meal with soda for full price, get second meal 40 percent off. Second meal must be of equal or lesser value.

Week of June 9

Special #1: Bacon, lettuce and tomato sub, French fries, cookie and soda for \$5.95.
Special #2: Nine wing dings or wing zings (no mixing), cookie and soda for \$5.95.

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



Soldiers of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's 16th Ordnance Battalion move out smartly on Raritan Avenue joining the Armed Forces Day 10K Run May 17.

Clear skies dominate APG Armed Forces Day activities



After cutting the Armed Forces Day cake, APG Garrison commander Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, right, shares a toy tank with, from front, Autumn Testerman, 6, Makaila Farley, 8, and Michael Farley, 7.

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

After three days of rain, the skies cleared just in time for the Aberdeen Proving Ground community to celebrate Armed Forces Day with a 10K Run and Fun Fest May 17.

This was the second consecutive year since the 9-11 terrorist attacks that the run was held on the installation.

Overall, more than 1,300 runners participated, including the Soldiers, Marines and Airmen of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

Charm City Run of Bel Air, Battelle, SAIC, Jones Junction and the Army Substance Abuse Program sponsored the event, providing T-shirts for all runners as well as water, fruit and other refreshments after the run. In addition, the Cera Sport Company distributed hundreds of bottles of its signature sports beverage, and youths from Boy Scout Troop 62, Chewsville, Md. in Washington County, distributed water, bananas, health bars, chips, pretzels and other snacks and refreshments to weary runners.

The top overall runner was Michael Feinberg, a test engineer with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center with a time of 37 minutes, 31 seconds; in second place was J.D. Eskelson of Elkton at 38 minutes, 41 seconds, and third was Jack Guilfoyle of Baltimore at 39 minutes, 4 seconds.

The runners said they enjoyed themselves.

Eskelson is the husband of Capt. Robin Eskelson, Joint Personal Effects Depot, who recently

deployed to Iraq. "She ran last year but she deployed to Iraq last week so this one was for her and my dad who passed away in April," Eskelson said.

He added that he appreciated the route which changed from last year's.

"I liked this course better," he said.

Irether Gaines, a Garrison chaplain assistant agreed.

"The run was great and the route was smooth, Gaines said. "I think they need to do another one in the fall. It really boosts morale."

Meaghan Taylor, a civilian from Anne Arundel County, ran with her husband, Patrick Taylor, despite being six months pregnant, and finishing with a time of 55 minutes, 38 seconds. She received a coin from Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez.

"It was a beautiful day for a run and we were thrilled to run with the Soldiers," she said.

The first service members in were the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment's Herman Baker, who finished fifth and DeCorey Holden, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion, in sixth place overall.

Charm City Run's Kelly Dees thanked the sponsors for their support.

"We couldn't do this without them," she said. "The run went well and the weather cooperated. It couldn't have worked out better."

Army 10-miler

APG Soldiers interested in participating in the Army 10-Miler still can qualify 6 p.m., June 11 at Hoyle Gym. For more information, call Ralph Cuomo, intramural sports director, 410-278-3868 or e-mail ralph.cuomo@us.army.mil



Sparky waves to fans from inside an APG fire engine after cutting his 25th anniversary cake.

Fun Fest

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, handed out the 10K awards in front of Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park during opening ceremonies for the Fun Fest.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band's 'Raw Materiel' pop band entertained the audience before the full band played the national anthem to begin the festivities.

"Today we celebrate Armed Forces Day with a spring festival," Weissman said, adding that, "when we salute our armed forces we also salute their Families, spouses, children and parents."

He encouraged all to remember those serving and those who have served as they celebrate the day.

"There's something for everybody here today," he said. "This is a time for fellowship and reflection. God bless America, God bless our armed forces and God bless each and every one of you."

Festivities really did include something for everyone. Throughout the day, children played in the bounce house, climbed the rock wall, took a pony ride or played inside the Chesapeake Challenge Park. Displays included military equipment from the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion and the Ordnance Museum; a helicopter from the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; fire fighting equipment from the Fire and Emergency Services Division; and campers, grills, tents and other

rental equipment from Outdoor Recreation, as well as new car displays from Jones Junction.

Information booths were provided by Army Community Service; the Army Substance Abuse Program; Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security; Child Youth Services; Family Child

Care; and U.S. Military Health Plan.

Entertainment included Extreme Family Entertainment's balloon man and face painters; a karate demonstration by the Ron Stallings karate class; cheerleading dances by the CYS Cheerleaders; performances by FMWR Talent Search winners Sam Razo and Ashley Jackson; a magic show by

Bernardo Rodriguez and music by RELEASE, a local band specializing in pop music.

Special guests included Dora the Explorer and McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog. The day's highlight was a birthday party for Sparky the Fire Dog, who celebrated his 25th birthday and a cake cutting of the Armed Forces Day cake by Weissman.



From left, Freestate ChalleNGE cadets Edward Dashiell, 19, Giovanni Warren, 18, and Steven Turner, 17, check out the inside of a Russian Armored Personnel Carrier provided by the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion.



Child Youth Services cheerleaders get the crowd fired up at the start of the Armed Forces Day Fun Fest May 17.



Marlyn Ganbrill of Extreme Family Entertainment, left, adds a pink flower to the face of Arlasia Jones, 5, at the face painting booth.



Staff Sgt. Melinda Rodriguez, a volunteer at the Army Substance Abuse Program display, left, explains the importance of keeping medicines resembling candy away from children to, from left, Pvs. Noel Sandoval and Algenis Almonte and Pfc. Cynthia Chavez, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion.