

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for June 25, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



KUSAHC Pharmacy closes

Due to a pharmacist shortage, the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Pharmacy will be closed June 30 through July 7.

Customers should make arrangements now to make sure they have sufficient prescription quantities prior to the closure.

KUSACH recommends using retail pharmacies while the pharmacy is closed.

For more information, call Deborah Dodsworth, patient advocate, 410-278-1724.

CBRNAC holds forum today

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Information Analysis Center will hold its first Technology Forum, 10 a.m. to noon, June 19, in the Berger Building E-3549 cafeteria. The forum subject is "The Future of Toxicology in CB Defense."

For more information, call Dr. Jim King, CBRNAC, 410-676-9030, or e-mail kingj@battelle.org.

June Well-Being meeting today

The June meeting will be held at the APG Chapel, 9:30 a.m., June 19.

For more information, call Sheryl Speerstra, 410-278-4521.

Traffic alert

On or about June 16, the Maryland State Highway Administration closed Edgewood Road (Route 755) from the intersection of Route 24 south to the intersection of Willoughby Beach Road. Traffic is being 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

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APG 2012 Web site up and running

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Anyone seeking information about the Aberdeen Proving Ground Transformation, which includes Enhanced Use Lease and Base Realignment and Closure initiatives, can now get that and tons of other related information on the new APG 2012 Web site located at <http://apg2012.apg.army.mil/>.

The site is also accessible by clicking on the APG

2012 logo now located on the APG Webs site at www.apg.army.mil.

The site includes the APG 2012 Vision, links to employment and business opportunities at APG and in Harford County, environmental compliance information, updates from the Army Corps of Engineers at APG, Army contracting agencies and more.

There are also traffic updates regarding road closures during ongoing construction projects as well as

upcoming events of interest to those relocating to the area, and state and local relocation assistance resources.

Syreeta Gross, communications coordinator with Michael C. Fuhrman and Associates Planning and Consulting, oversaw the task of getting the site up and running with required information and links and a distinctive banner and logo. Gross credited Michael Graziano, an information technology specialist with the Directorate of Infor-

mation Management, with completing the site, which was started by Rob Czajowski, BRAC Office contractor who has relocated to Fort Monmouth N.J.

"His design couldn't be converted, so Mikey took what he could from it and completed it from there," Gross said. "He did a wonderful job."

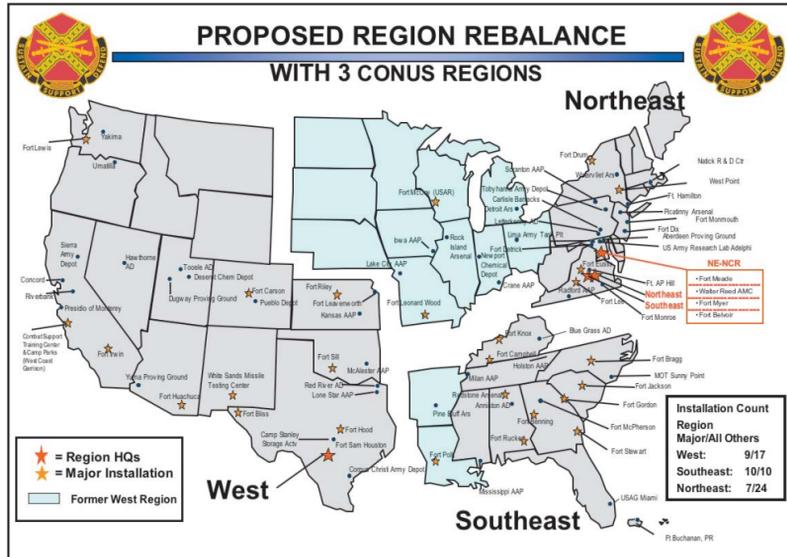
The site was a collaborative effort, she said, between herself, Graziano, Diane Burrier, senior computer graphic analyst

who designed the logo and Sue Marsheck, the visual information specialist who designed the banner. Burrier and Marsheck are with the DOIM's Multimedia/Visual Information Services Center.

Marsheck, who's been with the DOIM just over two years after 30 years of running her own designing business, said the task wasn't that difficult.

"I'm used to having a lot more information to

See 2012, page 5



This map shows how the Installation Management Command West, Northeast and Southeast regions will realign on July 1. The National Capital Region District also will be established July 1.

IMCOM realigns U.S. regions, creates National Capital Area District

IMCOM Public Affairs

Installation Management Command will realign the boundaries of its three U.S. regions on July 1, moving 13 states and their 11 installations of various sizes from the West Region to Northeast and Southeast regions.

The rebalancing refines realignment actions carried out under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law that consolidated the Northwest and Southwest

regions in 2006.

The combined West Region became very large, taxing region staff to adequately oversee all its far-flung installations. With this move, installations including forts Leonard Wood and McCoy move to Northeast, while Fort Polk and Pine Bluff Arsenal move under Southeast.

IMCOM has six regions worldwide. The Northeast, Southeast and West regions are in the continental United

States. The realignment of the states within these three regions will increase effectiveness and efficiency of regional resources, IMCOM officials said.

"With the current structure, the director of Installation Management Command in the West Region, Randy Robinson, and his staff are responsible for installations in 27 states ranging from as far east as Ohio to the West

See REALIGN, page 6

DoD establishes departmental policy on the use of DoD information systems

Directorate of Information Management

All Department of Defense employees will soon see a new notice on their government computer screens informing them that their access and use of U.S. government computer systems (including devices attached to the computer) are subject to monitoring.

Employees' use of the computer system means they acknowledge and consent to that monitoring before gaining access to DoD system and network information resources.

The intent is to clearly convey that there is no expectation of privacy when using DoD information systems and that government computer systems are provided for U.S. government authorized use only.

John Grimes, DoD's chief information

officer, signed a policy memo on May 9 clarifying the language and mandating the new consent banner to be used on all DoD computer systems and also be included in all DoD Information System User Agreements.

The policy is effective immediately and will be implemented no later than 60 days from the date of the memo for all DoD entities, including the military services.

The revised wording affects log-on banners and the wording in all computer system user agreements. All computer system users must also sign new agreements within the 60-day time frame.

A similar notice also will appear on government BlackBerry devices and other personal digital assistants and personal electronic devices, but the wording will be shorter than on computers.

Get ready to rock; ZZ Top comes to APG Sunday

Story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG NEWS

Legendary classic southern rock group ZZ Top, along with special guests Blind Melon and Blackberry Smoke will be performing at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the first time at the Shine Sports Field, June 22.

The concert is presented by U.S. Army Entertainment and Aberdeen Proving Ground's Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate.

ZZ Top, who describe themselves as "The little ol' band from Texas," has been recording since the 1970s and holds the distinction of being among the few rock bands still composed of its original recording members for nearly 40 years. Some of their fan favorite songs are: "Cheap Sunglasses," Gimme All Your Lovin,'" "Tush," "I'm Bad I'm Nationwide" and "Legs."

The group consists of Billy Gibbons, guitars, lead vocals, and harmon-

ica; Dusty Hill, bass and vocals; and Frank Beard drums and percussion. The group is well-known for their distinct style of music, which is a mix of blues, rock, boogie and psychedelic. They have proved to have creative and commercial success, as many of their albums have achieved platinum status.

The band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004, and still has a strong presence in American pop culture.

See CONCERT, page 8



More Maryland Boulevard traffic changes

A second phase of base realignment and closure road improvements to Maryland Boulevard is scheduled to begin soon.

On or about June 23, the right lane of traffic from Harford Boulevard on to Maryland Boulevard and continuing down Maryland Boulevard to Aberdeen Boulevard will be closed to allow Daisy contractors to construct an additional traffic lane on that portion of Maryland Boulevard.

The lane will be closed for construction daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will reopen from 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. the following day. The duration of the work is expected to be 30 to 45 days.

Motorists may want to use Rodman or Harford Street as an alternate route. Once this work is completed, there will be additional closures to improve the Darlington, Susquehanna/Deer Creek, Aberdeen Boulevard and Harford Boulevard intersections. In addition, current planning is to extend Combat Drive and construct an entirely new intersection of Combat Drive and Maryland Boulevard.

As construction progresses, the schedule for these future traffic changes will be addressed under separate announcements.

Unfortunately, these closures will aggravate the traffic congestion created by the construction of the new Maryland Boulevard gate.

As always, situational awareness, caution and courtesy will be needed to make these activities safe for both the motorist and construction personnel.

More lane, road closures due to I3MP

BRAC Office

The Installation Information Improvement Management Program, or I3MP, has several lane and road closures to announce.

On Monday, June 23, both lanes of Deer Creek Loop approximately 940 feet from the intersection of Maryland Boulevard on the 3500 Block location will be closed. Also on June 23, both lanes of Powder Loop off of Gadsden Road at the intersection of Deer Creek Loop will be closed.

On Tuesday, June 24, the parking lot at buildings 3556 and 3558 will be closed. Also, both lanes of Deer Creek Loop near the intersection of Maryland Boulevard and Susquehanna Road will be closed. All work will be completed by 4 p.m., June 27.

Construction signage will direct traffic around the closures.

Everyone's patience and vigilance is appreciated as APG transforms for the future.

For more information, call Linda Hogan, Directorate of Information Management, 410-298-5357.

Vice chief says strain on all-volunteer force unprecedented

Story by **J.D. LEIPOLD**
Army News Service

The Army's vice chief of staff said America's Army continues on track to achieve the most comprehensive transformation since World War II, but warned challenges lie ahead to sustain the all-volunteer force.

Gen. Richard A. Cody, who has announced plans to retire in August, spoke to a large audience of industry and Army leaders April 3 at the Association of the United States Army's Institute of Land Warfare Forum breakfast. He said now is a critical time in the testing of the nation's resolve to defeat terrorism and the days ahead will test whether the country will continue to have the "wisdom, courage and foresight" to sustain

See STRAIN, page 11

APG Police Academy participates in SOMD Torch Run

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Academy joined hundreds of law enforcement agencies across the state by participating in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Maryland, the Harford County leg of which was held May 3.

The fundraising and awareness effort supports the Special Olympics games held each year for adults and youths with developmental disabilities.

The academy took over the torch from officers of the Havre de Grace Police Department at the halfway point between Havre de Grace and Aberdeen on Route

40 at the old AMES parking lot and ran it 2.1 miles to the Aberdeen Police Station. From there, the Aberdeen Police ran it to the Harford County line in Joppa where it was turned over to Baltimore County Police. Harford County sheriff deputies escorted the runners.

Dawn Fischer, commander of the Police Academy, said the run was a "good morale boost" for the cadets.

"This is something that's important to all police officers," Fischer said, adding that the Torch Run is supported by police agencies around the world and that police officers from around the country attend the academy.

"This is a great opportunity for

them to get that community experience as they participate with fellow officers," Fischer said.

"They just had a PT test yesterday," Fisher added.

Aberdeen police chief Randy M. Rudy, Mayor Michael Bennett and Torch Run director Lt. John Newnan from the Howard County Police Department, greeted the runners at the Aberdeen Town Hall.

Newnan thanked the runners for their efforts, calling them the most important element of the Torch Run.

"It's not just about T-shirts," he said, in reference to the shirts distributed to all runners. "What you do is help create awareness."

He said that Special Olympics

efforts have united police forces in China, Zimbabwe, Australia, "and in countries I've never heard of before."

"Cops are cops no matter where you go," Newnan said. "And there's no better way to be one than by partnering with the community. It always comes back to benefit you."

The Law Enforcement Torch Run

www.somd.org

The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is a year-round fundraising and awareness movement organized by law enforcement officers from around the world. In 2007, officers from 35 countries raised

more than \$25 million for Special Olympics programs.

Law enforcement officers from across the state have been raising money for Special Olympics Maryland by participating in the Torch Run since 1986, and it has grown consistently every year. In 2007, they raised more than \$2,000,000. The run has grown into the most important fundraising effort of Special Olympics Maryland and it continues to reach new records in fundraising every year. Currently, the MD Torch Run is recognized as the largest fundraising project for Special Olympics Maryland. It is also recognized worldwide, ranking second internationally.

Aberdeen school honors APG Soldiers

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

In honor of Armed Forces Day, the St. Joan of Arc School in Aberdeen held a Patriot Program assembly to remember America's service members. The school invited the Soldiers of the Joint Personal Effects Depot, which they share a partnership with under the Partners in Education program.

JPED commander Lt. Col. Louis S. Kilmon and 1st Sgt. Lonzia Hawkins led the group. Col. John P. Rooney, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center was the guest speaker.

The program included the singing of patriotic songs and the posting of the colors by the school's Girl Scouts.

Rooney talked to the children about patriotism, and said that the country

was built on ideals that every person is the same.

"What you're really being patriotic to is the idea that you're free," Rooney said.

He read the poem, "Patriots Among Us," by David Bancroft and told the children that patriots come in all ages.

"Most are men, women and children just like you letting their actions speak for them," he said. "Thank you for considering what

patriotism is all about and for loving our freedom."

The program included the awarding of citizenship certificates to students who exhibited respect for the flag and country.

Kilmon presented assistant principal Kathy Ruth with a commander's coin as thanks for inviting the unit to the program.

"It's nice to see that patriotism is alive and well," Hawkins said.

ABC looking for military Family contestants for new game show

Army Times

The producers of a new game show for ABC are looking for military Families to be contestants on the pilot episode of the show, which will offer "a huge cash prize."

Information about the name of the show, how much the prizes will be, and what kind of game show it will be is not available for proprietary reasons, said Victor Hurtado, head of Martenvee Media, which specializes in military casting. But he said the show will be "Family friendly" and involve "general-knowledge questions."

Hurtado also handled military casting for the NBC show "Nashville Star" earlier this spring.

Casting is looking for close-knit Families with a lot of personality who could benefit from a cash prize.

"It's Family game night with real stakes and prizes. We are hoping to bring the neighborhood together and reinvent Family game night altogether," according to casting producer Allison Kaz.

Casting is looking for an outgoing and fun Family with teenagers or kids (ages 7 to 21), Hurtado said.

This would be an opportunity to finally pay off a debt, buy that flat screen TV, new refrigerator, car or even a new bedroom set for the kids rooms.

The entire Family will participate in the show, which will come to the Family's house, said Hurtado, who served as artistic director of Army entertainment from 2001 to 2007.

He said the show is being produced by the same producers of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" and "Oprah's Big Give."

The producers understand the sacrifices of military Families, he said, and would like to reach out to this community.

Since it's difficult for them to get onto military bases, he said, they are reaching out publicly for military Families who want to apply to be contestants.

Families who want to be considered for the game show can send an e-mail by July 3 to tvshowcasting@yahoo.com with name, contact information, picture of the Family and home, brief biography of each Family member, and their ages, any challenges the Family would like to include, wish list of home improvements and a statement of why the Family wants to be on the show.

Families can send as much or as little information as they are comfortable with. If the producers are interested, they will work with the Family to get more information through their local military installation's public affairs office.

APG provider takes children on strawberry picking outing

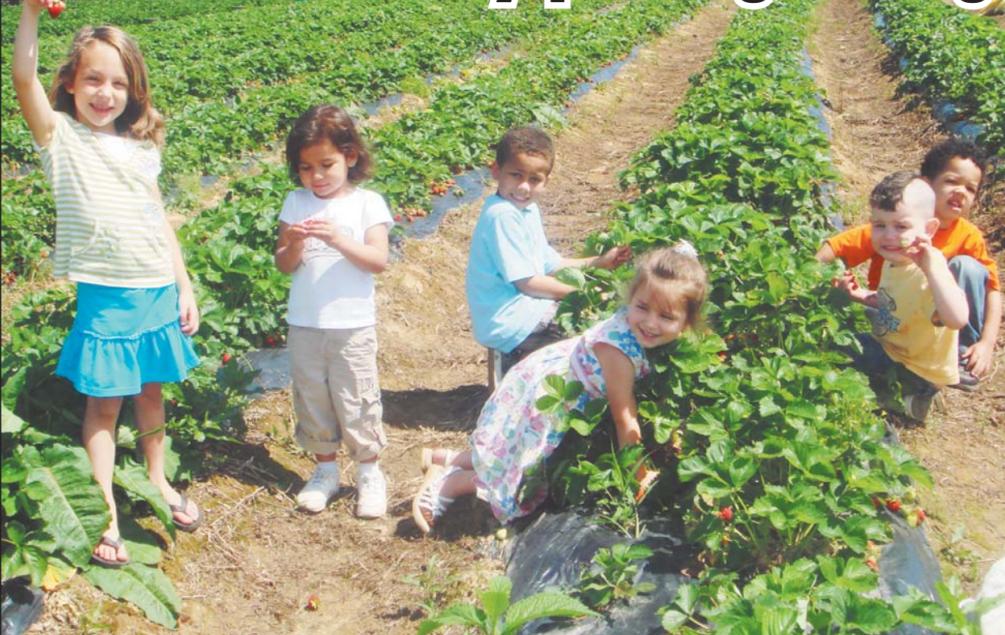


Photo by MELISSA LARCIA

From left, Natalie Lancia, 5; Venice Heitt, 2; Tre Bethoney, 7; Isabella Bethoney, 3; Robert Agee, 3; and Xavier Mason, 4, pick strawberries during an outing to Brad's Produce, located in Churchville May 29. Heather Bethoney, their Family Child Care provider, said "the Maryland strawberries are really sweet this year."

Children have summertime fun at FCC barbecue

Photo by RACHEL PONDER

From left, Dante Heitt, 6; Elana Lancia, 8; Nevaeh Bethoney, 2; Venice Heitt, 2; Tre Bethoney, 7; Isabella Bethoney, 3; and Xavier Mason, 4, sing "Baby Bumblebee" for their Families at a barbecue May 3, hosted by Heather Bethoney, their Family Child Care provider.

Earlier that day, Heather taught the children about gardening while helping them plant flowers. She also set up a butterfly tent, where the children could go inside the tent to see the butterflies up close. After the barbecue, Heather and the children released the butterflies.

"I just wanted to have a fun, educational, summer activity for the children and their parents," Heather said.



APG News

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

Staff

APG Commander Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr.
APG Garrison Commander Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman
Public Affairs Officer George P. Mercer
Editor Debi Horne
Editorial Assistant Marguerite Towson
Contract Photojournalists Yvonne Johnson
..... Rachel Ponder
Graphic Designer/Web Designer Nick Pentz
Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

What to expect during APG Ozone Action Days

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Summer is almost here again, and in Maryland, it means hot, humid, hazy weather. The quality of air decreases when the temperature increases, resulting in Ozone Action Days.

What to expect

Ozone Action Days occur during the months of May through September.

Ground level ozone, commonly referred to as smog, is a colorless gas in the air that is created when volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides combine in the presence of heat and sunlight. Pumping gasoline releases these organic compounds in the air.

At lower levels, the ozone interferes with breathing and is harmful to people with respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema and bronchitis. Ozone is also harmful to the elderly, children and healthy adults who perform physical exercise or manual labor outdoors.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated the Baltimore and Washington regions as “non-attainment,” meaning that the air quality does not meet the national ambient air quality standards for ozone.

Aberdeen Proving Ground, along with other military installations, has put policies into place that will help the environment, and the OAD Program is one of them. APG has been a participant in the program since 1996 when it became one of the first members of the “Endzone Partners,” a group of government, businesses, private organizations and individual citizens who take extra steps to reduce ground level ozone.

On forecasted “Code Orange” and “Code Red” OADs, Directorate of Installation Operations personnel will close the government fueling stations at buildings 4029 in the Aberdeen Area and E-4017 in the Edgewood Area from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In the event of an emergency, such as an emergency vehicle needing refueling, one of the following DIO-LMD personnel can be called to open or reopen the pumps: Victor Durante, 410-278-2160 or 410-652-3799; or Tina Carr, 410-278-5582 or 410-652-1846.

The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environ-

ment ensures that the OAD flags are displayed at various locations across APG. The OAD flag is white with an orange sunburst in the center and displayed at both government fueling stations and all entrance gates.

Anyone who would like to receive air quality forecasts on a daily basis should call 401-732-9975, or visit www.cleanairpartners.net.

Compressed natural gas and diesel fuel pumps will remain open during forecasted OADs. On declared OADs, CNG should be used in dual fuel vehicles to reduce harmful air emissions.

Since the presence of strong sunlight is needed for the formation of ozone and pumping gasoline releases volatile organic compounds in the air, a good way to reduce air pollution is avoid pumping gas on OADs or to pump gas after dusk whenever possible.

Many other installation activities are eliminated or curtailed on Code Red and Code Orange days.

Low volatile organic compounds emitting paints are used instead of spray paints, and open burnings are banned, in addition to many military testing operations. Battery-powered lawn mowers and weed whackers are used instead of gasoline-powered equipment on OADs.

How to help

“Going green,” is a phrase that is heard a lot these days. It isn’t just some trendy buzz word though. Adapting more environmentally friendly habits will help improve the quality of life, now and in the future.

“Although it may seem that you as an individual will not make a difference, collectively we can,” said Kenneth Stachiw, director of DSHE.

According to clean Air Partners, individual behavior causes far more pollution than “smokestack industries.”

At home people can



AIR QUALITY ACTION GUIDE

Your “how to” guide for cleaner air

Air Quality Rating	Steps to Protect Your Health and Our Environment
GOOD 0-50	Enjoy the great outdoors
MODERATE 51-100	Some Pollution – poses risk to the highly sensitive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpool, use public transit, bike, or walk • Limit driving, consolidate trips • Reduce car idling
UNHEALTHY for Sensitive Groups 101-150	Pollution levels harmful to children, the elderly, and anyone with respiratory or heart conditions – limit activity outdoors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow all action steps above • Refuel after dusk, use fuel-efficient vehicles • Avoid driving, use transit, telework • Avoid using aerosol products
UNHEALTHY 151-200	Pollution levels harmful to all – sensitive groups should avoid outdoor activities, others should limit outdoor exertion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow all action steps above • Avoid using any gas-powered equipment • Wait to paint until air quality improves
VERY UNHEALTHY 201-300	Pollution levels very unhealthy for everyone – avoid any physical activity outdoors

Visit cleanairpartners.net to get your daily air quality forecasts and discover simple steps you can take each day to protect your health and our environment.

make small adjustments that make a difference, especially on bad air quality days (taken from www.cleanairpartners.com).

- Postpone mowing and trimming or use electric garden equipment.
- Postpone painting or use water-based paint instead of oil-based paint.
- Replace the charcoal grill with a propane gas grill.
- Choose ENERGY STAR™ appliances and lighting.
- Cut back on heating and air conditioning when tolerable and turn off lights and appliances when not in use.
- Clean heating filters each month.

With the cost of gas at \$4 a gallon and rising,

more people are consciously thinking about cutting down on driving.

“The rising cost of gas is a mixed blessing because it forces people to reduce their driving, and that helps the environment,” said Indra Barta, environmental engineer for DSHE.

According to cnn.com, Americans have curtailed their driving at a historic rate. Some have turned to public transportation. Americans took 10.3 billion trips

See OZONE, page 7

Office Eagle gives back to customers

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

From basic cleaning supplies to high-tech office gadgets, the Aberdeen Area Office Eagle store at building 320 offered something for everyone during its Customer Appreciation Day festivities May 20.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary, Blind Industries and Services of Maryland president Fred Puente presented a BISM 100-year coin and plaque to award the store's largest customer for supporting the program and disabled people all over Maryland - the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

Barry Councill, store manager, said Office Eagle owes a great deal of gratitude to the store's loyal customers and that employees try to repay them every day with friendly, fast service.

"You will never get better service than you'll get right here," Councill said.

Col. Michael McBride, OC&S chief of staff, said he was happy to accept the award on behalf of Brig. Gen. Rebecca Halstead, OC&S commander and chief of Ordnance, as well as for the hundreds of employees in OC&S and the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School.

"We train thirteen thousand Soldiers, Marines, Air-

men, ordnance officers, noncommissioned officers and warrant officers a year," McBride said. "And just about all of them use the products you provide. We are very proud of our reputation and yours as well."

Organization displays

Visitors viewed a wide selection of products available to Office Eagle purchasers.

Vendors included South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind; Susquehanna Association for the Blind and Vision Impaired; Per Annum Inc.; ABM Federal Sales; Alphapointe Association for the Blind; The Arc, Northern Chesapeake Region; and State Chemical Solutions.

All suppliers to Office Eagle stores offer AbilityOne approved products and provide employment opportunities for the blind or developmentally disabled. The AbilityOne Program (formerly JWOD) creates jobs and training opportunities for people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities.

Representing the Arc was Jennifer McGann, job developer, Suraya Toy, job coach and Jeanne Beaman, employment specialist.

McGann said The Arc provides employment opportunities and training for people with developmental disabilities and then partners with local

businesses to provide pre-screened and well qualified employees.

"The Arc provides jobs and independence for capable workers," McGann said. "We have several employees here who put in about twenty-five hours a week doing things like stocking shelves and customer service."

Additionally the Arc provides one-on-one supervision for the disabled as well as daily activities for seniors. For more information visit The Arc at 4513 Philadelphia Road or call 410-836-7177.

A national sales manager for the Alphapointe Association for the Blind, Beth Osler said the company provides office products, furniture, janitorial and technical products assembled by the blind or visually impaired for purchase through Office Eagle stores or through its Web site. Her display held Skilcraft products, including an antimicrobial pen, B-3 aviator pen/pencil sets, a notebook lock for laptops and more.

Based in Kansas City, Alphapointe began offering AbilityOne approved products to the federal government in 2005.

Katie Goode, national sales account manager for Envision Environmental Solutions displayed several of the company's dis-

posable and 100 percent recyclable bags which included trash, zip lock, shredder and isolation bags of various sizes. Goode said that the zip lock bags are especially popular with troops going overseas and that the company, based in Wichita, Kan., has 75 percent blind labor.

"The sales from our products go back to funding health and social services for the blind so it comes full circle," she said.

A 3M display featured insect repellents, Post It note pads and privacy filters for computer monitors. Sales manager Walt Ledengood, out of Westchester, Pa., said that he's been to APG several times and that 3M interfaces with 17 other agencies for the blind.

"We have a pretty good partnership with Office Eagle, which helps 3M promote blind employment," he said. "We do whatever we can for the vision impaired."

Elwood Ditmer, accounts manager for the Susquehanna Association for the Blind and Vision Impaired, said his organization was participating in the annual event for the first time. He displayed bio-based cleaning products made from products like soybeans and corns that included multipurpose, glass and restroom cleaners, hand and body wash and graffiti removers.

"They work better than petroleum-based products and they're better for the environment," Ditmer said, adding that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration set strict criteria for products to be called 'bio-based.'

"These products are available throughout the federal government and are now on the federal procurement list," Ditmer said. "There's no reason not to have them."

The Susquehanna Association for the Blind is based in Lancaster, Pa.

Other displays included Master Locks and security devices, Fellowes Office Products, military hand protectors, including mechanic, impact and Kevlar gloves by the South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind and notebooks, journals and custom planners by Per Annum Inc., a subdivision of South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind.

Also the Seattle Light-

house for the Blind representative Paul Kelly demonstrated Army issue hydration systems, and Leah Donovan of State and Engineered Products showed the company's line of certified cleaning products.

After viewing the vendor displays, guests enjoyed a meal of barbecue pork and chicken, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw and desserts from Dover, Delaware-based caterer 'Where Pigs Fly,' led by owners Tom and Kelly Devine.

Christina Davis, BISM communications director, added her thanks to APG customers.

"We just like folks to realize that we're a one-stop shop for all your needs and that if we don't have it on hand, we can get it by the next day," Davis said. "By shopping here you provide a service for the blind all over Maryland who receive our services for free. Thanks so much for your support."

2012

From front page

start with, and I had to ask to see the page itself, but once that was done it didn't take long at all," Marsheck said.

The banner, which runs across the top of the APG 2012 home page, consists of an eagle and the logo in the left corner on the blue field and white stars of the U.S. flag, and the words 'APG 2012 Transforming The Future' centered and hovering over the flag's billowing red and white stripes.

Burrier designed the 2012 logo from scratch, using Adobe Illustrator software. She said that final approval for the design was granted by Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"Every item was carefully chosen. They wanted certain things regarding Soldiers and technology. We were trying to encompass everything that goes on at APG," Burrier said.

Colored the Army's black and gold, the round logo has the silhouette of a combat arms Soldier at its center, with a satellite and glass laboratory bottle on the left, representing the communications and chemical-biological testing missions that will symbolize APG at the Transformation's completion; and a computer and Stryk-

er combat vehicle on the right, illustrating the proving ground's state of the art vehicle testing missions.

"It was really hard to find a Stryker silhouette to draw from," Burrier said, adding that overall, she worked on the design just over one month.

Gross said that the site makes it clear that BRAC is only one part of APG 2012.

"It describes all the changes that are coming, from employment to traffic - it's a one-stop information center," Gross said. "The information is readily available for people who need it, and

it will be updated daily."

She said that getting the site up and running was a "vital part of a strategic communication plan."

"The site makes it much easier to get information out to people," she said. "We wanted it to be informative but also comparable to the other important Web sites it links to. This has been in the works since February," she added. "The commanders are happy, and it's an unbelievable feeling to have it completed."

APG DLES K9 Team competes in Iron Dog Competition

Story and photos by
EDWARD SALA
DLES

On most days anyone entering Aberdeen Proving Ground could find Officer Ronald Colbeck and his K9 partner Heidi, members of the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, greeting them as they enter through one of the installation access points.

On May 21, Colbeck and Heidi were in the

Commonwealth of Virginia representing DLES and APG in the Virginia Police Canine Association's 2008 Iron Dog Competition.

The VPCA Iron Dog Competition requires K9 team competitors to navigate a 1.5 mile timed course, stopping at nine different stations before reaching the finish line. The stations are mock scenarios intended to test each K9 team's law enforcement skills such as

agility, area searches for subjects, gun battles, subject apprehension and contraband detection.

Colbeck has been with DLES since September 2004 as a police officer canine handler. Prior to his employment with APG, He was a security police officer in the U.S. Air Force for eight years.

His K9 partner, Heidi, an 8-year-old long hair German Shepherd trained in patrol work and contraband detection, has been a member of the APG team since September 2003. Both have

been a team for more than three years and are also members of the DLES Special Reaction Team.

"This was the first time Heidi and I participated in a competition of this magnitude," Colbeck said. "And, taking into account all the training we do on a daily basis, it gave me a sense of pride and reassurance to see my dog perform under pressure situations.

"It is not so much the competition part that was important, but the opportunity to interact with other canine

officers from different organizations and exchange information on dog training," Colbeck added.

A total of 27 K9 teams participated in the event. Colbeck and Heidi placed second in the Muzzle Event, third in Contraband Detection, third in Contraband Vehicle Detection, and fourth overall of the local, state and federal law enforcement agencies that competed.

"An incredibly noteworthy achievement," said Robert W. Krauer, the director

of DLES. "This competition only helps solidify the professionalism and skills of the police on APG, and the great things they do on a daily basis to protect the installation, its workers and residents," Krauer added. "I'm very proud of the hard work that went into this competition and look forward to our next opportunity to prove that APG is served by the best of the best."

(Editor's note: Author Edward Sala is Kennel Master of APG Kennels for DLES.)



Officer Ronald Colbeck subdues the criminal, Damko, while Heidi stands watch.



Even Heidi has a "Love me" wall.



Heidi attacks a criminal, played by Officer Christopher Damko.

Realign

From front page

Coast," said Maj. Gen. John Macdonald, IMCOM deputy commander.

"After the regional boundaries shift, the [West Region] staff will spend less time traveling across

the country, and more time with commanders stationed within borders comparable to the other continental United States regions," Macdonald said.

Another part of the regional rebalance is development of a National Capital Region District that will be commanded by Brig. Gen. Dennis Rogers. Rogers is the deputy director of operations and facilities at Headquarters IMCOM in Arlington, Va.

In preparation for the relocation of the Headquarters IMCOM to San Antonio, Texas, in 2011, the new district will remain and operate out of Washington, D.C., area offices.

Current Northeast Region installations Fort Meade, Md.; Fort Belvoir, Va.; Fort Myer, Va.; and Fort McNair, Washington, D.C., will shift under Rogers' command as part of the National Capital Region District on July 1.

This continental U.S. regional rebalance distributes the major installations to nine in the West, 10 in the Southeast and seven in the Northeast.

These actions are part of the Army's strategy to complete base realignment and closure and other stationing actions by September 2011.

Saving resources using the Multi-user ECP Automated Review System

Redstone Arsenal

The Multi-user ECP [engineering change proposal] Automated Review System could save an Army or Navy program or agency time, money and effort.

Just imagine the possibility of beginning and completing a Configuration Control Board in as little as one day if required. Without any TDY, paper, distribution, or other related ECP costs, CCB members and sub-reviewers around the globe could login to MEARS over the Web, and process a program's ECPs, notices of revision, requests for deviation/waiver, and specification change notices on a real-time basis.

MEARS is a collaborative government-developed and owned Web-based software program that automates the engineering change process.

"A truly remarkable configuration management tool, MEARS expedites the engineering change proposal from creation to archival," said John Rogers, the

MEARS program manager.

MEARS, recently named a Best Manufacturing Practices Center of Excellence, award winner and site, www.bmpcoe.org, is managed by the MEARS Program Office at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. BMPCOE is a business process improvement "think tank" sponsored by the Naval Operations Research Center, University of Maryland and the U.S. Department of Commerce. Originally deployed in 1992 to the Patriot Project Office, MEARS has been named a DoD "best of breed" solution, and today supports some 3,500 DoD, homeland security, defense industry, and foreign military sales customers throughout the world.

Several DoD and DHS MEARS customers include the Army's Patriot Missile, Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, MLRS, GMLRS, Hellfire, Longbow, Avenger, PM TMDE, AMRDEC ATE/TPS, CH-

47, HAWK, Hercules, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, as well as the Defense Contract Management Agency, U.S. Marine Corps, Naval Surface Warfare Center/Newport, the U.S. Coast Guard and other elements of Homeland Security.

MEARS handles unclassified documents and drawings, as well as those that are classified (SIPRNET). It is NMCI (Navy Marine Corps Internet) certified and links to the Joint Engineering & Data Management Information & Control System (JEDMICS) and the Configuration Management Information System (CMIS). MEARS, through its DBmapper, can also port data to other relational databases to avoid duplicate entry of data.

A staff of one government program manager, five contractor developers, and four contractor customer support personnel provides world-class customer service from the office at USAMCOM. The MEARS support staff considers itself as an extension of

the customer's staff and enjoys being part of team. The MEARS software resides on the secure server at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Access to MEARS is via Web, and no software or hardware purchase is necessary by the potential customer.

When asked about the success of the MEARS program, Rogers said, "MEARS and its customers are like a Family. Without exaggeration, we would be nowhere without our customers, and we treat them that way. We continue to develop and mold MEARS to meet the, sometimes, unique requirements of each customer. Responsiveness to our customer is not just a buzz word, with MEARS; it is an absolute necessity."

MEARS gets no direct DoD funding; instead it relies totally on reimbursable dollars from its government and contractor customers.

Setting up a business relationship with MEARS is as simple as signing a memorandum of agreement and sending a mili-

tary interdepartmental purchase request for funding.

Here is what some MEARS customers are saying about MEARS:

"Our office saved two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in paper costs in the first year of using MEARS," said Bill Moeller, Patriot configuration manager.

"MEARS has reduced our ECP creation and review process from seventy five days to ten days," said Signe Lynch, PM Bradley configuration.

"MEARS helped us reduce our RFD/RFW review time by eighty-four percent. Critical RFDs/RFWs are processed in one day," said Angela Toole, Marine Corps AAV Program Office.

For more information about MEARS, visit <http://mears.army.mil> and view an online demonstration, call the MEARS support desk, 256-842-0864 or DSN 788-0864, or call Rogers, 256-876-8834 or DSN 746-8834.

RDECOM to participate in 2008 APG Technology Showcase

Story by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
RDECOM

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command will participate in this year's Aberdeen Proving Ground Technology Showcase June 19 at the Amoss Center at Harford Technical High School in Bel Air.

Gary Martin, RDECOM deputy to the commander, will deliver a keynote presentation entitled, "APG 2012: The Transition and the Positive Impacts for Our Industry and University Partners."

The addition of the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance

and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) as mandated by Congress in the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law, will mean the scope of activities at APG will increase, allowing for more partnerships and collabora-

tions with contractors and small businesses.

The event will focus on contracting and technology transfer opportunities available at APG.

RDECOM will showcase technologies includ-

ing the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Lightweight Personnel Protection, the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Rapid Prototyping Technology, the Communications-Electronic Research, Devel-

opment and Engineering Center's Power to the Soldier and the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity's Sam Data Analysis Technology.

For more information about the event, visit www.harford.edu/APGShowcase.

For more information about RDECOM technologies and opportunities within the organization, contact the APG Business Development Office, 410-273-5072.

Ozone

From page 3

on public transportation in 2007, the highest level in 50 years, according to the Department of Transportation. Others have begun carpooling or vanpooling to work. (A future article will appear in the *APG News* regarding vanpooling).

Ways to cut down on driving (taken from www.cranford.com)

- Consolidate trips. Combine several errands into one outing, rather than going out for each thing on impulse.
- Make a list when going shopping so that a second trip is not required.
- Call ahead. Check to make sure the place has the item to avoid a wasted trip.
- Catalog shop, or shop via the Internet.
- Buy in bulk for things needed.
- Ride with a friend, or invite a friend to drive along.
- If children aren't bussed, have them walk or bike to school, or get into a carpool.
- Ride a bicycle or walk for local trips. It's good exercise, too.
- If possible, work at home one day a week.
- Live closer to work, or work closer to home.
- Designate one day a week to avoid using the car.
- Take public transportation.
- Have paycheck and other regular checks automatically deposited. This saves trips to the bank.
- Don't drive further to save a dollar or two. Reap the savings in gasoline costs and environmental benefits, instead.
- Find some stay-at-home activities to enjoy. Socialize locally.

Visit these Web sites to learn more about cutting down on driving:

- www.fueleconomy.gov/
- www.consumerreports.org/fuel
- www.autos.yahoo.com/consumerreports/article/lower_cost_driving.html
- www.dividetheride.com/



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Aberdeen & Edgewood Area swimming pools

Aberdeen Area

Olympic Swimming Pool, building 3325

- Daily operation: 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., thru Aug. 21
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Weekend operation schedule:

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

Edgewood Area

Bayside Swimming Pool, building E-4655

- Daily operation: 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. (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.

Players roll their way to prizes playing BUNCO

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
 APG News

Rolling dice, laughter and the frequent cries of "BUNCO!" punctuated the evening as two dozen players enjoyed the second BUNCO tournament on Aberdeen Proving Ground June 12.

Held at Top of the Bay, the tournament concludes July 10 at 7 p.m. The tournament is being held at installations Army-wide and players can enter a drawing for a \$4,000 Spa Finder gift card. In addition, there are door prizes, free snacks, a cash bar and food for sale.

Last week's door prizes included an iced tea set, a grilling set and tickets for free Top of the Bay lunches.

The top prizes went to Chris Lockhart for most BUNCOs, Odelia Stanley for most wins and Jackie Vattner for most losses. Their prizes included an **igourmet.com** gift card, a Jack Daniels cook book and a Williams-Sonoma gift card.

All players said they had a good time. "I played before, about fifteen years ago, and I plan to play again next month," Vattner said.

Stanley said it was her first time playing and that she also planned to return.

"I came out with some friends and had a great time," she said. "I'll definitely be back."

"BUNCO is a very exciting game because it takes no special skills at all,"

Lockhart added. "Anybody can win. That's why it's so cool."

Basically, players take turns rolling three dice for six rounds. During the first round, for example, players want to roll ones. As long as they do, they continue rolling until no ones come up, and then pass the dice clockwise to the next player. After all four players have had their turn, play progresses to round two and so on. At the end of each round players tally their scores and whichever team has the most points, wins. There's more but that's enough to get beginners started.

Teri S. Hall, Top of the Bay, hosted the program, assisted by Nancy Castle, a volunteer and former Military Civilian Spouses' Club member.

Castle said BUNCO has been played in this area for more than 50 years.

"It's a nice way to meet people," she said. "I started playing in 1972, and I still hang around with good friends who got me started playing BUNCO."

All players in the FMWR BUNCO tournament will be entered into a national grand prize drawing.

The BUNCO tournament is sponsored by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the World BUNCO Association.

To register for the final tournament, players must sign up at <http://www.apgmwr.com/events.html#bunco>.

For more information, call 410-278-2552/3062.

Summer Golf Scrambles at Ruggles

A Summer Golf Scramble at Ruggles will start 8 a.m., July 12, and includes cart, appetizers with beverages and prizes.

Prices are \$30 for Annual Patrons, \$45 for Value Card holders/Authorized Patrons and \$55 for guests.

A nine-hole Scramble will be held at Ruggles, 5 p.m., July 17. Teams will consist of one adult and one child (ages 7 through 17). Entry fee costs \$30 and includes range balls, cart, hot dog, chips with soda and prizes.

Register for these events in the Pro Shop at Ruggles or call 410-278-4794. For more information, e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil.

Activities/Events

Baltimore Orioles Games

Purchase tickets for Orioles baseball at Camden Yards:

- Kansas City Royals, 7:05 p.m., July 3
- Detroit Tigers, 7:05 p.m., July 18
- Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m., Aug. 25
- Oakland Athletics, Sept. 7, TBD
- Cleveland Indians, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 9
- Toronto Blue Jays, Sept. 28, 1:35 p.m.

For more information on other Baltimore Orioles games or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

FMWR has scheduled several day trips to New York City—eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, seeing a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Nov. 15.

Cost is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m.

and will return 10 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

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

New York City Liberty Tour

FMWR Leisure Travel Services is offering a New York City Liberty Tour July 19.

Cruise aboard the famous Circle Line cruise ship down Manhattan harbor to the Statue of Liberty for the best view in the city. Following the cruise, enjoy lunch on the coach touring famous and not-so-famous New York sights narrated by a professional and friendly step-on guide. Then explore and shop in midtown Manhattan. Shop for souvenirs, browse at Macy's or stroll Times Square.

Cost is \$90 per person

and includes roundtrip transportation, cruise and lunch. The bus will depart 7:20 a.m. and return 9:30 p.m.

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

Hip Hop classes

The Aberdeen Area Youth Center, located in building 2522, will hold Hip Hop Dance classes for ages 8 through 18. Classes for ages 8 to 13 will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; classes for ages 14 to 18 will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. All classes will be held on Mondays.

This is a fun and energetic dance class, great for all ages and levels.

For more information or to register, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479

Concert

From front page

The band continues to tour and make new music, and has an impressive collection 14 studio albums and six compilation albums under their belt. Recently, this year's American Idol winner, David Cook, performed with ZZ Top by singing "Sharp Dressed Man" on the American Idol season finale, May 21.

The concert starts 7 p.m. on Shine Sports Field. Gates open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 the day of the concert. For tickets, visit the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Web site, www.apgmwr.com or Ticketmaster.com or call Ticket-

master at 1-800-551-SEAT.

Tickets can also be bought at Ruggles Golf Course in the Aberdeen Area on Saturday, June 21, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for \$25, or on Sunday, June 22, from 7 p.m. to 3 p.m. for \$30.

The seating is lawn seating, so concert goers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair or blanket.

This is a rain or shine event and no refunds will be given.

Installation entry information

Fans must present their tickets at the Route 22 gate (Harford Road) and the Route 715 gate (Maryland Boulevard) and then follow signs to designated parking areas. The gates will open for concert-goers at 4 p.m.

Entry to the installation requires a photo ID for fans 16 and older and drivers must present a valid driver's license. Those with no photo ID will be refused entrance.

Alcohol and any types of weapons, cameras and recording devices, coolers, outside food or drink and pets are prohibited.

Police officers from APG Garrison's Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security will provide security and traffic control. Cars and possessions are subject to inspection by DLES.

In addition, the Post Commissary and Main PX will close at 3 p.m. to allow for extra parking.

For more information about the concert, call 410-306-3697.

ZZ TOP
Live in concert

Sunday, June 22

Aberdeen Proving Ground

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
www.ticketmaster.com

National Sponsors: CHASE, BUD LIGHT
 Local Sponsors: BARGAINER, 100.7C, etc.

2008 Army Arts and Crafts Contest

The Army Arts and Crafts Contest is an annual, juried competition of 2- and 3-dimensional artwork held in separate groups for novice and accomplished artists and craftspeople. All authorized patrons of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are eligible to enter.

Rules for submission of entries, as well as entry forms can be downloaded from <https://artscrafts.fmwrc.army.mil>, or at the Arts and Crafts Centers.

Entries must be submitted to Arts and Crafts Center, building 2407, 410-278-4207 no later than 4 p.m., June 30.

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.

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.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

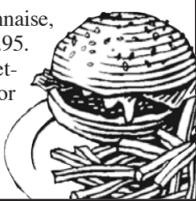
Building 2342

Week of June 16

Special #1: Double cheeseburger with bacon, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, french fries, cookie, soda for \$6.95.

Special #2: Ham and cheese sub, choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, potato chips, cookie and soda for \$5.45.

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





Army News

Injured Soldiers struggle to maintain relationships, intimacy

Story and photo by
ELIZABETH M. LORGE
Army News Service

When Soldiers return from war with catastrophic injuries, one of their biggest worries is how their spouses and significant others will react.

Veterans and medical experts discussed romantic relationships during the Morehouse School of Medicine's "Wounded Troops and Partners: Supporting Intimate Relationships" conference in Washington, D.C., May 21.

"I instantly realized when I woke up and saw my wife there that I wouldn't have to go it alone. I was twenty-two years old; we had two young daughters. You think, 'wow, I'm different. Is my wife going to love me for who I am? Am I going to be accepted by my friends how I am?'" retired Spc. B.J. Jackson of the Iowa National Guard said of waking up at Brooke Army Medical Center after he lost both legs and was severely burned by a land mine in Iraq.

He and his wife Abby spoke candidly about how it was a struggle at first for their relationship to return to normal as he healed.

Between his injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder and various medications, her husband just didn't seem interested in her as a woman, Abby said, and all she wanted was her husband back. The hospital environment didn't encourage intimacy or privacy and Abby didn't know if she was even allowed to climb in her husband's bed to hold him.

Jackson's doctor wasn't much help either. When Abby asked about their physical relationship, or lack thereof, he said it would come in time, but didn't offer any advice or suggestions.

Dr. Lance Goetz, a physician at the Dallas Veterans Administration Spinal Cord Injury Center, said that as many as 50 to 60 percent of Soldiers returning with traumatic brain injury have problems or concerns with regaining intimacy. Even minor brain injuries can have effects on physical and emotional relationships, he said. Various medications, pain and injuries, altered body image and lowered self-esteem can all lead to a lack of interest in intimacy, he said. So can a fear of rejection, leading Soldiers to push their spouses or significant others away.

"There's an automatic, almost, rejection for the Soldiers for themselves so they put off that rejection toward the spouse or girlfriend or significant other," Abby said. "They're not sure how to adapt to that themselves. 'Are you rejecting me because I'm



Retired Spc. B.J. Jackson and his wife Abby address the Wounded Troops and Partners: Supporting Intimate Relationships conference in Washington, D.C., May 21, about how they rebuilt their relationship after he lost both legs in Iraq. Also pictured is fellow speaker, injured Vietnam veteran Dave Roeber, a former Navy river-boat gunner.

rejecting myself? What exactly is going on?"

"I think a lot of young people get so wrapped up in it that they're like, 'Look there's nothing. I look good. I've got both my legs. I'm going to go get me a man. Forget you.' And I think that happens all too quickly and too often. You've got to look at the statistics and reality: very young people do think that way and they operate on that level and that's what ends up happening. And you're left with the Soldier who's in the bed by himself thinking 'great, that was what was going to happen.' So communication is the key."

Doctors and mental-health professionals, especially those employed by the military and the Department of Veterans Affairs, have a responsibility to help their patients to return to as many normal, everyday activities as possible, including healthy sexual activity, said Goetz, so they can't be afraid to address this topic and shouldn't wait for their patients to bring it up.

"Shame on us if we don't," he said.

There are therapies, suggestions and medications doctors can prescribe to help Soldiers and their partners, he said, and most men with injuries can still father children.

The Jacksons did figure it out, and much to the amazement of members of Jackson's unit, have added two sons to their family, but with assistance from medical professionals, they say their lives could have been a lot easier.

Intimacy helps keep couples together and experts agreed that a strong support system is essential

in helping Soldiers recover, especially those with TBI and psychological disorders.

"It truly is your wife who gets you through it or your loved ones or your friends. My kids were a big part of my recovery," Jackson said, adding he feels terrible for single Soldiers who don't have anyone to depend on. One friend asked him how he was supposed to meet women when he was missing a leg.

And when Soldiers receive that "Dear John" letter, they are at a far greater risk for suicide, so it is vital to help Families and partners stay together, said Dr. Harold Wain, chief of the Psychiatry Consultation Liaison Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Doctors and mental-health experts, he continued, should do whatever they can to help Soldiers feel whole and human again—including letting their spouses sleep in their hospital beds.

The Army, then, also has to make sure couples have a strong foundation before deployments and emphasize the vows they made to stay together in sickness and in health, said Lt. Col. Peter Frederich, Family ministries officer at the Office of the Chief of Chaplains.

The military also cannot dismiss topics because they're too hard or risky, concluded Brig. Gen. Loree Sutton, M.D., special assistant to the assistant secretary of defense for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury and the director of the DoD Center of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury.

"We have the opportunity to talk about things that must be talked about," Sutton said.

Strain

From front page

the all-volunteer force in an age and era of "persistent conflict and unpredictable challenges."

Cody said there is no historical precedence for a volunteer professional Army serving on such a huge scale for so long, so well and so far from home.

"There's no question that what has held this Army together is our people — from our leaders who have built winning teams by building trust Soldier to Soldier, leader to leader, and unit to unit," he said. "And, our Army civilians who have stood shoulder-to-shoulder with these uniformed counterparts and finally to our resilient Families who have endured fifteen-month separations and hardships. There's no question our strength and our source of every success has been our people."

Cody added that manning, equipping and training are on target and that basic warrant officer and commissioned officer training will continue to improve without waivers to educational requirements because "this Army has no shake-and-bake substitute, a lesson learned long ago."

He said the Army would continue to develop new doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures and refine leadership courses in real-time feedback from commanders

returning from the fight.

"We have also continued to develop and improve our equipment, challenging you and industry and our acquisition community to reach new levels that our Soldiers demand," he told the audience, adding that in 2003 costs to outfit a Soldier for combat were \$1,700 but today that figure is closer to \$17,000, reflective that Soldiers have the best equipment available and it's constantly improving.

"We've introduced ninety-four programs and more than one hundred billion dollars to include the MRAPs [mine resistant ambush-protected vehicles] we're fielding today and more than eighteen thousand up-armored Humvees [high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles] that we've built since 2003," he said. "We have the individual body armor upgrades, the counter-IED systems, aircraft survivability equipment, M-4s and so forth of our future combat system spin-outs that are realities today and making a difference on the battlefield... all this while providing in and out of combat one hundred seventy six thousand Soldiers every year that we have to reset, retrain and then deploy."

"We must continue to recruit and retain quality Soldiers to grow our Army and meet the increased, enduring operational demand in this era of persistent conflict," he said.

Cody said that by making hard choices, the Army has grown by 43,000 Soldiers to an end-strength

in the active force of 525,000 with a combined total of active, Guard and Reserve standing at 650,000.

"We've increased the number of brigade combat teams in the active force from thirty three to forty since 2003 and we've added five new Stryker brigades," he said. "We've also completed the modular conversation of more than seventy-five percent of our formations across the Army (to include the Reserve component) so that we'll have three types of brigade combat teams, not fifteen. We'll modularize not just them, but all across the functional brigades."

He said the Army has completed and rebalanced more than 70,000 force structure spaces to rebalance the active and Reserve components so the Army can execute now and into the future what the new Army doctrine demands in order to be a full-spectrum force.

To help alleviate strain on Soldiers and their Families, Cody also said the Army's top priority was the investment of \$66 billion in the next five to six years into new housing, barracks, community centers, child development centers, health care and education so the force could be sustained.

Alluding to the fiscal year 2008 supplemental budget request and the FY 09 budget, Cody said those budgets must be passed to avoid substantial impacts on readiness and unneeded uncertainty and stress on Soldiers and their Families.

Community Notes

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

JUNE 18 AND 19 APG TECHNOLOGY, R&D SHOWCASE

Harford Community College will present a showcase of Aberdeen Proving Ground technology and research and development contract opportunities, 7 to 8 a.m.: registration with presentations 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 18, and 7:30 a.m. registration with presentations 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 19, at the Amoss Center, located at Harford Technical High School, 200 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air (across the road from Harford Community College).

Gary Martin, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, will speak on "APG 2012: The Transition—the Positive Impacts for Our Industry and University Partners." For more information or to register for the showcase, visit www.harford.edu/apgshowcase. Sponsorship information is also available on the site.

FRIDAY

JUNE 20 CRAB FEAST AND BASEBALL FUNDRAISER

The Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland will host a crab feast and baseball fundraiser, 6:30 to 8 p.m., at Ripken Stadium, 873 Long Drive. Tickets cost \$65 per person and include all-you-can-eat crabs, corn on the

cob and game ticket to see the Aberdeen Ironbirds vs. Brooklyn Cyclones. Proceeds will benefit Family and Children's Services Harford County programs.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-838-3222 ext. 221; callers from Baltimore, call 410-803-9617.

THE SEVEN UPS

The Ames United Methodist Church located on 112 Baltimore Pike, Bel Air, will present "The Seven Ups," 7 p.m. Topics include "Love Up" by Ames Praise Sign Ministry; "Strengthen Up and Tighten Up" by Evangelist Darlene Roberson; "Break Up and Move Up" by the Rev. Wanda Duckett; and "Man Up and Pay Up" by the Rev. Winifred J. Blagmond.

For more information, call 410-838-0161.

MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer and soda included. Reservations are required.

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

SATURDAY

JUNE 21 WHITETAILED DEER SURVEY

Harford County seems to

be experiencing explosive population growth - and not just with humans. Help to determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Come get the scoop on poop and conduct pellet (deer scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer call the park home. This free program will be held 9 a.m. to noon for ages 16 to adult. Registration is required.

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

GOING BATTY

Bats are important to the health of the environment and gardens. Make a bat box to take home. This program will be held 11 a.m. to noon for ages 8 to adult. Ages 8 to 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$12 per person. Registration is required.

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

SUMMER'S HERE - KAYAK TRIP

Celebrate the first day of summer in the water by paddling along Otter Point Creek. This program will be held 1 to 4 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-

612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BREWS AND CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer Brews and Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (must be 21 years of age or older). Passengers will be treated to a cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area and enjoy samplings of micro brews from area breweries. Reservations are required.

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

SUNDAY

JUNE 22 SUMMER BIRD WALK

Join birder Phil Powers for a morning hike, 9 to 11 a.m., to search for the birds of summer. Wear sturdy shoes to hike the Leight Park trail. Beginners welcome. This free program is for ages 10 to adult. Registration is required.

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

NEW PADDLERS CANOE INSTRUCTION

Learn new canoe paddling skills or sharpen rusty ones. This program will be held noon to 2:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions

to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

MONDAY

JUNE 23 PICAROONS OF HAVRE DE GRACE

Join the crew of the Martha Lewis for adventure, fun and plunder as they learn about Pirates of the Chesapeake Bay called "picaroons" from the Spanish picaroon, a rogue. Children ages 11 to 15 can join the crew of the Martha Lewis, 9 a.m. to noon, for adventure, fun and plunder. Reservations are required. Cost is \$20 per person.

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

SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 p.m., on the skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and

under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats. Passengers will experience a sunset to remember. Reservations are required.

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

TUESDAY

JUNE 24 NIFT KNOWS AND WHATNOTS

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer Nift Knows and Whatnots for children only, 10 to 11:30 a.m., aboard the skipjack Martha Lewis. Hoist the sails, learn the ropes and make a knot board. Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations are required.

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

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

Chapel News

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.

For more information, call Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516 or e-mail gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil.

POST SHORTS

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 is supporting a training exercise until tomorrow.

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.

BJ's representative available June 26

A BJ's representative will be at the Aberdeen Recreation Center 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., June 26.

For more information, call Patti Harkins, assistant funds manager, Civilian Welfare and Post Restaurant Fund, 410-273-2075 or 410-278-4603.

Thrift Shop holds \$2 bag sale

The Thrift Shop will hold a \$2 bag sale through June 26 for all items in the Sale Room. Shoes, purses, clothing, draperies, bed spreads, and much more are there for the treasure hunter. This sale excludes any military items.

For more information, call 410-272-8572 during store hours: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of the month. Consignments are taken 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

Pools close for concert

Olympic Pool will be closed through June 23 due to concert preparation and will reopen June 24.

Shore Pool will be open through June 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.

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.

RAB meeting scheduled

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

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

Volunteers needed for Retiree Council

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retiree Council is being revitalized. The purpose of the council is "to provide the commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, installation commander, Fort George G. Meade,

Md., and the U.S. Army an insight into the problems and issues expressed by retirees residing on APG and surrounding areas."

To help accomplish this, the APG Retiree Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the council. Interested parties should send an e-mail with contact information to: ricky.godbolt@us.army.mil or jatrano@aol.com.

CPR, AED classes available

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

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

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

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

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

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

Post Deployment Support Group meets at APG

A "Soldiers" (including Sailors, Airmen and Marines) Post Deployment Support Group will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Aberdeen Area Chapel Conference Room.

- The group is "open," which means no appointment necessary.

- The group is "confidential," which means that no record of attendance is kept.

The purpose of the group is to offer a safe place to talk about post deployment

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.

issues and find answers to questions.

For more information, call Joseph O'Rourke, 410-278-1755; Dr. David Pollin, 410-278-1715, or Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Leathers, 410-278-9313.

Bio-Threat Agents Detection Conference

The Inter-Agency Steering Committee extends an invitation to attend the Third National Conference on Environmental Sampling and Detection for Bio-Threat Agents, Dec. 2 through 4, at the Las Vegas Hilton, located at 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nev.

The Department of Defense's Chemical Biological Medical Systems, Joint Project Manager for Biological Defense, and Technical Support Working Group, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Homeland Security have organized the conference to create a forum for dialogue between government, industry, academia, and first responders to address critical issues in environmental sampling and biological detection.

Attendees are invited to submit an abstract for oral and poster presentations. This is an excellent opportunity to share research with key decision-makers

in the sampling and detection arenas.

To reserve a space, visit <http://www.lv Hilton.com/>.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.sampling-conference.com/>

No emergency service at KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is not equipped or staffed to provide emergency medical care. Neither the Aberdeen Area nor Edgewood Area clinics should be considered suitable destinations to receive healthcare for a medical emergency.

For emergencies, call 911. APG's EMS service is manned with paramedic-level emergency medical technicians and state-of-the-art equipment to provide emergency care while en route to local hospitals.

Annual Army Science Conference December 2008

The 26th Army Science Conference will be held Dec. 1 through 4, at the JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes, Orlando, Fla., www.asc2008.com. The theme is Transformational Army Science and Technology-Harnessing Disruptive S&T for the Soldier. The con-

ference agenda will focus on autonomous systems, biotechnology, immersive technology, nanotechnology, network science, neuro-science and quantum information science.

For more information, call Jayne Ashe, CMP, TMP Design Corporation, 757-357-4011 or fax 757-357-5108.

Education Center conducts in-process briefings

The APG Education Center, located in building 4305, second floor, room 213-B, will conduct monthly in-process briefings for Soldiers within their first 30 days of assignment to APG.

The briefings take place 8 to 9 a.m. on the last Monday of each month and are designed to inform Soldiers, enlisted and officers, of programs and services available to meet the requirements of their educational goals and plans. The briefing also will provide information to help establish or recertify the Soldier's long/short-term education goals.

For more information, call Tressie Stout, 410-306-2042.

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



Health Notes

Tiny ticks a threat to Soldier health, mission readiness

Story by

MARY KATHERINE MURPHY

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Tick-borne illnesses present a serious health threat that also can jeopardize operational readiness.

In the United States, the threat is especially strong in late spring and summer.

Aberdeen Proving Ground has a healthy population of ticks.

The black-legged tick, commonly called the deer tick, is most abundant on post, according to Ellen Stromdahl, an entomologist at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

APG's climate and environment support a large number of deer ticks; and like all ticks, they thrive in humid areas with lots of brush. APG also has large, undeveloped areas populated with deer and other animals that serve as hosts for ticks, Stromdahl said.

Deer make the perfect hosts for adult deer ticks

(which cause Lyme disease) to feed and mate. This makes any site with a large deer population a high risk area for ticks and the spread of Lyme disease.

CHPPM entomologists have found that about 20 percent of the deer ticks they have tested were infected with Lyme disease.

"Ticks are ranked second among arthropods at causing life-threatening and debilitating human disease," Stromdahl said. (Arthropods include insects, spiders and centipedes, as well as other segmented creatures.)

Studies and surveys of Soldiers involved in deployment or training repeatedly indicate that ticks impede performance due to discomfort, distraction, bites or sickness, Stromdahl said.

She added that Soldiers may leave their posts, change routes or locations, or abandon their cover, all because ticks are present.

"Soldiers think of everything but ticks when they are going into battle or training," she said.

"At those times, they have

more important situations to deal with."

However, Soldiers ignore potential tick bites at their peril.

"Different tick species transmit different pathogens [disease-causing agents]," she said.

The DOD Human Test Kit Program, which she leads, has analyzed ticks taken from Soldiers' bodies and found tick species that cause Lyme disease, babesiosis (an infection resembling malaria), ehrlichiosis (which can cause fever, kidney failure, seizures and other medical conditions), Rocky Mountain spotted fever and other potentially serious diseases.

The effects of tick bites are usually treatable; however, long-term effects to joints, the heart and the nervous system can occur.

Left untreated, some tick-borne diseases can be fatal.

Initial symptoms of tick bites include headache, fatigue, rash, nausea and fever.

There are simple precau-

tions that Soldiers can take while training or working in a tick-infested area to decrease their risk of being infected, Stromdahl said.

These include wearing a permethrin-treated uniform, putting DEET on all exposed skin, sleeping under a permethrin-treated bed net and wearing their uniform with sleeves down and pants tucked into boots to act as a physical barrier. (Civilians and Family members should take similar precautions, and wear light-colored, tucked-in clothing.)

If despite these protective measures Soldiers find a tick attached to them, the DoD Human Tick Test Kit Program can help.

Stromdahl and the staff of CHPPM's Entomological Sciences Program can test and identify whether a tick is infected with any of eight different diseases at no cost to the Soldier.

Soldiers may contact the program through their military medical care provider.

The Tick Test Kit Program averages two to three thousand ticks from all

Proper tick removal

Remove attached ticks immediately.

- Grasp the tick's mouthparts as close to the skin as possible with fine-tipped tweezers; pull back slowly and steadily with firm force until the barbed mouthparts can be eased out of the skin. Be patient.

- DO NOT squeeze the body of the tick or apply any substance, including petroleum jelly, nail polish, nail polish remover, repellents, pesticides or a lighted match to the tick while it is attached. These materials or methods are either ineffective or, worse, might force more infective fluid into the body.

- After removal, wash the bite site and apply an antiseptic.

- Contact a military medical care provider for instructions on submitting the tick for identification and testing to the DoD Human Tick Test Kit Program.

If the patient develops flu-like symptoms or rashes, or otherwise feels sick after the tick bite, seek medical attention immediately.

Take the tick to the clinic. Prompt diagnosis and treatment will likely speed recovery and prevent lingering symptoms.

over the country each year. Currently the program only accepts ticks from inside the United States.

Even with the help of the testing program, Soldiers training and living on installations with an environment that supports

ticks must remain vigilant in protecting their health, Stromdahl advised.

For more information about ticks, visit the CHPPM Entomological Sciences Program on the Web at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/ento/>.



Commentary: Possums, ticks and cypress trees...ain't that some mixture?

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

When I was a kid growing up, my next door neighbor, who was an old retired coal miner, used to tell me whenever I did something stupid, "Boy," he'd say, shaking his head, "you remind me of a durned old 'possum, the older you get the less you know."

Thinking back on it now, he musta sensed something, even then.

Being a wildlife officer on Aberdeen Proving Ground certainly has its good side, what with being 'out and about' most of the time with the critters. I know it sure beats the heck outta being stuck behind a desk and staring at a computer screen for eight hours. Traipsing around the marsh and the woodlands admiring Mother Nature is a great way to spend the day, and believe me I'm grateful for the opportunity. The problem is, some of the critters around here are a real "pain in the butt," not only figuratively but literally.

This past winter was

especially mild here at APG and as a result we didn't have very much in the way of snow and ice to help reduce the populations of deer ticks, chiggers and mosquitoes. The result is, right now APG is absolutely infested with them.

Recently on a down-range foray into J Field at Edgewood Area, surveying one of our bald eagle nesting sites, without thinking I got out of the truck and made my way down through the marsh and across a patch of woods hoping to get a good look at the nest. The next thing I knew a cloud of mosquitoes jumped on me like I was some kind of Pennsylvania Dutch smorgasbord or something. By the time I finally got back to the car, my arms and neck looked like I'd been used as a guinea pig in some Chinese acupuncture school. For awhile there I thought I was gonna need a blood transfusion just to get me back to the office, and that was only the beginning, next came the ticks. I was still picking ticks off

of me the next day. You'd think that after spending 40 years out in the bushes, I'd have enough sense to use some insect repellent.

So for those of you who spend a lot of time outdoors, and especially those working down range, if you haven't gotten the message yet, take my word for it, the bugs are bad this year.

And for those of you who are new to the installation, let me clue you in on a little secret, APG, even under normal circumstances, is a haven for bugs that bite.

Chiggers are tiny little devils that outta be against the law, and we all know that deer ticks have a tendency to transmit Lyme Disease."

So, don't be like me and old Brer 'Possum in the Uncle Remus stories, if you, or your children, are going to be outside in the high grass and bushes for very long, use some common sense: wear long pants and tape the ankles, use plenty of insect repellent and check yourself and your children thoroughly when you finish what

you're doing. Like I said, they're tiny little devils and they're tough to see.

And, by chance, if you do happen to have a "run-in" with some of these critters, get in touch with the fine folks over at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, or check with the clinic down at Edgewood Area to get the latest information on how to best treat these insect bites. Remember, Lyme Disease ain't nothing to fool around with.

And on another note, as most of you know the winter winds have a tendency to "blow" the water out of the Chesapeake Bay, leaving expanses of shoreline that are normally under water, exposed.

Well, it just so happened that one of my guys, Charlie Volz was down on Maxwell Point in the Edgewood Area last winter when we had one of those "blows" and noticed what appeared to be the remnants of a stand of bald cypress trees that apparently, many, many years ago stood along our shoreline. When he mentioned it to

me, I replied, "Oh, pshaw! Bald cypress trees? Nah, not around here. You must have your wires crossed."

Well, lo and behold, we had another "blow" this week and guess what?

Yep, after looking at them, that's sure what they look like to me too. My apologies, Charlie. Bald cypress trees, huh? Right here at APG. Boy, this place never ceases to amaze me!

Drinking Water Quality Report calendar year 2007

DSHE

About this report

This is an annual report regarding the quality of water delivered to the Edgewood Area of U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground for the period of Jan. 1, 2007 through Dec. 31, 2007 (except where noted). Under the "Consumer Confidence Reporting Rule" of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, community water systems are required to report this water quality information to the consuming public. Presented in this report is information regarding the source of APG water, its constituents and the health risks associated with any contaminants detected in quantities exceeding a drinking water regulatory maximum contaminant level (MCL), action level (AL) or treatment techniques (TT).

Acronyms used throughout this report:

AL.....Action Level	N/A.....Not Applicable
APG.....Aberdeen Proving Ground	ND.....None Detected
DBP.....Disinfection By-Products	NTU.....Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
DBPP.....DBP Precursors	PCi/L.....picocuries per liter
EPA.....Environmental Protection Agency	ppb.....parts per billion
HAA5.....Haloacetic Acids	ppm.....parts per million
IOC.....Inorganic Contaminants	RAD.....Radionuclides
L&C.....Lead and Copper	SDWA.....Safe Drinking Water Act
M&T.....Microorganisms & Turbidity	SOC.....Synthetic Organic Compounds
MCL.....Maximum Contaminant Level	TT.....Treatment Technique
MCLG.....Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	TTHM.....Total Trihalomethanes
MDE.....Maryland Department of the Environment	UNREG.....Unregulated Compounds
	VOC.....Volatile Organic Compounds

Monitoring of drinking water

The drinking water being delivered to the Edgewood Area of APG is pumped from Winters Run and treated by the Van Bibber Water Treatment Plant located at building E-6110 on Route 755 (Edgewood Road), Edgewood, MD 21040.

The APG water system uses only EPA-approved laboratory methods to analyze the drinking water. The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment personnel collect water samples from the

distribution system and from the Van Bibber Water Treatment Plant. Samples are then shipped to the accredited laboratory where a full spectrum of water quality analyses is performed. The results are reported to the Maryland Department of the Environment. In the Edgewood Area, DSHE monitors for the contaminant groups listed in Table 1 using EPA-approved methods. Table 1 also lists the monitoring frequencies for these contaminant groups.

TABLE 1. Contaminant Groups and Monitoring Frequency

Contaminant Group	Monitoring Frequency
Disinfection By-Products (DBP)	Quarterly
DBP Precursors (DBPP)	Monthly
Inorganic Contaminants (IOC)	Once Per Year
Lead and Copper (L&C)	Once Every 3 Years
Microorganisms & Turbidity (M&T)	Daily
Radionuclides (RAD)	Once Every 4 Years
Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC)	Twice Per Year
Unregulated Contaminants (UNREG)	Once Every 5 Years
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	Once Per Year

How can impurities get in the water supply?

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may occur from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Consumers should be aware that drinking water, including bottled water, might reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

Definitions

- **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Contaminants in drinking water, if detected, must be present in levels below the MCLs in order for the system to be in compliance with state and federal regulations.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. Note: MCLGs are goals and not regulatory limits. Public drinking water systems are not required to meet MCLGs.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Special health information for immuno-compromised persons

The Directorate of Safety Health and Environment continually monitors the drinking water for contaminants. The water on APG is safe to drink. However, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other

immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These persons should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

Contact information:

Questions regarding the information contained in this report may be directed to:

- George Mercer – Public Affairs Office – 410-278-1147
- Richard Wiggins – Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment – 410-306-2279

APG - Edgewood Area Water Quality Data (Van Bibber Water Treatment Plant)

Table 2 lists the contaminants detected in the Edgewood Area drinking water distribution system during calendar year 2007 or, in some cases, during the most recent sampling period. DSHE routinely monitors for a number of contaminants in the water supply to meet regulatory drinking water compliance requirements. Table 2 lists only those contaminants that had some level of detection. The drinking water has been analyzed for many other contaminants as well, but they were not detected in the Edgewood Area drinking water distribution system during 2007 or the most recent sampling period.

The highest running annual average detected during 2007 is reported in the "Level Detected" column and the range of individual results is presented in the "Range Detected" column.

Removal of DBPP is monitored by measuring Total Organic Carbon (TOC) before and after treatment and computing a removal ratio. A ratio > 1 indicates compliance with TOC removal requirements. The running annual average ratio for the Edgewood Area system is presented in the "Level Detected" column with the range of monthly running annual average ratios presented in the "Range Detected" column.

The detected level of these inorganic contaminants (IOC) is presented in the "Level Detected" column. Because IOCs are monitored once per year, the range of detections is not applicable.

Compliance for these parameters is demonstrated by comparing the 90th percentile of results to the regulatory Action Level for each parameter. This 90th percentile value is reported to you in the "Level Detected" column. This value represents the concentration that 90 percent of the sites (not values) were below during the most recent round of monitoring (2006). The total number of individual sites that exceeded the Action Level are presented in the "Range Detected" column.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. DSHE monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. One hundred percent of the samples analyzed were below required levels; therefore this percentage is reported in the "Level Detected" column. The range of detected levels is presented in the "Range Detected" column.

The detected level of these contaminants is presented in the "Level Detected" column. Because these contam-

TABLE 2. Contaminants detected in Edgewood Area drinking water during calendar year 2007

Substances We Detected (units)	Group	Level Detected	What's Allowed? (MCL)	Did We Exceed the Limit?	Range Detected	What's the Goal? (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (ppb) ¹	DBP	37	80	NO	22-46	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb) ¹	DBP	46	60	NO	37-47	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TOC (removal ratio) ²	DBPP	N/A	TT	NO	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Antimony (ppm) ³	IOC	3	6	NO	3	6	Refineries; fire retardants; ceramics
Barium (ppm) ³	IOC	0.03	2	NO	0.03	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm) ³	IOC	2.1	4	NO	ND-2.1	4	Water additive to promote strong teeth
Nitrate (ppm) ³	IOC	5.0	10	NO	1-5	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; natural deposits
Chromium (ppb) ³	IOC	2	100	NO	2	100	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) ⁴	L&C	3	15 (AL)	NO	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppb) ⁴	L&C	0.1	1.3 (AL)	NO	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Total Coliform ⁵	M&T	4.0%	<5%	NO	ND-N/A	0	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) ⁶	M&T	98.2%	TT	NO	0.02-0.41	TT	Soil runoff
Gross Alpha (PCi/L) ⁷	RAD	2	15	NO	2	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (PCi/L) ⁷	RAD	5	50	NO	5	0	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Radium-226 (PCi/L) ⁷	RAD	0.3	5	NO	0.3	0	Erosion of natural deposits
DEHP (ppb) ⁸	SOC	0.5	6	NO	0.5	0	Rubber & chemical factory discharge
Carbofuran (ppb) ⁸	VOC	5	40	NO	5	40	Leaching of soil fumigant
Toluene (ppm) ⁸	VOC	0.1	1	NO	ND-0.9	1	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylene, Total (ppm) ⁸	VOC	0.1	10	NO	ND-0.6	10	Petroleum & chemical factory discharge
Chlorine (ppm) ⁹	VOC	3.2	4	NO	0.4-3.2	4	Water additive to control microbes
Bromodichloromethane (ppb) ¹⁰	UNREG	2.9	N/A	NO	ND-13.8	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (ppb) ¹⁰	UNREG	14	N/A	NO	14-40	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (ppb) ¹⁰	UNREG	0.5	N/A	NO	0.5-3	100	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Methomyl (ppb) ¹⁰	UNREG	5	N/A	NO	5	N/A	Runoff from pesticide use
Nikel (ppb) ¹⁰	UNREG	2	N/A	NO	2	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm) ¹⁰	UNREG	25	N/A	NO	8.7-69	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

inants are monitored once every four years, the range of detections is not applicable.

Chlorine is added to APG drinking water to control the presence of microorganisms. The standard by which compliance with chlorine levels is determined is called the maximum residual disinfectant level.

The MRDL is the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The annual average chlorine level is presented in the "Level Detected" column with the range of detected concentrations presented in the "Range Detected" column.

THE WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK

The tables in this report indicate that the water provided by APG and by Harford County had no violations during calendar year 2007. Through monitoring and testing some contaminants have been detected, but the EPA has determined that **THE WATER IS SAFE AT THESE LEVELS.**

Greatest Army inventions of 2007 announced

Story by
LARRY D. MCCASKILL
RDECOM Public Affairs Office

The commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, the U.S. Army vice chief of staff and other senior Army science and technology leaders recognized the U.S. Army's "Top Ten Greatest Inventions of 2007" during an awards ceremony June 12 at the Hyatt Crystal City in Arlington, Va.

"This program highlights those outstanding winning technologies selected by the Warfighter that meet Army goals; enhance esprit de corps across the research and development and Warfighter communities; and promote public awareness of Army research and development community successes in support of the Warfighter," said Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander, AMC.

The Army-wide awards program is

dedicated to recognizing the best technology solutions for the Soldier.

Nominations for the program were submitted from across the Army laboratory community. Nine of the 10 inventions were developed by elements of the U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command.

The Army -- from active duty divisions to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command to the Army's vice chief of staff

-- chose the 10 winning programs based upon their impact on Army capabilities (breadth of use and magnitude of improvement over existing systems), inventiveness, and potential benefit outside the Army.

Like previous years, there are no differentiating categories so that a variety of inventions could be recognized.

Each of the 10 selected teams received an award; the other nominated team members received certificates of participation.

U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center

Self Protective Adaptive Roller Kit

The Self Protective Adaptive Roller Kit (SPARK) provides additional standoff protection to vehicle and crew against pressure-activated or victim operated explosive devices. SPARK can be installed in various configurations for greater coverage.



HMMWV Egress Assistance Trainer

The HMMWV Egress Assistance Trainer (HEAT) teaches Soldiers how to react in a vehicle rollover situation by properly and safely training them on how to open safety restraints and exit a HMMWV from a variety of rotated positions. The training also helps Soldiers overcome the natural fear and panic associated with rollover incidents. Training with the HEAT, now the U.S. Army standard for egress training, is required for all Soldiers. Survival rate after a rollover incident has increased since this training requirement was instituted.

U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center

Improvised Explosive Device Interrogation Arm

Completely operational from inside mine protected vehicles, the Interrogation Arm provides a standoff detection capability and can detect metal, free lift and pry lift objects, and perform shallow digging. A camera also allows the operator to view objects at the end of the arm. Soldiers receive extensive training on how to operate the arm. Interrogation of suspect threats using the arm provides a higher level of survivability for vehicle crews.



U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research

Damage Control Resuscitation of Severely Injured Soldiers

Since its fielding in January 2007, Damage Control Resuscitation - the new standard of care for the most severely injured Soldiers requiring massive transfusions - has dramatically improved survivability. By limiting fluid resuscitation, the patient's blood pressure is stabilized to minimize renewed bleeding from recently formed blood clots. Blood volume is restored by using plasma as the primary resuscitation fluid along with packed red blood cells. The magnitude of improvement has been likened to the improvement after the introduction of antibiotics to medical care.

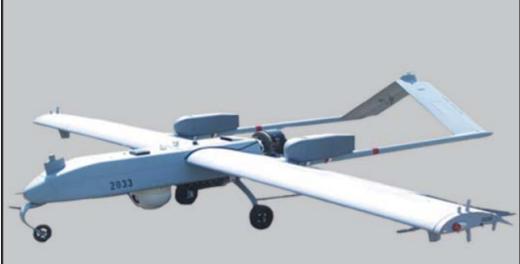


U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center



Reconnaissance Vehicle System

The RECCE Vehicle system combines explosive device detection, defeat, and interrogation capabilities onto a single integrated platform. It increases the safety of Soldiers performing route clearance by enabling them to accurately observe and engage threats from greater distances. Combining the Combat Engineers' skills with the RECCE system's unique collection of capabilities has led to tremendous route clearance success.



Unmanned Aircraft System Shadow 200 Communications Relay System

The CRS enhances "two-way" communications when operating beyond the normal operating limits of standard single-channel ground and system radios. Enhancements include improved situational awareness, call-for-fire capability throughout theater, and "imminent danger" communication to Soldiers as seen on video by ground station operators. Successful CRS configuration deployments include: boom mounted Advanced System Improvement Program (ASIP) radio CRS and wingtip extension handheld PRC-152 radios.

U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center

M110 7.62mm Semi-Automatic Sniper System

The M110 Semi-Automatic Sniper System (SASS) delivers precision, rapid fire on targets and enables execution of operational missions not possible using the current weapon system. High capacity, ammo configurable, quick change magazines enable suppressed, increased rate of fire precision lethality against personnel targets and light materiel targets. This capability allows for more rapid and focused engagements on several targets with multiple follow-on shots. The SASS is the first U.S. Army weapon system that integrates a quick attach/detach sound suppressor to aid with Warfighter survivability.



Objective Gunner Protection Kit

The Objective Gunner Protection Kit provides a common force protection system capable of simple integration onto multiple vehicle platforms. Its integrated turret is mounted onto tactical and armored vehicles for increased Force Protection from explosive device fragmentation and enemy small arms fire. The 360° ballistic protection allows visibility for situational awareness without compromising system effectiveness, reliability, and lethality. The unique asymmetric geometry enables proper engagement of the primary weapon. More than 8,000 kits were fielded in CY07.

Picatiny Blast Shield for Light Armored Vehicle

The Picatinny Blast Shield (PBS) system is a modular protective solution that protects vehicle commanders from small arms fire and fragmentation resulting from explosive devices. The PBS system mounts onto armored vehicles to provide front, side and rear protection. Transparent armor is utilized to provide complete weapons integration and full visibility through the shield without compromising protection. The PBS system was designed, developed and fielded in response to a U.S. Marine Corps Light Armored Vehicle Operational Advisory Group requirement for survivability upgrades.



XM982 Excalibur Precision Guided Extended Range Artillery Projectile

Excalibur, the world's first 24/7 precision-strike capability for Field Artillery, ushered in the 21st Century for cannon artillery. It provides precision guided, extended range capability. Precision guidance and revolutionary accuracy (compared to all conventional artillery projectiles) is achieved through an automatic update of the navigation system. Along with increased survivability, Excalibur provides the Army Warfighter with unmatched precision and lethality for artillery projectiles critical to urban warfare where the risk of collateral damage is extremely high.

