

APG News

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Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

April 16, 2009 Vol. 53, No. 15



See page 16 for Year of the NCO article.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for April 22, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



FMWR concert ticket presale April 21 through 24

A special presale ticket price of \$30 will go on sale to the APG community April 21 through 24. Sales will be walk-in only at the Aberdeen or Edgewood Area Recreation centers.

For more information, visit the FMWR Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Well-Being meeting today

The next Well-Being Action Council Meeting is today at 9:30 a.m., in the Edgewood Area Post Chapel.

National Health Care Decisions Day today

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will participate in National Health Care Decisions Day, today 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the KUSAHC lobby.

National Health Care Decisions Day is an initiative to encourage patients to express their wishes regarding healthcare and for providers and facilities to respect those wishes, whatever they may be. Representatives will be available at the KUSAHC lobby to provide informational materials and draft advance directives for eligible clientele.

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APG celebrates The Year of the NCO

RDECOM NCO of the Year selected

Story by **LARRY D. MCCASKILL**
RDECOM Public Affairs

After a week of exams, essays, exercise and extra studying came exhilaration for a communications noncommissioned officer as he was selected as the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Sgt. Matthew Phelan with the Communications Electronic Research, Development and Engineering Center at Fort Monmouth, N.J., persevered to edge out the other competitors.

"I just tried the best that I could and counted on the training to get me through the hard parts," he said. "It does feel good to win after hours and hours of studying and working extra hard in the gym. For me it really boiled down to committing myself to a lot of time to do a lot of studying."

"This is extremely important in the career of a Soldier, specifically when we are talking about this year being recognized by the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army as the Year of the NCO," said Command Sgt Maj. Hector G. Marin, RDECOM Command Sergeant Major.

"As NCOs, we have to con-

tinue to improve ourselves by educating ourselves and by setting the example. What these NCOs have done today is stepped up among their peers by taking a step forward and accepting this challenge to be able to educate themselves to become better leaders in the future," Marin said.

The first day of the competition required the Soldiers to take the Army Physical Fitness Test and go through a land navigation course. Day two involved weapons qualifications on the M-4 Rifle and M-9 Pistol and going through Reflective Fire procedures and warrior tasking drills. Day three was a run through the Edgewood Area obstacle course followed by an essay and an exam. Day four was the board and the announcement.

The four NCOs representing different elements of the command competed for the title.

"Boards like this are extremely helpful in shaping a person's leadership skills. It also helps you find out what you don't know. Knowing what you don't know is as important as knowing what you do know," said Sgt. Alycia Hackemer, a military police NCO at Natick Soldier Research, Development and

See **NCO**, page 16

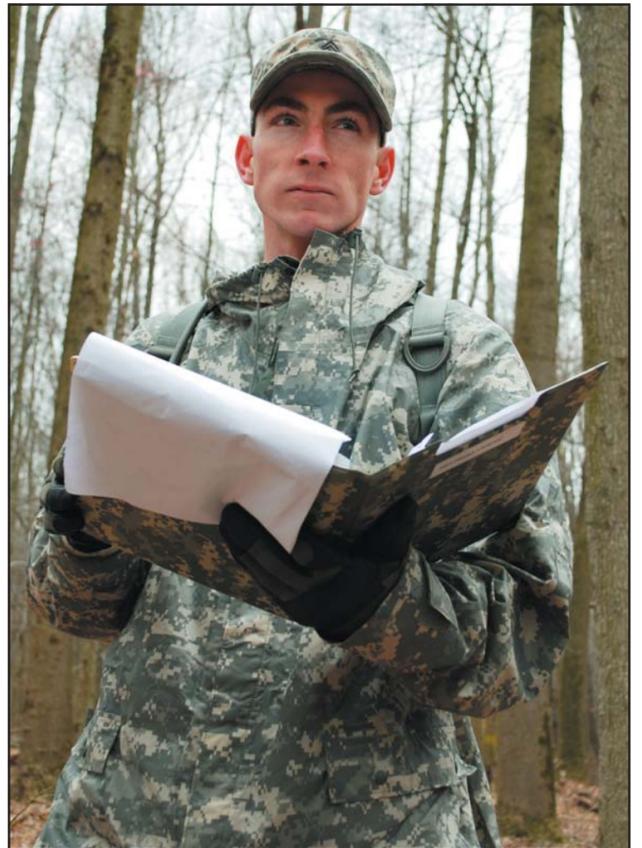


Photo by CONRAD JOHNSON

Sgt. Matthew Phelan reviews material during the Land Navigation portion of the 2009 RDECOM Noncommissioned Officer of the Year competition. Phelan, from the U.S. Army Communications Electronic Research, Development and Engineering Center, Fort Monmouth, N.J., was selected as this year's top NCO.

New museum to replace Ordnance Museum at APG

RDECOM PAO

Aberdeen Proving Ground is moving forward with plans to replace the Ordnance Museum, one of Harford County's main tourist attractions.

"We have good news to share with our Harford County neighbors," said Jeffery K. Smart, command historian for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. "The good news is that we have begun planning for a new museum to eventually replace the Ordnance Museum which is moving to Fort Lee, Virginia."

Smart said the new museum's mission will likely be to interpret three broad topics of APG history: communications and electronics, APG tenant activities and the early

history of the APG site.

The Ordnance Museum with its large collection of tanks, vehicles, and weapons, will be moving to Virginia under the Base Relocation and Closure process. However, not all of the Ordnance Museum's large collection of tanks and artillery pieces will move to Fort Lee; a portion will stay at APG and become part of the new museum's collection.

In addition to the items remaining from the Ordnance Museum, the Army Communications and Electronics Museum, currently at Fort Monmouth, N.J., is scheduled to move to APG under BRAC. This museum has a large collection of electronic equipment to include radar, radios, satellites,

See **MUSEUM**, page 15



Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon Jr., left, stands next to U.S. Army Materiel Command Chaplain (Col.) Kenneth L. Sampson as Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, center, leads the opening hymn during the combined Easter Sunrise Service at the Post Chapel April 12. Behind Kim is Chaplain (Maj.) Fred Townsend, Resource Chaplains; along with Chaplains (Capt.) Kurt O'Donnell, 16th Ordnance Battalion; (Lt. Col.) Scott Weichl, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine; and (Capt.) Chad Davis, 143rd Ordnance Battalion. Not shown is Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jeff Zust, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering command, and lead organizer of the annual event.

Hope, renewal, encouragement focus of Easter message

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

On a chilly spring morning, congregants at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Easter Sunrise Service were warmed by a message of hope, renewal and encouragement from the program's guest speaker, Chaplain (Col.) Kenneth L. Sampson, chaplain of the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Hosted by the APG Chaplaincy, the service was held at the Main Post Chapel April 12. Guests seated on chairs and bleachers took in the gaily decorated podium which was surrounded by white Easter lilies and stood in front of a large, white cloth-draped cross, all of which were erected by the instal-

lation's chaplain's assistants, led by Staff Sgt. Deon Guidry, 61st Ordnance Brigade.

Chaplain (Col.) Ruben Colon Jr. issued a welcome to guests and an opening prayer, proclaiming, "the Lord is risen," and asking for daily blessings.

"Make this day a special day and one in which we receive you as our Savior," he prayed.

The program included a Call to Worship by Chaplain (Maj.) Fred Townsend; a responsive reading by Chaplain (Capt.) Kurt O'Donnell; the Affirmation of Faith by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Scott Weichl; an Offertory Prayer by Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Davis;

See **EASTER**, page 8

TRAFFIC ALERT

Important gate closure information

Maryland Boulevard will be closed for out bound traffic west of the Bush River/Deer Creek Loop intersection on April 18 and 25 and May 2 for testing of the active vehicle barrier systems for the new gate facility.

The Harford Boulevard Gate will open at 7 a.m. on those days for outbound traffic only.

The Maryland Boulevard Gate will remain open for inbound traffic, trucks and visitors; however, inbound traffic will be detoured around the gate canopy and barrier via Ruggles Golf Course Road and Reilly Road.

Both detours will be signed to provide guidance.

The Maryland Boulevard Gate will reopen for outbound traffic and the Harford Boulevard Gate will close at 4:30 p.m. each day.

For more information, contact Jerry Norris, Directorate of Public Works, 410-306-1159.

Eagle Point, new workspaces to house incoming Army Team C4ISR employees

By **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
CECOM LCMC (Forward)

In response to the large number of employees scheduled to relocate to Aberdeen Proving Ground this summer, Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (Forward) is setting up an office relocatable worksite named 'Eagle Point' to provide temporary workspace for 500 employees.

Master Sgt. Walter M. Farrell, senior enlisted advisor CECOM Life Cycle Management Command (Forward), hosted the monthly objective site tour for Army Team C4ISR employees last month at APG. Employees boarded a bus at the CECOM LCMC headquarters (Forward) for a ride to Aberdeen Area of APG where the \$477 million Army Team C4ISR Phase 1 complex is being built.

"We want to keep our team members informed about the progress of the building and our advanced operations here,"

See **EAGLE PT**, page 17

Seven retire during March ceremony



1st Sgt. J. Lee Gross



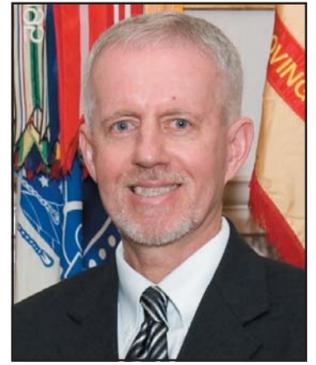
Staff Sgt. Darrin L. Mack



Christopher C. Zukowski



Dorothy N. Ballard



Lawrence J. Dumm

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Photos by **SEAN KIEF**
Garrison Photographer

Two Soldiers and five civilians totaling more than 200 years of experience formally ended their careers during a retirement ceremony at Top of the Bay March 25.

Col. Thomas M. Logan, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, presided over the ceremony and presented awards to the honorees assisted by CHPPM Sgt. Maj. Osvaldo J. Ponzio.

The retirees included 1st Sgt. J. Lee Gross, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion; Staff Sgt. Darrin L. Mack, HHC 16th Ordnance Battalion; Christopher C. Zukowski, Dorothy N. Ballard, Wyatt K. Wallace and Diana L. Armstrong, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; and Lawrence J. Dumm, Directorate of Information Management.

Aberdeen Proving Ground Adjutant Janet Dettwiler welcomed guests on behalf of Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and RDECOM.

Quoting Sir Winston Churchill who said, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give,"

Logan said, "We are recognizing these seven retirees for all they have given."

He said the retirees have given their time, energy and talents to help make today's Army the best in the world and to keep the nation safe and secure.

"Each one of these great individuals can look back at their careers and take pride in their hard work and personal sacrifices, knowing that their contributions played a significant part in our Army's successes and achievements," Logan said. "I congratulate each of you, and thank you for the years of dedicated and loyal service you have given to your organizations and to our Army."

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band's brass quintet provided music for the ceremony and Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim, garrison deputy chaplain, presented the invocation.

1st Sgt. J. Lee Gross

Gross was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement. The Presidential Certificate of Appreciation was presented at a later date.

A native of Roanoke, Va., Gross entered the Army in 1985. He ended his 24-year career as operations sergeant, battalion S-3, 143rd Ordnance Battalion. His past assignments include Germany, Bosnia, Fort

Stewart, Ga., Fort Drum, N.Y., and Roanoke, Va. where he served as an Army recruiter. His military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, basic and advanced noncommissioned officer courses, the U.S. Army Battle Staff Course, and recruiting, drill sergeant and first sergeant courses. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation and Achievement medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the NATO Medal.

Gross said his plans include spending time with his 15-month-old son Jacob and fishing as well as pursuing a second career as a JROTC instructor.

He thanked OC&S Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks and 61st Ordnance Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Freeman for coming to his aid "in a time of need."

"I have a lot of history here," he said, noting that he had served as both a drill sergeant and as a first sergeant in the 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

"This place holds a special place in my heart," he said.

Staff Sgt. Darrin L. Mack

Mack was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the DA Certificate of Retirement. The Presidential Certificate of Appreciation was presented on a later date. His wife



Diana L. 'Dee' Armstrong

Regina Mack was presented the DA Certificate of Appreciation signed by Gen. George W. Casey Jr., Army Chief of Staff.

Mack was born in Charleston, S.C., and entered the Army in 1989. His past assignments include Germany, Korea, and numerous stateside assignments. He ends his 20-year career as a master instructor with HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion.

As well as obtaining certification as a welding instructor by the American Welding Society, Mack's military education includes the Warrior Leaders Course, advanced and basic noncommissioned officer courses and the Total Army Instructor Training Course.

His past awards include the Army Commendation and Achievement medals, Global War on Terrorism and Humanitarian Service medals and the



Wyatt K. Wallace

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

He holds an associate of arts in arts and sciences from Harford Community College and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y.

Mack and his wife, have one son, Darrin Jr. He said his retirement plans include fishing, bowling and home repair and that he plans to move back to South Carolina and continue to teach and work as a welding instructor.

He thanked God and his wife "for sticking by me all this time."

"I'm blessed to have reached this point," Mack said. "I want to thank my wife, my Family, everyone I work with and everyone I worship with at Bread of Life [Ministries in Aberdeen] for their support."

See RETIREMENT, page 13

Preventing substance abuse on APG

Alcohol Awareness month kicks off at APG

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

Staff members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Substance Abuse Program were out in force April 2 encouraging members of the community to take a voluntary alcohol screening test to mark Alcohol Awareness Month.

Vivian Jackson, alcohol and drug abuse program technician; Judith Smith, installaton biochemical technical coordinator, and Samson Robinson, substance abuse specialist, greeted shoppers at the Post Exchange where they set up two Alcohol Awareness Month displays.

Smith said they would spend the day inviting customers to participate in the voluntary, anonymous assessment.

"Based on the numbers, we advise them [whether or not] to get more information," she said.

Participants received water bottles, candy, puzzle pens, and other gifts as well as pamphlets and fliers on other ASAP services.

"Even though they are allowed to drink, we want them to be responsible," Jackson told

one Advanced Individual Training Soldier. "We want them to understand how to be responsible and to understand that over drinking, especially when in a strange city or unfamiliar area, can lead to trouble.

Customers like Pvt. Christopher Curry, Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, and Sandy Griner Company C, 16th, said they saw the value of the program.

"If you answer honestly, it could be a great help," Curry said.

"And, it's a good way to get Soldiers thinking and self-focused," added Griner. "Most don't think they have a problem."

Chief Warrant Officer 3 William Couch of the Joint Personal Effects Depot said the survey and other ASAP programs help officers and senior noncommissioned officers tackle several thorny leadership challenges involving the legal use of what can be a dangerous drug.

"Every leader needs an opportunity to set up for success," Couch said, "If leaders use these programs it not only sets up the command for success but it sets up the Soldier for

success as well."

IMCOM

In recognition of Alcohol Awareness Month, the Department of Defense is offering free anonymous assessment tools online to educate service members and their Families about the symptoms and signs of alcohol abuse. These tools are designed to educate military personnel about the potential for risks associated with alcohol use and top help them make informed decisions about their drinking behavior. To raise awareness about these and other resources available to service personnel and their Families, visit the new Web site www.DrinkingIQ.org. The service connects users to online tools available at no cost, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Providing service members and their Families with information an resources empowers them to learn the potential risks associated with drinking and determine if they or a loved one may need to seek appropriate support," said Col. Joyce Adkins, Department

See ALCOHOL, page 4



Pvt. Christopher Curry, Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, foreground, fills out an alcohol awareness questionnaire, while Pvt. Sandy Griner, Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion, listens to questionnaire instructions from Samson Robinson, a substance abuse manager with the APG Army Substance Abuse Program, during the Alcohol Awareness Month open house in the Post Exchange lobby April 2.

APG News

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PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; send e-mail to editor-apg@conus.army.mil or debi.horne@us.army.mil or contact reporters Yvonne Johnson at yvonne.johnson5@us.army.mil or 410-278-1148 or Rachel Ponder at rachel.ponder@us.army.mil or 410-278-1149.

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

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COMMAND SGT. MAJ.'S CORNER

Commentary: Strength in diversity

By
**COMMAND SGT MAJ
HECTOR G. MARIN**
RDECOM

This United States has been called the great American melting pot. It is a metaphor to explain how the ingredients of the many races, ethnicities, religions and creeds found in America can come together to become stronger than any one ingredient alone. The melting pot brings us together and changes us into a stronger people.

That diversity is part of what makes our Army strong. We take young men and women from all backgrounds, some who come from several generations of Americans and some who are first generation Americans, and turn them into a force with a common focus, the defense of our great way of life.

We understand better than most that success has nothing to do with the color of your skin, where you were born or the type of religion to which you belong. In fact, we know there is only one color of importance to the Soldier and that is Army green. And, we know that it is what you achieve that matters.

One famous example of how diversity made us stronger comes from World War II. The Army and Marine Corps used a group of 24 Navajo Indian code talkers in the Pacific Theater, who fought in the many bloody island campaigns. In Europe, the 4th Infantry Division had 17 Comanche code talkers who from the D-Day landings at Normandy to the Battle of the Bulge kept our lines of communication secure. By recognizing and utilizing something unique within the fabric of Americana, the military identified a means to transmit secret messages in a code our enemies could never break. But, we still had a long way to go back then in fully utilizing the strength we find in diversity.

It was only in 1948, when President Harry S. Truman signed an executive order that led to the integration of the military that we really started on the road to becoming the model of meritocracy that our military is today. In fact, minorities now comprise more than a third of



our armed forces.

Today military leaders from allied nations marvel at the cohesiveness of American military units and are amazed that we do it with such a wide range of people from various backgrounds and cultures. They marvel at how Soldiers with so many differences can put them aside and be the dominant fighting force that we are.

One way that cohesiveness is achieved is through our NCO Corps, our first line leaders. Today's NCO is an innovative, competent and professional enlisted

leader grounded in heritage, values and tradition yet who understands the young men and women of our modern society.

Today's NCOs are capable of leading, training and motivating our diverse teams and enforcing common standards for them all. They must be culturally astute not just of the complex American way of life but understanding and respectful of other ways of life.

The late Malcolm Forbes, former chairman and editor-in-chief of the magazine that bears his name, once said diversity is the art of thinking independently together. I like to think he meant acting together as well.

Perhaps it is the shared intensity of Army life which breaks down barriers between people of different racial, ethnic or cultural backgrounds. I think Army life creates a common bond that pushes the insignificant differences away.

NCOs are the standard keepers for that way of life. Training, leading, coaching and mentoring Soldiers forges those bonds. Our NCOs embody the concept of adaptability for our Soldiers from the barracks of basic training to the mountains of Afghanistan and that is why they are able to take our diversity and turn it into our strength.

The Army is an environment where every member is valued and challenged

to achieve their potential while executing their duties and the Army's mission.

I am grateful that I wear a uniform that makes it possible for one Soldier to look another Soldier in the eye and think only about the tasks at hand. The Army is such a place because of its NCOs.

Sign up for LOGSA conference soon

Story by
SARAH BUCHHEIT
USAMC LOGSA

The U.S. Army Materiel Command's Logistics Support Activity and the Council of Logistics Engineering Professionals will hold the 2009 Life Cycle Logistics Tools Workshop and User's Group Conference and Seminar, May 12 to 14 at the Holiday Inn, downtown Huntsville, Ala.

Logistics professionals interested in growing their knowledge and expertise as well as taking advantage of the tools and software LOGSA has to offer should sign up soon.

Day one begins with keynote speaker retired Lt. Gen. Roy Beauchamp followed



by Brig. Gen. William Crosby, PEO, Aviation. The rest of the day includes a variety of speakers from ARDEC, the

Defense Acquisition University, other DA organizations and a preliminary overview of LOGSA's tools.

Days two and three will feature basic and advanced user sessions on LOGSA's broad array of tools, including one-on-one roundtable discussions and question-and-answer sessions. Twin sessions will be offered at different times throughout the conference in order to accommodate various interests and levels of expertise.

Look for six primary discussion topics to round out the latter portion of the conference. These include SYSPARS, a tool designed to create and format planning documents; CASA, enabling logisticians to analyze life cycle costs;

COMPASS, a level of repair software analysis tool; PowerLog, a logistics management system designed to simplify provisioning efforts; and PFSA, which measures system performance metrics.

Look for some new topics at this year's conference as well, including Condition Based Maintenance and GEIA Standards and Policy Updates.

For more information or to register, visit www.logisticsengineers.org.

Spaces are limited for this opportunity to learn more about the logistics tools that will increase productivity and ease the work load.

For more information, call Bill Horne, 757-858-6000 x243.

Alcohol

From page 2

of Defense, Office of Health Affairs. "Research indicates that brief interventions for drinking problems can be an effective treatment for some alcohol use disorders without the need for further clinical intervention."

What to do if you think a friend or Family member may have an alcohol problem:

- Let the friend or Family member know that risky drinking can lead to more severe alcohol problems including alcohol dependence (alcoholism), as well as injuries and unwanted/unprotected sex.
- Seek out resources in the local community such as AA, Al-Anon, and Alateen, as well as mental health clinics, therapists, clergy, doctors and social workers who are knowledgeable about alcohol problems. Don't let pride or fear block efforts to get help for anyone.
- Use the resources. Do what you

can to encourage your friend or Family member to get help, but remember the only person you can change is yourself. Don't hesitate to use the resources to help yourself.

- Don't make excuses for the drinker. Family members often try to protect a loved one from the consequences of his or her drinking by making excuses to others. Making excuses allows the loved one to avoid changing for the better.

- Choose a good time to talk with the drinker, such as shortly after an alcohol-related problem has occurred. Choose a time when he or she is sober, when both are calm and the discussions can be private.

- Be specific. Tell the friend or Family member that you are concerned about his or her drinking and want to be supportive in getting help. Back up your concern with examples of the ways in which their drinking has caused problems for both of you, including the most recent incident.

- Seek out the people and resources that can support you. Keep in mind that you are not alone. There is hope and help available.



Photos by SARA RIVERS COFIELD, MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION LABORATORY

Visitors at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., browse "Written in Bone" Forensic Files of the 17th Century Chesapeake," a temporary exhibit that examines the things that human remains can tell us about how people lived, and is currently home to a 17th century hoe that is part of APG's Old Baltimore Collection.

APG historic artifact featured in Smithsonian exhibit

By **SUSAN ANDERSON**
APG News Intern

History buffs at Aberdeen Proving Ground take note: a grubbing hoe from APG's Old Baltimore Collection is now on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., as a part of "Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th Century Chesapeake," an exhibit examining 17th century bone biographies and their insight into the lives of Chesapeake residents of the period.

"The exhibit is very much about human remains and what they tell you about how people lived," said Sara Rivers Cofield, curator, Federal Collections, Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory, or MAC Lab. "They wanted to feature artifacts that illustrate the sort of work that these people engaged in because of evidence of intense manual labor can be seen on human remains."

The grubbing hoe, also known as a weeding hoe, is a heavy, narrow hoe traditionally

used for uprooting plants and would have been a common tool used by tobacco farmers of the time, APG historian Mark Gallihue, explained.

"Tobacco was the Chesapeake's leading cash crop," Gallihue said. "In fact, they grew so much of it that they wore out the land, and it was largely responsible for problems with starvation in the Chesapeake at this time."

In addition to several more hoes, The Old Baltimore Collection includes many other artifacts that illustrate the importance of tobacco to the region, including a wide variety of tobacco pipes.

Gallihue explained the importance of the pipes to the dating of the site.

"They are able to do a lot of dating of archeological sites through these pipes just because they have so much information collected over time on them, and they can make a judgment based on some of these factors," he said.

The Old Baltimore Collection, which holds 15,640



APG's Old Baltimore Collection's grubbing hoe is common of the types of tools 17th century Chesapeake residents would have used in the farming of tobacco, the main cash crop of the area at the time.

artifacts to date, is primarily being held at the MAC Lab, located at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in St. Leonard, Md.

"We're one of several federal agencies whose artifacts are held there, and it works really well because a scholar can come into that facility, and the curator can point them in the right direction of any artifacts that might fit their interests that are in the Army's, Navy's or various other federal agencies' collections," Gallihue said.

However, don't expect that to be the case forever.

Gallihue said that in working with APG Garrison Commander Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, they're looking at a long term plan of incorporating the pieces into an APG museum which would include artifacts unique to the installation.

The Written in Bone exhibit was unveiled in February and will be open to the public through Feb. 6, 2011.

For more information on the exhibit visit the Smithsonian Web site, <http://www.mnh.si.edu/education/exhibitions/writteninbone/index.html>.

Bicycles - not just for recreation anymore

Story by
JENELLE L. FERGUSON
Installation Safety Office

Bicycle riding can be a fun way to get exercise. What was once considered a recreational activity mostly for children, bicycling has increasingly become an alternative mode of transportation for adults – thanks to the high price of gasoline. Bike riding can provide much enjoyment, but accidents do happen – some can be life-endangering.

Each year thousands of people go to the emergency room because of bicycle injuries. Some deaths occur due to head injuries.

“That is why it’s important to wear a bike helmet,” said Overton Johnson Jr., chief, Installation Safety Office. “Wearing a helmet does not prevent injuries, but it will provide protection for the rider’s head and brain should the rider fall off the bike.”

In March 1999, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a uniform, mandatory federal safety standard for all bike helmets. All helmets manufactured or imported for sale in the United States must meet the requirements of the standard and carry a label or sticker stating the same. According to the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute, a bicycle helmet reduces the risk of serious head and brain injury by 85 percent.

APG’s bicycling policy, “Safety in Bicycling on Aberdeen Proving Ground,” became effective Feb. 24.

“The policy specifies the safety requirements that all bicycle operators must adhere to while riding on APG,” Johnson said. “It is important to remember that a bicycle is not a toy. It is a vehicle.”

Safety tips, requirements for bicyclists

Safety equipment

- A bicycle helmet must always be worn regardless of the distance to be traveled.
- Wear a reflective belt or vest while on APG – it must be worn at all times while traveling on APG roads.
- Use a bright headlight for night riding.
- Bicycles should be fitted with the following:
 - * A red reflector on the rear
 - * A white reflector on the front
 - * A red or colorless spoke reflector on the rear wheel
 - * An amber or colorless reflector on the front wheel
 - * Pedal reflectors
 - * A horn or bell
 - * A rear view mirror

Clothes and shoes

- Wear snug fitting clothes to prevent them from getting tangled in a bicycle’s moving parts.
- Wear bright colored clothing. It helps other people on the road see the cyclist.
- Wear retro-reflective clothing if riding at night. It is designed to bounce back to motorists’ headlight beams, making the cyclist more visible.
- Wear non-skid shoes to prevent feet from slipping off pedals.

Traffic laws

- Bicyclists are prohibited from wearing headphones on APG.
- Always ride single file and stay to the right of the road.
- Obey all traffic lights and traffic signs.
- Be aware of cars even if they are parked.
- If cycling in traffic, do not weave in and out of traffic lanes.
- Look out for pedestrians, and always signal before turning, even if no one

appears to be in sight.

Know the road

- Keep an eye on the road ahead to be prepared for road obstacles.
- Watch out for obstacles that can cause falls: wet leaves, big puddles, changes in the road surface, storm grates, gravel or rocks and curbing.

Road rules

- Always ride with hands on the handlebars.
- Always stop and check for traffic in both directions when leaving a driveway, an alley or a curb.

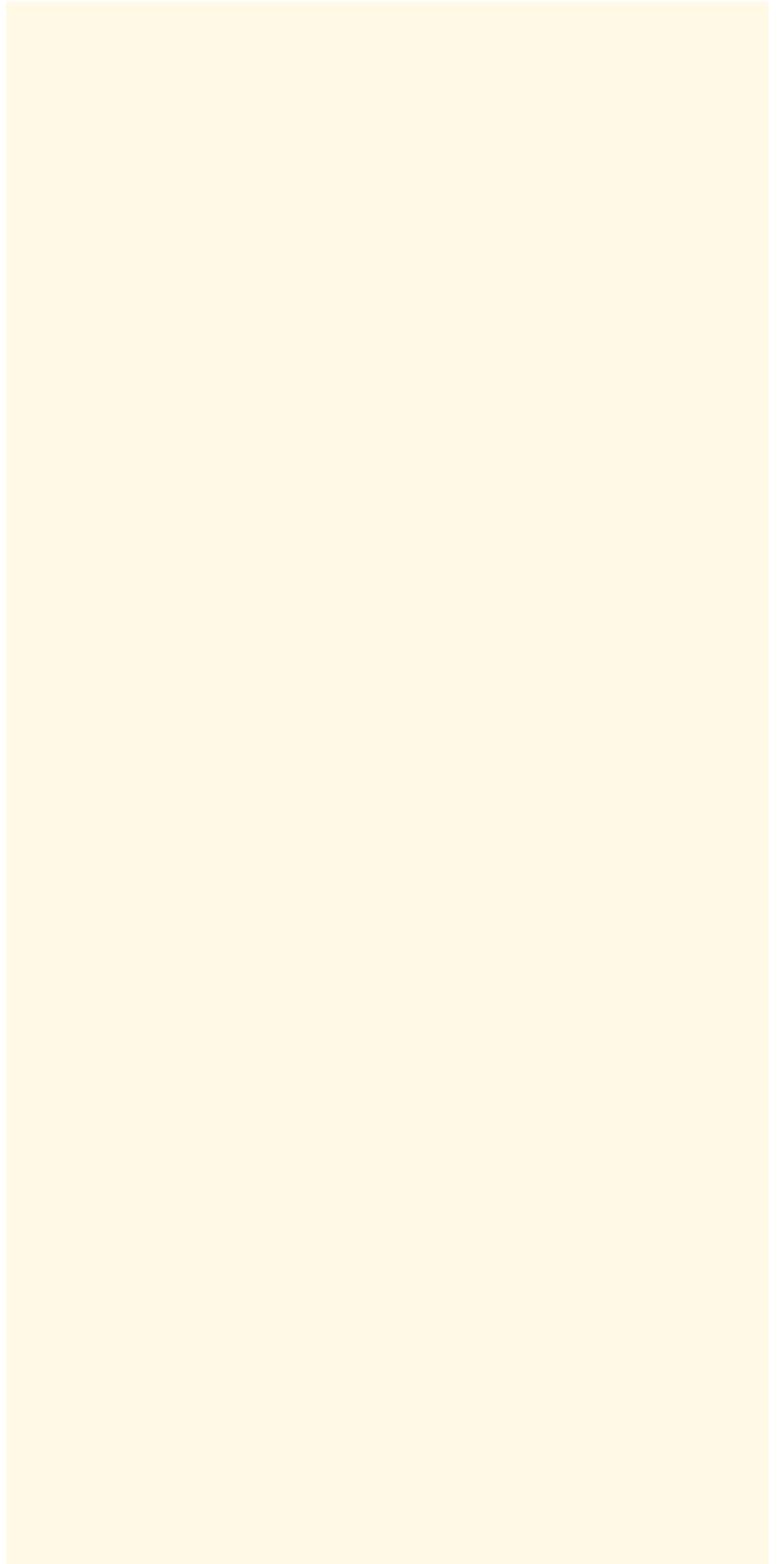
• Walk the bike across intersections using the crosswalk and following traffic signals.

- Ride on the right hand side of the street, traveling in the same direction as traffic.
- Never ride against traffic.

• Don’t ride too close to parked cars. Doors can open suddenly. When a rider pulls out between parked cars, drivers can’t see the cyclist coming.

- Ride single file on the street when with friends.

• When passing other bikers or people on the street, always pass to their left side, and call out “On your left!”



Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

“Adventures in driving decision making” is brought to everyone by the Installation Safety Office.

Read the following scenario and then from the options provided, select the best answer. The answers are printed upside down.

Situation #29

While driving, you come to a railroad track where a freight train is passing in front of you. You’ve slowed down to 25 mph. Your timing is pretty good, because the last car of the train passes in front of you, and you then accelerate to cross the tracks. In doing so, you suddenly see that it is a double track and there is another train coming from your right in the opposite direction. You’re headed directly across its path going 30 mph. What should you do?

A. Hard accelerate to cross ahead of it.

B. Swerve left to run parallel to it.

Answer B. “Swerve left to run parallel” with the train is the thing to do. You might have been able to get across the track, but that’s too big a risk to take.

Answer A. So, you think you can beat it? Choosing to “hard accelerate to cross ahead of it” might work, but then again, it might not. It’s not worth the chance you take. Consider Answer B.



Chapel News

Commentary: God cares

By

**CHAP (MAJ)
FRED C. TOWNSEND**

I want to tell you something that is very important—especially during times of great difficulty, “God cares.” Allow me to tell you my story.

In 1975, as a young 2nd class petty officer (E6) in the Navy, I was sailing on the USS Holland to Scotland. During this cruise I had the difficult task of leading 60 of the most undisciplined sailors on the impossible mission of feeding 1,100 crewman three times a day. I was to do this for three long months.

Everyday was filled with confrontation and yelling and stress.

I was now about one month into my three months of torture and had been laboring for 16 hours a day deep in the bowels of the ship for more than 10 days without seeing any daylight. I was worn out and on this particular day in exasperation I threw my hands into the air and yelled, “I’m going topside—I’ll be back!”

As a sailor, I had spent many hours standing outside along the ship’s railing, looking out over the vast waters of the Pacific. Many thousands of times I witnessed—with each plunging of the ship’s bow—small school’s of Flying Fish dancing across the waters of the Pacific as they fled from the bow of this gray intruder. Usually these schools averaged 10 to 15 fish. On this occasion I remember saying, “Lord, this is beautiful.” This sight never looked more beautiful to me. The bow rose up and crashed down once more—10 to 15 more fish religiously danced across the waters. Again I said, “Lord, this is beautiful!” The bow rose once again and that is when it happened. From deep within my spirit the Lord spoke (like having one of my own thoughts), he said, “If you think that is beautiful, look at this!” Without thinking and without hesitation, I leaned forward with anticipation to see what was going to happen. This time something extraordinary occurred—when the bow plunged, hundreds of flying fish danced across the surface of the Pacific. That’s right—hundreds! What a sight! The ocean simply exploded with life. It looked like the grand finale of a great fireworks display. This amazing sight never occurred again. The ship’s bow obediently rose and fell on queue only to reveal the usual 10 to 15 fish.

I stood on the deck in utter silence, realizing that God did something very personal for me in my hour of need—God really cares!

To think that God gathered dozens of schools of Flying Fish and rallied them to that part of the ocean at that precise time for little ole’ me in my hour of need—simply amazes me.

When you think that you are alone, insignificant and without power in this world, remember, that a young person just like yourself once felt the same way only to discover that God is always present—watching and caring.

Chapel hosts Asian-Pacific Night April 18

The Catholic faith community will present Asian-Pacific Night with a performance by Filipino-American Association of Upper Chesapeake, 6 p.m., April 18, at the Aberdeen Post Chapel. A new priest also will be welcomed, Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Morse. The chapel will provide Asian-Pacific foods including lumpia (egg rolls), pansit (noodles with vegetables and chicken), adobo (chicken and pork ribs), red rice, beverages, rolls and butter. Guests are asked to bring their choice of vegetable, salad or dessert.

For more information, call Connie Richardson, 410-676-0179, e-mail caro992@comcast.net.

Easter

From front page

and a scripture reading by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jeff Zust. Also, Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim gave the benediction and led the singing of hymns, ‘Christ the Lord is Risen Today,’ and ‘Christ Arose.’

As in Zust’s scripture reading, Sampson focused on the Bible’s book of Mark, Chapter 16, and Verses 6 through 8 in which after the Crucifixion, visitors find Jesus’ body is missing from the sepulcher, or burial chamber, and are told by an angel that he has risen.

Sampson said that although the visitors fled in fear, the Resurrection quickly became something to celebrate.

“This morning we celebrate that power of the Resurrection, a power that meets the needs of mankind,” Sampson said.

He said the scripture demonstrates the “tremendous hope we have in the Resurrection,” and the “aspirations for our future.”

“That resurrected power gives us hope that Jesus Christ lives within us,” he said. “We are part of the next chapter to follow Jesus to Galilee and spread the good news. The power of the lesson is that we are able to tell that story because of the Holy Spirit inside of us. Because we are privileged to have inner excitement that Christ is risen, we are able to have hope, renewal and encouragement.”

At the program’s conclusion, visitors dined on a complimentary breakfast of eggs, sausage, biscuits and more which was prepared and served by members of the chapel’s Protestant Service and Soldiers from the 16th Ordnance Battalion.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band’s brass quintet, led by Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Davis, Music Support Team leader, provided music for the ceremony.

EEO Office seeks SEP representatives

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The APG Equal Employment Opportunity Office is seeking representatives to serve on the following EEO Special Emphasis Program committees: Black Employment, Individuals with Disabilities, Federal Women's, Hispanic Employment, Native/ Alaskan Native American Employment and the Asian/Pacific American Employment.

Anyone who wants to make a difference in the workplace and promote equality in the workplace and on Aberdeen Proving Ground should contact Kimberly Alcorn, who serves as the Installation Special Emphasis Program manager. Alcorn said that the EEO Office is seeking support from managers and employees as well as military representatives, from all organizations and all grade levels on APG.

"We want a diverse representation of APG involved in the EEO SEP committees," she said. "The more perspectives we have the better the program will be. If the committees are diverse, we will get a wider understanding of the barriers that affect minority groups."

She added that anyone who is a government employee or a military representative can be on a SEP committee. Because it is a government program, contractors are not allowed to serve on SEP committees.

Membership is not limited to those in a specific minority group.

"For instance, a man can volunteer on the Federal Women's Program SEP committee," she said.

Alcorn said that ideally, those who serve on committees volunteer because they have a special interest in the group they are representing.

For example, a volunteer could decide to serve on the Disability Program Committee because they have a loved one with a disability and wants to help advance the employment of those with disabilities.

Alcorn said that any APG employees who wish to serve on a SEP Committee must obtain approval from their supervisor to participate before joining the committee.

Committee members are responsible for attending monthly meetings, but will not spend more than 20 percent of their duty time fulfilling these duties.

"An advantage of being on a SEP committee is that you will be part of a team that will address employment barriers and the underrepresentation and underutilization of minority groups in the workplace and develop strategies and concepts that will promote equality for minority groups, which will positively impact APG now and in the future," Alcorn said.

Alcorn said that the committees' purpose is to develop plans and programs to assist in the identification and elimination of employment barriers, assist in the recruitment of applicants through increased awareness and through collaboration/community and civil rights organizations; assure equal opportunity in hiring, training and advancement, and eliminate those factors which may serve to exclude individuals from the mainstream of employment and career enhancement opportunities; and assisting with planning, organizing and implementing educational programs and military equal opportunity ethnic/cultural observance programs.

These plans and programs, that are carried out by the SEP committees implement the Annual Affirmative Employment Plan.

According to the EEO Web site, <http://www.archives.gov/eoo/>, The Annual Affirmative Employment Plan is "the blueprint for improving the employment and advancement opportunities for women, minorities and individuals with disabilities." Submit activity nominations and approvals to Alcorn at Kimberly.Alcorn@us.army.mil or call 410-298-1145.





FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Youths take in heroes past during trip to capitol

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Children and youths from the Aberdeen Area Youth Center spent a day taking in the nation's historic sites during a field trip to Washington, D.C., April 9.

Norma Warwick, manager, AA Youth Center, said the trip made up for a January trip that was postponed due to snow.

"Originally we were going to the National Museum of American History after discussing Abraham Lincoln," Warwick said. "They were disappointed when the trip got cancelled because of snow, so we rescheduled it for the next time they were out of school."

In addition, Child, Youth and School Services scheduled special events for April in recognition of the Month of the Military Child, she added.

"Although we had already scheduled our trip to D.C., it fit in nicely with this year's theme: 'Everyday Heroes.'"

Three busloads of children viewed the National Mall and visited the National Museum

of American History wearing "Everyday Heroes" T-shirts, courtesy of CYSS.

Upcoming CYSS events honoring the Month of the Military Child include the Youth Center Talent Show, 6:30 p.m., April 24, at the Aberdeen Youth Center and a day of Family sports and fitness, Spring Into Action, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 25.

In addition, all DoD ID card holders and their families are invited to celebrate the Month of the Military Child honoring "Everyday Heroes" during a free showing of the movie Bolt, 6 to 8 p.m., April 23, at the Post Theater. Light refreshments will be available. Tickets can be picked up at Central Registration, building 2752.

For more information, contact Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-4589 or e-mail stacie.umbarger1@us.army.mil.

Month of the Military Child
www.armymwr.com

This special celebration is a legacy of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger –



Photo by NORMA WARWICK, CYSS
Five of Aberdeen Proving Ground's "Everyday Heroes" admire the Washington Monument during a field trip to Washington, D.C., April 9. The youths, from the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, participated in the event honoring the Month of the Military Child. From left are 12-year-olds Te'Varis Ivory, Brianna Blanco, Abriana Taylor; 13-year-old Michael Scales and Matthew Merchant, age 12.

established to underscore the important role children play in the armed forces community.

Army garrisons plan numer-

ous events ranging from picnics and parades to recreational fairs and fun festivals – all to recognize and applaud Families and

their children, who are everyday heroes, for the daily sacrifices they make in supporting America's Army.

Activities/Events

ACS provides Operation R.E.A.D.Y. Training for Families

The Army Community Service Mobilization/Deployment Program provides Operation R.E.A.D.Y. training specifically to provide support, guidance, assistance and training in all aspects of Family support issues and services.

Classes will be held 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

- April 21, Post Deployment/Reunion Training
- May 12, Rear Detachment Commander
- June 16, Trauma in the Unit
- July 21, Financial Planning for Deployment

For more information, call Mobilization/Deployment Office, 410-278-2453/7572

APG holds Armed Forces Day 10K run

Charm City Run will sponsor a 10K run (6.2 miles), 7:30 a.m., May 16, commemorating Armed Forces Day, at the Aberdeen Athletic Center, building 3330.

The race is open to the general public, military or civilian. Entry forms can be found on Charm City Run Web site, www.charmcityrun.com.

Entry fees are \$25 through May 1, \$30 through May 15 and \$35 race day. There is a \$5 discount for active duty military and privates (E-1) through private first class (E-3) are free. Military grades E-1 through E-3 may register with their unit.

Runners will receive a 10K Run T-shirt, and water will be provided on the course and at the finish line.

For more information, call Ralph Cuomo, APG Sports Office, 410-278-3868 or contact a unit first sergeant.

25th anniversary Army 10-Miler

The 25th annual Army Ten-Miler will be held 8 a.m. Oct. 4, Washington, D.C.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Army Ten Miler, the field for the race will be increased to 30,000 runners.

The packet pick-up and expo have moved to the D.C. Armory at 2001 East Capitol Street, NE, Washington, D.C. The armory is conveniently located off the Metro Orange and Blue lines at the Stadium/Armory stop. Parking is available at the armory for \$7.

Packet pick-up and expo will be open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Oct. 2, and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Oct. 3.

Register early for a spot in the race.

The GEICO pasta dinner tickets, Hooah Tents and Youth Run registration is also open. Runners are encouraged to sign up early.

For more information or to register, visit www.armytenmiler.com.

Orioles game specials

Purchase tickets for Orioles baseball. All game seats are located in Section 40 behind home plate. Tickets cost \$48 each; limited quantities available.

- Toronto Blue Jays, 7:05 p.m., July 10
- Texas Rangers, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 4
- Tampa Bay Rays, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 14
- Toronto Blue Jays, 7:05 p.m., Oct. 2

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Walt Disney World Salutes the Military

Walt Disney World is offering active duty military and retirees a free complimentary five-day park hopper and water park ticket and up to five five-day companion tickets for just \$99 each, or an upgrade to a hopper for \$124 each.

Tickets cost \$25 extra for each add-

on/upgrade applied. Tickets must be purchased three weeks in advance. Tickets are not valid until activated at the theme park ticket window. Valid military ID is required at time of purchase and activation. All sales are final. No refunds, exchanges or upgrades after purchase.

Ticket prices expire Dec. 23.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4011/4907 or visit the AA Recreation Center, building 3326.

Bunco is here to stay

Win door prizes at Bunco, 7 p.m., April 23 and May 21 at Top of the Bay Chesapeake/Mezzanine. Cost to play is \$5 per person.

Hearts Apart Support Group schedule

Family members from all branches of service, DoD civilians and contractors may participate in Hearts Apart Support Group meetings held in the APG Army Community Service building 2754, Rodman Road 6 to 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month (May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2).

For more information, call, 410-278-2464/410-278-7572.

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.

Ice Skating Lessons

SKIES Unlimited offers a comprehensive group lesson program ice skating lessons for ages 4 through 18. Classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, May 26 through June 30 and July 2 through Aug. 11 at Ice World in Abingdon.

Ice World's philosophy is to provide top notch, professional instruction for beginner through advanced skaters in a relaxed and fun environment. Learn to Skate is based on the fundamentals of the United States Figure Skating Association and is necessary for those wishing to proceed on to ice hockey or freestyle.

Each session includes six weeks of professional instruction; each session is 30 minutes long with 30 minute practice weekly free skate rentals. Class sizes are limited and are grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions are included.

Ice skating classes cost \$110 per student. There will be no make-up classes or refunds.

Baby Signs play class

SKIES Unlimited invites parents and children to join Baby Signs, a sing, say and play class, 6 to 7 p.m., May 18, at the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center Gross Motor Room. Meet a certified Baby Signs instructor and enjoy a demonstration of Baby Signs play class. Learn new signs with songs, interactive play activities and find out more about the Baby Signs program.

Open to all DoD ID card holders and their family members.

Toddler Art

Calling all young Picassos. Toddler Art lessons will be given 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., Wednesdays, June 24

through July 29, for ages 2 through 4 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Hands-on creativity is the theme as children explore paint, clay, color, texture and shapes. Dress little ones in old clothes or smock and be prepared for a messy good time. Parent participation required.

Cost is \$60 per student for eight weeks.

Introduction to Water Colors

SKIES Unlimited offers an Introduction to Water Colors, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Wednesdays, June 24 through July 29, for ages 8 through 13 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522. Cost is \$60 per student for eight weeks.

Students will learn watercolor techniques. Instruction will focus on brush handling and controlling water volume on the brush and paper.

Students are required to have a 11- x 14-inch drawing pad.

Beginner Tae Kwon Do

Join the Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Tae Kwon Do promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning.

Beginner Tae Kwon Do classes will be held for ages 6 through 13 at the Child, Youth and School Center, building 2522, Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. from April 28 through May 21 and from June 2 through 25. Cost is \$65 per student for a one-month session or \$150 per student for a three-month session.

Drawing and Sketching

Drawing and sketching classes will be held 10 to 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Thursdays, June 22 through July 30, for ages 10 to 15 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Students will explore the concepts of value, proportion, perspective, composition, and foreshortening in this drawing class. Class topics include materials used in drawing and sketching, memory drawing, contour drawing, grid drawing, tonal drawing and matting of completed works.

Students are required to have an 11- x 14-inch drawing pad.

Class costs \$120 per student for eight weeks.

Free babysitting course

Become a certified babysitter after taking the free 4-H/Army Child and Youth Services babysitting class for ages 13 to 18.

The class will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 16 at the AA Child and Youth Services, building 2522. The objectives are to familiarize participants with the responsibilities of babysitting.

Class is open to all DoD ID card holders.

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

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 3 to 7:30 p.m., on Fridays, May 8 through

June 12. Classes will also be given 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on Saturdays, May 9 through June 13.

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

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

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

April bowling specials

In April, bowl from 1 to 5 p.m. for \$1.50 per game; shoe rental costs \$2.

It's Cosmic Saturday on April 18. One hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$32.

Soldier Special: 5 to 9 p.m., April 13, 20 and 27. Soldiers bowl for \$1.75 per game per person; shoe rental costs \$2. Soldiers must show ID.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of April 13

Special #1: chicken tender sub with potato chips and regular soda for \$6.95.

Special #2: Pork BBQ with french fries and regular soda for \$6.95.

Week of April 20

Special #1: Grilled ham and cheese with potato chips and regular soda for \$5.45.

Special #2: Crab cake platter with french fries, coleslaw and regular soda for \$9.95.

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

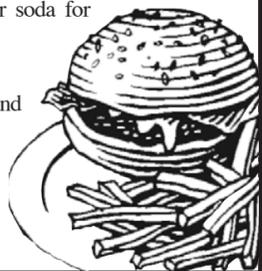




Photo by MARK A. BERHOW

The Coast Defense Study Group visited the Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Ground April 2 to see America's last surviving 16-inch gun and to hear a proclamation of appreciation from the Harford County Council. The visit was part of an annual conference that the CDSG does every year to tour coastal defenses and fortifications. This year the group visited the Baltimore-Washington area.

Coast Defense Study Group visits Ordnance Museum

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Coast Defense Study Group visited the Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Ground April 2 to see America's last surviving 16-inch gun and to hear a proclamation of appreciation from the Harford County Council.

The visit was part of the CDSG annual conference which includes touring coastal defenses and fortifications. This year the group visited the Baltimore-Washington area. Close to 70 people attended the conference from across the United States and Europe.

At the site, Tim McNamara, deputy to the garrison commander, thanked those who helped preserve the gun, and said that he was pleased to meet the members.

"I will expect to learn more from you than you will from me," he said. McNamara said that he appreciated local members, like Elliot Deutsch, the chair, and longtime member of CDSG who has been a museum volunteer since 1988.

"Cap'n Jim" (James) McMahan, Harford County councilman, thanked the CDSG on behalf of Billy Boniface, the president of the Harford County Council, and read a proclamation of appreciation that was signed by council members.

"This gun is a relic, and it is amazing that it was saved," McMahan said.

After the proclamation was read, members visited the Ordnance Museum and the Artifacts Restoration Building, the site that restores the artifacts that go into the Ordnance Museum.

Members commented that they enjoyed visiting the museum.

Michel Van Best, a self described "tank nut" from Holland, said that he has traveled the world studying historical military artifacts.

"I am interested to find out how all of these things work," he said. "There are many rare historical artifacts at this [Ordnance] museum, many are from the Battle of the Bulge, one of the bloodiest of the battles that U.S. forces experienced in World War II," he said. "This is history come to life."

Van Best added that the Ordnance Museum is one of two museums like it in the world, the other being the Military Historical Museum in Kubinka, Russia.

Van Best, a computer networker, said that he adopted the hobby of studying military artifacts as a break in routine from work, and he enjoys being a member of the CDSG to interact with other "tank nuts."

Mary Ann Bogart, from Kentucky, who attended the conference with her husband, Charles Bogart, remarked that although there are not many women who attend CDSG events, traveling the world to see historical military artifacts has become a favorite Family activity.

"I like to see the evolution of these artifacts from World War I to present day, which this museum has," she said.

Deutsch said that the group is proud of the work that the museum does to restore the historical military artifacts.

"For our studies, CDSG members have accumulated thousands of docu-

ments that the Army discarded decades ago when many coastal forts were abandoned and turned over to states for park land," he said. "Today, when the Army needs to locate environmental hazards like buried fuel tanks on these former posts, they do not know where to look. They turn to us, and we freely provide copies or information where needed."

Deutsch added that CDSG schedules annual conferences to visit U.S. defended harbors and special tours to visit overseas fortifications.

"We are now at about four defenses of our second cycle of visiting all U.S. defended harbors," he said. "CDSG has members in most of the fifty states and many foreign countries. We coordinate tours and visits with similar foreign study groups."

Deutsch said that he was involved in the restoration of the 16-inch gun.

"I discovered and joined CDSG in 1985 just a few years after its founding, and I soon became part of a Baltimore-Washington based member group that wanted to preserve the gun.

"In March of 1988, a group of volunteers began working on the gun," Deutsch said. "We progressed slowly and steadily but then we ran into difficulty getting the use of cranes and heavy equipment that I could not provide.

"For assistance I called on Congresswoman Helen Delich Bentley of Maryland's third congressional district," he continued. "Helen immediately visited Brigadier General James Ball, then chief of Ordnance, and we were on our way

to success. Slowly and surely the gun was disassembled, sandblasted, primed, moved to the museum, assembled and painted. The dedication ceremony, hosted by Brigadier General Ball and Helen Bentley, was in June of 1989."

Deutsch said that in 1991, a foundation was established to raise money to construct an addition to the Ordnance Museum for housing the majority of the museum collection that was, and still is, rusting away exposed to the elements. Deutsch said that now that he is retired from his business, Harford Rental Service Inc., he serves as the foundation chairman and is the last of the original founders.

The future of the Ordnance Museum

The Ordnance Museum will be moving most of its collection to Fort Lee, Va., which will begin this summer, as part of Base Realignment and Closure.

McNamara added that APG leadership is looking into having an APG museum in the future.

"BRAC presents an opportunity to consider an APG-wide museum that will be a contribution of organizations across APG," McNamara said. He added that the Army Communications and Electronics Museum, which is currently at Fort Monmouth, N.J., will be moving to APG.

For more information about CDSG, visit www.cdsg.org. For more information about the Ordnance Museum, visit www.ordmusfound.org or call 410-272-3622.

Retirement

From page 2

Christopher C. Zukowski

Zukowski was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and certificates of retirement and appreciation.

Zukowski was born in Detroit, Mich. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Detroit with a bachelor's in mathematics in 1974 and a masters' in mathematics in 1977.

He began his career at APG in 1979 at the Edgewood Area's Chemical Systems Laboratory. His achievements include development of Scientific Compute Applications on the Univac 1108 Mainframe Computer and platform development of word processing software for the U.S. Army Chemical Research, Development and Engineering Center. He joined RDECOM in 1998 and became the lead for acquisition, IT purchase strategy and IT requirements planning. He retires with 30 years of service and ends his career as the RDECOM G-6 mathematician. Zukowski said the past 30 years passed quickly.

"In the last week, all the memories of when I first drove here from Michigan in 1979 came back," he said. "I'm not excited [about retiring] but I'm anxious, and looking forward to being lazy and traveling for a while."

He said his retirement plans include traveling and seeking part-time employment.

Dorothy N. Ballard

Ballard was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and certificates of retirement and appreciation. Her husband Harry Ballard, a retired Freestate ChalleNGe Academy mentoring coordinator, received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Dorothy Ballard was born in Tallahassee, Ala. She graduated from Havre de Grace Consolidated High School and attended Harford Community College.

She began her civil service career in 1979 as a clerk typist with the Social Security Administration in Baltimore and then worked briefly with the Veterans Administration. She moved on to APG

first serving as a secretary at CHPPM and then with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. She moved to the CERDEC in 1983 as a division secretary for the Directorate of Information Management and was promoted to administrative assistant for the Corporate Information Office in 1985. She concludes her 30-year career, during which she received numerous awards, as the RDECOM records manager.

Ballard and her husband have three children, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her plans for retirement include working as a travel agent, traveling, taking care of her mother and spending time with her grandchildren.

She thanked her Family, particularly her mother Willie Scroggins of Aberdeen who was in the audience, and coworkers for their support and the Army for her many opportunities.

"I'm blessed that my mother was here to see this," Ballard said. "I'm just looking forward to enjoying retirement and doing what I want to do."

Lawrence J. Dumm

Dumm was awarded the DA Commander's Award for Civilian Service and certificates of retirement and appreciation. His wife, Mary Dawn Dumm, received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

A native of Nicktown, Pa., and the oldest of seven children, Dumm graduated from St. Vincent College with a bachelor's degree in fine arts in 1975. His military education includes the Defense Information School's Public Affairs Officers Course.

Dumm began his government career as an art teacher with the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs on the Navajo Indian Reservation in northern Arizona where he worked with Samuel Tso, a World War II Navajo code talker who witnessed the raising of the American flag at Iwo Jima. After four years he transferred to DA as an information specialist with the U.S. Army Materiel Command's exhibit operations at APG and was promoted to chief in 1988. In 1999, having successfully gone through a commercial activity review, AMC Exhibits merged with Visual Informa-

tion Services Division under the APG Garrison's Directorate of Information Management. Dumm led a staff of 33 people in fulfilling Army and DoD level VISD support, enabling the communication of APG Warfighter missions to worldwide venues.

Dumm's awards include the DA Commander's Award for Civilian Service and the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. He retires March 31 with nearly 31 years of service. Dumm said he was not retiring but "going on to the next chapter." He called APG "very special."

"I said I'd try it for one year and one year turned into twenty-seven years," he said.

He thanked APG leaders, his wife and Family for their support and his staff for their ingenuity.

"They are creative, energetic and robust, and I have every confidence they will continue to do a great job," he said.

Dumm and his wife have three children. He plans to exchange his PC keyboard for ivory piano keys, dust off the fishing rods, organize his artist studio and spend time with his Family.

Diana L. 'Dee' Armstrong

Armstrong was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and certificates of retirement and appreciation. Her husband, Bill Armstrong, chief of the Directorate of Emergency Services' Fish and Wildlife Division, received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Armstrong was born in Charleston, W.V. She graduated from Herbert Hoover High School and attended West Virginia State College and Harford Community College. She began her civil service career with the West Virginia Department of Public Safety as a dispatcher, district secretary and stenographer and later worked for the Department of Human Services as a legal secretary and stenographer.

At APG, she served as a division secretary for CHPPM and then moved on to CERDEC where she took on the responsibilities of computer hardware and software acquisition. She later joined RDECOM's IT acquisition group where she served on Proposal Review Boards and oversaw multifunctional equipment contracts. She ends her

26-year career as RDECOM G-6 support services specialist.

She thanked her coworkers for their support.

"I will miss all of them but I'm glad to be going. It was time to go, and I was ready," she said.

Armstrong and her husband have one grown son. Her retirement plans include traveling, visiting her Family farm in West Virginia and honing her gardening skills through classes at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pa.

Wyatt K. Wallace

Wallace was awarded the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and certificates of retirement and appreciation. His wife Vivian Wallace received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Wallace was born in Dover, Del., and grew up in Kent County, Md. He graduated from Galena High School in 1964 and from Salisbury University with a degree in mathematics in 1968.

He began his government career working for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics at the Pentagon in 1968. In 1969 he began working at Edgewood Arsenal for the U.S. Army Munitions Command. He worked as a scientific computer programmer for the Chemical Systems Laboratory, which became CERDEC while earning a master's in business administration from George Washington University. He served as a systems security officer in the Corporate Information Office and as the information systems security officer for the U.S. Army Chemical and Biological Defense Command where he led the formation of an IT Helpdesk for computer customers. He became a supervisory mathematician in 1989 while with the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, and he ends his 40-year career as RDECOM's chief of Information Technology.

Wallace has received numerous performance awards, and he is active in his community as a volunteer for several civic and environmental organizations.

He and his wife have three grown children and five grandchildren. His plans for retirement include writing, traveling, continuing his volunteer work and enjoying his grandchildren.

Community Notes

THURSDAY

APRIL 16 SAME CHESAPEAKE POST MONTHLY MEETING

Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay featuring Capt. Brian "BJ" Kraemer who is assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District. Kraemer is the Resident Engineer for Phase II of the C4ISR Military Construction Program at Aberdeen Proving Ground. His presentation will focus on the impact of BRAC and military construction at APG. Reservations are required. RSVP online at www.same-chesapeake.org.

FRIDAY

APRIL 17 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit Relay for Life, American Cancer Society – Grace's Grateful Grapes Team, will be held 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall on Rodgers Street. Doors open 6 p.m. Pre-sale tickets cost \$10 per person and \$12 at the door. Extra packs cost \$5 each. Food and drinks will be available. Bring a non-perishable food item for a bonus prize.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Karen Mitchell, 410-272-7098 or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

SATURDAY

APRIL 18 SPECIAL OLYMPICS INSPIRATION WALK AND RUN

Harford County will hold the Fifth Annual Special Olympics Inspiration Walk and First Annual Inspiration Run at Harford Community College. Registration will take place 8 a.m. for the First Annual Inspiration Run; the run will start 8:30 a.m.

Registration for the Fifth Annual Inspiration Walk will take place 8:30 a.m.; the walk will start 10 a.m. Run, walk or roll in the event.

All participants with a minimum of \$25 in pledges will receive T-shirts. Additional prizes will be awarded.

For more information, call Mike Watkins, 410-638-4899, or e-mail mdwatkins@harfordcountymd.gov.

EARTH DAY 2009

An Earth Day celebration will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Aberdeen Festival Park located on West Belair Avenue, across from the Aberdeen Library.

The free event is for all ages and will include live music, a rock climbing wall, a "moon bounce," tie-dye, recycled games and prizes.

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

TEXAS HOLD'EM

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, invites the public to a Texas Hold'em event, noon to 11 p.m. Register at noon and 5 p.m. The first game starts at 1 p.m., the second game starts at 6 p.m. with a \$50 buy in; first-come, first-served. Sandwiches and light fare will be available.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

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

The public is invited to donate their old computers, CPU's, speakers, fax machines, scanners, printers, keyboards, cell phones, stereos, mice and microwaves free of charge.

A contribution of \$10 per monitor will be requested. Do not bring television sets. Tax donation receipts will be provided.

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

PURSE BINGO

Purse Bingo will be held 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 128 located on 44 North Parke Street, Aberdeen. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 per person; extra packets cost \$5 each. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. All proceeds benefit the Aberdeen High School Chorus and Prom. No smoking is allowed.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Diana Jackson, 443-504-2158.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 17 ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Help celebrate the first anniversary of the American Legion Riders Post 17, 7 p.m. to midnight, at the American Legion Service Post 17 located on 415 Edgewood Road. Tickets cost \$15 per person and includes pit beef and ham, meatballs, pork-n-beans, cole slaw, potato salad, draft beer and soda; music by Hound Dog Productions.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Dave, 410-592-2729.

PURSE AND BASKET BINGO

Purse and Basket Bingo to benefit Krafty Survivors Relay for Life will be held at VFW Post 8185, located on Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 5:45, bingo begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person for all

paper cards. Extra packs cost \$5. Door prizes and raffles will be available. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or Pat Job, 410-658-5628.

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

APG SCHOOL LIAISON

'Sisters' offers scholarships

Sisters Striving for Success, Incorporated offers two \$1,000 scholarships to eligible students.

Founded on Oct. 3, 1996, by six African-American women from Harford County "Sisters" is a nonprofit organization that provides social, educational and financial support to the youth in the county. The organization issues scholarships and book grants to graduating seniors to assist them in continuing their education.

Pearl E. Smith-Hill Memorial Scholarship

To be eligible, students must:

- Be a Harford County resident
- Be accepted to an accredited college/university, and
- Have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average

Students must furnish administrative information to include:

- A typewritten 250 word essay entitled "My Blueprint for Success; two letters of recommendation, one from the guidance counselor or an organization where the applicant has been involved in community service and the other from a school faculty member
- A copy of the student's most recent transcript and SAT scores
- A copy of the student's acceptance letter from an accredited college/university
- Completed scholarship application

The application package must be received by May 15; applications received after May 15 will not be considered.

For more information or for applications, call Selena Hill-Watson, 410-273-6367, or e-mail eswats@verizon.net.

Strivers Male Athletic Scholarship

To qualify, students must:

- Be a Harford County resident
- Be accepted to an accredited college/university
- Must currently be an athlete
- Have at least a 2.7 cumulative grade point average

Students must furnish administrative information to include:

- Completed scholarship application
- A typewritten 250 word essay "What athlete do you admire and how has he or she impacted your life?"
- Two letters of recommendation from the guidance counselor or an organization where the applicant has been involved in community service and a coach in the sport of _____.
- A copy of the student's most recent transcript and SAT Scores
- A copy of the student's acceptance letter from an accredited college/university.

The application packages must be received by May 15; applications received after May 15 will not be considered.

For more information or for applications, call Selena Hill-Watson, 410-273-6367, e-mail eswats@verizon.net.

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

Post Shorts

For more information, visit <http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org/> or contact the OSJA Client Services Division, 410-278-1583.

Dining facilities serve Customer Appreciation Specialty Meal

The Customer Appreciation Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., April 21.

During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$4.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$3.65 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The menu includes new England and clam chowder, grilled steak with mushrooms and onions, fried shrimp, chicken teriyaki, seasoned freedom fries, baked macaroni and cheese, steamed broccoli, lightly buttered corn, brown gravy, cole slaw, zesty rotini salad, "Make your Own" salad bar, home made biscuits, southern style corn bread, big chocolate chip cookies, lemon cake, soft serve ice cream, assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

RecruitMilitary Career Fair April 23

RecruitMilitary, the Presidents National Hire Veterans Committee (Department of Labor), the American Legion, and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network, will hold a free hiring event for veterans, personnel who are transitioning from active duty, Reserves, Guard and military spouses, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 23, at M&T Bank Stadium (home of the Baltimore Ravens), 1100 Russell Street, Baltimore.

Meet with representatives from government contractors, private industry,

law enforcement, education, transportation and more from local, state and national organizations.

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

For more info or to register as a job-seeker, visit www.recruitmilitary.com.

Gunpowder Toastmaster's Club meets at APG

Learn to speak confidently and effectively. Toastmaster's mission is to help people improve their communication, leadership, evaluation, and public-speaking skills in a fun and friendly environment. The gunpowder Toastmaster's Club meets the first and third Monday every month (unless federal government holiday) in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility in building E-4516 Seminar Room.

April 20 is the next meetings, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Adam Freeland, 410-652-8026 or George Alsfeld, 410-569-1189.

Aberdeen Youth Center hosts Spring into Action Day April 25

Children and youths ages 3 through high school level and parents are invited to participate in Spring into Action Day, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 25, at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. Events include the 50-yard dash, team building activities, 800 meter run, water balloon toss, football throw, home-run derby, fitness course, sports games and health stations.

For more information, call 410-306-2297

Annual Spring Technology Expo April 29

The Corporate Information Office of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Information Management will host the 2009 Annual Spring Information Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 29, at Top of the Bay.

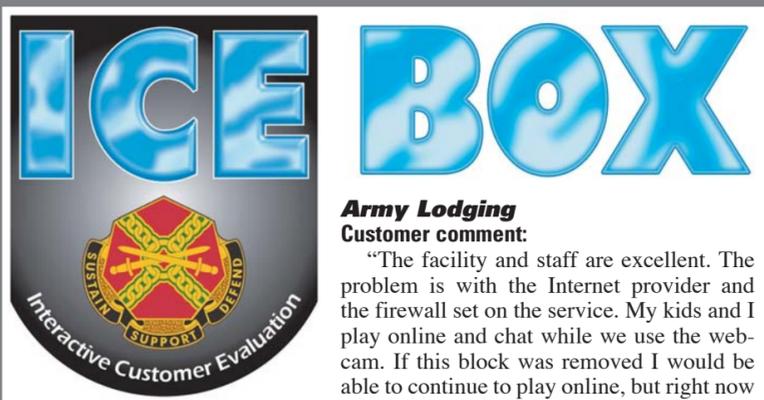
Contract exhibitors include Dell, HP, IBM, Lexmark, CDW-G, Emtec Federal,

Metro Office Solutions, Konica Minolta and more. This list will be updated in the APG News until the day of the event.

Admission is free and open to all civilian, military and contractor personnel. Coffee, donuts and a light lunch will be served.

For more information, call Susan Suppa, DOIM, 410-278-7598.

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



Army Lodging Customer comment:

"The facility and staff are excellent. The problem is with the Internet provider and the firewall set on the service. My kids and I play online and chat while we use the webcam. If this block was removed I would be able to continue to play online, but right now I cannot play online nor can I use the chat

function due to the firewall placed on the service. Is there any way to correct this? Thank you."

FMWR Service Provider response:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding computer networking services offered within our Army Lodging facilities at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The vendor who provides network services in our lodging rooms offers industry-standard ports required for Web surfing, e-mail and virtual private network use. Many ports are blocked to protect guests from malicious Mal-ware programs such as worm and Trojan viruses.

All requests to open ports will be reviewed by the vendor. However, any ports that are known virus or file sharing ports will remain closed. Residents may contact technical support with specific requests in regards to opening up the firewall. Instructions for doing so are posted in each room.

Thank you for choosing Army Lodging for your stay at Aberdeen Proving Ground. We look forward to serving you again in future.

Concerts, entertainment, theater Customer comment:

"You should think outside the box and get some concert acts to play the post theatre. It is the perfect size for bands that currently tour utilizing theatre's the approximate size. Acts like B.B. King, Kansas, Heart, Fourplay, Peter Frampton, Levon Helm, Johnny Winter and Galactic all famous acts use theatres the same size on their tours. Your overhead costs are minimal and the revenue you could make from renting the theatre out could pay for the desperately needed renovations. It is a win-win."

FMWR Service Provider response:

The Post Theater is currently being reviewed for renovation, and stimulus funding is being considered for this project. There is a great deal of interior and exterior infrastructure work that must be considered as well as audio/visual and other repairs. If the project gets approved and depending on the dollar amount of the funding, it will create a great venue for many forms of entertainment and DFMWR will be pursuing many types, varieties, of acts and entertainment packages that would appeal to the entire APG community.

AAFES NEWS



Courtesy of AAFES

The grand prize winner of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's "Patriot Family Pet Photo Contest" was a picture of Lex, the K9 partner to Cpl. Dustin Jerome Lee, who was killed in Iraq in March, 2007.

AAFES 'Patriot Family Pet Photo Contest' goes to the dogs

AAFES

From a military working dog who lost his partner in Iraq to the Himalayan vulture nursed back to health in Afghanistan, photos submitted in the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's "Patriot Family Pet Photo Contest" ranged from heart-tugging to humorous.

Of the more than 600 entries, six winners were chosen based on the photo and a 50-word or less description of their pet.

"Considering the amount and quality of entries, there's no doubt that military Families have a special place in their hearts for their pets," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Helm. "It was extremely rewarding to see these photos and hear the stories behind them, but it was also very difficult to narrow them down to just six winners."

The grand prize winner was a photo of Lex, the K9 partner to Cpl. Dustin Jerome Lee, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aafespa/3364935805/?edited=1> who was killed in Iraq in March, 2007. Lex was injured in the attack and later received an honorary Purple Heart

before being retired early and adopted by Lee's Family.

The Lee Family and Lex, currently visit VA hospitals and attend speaking engagements to honor fallen troops. For his entry, Lex (and his Family) received a \$1,500 AAFES gift card.

In addition to the photo of Lex, first place winner, Zachery Eierman from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., received a \$1,000 AAFES gift card; Emily Seibert from Fort Dix, N.J., and Benjamin Croom of Fort Belvoir, Va., took second place honors and a \$500 gift card while Tabitha Welsh from MacDill, AFB Fla., and Alyssa Tinker from Fort Lewis, Wash., finished third with each pocketing a \$250 gift card.

Winning "Patriot Family Pet Photo Contest" photos, in addition to 36 runners up, can be found on www.aafes.com by clicking on the Patriot Family Connection "Patriot Family Pet Photo Contest." All photos will eventually be used in AAFES advertisement publications and its in-house television network, EXTV.

Museum

From front page

and other communications and signaling devices. The history of the vacuum tube is one of its most important collections.

Smart said the second possible topic of the new museum could be the activities of the various tenant organizations located at APG since World War I. These activities include military training, ordnance testing and evaluation, chemical research and development, environmental remediation, and many other missions of the numerous tenant organizations assigned to APG.

He also said that a third possible focus of a new museum could be a display

of recovered artifacts from the APG grounds. Most of the APG area was used by American Indians for hunting and fishing. Items from those activities have turned up in various archeological digs. In addition, this display could include items recovered from the Old Baltimore site that was the county seat for Baltimore County in the late 1600s.

The new museum does not have an official name, mission statement, storyline, or staff, but plans call for it to use the existing Ordnance Museum building and to be open for visitors by late 2011 or early 2012, according to Smart.

"Expect to see many new and exciting historical displays that tell the story of APG's role in national defense for more than ninety years," Smart said.



Sports

22nd Chemical tops JPED to win intramural basketball post championship, 56-48



The 22nd Chemical's Wayne Goode (25), out leaps the Joint Personal Effects Depot's Manu Cooper (52) left, for the rebound as James Nowland (33) right, applies pressure during the intramural basketball championship game at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center April 7. Watching up close are the 22nd Chem.'s Jerry Hernandez (54); the JPED's Nick Laporte (53) and Jorge Diaz (30) and 22nd Chem's Joe Sanders (45), with teammates Marcus Gray (31) and Courtland Smith (33) in the background.

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Arguably the two best teams in the Aberdeen Proving Ground 2009 intramural basketball season, the 22nd Chemical Battalion and the Joint Personal Effects Depot, met in a battle for bragging rights at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, April 7, with the 22nd Chem. coming out on top, 56-48 to win the post championship.

The two talented teams were each others nemesis and had met earlier in the post season tournament with 22nd Chem. winning that close game, 47-42, March 16.

The game took off at a fast pace and 22nd Chem. jumped out to an early lead, pulling away 13-5 with acting coach Marcus Gray scoring 5 of the team's points.

The champions led 31-20 at the half with the 22nd Chem.'s Courtland Smith leading all scorers with 15 points. Gray had 9 and JPED's Jorge Diaz led his team with 6 points followed by Nick Laporte with 5.

JPED coach, Tony Butts, said

he told his players to keep their heads up.

"I told them to do what we've been doing all year," Butts said. "We can beat this team; we just have to stay focused and not beat ourselves."

Gray said his team was "smelling victory."

"We're halfway there," he said. "All we have to do is push on and keep playing hard and not get too relaxed."

The strategy worked for 22nd Chem. which pulled away to a 41-29 lead before a much-needed JPED time out.

A more determined JPED team retook the floor and in a flurry of scoring, led by Laporte, who scored 20 points in the half, the team closed to within 5 points, 46-41.

Taking up the challenge, 22nd Chem. stepped up its defense, holding JPED to 7 points to its 8 points and forcing JPED to foul 22nd Chem. players as the clock wound down.

Gray finished with 14 total points and Courtland with a game-high 23 points.

"This team played hard all season, and we did great to get this far," a disappointed Laporte said after the game.

"We exceeded our expectations," Butts added. "We are still winners."

Wayne Goode, 22nd Chem. assistant coach, said the team had a "great season" thanks to its supporters and to its players embracing a "teamwork concept."

"We played together; there were no individuals," he said. "And we'll be back next year," he added. "We're looking forward to it."

Smith echoed Goode's comments, saying that his game was helped by a strong defense.

"We helped each other out the whole season," he said, "and our defense just shut down other teams."

"This team showed what can happen when you play hard from start to finish," Gray added. "Hopefully we can come back and do the same thing next year."

Gray dedicated the team's victory to coach Anthony Jones who was away on temporary duty.



Members of the 22nd Chemical Battalion basketball team pose with the championship trophy after winning the intramural basketball post championship at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center April 7. From left, front row, Joshua Uhrig, Toran Price and Lance Lane. From left, back row, Marcus Gray, acting coach; Kevin Galik, Courtland Smith, Wayne Goode, assistant coach; Shelton Zanders; Jerry Hernandez; Chekera Price, team supporter, and Joe Sanders.

Commander's Cup point standings

The Commander's Cup trophy is awarded by the APG Garrison commander each December to the unit that scores the most points in intramural sports during the year.



Units accumulate points by participating in the bench press competition, bowling, basketball, racquetball, dodge ball, 3-on-3 basketball, the deadlift competition, volleyball, tennis, golf, soccer, softball and flag football. Points are also awarded for unit and unit representative participation, division standings and post championship wins.

The following are the current Commander's Cup point standings as of April 10.

Unit	Points
203RD MI	20
22ND CHEMICAL	19
USAF	16
USMC	12
COMPANY C 16TH	10
NCOA	10
HHC 61ST	10
JPED	8
HHC 16TH	7
HST/AMCBAND	7
CHPPM	5
COMPANY E 16TH	4

Questions regarding these points should be directed to Donna Coyne, FMWR, 410-278-3929.

NCO

From front page

Engineering Center in Natick, Mass., who finished second in the competition.

"When a Soldier wins, they set the standard for the rest of the organization," said Sgt Maj. Steve Hornbach, U.S. Army Research Laboratory. "It gives the individual inspiration and for others it is motivation. It's a significant accomplishment to win one of these. Not every Soldier can do it and when they do get selected, they get well deserved recognition."

Others participating in the competition agree that the results of boards like this have long lasting affects.

"If you are looking at making sergeant major one day, boards like this are very important," said Staff Sgt. Sean Lathrop, ARL at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. "It's an event that separates you from your peers. It shows a certain degree of ambition, intelligence and dedication."

No one can be certain when military boards were created but the tradition of competitions to identify the best Soldier in a unit has existed for many years.

"I can't say when it started but I do know military history identifies the Roman army as having held contests to identify and evaluate who was their best soldier," said Sgt. Maj. Timothy Weatherspoon, RDECOM G3, operations sergeant major.

The NCO of the Year selection board members were: Marin (board president), Hornbach, Weatherspoon, Sgt. Maj. Wendy Thompson, U.S. Army Materiel Command Band at APG and Master Sgt. James Laverty, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va.

Phelan will next compete at the AMC NCO of the Year Board. To assist him in his preparation, the RDECOM G3 and CERDEC will develop a training

program designed to introduce him to aspects of the Army he may not have readily available.

According to Weatherspoon, to succeed at the next level, the four-star command level, it will take dedication, time and commitment.

"It takes preparation from both the unit and the Soldier. It is an investment in time and energy that will last throughout a Soldier's lifetime," Weatherspoon said.

As this year's top NCO, Phelan received the Army Commendation Medal as well as cash awards from two local credit unions, a free overnight stay and breakfast from a national hotel chain, a trophy from the local Association of the United States Army chapter, a back pack full of retention promotional items, and an RDECOM grill kit.

"I'm happy to receive this honor but in order to compete at the next level I am going to have to train harder and become more proficient with some of the hands on common tasks I don't do every day," Phelan said.



Photos by CONRAD JOHNSON
Sgt. Matthew Phelan provides medical support to a simulated casualty. Field medical support was one of many warrior task drills the NCOs had to accomplish during the competition.



Staff Sgt. Sean Lathrop, right, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, White Sands Missile Range, N.M., reaches the top of the confidence course's rope ladder during the RDECOM NCO of the Year competition.

Eagle Point safe, approved as work site, officials stress

Story by **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
CECOM LCMC (Forward)

Army environmental experts assure Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, or C4ISR, personnel that the temporary work site they will soon occupy at Eagle Point on a peninsula at Aberdeen Proving Ground in the Edgewood Area is a safe place to work.

Officials in the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Division of the APG Environmental Office in the Directorate of Public Works said the Bush River area site was selected as a safe and approved location for industrial use in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Maryland Department of Environment standards. Two other APG tenants, the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and the Army's 20th Support Command, also reside in the area.

"There is no environmental risk for employees working at this location," said Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison commander. "Our new tenants, like our current tenants, will only be situated in locations where their health and safety is ensured.

"We're proud of the fact that APG has stepped forward again and again to do the right thing," added Weissman. "This has included working closely with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Maryland Department of Environment, citizens groups, the U. S. Army Environmental Command, and federal, state and local officials."

The Bush River area, like the rest of the Edgewood Area, has been the subject of intensive environmental remediation

under APG's aggressive and effective Installation Restoration Program for more than 10 years.

Risk assessments using extensive data from the Installation Restoration Program investigations and cleanups have concluded the site is suitable for non-residential industrial use.

An industrial designation means ground water at the site may not be consumed, according to the APG Environmental Office. However, since the drinking water for the Edgewood Area comes from an off-post source at Winter's Run, this is not an issue for those working there.

"We adhere to strict state and federal guidelines outlined by the environmental regulation community in addition to Army standards," emphasized Ken Stachiw, chief, APG Environmental Division. "Through holding Restoration Advisory Boards and other public meetings, we've worked to keep the APG community and our neighbors involved in our clean-up processes and safety practices. Of course, we also work closely with the EPA and MDE to comply with all of their standards and permits."

Altogether, APG has spent more than \$21 million on environmental investigations and cleanup in the Bush River Area to make it safe for continued use by the Army, according to Stachiw. The Eagle Point Army Team C4ISR relocatable site and its surrounding area were cleared through this extensive process for use as a work site.

"My highest priority is taking care of the C4ISR workforce here," said Col. Augustus Owens, deputy commander (Forward), CECOM Life Cycle Management Command. "I want to assure our team members that we would not put them in harm's way. This work site is perfectly safe, and rumors contrary to that fact are false."

For many years the goal of APG's environmental program has been to remediate in a way that allows the Army to reuse land to meet mission requirements, Stachiw said. APG has worked with regulators and local citizens to make certain environmental cleanups ensure the health and safety of workers and their civilian neighbors.

The administrative records may be found at the Harford County Public libraries in Aberdeen and Edgewood.

The installation's action plan that iden-

tifies environmental cleanup requirements at each site or area of concern, and identifies a comprehensive, installation-wide approach to each site can be found on the Worldwide Web.

For additional information, contact the APG Environmental Office, 410-436-3320 or see the APG Installation Action Plan at https://aero.apgea.army.mil/piAP-Doc/abderdeenproving-ground/abderdeenprovingground_2008_IRMR_v1.pdf.

Eagle Pt

From front page

Farrell said. "We [Army Team C4ISR (Forward)] are here to ensure our team members have what they need to do their jobs during this transition, and a viable workspace is one of those needs."

After seeing the C4ISR complex site, personnel proceeded to Eagle Point, located in the Edgewood Area of APG. Forward headquarters leadership has designated Eagle Point as the site for a temporary work facility for many employees during the transition to the new Army Team C4ISR Campus. Eagle Point is expected to accommodate approximately 500 of the 700 people expected to relocate to APG this summer.

"We have secured an area of land on APG in Edgewood [Area] for a relocatable site to be built," Farrell said.

Eagle Point, the worksite location in Edgewood, will include standard office amenities including the necessary computer wiring support, bathrooms, break rooms, plumbing, electricity, video-conference capability and parking.

"Although the facilities are a tempo-

rary circumstance, we wanted to make the work environment as friendly and convenient as possible," Farrell said.

There will be 70 units at the park complex, accommodating 30 managerial office spaces and 470 L-shaped cubicle workstations in an open bay space, according to Sam Cubberly, APG Garrison Transformation Office.

Col. Augustus Owens, deputy commander, CECOM LCMC (Forward), met the tour group at the site and presented his vision for the workspace.

"I want our employees to have some level of stability during this time of transition," Owens said. "These workspaces will be equipped with all the standard office amenities one would expect. We just ask our team members for patience as we are getting the site suited for duty."

The new work facility will be ready July 1. Owens plans to move people into Eagle Point in increments of 80, until the facilities are filled.

"Our small community here is the beginning of the Army Team C4ISR transformation," Owens said. "We have a good foundation here and look forward to maintaining and building upon the teamwork and collaborative relationships we have established."

PM C4ISR OTM finalizes planning for Integrated Technology Demonstration

Story by **EDRICK THOMPSON**
CERDEC

U.S. scientists, engineers and technology developers from government, industry and academia gathered at Fort Dix, N.J., March 31 through April 2, to finalize plans for an Army-sponsored, integrated technology event.

C4ISR OTM Event 09 (E09), the largest integrated technology demonstration of its kind, is executed annually by Product Manager Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance On-the-Move (PM C4ISR OTM). The PM, an asset of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, is part of the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center headquartered at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

The E09 Final Planning Conference wrapped up ongoing preparations which began in October 2008. Throughout this process, Lt. Col. William T. Utroska, product manager, C4ISR OTM, has stressed cross-community collaboration to the participants, who come from industry and the research and development, acquisition, test and user communities.

"We cannot afford for each community to do their own thing because these capabilities will one day be in the hands of a Soldier. We have to leverage one another and do what's right for the

Army," Utroska said.

The conference finalized details and set the stage for participants to transition their technologies and begin execution at Fort Dix, said Jason Sypniewski, branch chief, Integrated Event Design and Analysis, PM C4ISR OTM.

"We formalized specific activity designs, we discussed the status of the integrated architecture and we conducted a series of breakout sessions that allowed the participants to work out details," Sypniewski said.

Monica Farah-Stapleton, deputy product manager, C4ISR OTM, was pleased with the conference interaction, citing the breakout sessions as key opportunities for participants to brainstorm in a "non-attribution environment."

"We integrate more than technical systems; we bring together subject matter experts who might otherwise never meet. People from different organizations start talking, and eventually, they discuss things that they might not ordinarily think about," Farah-Stapleton said. "The synthesis of all that energy, work and technology results in something that's better for the Warfighter. We're a nexus, and the DoD [Department of Defense] needs venues like this where people can come together to brainstorm the gaps that exist between programs."

As an Army capital investment, PM

C4ISR OTM is an R&D program of record that supports Army, DoD and industry technology development efforts by providing a relevant environment to assess emerging technologies in a C4ISR system-of-systems.

The PM uses a "test/assess-analyze-fix" approach. The aim is to quicken the development of technology into the current force, determine and validate technology readiness levels, evaluate emerging industry technologies, and quantify end-to-end performance and combat effectiveness, Utroska said.

All of the efforts combine to support future force capabilities and risk mitigation/reduction for Future Force concepts including those of Future Combat Systems.

Activities conducted at PM C4ISR OTM's lab or field sites are constructed to expose systems to conditions not ordinarily available within their individual development environments, facilitating validation of technology readiness levels and serving as a technology transition venue

The integrated exercise incorporates various live communications, sensor and battle command systems augmented with virtual and constructive simulation using organic, high-performance computing assets and distributed connectivity. This brigade-sized element of live and simulated systems is hosted in a battlefield-like environment, providing realistic conditions that are relevant to Soldiers.

The goal is to evaluate the system against specific performance criteria and then facilitate maturation by providing honest feedback to the developing organization throughout the event and at its conclusion.

"Seeing what doesn't work often times is just as valuable because it helps identify deficiencies in the system, as well as potential requirements gaps," Sypniewski said. "This allows us to provide an

early feedback loop, which improves the acquisition development process."

Related programs and the test community can obtain early looks at systems in a flexible, low-risk environment well before integration and formal tests are required, said Michael Amabile, a senior systems engineer for the PM.

"The PM's methodology enables participants to close development feedback loops within weeks, sometimes even days," he said. "It creates cost-savings opportunities for the Army, but it produces a greater benefit for the Warfighter: major quality improvement."

E09 will address deeper technical challenges by using campaign goals that feature a much stronger tie-in with current, transformational and future force architectures, Utroska said.

While seeking to mitigate risk for and enable C4ISR technology development, the PM will explore engineering challenges associated with C4ISR systems integration while defining and maturing metrics that will be used to quantify the technical performance of C4ISR systems and systems-of-systems.

Moreover, the PM will utilize and assess varying solutions in support of Future Force C4ISR instrumentation, data collection and reduction, Utroska said. E09 will also be used to study the cognitive impacts of the employment of integrated C4ISR systems.

"The bottom line is what we do has to be tied to how we support the Soldier," Utroska said. "To paraphrase RDECOM Commanding General Major General Paul S. Izzo, all lines on an organizational chart or diagram lead to a Soldier, and that's what we emphasize here."

E09 is scheduled to begin June 1 and culminate with its Presentation Days, Sept. 15 through 17.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-306-0078, fax 410-306-0100, or e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

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20th SUPCOM begins training on JERRVs



Photo by QUENTIN J. MELSON, 20TH SUPCOM
Capt. April Miller, 20th Support Command (CBRNE) takes a first look at the unit's new Cougar Joint Explosive Ordnance Disposal Rapid Response Vehicle Surrogate April 1 at the command's Headquarters. The surrogate vehicle will be used to train Soldiers who will operate JERRVs in Iraq to transport Soldiers and explosive ordnance disposal equipment.

APG's first female firefighter has fire in her blood



Aberdeen Proving Ground's first female firefighter, Christina L. Liddell, exits a fire engine in the Directorate of Emergency Services building. Liddell brings with her 18 years of experience as a firefighter and emergency dispatcher in Perryville, Havre de Grace and the Harford County Emergency Operations Center in Bel Air.

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Directorate of Emergency Services brought Aberdeen Proving Ground's first female firefighter to the installation in December, and she brings with her a long history of service to the region.

Christina L. Liddell began her career in firefighting as a volunteer with the Perryville Fire Company 18 years ago. The first female firefighter with that

department as well, she served as the first female fire line officer. She also served as a lieutenant, then captain and eventually as 1st assistant fire chief.

Liddell came by her chosen occupation naturally. Her grandfather was a firefighter in the Navy who served at the former Bainbridge Naval Training Center in Port Deposit and eventually retired from APG after the center closed in 1986. Liddell's stepfather was a Perryville volunteer and her younger brother

currently serves with the department. In addition, her grandmother and mother were "very active" in the ladies' auxiliary in which her mother served as secretary, treasurer and president.

"I pretty much grew up around the fire house," Liddell said. "My Family was always there helping out in some way."

She said that due to her intense interest and knowledge, Perryville firefighters encouraged her to join up, which she did at age 18.

"I was a little hesitant at first because I wasn't sure what to expect. There were no other female firefighters there to give me any insight," Liddell said.

In 1992 Liddell received Firefighter of the Year and in 2003 she received the Fire Chief's Award for outstanding service; one of the department's highest honors. She also received a Special Operations Award from the Susquehanna Hose Company during its annual awards banquet in April 2008 for her work as a dispatcher for the Harford County Emergency Operations Center, where she worked prior to serving at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

While at WRAMC she worked as a firefighter/hazardous materials technician prior to coming to APG. In addition, she remains a member of the Susquehanna Hose Company where she responded to more than 4,000 emergency calls during her tenure as a firefighter for the two departments.

Liddell describes herself as "just a scrawny youngster who was always hanging around the firehouse." She was active in sports, playing both little league and high school softball, and she graduated from Perryville High School through a special business program with honors.

She said firefighting was "just a natural choice for me."

"It's just something that got in my blood," she said. "Now I'm trying to guide my brother in the right direction."

Liddell received her training through the University of Maryland and several other accredited training programs and she is certified as firefighter III, fire officer II,

fire instructor I, and as hazardous materials and emergency medical technicians.

She said that coming to APG has been her goal for several years and that she is happy to escape the tough commute and serve at her chosen location where she can continue to make a difference.

Along with responding to emergencies, her duties at APG include daily equipment checks and maintenance, training, building inspections, sprinkler and fire extinguisher testing and maintenance and assisting in fire prevention education.

"You can't over-emphasize the importance of educating the public," she said. "Too many fires are preventable, and I look forward to being a part of the education process."

She added that being a woman in the fire service has its challenges.

"I've never expected any special treatment, and I've always strived to go above and beyond," she said.

Women looking to enter the field should go into it with an open mind and ready to pull their own weight.

"Put your mind to it and you can do it and you will be accepted," she said. "I am an equal in the eyes of my brothers."

She said she looks forward every day to learning and growing with her new APG Family.

"I have a strong sense of accomplishment just being here," she said. "This is where I always wanted to be. I worked hard to get here, and I plan to stay trained and up to the game."

"Having our first female firefighter here at APG is really only a matter of gender," said James Budnick, assistant chief of Operations, APG Fire and Emergency Services Division.

"All of us who work with Chrissy simply view her as another member of our team," he said. "It is quite evident that once you get to know her, she is all about the fire service; she is well trained and brings a vast amount of knowledge and skill to our organization. We are honored to call her one of our own, and commend her for the accomplishments she has already achieved."



Health Notes

Chain teaching to follow Army 'stand down' for suicide prevention

Story by
GARY SHEFTICK
Army News Service

An Army-wide "stand down" for suicide-prevention training continued through March 15 and it will be followed by chain teaching that must be completed by July 15.

The centerpiece of the stand-down training is an interactive video called "Beyond the Front" that Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli said he spent five hours with on a recent Sunday.

During a Blogger's Roundtable March 5 on suicide prevention, Chiarelli said the interactive video is "some of the best facilitation for training that I've seen in thirty six years in the Army." He said the purpose of the video is to reduce the stigma of seeking help, to teach Soldiers to recognize the signs of suicide and how to provide help to a battle buddy.

Commands are scheduling this stand-down training with the video in 2- to 4-hour blocks during a 30-day window that began Feb. 15. Soldiers watch the interactive video in small groups and make decisions on how to react to the vignettes. Their decisions determine the outcome of the vignettes and ultimately whether the Soldier on the video lives or dies.

It's important for all Soldiers - especially NCOs and junior officers -- to be able to offer capable intervention to those at risk, Chiarelli said.

"Unfortunately suicide is touching every segment of our force -- active, Reserve and National Guard; officer and enlisted; deployed and non-deployed, and yet-to-be-deployed," Chiarelli said.

Last fiscal year, 138 Soldiers committed suicide, Chiarelli said, and five additional cases are still pending confirmation. In January, 12 Soldiers committed suicide with another 12 cases still pending. In February, two Soldiers committed suicide and another 16 cases are still pending confirmation.

"As a Soldier and a leader, I'm deeply saddened every time a Soldier loses his or her life," Chiarelli said, "but it's especially troubling when a Soldier commits suicide."

About a third of those Soldiers were deployed, Chiarelli said. Another third had returned from a deployment, and the last third had never been deployed.

"The rational person might think, the more deployments, the more likely you are to commit suicide," Chiarelli said. "But we saw just the opposite."

He explained that "a certain resiliency" seems to grow in Soldiers that have completed multiple deployments.

Chiarelli announced at the roundtable that a new Suicide Prevention Task Force has been created and will be headed by Brig. Gen. Colleen L. McGuire. The task force will look across multiple disciplines - from personnel to medical - to try and discern the root causes of suicide and synchronize solutions.

There's no single solution to the problem, Chiarelli said, characterizing it as "very, very complicated."

About half of the Soldiers who committed suicide last year had sought treatment from mental-healthcare providers, Chiarelli said. Yet they still committed suicide.

Only 5.4 percent of the suicide victims had been diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder, said Col. Elspeth C. Ritchie, a psychiatrist who serves as director of Strategic Communications for the Army Medical Department. She said 17 percent had problems with substance abuse.

About 60 percent of those who committed suicide had relationship problems, said Col. Thomas Languirand of Army G-1. Some also had compounded legal problems, financial problems, or work problems, the panel explained.

On March 4, Chiarelli participated in a two-hour video teleconference with commanders across the Army whose units had been affected by suicides. Commanders in Iraq, Korea and other locations shared feedback. He said the video teleconference will be followed by a written report.

Also on the same day, Chiarelli spoke to more than 100 chaplains from across the Army gathered for a suicide-prevention "summit" meeting.

Many of the chaplains came from brigade level and lower and deal with Soldier problems on a daily basis, said Col. Dave Reese, director of Ministry Initiatives for the Army's Chief of Chaplains Office and a planner of the summit.

Reese said the chaplains broke into four groups to discuss suicide prevention across four domains: Life skills training, Intervention and crises, Fostering hope, and Engaging grief and recovery. Eight professionals with Lean Six Sigma black belts (in business transformation) helped facilitate the group discussions on programs such as the "Strong Bonds" retreat for married couples and helped chaplains develop some new ideas. The initiatives will eventually comprise what Reese termed a renewed "holistic approach" to suicide prevention for chaplains.

Occupational health nurses mark national observance

Story by
DEBRA PARKER
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Army occupational health nurses are joining their professional organization, the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, in celebrating the sixth annual National Occupational Health Nurses Week April 17 through 23.

This week recognizes members of the occupational and environmental health nursing profession. This year's theme is "The Best Value in Healthcare."

The goal in observing an official recognition week for occupational and environmental health nurses, or OHNs, is to assist their patients and employers to better understand the roles and responsibilities of OHNs in furthering health and safety.

Most people understand the function of a nurse in a clinical setting, but not everyone is aware that there are also nurses who work in non-clinical/business environments. Through legal and regulatory compliance, workplace hazard detection, counseling, and health promotion and wellness activities, OHNs improve the health of workers to contribute to a healthy bottom line for the Army. They are key to achieving optimal employee health, thereby reducing absenteeism, improving productivity and reducing healthcare costs.

OHNs are trained to identify health and safety risks in the work environment; educate and train employees on injury prevention; support pos-

itive, healthy lifestyle changes for employees; leverage health promotion and disease and disability management programs to improve employee health and quality of life; serve as health advocates to internal and external groups; and engage employees in taking charge of their health.

In addition, OHNs align occupational health services with Army goals and facilitate communication and collaboration among professionals, management and external groups.

OHNs manage care for the injured and ill employee from onset to return to work; conduct assessments of employees' health status; routinely communicate with employees, management, healthcare providers, etc.; evaluate and use appropriate resources; and use a multidisciplinary approach to achieve desired outcomes. The primary outcome or goal is to achieve optimal employee health, while ensuring a safe and timely return to work in a cost-effective manner.

They are familiar with the hundreds of laws and regulations that govern health and safety in the workplace. Whether it's the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, known as HIPAA, worker's compensation laws, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, or the Family Medical and Leave Act, OHNs and other occupational health and safety professionals work with management and others to interpret and comply with public policy decisions that protect the health and safety of Soldiers and civilian employees.

For more information and contest rules for Peer to Peer, go to <https://cra.army.mil/videocompetition>.

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