

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for March 4 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Wanted: Stories about NCOs

To showcase the year of the noncommissioned officer, the APG News is looking for story ideas to publish. Anyone with a suggestion should call the editor, Debi Horne, 410-278-1150.

APG hosts sexual assault forum today

Aberdeen Proving Ground will host the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault in the Military Services Feb. 26, as it conducts its worldwide assessment of Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force installations.

Members of the Task Force would like to provide an opportunity for the public, or victims or witnesses of past sexual assaults who are not part of an ongoing or active case under investigation, to meet individually with a member of the Task Force. Additionally, victims or witnesses should not be involved in any incident subject to an ongoing or upcoming judicial proceeding. The Task Force wants to make sure the public, victims and witnesses are heard, to have an opportunity to tell their story to someone outside of the military's chain of command. Interested parties should come to the Main Post Chapel, building 2485, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

When the worldwide assessment is complete, information gathered may be included in a report to Congress about sexual assault programs and response trends in the military.

For more information, call Jenny Holbert, 703-325-6656 or e-mail Jenny.Holbert.ctr@wso.whs.mil or visit www.dtic.mil/dtfsams. At APG, call Aida Rivera, Army Community Service family advocacy program manager, 410-278-7478.

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Black Engineers honored

Black History Month program focuses on price of U.S. citizenship, challenges ahead

Story and photo by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community gathered to recognize and pay tribute to the achievements of African Americans during the Black History Month Program held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Feb. 12.

Hosted by the installation's Equal Employment Opportunity Office and Black Employment Program, the program included cultural displays, guest exhibits, art work, dancing, music, ethnic food sampling and a keynote address by Ambassador Charles A. Ray, deputy assistant secretary of defense for Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Affairs.

The program's theme was the "Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas."

Marietta Matthews, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and BEP Committee member, narrated the program.

Bridget Smith, committee member who works for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and BEP sang the national anthem.

Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, deputy installation chaplain,



Spc. Maggie Malley, of the APG Dental Command, looks at Sgt. 1st Class Joel Carter's display which he designed to promote the education of traditional African culture. Carter is a technician escort for the 22nd Chemical Battalion. "My Family is originally from Liberia. I have a collection of traditional African items, like clothes, jewelry and musical instruments," he said. "I want to promote cultural awareness of my heritage."

gave the invocation.

"Create in us a sustaining hope, and strengthen us to be agents of change," Kim prayed, "so that we can be one united people under God, living as

brothers and sisters."

Entertainment included dancers from Stephanie Graham's Not Your Average Dance Studio, who performed two cultural dances, to "A Change is

Going to Come," by Sam Cook, and "I Know Where I Have Been," from the musical Hair-spray, and Eddy Nubine Jr., 13, recited Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech. See BLACK, page 13

2009 Army Emergency Relief Annual Campaign begins March 1

DA AER

Headquarters, Army Emergency Relief announced the start of the annual AER Campaign which runs from March 1 through May 15. The theme of this year's campaign is "Adding Strength to ARMY STRONG."

With the current challenges facing Soldiers and their Families, the need for AER assistance continues to grow.

Last year AER provided a record \$83 million in assistance to more than 70,000 Soldiers and their Families representing a 12 percent increase over 2007 assistance levels.

On an individual basis, assistance cases ranged from a non-interest loan to a young specialist traveling home to a grandparent's funeral to helping a retired staff sergeant meet unexpected higher home energy bills when fuel prices rose rapidly in mid 2008.

The purpose of the Army's annual AER Campaign is twofold according to retired Lt. Gen. Robert F. Foley, director of AER.

"First, to create greater awareness of the Army Emergency Relief benefits and programs available to Soldiers and

their Families, and secondly, to provide Soldiers an opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers by donating to Army Emergency Relief," Foley said.

Founded in 1942 in response to Soldiers and their Families needing financial assistance during World War II, AER provides emergency financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans or outright grants. In addition to emergency assistance, today's AER provides scholarships to children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers, and financial support to surviving Families of fallen Sol-

diers, and grants to widows and Wounded Warriors.

AER assistance is available to Soldiers and their Families, wherever they are located and the amount of assistance is only limited by a valid need.

Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit chain of command or go to their local installation AER office. The APG AER Office is located in building 2754 Rodman Road, room 201.

For more information, call Marge Fissel, AER officer, 410-278-2508 or visit www.aerhq.org.

AAFES facilities offer many levels of support to entire military community

AAFES

From Fort Lewis, Wash., to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan, military installations across the globe are home to more than 3,000 Army & Air Force Exchange Service food, entertainment and retail options.

The Army posts and Air Force bases where exchange operations are located host a variety of visitors, contractors and Department of the Army civilians who often ask, "Who's authorized to shop these facilities?"

"Frankly, AAFES offers varying levels of service to every member of the military community," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Jeffery Helm. "It stands to reason that guests want to take advantage of the tax relief and competitive pricing they've heard so much about, but AAF-

ES doesn't decide who is or isn't authorized to shop."

Exchange service authorization actually begins with the House Armed Services Committee and ultimately ends with the installation commander. The guidelines, as prescribed by Army Regulation 215-8/Air Force Instruction 34-211 (I) (http://www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/r215_8.pdf), require proper identification of authorized customers, including uniformed personnel and members of the Reserve Components and Family members, applicable DoD civilians, exchange associates and retirees who possess a basic exchange purchase privilege authorization card.

While authorizations governing who can buy merchandise and services at a BX or PX

See AAFES, page 5

Opportunities, challenges focus of town hall meeting

Story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The commanding general, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, LCMC, visited Aberdeen Proving Ground Feb. 18 and 19 to speak with Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (Forward) employees at a town hall meeting and to meet with APG's senior leadership.

CECOM LCMC Deputy Commander (Forward) Col. Augustus Owens said that Maj.

Gen. Dennis L. Via being "on site" this week is indicative of an increased presence of CECOM LCMC and Army Team C4ISR senior leadership along with more than 300 advanced party personnel currently on the ground at APG.

"Over the next two years, general officers and senior executive service directors and staff will routinely travel to APG to provide the necessary leadership and coordination to ensure a seamless transition from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, to APG prior to the completion

See VIA, page 8

TRAFFIC ALERT

Aberdeen Gate opens for employee use

DIO

Construction work on the inbound right lane of the Route 22 Gate, its associated guard booth, the gatehouse and the inspection canopy will continue through September 2009. Only two inbound lanes will remain open.

To alleviate traffic during the construction period, the Aberdeen (middle) Gate will be available for inbound traffic only, 5:30 to 8:30 a.m. by Government ID card holders only. The Aberdeen Gate may only be used Monday through Friday and will not be used for outbound traffic. The Aberdeen Gate will not be open on weekends and cannot be used by visitors.

The Aberdeen Gate will remain the primary entrance point for contractor employees with RAPIDgate identification.

Patience and understanding is requested during this period. Driving defensively helps keep everyone safe.

For more information, DPW/DIO contact Jerry Norris, Directorate of Installation Operations Public Works, 410-306-1159.

Maryland congressman tours JPED

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

To increase his knowledge of Aberdeen Proving Ground missions and the APG 2012 transformation which includes expansions due to base realignment and closure, Maryland Congressman Frank Kratovil, First Congressional District, visited the installation for tours and briefings at select facilities Feb. 19.

Kratovil began the tour at the Joint Personal Effects Depot where he was greeted by Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander; and Lt. Col. Scott Kilmon, JPED commander.

The briefing for the congressman included the JPED history and mission, its 2003 relocation to the proving ground and its projected move to Dover Air Force Base, Del., in 2011 by Kilmon; the RDECOM Air Command Initiatives by Izzo and an APG 2012 overview by Weissman.

The tour included the compound's Receiving and Unexploded Ordnance building where the personal effects of service members wounded or killed in the War on Terror are screened before further processing; the Killed in Action processing

See KRATOVIL, page 10



COMMANDER'S CORNER



By
MAJ. GEN. PAUL S. IZZO
Commander, USARDECOM

As the commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and the installation commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, I want to take the opportunity to introduce myself to the Soldiers, Families, and civilian employees of the installation as well as to our community neighbors.

First, let me say that it is an immense privilege for me to be able to continue to serve our Army and serve you as the installation commander. I want to serve you in a way that will enhance APG's role as one of the premier research, development and testing installations in the Army and in a way that will lead us successfully to our vision of APG 2012. I am humbled by the responsibility that this role brings.

APG is a national treasure. From the intellectual capital of its workforce to the collaborative potential of its neighboring communities, from the proving ground's physical attributes to its beautiful location on the upper Chesapeake Bay, APG's resources are second to none.

My wife Kathleen and I were happy to return to the area after spending three years on the installation when I was a young aide-de-camp in the early 1980s. In fact, my son was born in Havre de



Grace, so I have fond memories of my last tour of duty here.

I took command of RDECOM after serving as the Deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management under the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. Understanding the processes and decision making in the Pentagon was an important learning experience for me, but nothing is more valuable than to see first-hand how our scientists, engineers and other installation team members are contributing world class support to the Warfighter.

Prior to that Pentagon assignment, I served as the commander, Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command, program executive officer for Army Ammunition, and commanding general of Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey. That gave me my first installation management experience, and it will help me lead here.

In terms of my other background, I was commissioned as an armor officer in 1975 and therefore have experiences based on that specialty. I was the project manager for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle System; operations officer for 3-37 Armor, 1st Infantry Division during the Gulf War; a Bradley and M1A1 Tank live fire test officer; operations officer and company commander of the 2-37 Armor, 1st Armored Division; and battalion maintenance officer, tank company executive officer and tank platoon leader in the 1st Infantry Division.

As only the third commander of RDECOM, I know that this command is a relative newcomer to the more than 90 years of history on this storied post. While I honor that past, I know there is no more critical time to strive towards our common future.

APG is made up of more than sixty different tenants with far ranging and

important missions. We must move forward together to create an installation that will successfully serve the nation for the long term future.

Of course, BRAC will change the composition of this post. Gone will be the young trainees and their early morning cadences. Gone will be our traditional tie to the Ordnance Corps and Army Environmental Command. Yet, the future of Army science and technology will be here.

I've told my staff that my office isn't in building 5101; it's all across the post. It's in the labs, but also in the child development center and the post gym. It's meeting with and working with local officials. My office is everywhere you are, and I want an installation that represents you...the best the Army has to offer.

When I grew up in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and graduated with a business administration degree from St. Bonaventure University, I thought that I might enter the restaurant business and stay a reserve officer. I never dreamed that I would dedicate more than three decades to the Army, but I wouldn't trade that time or this opportunity for anything.

I'm passionate about being a part of your team today, and look forward to our common future.

Putting passion to work every day

Story by
ROBERT DIMICHELE
RDECOM

Communicate your passion. That was part of the message from Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, installation commander, last week as he explained his leadership style and intent during a town hall with the headquarters staff of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and with 150 installation and business community leaders at an Association of the United States Army luncheon.

And, in both cases, he followed his own guidance.

"This post belongs to the Army that I love," Izzo said. "I put every waking moment that I can in this job into telling our story."

He said that the two-star flag that flies outside the headquarters building is not

a representation of him as a person, but of the organization and the tradition it represents.

Tradition, he said, is important. Izzo grew up in Saratoga Springs, a small town in upstate New York where he learned traditional values of doing things right the first time, doing your best, respecting others and always trying to make things better.

"As we come to work day in and day out, all I can ask is that you think about the outcome of your actions, and remember that there are Soldiers at the end of all that we do, and we need to help them do their jobs," Izzo said. "I tie everything back to being value-added."

He described all of the organizations on APG as part of a vital team.

"We are a very special team because we have Soldiers lives depending on our

decisions. Our young warriors expect and deserve the best," he said.

Izzo went on to describe himself as "process focused" and always trying to find better ways to do business.

In speaking to the RDECOM staff, he asked that they stay focused on what the headquarters can do to make things better.

Another aspect of his role as installation commander is to enhance communication with surrounding communities. He said that everyone in the area is part of the APG team---business leaders, community groups, veteran's organizations, Soldiers, Families and even school students.

"They all play an important part in APG's future success," he said.

Izzo said that as money comes to the installation and the area from base realignment and closure, the opportuni-

ty exists to improve APG.

"I want to help move us forward and improve the way to support the Warfighter for the next generation that follows," he said.

And for that next generation, the importance of math and science is paramount. He described his vision of APG as a center of excellence in technology that could both inspire and educate community youth.

"It's the development of technology that is saving Soldiers' lives today and, hopefully, deterring future conflicts," Izzo said.

His advice on ensuring the successful transformation to APG 2012 was short and simple.

"Talent is never enough," Izzo said, "you must have the passion to execute." (Editor's note: For more on the AUSA luncheon, see article on page 12.)

RDECOM showcases technologies at WEST 2009

Story by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
RDECOM

As the Army's focal point for research, development and technology, the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command doesn't stop at Army technology, as demonstrated at the WEST Conference themed "Defense: Reset-Redesign-Reinvent," in San Diego Feb. 11 through 13.

Co-sponsored by AFCEA International and the U.S. Naval Institute, WEST provides a forum for a wide-range of collaboration and networking opportunities to take place where military, government and industry leaders can see the future technologies and perhaps establish partnerships. Many of the technologies showcased are applied to multiple military services and industry forums.

Feeding Soldiers quicker

The Department of Defense Combat Feeding Directorate, located at the U.S. Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center, Natick, Mass., executes the DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Program. This joint service program is responsible for meeting the combat feeding needs of the nation's military services. Whether it's the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines or Coast Guard, the directorate finds the most efficient and lightest way to feed the nation's service members.

The directorate displayed its new Quick Cuisine, a foodservice machine

that increases productivity, decreases spoilage and reduces storage space in military kitchen environments.

The exhibitor pushed a button, and about 30 seconds later served both attendees garlic mashed potatoes. In seven minutes, this technology can produce 125 pounds of mashed potatoes, ready for consumption.

"This machine will help military cooks focus on what's important... feeding the Warfighter," said Robert Bernazzani, team leader for the Systems Equipment and Engineering team with the DoD Combat Feeding Directorate. "The Quick Cuisine eliminates a big mess in the kitchen and can make large amounts of food quickly."

With one of its dispensers, Quick Cuisine is capable of producing 2,000 portions with one touch of a button. This machine can produce hot and cold products, and with more than 30 recipes, the service members will have a variety of choices. The Quick Cuisine will reduce manhours, overproduction and waste, according to Bernazzani.

The First Strike Ration is an alternative to the Meals Ready-to-Eat®. One FSR replaces three MREs, thus saving space and reducing the amount of weight a Warfighter carries when on a mission. Supplying 2,900 calories, the FSR is ideal for deploying Warfighters who are traveling across various terrains, according to Bernazzani.

"We [DoD Combat Feeding Directorate] listen to the customer and the First

Strike Ration is a result of that, listening to the Warfighter," Bernazzani said.

The Smart Process Control System remotely monitors and tracks the diagnostics and prognostics of food service equipment assets. The system transitioned to the Future Navy Galley Project

in fiscal year 2008.

"This system, alleviates the manual labor requirements to record temperatures and troubleshoot equipment issues," Lou Jamieson, Navy project officer with the Combat Feeding Directorate.

See WEST 2009, page 8

Ending a day at APG



Photo by BOB DIMICHELE, RDECOM
Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Hector G. Marin, installation Command Sergeant Major, salute the flag during retreat Feb. 13 as Soldiers of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion lower the flag. Retreat signals the end of the official duty day and serves as a ceremony for paying respect to the flag.

APG News

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APG celebrates The Year of the NCO

KUSAHC hosts NCO induction ceremony



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB
Master Sgt. Michael D. Stockdell, left, welcomes Sgt. Carlos Rodriguez of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, right, into the NCO Corps during the NCO Induction Ceremony at Top of the Bay Feb. 18. Stockdell is the senior enlisted advisor, Fort George G. Meade Medical Activity.

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

In recognition of 2009 being named the “Year of the NCO” by the Department of the Army, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and the U.S. Army Medical Activity at Fort George G. Meade held a regional NCO Induction Ceremony at Top of the Bay Feb. 18.

Two KUSAHC Soldiers were welcomed into the NCO Corps along with five inductees from the Fort George G.

Meade MEDDAC.

Master Sgt. Michael D. Stockdell, senior enlisted advisor, USAMEDDAC, hosted the ceremony which included remarks from guest speaker Sgt. Maj. Scott Morgan, brigade sergeant major, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

The inductees included Sgts. Carlos Rodriguez and Eric Scheier of KUSAHC and Sgts. Melvin Balbuena, Kevin Berry, Michael Cariaga, Arkino Carswell and Erica Stagg of USAMEDDAC. Not present were Staff Sgt. Henry Wilson



Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Gore of KUSAHC moves forward while reciting the NCO Creed in a candle light tribute to the NCO Corps during the ceremony.

and Tiffani Hall, USAMEDDAC.

Guests included KUSAHC Commander Lt. Col. James P. Nold; and Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Womack, 20th Support Command.

KUSAHC’s Sgt. Megan Rodriguez, as narrator, welcomed all to the ceremony on behalf of the commander.

“Today we commemorate this rite of passage as a celebration of the newly promoted joining the ranks of a professional Noncommissioned Officer Corps, and emphasize and build on the pride we all share as members of an elite corps,” she said.

Morgan encouraged the NCOs to cling to the doctrine of the NCO Creed and Army Values in leading their troops and conducting their lives.

“Many Soldiers can recite the NCO Creed but many forget what the words mean,” he said. “Everything you do, Soldiers are watching. You should have enthusiasm. You should walk with your head up and your chest stuck out showing how professional you are.”

He told the NCOs to constantly seek out information and to learn all they can, not only for leading but for surviving.

“You never know where duty will take you tomorrow,” he said.

He cautioned them not to take their leadership style for granted and to always check themselves to make sure they are leading in the right way.

“Ask yourself ‘if you took off your [rank] would your Soldiers still follow you?’” Morgan said.

At the ceremony’s conclusion, KUSAHC senior medical NCO Sgt. 1st Class Wendy Daugherty said the units would try to hold an induction ceremony once a quarter, rotating the locations between outlying MEDDAC clinics.

“These are both outstanding NCOs,” she said of Rodriguez and Scheier, adding that both are headed to Korea.

“I’m glad they were able to be inducted before they left,” she said.

Rodriguez, whose wife was the program narrator, said he was honored by those in attendance.

“It’s hard to get everyone together like this,” he said. “And for the sergeant major to come and speak made me feel a lot more important. To me, he reinforced what this is all about.”

The NCO Creed

www4.army.mil/yearofthenco/creed.php

No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as “The Backbone of the Army.” I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind—accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities

inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

The seven Army values

Loyalty

Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. constitution, the Army and other Soldiers. Be loyal to the nation and its heritage.

Duty

Fulfill your obligations. Accept responsibility for your own actions and those entrusted to your care.

Respect

Rely upon the golden rule.

Selfless Service

Put the welfare of the nation, the Army and your subordinates before your own.

Honor

Live up to all the Army values

Integrity

Do what is right, legally and morally. Be willing to do what is right even when no one is looking.

Personal Courage

Our ability to face fear, danger, or adversity, both physical and moral courage.

RDECOM hosts Industry Day in support of OEF

Story by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
RDECOM

More than 40 private companies gathered to interact with government entities to learn more about the Afghanistan National Security Sector Development and Fielding Program and the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, its objectives, procurement needs and processes Jan. 28.

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Contracting Center, the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan and the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command hosted the Industry Forum at Fort Belvoir, Va.

RDECOM provides acquisition expertise and CSTC-A provides the operational expertise.

USASAC supports U.S. foreign policy objectives through the development, execution and management of Army security assistance programs.

CSTC-A works with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan and the international community to plan and develop the Afghan National Security Force in order to enable the Afghan government to achieve security and stability in Afghanistan.

The forum enabled industry representatives to learn about government needs, service requirements and highlighted the capabilities of industry to government entities.

“This exchange helps both the government and industry make more informed business decisions,” said Susan Greider, RDECOM Contracting Center, Combat Operations Branch. “It [the Industry Forum] allows for an open frank discussion and transfer of ideas that may not otherwise be possible.”

The U.S. government intends to award a contract for services to be performed in Afghanistan that support the CSTC-A mission and ultimately benefit the country of Afghanistan, said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jeffrey Parker, CSTC-A deputy CJ8.

“Numerous contacts were made with representatives of the companies, as well as contacts made between attending large and small businesses,” Parker said.

Government representatives presented information to industry about its efforts in Afghanistan and then engaged in one-on-one sessions with interested vendors.

The forum will expedite the procurement process through awareness, providing a networking event for industry, particularly small businesses, validate the government’s planning and identify areas where changes need to be made, according to Greider.

“Procuring the services showcased at the event will assist CSTC-A in achieving its mission of growing the national security of Afghanistan,” Greider said.

Services may include: expert advi-

sors, mentors and trainers from a multitude of government and military functions including personnel, intelligence, acquisition, engineering, medical legal, military training and public affairs.

“The training in Afghanistan will

focus on how to plan, develop, implement and support/sustain defense and police organizations based initially on a western model but modified for adaptation by the Afghan government in order to achieve self-sufficiency and independent operations,” Greider said.



Photo by PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS DAVID M. VOTRUBECK
Army 2nd Lt. Jean Leimkuler coaches an Afghan National Policeman during a tactical movement exercise. Leimkuler is a member of a police mentoring team and works with ANP officers from Zhari district in Kandahar Province as part of Focused District Development.

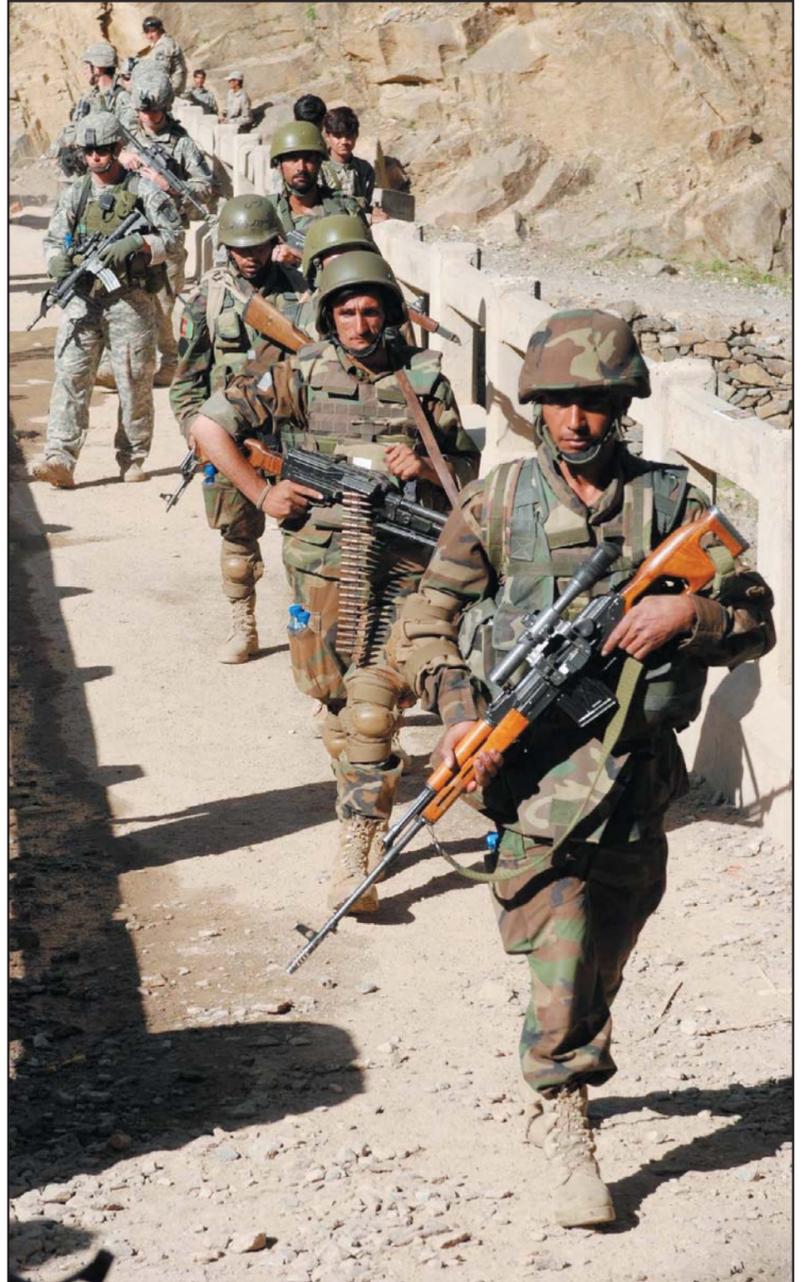


Photo by ARMY STAFF SERGEANT BRANDON AIRD
Afghan National Army soldiers and paratroopers from Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment (Airborne), walk across the Gowerdesh Bridge during Operation Mountain Highway II in Nuristan Province, Afghanistan, April 27, 2008.

APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary: Hunting, fishing at APG



Photo by GEORGE "BART" ROBERTS, APG WILDLIFE & MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Well sir, the figures are in, and even though we had to reduce the seasonal bag limit on deer this past year, it appears that we had a pretty successful hunting season here at APG.

The overall numbers on the whitetail deer harvest are down,

but that was our goal: to continue with a limited season but reduce the take to allow the population to recover from the outbreak of EHD we had in 2007.

In the 2007-2008 recreational deer hunting season, a total of 693 deer were harvested at APG, which, if broken down by season, included archery (423), muzzle-loader (114) and regular firearms (155).

During the 2008-2009 deer season, a total of 466 were harvested: archery (281), muzzle-loading (53) and regular shotgun (132). Like I said, we're down somewhere in the neighborhood of 227 for 2008, which is about two thirds of what we harvested in 2007.

The good news is the remaining deer appear to be in real good shape health-wise.

As for the recreational waterfowl hunting in the 2008-2009

season, well, that was a pretty good year too, especially the last week or so of the season.

For good duck hunting you need cold, yucky weather up north to push the birds down, and it wasn't until about the second week or so of January when we had that real cold spell, that the weather up around the Great Lakes turned nasty and the duck hunting on the upper Chesapeake Bay got good.

All in all, thanks to a lot of folks, it was a pretty successful hunting season here at APG. Knock on wood, we didn't have any calamities or disasters, and to my way of thinking, it went off without a hitch, due mostly to efforts of some real professionals.

My hat is off to those people who work for Steve Benjamin up at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Range Safety Office. Most people don't know

it but they're the ones who have the "thankless" and seldom recognized job of trying to keep us safe when we're out and about at APG. Their daily "chore" of coordinating and clearing areas for safe recreational hunting is an awesome responsibility. If it weren't for their conscientious efforts, I seriously doubt we would have a hunting program here at APG.

Appreciation as well goes to the staff at the Deer Shacks. Their efforts were definitely above and beyond, and as far as I'm concerned, they're the ones who made the recreational hunting program at APG successful.

If there is anyone more deserving of an "atta-boy" or, in the case of Lori Workman in the Edgewood Area, an "attagirl," I don't know who it might be. I know they sure make my job a lot easier and for that I say "Thank you."

Fishing at APG

Just a quick note for those of you who are into fishing. For the last week or so we've been closely monitoring the commercial yellow perch harvest in APG waters, and I'm here to tell you, I'm definitely impressed.

We've been seeing a tremendous amount of "large" yellow perch lately entering the Bush and Gunpowder rivers to spawn, and when I say large, I'm saying perch in the 12- to 13-inch (and larger) class. For whatever reason, there are some really nice, eating size perch migrating upstream right now, along with a fair amount of white perch mixed in.

So, take it from me, if you like fresh, tasty fish, grab your fishing rod and get yourself a bucket of minnows, and get with the program. You'd have to go a long way to beat perch this time of year.

19th Annual
Training Program
Conference Center, Bldg E4810
Wednesday, 4 March 2009
0800-1600

Women
Taking the lead
to save
our
Planet

Morning Workshops
"The American Worker: Impact of Fitness on Employee Performance, Absenteeism and Productivity"
"Taking the Lead to Control Your Budget in 2009"

Midday Program - Brown Bag Lunch - Open to All
Stark Recreation Center, Bldg E4140
"Benefits of Recycling"
Vendors/Door Prizes

Afternoon Workshop
"Developing Your Potential: Living on Purpose"

Points of Contact:
Susan Church - ARL 410-278-3672
Diane Siler - RDECOM 410-436-2681

fwp
Federal Women's Program

Arbor Day poster contest announced

DPW Environmental Management Division

As part of Aberdeen Proving Ground's annual Arbor Day celebration, Child, Youth and School Services will host a poster contest. Arbor Day at APG will be held the week of April 6. Judging will be by age groups.

Arbor Day poster rules

- Children and youths should use white poster board, size 18" by 24."
- The theme for 2009 is Trees are Treasures.
- Children and youths can use various mediums to include but not limited to: crayon, markers, color pencil, watercolors, tempera paint,

collage materials, photos, etc.

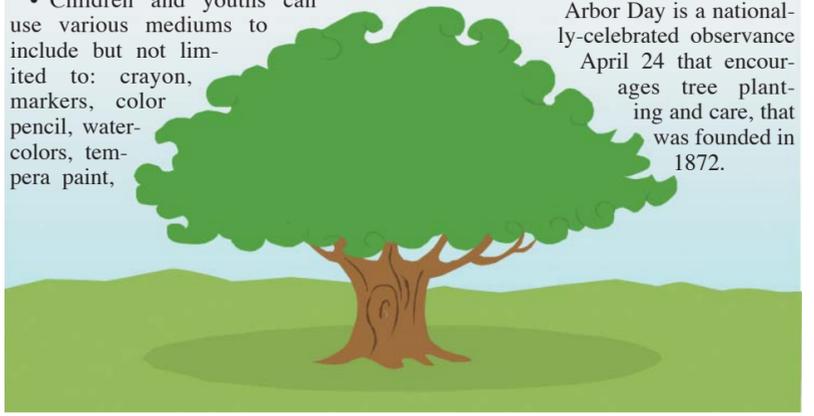
- The contest will be open to the public.

- Age groups include kindergarten, first and second grades; third and fourth grades; fifth and sixth grades; seventh and eighth grades; and ninth through 12th grades.

EMD and CY&SS will judge the contest and award presentations will take place at the Arbor Day Celebration April 9. Winning posters will be displayed during the celebration.

Arbor Day is a nationally-celebrated observance

April 24 that encourages tree planting and care, that was founded in 1872.



AAFES

From front page

often apply to a chosen few, the doors to AAFES' 1,384 food facilities and 279 Shoppettes are open to virtually anyone looking for a quick bite to eat. In fact, DoD policy allows all federal government employees, and even installation visitors, to dine at AAFES restaurants as long as their orders are consumed on the installation. Furthermore, anyone can purchase single-serve consumables from a Shoppette, an option that is especially valuable late at night considering many AAFES convenience stores offer extended hours.

"The 'Snack Avenue,' <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aafes/3277506272/?edited=1>, located inside most AAFES Shoppettes, offers a robust selection of single-serve consumables," said Helm. "Candy bars, soft drinks and even hot dogs can be picked up by just about anyone with business on the installation."

Anyone who believes they may qualify for exchange benefits, including access to the main exchange, should

contact their local AAFES manager for additional guidance as well as information regarding possible exceptions at specific BX/PX locations. Store-level contact information is available online at www.aafes.com under the BX/PX "Store Locator" link.



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

Community Notes

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 28 COLD COMPASS CAPERS

Learn how to use a compass while negotiating a scavenger hunt in and out of the center. Warm treats will be the reward. This program will be held 1 to 2:30 p.m. for all ages, under 12 with adult. The cost is \$3 per person or \$6 per family and registration is required.

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

CRITTER DINNER TIMES

Come watch the turtles, fish and snakes eat and learn more about these fascinating creatures. This free program begins at 10:30 a.m.

for all ages. No registration required.

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

GRASSES TO THE MASSES WORKSHOP

Learn about submerged aquatic vegetation or SAV, why it is important to the Bay and how to help restore bay grasses. In this free workshop for volunteers, instruction, equipment and plant material to grow SAV in the home will be supplied. Return in the spring to plant the SAV in Otter Point Creek. No experience necessary. This program will be held 3 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 6 to adult. Ages 6 to 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to reg-

ister, or for directions to the center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SUNDAY

MARCH 1 ART GALLERY AT LIRIODENDRON

The Gallery at Liriodendron, located at 502 West Gordon Street, Bel Air, will hold a free reception, 1 to 3 p.m. featuring artwork by retired archdiocesan priest Father John J. Abrahams. Abraham's work will be on display March 1 through April 19. The reception is open to the public. Regular gallery hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays, with the exception of holiday weekends when the gallery is closed.

For more information, call 410-879-4424.

ALL DAY BINGO

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold All Day Bingo, 12:30 p.m. Doors open 11 a.m., early bird games begin at 11:45 a.m. Cost is \$25 per person and includes 50 games (all paper cards), meal and free coffee. A 50/50 raffle will be held for early birds. No one under 18 years of age is allowed in the Bingo Hall. No smoking is allowed. For more information, call 410-642-2771.

THE WATER QUALITY WEB

Venture to the water with some water quality testing equipment, collect water quality data, and then enter the data into an on-line database to share with the world. This free program will be

held 12:30 to 2 p.m. for ages 10 to adult; ages 10 through 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

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

LOWER YOUR ENERGY BILLS

Worried about rising fuel and electricity costs? Learn where to cut costs by finding out which of appliances, lamps and computers are actually costing the most. Following this "training session," rent one of the center's electricity usage monitors to test for energy "gobblers." This free program will be held 3 to 4 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. Registration is required.

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

SUNDAY BINGO

Bingo will be held every Sunday at the American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17 located on 415 Edgewood Road. Doors open 5 p.m.; bingo begins 6:15 p.m. New games, new format, progressive jackpot is back. Food will be available for purchase.

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 4 WEDNESDAY WEE WONDERS

Celebrate spring by joining the naturalist and her wee one for stories, songs, live animals and outdoor exploration. This free program will be held 10 to 11 a.m. for infants to 4 year olds. Registration is required.

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

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

CWF announces upcoming trips, events

March 7

Trip to Sight and Sound

A trip to Sight and Sound to see "Behold the Lamb" at the Millennium Theatre, Strasburg, Pa., costs \$104 for adults; \$79 for teens ages 13 to 18; and \$59 for children ages 12 and under. Price includes show ticket, dinner at Hershey Farms and charter bus transportation. Departure time is 3:30. Call to reserve tickets now.

April 4

Trip to Washington, D.C.

Spend the day in the nation's Capital and experience history, art and culture at the many museums and monuments. Tour Washington, D.C., alone or join an optional tour group. The cherry blossoms should be in bloom, making it a beautiful, scenic trip. Cost for charter bus transportation is \$40 per person.

April 18 to 23

Tour Charleston and Savannah

Tour Charleston and Savannah, two of the most charming southern cities. Cost is \$1,099 per person for double, triple or quad. Cost per person for single is \$1,329. A down payment of \$100 is required by March 1. The final payment is due on April 1.

May 16

Trip to New York City

Spend the day in the Big Apple, at your

leisure. Take in a Broadway show, shop or sightsee. The cost per person is \$45 for charter bus transportation.

June 5 through 15

Visit Canada and more

A trip to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and the Cabot Trail, Atlantic Canada. Cost is \$1,970 per person double occupancy, \$2,565 single occupancy. Price includes 10 nights lodging, 10 breakfasts and dinners (including a lobster dinner), all sightseeing mentioned in itinerary, luggage handling, taxes, deluxe motor coach, tour guide, taxes and standard gratuities. A passport is required for Canada. Deposit of \$100 required by March 1, with balance due by April 15.

July 11

CWF night at Ripken Stadium and Crab Feast

Join CWF for a great night of Ironbirds baseball and fireworks from the Party Deck at Aberdeen's Ripken Stadium. The cost per person is \$43 or \$49 per person includes beer, a complimentary Ironbirds baseball cap, all-you-can-eat Bo Brooks Crabs, hot dogs, hamburgers and corn on the cob. Reservation deadline is June 11.

August 8

Trip to Kings Dominion

Come and enjoy one of the East

Coast's best amusement parks. Kings Dominion offers 13 roller coasters including the new hair-raising "Dominator" and 20 acres of water-filled fun. The price will include round trip charter bus transportation and entry into the park. Bus leaves APG at 8 a.m. Price to be determined.

Sept. 11 through 19

Trip to France

Join CWF for the trip of a lifetime to Paris and other French highlights. See the Normandy Beaches, Mont St. Michel-Blois, Brittany, Chateaux Country and more. The trip costs \$3,599 per person based on double occupancy, \$3,499 triple occupancy, \$4,299 single occupancy. A deposit of \$500 per person is required by March 2.

Sept. 27 to 30

Trip to New York City

See two Broadway Shows, enjoy lunch, take a ferry ride to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island and more. Cost is \$1,499 per person for double occupancy, \$1,379 per person for triple occupancy \$1,379 and \$1,899 for single occupancy. Round trip motor coach, taxes, trip cancellation insurance and entry to CIA and ferry ticket included. A deposit of \$100 is due by March 2 to hold the reservation. Final payment is due July 1.

POST SHORTS

RecruitMilitary Career Fair Feb. 26

RecruitMilitary, in conjunction with the President's National Hire Veterans Committee, DOL, 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., Feb. 26, at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel, located on 999 Ninth Street NW.

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

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

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

FWP holds annual training conference

The APG Federal Women's Program will sponsor its 19th annual Training Conference in observance of Women's History Month, 8 to 4 p.m., March 4, at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810.

This year's theme is "Wom-

en Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet."

The conference is open to all active duty military and civilian employees of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Contractors may attend at the discretion of their supervisors.

Attendees with special needs must make this known when registering.

Registration packets can be picked up 7 to 8 a.m., in the Conference Center, building E-4810, prior to attending the opening ceremony and the morning session.

For more information, call Susan Church, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, 410-278-3672 or Diane Siler, U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command, 410-436-2681.

No RAB meeting in February

The monthly Installation Restoration Program meeting for February will not be held.

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

NCO Academy holds 9th Annual Dining Out

The Noncommissioned Officer Academy will hold its 9th Annual Anniversary Dining Out on March 20 at Top of the

Bay. The evening will honor past NCOA commandants from 1987 to present.

Tickets cost \$40. Call to make a reservation by March 3.

For more information or to RSVP, call Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Day, 410-278-9129 or e-mail dennis.day4@conus.army.mil.

Thrift Store holds \$3 bag sale

The APG Thrift Store will hold a \$3 bag sale for items in the sale room March 4, 5, 7, 11 and 12. Many items will be moved from the front of the store to make room for newer stock. Items you may have had your eye on could be reduced for quick sale. For more information, call 410-272-8572 during store hours.

DAPS open house March 6

The Document Automation and Production Service, or DAPS, APG, building 346 located on Tower Road, will hold an open house 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 6.

DAPS, a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency, has been serving the Department of Defense for more than 55 years. Free donuts and coffee will be available. (See article on page 10.)

For more information, call Jim Moscardini, DAPS customer service representative, 703-325-9924.

BJ's membership sale

BJ's Wholesale Club offers a 15-month membership, to include two cards for \$35 for all civilian and military personnel, retirees and contract employees.

Sign up for membership 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., March 10, at the Southside Grill located in the Edgewood Area, Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140.

This offer is good for new customers and for membership renewals. Save \$10 and get three months free. Renewal membership holders should bring their current card with them.

MCSC hosts evening out March 12

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is a group of spouses who offer fellowship and friendship for all military and civilian spouses working on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Known as a philanthropic organization, it has historically given more than \$1,000 each year to organizations in the Harford County area.

Why join? MCSC has a wealth of information about local businesses, schools, day-care and events in the area. It's members know what it is like to arrive in a new location and not know a hairdresser, a caterer, a nice restaurant, or a fun Family thing to do on a weekend.

Join the MCSC for an evening out, 6:30 p.m., March 12, at the DuClaw Brewery in Bel Air. Order off the DuClaw menu and sample their beers.

For more information or to RSVP, visit www.apgmcsc.org to contact an MCSC member.

Register for NSPS training

Upcoming NSPS writing workshops are:

- March 12 (B40), NB7SMART - NSPS Smart Objectives Writing Workshop
- April 1 (B41), Aug. 5 (B42), NB7EMPL - Writing Effective Self Assessments
- Sept. 9 (B43) and 16 (B44), NB7SUPV - Writing Effective Supervisor Assessments

There is no cost for this training.

For more information or to register, students must sub-

mit a training request through CHRTAS <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/chrtas/student/> and be approved by their supervisor.

RecruitMilitary Career Fair in Philadelphia March 12

RecruitMilitary, the Presidents National Hire Veterans Committee (DOL), the American Legion, and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network, will hold a free hiring event veterans, personnel who are transitioning from active duty, Reserves, Guard and military spouses, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 12, at Citizens Bank Park (Home of the Philadelphia Phillies), located on One Citizens Bank Way, Philadelphia, Pa.

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

Tax Center open to public

The Installation Tax Assistance Program, directed by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division provides free tax preparation and electronic filing for qualifying active duty service members, retirees and family members.

Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Tax Center will close April 15.

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

Black History Month lunch time movies

The APG Black Employment Program presents free lunch time movies 11:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326 and at the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140.

Aberdeen Area

- Feb. 26, Black History: An Historical Overview

Edgewood Area

- Feb. 26, Black History Sports and Science

For more information, call or e-mail Bridget Smith, 410-278-0892, Bridget.N.Rogers@us.army.mil or Shariese Demby, 410-436-6923, Shariese.Demby@us.army.mil.



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



KUSAHC Commander's Corner: KUSAHC continues to improve access, service

By
**LT COL (DR.)
JAMES M. NOLD**
KUSAHC

You deserve the best health care and services that we can provide.

The men and women who are the staff of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic consider it their duty and an honor to serve you. We are committed to improving every process to provide you a more patient-centered, courteous visit.

I would like to share a few of the things that have occurred in the last several months.

In October 2008, a strategic planning conference was held at Top of the Bay to ensure that KUSAHC is transitioning in a synchronized manner with the rest of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

We continue to revise and implement the recommendations of this conference with the goal of being able to meet the health care needs of our community today and in the future.

We value your feedback

Senior leaders at KUSAHC review every comment received through the ICE system, patient comment cards and



the Army Provider Level Satisfaction Survey. We appreciate these comments and take each one seriously.

An Army Community Service survey is available to the public, which includes questions regarding health care services at APG. We would appreciate your taking time to complete this survey and we look forward to reviewing the results. Visit www.myarmylifetoo.com/survey_Aberdeen.

We are improving

We have implemented three changes recently, which I would like to highlight. First, we are committed to remain as open and accessible to you as possible. I have directed that all services remain open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on all normal duty days. If you come to either clinic (Aberdeen Area or Edgewood Area), you should not find any section or clinic closed. Please understand that services may be limited as staff rotate out for lunch.

Second, we have made it easier for permanent party personnel to be seen. While our resources are stretched thin at times, and we must remain focused on taking care of our student population, we are doing everything possible to see permanent party personnel in a timeframe that meets their needs.

We encourage you to utilize TRICARE online, and the appointment line for non-urgent problems. For same day or urgent problems, you may call the appointment line or walk in to the General Medicine Clinic at the Aberdeen Area or the Edgewood Area Clinic. You will be screened by nursing personnel and if possible seen by a provider that day.

Lastly, we understand that some par-

ents find it necessary to bring children to the clinic. We have modified our policy to try to accommodate you. We ask for your patience as we try to meet your needs and the needs of others. We will not turn patients away simply because their children/siblings are with them.

More changes are coming in the future. KUSAHC is very pleased to announce that Mark Weineke has joined our staff as our supervisory pharmacist. He has many years of experience in civilian pharmacies. He and his staff are reviewing every aspect of KUSAHC pharmacy operations.

The pharmacy staff at KUSAHC is committed to providing medications as quickly as possible. However, we cannot and will not compromise safety in an effort to fill prescriptions quickly. Over the next couple of months customers should see significant improvements in their pharmacy experience.

Customers will also see construction projects occurring in various places in both clinics. These projects will help prepare us to meet the needs of APG as the mission and population grows.

Please share your comments or suggestions with me. Call 410-278-1727 or e-mail james.nold@us.army.mil.

'Contact Us' page a handy resource on TRICARE.mil

U.S. DoD Military Health System

TRICARE continues to improve ways to provide information to its 9.2 million beneficiaries. To care for this number of beneficiaries, TRICARE uses several different contractors to administer healthcare, pharmacy and dental benefits around the world – and their contact information can all be found on one page at <http://www.tricare.mil/contactus>.

By going to the site, beneficiaries will find toll-free numbers to the TRICARE regional offices in the United States and the overseas TRICARE area offices as well as regional managed care support contractors, dental contractors, the TRI-

CARE mail order and retail pharmacy contractor, international SOS alarm centers and much more.

In addition to telephone numbers, the contact page provides links to locate the nearest military treatment facilities, beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinators and debt collection assistance officers.

The information is easy to print out – to go on a refrigerator or to keep nearby as a quick reference.

No matter where TRICARE beneficiaries are around the world, finding contact information or information on benefits is only a click away at <http://www.tricare.mil/contactus>.

TRICARE launches Beneficiary Bulletin Podcast

U.S. DoD Military Health System

As part of a continuing effort to keep beneficiaries informed, TRICARE has added a news podcast to its Web site at <http://www.tricare.mil>. The TRICARE Beneficiary Bulletin brings listeners the latest news about their benefits every week in a quick, easy-to-digest format. The debut podcast contains updates on TRICARE Reserve Select and points listeners to other useful online information sources.

The Beneficiary Bulletin features quick tips to promote a healthy lifestyle, news of other military health programs and news on upcoming changes to the TRICARE benefit. Keeping beneficiaries educated on how their benefit works is a priority for the TRICARE

Management Activity.

"Different people like to get their news in different ways," said Dian Lawhon, TRICARE director of Communications and Customer Service. "This podcast is a welcome addition to the news releases, Web site postings, brochures, newsletters and other tools we use to get benefit information to our 9.2 million beneficiaries."

A new five-minute TRICARE Beneficiary Bulletin will appear on the TRICARE Web site every Thursday at <http://www.tricare.mil/pressroom>. To be alerted when there is a new podcast and to sign up for other beneficiary news go to <http://www.tricare.mil> and click on "e-mail updates" in the press room section of the front page.

New tool improves search feature on TRICARE Web site

U.S. DoD Military Health System

Looking for information on the TRICARE Web site? Thanks to a new custom search tool, TRICARE beneficiaries can experience improved results on the TRICARE benefit information portal at <http://www.tricare.mil>. The Google Custom Search technology directs users to the information they need with a few key words and the click of a mouse.

By using the world's largest and most accessed search engine, TRICARE users can more easily find a wealth of information on topics such as finding providers, the various TRICARE healthcare plans, "what's covered," plan costs and much more.

"We want our beneficiaries to have a Web site that is easy to search and accessible," said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, TRICARE Management Activity. "This should be another major improvement for them."

The new search technology optimizes the TRICARE Web site experience for beneficiaries, providing more accurate results during a search for general TRICARE information.

The TRICARE beneficiary portal was also improved in 2007 with the implementation of a tool that delivers custom-

ized information. By entering a simple profile detailing duty status, location and plan, beneficiaries can receive a tailored Web site with the topics that most directly apply to them.

Improvements equal results

According to 2008 E-Government Satisfaction results from the American Customer Satisfaction Index, TRICARE's Web site was the most improved government news or information site – up seven points over 2007.

"This is quite an accomplishment considering the complexity of the TRICARE benefit and the depth of information on our Web site," Granger said. "The TRICARE Web team has made great strides in responding to beneficiary needs. As more and more military Families use the Web to find benefit information, we must seek new ways to deliver targeted information, quickly and more accurately."

Plans also call for implementing the Google Custom Search tool on the TMA corporate portal also located on the front page of <http://www.tricare.mil>. The corporate portal features a wealth of information about TMA such as studies and surveys, reimbursement rates, TMA policies and other programs under TMA.

AAFES NEWS

AAFES, AXE Hair Care put troops in the driver's seat with latest giveaway

AAFES

Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers have the green light to take a chance at winning a 2009 Pontiac Solstice as one lucky AAFES shopper will take home the keys to the top-selling roadster or, if overseas, the cash equivalent of the vehicle valued at approximately \$24,800.

"In order to offer this contest to all exchanges, the cash option is only available to shoppers outside of the continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii," said AAFES' Chief Marketing Officer Mat Dromey. "Regardless, any authorized shopper over eighteen can drive

into their nearest exchange for the value that only the BX/PX can provide and, depending on where they enter, motor away in a new set of wheels or walk away with a pocket full of cash."

The AAFES/Unilever sweepstakes, sponsored by AXE Hair Care, is open to all authorized exchange shoppers through March 26. Entry forms are available at BXs and PXs worldwide, including locations throughout Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

AAFES' drawing for the Pontiac Solstice, or equivalent dollar amount, will take place on or about April 30.



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 #22

You are driving 55 mph in the middle lane of a six-lane divided highway. Traffic is light. You happen to notice that the hood of the car looks loose, when it suddenly flies open and blocks your vision of the highway. What should you do?

A. Check the rear view mirror for traffic, and if clear, hard brake, stop, then close the hood.

B. Brake gently to slow, stick head out of the driver's window to see ahead, signal, ease right, and pull off the highway to fix.

Answer A. Now, you don't really want to do this, do you? "Check the rear view mirror for traffic, and if clear, hard brake, stop, then close the hood" is not wise. Even if you can't see any traffic around you, don't risk stopping in the highway. You have no way of knowing when the traffic is going to come or if they'll be able to see you or be able to stop. Go to Answer B.

Answer B. Yes, "brake gently to slow, stick head out of the driver's window to see ahead, signal, ease right, and pull off the highway to fix" is the wise decision. You are right to never stop in the roadway to repair anything unless the car just can't be moved. The most important thing to remember is to do things slowly so the other drivers will have a chance to adjust themselves to whatever you do. They'll see you're in trouble and help you to get off the road, but they don't know what you're going to do until you do it. If you act slowly, they'll be able to judge their actions accordingly.

ARE YOU A SHARP SHOOTER?

The Range & Weapons Safety Toolbox is a collection of resources to help commanders and leaders establish and maintain an effective range and weapons safety program.

CHECK IT OUT TODAY!

RANGE & WEAPONS SAFETY TOOLBOX

<https://crc.army.mil/rangeweaponssafety>

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

West 2009

From page 2

Preventing corrosion

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory demonstrated its cold spray technology, a material-deposition process whereby mixtures of metallic and non-metallic particulates are accelerated by a gas stream at tremendous velocities, forming a coating or free-standing structure. This can be used to produce wear and corrosion resistant coatings and for dimensional restoration and repair of components.

Enclosed in a glass chamber, subject-matter-experts sprayed metal plates to show how the coating is applied.

"Cold Spray has a variety of potential applications, including uses in maritime environments commonly seen on Naval and Marine Corps missions," said Steve Taulbee, ARL engineer.

Lightening the load

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center enables quick transition of optimum capabilities to Warfighters through research, development, integration and demonstration of technologies and capabilities.

Core mission areas are information and knowledge management; portable and mobile power; platform integration and prototyping; environmental control systems; and position and navigation.

Considering the duration of some Soldier missions, CERDEC is working to make mobile power sources lighter.

"We want Soldiers to be well power-equipped, without weighing them down," said Marnie de Jong, electronics engineer with CERDEC's fuel cell team. CERDEC Army Power Division is focused on developing ways to increase energy storage capacity and decrease weight and size of mobile power sources.



Photo by ANDRICKATHOMAS

A U.S. Marine tests the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's cold spray technology at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's technology demonstration at the WEST 2009 conference in San Diego Feb. 11 through 13.

Controlling vehicles through imagery

The Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center's image stabilization efforts uses software algorithms to generate the equivalent output of a mechanically stabilized seeker from a fixed mounted camera, without using any other input. This government-owned technology is ready for transition into new systems or upcoming spirals technologies, according to Daniel Tidwell, RDECOM AMRDEC. The technology provides real-time camera image stabilization, which would prove useful for vehi-

cle operators who solely depend on an image to control the vehicle.

"Some operators remotely control both manned and unmanned vehicles," Tidwell said. "With seeing just a camera image, this stabilization capability will prevent what we call 'cyber-sickness,' which comes from seeing an unstable image for a duration of time. It's similar to motion sickness, but without the motion."

The moving target indicator with this system is used to determine the location of moving objects of interest from an airborne vehicle. The indicator compares a current image frame with a previous image to create a difference image then

performs filtering to distinguish between targets and non-targets. Once detected, the moving target indicator communicates with the people tracking technology to continue tracking identified targets.

Increasing battlespace awareness

The award-winning U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center is working on active coatings technologies which is a suite of sensors that provide real-time battlefield assessment. These sensors will enable detection of environmental and operational stimuli such as impact, temperature, shock and vibrations with the use of sensors on weapon systems and armaments.

"This technology will provide information to vehicle operators and mechanics about the structural health of the systems," said James Zunino, ARDEC chemical engineer. If a technology is disturbed in some way, the sensors in place will provide diagnostic and prognostic information so operators can detect or predict future equipment failures, according to Zunino.

ARDEC's 16-bit Hyperspectral camera enables Soldiers to see what they cannot see with the naked eye. Every material object has its own spectral signature, parts of which may not be visible to the naked eye. This technology detects a wider range of electromagnetic spectrum, the visible to near infrared light or light that cannot be seen by the human eye.

"This unit processes data in real-time, where previous systems required offline processing," said Gabriel Chan, ARDEC electrical engineer. "This technology increases battlespace awareness. For example, if enemy forces are camouflaged, this camera could distinguish between the target and the surrounding environment."

For more information about RDECOM and these technologies and more, contact the RDECOM Public Affairs Office, 410-436-4345.

Via

From front page

of the Army Team C4ISR campus facility due for completion before September 2011," Owens said.

At the town hall meeting, held on Feb. 18 in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility on the Edgewood Area, Via spoke to a full room of approximately 315 Army Team C4ISR (Forward) employees.

Prior to the meeting, there was a short awards ceremony for 10 Army Team C4ISR employees who had provided additional support beyond their job requirements.

"These are employees who have performed above and beyond their call of duty," Owens said. (See below for a list of awardees.)

Via welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for their work.

"You have done great work as we begin our transition in earnest in a split-based operation from Fort Monmouth to APG," he said. "It is a huge mission and a huge undertaking that certainly cannot be accomplished without all the folks here today, as well as all the folks up at Fort Monmouth."

Via pointed out the critical nature of the organization.

"The business that we are involved in is very serious and is very important," he said. "We owe our service men and women and their Families to do everything we can everyday to make sure they have the systems and capabilities they need when they deploy, so they can execute the missions and safely return home to their Families. We need to build and acquire the best C4ISR systems and capabilities we can, along with the sustainment they require for those systems."

Via thanked those who moved from Fort Monmouth to APG.

"You are pioneers; you are at the forefront," he said. "Moving is difficult, having done so personally more than fourteen times; however, I've found that in moving, there is often new opportunity."

He remarked that he was impressed with the progress that has been made with Phase 1 of the campus facility.

"Relocating our people along with the mission is where the challenge really lies, and you are on the front end of that," Via said.



Photo by JOHN DINSMORE, APG PHOTO LAB

Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, talks to more than 300 Army Team C4ISR (Forward) employees during a town hall meeting Feb. 18 in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"BRAC is law, and implementing BRAC is an important part of our current mission, so we have to do the very best we can to ensure that as we execute this mission, we do not affect the Warfighter and also ensure we take care of our people in the process--those relocating, as well as those choosing not to relocate."

He said the new campus will be state-of-the-art, with the goal to make the Army Team C4ISR Center of Excellence the premiere place to work within the Department of Defense and to attract qualified people to our organizations.

Via added that in January he visited Google, Microsoft, and Dell Computer to look at their facilities.

"We want to build first-class facilities for our employees, so we went to see what corporate America is doing," he said.

He noted that work space is being built with the knowledge that age groups collaborate differently.

"The millennium generation likes open space while employees over forty five generally like to work in an office," Via said.

"The millennium generation likes to constantly network. They live and thrive in a text-ed world, so we need to accommodate their needs in our new campus facilities if we are to attract the very best."

He added that they're working [through the APG Garrison commander] with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to provide a food court for Army Team C4ISR workers on the campus.

"We want to make this a great place to work, a place you want to be a part of. At the end of the day we want people lining up to work for Army Team C4ISR," Via said.

He added that he meets with an intern advisory council every six weeks that suggests what they would like to see from the organization in the future.

"Like all of our employees, they are an important part of our workforce; they are our future," Via said. "I meet with them and they give me ideas on things they want to see or issues they're concerned with. In this way, they feel a part of ownership of the organization, a part of the team."

Via asked attendees to get involved in the sponsorship program, which helps employees and their Families relocating to the area.

"Your personal experience and the important information you can provide will be helpful for others, to make their transition as smooth and uneventful as possible," he said.

The general said that much effort is being made to recruit

new Army Team C4ISR (Forward) employees.

Via pointed out that the recent BRAC Job Fair held at Harford Community College Feb. 7 was well attended with more than 2,500 attendees. He asked the employees to think about ways to recruit people.

"We have a huge hiring mission ahead of us. Even after we move, we project we will need to hire between twenty five hundred and three thousand people," he said. "We need specialized people to fill these jobs, and our best advertisement is you."

Via asked attendees to let Owens know if they are experiencing a problem or a difficulty in their transition.

"I have known Colonel Owens since he was a captain; you will not find a more genu-

ine colonel in the United States Army and a more genuine leader that is focused on taking care of you and your Families. This is a very hard job, but he does a very good job addressing your needs, and he wants to know what your concerns are," he said.

Via concluded the meeting by saying that in order for the organization to carry out its mission, employees are being asked to step forward and give a little more than is expected, a little more than is required, and treat other employees with dignity and respect.

"We have a tremendous opportunity before us. Let's carry this organization forward to do what our Army and our nation have asked us to do, and build the Center of Excellence our Army, our Soldiers and our nation requires," Via said.

Army Team C4ISR Award recipients

- Larry Main, Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations and Plans
- Glenna Downes, Assistant Chief of Staff for Information Management, Chief Information Officer/G-6
- Heather Coleman, Logistics and Readiness Center
- Stacy Lockhart, Logistics and Readiness Center
- John Coard, Logistics and Readiness Center
- Barbara Greenwood-Scott, Logistics and Readiness Center
- Bert Briney, Logistics and Readiness Center
- Debra Abbruzzese, Software Engineering Center
- Youlanda Coleman, Communications-Electronics Research Development and Engineering Center
- Bob Shields, Program Executive Office for Command Control and Communications-Tactical



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

NCOA Head Hunters win President's Day Paintball Tournament

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

More than 60 Soldiers, Marines and Airmen turned out for the President's Day Paintball Tournament hosted by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Intramural Sports Office at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center Feb. 16.

Team Head Hunters from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Noncommissioned Officer Academy held off all challengers to win the installation's second tournament. The first tournament was held during the Veterans Day holiday in November 2008.

Team Head Hunters consisted of David Bravo, Louis Davis and Andrew Reeves of the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course.

"This was a blast," Davis said, adding that he thought the games should be a permanent part of the intramural sports program. "It would be something to have an All Army team. That would be impressive."

Second place went to Team Band of Brothers, including Michael Wilkinson, Curtis Cleavens and Andrew Horniman from Company C 16th Ordnance Battalion.

Players said they appreciated the holiday tournament and

would enjoy playing again.

Elias Kenning, who led his team of fellow Marines David Barrow and Daniel Kaus, said he hopes the tournament becomes permanent.

"It's great fun, and it would probably encourage unit challenges," he said.

Joseph Wiklanski of the U.S. Air Force Detachment and teammates Josh Pearson and Austin Wood agreed.

"This has been awesome," Wiklanski said, noting that the trio put a team together after they saw a poster advertising the tournament. "It's great that they'd do this for us on a holiday."

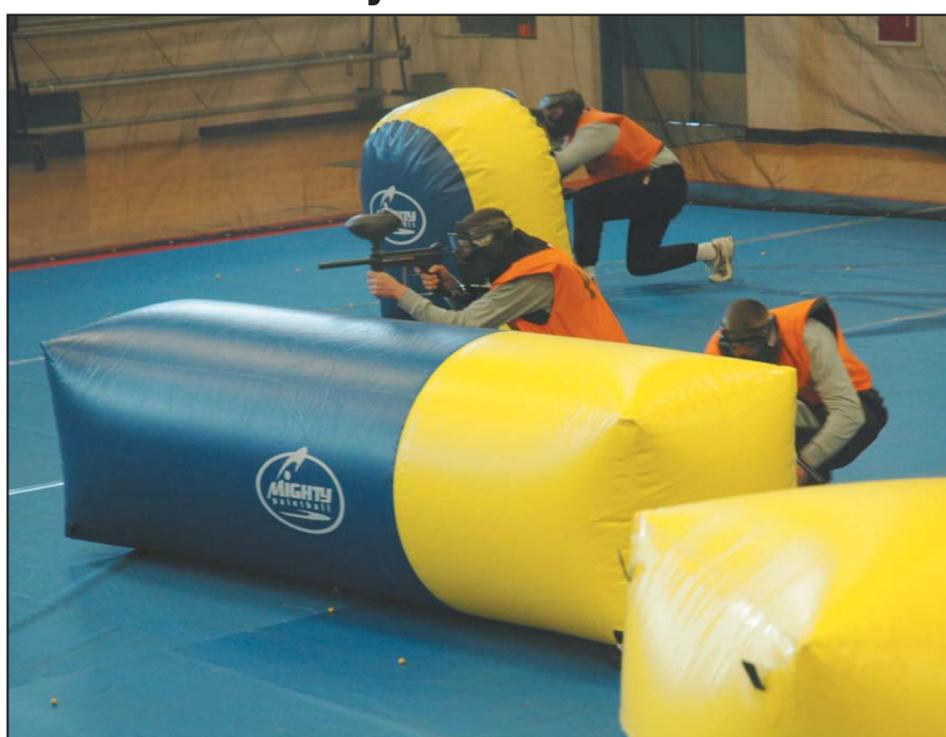
Most players said that win or lose they were just there to have fun.

"We lost this one but it was still awesome," said Joseph Contreras as he and fellow Marines Arthur Merkle and Colton Hill turned in their gear.

Merkle said he was surprised by all the arrangements for their entertainment.

"Seems like they went to a lot of trouble for us," he said. "It's impressive considering we don't have much to do here."

The first place team received Zephyr Paintball shirts and the top seven teams were given T-shirts courtesy of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Substance Abuse Program, the



A team of three Soldiers use rubber bunkers for cover as they engage enemy fire from an opposing team during the President's Day Paintball Tournament at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center Feb. 16.

tournament sponsor.

The paintball setting includes an 8-foot high screen that surrounds the entire gym floor. Inside the court are inflatable bunkers that provide cover for players as the take aim at each other.

Three-person teams wearing protective helmets and vests and carrying paintball

guns filled with rubber balls attack from opposite ends of the court.

A player is eliminated from play when hit by a ball and a team is declared the winner when all of the players on the opposing team have been eliminated.

Play is limited to 5 minutes and is controlled by two refer-

ees inside the court and overseen by a judge/timekeeper who calls the action from a platform outside the court.

Donna Coyne, intramural sports coordinator organized the event. Rosie Stewart, recreation aid, served as timekeeper and referees included recreation aids Buck Pugh and Jason Foley.

Activities/Events

3 Days to better golf

Join the APG golf professionals March 26 through 28 for a season kick off clinic series for golfers to get their golf game ready for a successful year.

Cost is \$50 and includes six hours of clinic and golf course activities.

For more information, call Dave Correll, 410-278-4794, or e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil or Ruben Ferguson, 410-436-2213, or e-mail ruben.ferguson@us.army.mil.

2009 All Army Chess Championships

All Army Chess Championships will be held April 4 through 10, at Fort Myer, Arlington, Va. All players must be U.S. Army active duty personnel for 90 days or more and a United States Chess Federation rated member. Twelve players will be selected and funded by FMWR.

All players must apply online or download the application and fax to 703-681-7249, DSN 761-7249 or 703-681-1616, DSN 761-1616. No on-site registration.

The deadline for an individual registration is March 2.

For more information or to download online, visit www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/chess/.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus tickets on sale

Ladies and gentlemen, come see the greatest show on earth. Tickets are available for shows March 25 through April 5 at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore for \$19.50 for ages 2 and older. The last day to purchase tickets is March 13.

Texas Hold-em Tournament

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host a Texas Hold 'em Tournament, 1 p.m., Feb. 28, at Top of the Bay. The event is open to all DoD card-

holders, military, civilian, contractors, retirees, Family members and guests over 18 years of age.

Entry fee costs \$35 and includes buffet, soda, snacks and cash bar. Registration deadline is Feb. 20.

Volunteer dealers are needed. Volunteers will be trained by tournament personnel. Those interested should e-mail Louise Glose, louise.glose@us.army.mil or Teri Hall, teri.s.hall@us.army.mil.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-2552/3062 or visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/Store/texashold-em.html>.

Amateur Boxing Night

The 16th and 143rd Ordnance battalions face off again in the 2009 Amateur Boxing Night March 7 at the Edgewood Area Hoyle Gymnasium, building E-4210. Doors open 5 p.m., the event begins at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military; \$10 for nonmilitary; and \$20 for ring-

side seats. Children under 6 are admitted free.

This event is open to the public.

Purchase tickets at FMWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210, 410-436-3375/7134.

Purchase Hippodrome Theater tickets online

To purchase advanced tickets for shows at the Hippodrome Theater, visit www.BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com/groupsales and enter the password "105MWRAPGMD" for available discounted tickets.

Tickets are offered for a limited time. Check the Web site frequently for prices, show times/dates, seat availability and offer expiration.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

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.

Private guitar lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 through 18 will be held 3:30 to 7 p.m., Fridays, through March 13, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

An award-winning singer/songwriter will instruct students. No experience necessary.

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

Books are a one-time purchase. Parents can choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they register their child. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

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.

Classes will be held at the Child, Youth and School Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday; Feb. 29 through March 18 and March 30 through April 22, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. (ages 6 to 12). Cost is \$65 per student for a one-month session or \$150 per student for a three-month session.

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

Class size is limited so register early.

Brazilian Jujitsu

A Brazilian jujitsu program will be held at the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, building 4505, Suite C. Sessions will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, through March 19.

Beginner classes will be held 6 to 6:45 p.m., ages 7 to 18.

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

Cost is \$85 per student. Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members. Each session requires a minimum of six students registered. Registration ends

one week prior to the start of class.

Private Voice Lessons

Ages 7 through 18 can register for private voice lessons, 3:30 to 7 p.m., Fridays, through March 13, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

An award-winning singer/songwriter will instruct students. No experience necessary. Singing lessons cost \$132 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for four weeks. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they register their child.

Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

Infant/Child First Aid, CPR Class

An Infant/Child First Aid and CPR class will be held 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,

for ages 13 and older, April 13, building 2752, Child and Youth Services administration building. The class costs \$5 per person.

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.

February bowling specials

Throughout February, every game of bowling will cost \$1.75 with \$1.50 shoe rental, 1 to 5 p.m. Rent a lane for \$12 per hour; shoe rental is included.

Effective March 2, the Bowling Center will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays.

March 2 bowling special

On March 2, 5 p.m. to closing, bowl one game and get the second game free; shoe rental not included. Rent a lane for \$10 per hour per lane; shoe rental is included. Door prizes will be presented, must be present to win.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of Feb. 23

Special #1: Grilled ham and cheese with soup of the day for \$5.45.

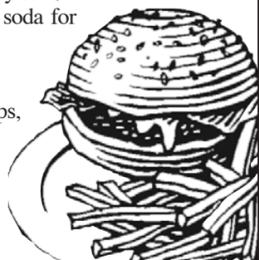
Special #2: Pork BBQ with potato salad, cookie and soda for \$5.95.

Week of March 2

Special #1: Chicken tender wrap with potato chips, cookie and soda for \$4.95.

Special #2: Chicken tender sub with french fries, cookie and soda for \$6.95.

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



Deadlines for sports applications announced

All military and DoD civilians are invited to sign up for APG intramural sports events.

Application deadlines are:

Civilian

- Volleyball March 27
- 3 on 3 Basketball April 3
- Dead Lift Competition April 17.

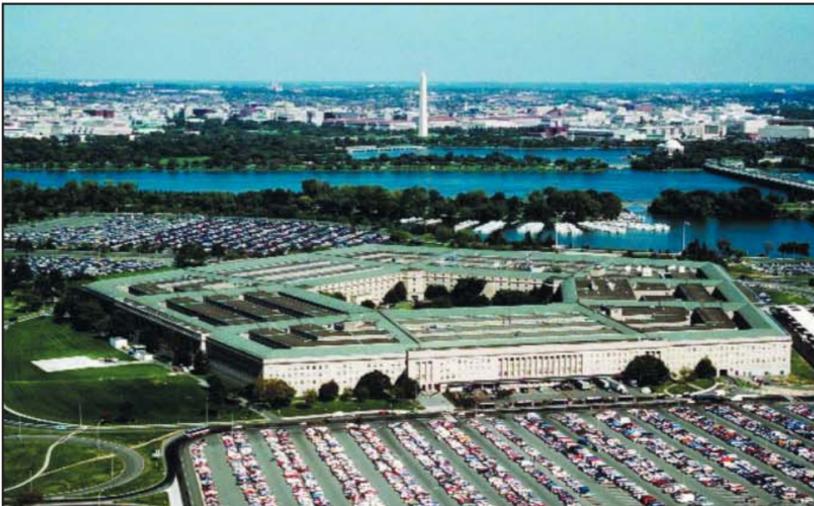
Special notes for civilians: Cost per team is \$200 for basketball, volleyball, softball and flag football. There is a four team minimum for a league

or tournament to take place. The 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament has a \$20 team fee.

Military

- AIT Bowling March 22
- Volleyball Mar 27
- 3 on 3 Basketball April 3
- Dead Lift Competition April 17

For more information, call 410-278-3929 or visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/recreation/sportscalendar2009.ppt#256,1,Slide 1>.



Left: DAPS is the document solutions provider for the Department of Defense. It has maintained a continuous presence in the Pentagon building for more than 55 years. Right: Flight crews use a multitude of DAPS printed products such as handbooks and checklists in the operation of aircraft.

Courtesy of DAPS

DAPS—much more than a printer for DoD

Story by
KEITH BEEBE
DAPS

The Document Automation & Production Service, or DAPS, a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency, has been serving the Department of Defense for more than 55 years.

Some simply call DAPS the “DoD’s printer” or the “quick copy guys.” DAPS has evolved to be much more than that basic description implies.

“We certainly provide both of those services, but if you believe that is all we do, then you are missing the full story,” said DAPS Director Steve Sherman. “DAPS provides a full portfolio of best-value document services ranging from traditional offset printing, through on-demand output, to online document services. We are the catalyst for document automation in DoD by actively functioning as a transformation agent to move the department toward the use of online documents and services.”

Documents are a common denominator and key enabler to any business, including that of DoD. DAPS is DoD’s full-service document solutions provider. This perspective is recognized among industry experts as well.

Charlie Corr, group director for industry analyst InfoTrends, observed, “DAPS is one of the most innovative and dedicated organizations that we work with in the document space. They consistently leverage their expertise around documents to the benefit of their varied clients.”

DAPS currently manages 175 service facilities, primarily located on U.S. military bases in 10 countries. Besides this robust organic capability, DAPS leverages the capabilities of the industry by outsourcing nearly 70 percent of the DoD’s document requirements through more than 400 commercial service contracts, some of which are through the Government Printing Office.

The multitude of DAPS services includes the building of libraries of digital doc-

uments allowing for online access, the provision of multifunctional devices (that print from networks, copy, fax, and scan) in customer workspaces, and the conversion of paper documents to standard digital formats.

“We want people to know that online document services are now the largest part of our business. They have increased by one hundred and fourteen percent in the past seven years,” Sherman said.

An example is the Electronic Document Management Service to assist the Defense Distribution Center in electronically capturing, processing, managing, and storing millions of documents used in supplying U.S. military units worldwide. The DAPS service helps DDC administer more than 21 million pages of documentation annually, such as invoices, packing lists, and bills of lading that identify receipt, transportation, and inventory transactions from its 26 distribution sites worldwide.

“EDMS is a great logistics tool for researching many facets of the distribution process,” said Sam Notarangelo, DDC supply management specialist and DAPS EDMS user. “When I am researching material, I may only have a NSN [National Stock Number], or a GBL [Government Bill of Lading], or very little information. With EDMS, I can access one site and find what I am looking for. It is also a time saver by allowing me to access a lot of information that can also be easily printed. EDMS has reduced my time spent on research.”

Another example of the trend toward the use of DAPS’ online services is the Acquisition Streamlining and Standardization Information System, or ASSIST. It is a robust, comprehensive lifecycle document management system and digital library providing Web access to all current military and federal specifications and standards referenced in DoD contracts. There are over 47,000 active specification and standard documents online, with over

15 million “hits” to the Web site each month (<http://assist.daps.dla.mil/online>).

The DAPS online document services include:

- DAPS Online – a Web-based eCommerce point of access to DAPS services allowing the customer to shop, order, and obtain status (of job delivery and accounts) online from their desktop.

- Currently, 37 percent of DAPS orders are submitted digitally by their customers, well above the 25 percent industry average. In the near future, the service will include the ability for digital proofing of documents online. Visit www.daps.dla.mil/DAPSONline.

- Electronic Document Management Service – a service to build complex digital libraries of documents with online access. DAPS established three Centers of Excellence to provide shared EDM customer support. A digital library can enhance a customer’s business by exacting discipline and providing workflow functionality documents for all or part of the document life cycle.

- Distribution and Print Services – the distribution of standard digital document files to any of DAPS’ 175 worldwide production facilities with output on demand within hours to days depending on the size of the job. This compares to the traditional bulk printing and mail distribution process that can require weeks and sometimes months to accomplish.

- Equipment Management Solutions – with more than 44,000 units in place today, DAPS is one of the government’s largest providers of best-value output and scanning equipment directly into customer workspaces.

- Document Conversion Services – with nearly half a billion pages converted in the past seven years, DAPS is the leader in the federal government.

- Document Assessments – office copiers, printers, faxes, and scanners are low-cost items and often are not perceived as a cost driver. DAPS conducts objective analysis which provides an inventory

of these items in the customer workspace, determines the current cost and makes solid recommendations to save dollars. Studies completed so far have saved customers between 8 percent and 41 percent.

DAPS can provide the training materials required to take a military-career-enhancing examination even in remote locations.

The medical director of the Combat Medic Training Center, LSA Anaconda, Balad, Iraq, commended the DAPS Oklahoma City, Okla., office and its facilities for the production of medical training documents needed by the center. Using the DAPS Online service and its inherent distribute and print capabilities, a digital file was sent from Oklahoma to DAPS Europe’s facilities and printed there. The completed documents were then shipped to Iraq by a commercial carrier, thus saving time and money as compared to producing and shipping them from the United States.

A U.S. Navy senior career counselor with the Combined Forces Command Afghanistan arranged for several Sailors assigned to the command to take a Naval Advancement Examination while they were at Panjshir Valley, Afghanistan. The exam’s documents were printed at the DAPS Saufley Field, Fla., facility near the Naval Air Station Pensacola.

As a service business, DAPS knows the value of customer-relationship management in living by the mottoes “We Exist for the Convenience of the Customer” and “Can Do Right Now.” It realizes customer service and responsiveness are the main differentiators to being the DoD’s best-value provider.

DAPS serves the commander-in-chief as the president’s document provider. The organization was bestowed this distinction by Executive Order 12134 of May 9, 1979, which states it would provide printing and duplication services to the White House.

DAPS continues to staff a facility, located in the Executive Office Building, in direct

support to the White House. Just as important is the president’s ability to get support from DAPS facilities worldwide during his travels.

“We are proud to serve the most demanding customers in the world – the Warfighters – who defend our nation’s freedom every day,” the DAPS director said. “Our customers regularly tell me their DAPS representative cares as much about their requirement as they do – that’s the epitome of customer service.”

- From the White House: “Everyone in your office is extremely diligent, thorough and accurate in all that they do.”

- From the Pentagon: “Our success depended upon a staff working at the highest level of competence, exercising unquestioned judgment and discretion and willing to work at an intense pace.”

- From a Defense Supply Center: “Your preparation and attention to detail resulted in a very successful event and reflected the professionalism of my command.”

- From the U.S. Navy Fleet: “Their great attitudes and quick turnaround accomplished the major undertaking with an outstanding and professional product.”

- From the U.S. Marine Corps: “A most useful ally in completing my job.”

- From the U.S. Air Force: “They have met all requests our office has submitted no matter how short the time frame.”

DAPS is so much more than just the DoD’s printer.

More information about DAPS can be found on its Web site at www.daps.dla.mil or by calling its customer service line, 1-877-DAPS-CAN.

DAPS open house March 6

DAPS APG, building 346 located on Tower Road, will hold an open house 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 6.

Free donuts and coffee will be available.

For more information, call Jim Moscardini, DAPS customer service representative, 703-325-9924.

Kratovil

From front page

site where personal effects are archived; sorting rooms; the laundry facility and the Summary Court Martial Office, the final stage in preparing effects for shipment to the Families.

Briefings were delivered by Maj. Leslie Rafferty, JPED operations officer; Troy Harden, personal effects specialist; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Amy Jones, S-4 officer in charge; and Chief Warrant Officer 3 William Couch, SCMO and JPED adjutant whose section pays a final tribute to the fallen by constructing velvet-lined memorial boxes and placing in them the awards, patches, crests and command letters of the service member. Couch said that boxes are constructed for each branch of the service with Army personnel receiving special heirloom chests.

“This is something the JPED does on its own,” Kilmon said, adding that nothing is placed in the heirloom chests. “We let the Families decide what will be placed in there,” he said. “It’s our own final tribute.”

Couch said the boxes are offered to aid in “the grieving process.”

“We think it’s very important to let them know that others are also grieving for their loss,” he said.

Kratovil said he was more than impressed with the unit.

“They’ve done a tremendous job of adapting and making changes to streamline the process for Families,” he said. “This is what our country needs to do. We need to not just put money where it’s needed most but support it. This unit is doing that.”

Kratovil also visited the C4ISR Phase I construction site and had an over flight tour of U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center ranges and the APG Cantonment/BRAC areas.



Photo by RICK GARRETT, JPED
Maryland Congressman Frank Kratovil, far right, asks about the JPED mission as from left, Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and RDECOM; Lt. Col. Scott Kilmon, commander of the Joint Personal Effects Depot; Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander; and Maj. Leslie Rafferty, JPED operations officer listen in during the congressman’s visit to the facility and Aberdeen Proving Ground Feb. 19.

APG commander speaks at AUSA luncheon

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground had a strong presence at the Association of the United States Army luncheon held at the Clarion Hotel in Aberdeen Feb. 17.

Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, was the guest speaker, and Maj. Richard Moyers of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory addressed the new Wounded Warrior Program he is starting to support hospitalized service members and their Families at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

In addition, Chaplain (Col.) Ruben D. Colon, installation chaplain, gave the invocation; the 61st Ordnance Brigade color guard, led by Staff Sgt. Michael Campbell, posted and retired the colors and Bobby Melvern, the husband of Carrie Melvern of the APG Federal Credit Union and chapter treasurer, sang a stirring rendition of the national anthem.

Chapter president Mary Jane Jernigan hosted the program.

Izzo took command of APG and RDECOM in December 2008 and was speaking before the chapter for the first time.

He talked about the importance of supporting the Warfighter and upcoming changes at APG as it moves toward transformation.

"If anybody is doing something for our Soldiers you can count on me to be there," Izzo said.

Focusing on coming changes over the next three years he said that there was "so much work to be done, especially on infrastructure," and that the focus is not on the next month or next year but, "where we will be in five years."

Noting that the RDECOM headquarters is slated to move from the Edgewood Area to the Aberdeen Area, Izzo said that he would speak more about the RDECOM global mission in the future.

"RDECOM spans the globe," he said. "Hopefully, I can talk next time about the power of our organization and how fast we can stand things up and get them

to the Warfighter."

He encouraged listeners to continue their support of APG and to get involved with upcoming post observances such as Women's History Month and Armed Forces Day festivities.

"We still have the greatest nation on this earth," he said, "and that flag will always wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Encouraging support for the Wounded Warrior Program to provide care packages to hospitalized service members and the Family members who remain with them, Moyers said it was his hope to "add backbone" to the program and that currently consists of visits by him and other scientists within his command to WRAMC to spend time with Wounded

Warriors about every six weeks. He said that all were heroes who just want to get back to their buddies but have to deal with the reality that "they're no longer the super heroes they once were."

"Care packages help and visits help," he said, noting that toiletries and other items help ease the financial burden on Warriors and their Families.

"These Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines are amazing and their Families are the unsung heroes," he said.

"I know that there are a lot of people throughout the community who want to get involved," Moyers said.

He asked anyone who wants to get involved to e-mail him at richard.moyers@us.army.mil or call 410-278-4761.

Jernigan thanked the general and Moyer for their participation.

"AUSA is truly honored to provide a venue for many to hear the commanding general of APG," she said. "We were not disappointed. He is a dynamic speaker who inspires passion in others."

She said the chapter has worked hard to become a major force in supporting the Warfighter and that it plans to continue to do so.

"Our mission aligns almost identically with the commander's," she said. "We will continue to support the Warfighter and the organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground."

Chapel News

Holy Season worship schedule

Easter Sunrise Worship Service

The Aberdeen Area Chapel will hold a combined Easter Sunrise Worship Service, 7 a.m., April 12, on the front lawn of the chapel.

In case of inclement weather, the service will be held inside the sanctuary of the chapel. Refreshments will be served in the social hall immediately after the service.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Lenten holy week schedule Catholic Services

Aberdeen Area

- March 6, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross; "Lilies of the Field," an Oscar-winning movie about an ex-GI who helps East German refugee nuns to build a chapel in Arizona

- March 20, 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross; movie "Brother Sun Sister Moon," the story of St. Francis of Assisi

- April 3, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross; movie "The Passion of the Christ," Mel Gibson's movie about the arrest, trial, torture, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus

- April 5, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday Mass

- April 10, 3 p.m., Good Friday Stations of the Cross

- April 11, 8 p.m., Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

- April 12, 8:30 a.m., Easter Sunday Mass

Lenten program

Lenten Programs, 6:30 to 8:15 p.m., every Wednesday during Lent

- March 4, "The Power of Forgiveness," features the Amish, Ground Zero, Beirut, Belfast and more. Forgiveness glasses – see the person or nation with new eyes. The role forgiveness holds in various faith traditions.

- March 11, "Soul Searching: the Journey of Thomas Merton;" spiritual giant of modern times. It invites us to look deeply inside ourselves.

- March 18, "The Many Faces of Jesus;" in history, in art, in traditions, in religions in prayer.

- March 25, "Ashes to Glory;" experi-

ence the depths of love, the power of forgiveness, and the joy of everlasting life found in the Easter Story.

- April 1, "Hildegard of Bingen;" environmentalist, musician, herbalist, abbess, poet and mystic of the 11th century – relevant to our times.

- April 8, "Living Stations of the Cross"

Edgewood Area

- Feb. 27, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross; movie, "Monsieur Vincent," the story of Vincent de Paul

- March 13, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross; bingo with Catholic articles as prizes; no charge

- March 27, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross; movie "The Song of Bernadette," tells the story of Saint Bernadette Soubirous who, from February to July 1858 in Lourdes, France, reported 18 visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- April 5, 10:45 a.m., Palm Sunday Mass

- April 9, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday mass, Adoration

- April 10, 7 p.m., Good Friday Solemn Service

- April 12, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday Mass

For more information or to volunteer to make soup, call Connie Richardson, 410-676-0179, e-mail car0992@comcast.net.

Jewish events

"A Jewish Celebration of Freedom," will be held at the Temple Adas Shalom Harford Jewish Center located on 8 North Earlton Road Ext., Havre de Grace. (Purim commemorates a time when the Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination)

A Megillah Reading and Worship service will be held 6:15 to 9 p.m., March 9.

The Purim Festival will be held noon to 3 p.m., March 15

The Passover Seder, is April 9

For more information, call Lt. Col. Jonas Vogelhut, 410-436-4102, or e-mail jonas-vogelhut@us.army.mil.

Four RDECOM employees singled out at Black Engineer of Year Conference

Story by
JOSEPH FERRARE
RDECOM

A U.S. Army Material Analysis Activity employee was one of four Research, Development and Engineering Command employees honored for their work during the Black Engineer of the Year Award Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Global Competitiveness Conference held in Baltimore Feb. 18 through 22.

Operations research analyst Johnny L. Graham, 55, was singled out for his work in affirmative action in a ceremony Feb. 21.

Also receiving an award that day was U.S. Army Research Laboratory Outreach Program Manager Vallen Emery, 60, who received the Deans Award - Government for his support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Christopher Scott of the U.S. Army Tank and Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, and Adam Webb of the U.S. Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, were recognized as modern-day technology leaders at an awards luncheon Feb. 20.

Graham was cited for his affirmative action work, which ranged from mentoring minority youths in Edgewood to being a long-time member of the RDECOM commander's advisory group on issues concerning minorities and women.

"I'm really honored to win this award, but most of the things I've done related to affirmative action are things I did willingly because I feel that it's something that I owed," Graham said.

Emery also cited a need to give back to his community, though his drive came to him as a challenge.

"My major professor when I was in my PhD program required each student to commit to helping three more minority students reach their PhDs. He said each of us had a responsibility to build a pipeline. So he helped me, I reached back and helped someone else," he said.

Both said they get a lot of personal satisfaction from what they do, but Graham said what they do serves a bigger purpose.

"I think it benefits the Army, the Department of Defense and the country to utilize the capabilities of everyone in this country. I think that the best way to do that is to make sure that we don't neglect any segment of the population, that we're enlisting the help of everyone in this country," Graham said.

The 29-year AMSAA veteran does his part by heading a program with other engineers at AMSAA and several other APG activities to mentor African American males from Edgewood High School. He has performed that role for eight years, but that is just the start of his contributions.

He also has a successful run as the AMSAA coordinator for the Inroads Program, which named him its business coordinator of the year in 2000.

"Inroads trains interns how to work in a business environment. They get the opportunity to work, and you get a chance to help develop those young people," Graham explained. "I was the one who got them assignments, was the POC [point of contact] with the Inroads office, and basically took care of those kids while they were here."

In the workplace Graham is also AMSAA's representative on the APG minority college relations program and the RDECOM commander's advisory

group, which is made up of representatives from each of RDECOM's subordinate elements.

"We meet with the commanding general frequently during the year to address concerns and give the commander advice on certain issues within the command. And as a subset of that, each organization has an advisory group, and I am the AMSAA director's coordinator for that," he said.

Graham accomplishes all of this in addition to being the leader of a team with global responsibilities for the safety of the nation's Soldiers.

"My regular job as team leader of AMSAA's small arms team keeps me very busy," he said. "Our primary focus is on Soldiers, their equipment and their survivability. We look at issues like how survivable the Soldier is wearing his armored vest?"

"We're also the collectors of all the small arms data. Whenever there's a major government study being conducted by other government agencies, they come to my team to get the data for those studies," Graham said.

Emery's efforts are part of his job as the ARL outreach program manager, a position he took specifically to reach out and help others. His duties include more than his work with the Historically Black Colleges and Universities he was recognized for supporting, but his involvement with that group of institutions is extensive, he said.

"We have significant educational partnership agreements with them and several research centers of excellence with them," Emery said. "We have students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities coming for internships every summer. It's significant."

That involvement prompted the U.S. Army Materiel Command to nominate Emery for the award, but that nod was just one instance of the official support that helped him earn the award, he said.

"This is a significant highlight of my professional career, because you're being recognized for your commitment to science, math and engineering education," he said. "I feel blessed to be honored, but the organization did it. It really speaks to ARL's investment in this community. They gave me the opportunity and the support to do it, so I feel honored to work with these people."

Workplace support to do his job and achieve a personal commitment, which then led to national recognition, put Emery in an enviable position, he said.

"The one thing I really want to emphasize is that I feel that I have the best job in the Army because I'm doing something I love. I'm interacting with people inside the Army and outside the Army trying to facilitate research collaboration between Army labs and minority academic institutions," Emery said.

The support of his organization and the tie to Historically Black Colleges and Universities were also important to Graham.

"I also benefited from a lot of good mentoring at AMSAA and benefitted from being able to work with really top-notch folks. And I think being involved with some of the things I've done with affirmative action is just my way of paying back," Graham said. "I'm just really honored not only because it comes from my organization nominating me, but because it comes from the deans of historically black colleges and universities and that recognition means a lot to me."

Black

From front page

King's famous speech, "I Have a Dream," from memory.

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, gave a few remarks at the program. "Today's program celebrates America as the diverse nation that it is," Weissman said. "The success of our nation requires that all Americans share an utmost concern for human values and principles. The more we learn about America's diverse cultural history, the better we can appreciate our nation as a whole, it's history as well as its future. The more we share an awareness of each culture's values, traditions and contributions, the better we pull together as a team."

Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo introduced the guest speaker, thanked those who participated in the program, and welcomed attendees.

"We are a great country and as we run through our life, it is great that we can take a couple of minutes to be able to enjoy the comradery of our friendship no matter what color, creed or race, we are all here as one, we all share common goals," Izzo said.

"Today is special, as we honor the contributions of African Americans throughout history, and it is extremely important to take the time to do that."

After Izzo's introduction, Ray commented that he was honored to help commemorate Black History Month. He said that although many in the audience are probably celebrating in the early days of President Barack Obama's administration, it is important to remember the serious work that lies ahead for Americans.

"You only have to read the papers or listen to one national newscast per day to have some idea what he's facing," Ray said. "As much as he can do, it is we, as American citizens, who must do. We must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and get on with business."

Ray commented that many American citizens take their citizenship for granted.

"It's good that we slow down occasionally to see how the rest of the world views this gift of American citizenship," he said.

Ray said that the gift of citizenship hasn't always been so freely given.

"For hundreds of years, many people born in America

were not American citizens," he said. "It was the law of the land, and it took many generations to overcome. Many Americans died while fighting for the simple label that most of us now enjoy on the first day we were born. If there's one thing you might take away from today's observance, please remember that while you were blessed with this American citizenship, its value is incalculable."

He said with American citizenship, comes responsibilities. "It's not a gift you can hoard," he said. "Ignore it, and you've lost it. Let it get stale, and you've lost it. Fight for it, protect it, defend it, and uphold your responsibilities to it, and your citizenship-and mine will flourish, and it will continue to be a rare beacon for the rest of the world."

Ray commented that when celebrating Black History Month it is important to recognize the achievements and sacrifices of those who came before us and that today, Feb. 12, exactly 200 years ago, President Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president, was born.

"Lincoln challenged current thinking, even challenged the Supreme Court, all in the quest for citizenship," Ray said.

He said that when Lincoln moved to Washington he took a man named William H. Johnson, a man of color, to work with him in the White House and in the Department of the Treasury. When Johnson died of smallpox in 1864, he was buried in what is now Arlington National Cemetery, where the inscription reads "William H. Johnson...Citizen."

Ray said that although according to the Dred Scott case in 1857, people of African descent, whether or not they were slaves, could never be citizens of the United States. During Lincoln's administration, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, which abolished slavery, and the 14th Amendment, which guaranteed full rights and citizenship, regardless of race, was put into place guaranteeing Johnson American citizenship.

"A president fought for Mister Johnson's right to be a citizen," Ray said. "A Supreme Court ruled against it, an entire nation, in ratifying two amendments to our Constitution, affirmed it."

Ray told another story of a man who went to war in the 1960s, Col. Fred Cherry, an African American who flew 52 combat missions in Korea and

was hit by enemy fire twice in his F-84G fighter-bomber. Cherry was taken to be a prisoner of war in North Korea during one of his missions.

"In addition to breaking his body, his captors attempted to break his faith, his character and his mind," Ray said.

He said that torturers told him of the day that Martin Luther King Jr. had been assassinated, and pointed out all the injustices and intolerances that seemed to be sweeping across America.

"No one caught more grief from his torturers than did Fred Cherry," Ray said. "No one gave them more strength than did Fred Cherry, simply by enduring, by surviving, by refusing to renounce his country and his citizenship."

Ray said that although Cherry was given the gift of citizenship, he showed that he was proud to be an American and fought for that right.

"He showed the rest of his comrades what it means to defend that gift, (of citizenship) to protect it, to cherish it," he said.

Ray concluded his speech by saying as we celebrate Black History Month and confront hard times in our nation, we must remember the great price of U.S. citizenship, and those that fought for that right.

Ray closed with a quote from President Barack Obama's inaugural speech, "When we were tested, we refused to let this journey end. That is the price and the promise of citizenship."

After the program, Ray and Izzo individually thanked those who preformed in the program.

Nubine, whose father is Staff Sgt. Eddy Nubine, a gospel jazz musician with the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, remarked that he frequently listens to Dr. King's speeches at home with his Family. He said that he worked on memorizing his speech for about a week.

"His speeches mean a lot to me," Nubine said. "For me, his 'I Have a Dream' speech means freedom, and I feel like President Obama fulfilled his dream, it gives me hope."

Stephanie Graham, a Navy veteran, said that she was happy to be able to have the chance to perform on a military installation. She said that she choreographed the two songs she preformed during the program, and chose the songs because they had special meaning to her.

"Dancing is an art form, it expresses what cannot be described with words," she said.

After the program, attendees dined on traditional Afri-

can American food, like West African greens, palm butter, Jamaican curry chicken, fried plantain, rice, southern greens and jambalaya.

Participants also viewed different displays that celebrated African American culture.

Sgt. 1st Class Joel Carter, technician escort for the 22nd Chemical Battalion, who is originally from Liberia and was dressed in traditional African clothes, had a display that he said was designed to promote the education of African culture.

"During Black History month, my Family celebrates our culture by wearing traditional African clothes to church and eating traditional African meals," he said. "We want to keep the culture alive."

Harriet Purnell, who works for the Dental Command as a dental assistant, said that this was the first year that she attended the Black History Month programs.

"The election of President Obama reminded me of the importance of celebrating Black History Month," she said. "The election of the first African American president is part of our history," she said. "The Ambassador said that Americans face many challenges. Changes do not happen overnight, but I think they are coming."

Army displays Black History exhibit in Baltimore



Photo by LARRY D. MCCASKILL
Kaheem Freeman, left, U.S. Army ROTC, provides a briefing to Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command at the U.S. Army's official Black History Month display during the Black Engineer of the Year Conference at the Baltimore Convention Center Feb. 18 through 22.