

APG News

www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

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

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See pages 2 and 15 for Year of the NCO articles.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for March 18 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.

Well-Being Meeting Canceled

The Well-Being Action Council Meeting scheduled for March 19 has been cancelled. The next meeting is 9:30 a.m., April 16, in the Edgewood Area Post Chapel.

Final day of Thrift Store \$3 bag sale

The APG Thrift Store \$3 bag sale for items in the sale room ends today. 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.

MCSC hosts evening out tonight

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

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APG recognizes Year of the NCO



Photo by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB
Members of the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy color guard march onstage past a Visual Information Services Division backdrop hailing the NCO Corps before posting the colors during the Year of the NCO kickoff at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Feb. 24. From left, Sgts. 1st Class Erick Detrich and Caleb Provost, Staff Sgt. Scott Gaiski, and Sgts. 1st Class Brian Rettig and James Wilson.

ARMY FAMILY COVENANT

SOLDIERS ★ FAMILIES ★ ARMY CIVILIANS

AER keeps Soldiers, Families Army Strong

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Emergency Relief Campaign held a kick-off meeting March 2 which provided unit representatives materials and instructions needed to conduct the campaign within

their organizations.

The theme of this year's campaign, which runs through May 15, is "Adding Strength to ARMY STRONG," which recognizes the value that AER provides in keeping Soldiers and their Families strong while meeting the unique needs of Army life.

Maj. Mathieu Petraitis, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company and APG AER campaign military coordinator, commented that during difficult economic times assistance is especially needed, and AER is a trusted way to provide financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families.

"AER is a worthwhile pro-

gram," Petraitis said. "The money donated is managed well. Donors can be assured that their money is going to help the Soldiers."

According to AER Headquarters, 2008 was a record year in providing emergency assistance to Soldiers and their Families.

See AER, page 13



Photo by CHRIS STARLING, DES
Smoke billows from the roof of a multi-use storage warehouse on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground after a March 4 fire. About 80 firefighters from APG and six fire companies from Harford and Baltimore counties fought the 3-alarm blaze.

Fire damages EA warehouse

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Part of a multi-use storage warehouse located on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground was heavily damaged by fire March 4.

The building was unoccupied at the time of the fire which broke out at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Along with Aberdeen Proving Ground firefighters, responding Harford County units included the Joppa Magnolia, Abingdon, Fallston, Bel Air and Aberdeen volunteer fire companies and the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company from Baltimore County.

According to APG Fire Chief Edward Budnick, more than 75 firefighters battled the blaze which was contained to the 1,800 square foot center of the building.

Budnick said that part of the building was built in 1917 and the rest in 1956 and at some time the two were conjoined.

"We're looking at the cause being combustibles too close to a space heater or a malfunctioning space heater," he said. The investigation is ongoing, and the Maryland State Fire Marshal Office continues to assist in the investigation, Budnick said.

The building, basically a storage site for documents and other materials, is filled with items commonly found in warehouses such as storage bins, boxes, filing cabinets

and paper products.

Budnick said users of the warehouse include the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, APG Garrison, the U.S. Postal Service and U.S. Army Environmental Command and that damage was contained to a single storage area.

"Even though regulations allow for the use of space heaters as a last resort to provide a level of comfort, they need to be used with care," Budnick said.

Users should make sure the space heater is UL listed, has tip-over protection, is not linked to extension cords, is free and clear of combustibles and is turned off before leaving the area.

"When used properly and in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines, space heaters can be effective," he said. "Most problems come about through improper or careless use."

"We know there are hundreds of them around but we leave it up to the organizations to police them," he added.

"Along with safety, there are energy concerns about space heater usage," Budnick said. Adding fans, computers, televisions, power strips and multiple outlets to aging circuitry can overwhelm the system. "Few, if any, of the older facilities have the electrical circuitry designed for those kinds of loads. That's something to consider whenever you plug something in."

G-1 launches new 'My Army Benefits' site

Story by
GARY SHEFTICK
Army News Service

The Army's G-1 staff launched a redesigned Web site the week of Feb. 2 that consolidates all Army benefits information at one location and includes calculators that Soldiers can use.

The "http://MyArmyBenefits.us.army.mil" site has calculators that allow Soldiers to see how much money they can expect to receive upon retirement or how much their family would receive if the unthinkable happens.

"Soldiers owe it to their Family to let them know they will be taken care of if something happens," said Lt. Col. Jay Carlson of G-1, the program manager for the site.

The site also lists information on 150 different benefits ranging from child care

See BENEFITS, page 15



Maryland Boulevard traffic delays begin tomorrow

DPW

There will be single lane closures at the new traffic barriers on Maryland Boulevard starting around 9 a.m., Friday, March 13, for Facchina Contractors to install traffic sensors for the new active barriers.

A flagger will be used to control traffic, and the work will be completed as quickly as possible.

In the event of delays, the work will be done on Saturday, March 14.

To minimize traffic congestion and delays, it is suggested that drivers use the Maryland Boulevard Gate (MD Route 22) to exit post during the closure period.

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

APG celebrates The Year of the NCO



Photos by SEAN KIEF, APG PHOTO LAB

Students from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's Basic Noncommissioned Officer Academy model Army uniforms of the past and present during the Year of the NCO kickoff celebration at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Feb. 24.

APG kicks off Year of the NCO celebration

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

With recognition of and pride in the noncommissioned officers who serve Aberdeen Proving Ground, the installation hosted a kick-off celebration of the Year of the NCO with a gathering at the Post Recreation Center Feb. 24.

The Year of the NCO proclamation signed by Secretary of the Army Pete Geren recognizes the NCOs "commitment to service and willingness to make great sacrifices on behalf of the nation."

"Throughout 2009," it states, "the Army will honor NCOs through initiatives and events that enhance awareness and public understanding of the roles and responsibilities of today's NCO; and that enhance and accelerate the development of NCOs through education, fitness, and leadership development initiatives."

APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez led the festivities for the more than 300 NCOs who filled the center's ballroom, dining on complimentary food and beverages. Festivities included a pageant of Army uniforms worn during the nation's conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to present, and remarks by Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, chief of Ordnance and commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

In addition, the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, led by Sgt. Maj. Wendy Thomson, serenaded the gathering with patriotic music.

Sgt. 1st Class Irether Gaines,

senior chaplain's assistant, offered the invocation before the posting of the colors by members of the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

Rodriguez welcomed the NCOs noting that 2009 is "designated as a thank you for what we do. We are truly the backbone of the American Army."

"Since 9-11, the Army has been a symbol of hope for oppressed people all over the world," he said. "We understand well that freedom comes with a price."

In demonstration of the sacrifices laid down since the start of the War on Terror, Rodriguez asked recipients of the Purple Heart, Silver Star and Bronze Star medals, Combat Action and War on Terror badges to stand. Respondents totaled more than half the room.

Commenting on the Year of the NCO initiatives of education, fitness and leadership development, Collyar said that he wanted to address fitness.

He shared a personal story about a heart attack he suffered one morning nearly two weeks prior after physical training. He said he felt no pain but enough discomfort to know something was wrong. At the hospital, the problem was diagnosed within minutes. His right coronary artery was 100 percent blocked, and he had surgery the same day. There was no damage to the heart, and he was told that he soon can resume PT.

"I survived because I was in good physical condition," Collyar said. "You owe it to your Families to do the right thing: to maintain your fitness – physical, mental and spiritual."

Collyar said that if he were an NCO in the Year of the NCO, NCOs would be treated differently.

"An E-6 may be over a convoy and responsible for everything in it, making life and death decisions," he said. "We give you significant responsibility and you stand up to the challenge everyday."

Once back in the states, however, the decision-making power is taken away, he said.

"We need to adjust the regulations and give NCOs the same responsibilities in peacetime or wartime. They've proven themselves or they wouldn't be noncommissioned officers."

"We need to look at everything we do and make sure we give NCOs the responsibility they deserve," he said.

He asked listeners to spend the evening networking and to remember their health and well-being.

"Your Families deserve you in good health long after the Army's over," he said.

Before taking his seat Collyar cut the Year of the NCO cake assisted by Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Spohn, the installations' NCO of the Year for 2008.

The ceremony closed with the retiring of the colors and the singing of the Army Song.

Rodriguez thanked the AMC Band, the NCO Academy, the mobile unit of the United Services Organization from Fort Myer, Va., and chapter president Mary Jane Jernigan of the Aberdeen chapter of the Association of the United States Army for their support of the program.

Several NCOs shared their

thoughts on the kickoff and what the Year of the NCO means to them.

1st Sgt. Larry Tyson, HHC Garrison, and a co-organizer of the event, said that because APG NCOs are spread out in different organizations and seldom interact, the kickoff was a good way to promote camaraderie.

"Traditionally you have a battalion or unit NCO Call but that doesn't happen here," he said.

He noted that the NCOs of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Marines detachments were in attendance for the kickoff.

"All branches came together," he said. "It was a true NCO call."

er," he said. "It was a true NCO call."

"The pageant of uniforms showed how the nation goes to the expense to ensure that Soldiers are the best equipped on the battlefield," he added, "and the program successfully highlighted NCO contributions and the strength of the NCO Corps."

"It was the nicest event I've seen in my two years here," he said

Spohn said he was honored to be a part of the ceremony and to represent APG over the past year.

See NCO, page 15

APG & RDECOM top NCO sees promise in Year of NCO

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Command Sgt. Maj. Hector G. Marin assumed the top enlisted position at Aberdeen Proving Ground in 2007. A seasoned senior noncommissioned officer who served combat tours in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Marin now serves as the right-hand man to the installation commander, Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo.



Marin said he is proud of the fact that 2009 has been named the Year of the NCO by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. and that he is proud of the installation's Year of the NCO kickoff ceremony that was held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center Feb. 24.

"Our ceremony was an outstanding and dignified way to kick off the Year of the NCO," Marin said. "The way it was done really dignifies the meaning, and it makes the community aware of the sacrifices NCOs have made over the years."

A uniform pageant during the program consisted of NCOs modeling Army uniforms worn during the nation's conflicts - from the Revolutionary War to present. Marin called the pageant "a display of our contributions for the freedoms the nation enjoys today."

"Right now NCOs are patrolling the streets of Baghdad or the mountains of Afghanistan to ensure the safety of our nation," he said. "After seven years of our nation being at war, I see this as a statement that says NCOs are competent and can be relied upon to get the job done. It's truly a reward to our NCO Corps and our Families who have also made sacrifices."

Comparing the NCOs of the 1980s to today, Marin said the Corps has become the best educated and technically proficient it has ever been.

"There are a lot of us out there with associate, bachelor and even masters degrees," he said. "Considering the highly technical weapons and systems we give our Soldiers in today's battlefield they have to be smart and educated. That's just a sample of the type of NCOs we have in our Army today. Our officers think highly of our NCO Corp and they depend on us to get the task done."

Marin commended APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez for "rallying the forces" to present the Year of the NCO Kickoff and said the installation will continue to hold observances honoring the Year of the NCO throughout 2009.

"We will continue to hold more events to capture all the stories of what our NCOs are doing so that in the future we can reflect on the contributions of today's Warfighters," he said. "Like those who came before us, we are dedicated to providing the nation with an Army they can be proud of."



APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez thanks some of the BNCOC NCOs for participating after the program. From left, Staff Sgt. Kevin Carmichael, Korean War; Staff Sgt. Omar Valdez, War of 1812; Staff Sgt. John Fry, Civil War and Staff Sgt. David Baker, Spanish-American War.

APG News

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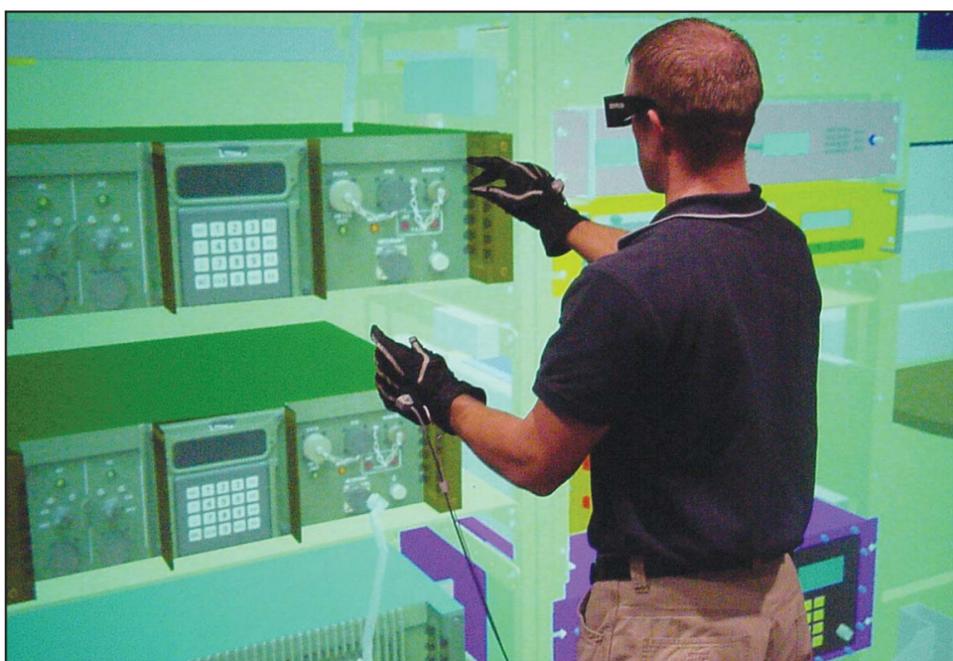
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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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Army R&D Center supports Marine deployable Calibration Facility Reset



The 3-D virtual prototyping lab allows CERDEC engineers and their customers to modify design before fabrication, thus reducing "fixes" and production time.

Story and photos by
EDRIC THOMPSON
CERDEC

They say, "Close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades." This is especially true in modern warfare where precision is everything – hence the importance of proper calibration.

Deployable calibration facilities, or CALFACs, help save lives and support mission success by insuring quality during weapon and equipment maintenance. That's why the U.S. Marine Corps Systems Command, or MARCORSSYSCOM, is announcing that the final stage of its CALFAC reset began March 1 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

MARCORSSYSCOM is working with the U.S. Army Research, Development & Engineering Command Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center to replace the existing 18-year-old design with a

more user-friendly facility featuring state-of-the-art calibration equipment.

Calibration helps insure that measurements are accurate and traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Without mobile calibration facilities, missions would be delayed because essential equipment would have to be sent back to manufacturers in the United States.

"It's all about time, and that's why we exist," said Staff Sgt. Robert D. Tieman, equipment specialist, Marine Corps Systems Command, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Ga.

To ensure accurate design and accelerated delivery, CERDEC's Quick Reaction and Battle Command Support Division employed its Pro-E and virtual prototyping capabilities so Marine users could view the design and provide feedback prior to fabrication.

"Pro-E and virtual prototyp-

ing are important to the reset process," said Edward Lye, chief, QR&BCS Battle Command Mechanical Design Branch. "In times of conflict, engineers can quickly and easily redesign systems or insert new features to meet the users' needs."

The Pro-E Computer Aided Design tool is used for design, development, fabrication and integration of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance equipment and other mission-critical items into ground- and airborne-based platforms.

The 3-D design model created in Pro-E is used in the virtual prototyping lab so designers and customers can interact with the 3-D virtual prototype, checking form, fit and function. After the design has been approved, the 3-D image is translated into machine language and sent to the QR&BCS fabrica-



Cpl. Tyler Mckeen, calibration technician, Combat Logistics Company 35, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, calibrates a torque wrench during his evaluation of the facility.

tion shops.

"Thanks to these capabilities, our Marine users were able to assess equipment location, rack layout and man-machine, interface requirements before the prototype was built," said James G. Leary, QR&BCS project lead. "We don't want to be in the embarrassing situation of having to say, 'Oops, it doesn't fit.'"

The first challenge was providing more workspace. To do so, QR&BCS added a fourth container/station to the design and incorporated an all-enclosed Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter, or DRASH, tent system, which allows for flexible

rearrangement of stations. This new configuration is also more portable, able to be assembled or taken down in 15 minutes.

Within the containers, QR&BCS maximized space by installing adjustable, rack systems, sliding drawers, retractable countertops, swiveling brackets for flat-screen monitors, a cable management system that keeps cables from kinking and disconnecting and multiple patch panels with USB and LAN cable connections so users no longer have to take equipment out of the rack. Users simply plug the equipment they need to calibrate into the panel.

See CALFAC, page 11

Chapel News

Commentary: On letting God take control

By
CHAP (COL) RUBEN COLON
USAGAPG

A man was on trial for first degree murder.

He approached one of the jurors and offered to pay him a large sum of money if he would hold out for a verdict of

manslaughter, in which case the sentence would be much less severe than for first degree murder.

The juror accepted the bribe.

Then the accused man said, "Remember, whatever happens in that jury room, don't be swayed, hold out for manslaughter."

When the trial ended, the jury deliberated and returned its verdict: manslaughter.

Later, outside the courtroom, the convicted man approached the juror and asked, "Did you have a hard time holding out for manslaughter?"

The juror replied, "Yes I did. From the beginning all the other jurors wanted to bring in a "Not Guilty" verdict.

We are often tempted to approach God in prayer and offer Him a bribe: "Lord if you will do this for me, I will do that for you. Oh, and, remember, whatever happens up there, don't be swayed. Do it my way."

But God cannot be bribed. God's will cannot be bent. God's purpose cannot be defeated.

"Thy Will be done," we pray. To which we add, "on earth as it is in heaven," which means "Thy Will be done perfectly, unconditionally." The problem we have with this petition is how do we put it into effect?

It is a problem of motivation. We have to will to do the will of God. The difficulty comes for many of us when we make the tragic mistake of thinking of obedience to God merely as a duty: something we have to do: a grim obligation.



The bottom line for us is to understand, in the strongest possible manner, that God is in control. That if we are to come to life and experience growth and find fulfillment, our life in Christ must be constantly nourished in much the same way that the seed, although from all apparent appearances is seemingly dead comes to life by the nurture of water and good soil. So it is in our lives that through "letting go" and depending on God that we understand how to depend on God more daily for His care of our lives.

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

• March 25, "Ashes to Glory;" experience 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

• 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 Soubiorus 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)

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.

Community Notes

SATURDAY

MARCH 14 BASKET BINGO

A basket bingo will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen, to benefit the Harford County Women's Bowling Association.

Doors open 6 p.m. and games begin 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for advanced sales and \$12 at the door for a 20-game packet. Extra packets cost \$5 each. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Bring a non-perishable food item for a free ticket for a special drawing.

For more information or tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

18TH ANNUAL MARSH CLEANUP

Join the Izaak Walton League of America, Harford County Chapter for the annual spring marsh clean up. Wear boots and gloves and be prepared to get dirty. Adult leaders are needed. Great opportunity for scout troops and school community

service hours credit. Troops are welcome to sign up as a group. Rain or shine.

Meet at the Bosely Conservancy. This program will be held 9 a.m. to 12 noon for ages 8 to adult; ages 8 to 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

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

SUNDAY

MARCH 15 JUST BLOWIN' IN THE WIND - WEATHER WATCHERS I

Construct a weather vane and learn what it means when it spins. This program will be held 12:30 to 2 p.m. for ages 8 to adult; ages 8 to 12 must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$5 per project 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.

MONDAY

MARCH 16 GUNPOWDER TOASTMASTERS MEET MARCH 16

Make a resolution to conquer the fear of public speaking by learning to speak with confidence. Toastmasters clubs seek to help members improve communication, leadership, evaluation and public speaking skills in a fun and friendly environment. Meetings are open to everyone.

The Gunpowder Toastmasters meet 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month.

Meetings are held in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility building E-4516, small seminar room, on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For more information, contact Adam

Freeland, 410-652-8026 or Carmen Lane, 410-436-8969.

THURSDAY

MARCH 19 SAME CHESAPEAKE POST MONTHLY MEETING

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at the Top of the Bay. The featured speaker is David Craig, Harford County Executive who will give a presentation on the impact of BRAC on Harford County and its infrastructure. Space is limited and reservations are required. RSVP by March 16 online at www.same-chesapeake.org.

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

APG SCHOOL LIAISON

Volunteers needed for 2009 Career Expo at Edgewood Middle School

RDECOM

Volunteers from Aberdeen Proving Ground are needed to provide career information, display 'tools of the trade' and engage with students in a hands-on activity, game and/or question answer sessions at this year's 2009 Career Expo at Edgewood Middle School, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., May 12.

This event is sponsored by Project DREAM Work, a partnership program of Harford Community College, Edgewood Middle School and Magnolia Middle School. This event will provide 8th graders with information on various careers and show the connection between school and the work students will do as adults. Local professionals will attend and be available for students to inquire about different career fields.

Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, APG installation commander, has made assisting this school a priority for APG outreach efforts.

Volunteers are needed as soon as possible for this event. Register at <http://www.harford.edu/admissions/FormCareerExpo.asp> by April 7. After registering online, a confirmation e-mail will be sent within 48 hours of receipt.

For more information, contact Mindy Contanzo-Romero, Project DREAM Work director, 410-538-6323 or via e-mail at mcostanz@harford.edu.

Scholarship available

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Xi Delta Omega Chapter of Harford County, Maryland is currently accepting applications for their annual Scholarship Program. The purpose of this program is to provide funds to deserving students planning to further their education beyond high school. The application deadline is March 31

Scholarships offered include:

- Sara E. Roye Memorial Scholarship, \$1,500
- Mildred G. Stansbury Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
- Book Scholarship, \$500
- Male Educational Success & Potential Scholarship, \$1,000

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

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

POST SHORTS

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.

A taste of home away from home

All AIT students, single and unaccompanied members from all armed services are invited to enjoy "A Taste of Home, Down Home USA" 4:30 to 7 p.m., March 28, at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, Fellowship Hall.

The APG Catholic Women of the Chapel will host a dinner for military personnel stationed at APG who ordinarily do not get a home-cooked meal. A variety of entrees, salads, side dishes, deserts and beverages will be available. Entertainment will also be provided.

For planning purposes, an RSVP is not essential but would be greatly appreciated.

For more information or to RSVP, call Kathleen, 410-655-5193, or e-mail kpso-sl@aim.com or Wanda, 410-306-6306, or e-mail swanch2003@yahoo.com.

Register for NSPS training

Upcoming NSPS writing workshops are:

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

Recruit Military Career Fair in Philadelphia today

RecruitMilitary, the Presidents 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., 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

Dining facilities serve Irish specialty meal

The Irish Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen and Edgewood Area dining facilities, buildings 4503, 4219 and E-4225, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., March 17. During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

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

The menu includes bean soup with ham, Sheppard's pie, Dublin coddle (bacon and pork sausage), Irish chicken and dumplings, fish and chips, glazed corn beef, boiled red potatoes with dill, freedom fries (chips), steamed cabbage, seasoned carrots, pickled beet and onion salad, creamy cole slaw, assorted salad bar, buttered hot rolls, assorted breads, Irish cinnamon apple cake, oatmeal cookies, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green, 410-306-1393/1398.

Society of Toxicology meets March 15 to 19

The Society of Toxicology 2009

Annual Meeting will take place March 15 through 19 at the Baltimore Convention Center located on One West Pratt Street. The SOT and ToxExpo™ is a forum to showcase toxicology's discoveries and the year's achievements. The event will feature 27 symposia, 19 workshops and 14 roundtable discussions that were selected from a pool of almost 200 submissions. Among the topics to be presented include The Use of Engineered Nanomaterials in Food and Food-Related Products; Lead: Children's Exposures and Current Regulatory Standards; Pesticides and Parkinson Disease; and Developing Brain: Safety Assessment for Pediatric Use of Pharmaceuticals.

For more information or to register, visit <http://www.toxicology.org/ai/meet/am2009/>.

RAB meeting March 26

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m. at a new location, Vitali's Restaurant & Banquets, 1709 Edgewood Road and Route 24 in Edgewood.

The topic of the meeting will be an

update on the Carroll Island, Graces Quarters and J-Field Study Areas.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

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

Translators needed

The APG Public Affairs Office is updating a list of people who are interested in serving as translators for foreign-speaking visitors, as well as individuals who can interpret foreign written documents.

Those interested in serving as a translator should forward their name, activity, telephone number, email address and language (written and/or spoken) to lynn.witkowski@us.army.mil. For more information, call 410-278-1151.

CPR Classes

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services offer CPR classes on APG.

Two classes will be held 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., the third Wednes-

day of each month.

In the Edgewood Area, classes will be held at the Conference Center, building E-4810, April 15, Aug. 26, Oct. 21 and Dec. 16.

In the Aberdeen Area, classes will be held at the Post Theater March 18, May 20, July 15 and Nov. 18.

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

For more information or to register, call Raymond Campbell, 410-306-0566, or e-mail raymond.b.campbell@us.army.mil.

Tax Center open

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.)

Correction

On page 13 in the Feb. 26 edition of the *APG News* it was falsely stated that Col. Fred Cherry was taken to be a prisoner of war in North Korea during a mission. He was in fact shot down during the Vietnam War and taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese. *APG News* regrets the error.



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Bunco is here to stay

Win door prizes at Bunco, 7 p.m., March 19, April 23 and May 21 at Top of the Bay Chesapeake/Mezzanine. Cost to play is \$5 per person.

Hearts Apart Support Group schedule

Family members from all branches of service, DoD civilians and contractors may participate in Hearts Apart Support Group meetings held in the APG Army Community Service building 2745, Rodman Road 6 to 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month (April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2).

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

ACS announces Egg Hunt Extravaganza

Army Community Service will host an egg hunt, host the Easter Bunny, and provide Family fun for everyone 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., April 4 at Capa Field in the Edgewood Area of APG.

This event is open to all DoD cardholders, military and civilian personnel, contractors, retirees, Family members and guests.

Youth Sports registration open

Register now for these youth sports:

- Youth baseball & tee ball (Aberdeen

Area only)

- Youth flag football cheerleading
- Start smart basketball
- All cheerleading
- Youth softball (Aberdeen Area only)
- Youth flag football
- Upcoming junior golf
- Tennis programs

For more sports information, call 410-306-2297.

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, e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil or Ruben Ferguson, 410-436-2213, e-mail ruben.ferguson@us.army.mil.

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.

FMWR daily bus trips to Atlantic City

Roll the bones on daily trips to Atlantic City, N.J. FMWR Leisure Travel Services offers daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal Casino. Cost of the trip is \$45 per person with \$25 back in cash and a \$5 buffet coupon.

Only for ages 21 and over. The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in

Edgewood 9 a.m. and return 9 p.m.

For more information, contact FMWR Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail apgr-usag-mwr-lesuretravel@conus.army.mil.

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.

Easter Brunch April 12

An Easter Brunch will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 12, at Top of the Bay. Cost is \$21.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children ages 5 to 11 and children under 5 are free.

The breakfast buffet includes an omelet station, French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy and home fries, bagels, muffins and Danish.

The luncheon buffet includes chicken Marsala, baked ham with fruit sauce, baked cod in white wine sauce, assorted vegetables, potatoes and rice, carving station with prime rib and turkey.

Cost also includes assorted desserts,

Mimosa's, Bloody Mary's, juices, coffee and tea.

Reservations are required with a deadline of April 9. Call 410-278-3062/2552/5195.



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.

Culinary Kids

This hands-on class incorporates science, math, nutrition and kitchen safety into the preparation of fun and delicious culinary specialties.

Classes are Saturday's, 10:30 a.m. to noon, March 21 through May 2, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, for ages 6 to 13.

Some of the dishes on the menu include thai ginger noodle salad, dessert sushi, and Roasted Red Pepper Hummus. Chef hats and aprons provided. To be a chef, one must look like one!

Cost is \$195 per student.

Brazilian Jujitsu

Through the practice of jujitsu and kickboxing, students will learn the best form of self-defense. Students will learn to defend themselves against bigger, stronger and faster opponents and develop priceless leadership and teamwork

skills. All students will advance their skills no matter their gender, size, or natural ability.

Classes for beginners ages 7 to 18 are conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 6:45 p.m., March 24 through April 30, in the Noncommissioned Officer Academy building 4505, Suite C

Cost is \$85 per student.

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; 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.

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.

March bowling specials

The Bowling Center is open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays. Throughout the month of March, 1 to 5 p.m., throw a strike on red head pin and receive a free game.

Every Friday, 1 to 5 p.m., bowl \$1.75 per game plus \$1.50 for shoe rental.

March 14, Cosmic Saturday Special costs \$32 and includes bowling for one hour, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra), a pitcher of soda, shoe rental included.

Early St. Patty Day Special on March 16, wear green and bowl for \$1.50 per game plus \$1.50 for shoe rental or rent the lane for \$12 per hour per lane, shoe rental included.

March 29 is Penny-a-Pin Day; cost is \$.01 for every pin you knock down, games over 200 are free (no hourly rate applies); shoe rental costs \$1.75 per pair.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of March 9

Special #1: Cheesesteak wrap, chips and cookie for \$4.75.

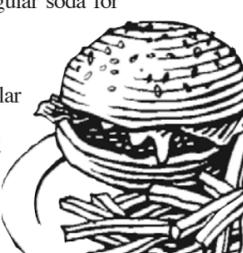
Special #2: Two hot dogs, french fries, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

Week of March 16

Special #1: Italian sausage, french fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

Special #2: Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, cookie and regular soda for \$9.95.

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



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 - March 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>.



Pentagon Channel for March 2009

The Pentagon Channel will feature the following programs on WAPG-TV, Channel 21, during the month of March. These programs are subject to change each week and will be updated accordingly.

<p>MONDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 12 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 3 p.m., 11 p.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 11 p.m.</p> <p>TUESDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>America's Army - The Strength of the Nation, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Army Newswatch, 4 p.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 11 p.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Tour of Duty, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Watch Afghanistan, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>The Grill Sergeants, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 10 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 11 p.m.</p> <p>THURSDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Army Newswatch, 10 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Watch Afghanistan, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Faces of Strength, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 5 p.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 11 p.m.</p> <p>FRIDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 12 p.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Exchange on Air, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 3 p.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Battleground, 11 p.m.</p> <p>SATURDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Army Newswatch, 9 a.m.</p> <p>Recon, 11 a.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 1 p.m.</p> <p>America's Army - The Strength of the Nation, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Freedom Journal Iraq, 5 p.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tour of Duty, 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 10 p.m.</p> <p>SUNDAY</p> <p>Fit for Duty, 6:30 a.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 7 a.m.</p> <p>Around the Services, 10 a.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Faces of Strength, 2 p.m.</p> <p>Recon, 4 p.m.</p> <p>The Grill Sergeants, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Army Newswatch, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Battleground, 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>This Week in the Pentagon, 10 p.m.</p>
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- Army Newswatch: Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army.
- Battleground: Features historic films from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.
- Fit for Duty: Takes viewers through a high-energy 30-minute workout led by service members.
- Freedom Journal Iraq: Focuses on military missions, operations and U.S. military forces in Iraq.
- RECON: Provides an in-depth look on a variety of topics from real world operations, missions, military events/history and other subjects highlighting the accomplishments of U.S. military men and women.
- Freedom Watch Afghanistan: Presents the latest from Operation Enduring Freedom

- in a daily newscast showing the activities of American troops in country.
- The Grill Sergeants: Serving up meals military style! A Pentagon Channel original program.
- Around the Services: Features military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world.
- This week in the Pentagon: An update on news coming out of the Pentagon.
- America's Army - The Strength of the Nation: This video highlights why Soldiers, their Families and Army civilians are indeed the strength of the nation.
- Faces of Strength: Unforgettable close-up portraits of the "everyday" heroes of the Army Family, who answered their country's call with selfless service and unflinching strength.

The start of AMSAA's Professional Development Series sets the bar high



Photo by Retired Gen. Barry McCaffrey discusses a variety of current affairs and his take on them as part of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity Professional Development Series that began Jan. 21.

Story by **PAT COOK**
AMSAA

The U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity has instituted a professional development program for AMSAA employees on the Aberdeen Proving Ground campus.

"Every month, senior management, team leaders and select analysts will have the opportunity to hear world renown speakers, to listen to top military or civilian leaders in the Department of Defense or just meet to learn about a new mathematical technique or "how to" on new computer technology," said Dr. Forrest Crain, AMSAA director.

The first professional development session featured retired Gen. Barry McCaffrey, currently an Adjunct Professor of International Affairs at the United States Military Academy and President of his own consulting firm. He serves as a national security and terrorism analyst

for NBC News.

The most decorated and youngest four-star general at retirement, McCaffrey served four combat tours of duty during 13 years of overseas service: Dominican Republic 1965, Vietnam 1966-1967/68-69 (Vietnamese Airborne Division and 1st Cavalry Division) and Iraq 1991 (24th Mechanized Division). He was awarded three Purple Hearts for wounds received in action and was twice awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award, for extraordinary heroism in Vietnam combat action.

His last military position was commander-in-chief U.S. Southern Command where he was responsible for 84,000 joint military personnel and DoD civilians who operated annually in Central and South America. He advised the president, secretary of defense and secretary of state on U.S. Latin American international security policy.

McCaffrey served as director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy from 1996 to 2001. He was confirmed by unanimous vote of the U.S. Senate for this position. In this position, McCaffrey served both as a member of the President's Cabinet and as a member of the President's National Security Council for drug related issues.

He has had extensive international experience, teaching experience, appeared in over 6000 television stories and more than 15,000 newspaper articles, and his list of publications and lectures stretches on for pages.

McCaffrey held an audience of AMSAA analysts spellbound Jan. 21 with his knowledge and insights into current affairs discussing six major insights on the War on Terror, U.S. Tools to Shape the International Environment, Protecting U.S. Critical Infrastructure, the U.S. Economy in Turmoil, the Powerful U.S. Global Economy and his look Toward the Future. He ended the session with a question and answer period, fielding questions which ranged from the policy of embedding reporters with troops, to supplemental funding to his feelings on Afghanistan and Pakistan problems.

In the words of Col. Kirk Benson, the deputy director at AMSAA, "General McCaffrey continues to provide invaluable service to our nation. His insights will help AMSAA evolve to meet the requirements of decision makers contending with current operations and balancing strategy for the future."

The second of AMSAA's professional development speakers, Mike Garrabone, regaled the audience Feb. 18 with a historical briefing about Thomas A. Edison, World War I Naval analyst. He focused on a time that most Americans do not know about Edison.

Many know he was self-educated, a firm believer in the scientific method, and a leader in laboratory research. He also had a highly investigative mind and an exceptionally successful work ethic.

AMSAA analysts learned of his untiring devotion to duty as a World War I mil-

itary operations research analyst and his leadership of the Naval Consultant Board of the United States (personally requested by the Secretary of the Navy). As a successful inventor and industrialist before the war began, Edison expressed concerns for military preparedness, machines in warfare and the careful use of the limited resources in this country.

Much of what he did during World War I parallels the type of analysis that AMSAA does today.

The brief ended with an analogy of what we could and should do as analysts in the 21st century.

Comments such as "I didn't know that Thomas Edison was such a forerunner of what we do," "Edison sure was a character!" and "I'm inspired to take on the hard problems as he did" were heard over and over again as analysts left the lecture.

Mike Garrabone is currently a senior military operations research analyst at General Dynamics. He is a retired Army combat engineer and military operations research systems analyst (Functional Area 49) also currently serving as the Military Operations Research Society vice president of Professional Affairs. He has served in various military operations centers at battalion, brigade and the general staff and has been a logistician and engineering commander. He enjoyed Air Force assignments as director for Combat Modeling and Simulation, C3CM Joint Test Force, and has taught at Air University's College of Aerospace Doctrine, Research and Education; the Army Logistics Management College, and at the Air Force Institute of Technology. Involved with MORS for 20 years, he was elected to the Board of Directors in 1998 and has very successfully served as the MORS Heritage and the Education and Professional Development Chairs. He has been a senior operations research analyst for General Dynamics for 18 years.

AMSAA will continue its professional development program as one facet of employee development.

WMRD team wins recognition for standardizing Army process

Story by **SARAH MAXWELL**
ARL

A team from the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate will be given the 2008 Defense Standardization Program Award in a ceremony at the Pentagon today for their work in developing a Cold Spray application standard.

A well-written standard allows everyone throughout the Army the ability to uniformly understand and apply a process, which ultimately saves the government time and money, said Richard Squillacioti, the document's team leader on the project.

"When someone else does the same process, they won't mess it up," said

Squillacioti, about how the standard will help.

Dennis Helfritsch and Victor Champagne along with Squillacioti developed the new standard after a thorough testing on how to best apply the corrosion and wear resistance spray to different types of equipment and vehicles.

"It's a very useful process, and the standard is being used in the government to save a lot of money," he said. "The Army will recover millions of dollars in cost avoidance because of the spray."

The high-velocity particle spray provides improved coatings over the plasma/thermal spray currently being used and greater protection to equipment, Squillacioti said.

CALFAC

From page 3

More importantly, Leary's team integrated new calibration equipment specified in requirements and conducted a thermal analysis in each container to determine the size of the overall power grid needed to power the facility.

"When you're talking about weapons systems, it becomes very critical that the measurements are correct because it could mean life or death to those Marines out there," said Master Sgt. Amy Pearson, Marine Corps liaison, Naval Service Warfare Center, Corona, Calif. "There have been a lot of advancements in electrical equipment, and those advancements are now incorporated into our new facility. It has definitely brought us up technology-wise."

Since temperature is so critical to accurate calibration, Leary's team proposed additional features to provide needed controls.

"The temperature needs to be within plus- or minus-three degrees when calibrating," he said. "The older design just has a dial that makes it hotter or colder; it's not really tied into temperature at all. So we installed an environmental control unit in each container to provide automatic temperature control."

LED lighting was also proposed because it gives off less heat and no electro-magnetic interference, which can be read by the enemy. Moreover, each container is EMI protected: doorways have metal grids, entry panels for cables have filters, and patch panels have EMI seals as well.

"We started from scratch, and the system we produced has no resemblance whatsoever to the system that's currently fielded," Leary said.

After conducting a limited user evaluation Nov. 3 through 7, 2008, to see if the system was operationally effective, Marine evaluators approved the prototype, calling it a "definite improvement."

"Compared to the other calibration facilities I've worked in, this is top-of-the-line and has a lot of great improvements that are definitely going to help us in the long run. The setup is better: we've got a lot of people having to work in a small area, and this facilitates that," said Cpl. Billy Harrell, calibration technician with the 1st Maintenance Battalion, Combat

Logistics Regiment 15, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

"It's a much easier, contained space to work in," said Cpl. Tyler Mckeen, calibration technician, Combat Logistics Company 35, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. "This allows us to be deployable and do our job."

Additional feedback was provided to QR&BCS for final modifications to the system prior to its scheduled shipping to Albany, Ga., by the beginning of March 2009. Once there, all of the equipment within the containers will be recalibrated prior to the final user evaluation, which is proposed for May at Camp Pendleton.

James Durham, program manager, test measurement diagnostic equipment, Marine Corps System Command, said he is pleased with QR&BCS support of the facility reset.

"[Reset] is like an onion with layers; this is a very complex system with many requirements. Being a prototype, it has had some challenges that they've had to react to with great deliberation, but they've been innovative and quick to respond to every demand we've requested," he said. "QR&BCS has provided us with accurate information so we can make the best decisions for our product."

The CALFAC is the latest in a series of projects QR&BCS has successfully delivered to MARCOR-SYSCOM, the most notable being the Tactical Imagery Production System. TIPS provided tactical printing, reproduction, photographic and video-graphic capabilities for the Marine Expeditionary Forces in support of Psychological Operations and Intelligence and Information Operations.

"CERDEC has always been very good to work with," Pearson said. "They're very responsive to any needs we have. Any time an issue arose, they were right on it trying to help us figure out what solution would be best. I can't complain at all about the service they've given us; it's been outstanding."

"Whether it's a Soldier or a Marine, we take pride in supporting the Warfighter. And we're committed to maintaining this mission as we transition our work to APG," said Joseph Ryan, QR&BCS Division chief.

Integration for the second CALFAC began January 2009, at Fort Monmouth, N.J., while a third system began March 1 in the new QR&BCS facilities at APG. The final user evaluation is scheduled to begin in July and conclude in September 2009.

LEAVE DONATIONS

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

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Donald Adamson	Wayne Erb	Nicole McKew
Neoma Amberman	Rita Fowler	Frantz Midy
Stacey Belcher	Gregory Fox	Karen Milton
Debra Bonsall	Miriam Garcia	Deborah Moore
(daughter has brain tumor)	Allen Gregory	Richard Morris
Jeanie Bowman	Erin Griffin	Marie D. Nowak
Sandra Boyd (neck injury)	Sharon Hardesty	Dorothy Nowak
Georgia Braun	Kitty Harris	Cindy Orwig
Alberta Brown	Jerome Hesch	Alice Parks-Culp
Michelle Brooks	Linda Hindman	Rosina Poole
Donna Butler	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Judith Ratledge
Donna Cianelli	Sinclair Joe	Gloria Scott
Angela Claybourn	Janet Kipp	Donna Sexton
Frank Costa	Dana Kirkley	Melvin Showell
Kenneth Cox	Glenn Kresge	Willie Stevenson
Joyce Clark	Randolph	Lavonne Telsee
John Daigle	Larracuento	Gale Thompson
Bonnie Day	Laura MacLean	Elizabeth Usmari
Carol DeVoid	Lillian Mantilla	Mark Walker
Meg Downey	Joy Meadows	Joyce Woods
	Richard McKay	Barbara Zenker

African-American 'firsts' key to Army history

Story by
PHILIP H. JONES
Army News Service

Each February, communities across the nation celebrate African American History Month, using this annual observance as an opportunity to honor the contributions of African Americans and create greater awareness regarding the richness of African-American culture.

This year, the nation celebrates the election of President Barack H. Obama, the country's first African-American president and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. This significant first for the nation was built on the foundation of many great African-American leaders throughout history.

African Americans have a long and distinguished history of service in defense of the nation, and in particular, in service to the U.S. Army. And while President Obama is the most recent and perhaps the most celebrated "first" for African Americans, listed below are a few notable "firsts" for African Americans who answered their nation's call to duty in the Army.

First African-American general officer

On Oct. 25, 1940, Benjamin O. Davis Sr. became the first African American to serve as a general officer in the U.S. Army. He entered the military service on July 18, 1898, during the war with Spain as a temporary first lieutenant of the 8th U.S. Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered out on March 6, 1899, and on June 18, 1899, he enlisted as a private in Troop I, 9th Cavalry, of the regular Army. He then served as a corporal and squadron sergeant major, and on Feb. 2, 1901, he was commissioned a second lieutenant of Cavalry in the regular Army.

Davis' military decorations included the Bronze Star Medal and the Distinguished Service Medal. His DSM, awarded by General Order 10, dated Feb. 22, 1945, stated that Davis was awarded the DSM "for exceptional meritorious service to the government in a duty of great responsibility from June 1941 to November 1944 as an inspector of troop units in the field and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops."

First African-American female Soldier

Immediately following the Civil War, William Cathey enlisted in the U.S. Regular Army in St. Louis, Mo. Cathey, intending to serve three years with the 38th U.S. Infantry, was described by the recruiting officer as 5 foot, 9 inches, with black eyes, black hair and a black complexion. The cursory examination by an army physician missed the fact that William Cathay was actually Cathay William, an African-American woman.

Cathey served from Nov. 15, 1866, until her discharge with a surgeon's certificate of disability on Oct. 14, 1868. Despite numerous and often lengthy hospital stays during her service, her sex was not revealed until June 1891, when she applied for an invalid pension and disclosed her true identity. She did not receive the pension, not because she was a woman, but because her disabilities were not service-related.

Cathey William has been noted in military history journals as the only documented female Buffalo Soldier and as the only documented African-American woman who served in the U.S. Army prior to the 1948 law which officially allowed women to join the Army.

First African-American West Point graduate

In 1877, Henry O. Flipper became the first African American to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in New York. His assignment in July 1877 to the 10th U.S. Cavalry, one of two Black cavalry regiments organized after the Civil War, was the realization of a personal dream. Unfortunately, his dream was short-lived as he was wrongfully court-martialed and dishonorably discharged.

Assigned to the 10th Cavalry over Buffalo Soldiers, Lt. Flipper served at Forts Elliott, Concho, Quitman, Sill and Davis, and he fought twice at Eagle Springs, Texas, during the Victorio campaign against the Apache Indians in 1880. In 1881, while stationed at Fort Davis, Texas, he was framed by white officers and charged with embezzlement. At his court-martial he was found not guilty of embezzlement, but guilty of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." He was dishonorably discharged, and for the rest of his life he fought to restore his good name.

After his death in 1940, his descendants continued advocating to have his dishonorable discharge overturned, and in 1976, with the recognition of his mistreatment, he was finally granted an honorable discharge by the Department of the Army.

A bust of Flipper was unveiled at West Point in the same year. In 1999 President Bill Clinton granted him a full pardon. West Point now gives an award in his hon-



Photo courtesy of Army
Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., America's first African-American general officer, observes a signal unit erecting poles in France Aug. 8, 1944.

or to the graduating senior who has displayed "the highest qualities of leadership, self-discipline and perseverance in the face of unusual difficulties while a cadet."

First African-American female colonel

World War II brought out the best in America's young people. Young African-American women like Margaret E. Bailey found it an opportunity to fight for their citizenship, their democracy and their pride.

By May 1943, 183 African-American nurses held commissions in the Army Nurse Corps. During World War II, African-American nurses served in all theaters of the war including Africa, Burma, Australia and England. At the conclusion of World War II, about 600 African-American nurses had served. One of these nurses, Margaret E. Bailey, accepted a commission in June 1944. On July 15, 1964, Bailey became the first African American promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Army Nurse Corps. In 1970, she was promoted to full colonel.

Throughout her 27-year career in the Army, Col. Margaret E. Bailey advocated for the integration of the Army, to include the integration of all military housing, working environments and recreational facilities.

Following her retirement in 1971, Bailey became a consultant to the surgeon general to promote increased participation by minority group members in the Army Nurse Corps.

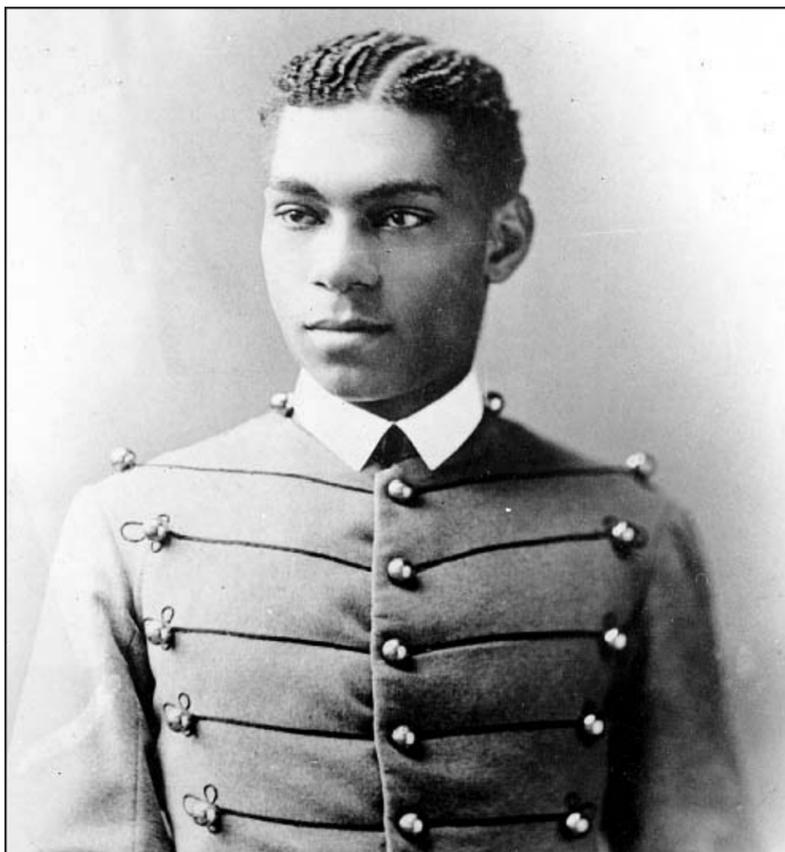
First African-American 4-star general

In 1947, Roscoe Robinson Jr. attended St. Louis University for only a year before he transferred to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He graduated with a degree in military engineering in 1951. During the next 34 years, he would become a distinguished combat commander and the first African American to become a four-star general.

After graduating, he served in the Korean War in 1952 as a platoon leader and rifle company commander. For his actions he received the Bronze Star. After returning to the United States a year later, he became an instructor in the Airborne Department of the U.S. Army Infantry School. Robinson then went on to graduate from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in 1963. The following year he received his master's degree in international affairs from the University of Pittsburgh. In 1967 he served as battalion commander in Vietnam. For his achievements there he received the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, 11 Air Medals, and two Silver Stars.

After Vietnam he served at the National War College for three years as the executive officer to the chief of staff. He was promoted to brigadier general and in 1975 became commanding general of the U.S. Army Garrison, Okinawa. He also commanded the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. His final assignment was as U.S. military representative to the NATO Military Committee from 1982 to 1985. After he had completed 34 years of service to the U.S. military he retired in 1985.

He was then awarded with the Defense Distinguished Service Medal and two



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Ossian_Flipper
In 1877, Henry O. Flipper became the first African American to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in New York.

Distinguished Service Medals.

After his retirement, he was asked to oversee a panel tasked to examine the Korean War performance of some African-American Army units that had been highly criticized. After a battle with leukemia, Robinson died on July 22, 1993, at the age of 64, and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

In April 2000 a new auditorium, the "General Roscoe Robinson Jr. Auditorium" was named in his honor. The Roscoe Robinson Health Clinic at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg is also named in his honor.

First African-American female general

When Hazel Johnson, an operating room nurse who graduated from the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing, joined the Army in 1955, she thought it would be an opportunity that would allow her to explore the world and hone her nursing skills. She had no idea she would become a part of military history -- which she did in 1979 when she became the first African-American female general officer and the first African American appointed as chief of the Army Nurse Corps.

Timing had much to do with Johnson's success in the military as she entered the Army shortly after President Harry Truman banned segregation and discrimination in the armed services. And like most good Soldiers, Johnson was rewarded with promotions and posts of responsibility during her service in the Army. She was also afforded educational opportunities in the Army and she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Villanova University, a master's degree in nursing education from Columbia University and a doctorate in

education administration from Catholic University.

As chief of the Army Nurse Corps, Johnson commanded 7,000 male and female nurses, including those in the Army National Guard and Army Reserve. She also set policy and oversaw operations in eight Army medical centers, 56 community hospitals, and 143 free-standing clinics in the United States, Japan, Korea, Germany, Italy and Panama.

The list of awards and recognition throughout her military career includes: the 1972 U.S. Army Nurse of the Year, honorary doctorates from Villanova University, Morgan State University, University of Maryland, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster.

Her responsibilities left little time to pursue other avenues of life, including marriage. However, two years before retiring from the Army, Johnson married David Brown, and the 16th chief of the Army Nurse Corps became Brig. Gen. Hazel W. Johnson-Brown.

Following her retirement, Johnson-Brown enjoyed a distinguished "second" career in academia. She served as professor of nursing at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and finally at George Mason University in Virginia. At George Mason University, she was instrumental in founding the Center for Health Policy, designed to educate and involve nurses in health policy and policy design. Johnson-Brown retired from teaching in 1997.

To learn more about the contributions of African Americans who have served, and continue to serve the nation proudly, visit: http://www.army.mil/africanamericans/main_content.html.

APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary - Spring's a comin'

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

Peering out the window just now at the remnants of snow and a thermometer that says 10 degrees Fahrenheit, I shiver and wonder: are they on their way yet? St. Patrick's Day is just a few days off. By now they ought to be in Georgia or perhaps South Carolina, maybe even as far north as Cape Hatteras.

I'm referring, of course, to the osprey and their remarkable journey from South America to the tidal marshes of Aberdeen Proving Ground, culminating with their arrival around March 17.

As Joe Ondek would say, "Take it to the bank...it's a sure thing; the ospreys will be here on Saint Paddy's Day."

Sometimes I think I've been in this business too long. Instead of looking at the calendar and seeing what month it is, I find myself paying attention to the tides, watching the moon, and studying the critters just like the old-timers used to do. (Sorry

Joe, but like my grandpa used to say: "If the shoe fits...")

The scientific community will tell you that the first day of spring is March 20, and that very well may be if you're going by the vernal equinox. But if you really want to know when spring arrives, it begins with the first full moon of March and the return of the ospreys.

Most of the ospreys from around here winter down in Columbia or Venezuela, migrating through Cuba and Florida, and up the East Coast to APG. That's some 2,500 miles, with quite a bit of it over open water at night, which helps to explain the high mortality rate experienced by young ospreys.

Here on APG, and I'm just guessing at the number, I'd say we have somewhere in the neighborhood of at least 100 nesting pairs scattered throughout the installation.

Primarily their main diet consists of fresh fish, which makes APG and our proximity to the Chesapeake Bay an ideal nesting area. On occasion I have seen them take water snakes and frogs, but by 'n large they tend



Photo by BILL ARMSTRONG

to feed on white perch and shad.

Watching them actually "fishing" is simply amazing, and how they can distinguish a fish swimming below the surface of the water, while flying a hundred feet up in the air, bog-

gles my mind.

After hatching at APG, the young ospreys migrate south during the fall, staying in South America for the first 18 months or so before returning to the shorelines of APG at the peak of the

spring during yellow and white perch spawning migrations.

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, keep an eye out for 'em...they're on their way back to APG, and they're bringin' spring with them.

AER

From front page

Total AER assistance reached \$83 million from the \$74 million of assistance in 2007. Financial assistance in 2008 represents an overall 12 percent increase over 2007 levels.

During 2008, AER handled 66,000 cases of financial assistance for unexpected financial stress to include emergency travel, housing, car repair, utilities, medical expenses, funeral costs and disaster relief along with support to surviving Families of Fallen Soldiers, and grants to widows and Wounded Warriors.

Petratis said that the garrison goal is to raise \$50,000, and he hopes to exceed it this year.

About AER

AER was founded in 1942 in response to Soldiers and their Families needing financial assistance during World War II. Since its founding, AER has provided more than \$1 billion in financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans or outright grants.

In addition to emergency assistance, today's AER program provides education assistance in the form of scholarships to children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers, along with support to surviving Families of Fallen Soldiers and grants to widows and

Wounded Warriors.

AER provides assistance for unexpected and financial needs including travel, housing, car repair utilities, medical expenses, funeral costs and disaster relief.

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.

AER's Command Referral Program has increased dramatically in Soldier's access to AER assistance. The Command Referral Program gives company or battery commanders and first sergeants the authority to approve up to \$1,000 in interest-free loans for their Soldiers.

"It is a meaningful way for the company or battery chain of command to be

directly involved in addressing financial problems of their Soldiers," Petratis said.

All contributions are fully tax deductible. Donors may make contributions to the general assistance fund or they may make contributions to specific programs such as education and widows' assistance.

Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit chain of command or visit the APG AER office located in building 2754, room 201.

Full details on AER's assistance programs may be found by contacting Marge Fissel, AER officer, 410-278-2508 or visiting the AER Web site, www.aerhq.org.

For campaign information, call Petratis, 410-278-3000.

Annual gospel celebration draws huge audience

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Hundreds of Soldiers, civilians and guests from the local community attended the 36th Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night, a musical tribute to Black History Month, at the Post Theater Feb. 22.

Hosted by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, Gospel Night features local choirs, groups, soloists, musicians and dancers who come together in a spiritual commemoration of Black History Month.

Col. Dan Reilly, commander of OMMS and the 61st Ordnance Brigade, hosted the celebration and welcomed the audience on behalf of Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander of OC&S and chief of Ordnance. Noting that Gospel Night began in 1973 as just a thought of Wilbert Davis, a retired OC&S civilian who started the annual celebration, Reilly said that the event "has truly outgrown its early beginnings."

"What we have now is a gospel night that centers on local talent and the youth of our community," Reilly said.

He thanked all who made the event a success, including Davis, who was in attendance, Master Sgt. Gail Brennan, OC&S equal opportunity advisor; and Stephen Lyons, an OMMS instructor and pastor of Bread of Life Ministries, who served as master of ceremonies.

Lyons encouraged all to remember the program's theme, "We Are the Change We Seek."

"We give greater praise tonight for our first African American president," he added.

The performers

Praise & Motion included a large group of Aberdeen youths who performed a synchronized dance to "This is the Way We Praise Him," followed by four young women in tuxedo-like outfits who danced to the song "Stand Out."

Brianna Nubine, the 10-year-old daughter of Staff Sgt. Eddy Nubine of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, gave a stirring rendition of the Sojourner Truth speech, "Ain't I A Woman." Dressed as an old woman and carrying a walking stick, Brianna delivered a passionate recitation of the speech Truth gave at the National Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio, in 1851.

She said her mom encourages her to learn all she can about women's rights as well as black history.

"I feel like I'm helping to teach others about women's rights," she said.

Staff Sgt. Nubine performed on saxophone and alto sax throughout the show, first performing a jazzy rendition of "At the Cross" and later backing up other musicians and choirs including an impromptu duet with retired Command Sgt. Maj. Sam Brinson on guitar. Brinson, a former commandant of the OMMS Noncommissioned Officer Academy, travels to APG each year from his Columbia, S.C., home to perform at Gospel Night and to attend the annual NCOA Dining Out which will be held March 20 at Top of the Bay.

Brinson performed three songs on guitar with Nubine on saxophone, Erica Waters on drums, Erin Harris on keyboard and Staff Sgt. Stephen Edgerton of the AMC Band on bass.

"We didn't even practice together," Brinson said of his fellow musicians. "I just told



Jeffrey Averett, left, directs the APG Gospel Service choir during the 36th Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night celebration at the Post Theater Feb. 22.

them what I wanted to do, and they put it together. God is good."

Retired 1st Sgt. Jeffrey Averett led the APG Gospel Choir. Dressed in purple and black, the group of men, women and children performed two selections which perfectly represented the well-known choir, "Lift Up Ye Gates" and "He Laid it Down."

Lisa Lyons of Bread of Life Ministries and the wife of Stephen Lyons, led singers Dwayne Cottoner, Shelia Pugh, S. Jonathan Smith, Jennifer Myers-Smith, Kathy Jones and Dorris Tisdale in "When I Think About the Lord" and "For Every Mountain." Lyons said the songs were chosen to promote reflection on blessings.

The children of Stephen Lyons, Jada, 17, and Stephen, 13, as True Expressions Mime Ministry, delivered one of the standout performances of the evening. With white-face makeup, wearing white gloves and utilizing mime-like movements, the duo performed two high-energy praise dances that brought the audience to its feet.

Jada said she and her brother worked extra hard on the dances because they knew they would be performing for Soldiers.

"I wanted to show them how much I love the Lord before they go to war," she said.

Stephen said he and his sister try to use choreography to express spirituality through dance.

"I love inserting my own ideas," he said.

Rounding out the program was Rick Witherspoon and Soul Purpose. An equal employment opportunity specialist with the APG Garrison, Witherspoon led backup singers Crystal Burston and Duwaine White in the songs "Get Up" and "The Agape Way."

"It means unconditional love," Witherspoon said in explaining the song's title. A native of Newport News, Va., who's been singing since the age of 6, Witherspoon said he formed the group, which performs locally, about three years ago.

Other performances included the APG Dance & Drama Team, whose members, dressed all in white, presented an angelic praise dance led by Lukeya Brown and Javon Averett, 13.

Farrah and Tif-

fany Dowell made up the group Sisters, from Elkton, Md., harmonizing beautifully as they shared their songs "I Will" and "Yeah."

The evening included Gospel Night favorites, Sisters Singing With Anointed Voices, the group of women singers led by locally prominent choir director Carla Harris. They belted out the songs "He's the Light" and "Let Us Go into the House of the Lord."

Harris also directed the first performance of the Wilbert Davis Gospel Choir, a group consisting of many of the night's performers, put together by Harris and Lyons as a permanent tribute to Wilbert Davis.

Lyons said that due to the death of Davis' daughter last year, they wanted to "do something special for him this year."

"We plan to keep the choir together as a lasting legacy," he said, adding his thanks to Harris for her work in the church community.

"She has her church choir, her women's choir and now the Wilbert Davis Gospel Choir," he said. "She was the natural choice to lead this choir because she is so gifted and full of passion, and choirs feed off the passion of the director."

The singers and musicians of the Wilbert Davis Gospel Choir performed the most joyful songs of the evening and the audience never sat down.

Chaplain (Maj.) James Lester, OMMS, closed the program with the benediction.

"As you leave this place may you be encouraged tonight knowing God is with you," he said.

Guests, who included Soldiers from the 16th Ordnance Battalion and the Maryland National Guard's Freestate Challenge Academy, said they enjoyed the program.

"I thought it was excellent," said Michael McNair, a 17-year-old Freestate Challenge Academy cadet from Baltimore. "It was great to see the different ways of expressing Christ."

"It was a wonderful program and just what some of [the cadets] needed because some of them didn't get to go to church today," added



Ten year-old Brianna Nubine recites the "Ain't I A Woman" speech by Sojourner Truth. Brianna is the daughter of Staff Sgt. Eddy Nubine of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band.

ChalleNGe daytime supervisor Staff Sgt. Wayne Harrington.

OC&S Black History essay and display contest

Col. Dan Reilly presented first place and runner-up awards and certificates of appreciation to participants in the OC&S Black History essay and display contest.

First-place essay winner, Tricia Devine, an OC&S graphic media specialist, shared the story of when she and fellow students in the all-white grade school she attended welcomed the school's first black student, Norris Poindexter Turnipseed IV, to their classroom. Devine compared the historic day for her school to the inauguration of President Barack Obama in January.

"I don't know whatever became of Norris. But this much I'm sure," Devine wrote. "On January 20, 2009, wherever he was, he was standing proudly once again as another individual hero stood before strangers on behalf of change."

She encouraged listeners to seek out the heroes of change in their own Families to create a legacy for their children.

Devine said she was humbled to learn that she won.

"The intent was to share the fact that it was the grandfathers and grandmothers who made [things] change, not the well-known leaders," Devine said.

Essay winners

- Tricia Devine, OC&S, first place
- Stacy Lockhart, C4ISR, runner-up (tie)
- Wallace Ciepiela, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, runner-up (tie)

Display winners

- Pfc. Andrew Hollis and Pvt. Debra Jacombs, Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, first place
- Carolyn Johnson, APG Garrison, runner-up

Seven Soldiers and two civilians received certificates of appreciation for their participation in the essay competition.

Four Soldiers and representatives of six BNCOC and ANCOC classes received certificates of appreciation for their participation in the display competition.

(Editor's Note: See more photos at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/PhotoGal/galleryindex.html.)



From left, True Expressions Mime Ministry's Stephen Lyons II, 13, and Jada Lyons, 17, perform a gospel mime dance; Tiffany Dowell of the singing Sisters sings "I Will," and Sam Brinson on guitar jazes things up with the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band's Eddy Nubine.