



See page 2 for Year of the NCO article.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Oct. 14 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



Reduced gate hours for holiday weekend

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Columbus Day holiday.

On Oct. 9, the Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area will close at 10 p.m. and the Wise Road Gate in the Edgewood Area will close at 8 p.m.

The Harford Gate and the Wise Road Gate will reopen at 4 a.m., Oct. 13.

The Maryland Gate in the Aberdeen Area and the Magnolia Gate in the Edgewood Area (Route 152) will be open throughout the holiday weekend.

Disability Expo, Career Fair today

In celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Disability Expo and Career Fair will be held 1 to 4:30 p.m., Oct. 8, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center building 3326, on Erie Street.

Sign language interpreters will be available.

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ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Garrison Command Sergeant Major Board complete

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Veterans' Voices: AMC welcomes veterans at BWI; WW II veterans visit museum; and more

Innovative program helps APG meet energy goal

Story by **ED STAATS**
DPW

Aberdeen Proving Ground is working hard to reach the goals set by Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management."

This order set a series of aggressive goals, including goals for improved energy efficiency, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, increased alternative energy purchases and improved water conservation.

Achieving these goals means

that APG must look beyond appropriated funds to further accomplish its energy objectives. One of APG's best opportunities to retrofit the energy systems needed to achieve the Executive Order and legal requirements is through greater use of private government-wide Energy Savings Performance Contracting, a program administered by the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program.

An energy savings performance contract is a partnership between an energy services com-

pany and its customer formed for the purpose of financing and implementing cost-saving energy-efficiency improvements. The ESCO pays the up-front cost of purchasing and installing new equipment, and the customer repays the ESCO over the life of the contract from the cost savings resulting from the project. ESPCs have been in use by public and private customers for more than 20 years and have been proven to be an effective method for upgrading existing facilities.

The installation has partnered with Johnson Controls in devel-

oping ESPC projects to make improvements to its facilities. A team comprised of APG, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntsville Center and Johnson Controls personnel has been co-authoring projects through detailed field analysis and interim project development workshops covering each aspect of the project. This cross-functional team includes engineering, master planning, contracting, financial, and project management representatives. This approach has fostered a unique

See **ENERGY**, page 13

Post agencies offer help for foreclosures

Housing Market Crisis: A danger for homeowners and renters alike

FMWR

The military community is not immune to the problems confronting the national economy, and many military Families are facing severe problems due to foreclosures.

The range of people affected is broad. It includes homeowners and military renters.

Fortunately, there are several important resources available. With the help of experts from a variety of agencies on Aberdeen Proving Ground this article highlights some of those resources.

First, if a military member is facing financial problems, one of the first calls should be made to the APG Financial Readiness Program, which is part of Army

Community Service. There, the program is staffed with professionals who can help Families create budgets to live within their means.

Next, homeowners in trouble should start gathering as much information as possible regarding the details of their cases. At a minimum, gather loan documents from lenders, and thoroughly review the Web site devoted to keeping Families in their homes: **makinghomeaffordable.gov**. The site provides a summary of programs available to homeowners in distress and advice on how to move forward.

If a homeowner cannot solve his or her problems through financial planning and

is facing the prospect of defaulting on the mortgage, he or she should contact the lender. Borrowers should submit hardship letters and explore options for loan modifications or refinancing.

If a borrower is unable to work out a resolution directly with the lender, several organizations can provide free help. One such organization is the Homeownership Foundation, a nonprofit group that provides free advice and help to those facing foreclosure.

The organization can review loan documents, advise homeowners and help negotiate resolutions with lenders, all for free. Their toll free hotline, 1-888-995-HOPE

See **HOUSING**, page 14



Staff Sgt. Tameka Roberts of the 16th Ordnance Battalion S-1 verifies and signs for more than 500 records for students in Company B and C prior to their transfer to Fort Lee, Va., during a records exchange at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Military Personnel Office Sept. 22.

Student records transfer to Ft. Lee

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

Preparation for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' relocation to Fort Lee, Va., has been underway for months in the Aberdeen Proving Ground Military Personnel Office where personnel gathered, examined and accounted for more than 500 student records in readiness for the first transfer of Soldiers from APG to Fort Lee that began the week of Sept. 20.

Janet Dettwiler, APG adjutant and director of Human Resources, led a ceremony marking the occasion in the Training and Student Processing Work Center in building 4304 Sept. 22.

Guests included Col. Orlando Ortiz, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades.

"Over the past several months, we've witnessed the



beginning of the BRAC [base realignment and closure] initiative as it relates to OC&S," Dettwiler said, recalling the OC&S color casing ceremony in May and the first phase of the Ordnance Museum relocation in August.

"And now [begins] the first phase of Soldier movement to their new home after ninety-two years at APG," she said.

"Normally, when students graduate, they hand carry their records to their next duty station," said Carl Ketcherside, military personnel supervisor. "But

See **RECORDS**, page 14

TRAFFIC ALERT

Traffic changes continue

DPW

Traffic changes will continue in the Aberdeen Area for the next few weeks.

Both Combat Drive and Boothby Hill Avenue are now open for traffic. Boothby Hill Avenue between Combat Drive and Maryland Boulevard remains closed for future demolition. In preparation for that demolition, the traffic signals at the intersection of Boothby Hill Avenue and Maryland Boulevard are scheduled to be removed Friday, Oct. 9, weather permitting. In order to remove the Boothby Hill signals, the signals at Maryland Boulevard, Bush River Road and Deer Creek Loop intersection will be temporarily disabled for approximately two hours Friday morning. Flaggers will control traffic at that intersection while the signals are out, and the signals will be returned to normal operation as quickly as possible.

With Boothby Hill Avenue reopened, reconstruction of Darlington Street is sched-

uled to start this week with the installation of storm drain lines on each side of the street. To facilitate this construction, Darlington Street will be closed to through traffic and only local traffic will be allowed for the next several weeks. Through traffic that formerly used Darlington Street will now be required to use either Susquehanna Avenue or Combat Drive and Boothby Hill Avenue.

The long anticipated reopening of the Harford Gate occurred on Monday, Oct. 5; however, work will continue there for the next several weeks so motorists should use caution in that area. As a reminder, the Aberdeen Boulevard Gate is now closed.

Another reminder is that new speed limits are now in effect on both inbound and outbound Maryland Boulevard from the Bush River and Deer Creek Loop intersection to the APG property line.

The next big traffic event will come near the end of October and into early November,

See **TRAFFIC**, page 15

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

Temporary Provider shortage at KUSAHC

KUSAHC

Beginning this month, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic's healthcare provider staff will be temporarily limited. The shortage is due to deployments, contract renewals and retirement.

No medical services will be hindered. Appointments can be made by calling 410-278-5475 (KIRK) or 1-866-756-5475.

Another way to make an appointment is to access **www.TRICAREOnline.com**.

Additionally, there are TRICARE participating healthcare providers in the local community ready to assist with any medical needs. The KUSAHC Referral Management Office and Health Net Federal Ser-

vices expedite referrals so that patients have the authorization on the same day to see a participating provider if KUSAHC cannot assist.

"We are committed to improving services for you and your Family," said Lt. Col. Mark A. Ireland, commander, KUSAHC. "Please do not hesitate to let the KUSAHC patient advocate know if your medical needs are not being met, and they will be addressed promptly. We ask for your patience during this transition phase as we strive to provide the best quality healthcare and service to our beneficiaries."

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



APG celebrates The Year of the NCO



USAF NCO believes in being all she can be

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A technical sergeant with the Aberdeen Proving Ground U.S. Air Force Detachment took an unlikely route to a military career and is gaining all she can from what it has to offer.

The assistant to the first sergeant of the 361st Training Squadron, a part of the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, Tech. Sgt. Alice W. Koinange, was born and raised in Nairobi, Kenya, in Africa.

Koinange was a traditional reservist based in Baltimore before volunteering for the active duty position. She arrived at APG in February.

Koinange came to the United States at age 21 to attend college. She had been accepted to the University of Baltimore and arrived in Maryland not knowing anyone locally.

"It was a challenge culturally," she said. "I had no relatives or friends, I had to learn my way around, and I was totally unprepared for winter."

Koinange lived with roommates while attending college. She joined the Air Force Reserves in 2001 while still in school and served at her home station of Andrews Air Force Base, Md., for her one-weekend-a-month, two-weeks-a-year training.

She said she became interested in the military after seeing American Soldiers who were serving in Kenya in the early 1980s on a humanitarian mission while the country was undergoing a drought.

"I have always liked the military," she said. "The American Soldiers seemed so professional; I thought that I would one day like to be an American Soldier."

The Airmen of the 361st are Advanced Individual Training students in the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance



Technical Sgt. Alice W. Koinange, right, confers with Master Sgt. Dennis Westbrook of the 361st Training Squadron, U.S. Air Force Detachment as part of her daily duties as assistant to the detachment's first sergeant and commander.

School's metalworking program. Koinange's role as an administrative aid to first sergeant, Master Sgt. Dennis Westbrook and the commander, Capt. Brian McKay, includes keeping accountability of personnel, maintaining a myriad number of records and files and coordinating events such as changes of command, graduations and promotion ceremonies.

"I am the right hand of the commander and the first sergeant," she said proudly.

She said working on an Army installation that has Airmen and

Marines as well as Soldiers is a special treat.

"Until I came here, I'd never seen the Army, Air Force and Marines working together," she said. "I learn something new every day. I get to see the Marines in action, and I get to see the technical aspects of Air Force training. This is a special place to grow intellectually and as a leader."

Married, with two children, Koinange said her children have asked what she does for a living.

"I tell them I defend my country and that it is important that

we believe in the freedoms we defend," she said. "I feel like the least I can do is give back to this country that's done so much for me. This country stands for freedom and has opportunities that are achievable. This is the only country in the world where a nobody has a chance to be a somebody."

One of the best parts of her job is interacting with the young Airmen, she added.

"They have so many questions," she said. "My advice to them is to invest in their future. I tell them, 'Go to college and get your education. Take advantage of all the opportunities open to you professionally and personally and give one-hundred percent to your country. And don't forget to nurture your relationships with Family members and friends. Always complete your mission to the best of your abilities – it's the signature of your work.'"

She added that she sees "great potential" in today's young Airmen.

"They are motivated, ready to learn and ready to defend our country," she said. "I think our country is in good hands."

She said the Army's 'Year of the NCO' observance means a lot to the NCOs of other branches who serve on APG.

"APG has gone out of its way to include us and that means a lot," she said. "The Year of the NCO means the Army is recognizing the mentoring and training we do. I think it's their way of recognizing our value as leaders, supervisors and mentors."

Koinange said her goal is to obtain her master's degree in nursing and become an Army nurse. She said she wants to be able to support contingencies worldwide.

"I have no qualms about that [serving in a war zone]," she said. "My goal, as a future nurse, is to help heal and show compassion. Wherever that may

take me, I will not hesitate."

Westbrooks, the USAF detachment first sergeant, called Koinange "a fine NCO."

"What I like is her great attitude," Westbrooks said. "She's in a new career field, learning a new job and accomplishing everything we ask of her. She fills in all the gaps and keeps myself and the commander on the right track."

Koinange holds two associate degrees in applied science and arts from the Community College of Baltimore and a bachelor's degree in pre-law from the University of Baltimore. She is currently on scholarship for a nursing degree at CCBC while also seeking a masters in public health at Morgan State University.

"It's difficult taking two degrees at the same time," she said. "One day I hope to relax but not right now."

Trained as an air transportation craftsman, Koinange has worked with Special Air Missions at Andrews and Bolling Air Force bases in Maryland and at Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

She described herself as "full of life," and she said she keeps a copy of the Airman's Creed on her desk to keep her focused.

"I'm motivated," she said. "I don't have 'can't' in my vocabulary. I believe I can do anything, and I will do what I have to do to achieve my goals."

"Just as the Airman's Creed states, 'I will never falter and I will not fail.'"

(Editor's Note: Due to the relocation of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and OMMS to Fort Lee, Va., by 2011 under base realignment and closure, the 361st Training Squadron will return to its home station at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, in 2010.)

R&D NCOs gather to strengthen their corps

Story by
KASHIA SIMMONS
U.S. Army Communications - Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center

Noncommissioned officers from the U.S. Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command gathered to strengthen their unity and focus during professional development training at the Communication-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center at Fort Monmouth, N.J., Sept. 9 through 11.

The event marked RDECOM's largest NCO professional development training event to date. More than 50 Soldiers gathered from across the command to continue shaping the culture and influence of this critical component in an organization charged to deliver relevant, cutting-edge technology to the Warfighter.

"Our NCOs have to understand the complexities involved in developing technology to stay ahead of the enemy and to work closely with the scientists and engineers to bring about the best technology to defeat the threat in theater," said RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Marin.

The first stop on their three-day agenda was CER-

DEC's C4ISR On-the-move Event 09, an annual technology demonstration held at Fort Dix, N.J., which integrates current and emerging systems in the realm of command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, or C4ISR. The NCOs saw technology presentations from a summer event that brought together more than 40 government and 25 industry defense technology developers and Soldiers from the New Jersey National Guard 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, who provided relevant operational feedback to scientists and engineers.

The purpose of E09 was to assess C4ISR interoperability and readiness, and to brainstorm ideas, challenges, workarounds and new directions in a rigorous technical environment. RDECOM NCOs had an opportunity to see firsthand some of the initial results from E09.

"When you get NCOs in a group, the gloves come off," said CERDEC Sgt. Maj. David Schumacher. "They will tell you this is too heavy or too light. You get honest unfiltered feedback. This is good, and I think that makes any RDEC much



Photo by MIKE ALLISON
Michael Vitale, left, an engineer with CERDEC Night Vision Electronic Sensors Directorate, explains T-HAWK, an aerial sensor platform, and its role in the E09 Unified Battle Command study of the cognitive impacts of technology on Soldiers to, from left, Sgt. Maj. Steven Hornbach, RDECOM Army Research Labs; Command Sgt. Maj. Carl Campbell, 406th Army Field Support Brigade; Command Sgt. Maj. Tyrone Johnson, CECOM LCMC; and Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Marin, RDECOM.

better."

Noncommissioned officers bring operational experience into the command to assist with the future and current capabilities, Marin said. This is one of the reasons he has placed

such emphasis on the professional development of RDECOM NCOs.

"There wasn't this level of cooperation among NCOs before. It's important for us to know why we are in this com-

mand, and to understand the tasks and purpose of being an NCO in RDECOM. We need to know our counterparts to our left and right, and work together as a team to support the

See NCO TRAINING, page 15

APG News

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

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C4ISR Team 'signs off' on start of 'Phase Two' program construction

Story and photo by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
 CECOM LCMC (FWD) Public Affairs

With roaring machines and drills as background noise, key Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance leaders lined up to 'sign off' on the start of the "Phase Two" C4ISR construction program Sept. 23 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

During a brief ceremony at the "Phase Two" site, Army Team C4ISR leaders gathered to ceremonially sign the first piece of steel to be erected as part of the "Phase Two" campus. The ceremony marked the start of the second phase for the C4ISR construction projects and commemorated the design completion of the Command and Control and Communications Network Transport-East facility. C2CNT-East is the first of five buildings to begin construction in the "Phase Two" program.

"We're here this morning to mark a very important milestone in a major endeavor, the construction of a campus that embodies a once-in-a-generation investment in the future of our Army," said Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, commander, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command. The construction projects are part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law implementation.

Strong, along with Nelson Keeler, director, Software Engineering Center; Edward Elgart, executive director, CECOM Contracting Center; Lt. Col. Jonas Vogelhut, operations director, Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors; Gary Blohm, director, Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center; Col. Kent Woods, CECOM LCMC deputy commander for Operations, Plans and Base Realignment and Closure; APG Garrison leaders; Philadelphia District Corps of Engineers representatives; other Army Team C4ISR representatives and construction team members signed the steel beam, signifying yet another journey as a team is underway.

The "Phase Two" campus will be comprised of five facilities, each having its own contract, according to Joe Cocco, command engineer, CECOM LCMC (G4), Logistics and Engineering. The Contract Division of the second phase was meant to encourage small business participation and a competitive bidding process among contractors, said Michael Vetter CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, director (G4), Logistics and Engineering.

Like "Phase One," the Philadelphia District Army Corps of Engineers is overseeing the construction and engineering activities for the second phase. The "Phase Two" program facilities will include C2CNT-East, Consolidated North, Building 5100 Power and Cooling, a Joint Satellite Engineering Center Compound and a Command and Control Integration Facility.

Both phases of the Army Team C4ISR campus will total 2.5 million square feet of office and lab space upon its completion. The "Phase Two" program will provide workspace for approximately 2,400 personnel and will account for a little more than 1 million square feet of the C4ISR campus in building construction and renovations, according to Vetter.



Major Gen. Randolph P. Strong, commander, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, watches as Edward Elgart, executive director of the CECOM Contracting Center, center, and Nelson Keeler, director of the Software Engineering Center, right, sign the ceremonial steel beam to commemorate the start of the "Phase Two" campus construction program for Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance. Gary Blohm, director of the Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center; Col. Kent Woods, CECOM LCMC deputy commander for Operations, Plans and Base Realignment and Closure; Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders; and Lt. Col. Jonas Vogelhut, operations director, Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors also attended and signed the beam.

The C2CNT-East building will be the largest single building on the C4ISR campus, designed to accommodate 1,900 personnel in 500,000 square feet of office and research space. The \$102,015,000 facility will house the CERDEC's Satellite and Terrestrial Communications Directorate, the CECOM LCMC Logistics and Readiness Center's Communications Directorate, elements of the Software Engineering Center and some

project and product management offices of the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical, or PEO C3T.

Like the "Phase One" campus, the C2CNT East facility will be organized in functional domains.

"The idea is to create synergy among the organizations by centrally locating them with other organizations with similar functions," Vetter said. "The leader-

ship saw the move to APG as not only an opportunity to configure new buildings for maximum efficiency, but to maximize organizational synergy as well." The intent is to position functional areas, or 'domains,' together to better track products through their entire life cycles, from concept to combat, Vetter said.

"For example, we positioned all personnel who work with sensors together

See BRAC, page 13

Harford County Job Fair draws large crowd

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

More than 1,500 job seekers attended the 21st annual Harford County Job Fair held by the Susquehanna Workforce Network, a nonprofit federally funded organization, at the Richlin Ballroom Sept. 30.

The event was sponsored by Aberdeen Proving Ground, the Harford County Office of Economic Development, the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor, the Maryland Department of Labor Licensing and Regulations and the Harford County Chamber of Commerce. All of the organizations in attendance have offices in Harford County.

"This event encompasses a wide range of employers recruiting for a large variety of positions," said Sylvia Matusiak, a business representative for the Susquehanna Workforce Network who helped organize the event. "The Susquehanna Workforce Network utilizes partnerships with a variety of organizations to create solutions for the workforce needs."

Matusiak said that the event grows every year by the number of organizations represented and by attendees.

She said that part of the success of the Harford County job fair is due to people and businesses becoming more aware of what the Susquehanna Workforce Network offers the community.

Matusiak added that partnerships are also a key to the Susquehanna Workforce Network's success.

"Our success is also a result of the partnership and outreach efforts from the Harford County Office of Economic Development in servicing the business community and keeping us informed of new and current business activity," she said.



Darrell Stewart, a human resources specialist with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, talks to job seeker Ganiyat Adigun about applying for a government job at the 21st annual Harford County Job Fair held by the Susquehanna Workforce Network at the Richlin Ballroom Sept. 30.

Matusiak added that even though

opment in servicing the business community and keeping us informed of new and current business activity," she said.

Matusiak added that even though

nationwide the economy is slow, there are good opportunities for employment in Harford County.

"These are exciting times," she said. "In Harford County we have seen an increase in higher paying IT [information technology] jobs and a growth in the hospitality industry as well."

Matusiak said that some of the economic growth in Harford County relates to base realignment and closure, which will result in additional jobs available at APG.

Matusiak said that some attendees were from out of state and expressed that they would be willing to relocate to Harford County for the right job opportunity.

She also added that some attendees were from Fort Monmouth, N.J., and were planning on moving to Harford County soon due to a Family member who will be relocating to APG due to BRAC.

Matusiak said that she finds her job very rewarding.

"It's a positive experience, very uplifting," she said.

Matusiak added that she experienced a layoff after working at the same company for 22 years, so she can relate to the uncertainty people face when trying to find a new job.

"I volunteered for the Susquehanna Workforce Network while I was at my previous job so connections I made while I volunteered helped me find my current job," she said. "Networking is very important."

Matusiak said that those who need assistance finding a job should visit one of the Susquehanna Workforce Network's "one-stop" workforce centers located in Bel Air, Aberdeen and Elkton.

The Susquehanna Workforce Network provides a variety of free resources for job seekers including counseling services, help with resume writing, basic computer training and assistance with navigating the Maryland Workforce Exchange Web site. Visit www.swnetwork.org/ for more details and upcoming job fairs.

Matusiak said that part of the success of the Harford County job fair is due to people and businesses becoming more aware of what the Susquehanna Workforce Network offers the community.

Inside the job fair human resource specialists from the APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center were available to answer any questions and give out information about applying for a government job.

Sharon Bazzetta, a job seeker from Bel Air, said that she appreciated the help being offered at the fair.

"I was an independent business owner

for eight years, so I haven't looked for a new job in a while," she said.

"Looking for a job is different now. It is like a whole new world because most of the jobs require you to apply online. I found this event helpful in that I can see what jobs are being offered in the area and how to apply for those jobs."

Jason Bilski, a job seeker who will be graduating this semester from Towson University, said he wanted to attend the job fair to see what jobs were available in the chemistry field in Harford County.

"I am excited about graduating, and I definitely want to find out more about getting a job at APG," Bilski said.

Sarah Wheat, a program analyst for the U.S. Army Test & Evaluation Command, said that she talked to job seekers about applying for an Army position, which she said is a learning process.

Wheat added that ATEC currently has expedited hiring authority, and that they are looking to fill about 25 positions.

"This allows us to be more competitive and allows us to bring people in at a faster rate," Wheat said.

She said that working for the Army provides excellent benefits and job stability and added that she finds her job to be very fulfilling.

"It is great being an Army civilian because you support the Soldiers," she said. "You know what you are doing is making a difference."

Participating organizations

Janus Research Group; Adecco Employment Services; Aflac; Apex Systems, Inc.; APG Federal Credit Union; APG CPAC; Army Evaluation Center/ATEC; Beacon Staffing; Booz Allen Hamilton; Burriss Logistics; CSC Baltimore Data Center; CACI; Custom Direct; Data Systems Analysts, Inc.; Edward Jones Investments; General Resonance, LLC; Harford Community College; Harford County Public Schools; Harford Sanitation-Waste Ind.; HMS Host/Chesapeake House; Ikea; Independent Can; L-3 Communication; Log Sec Corporation; Maryland Air National Guard; NAF-Non-appropriated Funds; Northrop Grumman Corp.; Nutramax Laboratories, Inc.; Pier 1 Imports; Reema Consulting Services; R4 Incorporated; Saks Fifth Avenue; Science and Technology Corp.; Sensor Technologies, Inc.; Staffmark; Service Engineering; The ARC Northern CR; Upper Chesapeake Health; US Falcon, Inc. VA Md. Health Care System; Vision Technology Services; Bowhead Science & Tech; Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance; VRC Corporation, Inc.; WXCY/Delmarva Broadcasting; Army Research Development and Engineering Command



'No time to chill' -- Army launches 2009 Fall/Winter Safety Campaign

U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The 2009 U.S. Army Fall and Winter Safety Campaign reaffirms the Army's commitment to protecting its 'Band of Brothers and Sisters' by urging all Soldiers, civilians and Family members to prepare for cold weather activities through awareness, education and information.

"Whether it is a football game, holiday party or Family road trip, the fall and winter months are always full of fun and Family," said Col. Scott Thompson, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center deputy commander.

"To make sure these activities remain fun and not fatal, however, we must be proactive about our cold weather safety and take the steps needed to reduce risk in all activities."

This year's campaign, which runs Oct. 1 through March 31, will be driven by a theme reminding all audiences that even though the temperatures are colder, the fall and winter months are "no time to chill" when it comes to safety and risk management.

"The Fall/Winter Safety Campaign reminds all Soldiers that whether they are working in the motorpool or flight

line, hitting the slopes, or enjoying the cooler temperatures with Family and friends, composite risk management must remain a top priority in every activity – on and off duty," Thompson said.

To help leaders at all levels build and manage their own top quality fall and winter safety engagement plans, the team at the USACR/SC has developed feature articles, posters, videos and public service announcements focusing on many important season-appropriate safety topics.

The products, which will focus on topics including hunting, fall/winter

outdoor injuries, safe celebrations, home safety, fire safety, winter driving and more, are now available on the USACR/Safety Center Web site, <https://safety.army.mil>, under the Fall/Winter Safety Campaign icon.

"Colder months present unique challenges for keeping our Soldiers and their Family members safe but by working together we can reduce the risk in all fall and winter activities," Thompson said. "Make your plan, get the right gear for the activity and have a safe and happy cold weather season."

Peer to Peer encourages Soldiers to 'make a movie, save a life'

2nd annual competition features partnership with BOSS, \$2,000 prize

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center is calling all Soldiers to put their best safety stories on camera for the chance to win \$2,000 as part of the 2nd Annual Peer to Peer Safety Video Competition.

"The power of peer influence, especially among our Soldiers, is truly something we need to harness to help us prevent accidents and save lives throughout our Army," said Col. Scott Thompson, USACRSC deputy commander. "The Peer to Peer Video Competition puts our Soldiers center stage so they are able to share their own messages directly with their peers and, through that sharing, possibly save a life."

The Peer to Peer competition, which is open through April 30, 2010, encourages Soldiers to make short videos highlighting off-duty safety topics including, but not limited to, driving, motorcycles,

privately owned weapons and sports activities. The video may be up to 180 seconds in length and, when complete, should be posted to the USACR/Safety Center Web site to be entered in the competition. The submitted videos will be judged based on concept, effectiveness of the message and creativity.

"This competition challenges Soldiers to personalize safety messaging and pick topics that have meaning for them and their peers," said Dr. Patricia LeDuc, USACR/SC Human Factors Task Force director and Peer to Peer competition facilitator. "A good video captures your attention, evokes emotion and makes you think."

This year, the Safety Center has joined forces with the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers organization to make the second installment of the competition bigger, better and more accessible than ever. LeDuc said the new partnership

with BOSS is a great move as the center works to expand the video competition to reach all corners of the Army.

"Our partnership with BOSS is what makes the two thousand dollar prize possible and, because of this great prize, we anticipate that more Soldiers are going to want to make great videos to share with their fellow Soldiers," she said. "More Soldiers mean more great videos that will spread important safety messages across our Army."

Last year's winning video team leader Spc. Marsha Millikin said her group from 1st Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery Regiment submitted their candid and often amusing video focusing on privately owned weapons and drug abuse to help their fellow Soldiers see that safety can be fun.

"We wanted everyone who watched our video to understand the importance of living with humor, working with safe-

ty in mind, and always being aware of your surroundings," she said.

Thompson said he knows that every Soldier has a favorite "there I was story" and is encouraging all troops to take the time to put their story on video to help spread important safety messages.

"During my career, I have come across many Soldiers who are fantastic story tellers, and I am looking forward to seeing what great safety stories our troops are going to tell during this competition," he said.

A list of rules and video submission guidelines for the Peer to Peer Competition is available at <https://safety.army.mil/videocompetition>. Examples of videos submitted during last year's competition can be viewed on the Safety Center's YouTube page. Visit <https://safety.army.mil> and click on the YouTube icon at the bottom of the page.



Commentary: Deer in the headlights?

By
OFFICER ROBERT RAGSDALE
Directorate of Emergency Services

The days are getting shorter and the nights cooler and as happens every year, the woods are flooded with hunters attempting to harvest that trophy buck, put meat on the table or in some cases, just commune with nature.

With the increased activity on Aberdeen Proving Ground due to construction and personnel moving from other installations because of base realignment and closure, motorists should increase their vigilance for these four legged friends especially in light of the upcoming "rut," or mating season.

I won't bore you with lectures on moon phases, or light (or the lack thereof) increasing or decreasing melatonin levels in deer turning on or off the estrus cycle. I'll just say that in about three weeks (plus or minus a week or two) the activity of our deer herd will increase and cause problems for motorists especially during the early evening and morning hours.

Construction and activity in areas once populated solely by wildlife, as well as increased pressure from hunting activity, has driven them into the open causing the inevitable "deer strike" to occur.

Lack of familiarity with the installation (for those newcomers) and deer patterns also contributes to the frequency of occurrences.

Here are a couple of suggestions/strategies to help make your commute a little safer and deer free. While not the end all list to preventing accidents involving wildlife, it is my hope that this information will serve you as well as it has me in the past.

- Travel in the left lane when possible to give yourself a little more time to

react to deer darting out from the woods on the side of the road.

- Use high beams (when safe and not a hazard to traffic) to illuminate more of the side of the road.

- If one deer darts in front of you, slow down and wait for the second, or third, or fourth (there are a lot of deer on the installation) that inevitably follows.

- Familiarize yourself with and increase your vigilance in the areas where deer tend to congregate. As a wildlife officer (for more than a few years) and one who is tasked with picking up the remains of vehicle vs. deer "accidents," I can say that more times than not they occur in or around the same locations time and again.

- And finally, put down the phone, turn down the music, wait to send/read that text message, pay attention and S-L-O-W down. These are distractions that many of us can do without while driving and will not only prevent accidents involving wildlife but those involving each other.

(Editor's note: Author works in the Marine, Wildlife & Environmental Division of DES.)

APG Garrison retires two during September ceremony

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Family members, coworkers and friends looked on as two mainstays of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison formally ended their careers during a retirement ceremony at the Ball Conference Center Sept. 30.

William (Bill) F. Armstrong, a special agent with the Directorate of Emergency Services' Marine and Wildlife Division and F. Butch Grzanka, the mobilization plans officer with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, retired after a combined 64 years of federal service.

Colonel Orlando W. Ortiz, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, hosted the ceremony and presented awards assisted by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades.

Acknowledging that the two retirees were no strangers to the audience, Ortiz said it was "an honor to recognize their great accomplishments."

He commented on Armstrong's early service in the U.S. Air Force, his transition to the civilian ranks in environmental law enforcement and his role in the protection of the installation's bald eagle population as well as his involvement in several arrests involving poachers and other incidents on APG waters.

Ortiz commended Armstrong for his leadership of the Wounded Warrior program and thanked him for his active participation as well as for his 'APG Outdoor Journal' column which ran for a year in the *APG News*.

"Thank you for the number of years you served the community and the nation," Ortiz said.

Calling Grzanka "a fellow New Yorker," Ortiz reviewed his career as an Army reservist, noting that his graduation from the Infantry Mortar Platoon Leader School was "a testament to his skill."

"He retired as a lieutenant colonel, and he commanded or served in every position from unit to corps level," Ortiz said.

He added that Grzanka's background in law enforcement and his support of APG "ensured the safety of more than fifteen thousand Soldiers and civilians from the outbreak of the War on Terror all the way up to the current War in Iraq."

"We wish you very well as you move on," he told Grzanka.

"On behalf of a grateful nation, we thank you both for your service," Ortiz said.

William (Bill) F. Armstrong

Armstrong was awarded the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and the Department of the Army certificates of appreciation and retirement. His wife Denise received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

He said his plans include returning to West Virginia and resuming his hobbies of trout fishing, writing and gardening.

Armstrong said he had "mixed feelings" about retiring and leaving APG.

"I will miss the Army, this place and the people," he said, "But it's time for new ideas, thoughts and initiatives."

"I just want to thank everybody. There are some wonderful people here. With all the problems and differences aside, we've done a great job," he said.

Armstrong served five years in the



William (Bill) F. Armstrong

U.S. Air Force during his 27 years of federal service. He culminates his career as a special agent for Marine and Wildlife Division in the Directorate of Emergency Services.

As a criminal investigator, Armstrong was charged with enforcing laws and regulations protecting the marine and wildlife species at APG to include endangered species such as the Bald Eagle, which was removed from the endangered list in 2007.

He provided law enforcement and protection of life and property in the waters of the Bush and Gunpowder rivers and the Upper Chesapeake Bay under the jurisdiction of the Army and state and federal environmental agencies and statutes while protecting APG's natural resources.

In addition, he oversaw the day-to-day operations of installation hunting programs, ensuring public safety and installation security in the remote sections of the installation.

Armstrong provided oversight of APG's \$4 million commercial fishing industry; licensing and monitoring approximately 200 commercial fishermen and crabbers.

In addition, Armstrong is the director of APG's Wounded Warrior Outreach program which supports injured service members recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Armstrong's awards include three Commander's Awards for Civilian Service, the Baltimore Federal Executive Board Silver Award for Excellence in Government Service, the Maryland Wildlife Officer of the Year award in 2008, and the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association Wildlife Officer of the Year Award in 2002.

F. Butch Grzanka

Grzanka was awarded the Superior Civilian Service Medal, the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, and DA certificates of retirement and appreciation. His wife Sharon received the APG Certificate of Appreciation.

Grzanka said he was honored by the awards and grateful to those who supported his missions.

"In twenty-seven years on this post, I could not have accomplished anything without the support of good people," he said. "It's been a pleasure and an honor to serve with the people I served with. They all deserve numerous awards. I was just the front guy."

Grzanka was born in Brooklyn, N.Y.



F. Butch Grzanka

He holds a bachelor's degree in administration in history from Saint John's University and a master's in business administration from Central Michigan University.

Grzanka was commissioned as an Army Infantry second lieutenant in 1972. He served on active duty until 1979 when he transferred to the Army Reserves. He retired in 2000 as a lieutenant colonel.

His 28 years of military service included three tours in Germany as well as stateside tours in Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Ord, Calif.; Fort Dix, N.J.; Fort Campbell, K.Y.; Fort A.P. Hill, Va., and Hunter Liggett.

His military education includes the Army Ranger School, Infantry Mortar Platoon Leader School, Infantry Officer basic and advanced courses and the Command and General Staff College.

His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, Army Achievement and National Defense medals among others.

Grzanka began his civilian career as an environmental protection specialist with the former U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command [now Developmental Test Center], in 1982 then moved to the National Security Agency as a federal police officer in 1983. In 1985, he returned to APG as the mobilization plans officer where he served as an operations specialist, acting director, division chief and mobilization officer. Additional duties included chief of the U.S. Army Materiel Command processing and deployment center, 1991 through 1997. From 1991 to present, Grzanka was responsible for the receipt, processing, equipping, training, deployment, redeployment and demobilization of more than 15,000 Soldiers, active and Reserves, Department of the Army civilians and contractors, and more than 10,000 pieces of equipment in support of operations during Desert Shield/Storm, in Somalia and Rwanda, during Operations Noble Eagle 1 through 5 and for Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

Grzanka was the inaugural winner of the Installation Management Agency 'Stalwart Award' in 2003. His other awards include five Commander's Award for Civilian Service, four DA Achievement medals, and the Baltimore Federal Executive Board Silver Award for Excellence in Government Service.

Chapel News

Commentary: It is a question of attitude

By
**CHAP (CAPT)
JONATHAN K MORSE**
RDECOM

What a difference our attitude towards life makes on our enjoyment of life.

This is the positive approach of one woman:

"Lord, thank you for this sink of dirty dishes, we have plenty of food to eat.

Thank you for this pile of dirty laundry, we have plenty of nice clothes to wear.

And I would like to thank you, Lord, for those unmade beds. They were so warm and so comfortable last night. I know that many have no bed.

My thanks to you, Lord, for this bathroom, complete with all the splattered mirrors, soggy towels and dirty lavatory. They are so convenient.

Thank you for this finger-smudged refrigerator that needs defrosting so badly, it has served us faithfully for many years. It is full of enough leftovers for a few meals.

Thank you, Lord, for this oven that absolutely must be cleaned today. It has baked so many things over the years.

Lord, the presence of all these chores awaiting me says you have richly blessed my Family. I shall do them all cheerfully and I shall do them gratefully."

The attitude appears in one of the Psalms and is an example to us.

"I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise always on my lips."

What a beautiful attitude to have, "I will bless the Lord at all times." In other words, "I will praise the Lord at all times. His praise is always on my lips." How wholesome and beautiful an attitude that is compared to grumbling and complaining.

When we have problems to overcome, and we all do from time to time, let us ask the Lord for help.

In the Hebrew Scriptures we heard that Elijah received strength from heav-

en to continue his journey when he was overcome. God in the entire Scripture gives his people strength to bear for burdens that face us on the journey of life.

At the beginning I shared with you a woman's positive attitude. Now I would like to conclude by sharing another person's positive attitude:

"I woke up early today, excited over all I get to do before the clock strikes midnight. I have responsibilities to fulfill today. My job is to choose what kind of day I am going to have.

Today I can complain because the weather is rainy or I can be thankful that the grass is getting watered for free.

Today I can feel sad that I don't have more money or I can be glad that my finances encourage me to plan my purchases wisely and guide me away from waste.

Today I can grumble about my health or I can rejoice that I am alive.

Today I can lament over all that my parents didn't give me when I was growing up or I can feel grateful that they allowed me to be born.

Today I can cry because roses have thorns or I can celebrate that thorns have roses.

Today I can mourn my lack of friends or I can excitedly embark upon a quest to discover new relationships.

Today I can whine because I have to go to work or I can shout for joy because I have a job to do.

I can complain because I have to go to school or eagerly open my mind and fill it with rich new pieces of knowledge.

Today I can murmur dejectedly because I have to do housework or I can feel honored because the Lord has provided shelter for my mind, body and soul.

Today stretches ahead of me, waiting to be shaped. And here I am, the sculptor who gets to do the shaping. What today will be like is up to me. I get to choose what kind of day I will have!"

Chapel hosts 11th Annual 'Hallelujah Harvest' celebration

"Hallelujah Harvest," an alternative to Halloween, will be celebrated and hosted by the Gospel, Protestant and Catholic congregations 6 to 8 p.m., Oct. 31, at the Main Post Chapel.

Exciting games, food and prizes will be provided. Children are invited to dress as Biblical characters or saints.

Prizes will be awarded for the most innovative costumes.

Everyone is welcome to be part of this cooperative chapel event.

For more information, contact Sondra Watson, Olivia Wheaton, Deneen Henson, Shirley Simmons, Shannon Kitok, Ebony Sexton or Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER
Members of the Catholic congregation, Brenda Daigle, right, dressed as Saint Monica, patron saint of mothers and wives, and her daughters, Grace Daigle, bottom, dressed as a guardian angel, and Nicole Smith, left, dressed as Judith, who, according to Catholic tradition, delivered Jerusalem from Nebuchadnezzar. Attendees to last year's Hallelujah Harvest were encouraged to dress as Biblical characters or saints during this Family event that is an alternative to Halloween.

Volunteers needed for eCYBERMISSION 2009-2010

Competition designed to increase student interest in science, math, technology

RDECOM

Volunteer registration for the U.S. Army's eighth annual national eCYBERMISSION competition opened on Aug. 1, at www.ecybermission.com.

eCYBERMISSION is a free, Web-based, science, math and technology competition that allows students in grades six through nine to work together to solve a problem in their community while using the scientific method.

eCYBERMISSION is currently looking for volunteers to encourage interest in science, math and technology among America's youth.

Volunteers are needed for the following roles:

CyberGuides - serve as online mentors for students during the Registration and Submission phases, and provide resources and guidance to help students make discoveries on their own.

Ambassadors - serve as the "face of eCYBERMISSION" in the community by visiting local schools

to generate enthusiasm for the competition among administrators, teachers and students; promoting eCYBERMISSION through e-mails and phone calls, and coordinating with contacts to post the Web site link on related Web sites; and encouraging other individuals to be eCYBERMISSION volunteers.

CyberGuides must have an active Department of Defense security clearance and Ambassadors must have either an active DoD security clearance or an approved federal background check.

"As a nation, we are falling behind in the number of students pursuing careers in science, math and technology," said Michael Lombardi, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command program manager for eCYBERMISSION. "eCYBERMISSION introduces students to the application of these subjects in a fun and interesting way, ultimately helping to solve a problem in their own communities. The Army hopes to encourage more students to take an interest in sci-

ence, math and technology, as skills in these areas are vital to our nation's security and defense."

eCYBERMISSION volunteers give students the opportunity to compete at both the regional and national level for up to \$8,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds. Since the competition's inception in 2002, the U.S. Army has awarded more than \$6.7 million in prize money, and more than 58,000 students have participated.

Registration for the 2009-2010 competition year will remain open through Dec. 18, and final Mission Folder submissions are due on Feb. 26.

For more information and to register as a Volunteer, visit www.ecybermission.com or contact the eCYBERMISSION Volunteer Program, 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or e-mail at volunteerprogram@ecybermission.com. To register, use the code "Challenge."

For more of the latest news and updates, follow eCYBERMISSION at <http://ecybermission.blogspot.com/> and <http://twitter.com/ecybermission/>.

Community Notes

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 8 THURSDAY STEAK NIGHT

The American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, will hold Steak Night every Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m. Steak dinner costs \$12.95 per person. For more information, call 410-676-1147.

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 9 FRIENDSHIP PLAYERS PRESENT ALTAR EGOS

The Friendship Players will present Altar Egos, a dinner theater, 6:30 p.m., at the Fallston United Methodist Church located on 1509 Fallston Road, Fallston. Cost of admission is \$20 per person in advance if reserved in August and \$25 per person if bought after August. Individual seats or tables of 8 or 10 are available. There is a \$25 discount for 10 (\$225) if reserved ahead as a group. Advanced reservations are required. Menu includes ham, homemade seafood casserole, chicken, string beans, carrots, parsley potatoes, pineapple casserole, salad, rolls and desserts. Proceeds benefit Fallston United Methodist Church.

For more information, for reservations or to make a donation to the Friendship Players, call Jane, 410-877-7630.

RIB NIGHT AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 17

American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road, will serve a Rib Dinner, 5 to 9 p.m. A full rack of ribs costs \$10.95 and a half rack of ribs costs \$5.95. Dinner includes french fries and coleslaw.

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

BASKET BINGO

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon Forest No. 142 will hold basket bingo at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, located on 21 North Rogers Street. Doors open at 6 p.m.; bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person, additional package of cards costs \$5 per person. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Bring a canned good or non-perishable food item for a bonus prize ticket. Proceeds will benefit Families muscular diseases.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Connie Beardsley, 410-420-1002.

THURSDAY THRU SATURDAY

OCTOBER 10 THRU 12 FEWTRIP TO NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

Join the members of the National Board and local chapters of Federally Employed Women on a trip to the National Women's Hall of Fame, Seneca Falls, N.Y., for an Induction Ceremony for FEW President Dr. Allie Latimer into the Women's Hall of Fame.

Cost is \$230 per person and includes roundtrip transportation and two nights' lodging (double occupancy). There will be a Gala Welcome Reception, 6 to 8 p.m., Oct. 10, at the Hotel Clarence, 108 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, N.Y. Black tie optional. The Induction Luncheon and Ceremony will be held 11 a.m., Oct. 11, at the New York Chiropractic College, Athletic Center, 2360 State Route 89, Seneca Falls, N.Y. Wear business attire. Seating is limited, make reservations early.

For more information or to make reservations, call Melissa Smith, 410-642-2411, ext. 5129.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

OCTOBER 10 AND 11 REVOLUTIONARY WAR REENACTMENT

The Friends of Jerusalem Mill, located at Jerusalem Mill Village, 2813 Jeru-

salem Road, Kingsville, Md., will host an annual revolutionary war reenactment, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 10, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 11.

Historic Jerusalem Mill Village's Revolutionary War reenactment, "The Redcoats Are Coming!" and Colonial Craftsmen Weekend will feature more than 200 British and American troops from around the country in a Revolutionary War reenactment, including a market faire with sutlers, food, music, demonstrations, kids' activities, shopping and more. The event will also include the annual Colonial Craftsmen Weekend, an eighteenth century market faire. Hand-made crafts and useful items for everyday life will be available for purchase from sutlers and craftsmen. Food will also be sold, or visitors may bring their own picnics. The two-day event serves as a fundraiser to directly support Jerusalem Mill's history programs, preservation, and restoration efforts. The event is open to the public.

Tickets cost \$7 for adults ages 16 and over; \$5 for ages 16 and under, seniors age 60 and older, and active duty military with I.D.; children ages 5 and under are free. Special Family price of \$25 for two adults with three or more children.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-877-3560 or visit www.jerusalemill.org.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 10 SECOND ANNUAL GRAW DAYS FESTIVAL

Havre de Grace Main Street Inc. will sponsor the Second Annual Graw Days Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Havre de Grace. The 1920s themed street festival celebrates Havre de Grace's race track history. There will be historic displays and presentations, music, children's games, vendors, pony rides and more. Artisans and crafters wanted as vendors for this all-day fun event.

For more information, call 410-939-1811.

WHITE TAILED DEER SURVEY

Harford County seems to be experiencing explosive population growth - and not just with humans. So, come out and help to determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Get the scoop on poop while conducting pellet (deer scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer call the park home. This free program will be held 9 a.m. to noon for ages 16 to adult. Registration is required.

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

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold a Horseshoe Tournament, 1 p.m. Entry fee costs \$25 per person and includes free draft beer. Registration starts 12:30 p.m. Ladies also welcome to participate. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

ALL FOR AUTUMN KAYAK TRIP

What trees and shrubs are the first to show fall colors? Which birds rest and feed on wild rice while migrating southward? Come for an autumn afternoon paddle to find out the answers. Proceeds will benefit Envirothon - environmental education in Harford County schools. This program will be held noon to 2:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

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

APG SCHOOL LIAISON

Attention eighth graders

Students interested in greater challenges and excellent job preparation should consider a Harford County Public School System Magnet School.

The Magnet Program Informational Presentation (on all four programs) will be held at Harford Technical High School 6:30 to 8, Oct. 14.

Individual program informational nights:

- Science and Math Academy Evening Open House: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Oct. 21 and 27, at Aberdeen High School
- International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Evening Open House: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Nov. 4, at Edgewood High School

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

PUMPKIN PEOPLE

Use found natural objects from the park to create pumpkins with personality. This program will be held 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for all ages, under 8 with adult. The cost is \$5 and registration is required.

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

BASKET BINGO

Abingdon Elks Lodge #2354 located on 600 Harford Boat Club Road, Abingdon, will hold Basket Bingo, 7 p.m.; doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Extra packs cost \$5 each. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Proceeds will benefit the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and the Elks National Foundation.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Debbie Leadore, 443-807-4501, Donna Dannenfeler, 443-910-3060 or Gail Baxendell, 410-272-1459.

BASKET BINGO

VFW Post 8185 located at 520 Susquehanna River Road, Port Deposit, will hold Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person for all paper cards, extra packets cost \$5 each. Food, drink and baked goods will be available. Proceeds will benefit VFW Post 8185. No smoking allowed.

For more information, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, e-mail mis-sanne1047@zoominternet.net.

BASKET AND PURSE BINGO

Basket and Purse Bingo to benefit the men's Auxiliary of VFW Post 8185 will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open 5:30 p.m.; bingo begins 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person for all paper cards. Food, beverage, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will be available. No smoking is allowed.

For more information, call 410-642-9297 or Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338.

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 11 BREAKFAST

The American Legion Riders will once again be cooking breakfast, \$7/adult, 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

SWANFEST

Celebrate fall at the 10th Annual Swanfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Swan Harbor Farm located on 401 Oakington Road, Havre de Grace. Cost is \$5 per car and includes children's activities, hand-crafted goods, live entertainment, mansion tours, canoe and hay rides, food and more.

For more information, call 410-939-6767.

• Agriculture/Natural Resource Program Evening Open House: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Nov. 17, at North Harford High School

• Harford 19 Tech/Career programs Evening Open House: 5:30 to 8 p.m., Nov. 11, at Harford Technical High School

See the Web site below for applications, a video about all four programs, and more: www.hcps.org/Schools/MagnetPrograms/default.aspx.

Attendance at the Open House is not required for application or admission to any program. Applications to each of the Magnet Programs will be available at the site above and will be accepted county-wide only until Dec. 5.

MEET A CRITTER

Check out one of our live critters up close while discovering what makes that animal special. This free program will be held at 3 p.m. for all ages. No registration required.

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

BINGO

Bingo is held every Sunday at the American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road. Doors open 5 p.m.; bingo begins 6 p.m. Three progressive jackpots will be awarded throughout the evening. For more information, call 410-676-1147.

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 13

EDUCATION AFTER HIGH SCHOOL CAREER FAIR

Harford County Public Schools invites the public to attend The Education after High School Career Fair, 6 to 8 p.m., at Harford Community College, Susquehanna Center.

For more information, call 410-588-5203 or visit www.hcps.org/parents/docs/CollegeFair.pdf.

TUESDAY SHRIMP NIGHT

Every Tuesday night at American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17 is Shrimp night, 5 to 9 p.m. Purchase 1 pound of shrimp for \$9.95

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

WEDNESDAYS

OCTOBER 14 THRU

NOVEMBER 6 NATURE'S PLAYGROUP

Little ones and parents play and learn in the natural world. Stories, songs, simple crafts and discovery outings will highlight each day's theme.

Session I will be held 9 to 10 a.m. and Session II will be 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 0 to 4.

The cost is \$30 per child. 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.

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 15 THURSDAY STEAK NIGHT

The American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, will hold Steak Night every Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m. Steak dinner costs \$12.95 per person.

For more information, call 410-676-1147.

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

POST SHORTS

To request other disability-related accommodations, call 410-278-9669.

Accessible transportation from the Aberdeen Train Station to APG Job Fair is available 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Transportation reservations are required; call 410-838-7177, ext 363. State and or federal photo ID required.

For more information, see front page of Sept. 24 issue of *APG News*, www.apgnews.army.mil.

Military Police Remembrance ceremony Oct. 9

The U.S. Army Military Police Corps Regiment will honor, at a wreath-laying and remembrance ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, those military police Soldiers and Soldiers performing MP-related duties, who were killed in action.

The event will be hosted by Brig. Gen. Rodney Johnson, the provost marshal general of the Army and commanding general of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command on Oct. 9. A wreath will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 7:30 a.m. followed by a remembrance ceremony at the Military Police Memorial (Site 55) at 8 a.m.

All members, Family and friends of the regiment are invited to attend and pay tribute to the Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The featured guest speaker is retired

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark L. Farley.

Attire for military attendees is the duty uniform; civilians may wear business attire.

RSVP to Maj. Steve Yamashita at steven.g.yamashita@us.army.mil.

BJ's Club signup today

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 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 8, at the Bowling Center, building 2342 and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 13, at the Southside Grill in the Edgewood Arealocated in the 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.

KUSAHC closed Oct. 12

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed Oct. 12 in observance of Columbus Day. Patients should plan accordingly to pick up prescriptions prior to this date.

For medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, contact Staff Duty at 410-278-1725. The Staff Duty Officer will coordinate patient's care with the Medical Officer of the Day.

To avoid Point of Service copayment charges, patients will need authorization and/or a referral to go to any urgency clinic. Emergency Rooms do not require a referral.

Blue Cross/Shield rep visit Oct. 13

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit APG 9 to 11:30 a.m., Oct. 13, in building 305, room 211. No appointment is necessary.

The representative will not be available in the Edgewood Area for this visit.

There will be no visit in November, due to open season/health fairs.

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

APG Annual Hispanic Heritage observance Oct. 14

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Annual Hispanic Heritage Observance will be held 11 a.m., Oct. 14, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. The guest speaker will be Commissioner Maria T.P. Johnson, Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Baltimore. There will be entertainment, food tasting and displays.

For more information, call Linda Patrick, 410-436-1023 or Sgt. 1st Class Elwood Veney, 410-436-5051.

Retiree Appreciation Day Oct. 17

Military Retirees and their Families are invited to attend the annual Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. to noon, Oct. 17 in the APG Recreation Center, building 3326 with lunch to follow at the Installation Dining Facility. The guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Reuben D. Jones, commander of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Command.

For more information, contact retired Sgt. 1st Class Rich Zalusky, 410-278-5036, Richard.zalusky@us.army.mil or Janet Dettwiler, 410-306-2301, janet.dettwiler@us.army.mil.

Dining facilities serve Oktoberfest Specialty Meal

The Oktoberfest Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Oct. 20.

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 civilians, retirees and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$3.65 applies to spouses and other Family members of enlisted personnel in the ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The menu includes old fashioned bean soup, pork schnitzel (jager schnitzel), German style chicken with vegetables, German pickled beef roast (sauerbraten), spicy spareribs (gewurzte schweinsrippchen), grilled bratwurst with sauerkraut, parsley buttered potatoes, egg noodles, sweet and sour red cabbage (rotkohl), peas with onions, mushroom gravy, assorted salad bar, cole slaw with creamy dressing, cucumber relish salad (gerkensalat), assorted breads, hot rolls, bread pudding with vanilla sauce, snickerdoodle cookies, German chocolate cake, 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.

Annual Fall Technology Expo Oct. 21

The Corporate Information Office if the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering command and the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Information Management will host the 2009 Annual Fall Information Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Oct. 21, at Top of the Bay.

State of the art technologies will be featured from 3M Projection Systems, Adobe Systems, Advanced Video Systems, Avocent, CACI, CCS Presentation Systems, Commercial Data Systems Inc., Control Cable Inc., Corning Cable Systems, Dell, F.A. O'Toole Office Systems, GovConnection, Hartford Computer Group, Konica Minolta Business Solutions, Link Solutions, Log Sec, Nelson White Systems, New Horizons CLC, Newark, Office Eagle, Perot Systems, Plantronics, Praxis Engineering, RGB Spectrum, Raritan, Spirent Federal Systems, SRC, STG, Inc., StorageHawk / Quantum, Tektronix, Tripp Lite, Vizada, Wright Line, Xerox and more.

Admission is free and open to all civilian, military and contractor personnel. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call FDAE

toll-free 877-332-3976 or Deb Daniel 410-436-6087, or Susan Suppa, DOIM, 410-278-7598.

U.S. Army card game marching onto PX shelves

The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, 4th and 3rd Infantry Divisions as well as a host of Cavalry and Mountain Divisions are rolling into PXs as an updated version of the classic "War" card game gets an Army makeover.

Developed using the U.S. Army brand guidelines, the new, Top Trumps series <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aafespa/3941005071/sizes/o/> comes with stats, pictures and facts on units ranging from the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment to the 10th Mountain Division.

Each card profiles an Army element and includes specifics such as the year founded, manpower and a brief description of each division, regiment and brigade's unique function.

The U.S. Army Top Trumps series is now available at more than 100 AAFES PXs and Shoppettes throughout the Continental United States, Pacific and Europe.

BOSS holds Haunted House

Better Opportunities for Single Solders will sponsor a BOSS Haunted House, 5 to 10 p.m., Oct. 24, and 1 to 6 p.m., Oct. 25, at Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522. The event includes face painting, ring toss, pumpkin carving contest, magic show, pie in the face, balloon dart toss and more. Tickets cost \$.50 each. Individuals will need 3 to 4 tickets per event/activity.

For more information, call Spcs. Francisco Rios, 410-436-4335; Sharia Leal, 410-436-8587; or Jessica Fulda, 410-298-3000.

Nominations for the General Douglas MacArthur Award

The General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award recognizes company grade officers who demonstrate the ideals for which MacArthur stood – duty, honor, country – and promotes and sustains effective junior officer leadership in the Army.

A total of 28 officers will be selected for the award: 25 officers and three warrant officers. Nominees must be in company grade officers 2nd Lt., 1st Lt., capt., or WO1, WO2 in the U.S. Army.

All award nominations should be forwarded by Nov. 19 to Karen Smith, Human Resources Division, e-mail karen.smith17@us.army.mil, fax DSN 332-0810, commercial 703-602-0810.

For more information, call Lt. Col. Jay Carlson, 703-604-0669, or e-mail jay.carlson@conus.army.mil.

NCOs: Sign up for free trip to NYC

In celebration of the Year of the Non-commissioned Officer, the NCOs of Aberdeen Proving Ground, along with Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the APG Army Substance Abuse office, are sponsoring a free bus trip to NYC Nov. 21. It is open to all active duty permanent party personnel of any rank assigned to APG. According to the sponsors, 205 seats are already taken with only 15 remaining vacancies.

NCOs interested must contact their unit command sergeant major or first sergeant to reserve a seat. It will be on first come, first served basis. Single Soldiers and Families accompanied by their sponsor are also invited. Two children will be allowed to accompany parents.

The buses will depart the APG Movie Theater parking lot at 5:30 a.m., stop for additional pick-ups at the Beard's Hill Plaza parking at 6 a.m., arriving in NYC at approximately 9 a.m. There will be stops along the way for breakfast and supper with individuals on their own for meals. The buses will return at approximately 10 p.m.

Participants will be on their own for shopping, museums, touring Ellis Island, Broadway shows or dining. A walking map will be provided to everyone along with instructions on meeting the bus for the return to APG.

Wanted: Stories about NCOs

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

New Web site for Ordnance Museum

The U.S. Army Ordnance Museum has a new official Web site. Information and updates, including closing dates can be found at this location: www.goordnance.apg.army.mil/MUSEUM/frame.htm.

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

Thrift Shop to disburse funds

The APG Thrift Shop will accept requests for donations from service organizations and military units through Oct. 31.

The request should include the name of the organization, point of contact, address, telephone number, amount requested and specific details on what the funds will be used for.

In the past, donations have been granted to Army Emergency Relief, Army Community Service, the APG Fire Department and veterans' organizations.

Mail or drop off requests to APG Thrift Shop, building 2458, APG, MD 21005-5001 by Oct. 31.

For more information, call the store during operating hours, which are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the first Saturday of the month, 410-272-8572.

Consignments are only taken 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday.

Everyone is reminded not to use the area in front or to the back of the shop as a dumping site.

The Thrift Shop only wants items that are in 'good as new' condition.

CFW upcoming trips, events

Nov. 6-9

Las Vegas baby

Cost includes three nights in Las Vegas, driving tour of the Las Vegas strip on the way to the hotel; a guided land tour to the Hoover Dam/Lake Mead; optional flight over Grand Canyon and Hoover Dam – land in Canyon for a picnic and champagne toast (Tour per person is \$325 which includes state and local taxes.); complimentary DVD of travel as a group, copy of the Visitor's Guide with all the shows, coupons, travel insurance and more. Cost of the trip is \$925 for double occupancy or \$1,215 for single occupancy. A deposit of \$100 per person will hold a reservation.

Nov. 21

Scrapbooking crop

Seasoned scrapbookers or anyone who has always wanted to try scrapbooking is welcome to attend the "Crop Till You Drop," session, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Top of the Bay. Cost of the event is \$25 per person and includes lunch and door prizes. Vendors will have items for sale for all scrapbooking needs. Optional classes may be offered. A massage therapist will also be available to help make it a stress-free day.

Nov. 28

Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular

A favorite among many, starring the famous Rockettes, this trips costs \$150 per person and includes show tickets and roundtrip bus transportation. There will plenty of time to shop, sightsee and have lunch before the show.

Dec. 12

Holly Jolly Christmas

"Holly Jolly Christmas" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theater, Lancaster, Pa.

Follow Mr. and Mrs. Claus as they hit the road in search of holiday cheer. Enjoy Broadway-style numbers with pizzazz, heart-warming standards, Santa's rockin' side, a nativity and traditional carols. Cost is \$85 per person and includes roundtrip charter bus from Aberdeen, ticket to the show, dinner, tax and gratuity.

For more information or to make reservations, call Patti Harkins at the Civilian Welfare Fund Office, 410-273-2075, 410-808-9170 or e-mail patti.harkins@us.army.mil.



Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

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

Test your driving expertise in the following situation and then from the options provided, select the best answer. Find out the correct response the answers printed upside down.

Situation #54

You are driving the legal speed limit in the far left lane of a multi-lane interstate. A car behind you taps his horn and flashes his lights wanting you to drive faster or move over. That's no problem - you can do that. But, you don't do it fast enough to suit him, and he pulls out and cuts in front of you from the right side. You have to do something to avoid hitting him. What should you do?

A. Medium brake and let him get ahead.

B. Make a sharp right, honk, and accelerate to get ahead of him.

Answer A. Yes, by all means, "medium brake and let him get ahead." This is no time to get competitive.

Answer B. Yes, your decision to "brake before reaching it, release and steer straight ahead" No. No. No. This is no time to get competitive and demonstrate how offended you are. This is one of those situations where the irresponsible actions of another person could be dangerous for you if you play his game. Think about it some more. The smart thing is to "medium brake and let him get ahead."



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Youth Basketball registration

APG Youth basketball registration will take place Oct. 15 through Nov. 9 at building 2752, Rodman Road. Walk-in registration will be held 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.; after 10:30 a.m., call for an appointment at 410-278-7571. To register for the Edgewood Area Youth Center program, call John Lee, 410-436-731.

There will be league teams for ages 7 to 8 (boys and girls); 9 to 10; 11 to 12; and 13 to 14 (age as of Dec. 31, 2009). Cost to join a league is \$45 per person; the clinic costs \$35 per person.

A clinic will be held for ages 4 to 6 (age as of Dec. 31, 2009).

Practices will be held weeknights. Games will be held Saturdays beginning Jan. 2. Volunteers are needed.

For more information, e-mail: William.Kegley@us.army.mil or call 410-306-2297.

CDC implements Army's Strong Beginnings for Pre-K children

The Aberdeen and the Edgewood Area Child Development Centers will be implementing the Army's Strong Beginnings Pre-K program for children who turned 4 before Sept. 1, 2009. The children enrolled in the centers will automatically participate in this program.

Strong Beginnings Pre-K is a program designed to prepare children to be successful to enter school. The curriculum focuses on the social, emotional and physical development of children. It is a basic academic program to enhance school readiness. Children will participate in a variety of activities to include the Smart Start Sport program, there will be SKIES JR classes offered as well.

If there is interest, a part-day program will be offered to children from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Aberdeen Center. The centers look forward to an exciting school year for the children.

For more information, call Ruth Strauss, Aberdeen Area CDC director, 410-278-7111.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

See the Rockettes perform in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular at the 1st Mariner Arena, 201 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore. There will be two shows, 4 or 7 p.m., Dec. 17. Tickets cost \$76.75 for adults and \$67.75 for children ages 2 through 12. Children ages 2 and under do not need a ticket if seated on a parent's lap. All tickets must be pre-ordered. Tickets are limited and are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Seats are located in the lower levels. There is no guaranteed seating. The last day to purchase tickets is Dec. 3.

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

Hearts Apart Support Group meets

Hearts Apart Support Group is one way to stay connected in the community and learn what Army Community Service has to offer the Family. Family members from all branches of service, Department of Defense civilians and contractors may participate in Hearts Apart Support Group meetings held in the APG Army Community Service building 2754, Rodman Road 6 to 7

p.m. the first Wednesday of every month (Nov. 4 and Dec. 2).

Kenya Procter, Installation Victim Advocate coordinator, has been requested to do another segment of her "50 Ways to Manage Your Stress" class, which is scheduled for the Nov. 4 meeting.

For more information, call or visit building 2754, Rodman Road, 410-278-7478 or DSN 298-7478.

The Great Russian Nutcracker

The Lyric Opera House, located on 140 West Mount Royal Avenue, Baltimore, will present the Nutcracker, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 19 and 5 p.m., Dec. 20. Tickets cost \$70.50 for all ages and must be pre-ordered. Children under the age of 2 do not need a ticket if seated on a parent's lap. Tickets are limited and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Seating is located in the lower levels. There is no guaranteed seating. The last day to purchase tickets is Dec. 3.

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

Disney on Ice presents Celebrations!

Tickets are available for Disney on Ice presents Celebrations! at the 1st Mariner Arena located on 201 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore.

Show times include 7:30 p.m., Oct. 28 and Oct. 29; 10:30 a.m. or 7:30 p.m., Oct. 30; 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m., Oct. 31; and noon or 4 p.m., Nov. 1.

Tickets cost \$19.25 for all ages. All seats are located in the lower levels.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit FMWR Ticket and Leisure Travel Office at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Digital Photography 101

Learn how to use a point and shoot digital camera like a pro. Professional photographer Ben Michalski will teach students all the functions of the camera so that aspiring photographers will be able to take high quality pictures in a variety of conditions. Cost is \$37 for two 90-minute sessions. Minimum class size is six, maximum is 15.

Ongoing classes will be available on Tuesdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. thru Dec. 15.

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.

Smart Start Your Business seminars

The ACS Employment Readiness Program in partnership with Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union and Harford Community College Small Business Development Center sponsors Smart Start Your Business seminars. This free 90-minute orientation program provides an overview of the ways to start a business, the skills and duties of a successful entrepreneur and how to write a strategic business plan.

Seminars will be held 12:30 to 1 p.m., Oct. 14. Space is limited.

For more information or to RSVP, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669/7572. Other services offered by the SBDC are also discussed.

Digital Photography 201

Professional photographer Ben Michalski will teach digital photography for DSLR users. (Camera's with interchangeable lenses). Learn basic to advanced concepts of digital image capture, photography fundamentals and camera capabilities. Students completing this basic class will be eligible for advanced classes. Cost is \$65 for 2 two-hour sessions.

Classes are available on Thursdays, 6 to 8 p.m., thru Dec. 9.

Classes will meet at Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

FMWR Registration is located in building 3326 or call 410-278-4011/4907 or Stark Recreation Center in the Edgewood Area, call 410-436-2713.

CYS Services open to home schoolers

Child, Youth & School Services invites home school Families to use the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesdays, (except for Harford County Public School off days). Children must be accompanied by at least one parent and be supervised at all times.

Children and parents will have use of the homework room, arts and crafts room, Computer Lab, with tech support 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., and the gym.

All children must be registered through the CYS Services Central Registration office, located in building 2752 Rodman Road, rooms #110 or #113. Registration is free and entitles children to become members of the Boys and Girls Club, 4-H Clubs and participate in the programs offered at the Youth Center throughout the year. Registration packets can be picked up 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There is an APG LIONS Home School Co-Op program which parents may choose to join.

For more information, call Jeanne Colopietro, 443-243-2861.

Walt Disney World Salutes the Military

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

Tickets cost \$25 extra for each add-on/upgrade applied. Tickets must be purchased three weeks in advance. Tickets are not valid until activated at the theme park ticket window. Valid military ID is required at time of purchase and activation. All sales are final. No refunds, exchanges or upgrades after purchase.

Ticket prices expire Dec. 23. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4011/4907 or visit the AA Recreation Center, building 3326.

hired!

HIRED!

HIRED!, a new Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program for teens ages 15 to 18, is an apprentice program where teens can explore positions in FMWR facilities.

The program will give teens guidance on preparing a resume, and teach them interview techniques as well as give them work experience in their chosen field. Children will receive a stipend for their work at the end of the term.

You have the Job, Now Keep it

There will be workshop training, 10 to 11 a.m., Oct. 17, at Aberdeen Area Youth Services.

For more information, call Jay McKinney, 410-278-3250, or e-mail jay.a.mckinney@us.army.mil.

the edge

The EDGE

The EDGE Program is designed to highlight opportunities for children and youths in grades 1 through 12, to Experience, Develop, Grow and Excel in FMWR partner facilities.

Girls' Fitness Class

A Girls' Fitness Class for ages 11 to 18 will be held 4 to 5 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Fitness Center, building 320, every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning Oct. 13. Events include, but not limited to aerobics, medicine balls, versa balls, strength training and yoga.

Pet Care and Dog Obedience

Learn how to care for the one with the cute wet nose. Pet care and dog obedience classes for youth, ages 6 to 10 and 11 to 15 will be held 4 to 6 p.m., Oct. 27 through Nov. 17, at the Bowling Center. The fee for ages 6 to 10 is \$40 per person. Sign up at the CYSS Central Registration Office, building 2752.

Let's have some fun cooking!

Youths ages 11 to 18 will learn to cook a complete meal for their Family at Top of the Bay. Free cooking classes will be held 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays, Oct. 28 through Nov. 20.

To register, sign up at the CYSS Central Registration, building 2752. For more information, contact Chuck Rose, 410-278-1399 or e-mail chuck.rose@us.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 8 p.m., Tuesdays or Fridays, Oct. 30 through Dec. 18, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

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

Cost of the lessons is \$102 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks, once a week. 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.

Basic Arts and Crafts Class

Basic Arts and Crafts will be taught on Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for ages 6 thru 10; and 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. for ages 11 thru 15, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Children will learn about the art of other cultures and famous artists. They will explore art techniques, processes,

and mediums through a variety of activities, including painting, drawing, print-making and paper mache.

Cost is \$100 per student.

Driver's Ed

Driver's Ed classes will be held Oct. 26 thru Nov. 10; Nov. 16 thru Dec. 2; and Dec. 7 thru Dec. 22 (There is no class on federal holidays). Classes will be held Monday thru Thursday, 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. and 6 to 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$315 per student.

All Drivers Education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Classes will be held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304.

Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and 6 hours behind the wheel instruction.

The last day to register for class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18 years old. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Prices subject to change without notice.

Toddler Art

Calling all young Picassos. Toddler Art lessons will be given 10 to 10:45 a.m., Thursdays, Oct. 8 through Dec. 3, for ages 2 through 4 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Hands-on creativity is the theme as children explore paint, clay, color, texture and shapes. Dress little ones in old clothes or

smock and be prepared for a messy good time. Parent participation is required.

Cost is \$60 per student.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays or Fridays, Oct. 30 thru Dec. 18 (no class on

Nov. 3, 6, 24 and 27).

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

Students will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

October bowling specials

- Bowl for \$.75 per game, 1 to 4 p.m. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$32.
- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl for \$1.25 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Purchase a special from the snack bar and receive one free game.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

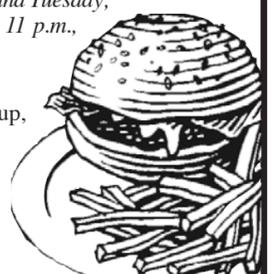
The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday.

Week of Oct. 5

Special #1: Grilled ham and cheese with tomato soup, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

Special #2: Chicken tender sub with french fries, cookie and regular 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.





Children learn what they live

ACS

It is estimated that more than 3.3 million children are exposed to physical and verbal spousal and intimate partner abuse each year.

Exposure means that these children are witnessing and hearing the actual abuse or dealing with the aftermath of the abuse, which can include physical and emotional injuries.

"Abusers rarely take into account the damage they are causing their children every time they physically or verbally abuse their partners," said Aida Rivera, Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program manager. "They assume that since they are not battering their children, that the children aren't affected by what they're hearing and seeing being done to their parent."

The effect of witnessing domestic abuse varies from child to child, but all children are affected in one way or another. Physical injuries to younger children may occur as a result of a child getting in between parents or when a parent is holding a child during a violent episode. Physical injuries to adolescents may occur when they use force to intervene and the abuser responds by directing the violence at them.

"Children are hurt directly and indirectly," Rivera said. "It is a natural tendency for a child to intervene in an effort to stop the fighting and protect a parent, especially if that child is an adolescent."

Very small children are equally affected by violence in the home. Infants and toddlers

who are exposed to domestic abuse show excessive irritability, immature behavior, sleep disturbances, emotional distress, fear of abandonment and regression in toilet training and language development.

"Exposure to trauma, especially domestic abuse, interferes with normal developmental processes," said Celestine Beckett, ACS director. "They will have a hard time trusting others, they will struggle with forming healthy attachments to caregivers and other adults, they will have problems developing a healthy sense of independence, and they will ultimately have problems with intimate relationships later on in life."

Beckett added that it is not uncommon for children who witness domestic abuse to grow up to repeat the cycle of violence in their own intimate relationships be it as a victim or an abuser.

"It is what they've learned," she said. "What they consider normal, so it's not unusual for them to resort to violence to resolve conflict or to exert power and control."

Early intervention is crucial in preventing domestic abuse and helping children to develop in safe and healthy ways.

"It's important that parents understand that children learn what they live," Rivera said. "If you want your children to grow up feeling safe and to have every opportunity of developing into healthy and productive members of society, then you should treat each other with dignity and respect, and get the help



you need to resolve conflict in a way that doesn't emotionally or physically hurt anyone."

In an effort to help break the intergenerational cycle of violence, the ACS Family Advocacy Program is providing prevention education during Domestic Violence Awareness Month to APG children and youth.

"We are bringing our puppet crew to our youngsters at the APG Child Development Centers to teach them that hands are not for hitting," said Kenya Procter, installation victim advocate. "The puppets will be reading to and interacting with the children. The children will also get a chance to make their own 'Hands Are Not for Hitting' puppets."

Dating violence prevention education is planned for teens at the Aberdeen and Edgewood Youth Services.

"We put together a series of activities to help our young people recognize the signs of abusive relationships," Procter said. "The more tools we provide our young folks with, the

better equipped they will be to prevent domestic abuse."

For more information on the effects of domestic abuse on children and on resources available to help end the cycle of abuse, contact the ACS

Family Advocacy Program, 410-278-7478/2435.

(Editor's note: Statistics taken from Osofsky, J., *The Impact of Violence on Children. The Future of Children: Domestic Violence and Children*, 1999.)

Effects of domestic violence in childhood

- Academic problems
- Behavior problems
- Clinginess to caregivers
- Depression
- Emotional numbness
- Feelings of not belonging
- Low-levels of empathy
- Low self-esteem
- Nightmares
- Hyper vigilance
- Jumpiness

Effects of domestic abuse in adulthood

- Alcohol and substance abuse
- Depression
- Suicidal or homicidal ideation
- Low Self-Esteem
- Violence in the home
- Problems with intimacy
- Criminal behavior
- Sexual problems

Resources available to help

- APG 24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline - 410-652-6048
- The ACS Family Advocacy Program - 410-278-7478/2435
- Harford County Sexual Assault and Spouse Abuse Resource Center, Inc. 24-Hour Hotline - 410-836-8430
- The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence - 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
- APG Reporting Point of Contact - 410-306-2222
- Military OneSource - 1-800-464-8107
- Civilian Law Enforcement - 911

Commentary: Army help available for domestic violence

Directorate of Health Promotion & Wellness,
Behavioral Health Program Staff
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion &
Preventive Medicine

Do you find it difficult to reintegrate into your family after deployment? Do you want to yell at your spouse/partner after a bad day at work? Do you feel like your life is out of control? Are you critical of your spouse/partner?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you could be at risk for committing domestic violence. Domestic violence has been defined by many different organizations in different manners; the Department of Defense defines domestic violence in the following ways:

- An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice or state law.
- The use, attempted use or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex.
- A violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex who is a current or former spouse, a person with whom the abuser

shares a child in common, or a current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

The good news for Soldiers and their family members who experience domestic violence is that help is available. The Army has established a Family Advocacy Program to assist in coping with domestic violence. Specifically, FAP was designed to achieve these goals:

- Prevent spousal/partner and child abuse.
- Encourage reporting of all cases of abuse.
- Ensure that assessments and investigations of suspected abuse are completed in a timely manner.
- Protect victims of abuse and provide treatment to all family members affected by the abuse.

Most people think that domestic violence could not happen to them. If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse and injuries are involved, the first step should be to go to the nearest emergency medical treatment facility.

A 2006 change in the FAP allows for confidential reporting in cases of spouse/partner abuse: the adult victim of domestic violence can request a "restricted report." This report must be made to a medical provider (FAP clinical social workers are considered to be medical providers) within the medical facility, the victim advocate, or the victim advocate's supervisor. The final decision on whether a restricted report can be supported must be made in conjunction with the FAP clinical social worker. If the risk for further injury to the victim is assessed to be too high, or if the injury is very serious (shooting, stabbing, etc.), then a restricted report will not be granted.

The Army favors unrestricted reporting of domestic violence for several reasons. Unrestricted reporting allows for protective measures to be put in place for the victim, such as "cooling off periods," military protective orders or restraining orders. Unrestricted reporting also provides an opportunity to hold the offender accountable for his/her actions and to

provide necessary intervention for the offender.

If the victim chooses to request restricted reporting, he/she may elect to receive medical care or supportive non-clinical counseling (including a safety plan, normalizing, and information on community resources) through the victim advocate, or the victim may receive clinical counseling through the FAP clinical social worker. These choices do not trigger the investigative process.

If the victim chooses the unrestricted reporting option, medical and counseling services are available to the person, but law enforcement and the abuser's command will be notified of the abusive incident and an investigation will be initiated.

The use of violence to resolve differences occurs in all social strata, across all ethnic groups and within all age groups. For further information on domestic violence intervention, contact the local FAP, Military One Source (1-800-342-9647), a local domestic violence/rape crisis center or local Army chaplain.

Energy

From front page

and interactive process ensuring the project will address key APG goals.

At a recent Energy Summit, Steve Weber, Project Development Engineer for Johnson Controls, spoke of the three delivery orders that have been funded thus far.

"The first delivery order,

now completed, encompassed improvements to the generation and distribution of central steam at the Southern Cantonment," said Weber. These improvements include the installation of advanced controls and related mechanical modifications to the Southern Cantonment's main steam plants.

"The project also includes replacement of failed steam traps in forty-five buildings, and repair of steam leaks in portions of the outdoor steam distribu-

tion piping," Weber said.

In addition, delivery order one laid the foundations for the new Building Operations Command Center to properly engage and operate the advanced controls systems.

Speaking on the ECSMs completed through delivery order two, also complete, Weber said the project "included improvements to the underground steam heating for troop barracks in the Edgewood area, high efficiency lighting and related controls, and upgraded

electrical transformers."

Currently in construction, the third delivery order encompasses 12 distinct Energy Cost Savings Measures, including more improvements to the steam distribution systems, boiler plant controls upgrades, high efficiency lighting and related controls, upgraded HVAC control systems, HVAC improvements, and space consolidation. Combined, these three delivery orders save APG more than \$6 million dollars per year.

The Energy Action Team, JCI, and the Corps are working hard on delivery orders 4 and 5 designed to save more energy and more money.

"Through this innovative program, APG will be able to renew or improve critical facility assets and take a significant step towards reducing energy consumption and energy costs," Weber said. "JCI appreciates this opportunity to partner with Aberdeen and the Corps of Engineers on these ESPC projects."

BRAC

From page 3

er so the 'sustainers' can have dialogue with the 'R&D [research and development] experts,'" he continued. "This will provide better communication avenues between the organizations and ultimately deliver a better product to the Warfighter faster."

The Consolidated North building will accommodate personnel working in the CERDEC Command and Control Directorate Fabrication Division, the CECOM LCMC Safety Directorate and the PEO C3T Special Projects Office.

The JSEC Compound will house elements of the CERDEC and PEO Enterprise Information Systems, while the C2 Integration Facility will accommodate

elements from PEO C3T.

Building 5100 Power and Cooling will house personnel from the CERDEC Battery, Power and Cooling Directorate and elements of the Logistics and Readiness Center to include the Command and Control Systems/Avionics Directorate's Power and Environmental Divisions. This building is the only renovation project in the "Phase Two" program, according to Vetter.

In contrast to the "Phase One" project, "Phase Two" was a 'design-bid-build' acquisition strategy, which means buildings will be completely designed before construction begins, Cocco said. The 'design-bid-build' acquisition strategy, pursued by the Philadelphia District of the Corps of Engineers, allows room for providing a more specific scope of work and for getting a better definition

of costs, Vetter said.

As the second phase of the Army Team C4ISR construction endeavor unfolds, Vetter expects to apply lessons learned from "Phase One." He expects outfitting the buildings with the appropriate systems and equipment will be more streamlined.

Just like the "Phase One" campus, which is nearing 75 percent completion, quality of life was considered in the design of the C2CNT-East facility, Vetter said.

"Phase Two" was designed with the end user in mind. We asked for design input from the organizations that will use the workspaces to ensure the facility would meet specific mission requirements," Cocco said. "The intention was to design a facility that provides a productive atmosphere and a good quality of life in the workplace for the employees."

Both phases of the state-of-the-art C4ISR facilities will have food concessions, large break rooms and courtyard areas for members of Army Team C4ISR to use.

"With the exception of the C2 Integration Facility, we expect 'Phase Two' buildings to be 'move-in-ready' by approximately February 15, 2011," Vetter said.

BRAC law requires all organizations slated to relocate to be completely moved by Sept. 15, 2011. The C2 Integration Facility is scheduled to be available for move-in by about July 2011. Vetter said the move-in dates are dependent upon construction progress; furniture delivery and set up; equipment, access control systems, and information technology installations; as well as Secure Compartmentalized Information Facility certifications.

Data provides info Warfighters can use

Story by
LT COL GREGORY GREEN
JPM Guardian

The Homeland Defense landscape has changed and expanded rapidly over the last five years. There are significant protection, detection and response programs being developed and executed by the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and state and local governments. These programs have many operational aspects in common including detection and response technologies, policies and training and information management. Not until recently have there been consistent and coordinated efforts to integrate and leverage these disparate efforts.

The Joint Project Manager Guardian has been at the forefront of these efforts. Guardian's driving vision has been to ultimately provide an integrated and interoperable protection and response capability that not only meets DoD but also DHS, state, and local government requirements. This approach to improved consequence management capabilities includes security, hazardous materials, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive detection, robust analytics and information management. Efforts with DHS have included representation and participation on the DHS BioWatch Advisory Committee and membership on the National Capital Region Bio-notification Working Group. The JPMG and Biowatch have conducted several technology demonstrations and evaluations to better understand emerging technologies and to ensure compatibility and interoperability on military installations. The JPMG and Biowatch developed and implemented the NCR Site Optimization effort. This program supports the re-siting of DHS biocollectors within National Capital Region to military installations to enhance overall coverage. Guardian has also sponsored the establishment of Military and Civilian Coordination Advisory Groups. These advisory groups sponsor regional forums between military installations and local and state responders to share best practices and identify national guidance/policy needs. Guardian has also developed and implemented a centralized database management system that provides responders with the ability to query multiple information databases across both DoD and DHS.

A critical element to the success of future integrated military and civilian protection and response capabilities is the effective convergence and integration of existing and emerging technologies and information management systems. Over the last five years the phenomenon and benefits of technological convergence has increasingly gained attention. In this unique form of technological change, the coming-together of previously distinct technological or operational components gives rise to the creation of new applications and operational and tactical models. These models are able to more effectively leverage the advantages or strengths of the individual components or elements to create a new solution with greater capability and operational flexibility.

Chemical, biological and radiological and physical security technologies, data and information have been planned, executed and managed as separate solutions with distinct owners.

The operational environments where people work today are changing, requiring rapid access to more comprehensive and timely information on which to make critical decisions. This requirement for information is driving a change to JPMG construct of how CBR and physical security requirements and solu-



Photos courtesy of U.S. ARMY

Significant protection, detection and response programs are being developed and executed by the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, state and local governments.

tions are received. JPMG operational environment is being driven from independent solutions to unified and integrated systems capable of more effectively leveraging the capabilities being developed and implemented in the Homeland Defense arena. The focus of JPMG protection capabilities has moved from the development of better sensors to how to better capture, process and distribute critical information. The requirement for comprehensive, accurate and timely information has now become the driving factor in how JPMG plans and executes our mission requirements. Information is now the key operational consideration through which enterprise-wide, cross-disciplinary management and operations decisions can be made. The key challenge for convergence efforts is not just to enable the infrastructure to support one specific application but to enable it to meet the specific service requirements of all deployed applications.

Joint Project Manager Guardian is aggressively pursuing the convergence of CBR capabilities with force protection and physical security capabilities. This is being done through a variety of Joint Experiments and with the execution of the Joint Force Protection Advanced Security System Joint Capability Technology Demonstration. The mission of JFPASS is to demonstrate, operationally assess and transition advanced force protection capabilities. These are intended to enable the integration, automation, and fusion of information among mature force protection systems. The goal is to provide a more effective, automated, layered and comprehensive joint force protection capability.

The JFPASS JCTD capabilities provide access control, perimeter security, non-intrusive inspection, waterside security and CBRNE sensing and protection. The goal is to enable the integration, automation, and fusion of information via a robust Command and Control architecture that will become the standard for future force protection systems. This capability will demonstrate a security architecture that provides integrated single-point Situational Awareness, leverage Unattended Ground Sensors and Unmanned Systems and be tied into current legacy systems.

A key enabler of this effort is the integrated Information Management



The Automated Installation Entry is an example of a Physical Security technology that is part of the convergence and integration of existing and emerging technologies to provide improved consequence management capabilities at military installations.

architecture and next generation Decision Support Systems. These capabilities are the key to effectively integrating disparate, highly sophisticated sensors across all potential operational environments. There are several efforts currently underway at JPMG. These efforts are being developed with JPM Information Systems and Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense to address cross portfolio and operation mission space requirements. These efforts include the Joint Installation Protection Command and Control system and the Joint Crisis Action Management Systems. JIPCC provides next generation decision support capabilities to the installation protection program. This capability supports the integration of multiple CBR sensors and commercial support packages into a single integrated system providing a common operating picture to the responder community. The principle of JIPCC with its openness, sharing and acting via the global information grid to protect fixed, semi-fixed and mobile sites will help transform installation protection and response management capabilities and procedures. It will also support the transition to a common operating system or architecture. JCAMS will provide that common architecture or backbone capable

of supporting a wide variety of disparate sensors to include CBR and physical security systems. This architecture will also support the integration of detection, identification, protection and response capabilities across the homeland Defense and tactical operational environments. Ultimately it will support the convergence of sensor data from various sources including Physical Security, CBRNE, Unmanned Ground Vehicles, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle into actionable information for the decision makers via the encrypted medium (including wire, wireless and satellites) and over the horizon via distributed Common Operational Picture using Internet Protocol Version 6 protocol in a joint/coalition net-centric environment.

As we move forward in time to the next conflict, general trends for saturating all environments with sensors will force operators at every level to embrace DSS technologies. Advances in this capability will invariably affect a wider variety of mission related tasks than ever before. The challenge before us is finding ways to simplify training, operation and support to these systems so they can fulfill their primary mission of allowing leaders to take effective and timely actions that preserve combat power. Everything else may best be left to a machine.

Housing

From front page

(4673). Information is also available at 99SHOPE.org.

Certain laws, unique to the military community, might be especially helpful in foreclosure actions. For example, the Service Members Civil Relief Act, a federal law, states a bank may not foreclose on a property that was purchased before the period of the member's military service without a court order. This section

of the law may have significant importance for active duty personnel, mobilized Reservists and National Guard service members with properties in Maryland.

Homeowners who sell their homes for less than what they owe with the bank's consent, sometimes called a "Short Sale," can face the additional problem of paying a tax on the difference if the bank forgives the debt. Fortunately, the "Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act and Debt Cancellation" provides direct relief from this potential liability.

The IRS has summarized this law on its Web site, irs.gov/individuals. Additionally, the Office of the Secretary of Defense has implemented a provision of the economic stimulus package into DoD's Housing Assistance Program that helps military members who have suffered a "Short Sale" or foreclosure.

As indicated above, military renters have also suffered in this economy. For those military Families that are forced to move out of their rented residence because the landlord is in foreclosure, many banks which purchase properties at foreclosures

are offering financial incentives for existing renters to move out by a particular date. The Joint Forces Travel regulation was recently amended to offset moving expenses for people who rent a foreclosed home.

Service members should reach out to their local Legal Assistance Office for help at the earliest opportunity to review their case's specifics.

Another source of information and support is the military installation Housing Services Office. They can provide additional resources and options to assist off-post customers.

Legal Assistance, ACS and Housing Services are committed to providing the best services and resource information to APG active duty service members, their Families, DoD civilian employees and retirees.

For more information and resources on the housing market crisis, call 410-278-2450/7572. (Editor's note: A series of articles to educate and inform as many Families as possible on their financial well-being and the Housing Market Crisis will be provided in future issues of the APG News.)

Records

From front page

in this situation, the battalion is assuming responsibility of the records until they are turned in at Fort Lee."

He said his personnel began preparing for the move in June and that "intensity picked up in the last week."

"We had to achieve one-hundred per-

cent accountability in matching movement orders with records," he said. "This is the first phase of two more moves to follow. We've learned valuable lessons from this one - communication is the key."

The office had to coordinate efforts with 61st Ordnance Brigade and 16th Ordnance Battalion S-1 personnel. Maj. Gregory Fend, the 16th Ordnance Battalion executive officer expressed his thanks to the MILPO.

"This was a unique challenge and you supported us just as you have in past years," Fend said. "Thank you for getting through this monumental task of supporting Soldiers as this move gets underway."

Brigade S-1 officer George Davis, said MILPO and S-1 personnel met every two weeks to determine the best way to conduct the exchange to minimize the impact on Soldiers.

"They basically wrote the policy and

executed it leading up to this movement and it's been seamless," Davis said.

Staff Sgt. Tameka Roberts, S-1 non-commissioned officer in charge, 16th Ordnance Battalion, verified and signed for the records that were contained in 16 boxes and Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Gadson, battalion S-4 NCO, oversaw their loading.

"The records will go directly to the Fort Lee personnel office," Roberts said.



Army News

Vice chief outlines need for new ground combat vehicle

Story by
J.D. LEIPOLD
Army News Service

Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli said today's non-contiguous battlefield demands the development of platforms capable of operating in multiple environments.

A blue-ribbon panel, which first met in June, has authored white papers discussing various visions of the next ground combat vehicle, Chiarelli told Army and business leaders at the Association of the U.S. Army Institute of Land Warfare breakfast Sept. 10.

The GCV is meant to fill the capability gap left after the manned ground vehicle program was canceled from Future Combat Systems earlier this year, Chiarelli said, adding that he expects the vehicles to be fielded within seven years.

"We've made a point to seek input from advocates and critics alike, from DoD [Defense Department], the Hill, academia, retired officers, noncommissioned officers, general officers and combat veterans, key allies and our sister services," Chiarelli said. "We talked about the operating environment, platform characteristics, platform threats, COTS [commercial off the shelf] versus R&D [research and development]

starts, realistic requirements and network consideration."

The vice chief said the GCV represents one of the most important combat development and acquisition decisions the Army is going to make in the long term.

Many of the systems the Army fights in today were created for the cold war during a time when the world was "linear-based and un-networked," Chiarelli said.

Those old systems aren't suitable today because many aren't upgradeable to house the network which he referred to as the "critical piece of the entire modernization program."

"The GCV will focus on sustainability more than we ever have done in procuring an Army major weapons system," he said. "The network architecture will be open with plug-and-play capability to accommodate not only the network of today, but the network of the future as well."

He added that the first vehicle the Army needed to field would be an infantry fighting vehicle and based on the Army's experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan, mobility was raised to the top as one of the key operational design criteria. He said the current fleet of 6,300 armored personnel carriers, the M-113, will gradually be divested because they

can't be upgraded to accommodate the future network technologies.

"The Soldier is in fact the heart of the network... a robust net," he said. "As the chief says, 'Soldiers get four things from the network: I know where I am; I know where my friends are; I know where the enemy is; and, I can bring precision fires on that enemy.'"

Chiarelli said network capability must be interoperable, affordable and capable of incremental upgrades which will continue to give Soldiers an edge to battlefield situational awareness since they are now the source of most intelligence and most game-changing decisions.

"The information they receive over the network isn't simply nice to have," he said. "Today, the small unit has as much access to information now as what used to be restricted to division headquarters."

Every single Soldier must have the ability to at least call off fire to avoid fratricide or civilian casualties, he added.

"We will combine a network and radio strategy in affordable increments, all part of those capability packages and each one of the capabilities packages will include the network," Chiarelli said. "The key is to build a single network across a joint environment with a common set of operating procedures capa-

ble of connecting the separate systems and receiving additional systems or programs in the future."

He added that the capacity of the network has grown from 50 megabits to more than six gigabits per second over the course of the war, which is an exponential increase of 121 times.

There are three basic components to the modernization package -- brigade combat team capability, network capability sets and vehicle strategy, Chiarelli said. Along with ground vehicles, he said the Army is also working to modernize other elements of the force such as aviation, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, weapons systems and the tactical wheeled vehicle fleet.

Chiarelli said full-spectrum operations is something the Army sees as Soldiers moving up and down the spectrum of conflict from lethal to non-lethal. He said the situation on the battlefield has become increasingly dynamic as Soldiers conduct a combination of offensive and defensive operations along with stability operations.

The challenge for the Army in a fiscally constrained environment is to balance modernization and personnel costs, he said, adding that personnel costs have a great impact on the ability to modernize.



Deployment News

New cammo pattern may blend in better in Afghanistan



Col. William E. Cole, a project manager with PM Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment, showcases a ghillie suit in the "MultiCam" camouflage pattern during a media event Sept. 16 at the Pentagon.

Story and photos by
C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

Service members fighting in Afghanistan are now seeing two new test camouflage patterns on the backs of fellow Soldiers.

The Army began shipping uniforms in September with the "MultiCam" and "Universal Camouflage Pattern - Delta" to two battalions that will serve rotations in Afghanistan -- one pattern each. Additionally, the Army will provide "ghillie suits," in the MultiCam pattern, to authorized units.

Soldiers, about 2,000 in all, will test the uniforms to see how effective the camouflage patterns are at providing concealment in the varying terrain of Afghanistan.

The Army will gather feedback from

Soldiers wearing the uniforms and use that, along with other testing and evaluation, to make a decision to produce and field alternative uniforms and operational clothing and individual equipment to some units serving as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"I think we will make decisions in Afghanistan in the January time frame, and also we will have finished the picture study," said Col. William E. Cole, a project manager with PM Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment.

Program Executive Office Soldier, the agency responsible for developing the uniforms, will additionally test the efficacy of several other camouflage patterns in Afghanistan -- though those will not be handed out to Soldiers there.

"That will determine what other uniform options they could have in Afghani-



The "MultiCam" camouflage pattern is one of two that is currently being tried out in Afghanistan.



The "Universal Camouflage Pattern - Delta" camouflage pattern is one of two that is now being tried out in Afghanistan.

stan," Cole added. "So to the commanders in Afghanistan, we'll be able to show them the data and say here's what we found, different results in different areas with different uniforms, what would you like to do? And of course we will support the commanders."

Cole said after a decision is made about fielding an optional camouflage pattern to commanders, uniforms bearing that pattern could be available in a relatively short time.

"We'd start fielding the first units easily within six months of the decision," Cole said.

Were new uniforms to be introduced, Cole said, they would be the same as what Soldiers are already wearing -- the ACU. It would be the camouflage print-

ed on the fabric that would change. And the new uniforms would be an option for commanders -- something available were field conditions to warrant it.

"As a material provider, I want to be responsive to the Soldiers I support," Cole said. "I want to give commanders options. That is what we're trying to do -- we're working to give [them] more options."

The "MultiCam" pattern, one of the two to be issued in Afghanistan, is actually a commercial product and bears similarities to what was featured on the now discontinued "Battle Dress Uniform." The "Universal Camouflage Pattern - Delta," is similar to what Soldiers are wearing now, with the addition of the color "coyote brown."

NCO training

From page 2

Warfighter," he said.

Staff Sgt. Javier Velázquez, senior enlisted advisor for the Simulation and Training Technology Center, Orlando, Fla., gave an example of this type of NCO collaboration, which came about as the result of a previous NCO PD.

An NCO from the U.S. Army National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., came to STTC for an NCO PD and discovered that STTC had non-tethered mannequins with greater capabilities.

As a result, he explained, the mannequins, as well as realistic "odors" obtained from STTC, are now being used for Soldier training at the National Training Center.

"It's a challenge making sure the Army understands what RDECOM is. RDECOM is still a young command and the message just has not trickled down to the major units. You have a tool here in your toolkit, use us," Schumacher said.

The 'Soldier to Soldier' connection of RDECOM NCOs with operational units would reveal practical challenges and opportunities that could deliver technology that's more relevant to the Warfighter's environment, Velázquez explained.

"One of the [observations] was that as NCOs who have a better understanding of all the RDECs, we can go out to

the divisions and be the Soldiers' eyes and ears for the command," he said.

Sergeant 1st Class Eric Scheidt explained that one of the challenges faced by new NCOs to RDECOM is that they arrive into the command from operational units, and it's six months to a year before they acclimate to the command, so the command only gets to utilize a competent acquisition Soldier for one to one and one half years.

One of the initiatives to address this challenge, Scheidt explained, was to develop an NCO certification process.

"We're looking at going through DAU [Defense Acquisition University] for level one certification and identifying other training that would be helpful for NCOs coming to RDECOM," he said.

The NCO PD also included a 5:30 a.m. physical training session and Soldier development briefings and training on topics ranging from current operations to deployments, suicide training to evaluations, and concluded with a tour of CERDEC labs and technology demonstrations.

NCOs from different parts of the command, with different specialties -- infantry, combat arms and other MOSs set about their purpose as technology representatives for their fellow Soldiers -- providing their "honest, unfiltered" input to their RDECOM civilian colleagues.

"Every time we do this," Marin said of the NCO professional development, "it gets stronger and stronger -- building collaboration and teamwork. And as long as we put in the work, it's that young Soldier up in the mountains who's going to get the benefit."

Traffic

From front page

when Maryland Boulevard will be milled and will receive a new pavement overlay. This work will include several hundred feet of milling and overlay on Harford Boulevard and will impact the Maryland Boulevard intersections with Aberdeen Boulevard and Susquehanna Avenue as well. The contractor is evaluating the feasibility of doing this work at night in order to minimize impacts to traffic. More information will be made available as the work draws nearer.

Once again, all of the construction activities are subject to weather delays, and additional updates will be provided as needed.

In the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School training area, Ravenna Street will see intermittent closures for the installation of communication conduits as part of the C2CNT construction. The school's troop activities may be impacted by this closure.

Patience and attention to safety are requested throughout these changes.



Health Notes

Two-star general grapples with loss of two sons in service Becomes advocate to help Soldiers, Families cope with suicide, TBI

Story by
MAUREEN ROSE
Army News Service

In opening senior leadership training [earlier this year], Maj. Gen. Mark Graham, the commander of Division West, 1st Army at Fort Carson, Colo., quoted Oswald Chambers, a 19th century Scottish theologian.

"We say there ought to be no sorrow but there is sorrow, and to survive we have to find ourselves in it. If we try to evade sorrow, refuse to lay our account with it, we are foolish. Sorrow is one of the biggest facts of life."

Graham and his wife, Carol, know the largeness of that fact only too well. Of their three children, only daughter Melanie has survived. The Graham's son, Jeffrey, was killed in action in Iraq in 2004 while his brother, Kevin, committed suicide just a few months earlier. Kevin was a senior ROTC student at the University of Kentucky and was studying to be an Army doctor. He had discontinued his depression medication for fear it would affect his future military career.

The grief of losing two sons - both in military service - drove Graham to the brink of retirement. He did not think he could continue serving the Army. The day he planned to turn in his official paperwork, Carol read a passage to him from "Streams

in the Desert" by L.B. Cowan. It changed their lives. It read, in part:

"Yesterday you experienced a great sorrow and now your home seems empty. Your impulse is to give up amid your dashed hopes. Yet, you must defy that temptation for you are at the front lines of battle and the crisis is at hand. Faltering for even one moment would put God's interest at risk. Other lives will be harmed by your hesitation and his work will suffer if you simply fold your hands. You must not linger at this point, even to indulge your grief."

The Grahams took that devotion as a sign that there was still a mission for them and a purpose for remaining in the Army Family. Although they continued to grieve, they learned to take one day at a time, and eventually they realized their mission more clearly.

"More Soldiers were killed in Iraq and others died in car accidents and by suicide," he said. "It occurred to us that maybe this was the reason we were meant to continue to serve. We personally knew the pain these Families were feeling and we could genuinely connect in a way we never could have before. As we tried to comfort the broken hearts of the people God put in our path, an amaz-

ing phenomenon occurred. We received more healing in our spirits than we gave. Others seemed to help us more than we helped them."

Although still healing, the Grahams have become advocates for Soldiers who suffer with post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury and other mental health illnesses.

"From our personal tragedies, my wife Carol and our daughter Melanie and I have come to realize that in order to survive, we had to use our brokenness to reach out and openly share our story and try to give hope to others," Graham said. "As an Army and as a nation, we must get in front of suicide, work to prevent it by action, not just figure it out after the fact."

The pain in Graham's voice lends validity to his call for Army leaders to find a way to help mentally ill Soldiers returning from deployments or facing subsequent deployments.

"I am here to tell you that we cannot be quiet any longer. We cannot take that hushed tone when speaking of suicide, and we cannot ignore the warning signs," he said. "People are hurting. They need to be helped, not judged. My wife Carol and I missed the warning signs of our son's depression and just could not see that his illness - if left untreated - was potentially as

deadly as if he had had cancer or heart disease."

While the Grahams continue to advocate for increased help to Soldiers with mental health problems, it comes with a price.

"Even though Carol and I both made this commitment to keep going, it has not been easy," Graham explained. "I made speeches as Soldiers deployed and redeployed. We celebrated at the welcome home ceremonies and watched as Families were reunited after long separations...which left us always wondering how the world could even keep turning without Jeffrey and Kevin in it. At church, we tried desperately to hold back the tears as other people's prayers seemingly were answered."

Graham also shared that one of many sources of comfort for his Family has been the friendship and support of his then-boss, Lt. Gen. David Valcourt, now the deputy commander at the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

Although Valcourt had the horrible job of notifying Graham of his son's death in Iraq, he demonstrated his understanding of the Grahams' pain. When Graham was promoted, Valcourt was there to pin the stars on Graham's uniform. But he had engraved a special mes-

sage on the back of the stars. Kevin's name is engraved on one star and Jeffrey's name is on the other. At the promotion ceremony, Valcourt told Graham, "Your boys will always be with you."

Graham acknowledged that now he wears the stars on his uniform to represent his sons.

"We have pledged to use Kevin's death to raise awareness in the military to the dangers of untreated depression, post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injuries and other mental health issues," he said. "We are compelled to speak out for all of the Kevins of the world who have no voice."

Graham said there is still a terrible stigma associated with suicide in the Army and in society in general. He asked the leaders in the audience to empower the Army and communities with the education and tools to break through the fear and stigma surrounding suicide.

In closing, Graham asked his audience to remember wounded Soldiers -- those with visible wounds as well as those with invisible wounds.

"It has been said that depression is the slow bleeding of the soul, and we must continue to encourage Soldiers to reach out and get help," he said. "Be the tourniquet that stops the bleeding of these priceless souls."

TRICARE offers options for beneficiaries struggling with weight

U.S. DoD Military Health System

TRICARE beneficiaries whose weight poses a serious health risk have surgical alternatives available to them.

For those who medically qualify, TRICARE covers gastric bypass, gastric stapling and gastroplasty procedures including vertical banded gastroplasty and laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding, commonly known as Lap-Band surgery.

These procedures are covered for non-active duty beneficiaries who suffer from morbid obesity and meet specific medical criteria. For a TRICARE beneficiary to medically qualify he or she must weigh 100 pounds or more over their ideal weight for height and bone structure, and the excess weight must be associated with a severe medical condition. Beneficiaries who weigh more than twice their ideal weight for height and bone structure are also eligible.

Additionally, TRICARE covers surgery for beneficiaries who had a previous intestinal bypass or other surgery for

obesity and, because of complications, require a second surgery.

"TRICARE covers procedures that have been proven safe and effective, and are accepted by the medical community," said John Kugler, chief medical officer, TRICARE Management Activity. "For some beneficiaries, gastric surgery may be the right course of action to preserve their health."

Nonsurgical treatment of obesity, morbid obesity, dietary control or weight reduction, biliopancreatic bypass and gastric bubble or balloon for the treatment of morbid obesity are not covered by TRICARE.

Bariatric surgery represents a major and permanent change in the digestive system and beneficiaries are required to maintain a strict adherence to a specific dietary regimen, which may interfere with the operational deployment of active duty service members. Because of this, ADSMs are not allowed to have bariatric surgery and may be separated from the service if they choose to have the procedure. If an ADSM has bariat-

ric surgery without Military Health System authorization—e.g., by using other health insurance carried by a spouse—he or she is permanently non deployable and may be considered for separation.

Before gastric bypass or Lap-Band procedures are considered, TRICARE encourages beneficiaries to use healthy diets and exercise to prevent obesity. Military personnel, retirees and their Families can use the tools provided by TRICARE at the Healthy Living Web site, www.tricare.mil/getfit/ or the Defense Commissary Agency, www.commissaries.com, including dietary advice columns, recipes and information on making healthy food choices. The Department of Agriculture's "MyPyramid" tool at www.mypyramid.gov can help in creating personalized meal and physical activity plans.

Physical activity is important for physical health and weight management. Exercise reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and other diseases. Consistent physical activity is helpful in weight loss and helps prevent regaining the weight.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 30 minutes of daily physical activity for adults and 60 minutes for children. Everyday activities provide opportunities for being more active. Visit the CDC Healthy Living Web Page at www.cdc.gov/healthyliving and try a few of these suggestions:

- Walk, cycle, jog, skate, etc., to work, school, the store or place of worship.
- Park the car farther away from destination.
- Take the stairs instead of the elevator or escalator.
- Use leg power by taking small trips on foot to get the body moving.
- Take fitness breaks by walking or doing desk exercises instead of taking cigarette or coffee breaks.
- Perform gardening or home repair activities.

Details of TRICARE's coverage of surgical treatments for morbid obesity are available in Chapter 4, Section 13.2 of the TRICARE Policy Manual, and can be found at <http://manuals.tricare.osd.mil>.

Breast cancer screening: early detection is key

U.S. DoD Military Health System

Almost 1.5 million people in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer in 2009. For American women, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths.

TRICARE and the National Cancer Institute urge women 40 and older to have a mammogram every one to two years. Women younger than 40, but with risk factors for breast cancer, should ask their health care provider when they should have a mammogram and how often. To make it easier for women to get mammograms, TRICARE beneficiaries in specific age and risk categories have no copayment for mammograms.

A clinical breast exam is an examination by a doctor or nurse using his or her hands to feel for lumps or other changes. The American Cancer Society recommends women in their 20s and 30s get a CBE as part of their regular physical exam at least once every three years and shortly before having a mammogram, but a mammogram can be completed without having had a CBE.

TRICARE's clinical preventive services cover annual mammograms for women age 40 and older. A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast that can detect lumps up to two years before they can be felt. When breast cancer is caught early, before it can be felt or cause symptoms, it is also easier to treat. Women 40 and older should have a screening mammogram every year. While mammograms can miss some cancers, they are still a very good way to find breast cancer.

In March 2007, TRICARE added breast MRIs to the battery of cancer screenings it covers. Asymptomatic TRICARE Prime beneficiaries age 30 or older, and asymptomatic TRICARE Standard beneficiaries age 35 or older, can now have breast MRIs as an annual screening procedure if, according to American Cancer Society guidelines, they are considered at high risk of developing breast cancer.

TRICARE beneficiaries can find information about breast cancer exams and screening at <http://tricare.mil/mybenefit/jsp/Medical>. For more information about breast cancer, visit the National Cancer Institute Web site, www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/breast.



DENTAC Health Notes

Brushing and flossing prevent oral cancer

Story by
MAJ JOSEPH A. MARINO
APG Dental Clinic Command

The most common form of oral cancer is Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma. It is the sixth most common cancer worldwide and the eighth most common cancer in the United States.

According to statistics released by the National Institutes of Health, the Oral Cancer Foundation and the World Cancer Report, the following facts present themselves. Around 30,000 Americans are diagnosed with oral cancer every year. The five-year survival rate, one of the lowest of all the major cancers, has been stagnant for decades. Globally, this disease kills one person every hour. This makes it more deadly than cancers of the brain, cervix, testes, ovary, kidney, liver, Malignant Melanoma, or Hodgkin Lymphoma.

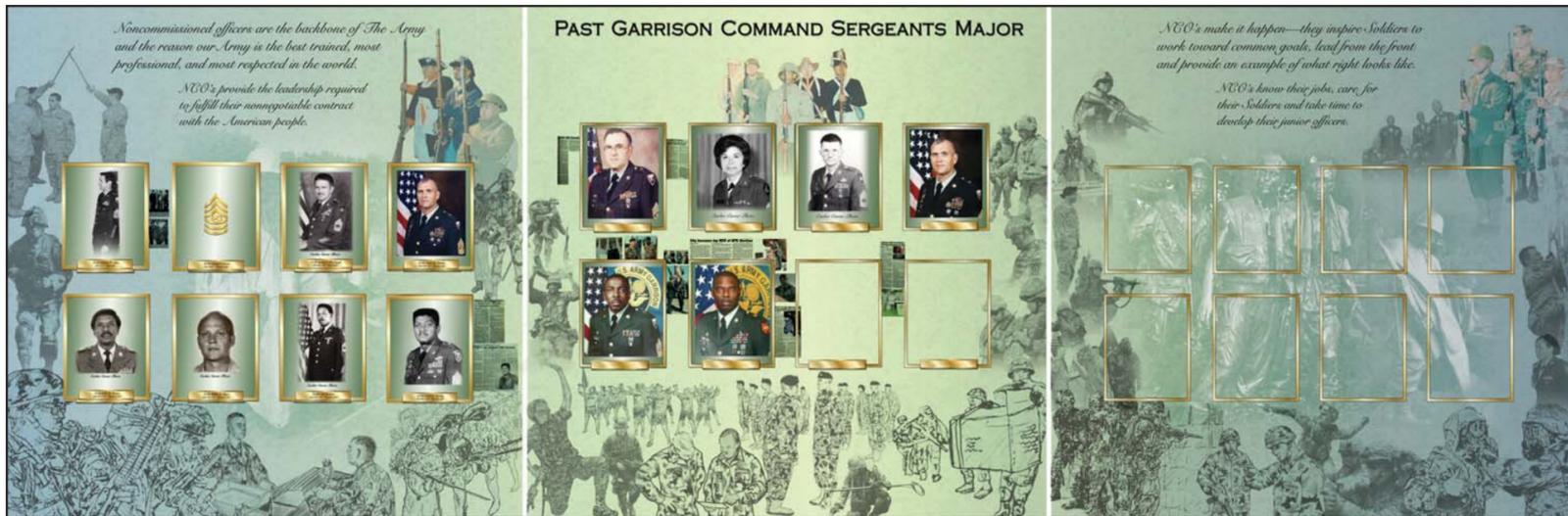
Despite these sobering statistics, oral cancer remains one of the more under reported of the major cancer sites. Emerging research connecting poor oral health to major systemic diseases may help to change this. Recent studies connect an increase in the severity of periodontal disease to an increased risk of oral cancer. This is another in a series of medical problems being linked to oral infection. A recent study in the Journal of the American Periodontal Association showed a direct correlation between the loss of gum attachment to bone and the risk of OSCC. A study done in Sweden and published in the Acta Otolaryngol concluded that poor and even average oral hygiene, as well as poor dental health, were independent risk factors for OSCC.

There is a proposed mechanism here. Bacteria have shown the ability to produce acetaldehyde, a known carcinogen. Certain oral bacteria are responsible for most of the acetaldehyde production in the oral cavity. This is especially true among



cigarette smokers and alcohol users. This is especially compelling in the light of evidence linking *Helicobacter pylori* to stomach cancer and *Salmonella typhi* to gallbladder cancer.

Reduction in the levels of certain microorganisms is becoming accepted as a legitimate method of reducing cancer risk. In the case of oral cancer, quit smoking, avoid heavy alcohol use, properly brush and floss and see the dentist and dental hygienist for routine treatment.



A "Past Garrison Command Sergeants Major" board is decorated with photographs and drawings of noncommissioned officers performing ceremonial or leadership activities along with photos of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison's past NCO leaders. The board was designed by Diane Burrier of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

Graphic artist completes Garrison history mission

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A mission of transition for one that became a mission of love for another has resulted in the erection of a Command Sergeant Major display detailing the past noncommissioned officer leaders of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison in building 305.

The display is the result of a wish by former Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez to provide a pictorial history of past NCOs who led the garrison.

Diane Burrier, a graphic artist with the Garrison's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, performed the artwork and research that made Rodriguez's wish a reality.

Previously, Burrier designed the APG Garrison Commander's display, which Rodriguez also suggested. The display is mounted on the opposite wall in the garrison command suite.

"When I first got to the garrison I wanted to do something different with the command boards," Rodriguez said. "They were old and they looked like every display you see all over the Army. I wanted something different with our command boards."

He said Burrier consulted with him regularly about what should be included in the designs.

"On the garrison commander's board I wanted to do a timeline and include articles

from the APG News to show what they've done," Rodriguez said. "But that would have been redundant with the sergeant major board so we thought we'd include photographs of NCOs performing NCO functions."

"The hard part was getting all the pictures of the past [command] sergeant majors," he said.

Burrier said the project, which took months to complete, was more challenging than the first because photographs and information about past garrison command sergeant's major was hard to come by.

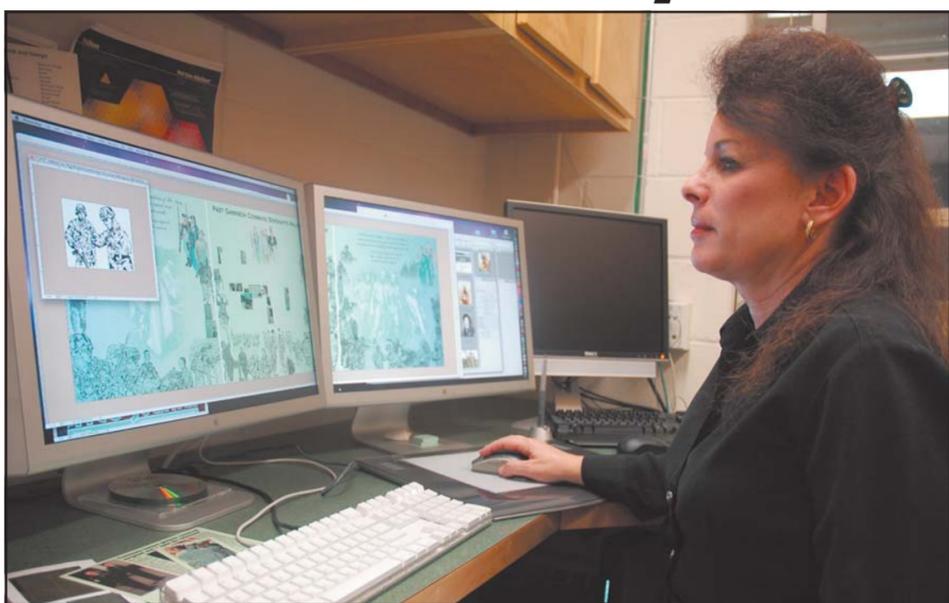
"I wrote the National Archives requesting photos but they didn't have any," Burrier said.

"After doing the first one [the Garrison Commander's Board], this one was tougher because I had very little material to work with," she said. "Too many records were lost and nobody knew what happened to them."

She enlisted the help of historian Robert Bouilly at the Army's Command Sergeant Major Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas, who located photos, scanned them and e-mailed them to her.

Photos were not available for some during their time with the garrison and those are annotated "Earlier Career Photo" on the board, Burrier said.

Her research included visits to the Bel Air Library where she sorted through old microfiche



Graphic artist Diane Burrier shows how she used various artworks, still photos and software to create the finished product.

copies of The AEGIS and other local papers.

"You had to print the articles out on a thirty-year-old printer and none of them were the kind of quality you get today," she said.

She also searched the archives of the APG News.

In addition, she said Rodriguez showed her how to use the search engines on the AKO Web site where she used The NCO Journal to obtain many of the pencil sketch drawings found on the board.

"Eventually it all paid off,

and I think it came together nicely," Burrier said.

The board consists of three pale green panels and is decorated with photographs of NCOs in action — some in color, depicting APG personnel and events and some are black and white drawings.

In the background of the first two panels are photographs of the Vietnam and Korean War memorials. The photographs of the garrison's past NCO leaders decorate the foreground. Burrier said it was important to her and Rodriguez that the board be

given "room to grow" so there is extra room on the third panel for future additions.

"The information is expandable," she said. "As command sergeants major enter and exit, or as events happen, that information can be added as needed."

"It's beautiful," Rodriguez said. "It looks a lot nicer than I imagined. She put a lot of love and energy into it."

Burrier also designed the Army chain of command and APG service members of the year boards that decorate the garrison lobby.

Book captures spirit of magazine cartoonist

Legendary Will Eisner spent early years as artist on APG post newspaper

Story by
KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Special contributor

As the Army's PS Magazine celebrates its 58th year in publication, a book about its history is hot off the presses.

The author, Paul Fitzgerald, tells the history of celebrated graphic novelist and artist Will Eisner, who spent 21 years bringing the material in PS Magazine to life.

"PS, the Preventive Maintenance Monthly, has been in existence for [more than] fifty-eight years. In any organization that's been around that long, you run the risk of losing the institutional memories, the earliest anecdotes and stories, and the actual truth involved with your organization's origin," Stuart Henderson, production manager at PS Magazine, said. "None of our current staff members were with PS during those early years. I know of only four living people who were, and one of them is Paul Fitzgerald."

Fitzgerald served in the Army at the close of World War II. After his uniformed days were over, he went to West Virginia University and graduated in journalism. When one of his former professors took over editorship with PS Magazine, then located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, he offered a newly created position to Fitzgerald.

"I was the managing editor of a weekly newspaper in Elkton, Md., which is about twenty miles north of Aberdeen Proving Ground," Fitzgerald said. "He reached out and recruited me as his managing editor. I was the first managing editor of PS Magazine."

Fitzgerald spent 10 years as PS Magazine's managing editor. He is flattered that many of



Courtesy photo
Will Eisner, former APG newspaper staff member, designed artwork, like this 1959 cover, for PS Magazine for 21 years.

the deadlines and guidelines he set up in those early days are still being used by the publication today.

"When I first got there it was editorial anarchy," he said, laughing. "I established a system procedures and deadlines... After we did that, PS never missed a production deadline again."

He also formed a close relationship with Eisner, the graphic artist who gave PS Magazine its signature comic feel. Eisner had risen to prominence in the 1940s with his serial, "The Spirit," which was made into a motion picture just last year.

Eisner spent 21 years creating characters and designing artwork for PS. While their look may have changed over the years, some of his charac-

ters soldier on within PS Magazine's pages today.

Eisner's fame for the work he did before and after his time with PS Magazine is unquestionable. Besides winning all applicable awards over the years, the most coveted award in the modern industry is the Will Eisner Comic Industry Award, created in 1988. Many fans though know almost nothing about his time with PS Magazine, Fitzgerald said.

"Will Eisner and his strip, 'The Spirit,' were at the top of the comics world in the 1940s, and he became known as 'the father of the graphic novel' following the 1978 publication of his 'A Contract with God.' The quarter-century between the two periods has come to be known

as Eisner's 'missing middle years' because his main body of work then -- the first twenty-one years of PS -- was not readily available to the general public," he said. "My book is the first publication to convey the scope of those efforts along with a comprehensive narrative."

Fitzgerald's time working at PS Magazine spanned a decade. His friendship with Eisner lasted much longer. The pair remained close for 52 years, until Eisner's death in early 2005. In fact, Fitzgerald said the book was Eisner's idea.

"He urged me to do it and I promised him that I would someday," he said. "When he died, I was determined to keep that promise to him."

The book, which includes

440 full color illustrations, was finally completed this year. When the first copy was published, Fitzgerald sent it to Eisner's widow, Ann.

"Thank you for taking me with you on your journey with Will [and beyond] through the inception and workings of PS. I read the book from cover to cover almost the minute it arrived," she wrote to him. "You captured a great deal of his humor which others have often missed. It was wonderful, and, to quote Will, 'You sure can write!'"

It is being embraced by magazine staffers as well.

"We are so glad that he has set this all down in print for us and for all future PS staff members," said Henderson, who works in the Logistics Support Activity. "The fact that he has done so with wit and style is icing on the cake."

He is proud of how PS has endured over the years. The August issue will be number 681. Although time has seen a slow shift to the electronic format versus the printed, Fitzgerald said more than 107 million copies of PS Magazine have managed to roll off the presses since the beginning.

"The fifty-eight-year history of PS Magazine is an ongoing U.S. Army success story that has been internationally acclaimed as the longest enduring and most effective communications program of the last six decades utilizing sequential art to convey technical and motivational information," he said.

For more information on Fitzgerald or his book, "Will Eisner and PS Magazine," visit www.willeisnerandpsmagazine.com. (Editor's note: To contact journalist, e-mail kelleylanesisivley@att.net.)



Veterans' Voices



Sergeant Maj. Wendy N. Thomson, right, directs the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band as veterans and escorts pass by during one of five receptions for World War II veterans hosted by the Honor Flight Network at Thurgood Marshall Baltimore-Washington International Airport Sept. 26.

AMC Band performs at BWI for Honor Flight veterans

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band provided a musical greeting for five arriving chartered flights carrying World War II veterans during Honor Flight Network-sponsored receptions at Thurgood Marshall Baltimore-Washington International Airport Sept. 26.

Honor Flight Network is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing cost-free transportation for American veterans who wish to visit the national memorials in Washington, D.C. — in particular, the World War II, Vietnam and Korean War memorials — that honor their service.

The band, led by Sgt. Maj. Wendy N. Thomson, serenaded the veterans with patriotic and World War II-era songs as they filed past to waiting buses.

Along with the band, a host of military greeters and volunteers were on hand to meet the flights. Greeters from Fort George G. Meade included Sailors from the Navy Information Operations Command, Airmen from the 7th Intelligence Squadron and members of Boy Scout Troop 379 along with representatives from the Civil Air Patrol's Fort McHenry Composite Squadron and from the airport's Transportation Security Agency.

In addition, Maj. Gen. Greg Schumacher, assistant to the deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, made a guest appearance to greet the veterans. He thanked Thomson and the band for participating in the reception.

"It was good of all of you to be here for these veterans," Schumacher said. "Thank you for what you do for our Army."



Onlookers pause to watch as the U.S. Army Materiel Band, led by Sgt. Maj. Wendy N. Thomson, warms up for a performance for World War II veterans at BWI Airport.

Thomson said musical selections included military branch themes as well as popular war tunes such as "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition."

"Music has a way of placing you back in that time," she said. "The veterans enjoy it and the Soldiers do too."

As the band played, Thomson turned around repeatedly to shake hands with the arriving veterans as they filed past.

Two-hundred-thirty-eight veterans arrived on the four flights accompanied by 170 escorts, according to Bob Lowe, Miami Air station manager, which provided the transportation. The veterans hailed from Rochester, Long Island and Albany, N.Y., Detroit, Mich., and Birmingham, Ala.

Lowe said the receptions have a "profound effect" on the veterans and their escorts.

"It always brings tears to

their eyes," he said. "They don't expect to have such a warm welcome by people who weren't even born when they served. They truly appreciate being remembered."

Honor Flight volunteer Bill Poteet said numerous volunteers work to make the receptions memorable for the veterans and their escorts.

"Our job is to be here to assist with their needs," Poteet said. "That includes arranging for wheel chairs, greeters, even oxygen tanks if they're needed, and providing them a path from the plane to the buses."

Even the BWI Fire Department pays tribute to the veterans, he added. Two fire engines face each other on the tarmac and provide a water cannon arch which arriving flights pass under as they taxi to the gate.

Along with the veterans and

their escorts, greeters are moved by the event, Poteet added.

Wendall Lawrence, scout master for Boy Scout Troop 379, said it was the troop's first time participating.

"Some of our parents heard about it so we thought it would be a good idea to come out and show our honor," he said, noting that the event was in sync with requirements for earning the Boy Scout Citizenship badge.

"Being retired military, it's important to me that respect for military service is deeply ingrained in our children,"

he said.

Jake Kellogg, a second lieutenant with the Civil Air Patrol, said he was there because he couldn't think of "a better way to honor them."

"After all they've done for our country, this is my chance to give something back," he said. "It's an honor and a privilege to be here."

More than 90 percent of all monies donated to the Honor Flight Network go directly to supporting efforts to transport veterans to their memorials. For more information, visit <http://www.honorflight.org>.



Fire engines from the BWI Airport fire department form a water cannon arch over a Miami Air charter flight carrying 90 Honor Flight Network World War II veterans as it taxis to its gate.



Major Gen. Greg Schumacher, assistant to the deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, left, chats with Thomson. Schumacher was on hand to greet veterans arriving on Honor Flight Network charter flights.



Veterans' Voices

WWII Army Reunion Group reunites at the Ordnance Museum for 63rd reunion

Story and photos by
KRISTEN SZYDLOSKI
APG News

Members of the 463rd Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Automatic Weapons Battalion, 79th Infantry Division of World War II claiming five battle stars, reunited at the APG Ordnance Museum Sept. 12 to honor and celebrate their 63rd reunion.

Members of the group commented on the strong sense of Family that has been instilled in their hearts for one another.

"We've been rained on, snowed on and shot at all together. It brings us together like a Family," said retired Brig. Gen. Jack Rogers. "These reunions are nice. We really are Family. I've known some of them since I was eighteen years old.

"We never slept in a building the entire time; we slept in holes and tents when it was really cold or raining and at one time we had snow up to our belly buttons," Rogers said. "We were soaking wet for three weeks straight at one time. We had a joke that if we slept too long we'd freeze."

"We are all united. We served a long time together from Scotland to England to Normandy, Czechoslovakia and on," said Bill Clement, a private first class during World War II.

"We meet only once a year and so I treasure every one of us and our reunions," said Arthur DeAngelo, a corporal during the war.

It was during World War II that these men became part of the 79th Infantry Division. On July 11, 1944, the group shot down their first Jerry plane. After their first kill, and no less than 36 hours after, they joined the division the division commander's signature authorized them to wear the patch. They had earned and established credentials to wear the Cross of Lorraine patch on their left



Bill Clement, top, Arthur DeAngelo, sitting, George Landshut, center front, and Bill Scholl, right, climb the 40mm gun that sits on the Ordnance Museum field. Among 230 items on display in the field, the Army Reunion Group spotted the gun and reenacted how they used the gun during World War II.

shoulders.

"The patch is the prettiest patch in the whole Army, in my opinion," Rogers said.

Then, on Jan. 13, 1945, the 463rd set a record that never can be broken: it killed the first jet ever brought down by ground fire. The kill was recognized as the first in the 7th Army, then as the first in the theater and no one since has ever challenged the "first ever, anywhere" claim.

"Cold as we all were, pride warmed us more than a little," Rogers said.

The group has traveled to Braintree, Mass.; Orlando, Fla.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Washington, D.C., for the 463rd reunions. For the group's 49th reunion, they traveled to Normandy,

France, with their Families so they could show them what they had seen and to explain what happened there.

Each year at the reunion, Rogers gives a speech to his fellow comrades that includes stories of war experiences and how the battalion influenced the war.

"My father's annual speech to the group is about sharing common experiences with them," said Jack Rogers Jr., son of Brig. Gen. Rogers. "In their youth during the war, they were mostly in isolation, and the Soldiers weren't able to see the historical significance of what they were accomplishing. My father has been able to show them their role."

Family members accompa-



Brigadier Gen. Jack Rogers, right, and Clement Vanden Eynden, members of the 463rd Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Automatic Weapons Battalion, 79th Infantry Division, reunite with the 40mm gun that claimed 36 killed enemy airplanes in World War II during the unit's reunion at the Ordnance Museum Sept. 12.

nied the group of veterans and exchanged many memories and stories with them. The group first viewed the museum building housing special displays, a small arms collection, library and a small theater.

Then, out of the 230 items on display in the field around the museum building, the group spotted the 40mm gun of which the veterans new very well; the group's division operated the gun that claimed 36 'killed' enemy airplanes. Being able to see the gun before their eyes invoked many stories and memories on the sounds of the many guns that were in use in the war.

"The German Railroad Gun [380mm], had a big bang sound," DeAngelo said, while George Landshut agreed and stated that, "The ground shook when [the gun] fired."

"Anzio Annie [a German railroad gun] was hidden in railroad tunnels during the day when allied air was active, and was brought out at night to a predetermined firing position. It got dark at about 5:30 p.m. and we soon discovered that moving

to a firing position and setting the gun up took five and a half hours and loading and firing a round added fourteen minutes. We came, then, to expect the first round at 2314 [11:14 p.m.], followed by another every fourteen minutes until approaching dawn sent Annie back to her tunnel," Rogers said at his annual speech in 2005.

"Artillery being fired by us sounded like a flight of birds, and when you heard a whistle 'squeech' sound, that wasn't good," said Bill Scholl, a private first class during the war.

The reunions are coordinated by William Vanden Eynden whose father is Clement Vanden Eynden and a member of the Army Reunion Group.

"I volunteered to keep the reunion tradition going for the group. Being with them I've come to appreciate what they've done for us. Coordinating this group has increased my appreciation for what they did," said William Vanden Eynden.

"I hope to continue on with this tradition with my fellow friends," Scholl said.

Memorial calls for photos of Vietnam vets

American Forces Press Service

The National Call for Photos, a campaign to gather images of the more than 58,000 men and women whose names are on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was launched Sept. 17 at a Newseum event, hosted by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and FedEx Office.

FedEx Office will use its locations across the country to help in gathering photos.

Established in 1979, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is dedicat-

ed to preserving the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., promoting healing and educating people about the impact of the Vietnam War.

The fund's latest initiative is The Education Center at The Wall, an underground facility near the memorial that is being designed to help visitors discover the stories of those named on the wall and celebrate the values embodied by service members from all of America's wars.

Exhibits will include a wall of photographs of people whose names are on The Wall, a selection of the more than 100,000 items that have been left at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a timeline of key military events of the Vietnam War and a history of the memorial.

The center also will celebrate the values embodied by America's service members: loyalty, duty, respect, service, honor, integrity and courage, officials said. An exit exhibit will show imag-

es of those who have served in America's conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to Iraq.

More than \$20 million has been raised for the education center, including a \$10 million gift from Time Warner. It is estimated that the center will cost \$85 million to build.

Other Memorial Fund initiatives include educational programs for students and teachers, a traveling wall replica that honors veterans and a humanitarian and mine-action program in Vietnam.

New Post-9/11 GI Bill increases veterans' educational opportunities

Maryland State Government

The Department of Veteran Affairs announced the week of Sept. 21 that it had provided certificates of eligibility to nearly 200,000 applicants for the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, which became law when it was passed by Congress and signed by the President in June 2008.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill authorizes the most extensive educational assistance opportunity since the passage of the original GI Bill in 1944. The benefits provided in the original GI Bill, which became law in the World War II era, only covered about 70 percent of the cost of a public college education today. The Post-9/11 GI Bill covers the maximum tuition and fees for in-state tuition for a public institution as well as a housing allowance.

The new law allows eligible veterans, service members, Reservists and members of the National Guard the opportunity to receive an in-state, undergraduate education at a public institution at no cost.

These new benefits will enable Iraq and Afghanistan veterans to receive a college education and help the economic recovery, just as the veterans of World War II helped grow and strengthen the American middle class.



A Congressional study demonstrated that the original GI bill returned \$7 to the economy for every \$1 spent. This sound investment in veteran's education will aid our economic recovery.

Since the program's implementation on Aug. 1, more than 61,000 payments totaling more than \$51 million has been issued to schools and students. Approximately 277,000 applications for eligibility determinations and or school enrollment certifications have been received nationwide.

The current average for VA processing time for Post-9/11 GI Bill claims is 35 days. To learn more information about VA education benefits, visit www.GIBILL.VA.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1. Third District residents needing assistance processing claims should contact the Towson office, 410-832-8890.

VA to provide emergency checks to students awaiting benefits

American Forces Press Service

Checks for up to \$3,000 soon will be available to students who have applied for Veterans Affairs educational benefits and who have not yet received their government payment.

The checks will be distributed to eligible students at VA regional benefits offices across the country starting Oct. 2, VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki announced Sept. 25.

"Students should be focusing on their studies, not worrying about financial difficulties," Shinseki said. "Education creates life-expanding opportunities for our veterans."

Starting Oct. 2, students can go to one of VA's 57 regional benefit offices with photo identification, a course schedule and an eligibility certificate to request advance payment of their housing and book allowance. Because some students don't live near one of those offices, officials said, VA expects to send representatives to schools with large veteran-student bodies to work with veteran service groups in helping students with transportation needs.

A list of VA regional offices is available at www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/offices.asp.

"I'm asking our people to get out their road maps and determine how we

can reach the largest number of college students who can't reach us," said Patrick Dunne, VA's undersecretary for Benefits. "Not everyone has a car. Not everyone can walk to a VA benefits office."

Although VA officials said they don't know how many students will request emergency funds, about 25,000 claims are pending that may result in payments to students.

The funds VA will give to students now are advance payments of the earned benefits for housing and books, and will be deducted from future education payments. Veterans Affairs officials said students should know that after this special payment, they can expect to receive education payments on the normal schedule: the beginning of the month following the period for which they are reimbursed.

"This is an extraordinary action we're taking," Shinseki said. "But it's necessary, because we recognize the hardships some of our veterans face."

More than 27,500 students already have received benefits for housing or books under the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, or their schools have received their tuition payments, officials said.

(Editor's note: Taken from a Department of Veterans Affairs news release.)