

APG News

www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

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

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See page 2 for Year of the NCO article.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Sept. 9, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Reduced gate hours for holiday weekend

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

On Sept. 4, 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., Sept. 7.

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

Wanted: Stories about NCOs

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

Community invited to 911 ceremonies – 'Never forget'

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community will conduct two ceremonies to commemorate 911. The entire community is invited to the Edgewood Area Chapel, building E-4620, 7 to 8 a.m., Sept. 11, and Ordnance Circle in front of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools at 3 p.m.

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CYS Services closes out summer sports program



Restored, ready to roll

Mike Sturgill, a project manager with A&A Transfer, Inc., center, directs the lowering of a 141,000 pound German Elephant tank by two cranes onto a multi-axle trailer at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum during the first phase of shipments of museum assets to Fort Lee, Va., Aug. 5. Looking on from left are A&A riggers Vic Abrams, crew chief, and Ben Thiesing and driver Bob Rathke with Meadow Lark Transportation. See article on page 6.

APG receives top energy award

Story by RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Energy Action Team received the 31st Secretary of the Army Energy and Water Management Award at the GovEnergy Convention held in Providence, R.I., Aug. 9 through 12.

Due to the fact that most members were not able to attend the awards presentation, the APG Energy Action Team held a special presentation at their office on Aug. 24. Thomas Kuchar, director of Public

Works and Tim McNamara, deputy to the Garrison commander, presented the award to the team.

Kuchar thanked the team, noting that all of the members of the team play a vital role in energy conservation, which ultimately saves the Army a significant amount of money.

"Saving money is big time business in the military," Kuchar said.

McNamara said that conserving energy and saving money are important concerns, especially important during times of war,

when the nation's resources are stretched thin.

He added that energy conservation ultimately means that there is more money for the Warfighters.

"Energy is a strategic issue for the Army," McNamara said. "We are trying to minimize our dependence on foreign oils." He added that energy conservation is everyone's responsibility at APG.

Devon Rust, an energy program coordinator, said that the APG Energy Action

See AWARD, page 12

ASC preps for new mission

Story by BARBARA TONER
ASC Public Affairs

A large but quiet change will take place in Army installation supply and maintenance activities during the next two years.

Directorates of Logistics, a worldwide organization currently managed by the Installation Management Command, will split into Directorates of Materiel and Directorates of Support Services, realigning functions to fit the Army Enterprise concept. Materiel programs, including installation-level maintenance activities, certain supply operations and ammunition supply functions, will transfer to the U.S. Army Materiel Command, while IMCOM will retain its transportation, services and support missions under the DOSS.

Army Sustainment Command is AMC's choice to take on the new mission. Initial oper-

ating capability for management of DOMs located in the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii is scheduled to begin Oct. 1. Full operating capability is expected in fiscal year 2012, beginning Oct. 1, 2011.

The scope of the mission is large: \$1 billion in supply and maintenance work at 77 installations, including approximately 2,100 government employees and 15,000 contractors.

The DOM will execute transitioning supply, maintenance and ammo supply missions formerly performed by the installation DOLs. What this means for ASC is the assumption of a large new mission. "What it means for the organizations supported by the current DOLs is they will see no change in service", said Carl Cartwright, executive director for Field Support.

See NEW MISSION, page 4

Customer Service Assessment -Customers asked to provide feedback for survey

IMCOM

All Soldiers, Family members, retirees, veterans and Department of Defense civilians can participate in the annual IMCOM Customer Service Assessment through Sept. 18, where they will be asked to rate the performance and importance of services of interest to them. The Web address for the survey is www.myarmyvoice.org.

This survey is incredibly important and will be the opportunity for installation customers to provide input into a comprehensive assessment of Aberdeen Proving Ground services. The more who take the survey, the better the data.

There are thousands in the APG and surrounding communities who can make their

voice heard. The survey was designed to be completed in 20 to 30 minutes and covers services provided by every agency in the garrison, from the ID card section and Family Housing, to Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

Customers will click on the Web address and answer a series of questions that direct them to the set of questions and services they use. For example, retirees and Family members would not be asked to rate the Soldier Readiness Processing Center or Military Personnel Records. Customers are asked to rate how well the service is performing, on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (excellent), and how important that service is to them, also

See SURVEY, page 12

Online CFC pledging available to all eligible civilian, military personnel

CFC Office

In 2008, 19 tenants and organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground participated in CFC Nexus, which is a privately developed system that provided a distinct avenue for pledging online.

Mikey Graziano, the 2009 CFC chairman, said that the online donation process has been very popular and successful with organizations that had the option to donate in this manner.

"More than one hundred thirty thou-

sand dollars was donated online, which was thirty percent of the total pledges made in 2008," Graziano said. "Our 2009 goal is now to raise more than two hundred thousand dollars online," he said.

Aberdeen Proving Ground was asked by the Chesapeake Bay Area CFC Local Federal Coordinating Committee to be one of the test installations for online pledging in 2008.

"We appreciated APG's willingness to be part of our pilot program in 2008,"

said Linda Siegle, chair of the committee. "Many agencies were reluctant to be one of the first to use the system since it was new to our campaign."

"As a result of the support from the CFC office and the personnel at APG, the use of the product was extremely successful in 2008 and is an example to all other federal agencies in our campaign in the use of electronic pledging," she said.

"With online pledging, donors can

See CFC PLEDGING, page 2



Gate opening announcements

The Route MD-22 (Harford Gate) reopened at 4 a.m., Aug. 31 and is open to government ID holders only. Normal hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 4 a.m. to 11 p.m., and closed weekends and federal holidays.

The Aberdeen Boulevard Gate has also returned to its normal hours of Monday through Friday, 5:30 to 8:30 a.m. and is open to government ID holders and Rapid-GATE pass holders. Both gates are closed on holidays.

ATEF construction road closure

Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility construction continues to progress at a rapid pace.

Construction is now active within the north west area of the track which will result in closure of the access road that connects Bush River road to the northern end of the Perryman 3-mile straightaway Sept. 3.

Visitors and vehicles over 3/4 ton must continue to use the MD-715/Maryland Boulevard Gate.

Boothby Hill Avenue in the Aberdeen Area closed Aug. 31, and reopens Sept. 7 to allow for completion of the new Combat Drive extension.

The following traffic changes will be in effect until the new Combat Drive extension and its intersection with Maryland Boulevard.

See TRAFFIC, page 4

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

APG celebrates The Year of the NCO

Commentary: NCOs lead in the S&T community

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

One of the most critical keys to the continuing success of Warfighter support involves the leadership of U.S. Army noncommissioned officers within the science and technology community.

NCO involvement in the S&T process is extremely critical to the development of the right technologies and the right equipment for Warfighters currently in the field.

When I first came to the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, one of my first initiatives was to travel around the command and see how the NCOs and the Soldiers were being utilized in the S&T process. I wanted to make sure that there was a strong working relationship between the Soldiers and our scientists and engineers. As part of that, I wanted to make sure that our scientists and engineers were actually taking advantage of those Soldiers and learning from all of their combat experience. And, I can tell you that they are. RDECOM is putting the Warfighters at the forefront of every research and engineering project that we do.



The proper utilization of these vital personnel assets is critical; given the many lessons learned, they can provide us despite their limited numerical presence within the S&T community. While RDECOM includes 18,000 scientists, engineers and other profession-

als, we are reinforced with only about 190 NCOs and Soldiers. One of the things that I do for RDECOM NCOs is hold quarterly professional development opportunities. I get NCOs from the command together at different locations throughout the United States to make sure

that I link the Soldier assigned to the organization with their experience. Just as we need the engineers to learn from the NCOs experience, we need the NCOs to become better educated about the big picture, how their contributions in working with the scientists and engineers can directly support the Warfighter in the field.

There is tremendous value in the NCO sitting there with the engineer and scientist. Together, they can apply first-hand, battlefield experiences to new technological innovations and engineering solutions. Because, at the end of the day, that piece of equipment ends up in the hands of a Soldier in the mountains of Afghanistan.

For example, we had a requirement to develop a Gunner's Restraint System for all of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle variants. Because those vehicles were procured and fielded quickly, they did not have a restraint system to protect gunners from getting injured or killed if an MRAP rolled over. That led to our 'tasker' to develop a Gunner's Restraint System within 72 hours. The resulting project focused on a collaboration of engineers and scientists within RDECOM, to include the Edgewood

Chemical Biological Center, working closely with the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command here at Aberdeen Proving Ground and NCOs on the ground.

The Soldiers collaborated with and worked with the engineers and scientists, and we were able to pull it together in just one weekend. Within a few days of the first 50 to 100 systems arriving in theater, they saved somebody's life.

I can tell you that the engineers could not have done it that fast all by themselves. Having those NCOs who have been in combat, who have driven MRAPS, and who have operated the weapon systems on an MRAP right there during the engineering can make the process go extremely fast. That first-hand exchange of information is irreplaceable.

The last few years have seen the expansion of NCO involvement in the S&T process from throughout the Army. And, from my experience, the engineers, scientists and NCOs all love it because they educate each other.

This relationship is critical to keeping the Army on the cutting edge of technology because it brings fresh experience into our labs and produces Warfighter-focused solutions out of our labs.

On Capitol Hill, female Soldiers discuss equality

Story by
C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

The Army and the Congressional Woman's Caucus on Issues teamed up Aug. 26 on Capitol Hill for a Women's Equality Day presentation titled "Women NCOs in the U.S. Army."

The Army panel was made of three female noncommissioned officers and one female commissioned officer. They discussed being women in uniform, their time in the Army and their reasons for joining the service.

Sergeant Major Barbara Henson, with the Asymmetric Warfare Group at Fort Meade, said over the years she has seen changes in the way women are treated in the Army. Evidence of that, she said, is the difference between her first experience at Fort Bragg, N.C., as a young Soldier and her experience there years later as a first sergeant.

"The difference in those eight years was phenomenal," she said. "The first day I was at Fort Bragg as a Soldier, I showed up with another female, and we were the first two females that platoon had seen -- we were not welcomed at all. They felt that now their platoon was not going to be as 'hooah'

as the other ones." Growing up [as] the only girl with six older brothers, she said their attitude didn't faze her, however.

"They expected a lot of us and we preformed and we were accepted," she said.

Years later, coming back as a first sergeant, she said things were different.

"The company had male commands the whole time I was a first sergeant and both of them accepted me as their partner in command," she said. "And the Soldiers -- and I only had two female Soldiers in a company of one hundred twenty six -- they completely accepted me as their first sergeant. I do think there was a difference in those times I was at Fort Bragg."

First Sergeant Sylvia Rios-Holcomb, of Battle Company, Warrior Transition Brigade, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C., said any changes she's seen over her 20 years of service have been more subtle.

"I can't say I have seen significant or drastic changes from 20 years ago when I joined the Army, maybe because they have happened gradually," Holcomb said. "But I will say

that we have been more accepted.

"I have seen myself in larger groups interacting with males, and being able to prove myself, as a female Soldier. For the most part, I can hang with the big guys -- I will be the first to say I cannot hang with them in everything they do -- but I think that women in the military have gone a long way to prove that some of us can actually do some of the extraordinary things that our male counterparts can do."

As to whether the Army can stand to make improvements in how female Soldiers fit into the force, Rios-Holcomb cites an infallible source: her mother.

"Mom always told me there is room for improvement," she said. "But I do think the Army is better today compared to what it was forty to fifty years ago, because it has given me an opportunity. And I can only imagine where we'll be twenty years from now -- we are taking strides and we are making progress as an organization. I am happy with where we have come today."

Major Jennifer A. Reynolds, now with the Army Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, is a Black Hawk

pilot by trade. She shared a love of flying with her grandfather, also an Army pilot.

As a pilot, she flew both supplies and people around in Iraq. At one point, she was even responsible for moving Saddam Hussein from his confinement area to his trial location. She said as a female pilot, she expected reactions from male Soldiers that never came.

"We'd fly in there, I'm all of five-foot three-inches -- I'd get out of my aircraft and have to put my hair back up because it wouldn't fit in my helmet," she said. "Their first impression of me is this short person who has to put her hair back up. And the first times we went in there I expected a negative reaction. But I never got it, ever."

Most of her experiences as a woman in the Army have been like that. She said equality for women in the Army begins with a female Soldier's ability to prove her mettle -- same as the male Soldiers.

"Men expect men and women to prove themselves equally," she said. "You have to prove yourselves to the Soldiers. I've worked with a lot of women and they are up to the job."

Pledging

From front page

contribute from the comfort of their home, work or anywhere they have Internet access twenty-four seven," Graziano said.

The CFC Nexus program provides many benefits to all aspects of the CFC including:

Searchable database: Includes a searchable CFC Contributor Guide, allowing employees to search in a variety of ways to find charitable organizations where they would like to designate their dollars.

More accurate pledging: Validates the five digit code entered, ensuring

that only valid codes are used. In addition, all calculations are done electronically, ensuring that the biweekly or monthly allotment equals the annual total, as well as ensuring that the amounts designated equal the total amounts pledged.

Data management: Provides a variety of ways to manage CFC data. This monitors trends, determines distribution of pledges and directly downloads pledge information into the pledge collection and distribution system.

Secured Web Site: Provides the page to be secured and encrypted to the CFC Nexus servers. This server is certified with 256 bit Secure Sockets Layer.

CFC Nexus is a 4th generation OPM acknowledged online E-Pledging system designed specifically for the CFC

community.

OPM has stated every online e-pledge system has surpassed paper pledging by a wide margin, and this is true of CFC Nexus according to Siegle.

Donors who participated in the Online Pledging system in 2008, will again be able to login to the CFC Nexus. Users who have forgotten their login or password, can recover username/login or password by entering their first name, last name and e-mail address used in their original registration. For more assistance, contact Chesapeake Bay Area CFC campaign coordinator at ChesapeakeBayAreaCFC@uwcm.org or call 410-895-1495.

If employee has transferred to a new organization within APG, the organi-

zation name should be changed in their profile. If the employee's organization is reorganized or renamed, the organization name should also be changed.

First time donors will need to register a pledging profile at the Chesapeake Bay Area CFC Nexus Home page, https://www.cfcnexus.org/_chesapeake/.

"We are thrilled to have APG not only using CFC Nexus again this year, but expanding the use base-wide. The process is very easy and provides a more accurate and secure pledging process for donors," Siegle said.

For more information on APG CFC Online Pledge system, contact the APG CFC Office, 410-278-9913 or e-mail apgr-usag-cfc@conus.army.mil.

APG News

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

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August Well-Being focuses on housing, upcoming events

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community gathered at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel Aug. 20 to discuss upcoming events.

Tim McNamara, deputy to the garrison commander, welcomed attendees to the meeting, and then turned the meeting over to Michael Lupacchino, the director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

DPTMS

John Kearney, director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security said that September, will have three ground-breakings: Sept. 1, the U.S. Army Research Laboratory Vehicle Test Facility; Sept. 10, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command; and Sept. 15, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.

APG will remember 9-11 with two ceremonies, one at 7 a.m. at the Edgewood Chapel and a retreat ceremony at Ordnance Circle at 3 p.m. These ceremonies will be open to the public.

September 15 and 16 is the garrison's annual force protection exercise.

"You will see a lot of activity in those two days," Kearney said, "including traffic changes and gate closures."

AAFES

Debbie Armendariz, representing the Army and Air Force Exchange, said that customers can get five cents off per gallon when they use their Military Star Card.

Armendariz added that AAFES has a "We'll Match It!" program designed to make sure that AAFES customers receive the best price. Shoppers who see a price differential of less than \$10 can tell the cashier who will match it on the spot. Customers who report a price difference of greater than \$10 need to bring a current local competitor's ad to receive the reduced price. Except for the Exchange Catalog and aafes.com, PXs and BXs cannot accept challenges from any catalog or Web site.

AAFES also offers a 30-day price guarantee on any item originally purchased from AAFES and subsequently sold at a lower price by AAFES or another local competitor (excluding unauthorized dealers).

Complete details concerning the price matching program are available online at aafes.com.

Commissary

Ann Morrison, commissary manager, said that the commissary will be open regular hours during the Labor Day holiday weekend.

There will be a case lot sale Sept. 24 through 26, but quantities are limited.

Morrison added that in September, specialty holiday items will be available in limited quantities.

"If you see something you like I suggest you buy it and put it away for the holidays," Morrison said.

KUSAHC

Lieutenant Colonel Mark Ireland, commander at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, said that it is important for children to get a physical for school.

He stated that the Immunization Plan for influenza will be out in September. He added that he is waiting on guidance from Medical Command.

"Right now there is a lot of concern in the community. We will be briefing on it in September," Ireland said.

Ireland added that he has an open door policy, and invited all to share comments and concerns with him.

For more information, go to <http://kusahc.narmc.amedd.army.mil/default.aspx/>

DPW

Thomas Kuchar, director of Public Works, said that dramatic changes will

take place in housing under the Residential Communities Initiative.

The contractor Picerne will begin managing Army housing on or close to Dec. 1. He said that this will dramatically increase living conditions, including a new community center, which will be for residents only.

Kuchar said that he visited Fort Meade where Picerne also manages privatized housing and said that he was very impressed with the housing and the accommodations.

He added that Pat Hector will be the garrison's contact responsible for working with Picerne.

"We have been looking forward to Picerne working with Army Family Housing. They will provide a better quality of life for the Soldier," she said. "They will be able to do things for you that we were not able to do for you."

Kuchar then discussed the changing traffic patterns that are publicized in *APG News* and through e-mail.

"In general, please slow down when you see construction workers," he said.

"In the long term, with the Enhanced Use Leasing site we will finish off the Aberdeen Gate, so there will be three gates in the Aberdeen Area," he said.

Kuchar said that in the future there will be a site manager for the Edgewood area and a site manager for the Aberdeen area, who will be "go to" people for each area.

"We will be able to have people who know the facilities in and out, and will be able to support people a lot better," he said.

DLES

Fire Chief Ed Budnick, represented the Directorate of Emergencies Services.

Budnick asked attendees to continue to use caution while driving as the traffic patterns change frequently.

Budnick added that October is National Fire Prevention Month and that the directorate will afford the opportunity to have voluntary quarters inspections and other life safety inspections in the workplace by request.

Detective Mike Farlow said that the community showed great support at the National Night Out event held Aug. 4.

"We are doing a lot with the community with the fire and police departments combined," he said. "It is a great merger, because the fire department has won several awards for community relations."

Farlow said that the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program will be starting soon at the youth centers and Child Development centers, which will include the D.A.R.E. Dance program.

Farlow added that they will also be starting their polar bear plunge team, which happens every January in support of the Special Olympics. For those who are interested in joining the team, contact Farlow, 410-298-3609.

Logistics

Gene Schmidt, from the logistics office, said that the dining facility's meal theme for Sept. 15 is Hispanic food. The meal will be held in building 4503 in Aberdeen Area and 4225 in the Edgewood Area. This meal is open to all ID card holders and costs only \$4.25.

FMWR

Christina Lockhart, the director of FMWR Marketing, invited attendees to check out the newly renovated Ruggles Golf Course and club house. She said that there are currently specials at the Ruggles Golf Course, and that the club house is a great place to go for lunch.

Lockhart added that there are also specials in the newly renovated APG Bowling Center.

Lockhart said to look for specials the *APG news* and to visit www.apgnwr.com for more information.

Luppachino added that the Brooks and

Dunn concert held Aug. 15 was a great success that generated some revenue that can be put back into the community for FMWR programs.

"I appreciate the support from the directorates and the community itself," he said.

He added that Garrison Organizational Day is Sept. 24 at Edgewood Area's Capa Field.

An attendee remarked that she was impressed with the car detailing service now being provided by FMWR. She said that she received high quality service at a low price. The FMWR Web site has more details about this service.

Deborah Dodsworth, KUSAHC patient advocate, told attendees that KUSAHC offers free over-the-counter medication classes for beneficiaries and free tobacco cessation classes. For more information, call 410-278-1774.

CYSS

Chuck Rose, an FMWR partnership specialist with APG's Child, Youth and

School Services office, announced that there are several upcoming EDGE packages that will be offered for APG youth. "Learn to bowl!" will take place Sept. 21 through Oct. 19 at the Bowling Center. There will also be a "Hit the birdie" disc golf package that will take place Sept. 21 through Oct. 19 that will be held at the

See WELL-BEING, page 4

Well-Being

From page 3

Aberdeen Area Youth Center. There will be a dodge ball package Oct. 6 through 29 that will be conducted at the Boys and Girls Club at Aberdeen, and a paintball package place Sept. 22 through Oct. 13 at Robinhood Paintball, 2429 Old Robin Hood Road on Tuesday's, 4 to 6 p.m. Registration is required for these programs. To register, call the Central Registration Office, located in building 2752, at 410-278-7571/7479 or Rose, 410-278-1399.

Rose also talked about the Youth HIRED! Apprentice Program which is a new program available through the CYS Services that provides 15 to 18 year old students whose Families work on APG an opportunity to gain real-world career experience and get paid a stipend while working in a variety of positions at FMWR facilities.

To learn more about these programs, see the Aug. 20 edition of *APG News*, or go to http://www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_services.html.

Stacie Umbarger, director of SKIES Unlimited, said that there are several SKIES classes for children and teens that are starting soon. For more information on these programs, go to http://www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_skies.html or call Umbarger, 410-278-4589.

ACS

Marilyn Howard from Army Community Service announced several classes that are free to all ID card holders. The ACS Relocation Program provides American citizenship preparation classes, English as a Second Language classes, and Home Buying and Selling seminars. The Employment Readiness Program also provides classes on computers, resume building and interviewing skills. A small business development classes which will start on Sept. 24. For more information. Call the main office, 410-278-7474.

Howard added that the next Army Family Action Plan Conference will be Oct. 6 through 8. The training for the AFAP will be held Sept. 29.

Issues can be submitted online by going to the APG Web site, <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/>

[services/ACS/AFAP_Issue.cfm](#), and click on "Army Family Action Plan," link on the left.

Howard said that the next Newcomers Orientations are Sept. 16 and Nov. 18, and will be held in the Recreation Center, building 3326 from 1 to 3 p.m.

BRAC Transformation Office

Syreeta Gross from the BRAC Transformation Office thanked attendees for their continued patience in the construction that is going on due to base realignment and closure. She asked attendees to look in their e-mail inbox for upcoming traffic announcements and in the *APG News*.

Luppachino added that the Soldier Show will be coming to APG. The show that is open to the public is 6 p.m., Nov. 1.

"It is a show by the Soldiers for the Soldiers," he said. "It is always a great show."

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades concluded the meeting by saying that he is extremely excited to be working at APG.

"There are a lot of good things going on in the community," Rhoades said. "There are many events going on that

make our Families feel like APG is their home."

Rhoades said that DPW is doing a lot of work on the homes before Picerne comes in December.

He said that ICE is beginning to improve, more people are leaving their names and contact information so that directors can get back to those people within a 72-hour time frame.

Rhoades added that the barracks are also slated to be renovated to improve the quality of life for the Soldiers.

McNamara said that with hurricane season the Army is focusing on emergency preparedness. He said that you can find information on APG's Web site. He added that it is important to have a plan set out ahead of time in case an emergency arises.

McNamara added that he is proud to announce that the APG's energy team is a recipient of the Secretary of the Army's energy award.

"I ask you all to do your part to conserve energy," he said.

The next meeting will be held at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel 9:30 a.m., Sept. 17.

New Mission

From front page

"For the average person, nothing will change," he said.

Splitting the DOL is the result of the Army's Enterprise Architecture that divides Army Force Generation functions into four enterprises, Cartwright said. Personnel will be led by U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, readiness by U.S. Army Forces Command, installations and services shared by IMCOM and the vice chief of staff of the Army, and materiel by AMC.

The objective is to align all Army functions into core competencies under the Army commands and a direct reporting

unit.

A priority goal of the reorganization is to create more efficient supply and maintenance capabilities for the Army, said Kathy Acree, co-lead of the DOM Integrated Product Team.

Additional efficiencies may derive from consolidation of installation maintenance programs and developing a common acquisition strategy. Employing ASC's Command Assessment and Continuous Improvement Office to share best practices and replicate them at all locations will also yield benefits, Acree said.

At this point, AMC has delegated management of the DOM to ASC because it fits the field-level support mission.

Continued planning for the realign-

ment will take place over the two years of the IOC process, Cartwright said. During this initial phase of the transfer, funding, manpower, and resources will remain with IMCOM. At full implementation, all funding and assets will transfer to ASC.

So far, the IPT has determined the DOM will be centrally managed, with a command and control group located at ASC and consisting of five regional offices: three sections to oversee CONUS locations, one for Europe and one for the Far East. At this point, there are no plans to manage installation activities in Southwest Asia, Cartwright said.

The Army Field Support Brigades will interface with the DOMs on behalf of the Warfighters, Acree said. They will contin-

ue as AMC's face to the field, coordinating with the DOMs on workload prioritization and synchronization of support requirements.

Several challenges face the IPT in its DOM development, including the task of planning for this responsibility.

"This isn't about a cookie cutter solution," Acree said. "We must take into account unique aspects at each installation in order to support senior mission commander requirements. For us to be able to assume management, we have to first understand what missions are involved."

"We look at this as a major step forward for the Army in making more effective use of resources by aligning missions with core competencies," Acree concluded.

Traffic

From front page

vard is completed.

The MD-22 (Harford Road) Gate reopened 4 a.m., Monday, Aug. 31.

Morning commute:

- Susquehanna Avenue and Darlington Street will be restricted to local traffic ONLY.

- Construction traffic ONLY will access

the C4ISR construction site using a small portion of Boothby Hill Road then detouring to Combat Drive.

Evening commute:

- From 3 to 6 p.m., to access the MD-715 (Maryland Boulevard) Gate, Aberdeen Boulevard outbound traffic will be detoured around Deer Creek Loop and reconnect with Maryland Boulevard at the intersection of Bush River Road/Deer Creek Loop/Maryland Boulevard.

- Susquehanna Avenue local traffic will exit via Maryland Boulevard in the right lane only.

- Darlington Road local traffic will exit via Maryland Boulevard in the left lane only.

- From 3 to 6 p.m., left turns from Maryland Boulevard onto Susquehanna Avenue or Darlington Road will be prohibited and eastbound/ inbound traffic on Deer Creek Loop will be detoured to Aberdeen Boulevard via Rodman Road to prevent traffic conflicts.

For the onset of these detours, flagmen will control traffic on inbound Maryland Boulevard, outbound Susquehanna Avenue and Darlington Street traffic. Traffic signs and controls will be placed to guide motor-

ists through the varying traffic patterns.

Once Combat Drive is reopened, the Boothby Hill Avenue intersection with Maryland Boulevard along with the section of Boothby Hill Avenue between Maryland Boulevard and Combat Drive will be demolished.

Commuters are asked to pay careful attention to the changing traffic conditions; patience and courtesy is requested and appreciated. While the recent closures are cumbersome, traffic will flow much more efficiently in the Aberdeen Area when construction is completed.



Ordnance museum move; The restorers

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The first phase of the historic relocation of the Ordnance Museum began with the shipment of 60 of the museum's large artifacts to Fort Lee, Va. Aug. 3 through 7. During that week the sight of giant cranes loading tanks and guns caught the attention of post employees and passers-by, many of whom pulled over to snap photos with their camera phones.

Activities on Aug. 5 captured the most attention during the loading of a World War II German Elephant tank. It took one 120-ton crane and one 90-ton crane from the Meadow Lark Transportation Company and the ingenuity of riggers from the A&A Transfer Inc. to load the 141,000-pound tank onto a multi-axle trailer. As it turned out, lifting the tank was the easy part. Riggers had to use two forklifts to shift the trailer into position under the tank as it hovered above. Trailer and cargo totaled about 250,000-pounds and required police escort the entire route.

Along with the *APG News*, a photographer from *The AEGIS* and Mike Brown, a videographer from the APG Garrison's Visual Information Services Division were on hand to film the event.

Perhaps none were more interested in the goings on than a group of technicians from EDSI, Inc., the company contracted



Ben Thiesing, left, and Joe Santos, riggers with A&A Transfer, Inc., cover the Elephant tank for shipment to Fort Lee, Va., at the end of loading operations at the Ordnance Museum Aug. 5.

to restore the museum's aging artifacts.

The restorers, Richard Warner, Joe Wheeler, Leroy Sims and Anthony Beard watched the activities while sitting in the shade under a nearby tree.

"This is just historic," Warner said. "There are only two of these in existence; this one and one in Russia."

Wheeler said workers spent about 300 man hours restoring the tank.

"It's a one-of-a-kind showpiece," he said proudly.

"It was in real rough shape," Simms added. "We just wanted to see it loaded.

That's our baby."

Jerry Kendrick, EDSI project manager, said the restoration was the first of its kind for the company and a film crew from Toronto was on hand to film the operation for television.

"Time management was the issue," Kendrick said.

"We normally average six to eight weeks on a project like that," Kendrick said.

The film crew's schedule required a much shorter operation. They filmed the first two weeks of taking the tank apart and blasting off the old paint and rust and then said they would return in two weeks to film the repainting.

"We had five weeks, so that meant some extra hours," Kendrick said, adding that he received approval for the extra hours from his company prior to the project.

"It took almost two days just to paint the tracks, which weigh about three tons," he said, adding that much of the camouflage painting was done by hand.

"We only had a photo of what they wanted and that only showed one side view so there was a lot of guess work involved, but it turned out really nice."

he said. "The film crew and the Ordnance Museum were happy with it."

Since 1999, EDSI workers have restored more than 160 Ordnance tanks and guns, many of which were crumbling and had to be rebuilt from the inside out.

In that time they've also done work for other organizations. Four items they worked on for the U.S. Marine Corps are on display at the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, Va. They include a Sherman Tank and a World War II landing craft. In addition, they restored a HUEY helicopter now on display at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

Kendrick said that the restoration of ordnance artifacts will continue despite the museums' relocation.

"The operation will continue at APG. Some will go to the Ordnance Center and Schools when they're completed and some will stay here," he said.

Although he was unable to attend the loading of the Elephant tank, he said he was glad his workers got to see it.

"It was a one-of-a-kind tank," he said. "We'll probably never see another one like it."

Calibration mission supports APG organizations

Story
BY YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Research, development, test and evaluation organizations on Aberdeen Proving Ground would have a hard time completing their missions without the Support of the U.S. Army Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Support Center, Aberdeen.

Located in building 2482, 2484 and E5106, the TMDE is a branch of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command's TMDE Activity, headquartered at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

The activity is one of eight sites in the Northeast, Region 1 tasked with the calibration and repair of the Army's test, measurement and diagnostic equipment.

The APG TMDE support activity consists of two sites in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas. The Aberdeen site is the only secondary level calibration lab in the Army accredited to ISO 17025, the international standard for competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

What this means for APG customers, according to TMDE chief Daryl Y. Williams, is the highest level of accuracy and reliability.

"Calibration is the keystone to Army maintenance," Williams said. "This is a special lab because most of our customers are in research and development. Like our customers, we're supporting the Soldier in the field because we maintain the testing equipment being developed for Soldiers."

"The installation is gaining a lot of new organizations that may not know we're here," he said. "We just want to get the word out that TMDE support is in place at APG for all calibration needs."

He noted that other TMDE sites in the region include Fort Meade, Md.; Fort Eustis, Va.; Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa.; Fort Devens, Mass.; Fort Dix, N.J.; Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa.; Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich., and Fort Drum, N.Y.

The TMDE activities regularly support the missions of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Aberdeen Test Center, Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

"We are the only accredited lab away from Redstone," said engineering technician Jack Derrenberger, who oversees the calibration of humidity and temperature devices at the EA site. "And we substantiate our numbers," Derrenberger said. "We



Charles Gaines, an engineering technician with the Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment support center in building 2482 in the Aberdeen Area, loads a 120,000-pound High Force Machine, one of hundreds of pieces of equipment used for calibration testing in the accredited facility.

don't just say it's accurate, but why it's accurate."

All work is traceable through the national institute, he added.

"We offer a much higher level of calibration," he said. "We talk to people nationally and internationally, and our operation

is highly esteemed by our peers."

Williams said the operation is audited annually and every two years by international auditors.

"We consistently receive high marks, due to the fact that we continuously train on current and new equipment and prepare for assessments," Williams added.

He credits the 22 technicians and engineers, many former Soldiers, which make up the TMDE team for sustaining the award-winning operation.

Multiple services

In building 2484, located in the Aberdeen Area, technicians calibrate equipment such as light meters, pammeters and sound equipment. In the nearby Assembly and Acceleration room technicians calibrate equipment for tactical vehicles that measures the impact of explosions, crash tests and vibrations.

In the Force Torque Area electronics maintenance mechanic Jose Rivera-Alvarez uses the AKO Torque Master to calibrate torque wrenches that are used to tightens bolts that are used on tanks or helicopter rotor blades. He explained that equipment must meet the presets and standards displayed on the screen of the AKO.

"This indicates when the peak hold is reached and the test is complete," he said.

Inside the Pressure Module, a climate controlled room that must be maintained at 68 degrees at all times, technicians perform air or fluid pressure checks, usually on ballistics research equipment, pressure gauges and digital pressure, length, height and angles reading instruments.

Extra care for precise measurements is taken in the Mass Area Balances and Scales lab where the floor is supported by a concrete slab that isolates vibrations and technicians must wear gloves when handling the calibration weights.

"Any amount of oil on the hands would be enough to change the weight," said engineering tech Charles Gaines.

This room is a sealed, climatically controlled environment with gauges that monitor humidity and airflow.

"Sensitivity to vibrations affects balances and to keep people from moving in or out of the room I often have to lock the door," Gaines said.

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Norman Hardy taught calibration with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools before retiring from the Army in 1978. He now is the lead technician in the TMDE Electrical Standards Lab where they test items for electrical resistance and electrical conduction, voltage, current, frequency measure and generation.

"Our objective is to test, ensure it's working properly and get it back to the customer," Hardy said. "We consistently meet those standards; which is one reason we do more than the standard lab. This is the best lab in the world."

The TMDE supports the Freestate Challenge Academy job shadowing program.

For more information about the APG TMDE Support Center, contact Williams, 410-278-4464 or daryl.y.williams@us.army.mil.

Community Notes

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 3 SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 6 to 8 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and younger. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area for a relaxing sail and sunset. Reservations are required.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4019

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 4 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo will be held to benefit the Havre de Grace Rotary Club at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors open at 6 p.m., bingo begins at 7 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available.

Bring a non-perishable food item for a free chance on a special drawing. Stews, chili, chunky soups, pancake mixes and syrups are needed.

Tickets cost \$12 per person for all paper cards; extra packs cost \$5 each. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Roger Gaumont, 410-942-0389, LouAnn Swam, 410-272-5818 or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

MARYLAND WINE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Maryland Wine Cruise, 5 to 7 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The ship will take a 90-minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area offering wine from a local vineyard, cheese, fruit, beer and soda. Reservations are required.

For more information, reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 5 TEMPORARILY MISPLACED KIDS

Ever been hiking, temporarily misplaced the kids and started wondering what to

do? Come for a review of how to safely hike in the woods with the Family. Hikers are asked to bring a daypack with the items normally carried on a hike. This program will be held 2:30 to 4 p.m. for Families. The cost is \$5 per Family. 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.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 5 AND 6 RAGIN ON THE RIVER

The 6th Annual "Ragin' on the River" power boat races will be held noon on Sept. 5 and 6, at Marina Park, Port Deposit. The event will feature American Power Boat Association racing on the Susquehanna River. Gates open 10 a.m. The Upper Chesapeake Ski Club will perform each morning and each afternoon at river break. The admission price is \$5 per person per day to \$5 per weekend pass per adult. Children ages 12 and under will be admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. Parking is limited; an area of free parking has been designated outside town limits and a free shuttle bus will transport visitors to the downtown area and to Marina Park. Food, beverages, souvenirs and craft vendors are available, but visitors are welcome to ride the free bus to the center of town where restaurants are located. No coolers are allowed in Marina Park.

For more information, call Rob Flayhart, Race Committee chairman, 443-807-1363.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 6 NATURE TALES - CRITTER FEET

Story time with a nature twist. Listen to some stories, learn new songs and move like the animals. This free program will be held at 2 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.

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 8 GUNPOWDER TOASTMASTERS HOLDS MEETING

Learn to speak confidently and effectively by joining Toastmasters. The Toastmaster's mission is to help people improve communication, leadership, evaluation, and public-speaking skills in a fun and friendly environment.

The Gunpowder Toastmasters meet the first and third Mondays each month (unless the date falls on a federal holiday), 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m., in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility in building E-4516 Seminar Room.

For more information, contact Adam Freeland at 410-652-8026 or Carmen Lane Kifer, 410-436-8969.

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 9 HEALING HERBS - EXFOLIATING BODY SCRUB

Explore the medicinal and therapeutic values of herbs and wild plants. Take home a product made from some of the highlighted plants. This program will be held 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. The cost is \$4. 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.

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 11 BASKET BINGO

Basket bingo to benefit the order of the Eastern Star will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 each; extra packets cost \$5. Bring a canned good or non-perishable food item for a bonus prize ticket. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-278-7332.

MARYLAND WINE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Maryland Wine Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The ship will take a 90-minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area offering wine from a local vineyard, cheese, fruit, beer and soda. Reservations are required.

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

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 12 WHITE TAILED DEER SURVEY

Harford County seems to be experiencing explosive population growth, and not just with humans. Come help determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Get the scoop on poop and conduct pellet (deer scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer call the Park home. This program will be held 9 a.m. to 12 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.

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL

The 21st Annual Children's Arts Festival will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Millard E. Tydings Park, Havre de Grace. Events include entertainment for young children with hands-on craft activities, scarecrow making and a Children's Art Contest.

Light fare lunch will be available for purchase.

Cost is free for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. Bring old pantyhose for scarecrow making. This event is open to the public. No rain location.

For more information, call Ruth Hendrickson, 410-272-5516, e-mail RRHEN@aol.com, or Mary Boehly, 410-939-8518, boehlyofhdg@earthlink.net.

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

POST SHORTS

From front page

KUSAHC closed Sept. 7

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed for a training holiday services will be available Sept. 4. No clinic services will be open to the public. Beneficiaries should plan accordingly for medical needs and/or prescriptions.

Blue Cross/Shield visits APG Sept. 8

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., Sept. 8, in building 305, room 211 and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., building E-4520, Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, Edgewood Area, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

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

Notice of possible noise conditions

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground plans to conduct several large detonations through Sept. 4 which are likely to generate sound and/or vibration outside the installation boundaries.

If weather conditions are not favorable, firing will be rescheduled.

ATC will also be supporting a training exercise through Sept. 13, day and night.

Activities may take place in APG's restricted waters and can include weapons firing and the use of multiple water and aircraft.

Illumination devices may create flashes or light visible off post.

Questions should be directed to 410-278-1147 or 800-688-8705.

Post Office seeking custodial help

Part-time custodial help is wanted at APG Post Offices. Working hours would be split between the Aberdeen Area Post Office (7 hours) and Edgewood Area Post Office (3 hours), for a total of approximately 10 hours.

For more information or to apply, call the Postmaster, 410-278-7967.

Hispanic Specialty Meal Sept. 15

The Hispanic Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Sept. 15.

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.

Menu includes chicken with rice (arroz con pollo), turkey chimichangas, shrimp and cheese quesadillas, beef enchiladas, beef tacos (soft and hard shell), Puerto Rican style roast pork, Spanish potatoes, steamed rice, refried beans, Mexican corn, greens with bacon, assorted salad bar, Mexican style corn bread, assorted breads, assorted desserts, 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.

Commissary holds case lot sale

The Aberdeen Proving Ground case lot sale is scheduled for Sept. 24 through 26.

Thrift Store holds \$3 bag sale thru September

The APG Thrift Store will hold a \$3 bag sale for items in the sale room. Many items will be moved from the front of the store to make room for newer stock. For more information, call 410-272-8572 during store hours.

CFC preparing for silent auction, seeks items

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign office is seeking donations for an Online Silent Auction to raise money to support Combined Federal Campaign charities.

The APG CFC is seeking items in good condition such as sports memorabilia, antiques/collectibles, gift cards, Christmas crafts, home craft ceramics, paintings and much more. Donated items for the auction and winning bids may be tax deductible. It is voluntary to donate to APG CFC Office.

Items will be accepted at Top of Bay Down Under 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Online Silent Auction will begin immediately.

Book/DVD Fair

APG CFC office is seeking used or new books/DVD/tapes for APG CFC Book Fair beginning Oct. 1.

Donated items for the auction and winning bids may be tax deductible. It is voluntary to donate to APG CFC Office.

Items can be accepted at Top of Bay

Down Under basement from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MCSC annual membership drive

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Military and Civilian Spouses Club will hold its annual membership drive, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Sept. 10, at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum. There will be a tour of the museum at 4:30 p.m. All military and civilian spouses are welcome.

For more information, call Beth Nelson, 443-345-4860.

VetSuccess Career and Employment Resources Fair

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Vocational Rehab and Employment will sponsor a VetSuccess Career Fair, 1 to 5 p.m., Sept. 3, at the Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel located on 101 West Fayette Street, Baltimore. Participants should bring their resume.

For more information, call 410-752-1100.

CPR Classes

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services offer CPR classes on APG. Two classes will be held 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month.

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

In the Aberdeen Area, class will be held at the Post Theater Nov. 18. Class size will be limited to 30 participants and will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. Pre-registration is required.

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

SAPG holds 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. The program will include a guest speaker, vendor tables, representations from military associations and support services from the installation.

For more information, contact Retiree Council Chairman, retired Lt. Col. Joe Traino, 410-436-6471 or e-mail joseph.anthony.traino@us.army.mil; Co-Chairman, retired Sgt. 1st Class Richard Zalusky, 410-278-5036 or e-mail richard.zalusky@us.army.mil or Retirement Services Officer retired Sgt. Maj. Drew Nobles, 410-306-2320 or e-mail drew.nobles@us.army.mil.

The APG Retiree Council Web Site is

also available at <http://apgetiree.com>. Any questions or comments concerning retiree issues can be e-mailed to info@apgetiree.com.

Register for NSPS training

Upcoming NSPS writing workshops are:

- Sept. 9 (B43) and 16 (B44), NB7SUPV – Writing Effective Supervisor Assessments

There is no cost for this training.

For more information or to register, students must submit a training request through CHRTAS <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/chrtas/student/> and be approved by their supervisor.

Planning for retirement

The Directorate of Human Resources provides retirement services to all military members assigned or attached to Aberdeen Proving Ground. An important part of these services is the Transition Assistance Program.

This three-day training session incorporates lecture, practical exercise and guest speaker methodology, with materials provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Veteran's Employment Training Service and National Training Institute.

This program replaces the former ACAP training, and is mandatory for active component service members, and is strongly encouraged for eligible Family members. Classes are offered monthly and are held in the Aberdeen Area in the Soldier Processing Room, building 4305. To register, visit the DHR Web site, www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/humanresources/dhrindex.html and select the "TAP Training Registration" tab located under "Retirement Services."

For more information contact, Janet L. Dettwiler, 410-306-2301.

HIRED!

A new Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program for teens ages 15 to 18, HIRED!, is an apprentice program that lets teens explore positions in FMWR facilities, like the Bowling Center, golf course, community club, Outdoor Recreation, Library, Marketing Office, and more.

The program gives guidance on preparing a resume, teaches interview techniques and provides work experience in their chosen field. Teens will receive a stipend for their work at the end of the term. For details, contact Jay McKinney, Jay.a.mckinney@us.army.mil or call 410-278-3250.

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



Photos by ROGER TEEL (20TH SUPPORT COMMAND (CBRNE))

Operation Homefront helps kids get ready for school

Family members from the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) select backpacks filled with school supplies at the command headquarters Aug. 24, for children preparing for classes this week. The backpacks and supplies were donated to the unit by the Washington D.C. Metro Chapter of Operation Homefront, a non-profit organization that supports Soldiers and military Families. Their slogan is "Supporting our Troops and helping the Families they leave behind." The organization also gave school supplies to the 22nd Chemical Battalion (TE), and helped the Maryland Family Assistance Center by donating nearly 500 backpacks for National Guard Soldiers and Families throughout Maryland and at Aberdeen Proving Ground. For more information about Operation Homefront, visit Web site, www.operation-homefront.net/dcmetro.



Commentary: Driving down accidental losses

By BRIG GEN WILLIAM T. WOLF
U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

For many of us, Labor Day marks the unofficial end of summer, and the long weekend provides the opportunity to get in that last bit of summer fun before fall and winter.

For Soldiers and their Families, the holiday weekend is usually a welcomed break in a demanding training cycle and often affords an ideal chance to visit Family and friends.

But like any holiday weekend, celebrations can easily be marred by tragedy when safety is disregarded and composite risk management isn't incorporated into every facet of your activities.

Whether you're making the trip home, heading to the beach or local lake, planning that last big barbecue with friends and Family or taking out your motorcycle for one

last long haul, what you don't want to do is mark the end of summer with a preventable accident.

As you head down America's roadways, I ask each of you to use the TRiPS online assessment tool. This tool helps you identify the risks associated with your travel plans and provides sound recommendations to make your journey successful. If you are traveling on your motorcycle, use common sense, wear your personal protective equipment and travel at safe speeds. Think about how your loss or injury would affect your family and unit.

Leaders, I ask each of you to engage your Soldiers and talk with them about their weekend plans.

Earlier this summer, the Army experienced its first fatality-free Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekends in more than 10 years. This success cannot happen without leaders paying close attention to the activities their Soldiers are involved in and Soldiers taking responsibility

for their own safety and doing the right thing.

Removing risk does not equate to removing the fun. It simply means paying close attention to the safety aspects of your off-duty activities and exercising good judgment.

The USACR/Safety Center stands ready to assist leaders, Soldiers, civilians and Families with valuable risk mitigation information to help prepare for any off-duty, recreational activities.

An extensive collection of tools, resources and safety tips can be found on the Safety Center's Web site at <https://safety.army.mil> and clicking on the Safe Summer 2009 icon.

Thank you for all your efforts this summer and your continued help in protecting our most vital resource, our Soldiers, both on and off duty, in combat and back home. We are a "Band of Brothers and Sisters" and, together, we can drive down accidental losses.

Commentary: Drunk driving-Over the limit, under arrest

BY RON KRAVITZ
Installation Safety Office

Hear that sound in the distance? It is the sound of zipping bags, slamming car trunks, and programming GPS's as a lot of people get ready for the long weekend that marks the end of summer. Many Families will hop in their cars for that last trip to the beach or the mountains.

Labor Day is a national legal holiday that is more than 100 years old. Over the years, it has evolved from a purely labor union celebration into a general "last fling of summer" festival.

It grew out of a celebration and parade in honor of the working class by the Knights of Labor in 1882 in New York. It has come to be recognized in the United States not only as a celebration of the working class, but more so as the unofficial end of the summer season. In the northern half of the United States at least, the summer vacation season begins with Memorial Day and ends with Labor Day.

On Labor Day weekend, police units across the country will be out in force. There is always a national enforcement crackdown on the Labor Day holiday because they expect a lot of people to be celebrating that last summer holiday. Thousands of law enforcement officers will be looking for speeders and aggressive drivers while also manning sobriety

checkpoints.

Impaired driving is one of this country's deadliest crimes. Nationally, 15,387 people died in highway crashes involving at least a driver or motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration level of 0.08 or higher. The unfortunate fact is that many people nationwide will die in automobile crashes during the Labor Day holiday and about half will be alcohol-related.

Driving with a blood alcohol level of .08 and above is illegal in every state. It can cost violators more than \$8,000 for bail, court, a lawyer and towing fees. If anyone refuses a sobriety test, a driver's license can be lost on the spot, and the automobile will be impounded.

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration offers these lifesaving tips for parties when alcohol is served:

If choosing to drink, it is important to remember that a 12-ounce beer has the same amount of alcohol as a shot of whiskey and the same as a 6-ounce glass of wine.

When guests arrive, collect their car keys. That way, when they are ready to leave, they must get a second opinion on whether they're sober enough to drive home.

Always serve food with alcohol, such

See DRIVING page 13



Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

"Adventures in driving decision making" is brought to everyone by the Installat"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 #50

You are driving on a street in a downtown area and have stopped at an intersection for a stop sign. It is clear to cross, so you accelerate to get through. On the street you enter, there is a row of vehicles parked along the right side. There is a car coming at you in the opposite lane. You are still accelerating from your stop and have reached 35 mph. Suddenly, from between the first two parked cars, a child runs out into the street. You realize that you cannot stop in time. What should you do?

- A. Brake hard and turn left.
- B. Brake hard and turn right into the parked vehicles.

Answer A. No, do not "brake hard and turn left." You cannot predict what will happen so you need to take the course of action to prevent hitting a human being. Not only will you be turning into the on-coming car, but the child may try to dart between you and the other car or turn and go back or maybe run down the street. You just don't know. So, your only course of action is to brake hard and turn into the parked vehicles. You will bounce off the cars and do some damage, but it will stop you and you won't hit the child, no matter what the child does.

Answer B. Yes, "Braking hard and turning right into the parked vehicles" is the only thing to do. You have no way of telling what that child will do. Will he stop and run back, will he run ahead, will he get hit by the on-coming car, you don't know. But you do know that if you turn into the parked cars, it doesn't matter what the child does. You will bounce off the cars and do some damage, but it will stop you and keep you from hitting the child. Hopefully, the car coming at you will turn to his right.

Survey

From front page

on the scale of 1 to 5. If a service is rated 1 or 2, the customer is asked to provide comments to explain their concern with the service.

The survey results should be available to the installation in late November. The results will show garrison leadership what

areas customers are pleased with, and what services have areas of concern that need to be addressed. This is the installation customer's opportunity for their voice to be heard, and their suggestions to possibly be put in place.

For more information about the upcoming Customer Service Assessment, call Tom Johnson, CSA coordinator, PAIO, 410-278-6456, or e-mail thomas.g.johnson1@us.army.mil.

Award

From front page

Team's work follows the government's mandate that federal agencies are required to reduce their consumption annually by 3 percent. Under Executive Order 132423 and Energy Independence and Security Act 2007, also known as EISA 2007, requires a 30 percent reduction in energy consumed by 2015.

Rust said that the APG Energy Action Team is using cutting edge technology to meet these goals. This year the team started using an expert operations and maintenance system that integrates plant operations, fuel management and maintenance processes called Decision Support for Operations and Maintenance or DSOM.

"With this system we are able to monitor steam and electricity usage on post," Rust said.

Rust said the system can pinpoint energy leaks instantaneously.

"Previously these leaks could go undetected for long amounts of time which wasted money and energy," she said.

She added that the system prioritizes repairs so that bigger energy leaks can be repaired first.

Rust said that as a result, DSOM repairs are happening faster, and there is increased satisfaction with tenants

post.

Rust said that in the future the system will be able to monitor other forms of energy.

Ed Staats, a contract energy program coordinator and part of the team, added that the Energy Action Team is also working to raise awareness by having a post wide energy awareness campaign to encourage people to cut down on their energy consumption.

"This program is designed to keep the issue in front of people," he said. "We raise awareness by having articles in APG News and reaching out to everyone living and working on post through the Energy Champion program."

"We are not asking anyone to do anything that they would not normally do at home," Staats said, referring to energy conservation practices such as remembering to turn off a light when leaving a room.

Staats said that he is happy and surprised to have received the award. He added that regardless of winning the award he feels that the APG Energy Action Team is doing a superior job by using cutting edge technology like DSOM to significantly reducing energy consumption.

"The issue of reducing energy consumption is no longer an issue of just cost, it is about reducing our dependence on foreign oil, reversing the problem of climate change, and building a clean energy economy," he said.



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

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

The Aberdeen and the Edgewood 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.

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.

CYS Services open 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, beginning Sept. 9 (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.

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

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Sesame Street Live

"Sesame Street Live: 1-2-3 Imagine with Elmo and Friends" will be held 7 p.m., Sept. 11: 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m. or 5:30 p.m., Sept. 12: and 1 p.m. or 4:30 p.m., Sept. 13, at 1st Mariner Bank Arena, located on 201 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore. Tickets cost \$23 each for all ages. Tickets must be pre-ordered by Sept. 1. No sales will be made after Sept. 1. All seats are located in the lower level and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Seating will not be known until ticket orders are received.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or 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 each 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, 410-278-4011/2907, 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 (Oct. 7, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2).

Kenya Procter, installation victim aid. For more information or to RSVP, contact Phyllis Ethridge, 410-278-2464/7572.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Phyllis Ethridge, 410-278-2464/7572.

Walt Disney World Salutes the Military

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

Tickets cost \$25 extra for each add-on/upgrade applied. Tickets must be purchased three weeks in advance. Tickets are not valid until activated at the theme park ticket window. Valid military ID is required at time of purchase and activation. All sales are final. No refunds, exchanges or upgrades after purchase. Ticket prices expire Dec. 23.

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

Orioles game specials

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

Texas Rangers, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 4
Tampa Bay Rays, 7:05 p.m., Sept. 14

Toronto Blue Jays, 7:05 p.m., Oct. 2

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

Ski Roundtop Mountain Adventures

Ski Roundtop is not just for winter fun.

Located at 925 Roundtop Road, Lewisberry, Pa., Ski Roundtop offers summer fun adventures that include the Vertical Trek, Sky Ride, Bumper Boats and more.

The Vertical Trek, Sky Ride and bumper boats are open weekends only, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Vertical Trek takes 2.5 hours to complete; it begins with a chairlift ride to the top of the mountain, then participants descend more than 600 vertical feet using a series of zip lines (up to 300 feet in length), rappelling, rope bridges, tarzan swings, cargo nets and scenic walks.

Reservations are strongly recommended. The Vertical Trek is for ages 10 and up. All participants must weigh between 70 and 250 lbs. Tickets cost \$44 each.

For more information or to make reservations, call 717-432-9631, ext. 3723.

Adventure Packages are also available for adults ages 11 through 64 at \$34 per person and for children ages 5 through 10, at \$24 per person and include admission for one OGO ball ride, summer tubing, treehouse zips, the woods, bumper boats and sky rides.

There is a 250-pound weight limit to ride in the OGO ball.

For more information about Ski Roundtop Mountain Adventures, visit www.skiroundtop.com/rma.htm.

Driving

From page 12

as high protein and carbohydrate foods like cheese and meats. They stay in the stomach much longer, which slows the rate at which the body absorbs alcohol.

Have several jiggers or self-measuring one-ounce bottle spouts at the bar to mix drinks. Guests are less likely to drink excessively when standard measures are used.

If serving alcoholic punch, use a non-carbonated base such as fruit juice. The body absorbs alcohol faster when mixed with carbonation.

Serve non-alcoholic beverages. It's possible that some guests will not want to drink alcohol.

Do not force drinks on guests or rush to refill their glasses when empty. Some guests may not wish to appear rude and will accept drinks they do not want.

Stop serving alcohol about two hours

before the party is over. Guests then have time for their bodies to absorb the alcohol. Serve coffee or other non-alcoholic beverages as well as food.

And, when the party's over: If a guest has been drinking and shouldn't drive, don't give them back their car keys so they can't drive. They could hurt themselves or others and maybe just a little persuasion from you could mean the difference between life and death.

Suggest that a sober friend drive your alcohol impaired friend home. Their car can always be picked up the next day.

Suggest the impaired friend stay overnight. This may sound inconvenient, but you could be saving your friend's or someone else's life.

Have the friend taken home in a taxi. Pay for the ride. It's hard to object to a free ride.

Whatever happens, don't give in. Friends don't let friends drink and drive. In the morning, you'll have a safer and maybe an even closer friend.

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.

Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG presents Tiny Tigers

Children ages 3 to 5 (parent participation required) can join the Tiny Tigers Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Instructor Kyo Sa Nim Sean A. Williams will teach this program.

Tae Kwon Do builds confidence and self-esteem in young students. Classes will be held at the Child, Youth and School Services Center, building 2522, Monday and Wednesday, 5:30 to 6 p.m., Sept. 14 through Oct. 7. Cost is \$40 per parent/child pairing.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited to 12 parent and child pairings, so register early.

Culinary kids

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

Classes are Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Sept. 16 through Oct. 7, at the Aberdeen Youth Center, for ages 6 to 11.

Some of the dishes on the menu include Thai Ginger Noodle Salad, Desert Sushi and Roasted Red Pepper Hummus. Chef hats and aprons are provided because to be a chef, one must look like one.

Cost is \$145 per student.

Dance Programs for grades pre-K through 8

Pre-K - Pre-ballet and creative move-

ment will be offered, 6:30 to 7 p.m., Sept. 17 through April 25, Thursdays, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522. Pre-K registrants need birth certificates to verify age.

Class price is \$70 per student. Kindergarten and 1st grade - Ballet and pre-tap will be held 7 to 7:45 p.m. at the AA Youth Center. Cost is \$85 per student.

2nd and 3rd grades - Ballet, tap and jazz will be held from Sept. 14 through April 25, Mondays, at the AA Youth Center for students in the second and third grades. Classes will be held 7 p.m. (Exact class time depends on number of students that sign up).

Class costs \$70 per student for each separate discipline.

4th and 5th grades - Ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop and point will be held 6:30 p.m., from Sept. 15 through April 25, Tuesdays, at the AA Youth Center. Exact class time depends on the number of students that sign up. Students must audition.

Class costs \$70 per student for each separate discipline.

6th through 8th grades - Ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop and point will be held 6:30 p.m., Sept. 18 through April 25, Thursdays, at the AA Youth Center. Exact class time depends on number of students that sign up. Students must audition.

Class costs \$70 per student for each separate discipline.

This is a tentative schedule. Classes may be added or deleted according to attendance. Sign students up for what disciplines they want to take.

A minimum of five students are needed for class to be held. No more than 12 students per class.

Students must be registered by Sept. 8.

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, Sept. 8 thru Oct. 13.

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

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

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

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

September bowling specials

• Bowl for \$1.25 per game, 1 to 3 p.m. • 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 and one pitcher of soda for \$32.

• Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl one game and get one game free. Shoe rental not included.

• There is no open bowling on Thursday and Friday evenings until 9:30 p.m. due to leagues.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 3242

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 Aug. 31

Special #1: Cheese steak wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.75.

Special #2: Chicken cheese steak with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

Week of Sept. 8

Special #1: Egg salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.25.

Special #2: Grilled ham and cheese with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.25.

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



Changes to employee leave provisions benefit Soldiers, Family members

Story by
AMY L. SNYDER
OSJA

Anyone with a Family member in the National Guard or Reserves who is suddenly called to active duty will most likely need time off from work to take care of issues related to the loved one's service.

For instance, prior to the deployment, time is needed to make alternative child care arrangements and to get legal documents, such as a Will and Power of Attorney, in order. Time off from work would also be needed when the Family member is home for rest and relaxation leave, or to attend an awards ceremony at the end of active duty service.

In another scenario, anyone with a Family member who is injured in the line of duty, will need time off from work to provide care to the loved one, flying to health care facilities in Landstuhl, Germany, to be at the bedside of a Family member with a catastrophic injury or to go with the loved one to a Warrior Transition Unit while he or she recovers. Or, time might also be needed to provide transportation or support for therapy or doctor appointments.

Recent changes to the FMLA, however, have expanded the leave provisions to benefit military Family members.

Prior to January of 2009, the ability of a Family member to take the necessary time off from work in any of the above situations was limited. An employer was not required to give leave to deal with issues related to a sudden deployment of a National Guard or Reserve Family member. Leave to provide care to an injured Soldier was limited to 12 weeks under the Family Medical Leave Act.

The FMLA was originally passed in 1993 to ensure that individuals are able to take extended leave from work for either personal or Family medical reasons without the fear of having their employment terminated. The FMLA allows eligible employees to take up to 12 weeks of leave

during any 12-month period for 1) the birth or adoption of a child, 2) in order to care for a Family member with a serious health condition, or 3) because of a serious health condition of the employee.

In January 2009, President George W. Bush signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act, which amended the FMLA to provide two additional leave entitlements for military Families. These two types of leave are "qualifying exigency leave" and "military care giver leave."

General FMLA rules

The military Family leave provisions only apply to individuals who are otherwise covered by the FMLA. To be covered by the FMLA, a person must be employed by a public agency or a private employer with greater than 50 employees. Additionally, the employee must have worked for the employer for a total of 12 months and have worked at least 1,250 hours during the previous 12 months.

The FMLA does not require that an employer provide paid leave. An employer may require that the individual use accrued paid leave for a portion of the leave period. The FMLA requires that the employer allow the individual to return at the end of the leave period to the same or an equivalent position without loss in pay or benefits.

Qualifying exigency leave

"Qualifying exigency leave" is the first of the two new military Family leave provisions. It may be taken for a qualifying exigency that arises from a covered military member's active duty or call to active duty status. The provisions under qualifying exigency leave do not apply to Family members of service members in the regular armed forces.

A "covered military member" is the employee's spouse, son, daughter or parent. In addition to biological relatives, this also includes adoptive, foster and stepchildren or parents. It does not include in-laws.

"Active duty" or "call to active duty status" refers to a member of the National Guard or Reserves who is under a call or order to active duty in support of a contingency operation. It also refers to a member of the National Guard or Reserves who has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty.

The list of "qualifying exigencies" encompasses a wide range of categories. It includes: issues relating to a short notice of deployment, military events and activities, making financial and legal arrangements to address the service member's absence, attending counseling, arranging childcare, spending time with a service member who is on rest and recuperation leave, and attending post-deployment activities for up to 90 days following the termination of active duty status.

Individuals requesting leave under this provision must provide the employer with reasonable notice. The employer may require a copy of the military member's active duty orders and certification of the need for the exigency leave. The employer is permitted to contact the Department of Defense to confirm the active duty status of the service member.

The total amount of leave available to an individual under this provision is 12 weeks for every 12-month period. The leave does not have to be taken all at once, but may be taken intermittently. If the covered military member's active duty status extends for more than one FMLA leave year, the eligible employee is eligible to take an additional 12 weeks of exigency leave during the subsequent 12-month period.

Military caregiver leave

"Military caregiver leave" is the second of the two new military Family leave provisions. It may be taken by an eligible employee to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness.

An "eligible employee" is the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a covered

service member. This also includes adoptive, foster and stepchildren or parents. It does not include in-laws.

A "covered service member" is a current member of the armed forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation or therapy, or is on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty. A "serious injury or illness" is one that renders the service member unfit to perform his or her duties.

Individuals requesting leave under this provision should give the employer 30 days advance notice if possible. If the need for leave was not foreseeable, the employee should give notice as soon as practicable. The individual must also provide the employer with certification by an authorized health care provider of the covered service member verifying the need for the leave.

Under this provision, an eligible employee may take up to 26 weeks of military caregiver leave during a single 12-month period to care for the covered service member. The leave is "per-service member, per-injury." In other words, additional leave could not be taken under this provision for the same service member during a subsequent 12-month period for the same injury.

In sum, the two additions to the FMLA allow military Family members greater flexibility in taking leave from work in order to handle issues related to a deployment of a Reserve or National Guard Family member, or to provide extended care to a servicemember injured in the line of duty.

For more information on military specific provisions of the FMLA and eligibility rules, visit <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla/>.

Personnel eligible for legal services may also contact the Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 410-278-1583 or stop by building 4305, 3rd floor, room 346. Attorney consultations require an appointment.

Law school available to junior officers

Installation Legal Office

The Office of the Judge Advocate General is now accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education program. Under this program, up to 25 Army officers may be selected to attend law school at government expense while on active duty.

Selected participants in the FLEP will attend law school at either their state's supported school or a school that grants military members in-state tuition beginning the fall of 2009 and remain on active duty while attending law school.

Interested officers should review Chapter 14, AR 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility.

This program is open only to active duty commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain and must have at least two but not more than

six years of active duty at the time legal training commences.

Further eligibility requirements are governed by statute (10 U.S.C. 2004) and are non-waivable.

Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.

Selected officers will attend law school at a state-supported school in their state of residence or a school that grants military members in-state tuition. Register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.

Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at Army Human Resources Command, with a copy furnished to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT

(Yvonne Caron-10th Floor), 1777 North

Kent Street, Rosslyn, VA 22209-2194, to be received before Nov. 1.

Submission of the application, well in advance of the deadline, is advised.

Interested officers should contact Maj. Stephen Coutant, deputy staff judge advocate, or Nora L. Farrell, paralegal specialist, 410-278-1112/1107, respectively.

Trial Results

At a general court-martial held Aug. 25, Staff Sgt. Michael J. Campbell, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, pled guilty to one specification of Article 80, Attempt, three specifications of Article 107, False Official Statement, 13 specifications of Article 123a, Making, Drawing, or Uttering Checks with Insufficient Funds, and 13 specifications of Article 134, Wrongful Use of Social Security Numbers.

All of the violations of Articles 123a and 134 stemmed from Campbell's use of real or made up Social Security numbers, not belonging to him, to cash personal checks at the APG Post Exchange and Edgewood Shoppette.

The military judge sentenced Campbell to reduction to specialist (E4), hard labor without confinement for 90 days and confinement for 30 days.



Health Notes

Harford County prepares for onset of flu season

HCPS

Harford County Public Schools held a system-wide health services workshop for all school nurses Aug. 25 to discuss preparations for the oncoming flu season, including seasonal and H1N1 (or "swine flu") flu viruses.

As part of the ongoing partnership with the Harford County Health Department, HCPS Nurse Coordinator Mary Nasuta, RN, teamed up with HCHD Immunization Coordinator Kim Kelly and HCHD Epidemiologist Kurt Seetoo, MPH, to lead sessions on flu guidelines. Among the topics covered were the FluMist(R) vaccine program, administering vaccinations and flu prevention practices.

HCPS and the HCHD will once again be offering the FluMist(R) program free of charge to all elementary school children, and new this year, to all middle school students. The Food and Drug Administration licensed nasal spray flu vaccine will be administered during the school day to all students who have parent consent. FluMist(R) is only used to prevent seasonal flu, not the H1N1 virus.

In the event the Center for Disease Control recommends an H1N1 vaccine for students, school nurses proactively prepared for its administration with demonstrations and discussions on vaccine logistics. Until a vaccine is available, the school system will continue to encourage flu prevention practices, such

as proper handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette and staying home when ill.

"We need to push hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette," Seetoo said. "It is the best way to keep this virus somewhat under control."

To help prevent the spread of the H1N1 virus, HCPS will work with parents and guardians to follow the CDC's recommendation to keep sick children at home. A sick child should not return to school for seven days or until they have been symptom-free for 24 hours, whichever is longer.

Common H1N1 flu symptoms are similar to the regular seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue.

"We can change the course of this disease - even if slightly - by keeping sick children at home," Nasuta said. "We will be very diligent about the public health aspect of this disease."

The HCPS Health Services Department, as well as the HCHD, will be monitoring absences and health room visits throughout the flu season. The CDC is regularly updating their recommendations for H1N1 protocols.

For up-to-date information, visit www.harfordcountyhealth.com or www.cdc.gov/flu.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-278-1418, fax 410-278-3033, or e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Vicki Bailey	Meg Downey	Joy Meadows
Debra Bonsall	Wayne Erb	Karen Milton
(daughter has brain tumor)	Dawn Folck	Deborah Moore
Shondria Boone	Rita Fowler	Marie D. Nowak
Jeanie Bowman	John Furchert	Ron Spencer
Georgia Braun	Holly Geppi	Joyce Steinger
Veronica Brown	Marilyn Grebe	Linda Tabaka
Veronica Callahan	Erin Griffin	Gale Thompson
Randy Carroll	Linda Hindman	Linda Tignor
Brenda Clayton	Beverly King (caring for husband)	Darlene Treston
John Daigle	Kari Jackson	Luis Villafane
Bonnie Day	Angela Lambert	Carolyn Zalepa
		Barbara Zenker

EA youths have fun, learn during summer camp



Photo by RENEE MAIN

Skylar Skrapka makes friends with a turtle during the Edgewood Area Youth Center's trip to Harford County's Farm Fair July 30. EA Youths went on many trips during the summer camp program.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Staff Sgt. Larry Black center, a Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course student, talks to EA youths about bicycle safety while APG police officers Wade Norbutus left and Shawn Klinger watch during a bike rodeo hosted by the Directorate of Emergency Services. The bike rodeo was part of the National Night Out festivities hosted by DES Aug. 4.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

From left, Tyler Smith and Amy Pham play a game of gravity! while Bruce Morgan watches, during the end of summer picnic held at Capa Field Aug. 21.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

From left, Walter Lockhart, Jose Figueroa-Velez and Jayden Lindsay bury Hunter McColligan in leaves during the end of summer picnic Aug. 21.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Staff Sgt. Nelson Colon, a BNCOC student, helps Ariana Couch get on her bicycle during a bike rodeo held at the EA Youth Center Aug. 4.



Photo by RENEE MAIN

Works of art by EA youths displayed at the Farm Fair are considered "Clover" entries. A Clover is a 4-H member under seven years old. The artists receive participation ribbons but their work is not judged. From top, Happy pineapple by Hannah Lee, Two Owls by Octavious Hodge, Rainbow by Iyania Story-Cruz, and painted wooden airplanes by Jady Perry and Ariana Couch.