

Post Shorts

Santa Ball set Dec. 10

The Aberdeen chapter of the AUSA will host the Soldier Santa Ball 6 to 11 p.m. at the Baltimore Hilton, 401 W. Pratt Street in Baltimore Dec. 10.

Those interested in attending to visit www.ausa-aberdeen.org/ for more information.

KUSAHC closed Dec. 17 and holidays

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed for the KUSAHC holiday party at noon, Dec. 17.

Patients should refill any medications at Kirk before 5 p.m. on Dec. 16.

Kirk will be closed Christmas Eve and Dec. 27. The clinic will be closed Dec. 31 for New Year's Day and Jan. 3 for a training holiday.

Patients should plan accordingly to pick up prescriptions before 5 p.m. Dec. 23 and 30.

For medical services after hours, weekends or on federal holidays, contact call staff duty at 410-278-1725 or 443-807-0725 and initiate a referral.

To avoid point-of-service charges, patients will need a referral to go to any urgency clinic. Emergency room visits do not require a referral.

Pharmacy services will not be provided during this period. The pharmacy refill line is 1-800-248-6337. Visit www.tricare.mil/pharmacy for information on the different pharmacy options.

In the event of a medical emergency, please call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. Emergency rooms do not require a referral.

For more information on urgent and emergency care, visit http://www.tricare.mil/tricaremartfiles/Prod_570/BN_bulletin_08_i2_L.pdf or <https://www.hnfs.net/common/referralsAuths/Emergency+and+Urgent+Bene.htm>.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield visits Dec. 14

A claim representative from the Service Benefit Plan
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Spreading the Word



Local youth put acting skills to test during SKIES performance

Rascally Hare Dushaine Sparks (right) brags about his chances of winning the The Greatest Race to a TV reporter, played by Evan Karlewicz, during *The Tortoise Versus the Hare*, presented Dec. 4 by the Child, Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited program at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center.

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Council meeting going live

Community can tweet questions during broadcast

“Twitter allows you to post short updates, but it also allows people to reply to those updates.”

George Mercer

Director, Garrison Public Affairs

Garrison Public Affairs

Garrison leaders are making it easier to take part in the Community Action Council by getting council information out while it is in session and opening feedback channels so community members can participate even if they can't attend.

The next council meeting is set for 9:30 a.m. Dec. 16 at the Edgewood Chapel. Testing is underway to ensure the event can be broadcast live over the post TV channel. An announcement will be made via e-mail,

Facebook and MilBlog before the event takes place. Garrison leadership and staff will present information and answer questions from the community, as they have done at previous council meetings. This format has worked well in the past, according to garrison officials, but U.S. Army Garrison APG Commander Col. Orlando W. Ortiz felt it was time to open up the meetings.

“The need for information always goes up during times of change,” Ortiz said. “We are in

the middle of a lot of change at APG, so we need to find a way to get more information to more people. We have a high-tech population, so we need to find new ways of communicating.”

Garrison Public Affairs and visual information officials saw that as an chance to put some of the new communications capabilities they have to use.

“No matter when or where we have these meetings, they will never be convenient for

See TWITTER, page 15

High hopes hang on STEM outreach

Story by
ADRIANE FOSS
APG News Editor

Drastic actions must be taken for the United States to successfully compete in the global STEM race.

Dr. Clark “Corky” Graham, a retired U.S. Navy officer and former Fortune 500 executive, said there is nothing he’s more certain of. And he’s hanging his hopes on the fact that Aberdeen Proving Ground and the local community will join him in taking those actions.

On Monday Graham spoke to a mixed audience—APG and local leaders, scientists and engineers—about the STEM (science technology, engineering, and mathematics) crisis that America is facing.

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Courtesy photo

Inner city students from Annapolis Battle Middle School conduct a science experiment with Let's Go Boys & Girls founder Dr. Clark “Corky” Graham Nov. 10.



U.S. Army photo

Future technology

Flora Marshall, project leader for the Wireless Network After Next (WNaN), has overcome challenges to shepherd the technology through its crucial assessment phase, which culminated this month as Soldiers evaluated WNaN at Fort Benning, Ga. [READ THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 8.](#)

C4ISR Materiel Enterprise reaches out to industry, small business at APG

Story by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
CECOM Public Affairs

More than 450 business and economic development representatives from across the country gathered Dec. 1-2 for the annual Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) Advanced Planning Briefing for Industry and Small Business Conference at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

This was the first time the event was held on the post since the C4ISR Materiel Enterprise relocated to Maryland, and it inaugurated the new 54,000 square-foot Mission Training Facility on post.

The APBI is an opportunity for all businesses to find out about the major contracting opportunities that are currently being projected for the next five years, according to Edward Elgart, director of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) Contracting Center. The C4ISR team briefed approximately \$27

billion in potential contracts for fiscal years 2011-15.

The two-day event was aimed at raising awareness of the business opportunities available within the C4ISR Materiel

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Fast Facts

■ The CECOM Contracting Center awarded \$2.8 billion, or 21 percent, of eligible obligations to small businesses in fiscal year 2010.

■ The C4ISR team briefed approximately \$27 billion in potential contracts for fiscal years 2011-15 to more than 450 business and economic development representatives.

Commander's Corner

'Tis the season to celebrate Family

You can tell by the nip in the air the holiday season has arrived. As we celebrate, each in the custom and tradition of our own choosing, I'd like to highlight some of the things going on in our extended family.

The team at Aberdeen Proving Ground -- Soldiers, Family Members, civilian employees and contractors -- share in an exciting destiny. This year we have traveled the same path toward a new future.

You see it in all the buildings going up at APG. You can also feel it in the camaraderie and esprit de corps of the people here.

Personally I look at this season as a time of renewal. This is the time of year for us to reflect on our accomplishments, learn from our challenges and prepare for a stronger new year.

This past weekend I had the privilege of participating in the 34th Annual Aberdeen Christmas Parade. We have a great partnership with the local community and I am proud of our involvement in this event.

For me, the parade was like walking into a Norman Rockwell painting. It represented the essence of the American spirit. There was a sense of shared experience and true community that made me feel good. You can also feel the impact we make on our neighbors outside the gates by the warmth of the smiles you get at events like this. We value the partnership of all our community members both on and off post.

Earlier this week we kicked off the season with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Festival of Trees and Holiday Celebration. If you missed that Dec. 8, I encourage you to participate in the Edgewood Area celebration Dec. 14 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center (Building E4140). These events are focused on the Family with a tree lighting ceremony, live entertainment, photos with Santa Claus and refreshments.

I encourage you to not only focus on your personal renewal, but also on your relationship with your Family and friends. We all thrive in a strong, supportive environment. It is my most sincere hope that you reach out to those around you and offer a helping hand during this holiday season.

It makes me proud to hear about the wonderful efforts many of you are making sponsoring military families this holiday season. The APG Army Commu-



RDECOM photo

RDECOM Commander Maj. Gen. Nick Justice (right) took time off to enjoy the holidays during Saturday's annual Christmas parade in Aberdeen.

nity Service is coordinating this effort. There is still time for you to get involved. For information, call 410-278-2450.

The Edgewood Area food, toy and gift drive has also been a success. In a partnership with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, APG ACS and the 20th Support Command, our team members adopted 41 APG military families and made their holiday season a little brighter with boxes of food, toys and gifts. They also reached out to the less fortunate outside our gates by donating to the Mason Dixon Community Services, an organization providing emergency food and energy assistance to low-income residents of Harford County.

This tells me that every one of us can make a difference in someone else's life.

We recognize the commitment and increasing sacrifices our team members make every day. We are all committed to empowering, unburdening and protecting the Warfighter, and I thank you for what you do.

From my family to yours, Happy Holidays to all the members of Team APG.

Army Strong!

MAJ. GEN. NICK JUSTICE

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and Aberdeen Proving Ground Commanding General

AFAP Update: Significant strides made in behavioral health service, TBI care

When I became the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management a year ago, I undertook an important responsibility: overseeing the Army Family Action Plan process. This successful, long-running program enables Soldiers, Civilians and Family members to communicate with Army leaders about issues affecting their quality of life.



When I assumed responsibility for the AFAP process, I made a commitment to ensure all recommendations are thoroughly analyzed to determine if they are achievable. I also promised to regularly check on and communicate about our progress.

Following up on the issues that are so important to the members of the Army community gives momentum to the AFAP process and reinforces the promises made in the Army Family Covenant.

One of those promises is to improve Family readiness by increasing access to and quality of healthcare. Through the AFAP process, the Army continues to make great strides in addressing a number of wellness and medical issues, including issue No. 648, which focuses on a shortage of behavioral health services.

As a result of innovative and aggressive recruitment efforts, the Army had on board more than 3,900 behavioral health providers, including psychologists, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses and social workers, as of June 30. This was an increase of almost 400 health professionals more than the previous quarter, to provide the services Army community members need for treatment and recovery.

In addition, the Army's Medical Command has established a new Tele-Health Division, which provides behavioral health services such as tele-psychiatry, tele-psychology, medical evaluation boards, mental status evaluations, tele-neuropsychology, and a school-based mental health program.

These real-time services are provided via video-conferencing through a network of 53 active sites across five Regional Medical Commands.

Tele-behavioral health services are also provided

to deployed Soldiers and civilians through e-mail exchanges in the AKO tele-consultations service.

To date, the Army has provided more than 7,000 consultations in 41 countries and in 39 specialties, including behavioral health, through this service. This expanding array of tele-health services gives Soldiers, civilians and Family members greater access to behavioral healthcare even in geographically dispersed areas and greater continuity of care when they relocate.

The Army is also making marked progress in addressing AFAP issue No. 610, which calls for the establishment of comprehensive, integrated rehabilitation programs for traumatic brain injury patients at military medical centers.

To date, traumatic brain injury programs at 37 facilities have achieved full validation, programs at 10 have achieved initial validation, and seven other facilities are in the process of being validated. Programs at four Reserve and National Guard projection platforms, Fort Shelby, Fort McCoy, Camp Atterbury and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, have been validated, to better care for our Reserve and Guard Soldiers.

The AFAP General Officer Steering Committee, composed of Department of Defense officials, Army leaders, and field representatives, determines the status of Army-wide AFAP issues.

At the last meeting, held June 30, the GOSC resolved 27 of 40 quality-of-life issues and directed continued action on the issues mentioned above, as well as other issues of vital concern to Army community members.

The next GOSC will be held Feb. 1, 2011 in Washington, D.C. I will continue to hold review sessions

‘ At the last meeting, held June 30, the GOSC resolved 27 of 40 quality-of-life issues and directed continued action on the issues mentioned above, as well as other issues of vital concern to Army community members. ’

in which Army staff experts report on the progress on their issues and I will keep you informed along the way, through updates such as this. You can also check on the progress of AFAP issues at any time by visiting the Army OneSource website at www.myarmyonesource.com, going to the Family Program and Services menu, and selecting the AFAP Active Issue Search feature. There you can enter an issue number to see a specific issue or enter keywords to find related active issues. You can also search by subject, demographic group or geographic area.

AFAP is a crucial tool for Army community members

and leaders to communicate and work together to improve the well-being and quality of life for us all. About 90 percent of issues are resolved at the local level, while the rest are elevated to higher levels. However, regardless of the level at which they are worked, all issues begin at the community level. Every issue is raised by a community member who has taken the time and effort to identify an issue and set about making a change for the better.

I encourage you to learn more about the AFAP process and follow the progress on issues that are currently being worked.

Even more important, become involved in AFAP forums in your own community. When you see something that can be made better, take action. Become part of the solution for improving the quality of life for your fellow Soldiers, Civilians and Family members.

LT. GEN. RICK LYNCH

IMCOM Commanding General

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal oppor-

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

Staff

APG Commander Maj. Gen. Nick G. Justice
 APG Garrison Commander Col. Orlando W. Ortiz
 Public Affairs Officer George P. Mercer
 Editor Adriane Foss
 Editorial Assistant Marguerite Towson
 Contract Photojournalists Yvonne Johnson
 Rachel Ponder
 Graphic Designer/Web Designer Nick Pentz
 Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

Holiday Bazaar offers unique gifts

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

A few unlikely guests showed up at this year's holiday bazaar.

Ebenezer Scrooge—as cold hearted and tight-fisted as first portrayed by Charles Dickens—and the Ghost of Christmas Past haunted the aisles of Aberdeen Proving Ground's 2010 Holiday Bazaar.

Members of the Chesapeake Community Players portrayed the "A Christmas Carol" characters as local community members took advantage of the annual shopping extravaganza.

Hosted by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the event took place Nov. 30-Dec. 1 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center and boasted 37 vendors featuring everything from homemade soap and jewelry to personalized books and art.

Debbie Jennings, who works at the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, said she found several unique gifts at the bazaar.

"I love looking around at the different vendors and ... I like giving homemade items as gifts because they are one of a kind," said Jennings. "I really appreciate the time that goes into making handmade crafts."

Community members received two door prizes -- a flat screen tv and a laptop -- during the event.

Earlene Allen, an FMWR special events coordinator who organized the event, said the bazaars have grown since they first began at

APG a year and a half ago.

"We are definitely having a bazaar in the spring. Eventually I would like to have a bazaar every month," said Allen. "And we plan to expand the programs as long as the community continue to supports it."

The next bazaar is set for March 23-24. For more information about becoming a vendor, call Allen at 410-278-3854.

CHECK OUT AND DOWNLOAD THE 2010 BAZAAR PHOTOS ON FLICKR AT <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/sets/72157625425767609/>.

This year's vendors included:

Edible Envy, Mary Kay, The Pampered Chef, Brian Baker Photography, Magic Bubble Shirts, You and Me Soap, Oh LaLa Art, Marcy Hawkins Loom Knitting, BeautiControl, Bead Design by Kathy, Rose's Rocks, Paul St. Patrick Light Switch Decor, Thirty-one, Charle Lee Jewelry, Traci Lynn Jewelry, Books About You, Dulce Temptations, Isagenix Health and Wellness Center, Crafts by Dawn, D&J Creations LLC, Kathleen Schults Czech Glass, Coldwell Banker, Godly Greetings, Charles Paxton Crafts Woodwork, Cindy Golf Makers, Adam & Cali Cobb's Crafts and Guided Tours, D.C. Hutchins Gen Services, Mia Bella Candles, Sweet Fancy, Mac Enterprise, Cover Me Cozy, Miche Bags, Vincent Robe & Towel Company.

Ebenezer Scrooge, portrayed by a member of the Chesapeake Community Players, attended Aberdeen Proving Ground's 2010 Holiday Bazaar. The FMWR-hosted event took place Nov. 30 - Dec. 1.



TRICARE makes holiday travel easy

TRICARE news release

The holiday season is here, which means travel time for many TRICARE beneficiaries. Holidays are a time to relax and enjoy, not to worry about a sudden illness or accident.

From minor stomach aches to potentially life-threatening allergic reactions, there is a whole range of illnesses that can dampen holiday travels. Beneficiaries traveling during the holidays should know they have the same comprehensive TRICARE benefits while traveling as they do at home.

To reduce the chance of health care problems while traveling, beneficiaries should see their doctor to take care of any regular office visits or treatment for ongoing conditions before leaving town.

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries get routine care from their primary care manager (PCM), while TRICARE Standard beneficiaries can go to any TRICARE-authorized provider. Regardless of the TRICARE plan, it's a good idea to get routine care before leaving home.

For urgent care while traveling, beneficiaries should contact their PCM for a referral or call their regional health care contractor for assistance before receiving care. For Prime beneficiaries, failure to obtain a referral may cause care to be covered under the point-of-service option, which means higher costs.

When using TRICARE Standard, beneficiaries can see any TRICARE-authorized provider.

If beneficiaries need emergency care while away from home, they should seek treatment immediately by calling 911 or going to the nearest hospital emergency room.

Prime beneficiaries do not need prior authorization for emergency care, but they should notify their PCM within 24 hours or on the next business day so follow-up care can be coordinated.

TRICARE Standard beneficiaries have no follow-up requirements after receiving emergency care.

Before traveling, TRICARE beneficiaries should make sure their Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) information is accurate. For more information about DEERS and how to update DEERS records go to www.tricare.mil/DEERS or call 1-800-538-9552.

Beneficiaries who take prescription medicine should order refills before their trip. If it's necessary to get a refill on the road, the nearest network pharmacy in the U.S. can be found www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/.

For more information about traveling with TRICARE, beneficiaries can go to www.tricare.mil or www.tricare.mil/contacts.



Go to <http://ice.disa.mil>.
Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

APG troops receive holiday trees

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Dozens of Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers will not have the added expense of purchasing tree for the holidays thanks to Pine Valley Christmas Trees of Elkton.

The company donated 142 trees to APG troops through the international Trees For Troops program. Pine Valley owner Paul Cherry and general partner Bill Underwood delivered the trees.

“We like to think we’re giving our troops the opportunity to celebrate the holidays under their own tree,” Cherry said.

“And to show that we’re thankful for what they do for us,” Underwood added.

Headquarters Garrison 1st Sgt. Sonya Jackson and Matt Aughey of Morale, Welfare and Recreation coordinated the distribution of the trees. Jackson said the trees went to troops in the 20th Support Command, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion, and the U.S. Army Public Health Command.



Christmas trees are readied for distribution to APG Soldiers through the Trees For Troops program. VISIT APG ON FLICKR FOR MORE PHOTOS.

“We sent e-mails to all the units as soon as we were notified and the units turned in the names of Soldiers who

would receive a tree. I’d heard of Trees For Troops, but I’d never witnessed it before,” said Jackson of the program’s overwhelming support.

She said in addition to the Pine Val-

ley tree donation, the installation’s Challenge Academy cadets, who helped unload the trees, made the project a success.

Sgt. 1st Class Josh Robinette, the 20th Support Command operations sergeant, and seven Soldiers from his unit collected trees for the unit’s 37 recipients. Robinette said his mission ends when he gets the tree home.

“My wife will decide where it goes,” he said.

Capt. Dave Newhouse, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 20th Support Command, said he was “greatly impressed by this donation to our troops from the community.”

“This is the first time I’ve seen something like this,” he said. “It says a lot about the good relations between our Soldiers and the community.”

Trees for Troops is a charitable program through which Christmas trees are donated to service members and their Families. FedEx and Christmas SPIRIT Foundation sponsor the program. For more information, visit www.christmas-spiritfoundation.org/programs/trees-fortroops/home.htm.



It's that time of year

Aberdeen Proving Ground Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades and wife Lori waved to local crowds during the the city of Aberdeen’s 34th annual Christmas Street Parade. Other military leaders participating in the parade include U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and APG Commander Maj. Gen Nick Justice, Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz and RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Marin. APG residents and local community members lined the streets to get a glimpse of military vehicles and holiday floats during the Saturday afternoon event.

Photo by JOANN DUNN, AMC

COMMUNITY NOTES

THURSDAY AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 9 AND 11 SUPER SOAPS AND NATURAL SKINCARE

Come learn about natural skincare and how to make great gifts for the holidays. Attend the series to learn soap making, milling, and how to make other bath treats.

This program will be held 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday for ages 14 to adult. The cost is \$25 per series. 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 DECEMBER 10 NATURAL GIFT WORKSHOP

Spend the evening creating hand-made gifts for the holiday season. Gift-making stations, from herbal vinegar to beaded stars, will be set up in and around the center.

Hot cider and cookies will add to the festive atmosphere. This program will be held 6 to 9 p.m. for all ages. Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Cost is \$20 per person. Registration is required.

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

HOLIDAY COMEDY SHOW

Susquehanna Post 135 will present a Holiday Comedy Show, 8 p.m., at the American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, 300 Cherry Street, Perryville.

The show will feature various comedians performing stand-up and slap stick comedy, skits, and improvisation.

Tickets cost \$12 per person. Purchase tickets early for a relaxing evening of rip-roaring laughter and comedy. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information or to purchase tickets, stop by Susquehanna Post 135 or call 410-642-2771.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY DECEMBER 10 TO 12 LADEWTOPIARY GARDENS CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Ladew Topiary Gardens, located on 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton, Md., will hold a Christmas Open House 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 10 thru 12. "A Gardener's Christmas" celebrates Christmas with lush holiday displays covering walls, tabletops and fireplace mantels throughout the historic Manor House. Events include live seasonal music performed by Maryland school children and other accomplished instrumentalists, Christmas lunch, hot cider and cookies. Visitors can take fresh holiday decorations and loose greens and create their own holiday centerpieces. Military will receive a \$2 discount on admission cost with ID. Admission costs \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students and \$2 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call 410-557-9570 or visit www.ladewgardens.com.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11 HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The Harford Choral Society will perform Handel's Messiah with orchestra and soloists, 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Matthew Lutheran Church located on 1200 Churchville Road, Bel Air. Cost is \$20 per adult, \$15 for seniors, \$10 for students and admission is free for ages 12 and under.

For more information, 410-836-2773 or visit www.harfordchoralsociety.org.

INVASINATORS

Become a part of the volunteer team of invasive plant removers and native plant restorers. Learn why non-native invasive plants are a threat to the ecosystem, how to identify problem plants, and removal and restoration strategies. Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves, and work gloves for field work in the Reserve each meeting date. Participants receive an Invasinators t-shirt after attending two work days. This program will be held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 14 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.

WHITETAILED DEER SURVEY

Come help determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Conduct pellet (deer scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer call the park home. This free program will be held 9 a.m. to noon for ages 16 to adult. Registration is required.

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

BRRRR – WINTER ADAPTATIONS

Ever wonder how life survives in the cold months? Come learn about the adaptations plants and animals make in order to survive through winter. Hike the Discovery Trail to look for evidence of these adaptations in the estuary watershed. This free program will be held noon to 2 p.m. for ages 8 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.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12 MEET A CRITTER

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

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

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, 300 Cherry Street, Perryville will hold a Children's Christmas Party at 1 p.m. There will be photos with Santa, presents and refreshments.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16 OPEN HOUSE/CHRISTMAS PARTY

Havre de Grace Main Street will hold an Open House and Christmas Party Covered Dish Reception from 5 to 9 p.m. at La Banque de Fleuve on 321 St. John Street, Havre de Grace.

Special holiday music will be provided by Suzanne S. Chadwick, Duke Thompson of the Maryland Conservatory of Music, Al Peteraf and Bob and Amy Frank.

Attendees can bring a covered dish, light hors d'oeuvres or dessert for the community table. Non alcoholic drinks will be provided.

For more information or to RSVP, call 410-939-2811 or e-mail hdgmainstreet@verizon.net.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 17 THEATERWORKS USA PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Theaterworks USA will perform A Christmas Carol, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the Amoss Center in Bel Air. The show is recommended for ages 5 and up.

Tickets cost \$7 to \$12 per person. Reasonable accommodations for a documented disability may be requested by calling Disability Support Services, 443-412-2402, in advance of participation. A minimum notice of 10 working days may be needed to provide some accommodations.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 443-412-2211.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18 CRITTER DINNERTIME

Come watch the turtles, fish and snakes eat while learning more about these fascinating creatures. This free program will be held at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. No registration is required.

For more information call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.

Post Shorts

Blue Cross/Blue Shield will visit APG Dec. 14 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 314, Room 151E, and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. E4520, Chemical Edgewood's Demilitarization Training Facility, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

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

Call ACS to sponsor military Family for the holidays

With the holiday season fast approaching, the nation is still facing its greatest economic challenge since the great depression while still fighting the War on Terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community is constantly reminded of the great sacrifice of the men and women in the U.S. armed forces. During these difficult and stressful times, some military Families are experiencing financial hardship and require additional assistance.

Army Community Service works closely with these military Families providing supportive services throughout the year. To make this holiday season a little bit brighter for some of these Families, Army Community Services is hosting the Holiday Sponsor program.

Individuals, groups, and/or agencies desiring to sponsor a military Family can contact Arcelio V. Alleyne, ACS Financial Readiness Program Manager, 410.278.2450, fax 410.278.9685, or e-mail arcelio.alleyne@us.army.mil.

NAF Open Season begins

All enrollment options will be available during Open Season to regular full-time and part-time employees with the exception of Long Term Care which will be available only with Evidence of Insurability.

Health plan participants must enroll their dependent children, age 19-26 who were previously enrolled but aged out of coverage at 19, dependents who were never enrolled because they were over 18, and dependents age 19-26 who were covered as a full-time student.

If you have dependents ages 19-26 failure to update your records during Open Season will result in these children not being eligible for coverage until the next Open Season.

FSA's also require yearly election.

Since employees will need a variety of information and/or documents, they should contact NAF Human Resources Office, 410-278-5127/8992/8994 to arrange an appointment as soon as possible if they wish to add dependents and/or update their records.

Changes requiring Open Season eligibility will be effective Jan. 1, 2011 provided the employee is actively at work.

Tree Decorating and Gingerbread House Competitions

All garrison supported organizations and community activities are invited to participate in the Tree Decorating and Gingerbread House Competitions.

Each event is open to all members of the APG community and their Families. The Edgewood Area event will be held in conjunction with the APG Festival of Trees and Holiday Celebrations on Dec. 14.

Tree decoration competition

The Tree Decorating Competition will take place between 5 to 5:30 p.m. Trees will be provided. Each group needs to bring their ornaments and decorations to the Edgewood Recreation Center where they will be given 30 minutes to complete their project.

Gingerbread house competition

Participants will bring their completed creation to the Edgewood Recreation Center by 4:30 p.m. for set-up.

Those who would like to participate may call the AA Recreation Center, 410-278-2621 or e-mail Joyce.founds@us.army.mil. When responding, identify the name of the representative, phone number, e-mail and name of organization represented.

Freedom Award nominations

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency opened nomination season for their annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award earlier this month.

Now through Jan. 17, Guard and Reserve service members and their Families are eligible and encouraged to nominate their supportive employers for this prestigious award at www.FreedomAward.mil.

Spouses Club seeking fave recipes for new cookbook

The Military and Civilian Spouse Club is looking for recipes to include Family favorites, entertaining delights, holiday specials, and more for a new MCSC cookbook. It has been almost 10 years since the last cookbook.

Anyone affiliated with APG or in the local community can turn in their favorite recipes. Pre-orders are being accepted now. Save \$2.50 per book by ordering now. Cookbooks will have a padded cover with artwork done by a local military Family member.

Cookbooks will be in a three-ring binder with stand and include 300 to 400 recipes. The MCSC Cookbook with stand costs \$15 each or \$25 each with a CD. Don't miss out.

Submit recipes and pre-order a book now. Simply mail recipes to APG MCSC Cookbook, PO Box 52, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005. Delivery date is April 2011.

For more information, call Annie Brock, 443-686-1484 or e-mail president@apgmcs.org.

BOSS volunteers serve lunch to homeless

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS), along with single and married Soldiers from units and companies assigned to the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of APG, will serve lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the third Saturday of each month at the Eastern Family Resource Center located at 9100 Franklin Square Drive in Rosedale, Md. BOSS representatives will wear BOSS T-shirts; military and civilian volunteers can wear company t-shirts and civilian attire.

For more information, call Cpl. Mathew Beach, 410-652-2710 or BOSS President Spc. Carlos Rios, 410-306-2649.

Updated link posted for completed study on APG's WWI barracks

Aberdeen Proving Ground conducted an environmental assessment of potential environmental, cultural and socio-economic effects associated with options

for the reuse or demolition of the World War I Barracks (E4400 Block) in the Edgewood Area of APG.

The 13 barracks buildings, a heating plant and former bakery building comprise a historic district that is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The proposed action is to retain, restore, and reuse one of the barracks buildings (Bldg. E4405), while the remainder of the historic district is demolished.

The barracks buildings were built in 1918 as permanent housing for the enlisted Soldiers operating the then-Edgewood Arsenal's newly constructed chemical warfare production plants.

The draft environmental assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact are available for review at www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/directorates/dpw until Jan. 4. Comments can be addressed to:

USAG APG DPW,
Environmental Division
ATTN: IMNE-APG-PWE
(Carol Young)
4304 Susquehanna Ave.,
3rd Floor, Wing B
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD
21005-5001

Registration opens for UMUC classes at APG

Register now for Spring 2011 University of Maryland University College classes at APG.

BEHS 364 Alcohol in U.S. Society (3 credits), Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Jan. 24 through March 9, Online Hybrid Class

IFSM 304 Ethics in the Information Age (3 credits), Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., March 15 through May 15, Online Hybrid Class

Additional classes are available through distance education formats.

For more information or to register, visit the Aberdeen Proving Ground office of UMUC, building 4305, room 210, or call 410-272-8269 or 410-306-2048 or visit www.umuc.edu.

More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.

FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Board horses at APG Stables

The APG stables are a self-care boarding facility located in the Edgewood Area, Bldg. E5286, for privately owned horses of military and civilian employees, retirees and Family members.

All patrons must have a valid military or installation ID card.

Monthly stall fees include:

- Four turn-out pastures
- Lighted riding arena
- Water troughs in each pasture
- Run-in sheds
- Barn with water and electricity
- Tack rooms, grain room and hay storage provided

For more information or to sign up, call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124 or visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation/odr/stables.html.

Taekwondo classes to begin

Join the Unity TaeKwonDo School of Martial Arts at APG.

Taekwondo promotes discipline, muscle toning and conditioning.

Classes will be held for ages 6 to 14 Mondays and Wednesdays from Jan. 24 to Feb. 16; Feb. 23 to March 21; and March 28 to April 18 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522.

Instructor Sabunim Sean A. Williams will teach this program. Classes will be held 6 to 6:45 p.m. for white belts through yellow belts and 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. for yellow with green stripe belts and above.

Cost is \$65 per student for a four-week session or \$150 per student for a 12-week session.

Students must wear a white T-shirt and sweat pants. Class size is limited so register early.

Harlem Globetrotters

The Harlem Globetrotters will perform 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Dec. 28, at the 1st Mariner Arena Baltimore at 201 West Baltimore Street in Baltimore. Tickets cost \$18 each, a savings of \$14 per ticket. All seats are located in section 113 or 114.

For more information or to purchase

tickets, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, at 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGRUSAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Christmas Boutique, Candlelight Tour slated in December

The Susquehanna Museum at the Lock House located on 817 Conestogo Street, Havre de Grace will hold a Christmas Boutique, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Dec. 11 and noon to 8 p.m., Dec. 12.

Purchase handcrafted gifts, decorations, and quilts. Visit the Gourmet Room for baked breads, cakes, candies and more. There will also be a silent auction and a raffle.

Tickets are available for the 38th annual Candlelight Tour. The tour will be held noon to 8 p.m., Dec. 12 and starts at the Susquehanna Museum at the Lock House.

Tickets cost \$14 per person and include a tour of homes with historical value and unique architectural styles from different periods in the city's history.

Caroling and light refreshments will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are limited, order them now.

To purchase tickets, visit the MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907.

Freestyle motorcross event

Come see Nuclear Cowboy, the greatest cast of freestyle motocross riders ever, assemble and take their apocalyptic power to the massive ramps, conveying the action-packed narrative through choreographed, synchronized awe-inspiring tricks and the Nuclear CowgirlzSM Dancers.

The event will take place Jan. 15 at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$19. All seats are located in Section 217.

To purchase a ticket, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. For more

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

For more information and seating chart, visit <https://www.baltimorearena.com/>

Group seeking talent for community theater

The APG Community Theater Group needs actors, singers, dancers, comedians, musicians, choral, stage crew (sound, lighting, photography and more).

For more information, call or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

2010 White House ornament sale

FMWR Leisure Travel Services is selling the latest White House ornaments for \$17, but supplies are limited. The 2010 White House Christmas Ornament is in honor of William McKinley's 25th presidency and celebrates the role of music in the traditions of the White House. Visit www.whitehousehistory.org/ for more information.

For more information or to purchase an ornament, call 410-278-4011/4907, MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

APG Running Club

The APG Sports and Fitness Branch has begun a Running Club for organized weekly runs. Club members meet 5 p.m. every Tuesday at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center and 5 p.m. every Thursday at Hoyle Gym in the Edgewood Area. Dan Dolce, Morale, Welfare and Recreation fitness coordinator, oversees the club. For more information, contact Dolce at 410-278-7933/7934 or e-mail,

dan.dolce@us.army.mil.

Daily bus trips to Atlantic City now cost \$29 per person

The cost of the daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal Casino has increased to \$29 per person.

Only for ages 21 and over. The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood 9 a.m. and return 9 p.m. Seating is limited and sells quickly. Seats must be purchased at least two weeks in advance.

For more information, contact MWR Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGRUSAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Medieval Times discount tickets available through Leisure Travel

The Leisure Travel Office has discount tickets for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournaments located at Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md.

Tickets cost \$39.25 per adult and \$32 per child (ages 3 to 12). Reservations must be made at the time of purchase; other locations available upon request. All prices and savings are based on the final cost to include all taxes and fees. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office, Bldg. 3326, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, Bldg. 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID cardholders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Martial Arts at APG present Tiny Tigers

Children ages 4 to 6 can join the Tiny Tigers Unity TaeKwonDo School of Martial Arts at APG.

Parent participation is required. Cost to register is \$40 per person and classes are open to all DoD ID cardholders and Family members.

Instructor Sabunim Sean A. Williams will teach the program. Classes will be held 5:30 to 6 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays Jan. 24 to Feb. 16; Feb. 23 to March 21; and March 28 to April 18.

The Tiny Tiger program is an age-appropriate version of taekwondo that will help direct energy into confidence and character building skills. Students learn traditional taekwondo techniques such as blocking, punching and kicking including "Stranger Danger" and "Fire Safety" skills.

Students will test every three to six classes. Class size is limited to 12 parent and child pairings, so register early.

The Tiny Tigers program will be held at

the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522.

Driver's Ed runs through December, open to cardholders

Driver's Education classes are scheduled through Dec. 13. There are no classes on federal holidays. Classes will be held Monday thru Friday, 5 to 8 p.m. at The Ultimate Driving School, LLC, 13 North Parke Street, Aberdeen.

Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind the wheel instruction. The last day to register for the first class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18. Open to all DoD ID cardholders. Driver's Ed costs \$335 per student. Prices are subject to change without notice.

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.

December bowling specials

• Early Bird Special: Bowl from 7 to 10 a.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.

• Monday to Friday, 2 to 4 p.m., bowl for \$.75 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.

• Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$32. Shoe rental costs \$1.

• Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m.,

bowl one game for \$3.50 and bowl one game free. Shoe rental costs \$2.

Please call for availability of lanes on discounted days/hours.

New bowling rates

Bowling costs \$3 per game, Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; games cost \$3.50 each on Fridays, 9:30 to 11 p.m.; Cosmic Saturdays cost \$3.75 per game; and \$3 per game on Sundays.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 8 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. Lunch delivery is available for all orders \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

Week of Dec. 6

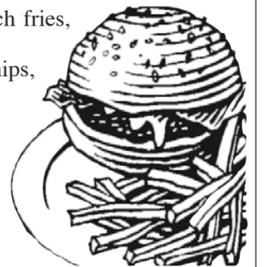
Special #1: Gyro with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.
Special #2: Chicken salad sandwich, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

Week of Dec. 13

Special #1: Pepperoni pizza submarine with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.75;
Special #2: Egg salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.25.

The Bowling Center also serves breakfast. For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041.

Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



CSA supports 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' repeal, but not during war

Story by
C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

Though he believes the law that bans gays from serving openly in the military eventually should be repealed, the Army's senior officer told the Senate Armed Services Committee Dec. 3, repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law now would be a distraction during wartime.



Army Chief of Staff
Gen. George W. Casey Jr.

Lawmakers heard testimony from Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr., the other service chiefs and the vice chair-

man of the Joint Chiefs of Staff about their take on a report produced by a Defense Department working group that details how repeal of the law would affect the armed forces.

Casey told lawmakers that during wartime, implementing a new policy would be an extra burden on leadership.

"Implementation of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell would be a major cultural and policy change in the middle of a war," he said. "It would be implemented by a force and leaders that are already stretched by the cumulative effects of almost a decade of war."

The general said that implementation of a repeal of the law policy at this time would add another level of stress to an already stretched force, would be more difficult to implement in combat-

arms units than in other units, and would "be more difficult for the Army than the report suggests."

However, the general also said that if the law is overturned and the armed forces must comply, the Army could do so with only "moderate risk" to service effectiveness.

"We have a disciplined force and seasoned leaders, who, with appropriate guidance and direction, can oversee the implementation of repeal with moderate risk to our military effectiveness in the short term, and moderate risk to our ability to recruit and retain this all-volunteer force over the long haul," he said.

Casey also said that after reading the working group's report and the results of surveys the group conducted with service members and their families, he no longer believes in the concepts that sup-

ported banning gays from serving in the first place.

"As I read through the report, it seemed to me that the report called into question the basic presumption that underpins the law," Casey said. "That is that the presence of a gay or lesbian service member creates an unacceptable risk to good order and discipline. I don't believe that's true. And from the surveys, it appears that a large number of our service members don't believe that is true either. So eventually, I believe, it should be repealed."

The general added that while he believes the law should eventually be repealed, the services will need time to implement the change in the force.

"At this time, I would not recommend going forward, given everything the Army has on its plate," he said.

Wireless Network After Next leader drives promising technology forward

Story by
CLAIRE HEININGER
and **MICHAEL ACKLEY**
(Symbolic Systems, Inc.)
Supporting the PEO C3T

The Wireless Network After Next (WNaN) is known for high performance in ever-changing circumstances.

So is its leader. Flora Marshall, project leader for the intelligent, self-healing tactical network, has overcome challenges to shepherd the technology through its crucial assessment phase, which culminated last month as Soldiers evaluated WNaN at Fort Benning, Ga.

"She has really brought it to fruition," said Terry Claussen, deputy director of the Special Projects Office (SPO) for the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications – Tactical (PEO C3T). "She is pulling this all together."

WNaN, which was developed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), is a battlefield network that can adapt to changing circumstances and keep radio communications intact. As Soldiers maneuver in complicated environments, WNaN automatically determines the best frequencies and the best path to utilize to maintain communications. It can also recover from signal disruptions and delays, potentially eliminating the need for Sol-

diers to stop and manually adjust frequencies during operations.

“She is able to talk with the different organizations and work through issues (in ways) that are effective for the team.”

Terry Claussen

Special Projects Office for PEO C3T

WNaN experiments.

Anchoring it all is Marshall, who

became project leader when the SPO took responsibility for WNaN just eight months ago.

"She is able to talk with the different organizations and work through and resolve issues (in ways) that are effective for the team, not just always one-sided," Claussen said. Those diplomatic skills, he said, have enabled the complicated WNaN effort "to move forward as efficiently as possible."

Marshall has also teamed with DARPA to find efficiencies and share costs between that agency and the Army, Claussen said.

In addition to cooperating with external organizations, Marshall oversees a team of about 20 people – no easy task during the upheaval of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, which is transferring PEO C3T and

See SENIOR, page 15

From the Garrison

As one of team APG's senior leaders I get to see APG's incredible diversity in ways that few people do.

On any given day I may find myself talking to a general officer, a researcher, a young Soldier, an environmental expert, a spouse or any of the Soldiers, Family members or civilians who make up the APG community.

It's easy to see why the Army celebrates diversity, and how that diversity translates into the wide variety of things Team APG does to support our Warfighters.

It's also easy to see how that diversity could lead people to think they have little in common with each other beyond simply being at APG. But just as I get to see the diversity on the installation, I get to see the similarities. There are more than most people realize.

I have no choice but to look at all this as a senior noncommissioned officer, someone whose training and experience all points in one direction: making things better. When I think about how to make things better here, my mind inevitably turns toward those things I know make everything work better: leadership, standards and discipline.

The story of leadership on APG is the story of the whole installation in miniature. We are a diverse installation with one goal: to provide world-class support

to the Warfighter. We are also a diverse community of leaders with one job: to accomplish the mission. That community of leaders is larger than most people realize, because it includes more than those with the word supervisor in their job descriptions. The Army defines leadership as influencing people by providing purpose, direction and motivation. So if a group of people is standing around wondering what to do, the person who makes a suggestion is showing leadership.

Some people might question whether Army leadership principles and practices fit such a diverse community, which has relatively few Soldiers. But the beauty of Army leadership is that its principles and practices are designed to be used by Soldiers, a group of people that is, if anything, more diverse than Team APG. It works for Soldiers with GEDs and Soldiers with PhDs, Soldiers who are 18 and Soldiers who have been in the Army for 18 years, Soldiers training at their home stations and Soldiers under fire half a world away.

Some may also look at these principles and think they are simple, but what they really are is universal. Let's look at the seven Army values:

Loyalty - Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit and other Soldiers.

Duty - Fulfill your obligations.
Respect - Treat people as they should be treated.

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

Honor - Live up to all the Army values.

Integrity - Do what's right, legally and morally.

Personal Courage - Face fear, danger or adversity (physical or moral).

Replace the phrase "other Soldiers" with "your coworkers" or "the Soldiers we support" and those values work as well for any Family member or civilian in team APG as they do for a Soldier in Afghanistan.

What office, lab or work site wouldn't be better off if all leaders lived up to those ideals? What leader couldn't benefit from pitting his own performance against the high standard those values set?

Each one seems short and self-explanatory, but when you apply them to your own leadership you realize that instead of posters on the wall they are doorways that can lead you down a long hallway of becoming a better leader.

Looking at the Army values with an eye toward leadership will naturally take us to developing the leaders who will follow us. The Army defines lead-

er development as the deliberate, continuous, sequential, and progressive process, based on Army values, that develops Soldiers and civilians into competent and confident leaders capable of decisive action.

Any thorough discussion of leadership in a nation at war as we are will bring us to the subject of resiliency. It is not only an Army priority, it's part of developing a team and keeping it going strong. We cannot fully develop as leaders or live up to the Army values without being resilient.

I plan to use this column to work my way through a discussion of the Army values, leader development and resiliency over the next several months. I'll address one each time and explore how any member of team APG can put that concept to work to do a better job.

I hope it gives Team APG's leaders something to focus on while they work to improve themselves, their teams and their support to the Warfighter. It will be as much a journey for me as for you as I look for ways to make these universal values and principles relevant to as many Soldiers, Families and civilians as possible. I may not make it every time. But if you read one of these articles and find little that's relevant to you, don't blame the material. Set what I have written aside and walk through that doorway yourself.

CMD. SGT. MAJ. RODNEY RHOADES

Cmd. Sgt. Maj., U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground



“ We cannot fully develop as leaders or live up to the Army values without being resilient. ”

Holiday worship services

There will be a combined Christmas Eve Candelight Service, 7 p.m., Dec. 24, at the Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 2485. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Main Post Chapel (Aberdeen Area)

Catholic Mass

Sat., Dec. 11 Hispanic Mass/Social 4:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 12 Third Sunday of Advent 8:45 a.m.
Sun., Dec. 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:45 a.m.

Protestant worship

Sun., Dec. 12 Christmas Cantata 10:15 a.m.
Sun., Dec. 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:15 a.m.

Gospel worship

Sat., Dec. 11 Dance/Drama Play 4 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 12 Third Sunday of Advent noon
Sun., Dec. 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent noon

Edgewood Area

Catholic Mass

Sun., Dec. 12 Third Sunday of Advent 10:45 a.m.
Sat., Dec. 18 Penance Service 4:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 18 Holiday Dinner 5:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 18 Stable Liturgy 7 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:45 a.m.

Protestant worship

Sun., Dec. 12 Third Sunday of Advent 9:15 a.m.

Angels on Assignment

The APG Gospel Service youth will be hosting their Christmas Play, "Angels on Assignment," Saturday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m., at the Edgewood (APG South) chapel. Following the play, light refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Lakeya Brown at keyabear87@yahoo.com or Dylan Henry at 443-824-9514 or dylan.henry@conus.army.mil.

Manage holiday spending

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Last year, the average American spent \$1,558 during the holiday season.

That may not seem like a lot to some people, but Consumer Reports estimates that more than 13 million Americans are still saddled with debt from last year's holiday shopping.

This year, most people say they will spend the same amount or less, leading Consumer Reports to call U.S. shoppers more value-conscious than in years past.

That's a promising turn, said Arcelio Alleyne, the installation's Financial Readiness Program Manager, Army Community Service.

Alleyne, who gives financial advice and helps set up budgets for a living, urged community members to create a realistic budget they can live with and one that will prevent them from shopping themselves into debt.

Alleyne said his No. 1 piece of advice this holiday season is "stick to your budget at all cost."

He said many people feel pressure to buy that perfect present for everyone on their list. But doing so, said Alleyne, can lead to emotional and financial stress that will plague shoppers long after the Christmas season.

Alleyne also suggested shoppers consider less expensive but more meaningful options.

This year, instead of running to the

Pressure to buy can stress nerves, wallets

nearest clearance sales, try to focus on aspects of the holidays beyond giving and receiving gifts. It's not only stressful to feel the need to buy or receive gifts—it's wrong. The best gifts are those chosen with an eye toward what is personal and meaningful to the recipient. Such gifts don't have to cost a lot.

"There are many heart-felt gifts that don't come with a sales receipt," he said. "Bake treats or put together a photo album."

Children can also give coupons for babysitting, car washes and backrubs, and gift baskets stocked with smaller, inexpensive items are great gift ideas.

Other tips for smart shopping include:

Sticking to the plan

Plan for an increase in spending if meals, gifts and entertainment are included in holiday celebrations. Budget finances before shopping. Also, it's okay to explain financial limitations to children, rather than buying the expensive toys they ask for.

Limiting your gift list

Is it really necessary to buy gifts

for everyone on the list? Suggest skipping gift-giving among friends and plan an inexpensive outing together instead. Some families draw names and give only one gift per person or make a charitable contribution as a group instead of buying individual gifts.

Making a list, and checking it twice

Other good ways to avoid busting the budget include deciding what to buy for each person before heading to the mall. If unsure what to buy for certain people, save them for last.

Don't use credit / pay with cash

Simply put, purchasing gifts with a credit card is spending money you don't have.

Account for hidden cost

Stamps, shipping and decorations add up fast and can blow your budget.

Purchase after the holidays.

For friends and family who can wait until after Christmas, great gifts can be purchased at a fraction of their original cost.

For more information about managing your holiday spending, contact

Alleyne at 410-278-2450 or arcelio.alleyne@us.army.mil.

Information taken from www.militaryonesource.com and www.ConsumerReports.com.

How to SAVE

- 1. Look for bargains. Try to buy several things from one catalogue or Internet site to save money on shipping, or better yet, look for sites that offer free shipping. Comparison shop using the fliers that come in the weekend papers to find the best deals.**
- 2. Cut back on mailing expenses. Eliminate shipping costs this year by buying magazine subscriptions or sending online gift certificates. Send holiday postcards or even e-cards instead of regular cards.**

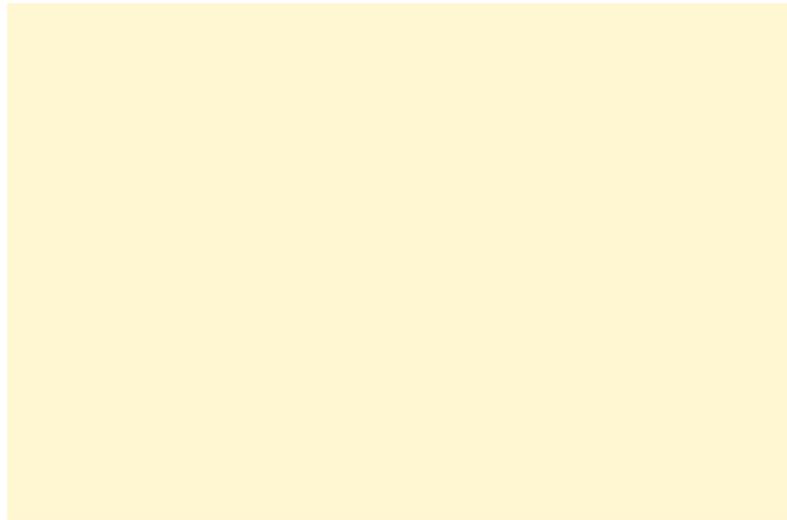
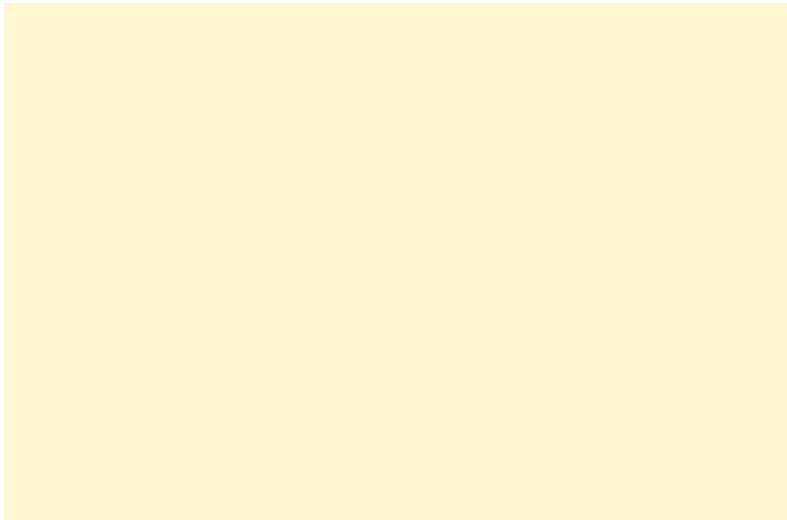




Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Spreading the Word

Father Simeon Gallagher from the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin, gives a presentation to (from left) John Wang and Dwayne Head from the United States Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity and Carol McDonough, a visitor, and Julia Dell from the Communications-Electronics Research, Development, and Engineering Center, during a prayer luncheon at the Aberdeen Area Dinning Facility Nov. 23. Gallagher spoke on a variety of topics during a two day spiritual mission sponsored by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Catholic Ministry Community. Gallagher serves as the Director of the Preaching Ministry Office of the Mid America Province of the Capuchin Order. He has traveled throughout the United States, Central America, Europe, Asia and Australia to conduct retreats, parish development programs, parish missions and religious education workshops.

Senior leaders eye WNaN

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several other Army organizations from Fort Monmouth, N.J. to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

"Her key accomplishment is being able to keep the team together," Claussen said. "We've had some change in personnel, but her ability to integrate those people into the team and keep the overall process moving forward has been outstanding."

Marshall guided WNaN over a key hurdle in July and August, when WNaN demonstrated its potential during field

evaluations conducted at Fort Devens, Mass. The technical assessment included a demonstration of a 52-node network that highlighted WNaN's high voice quality, frequency agility and message completion.

This fall at Fort Benning, Soldiers with the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Experimental Force conducted a series of operations to gauge WNaN's performance in various "missions" and combat environments. Every step of the way, the Soldiers' verbal feedback was collected and matched up

with audio and video capture from the missions, as well as technical data generated by the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES).

Army senior leaders also attended a VIP day at Fort Benning to watch WNaN in action. The experimentation wrapped up in November, and the findings will be incorporated into a final WNaN evaluation report. The PEO C3T and other organizations will then craft recommended transition strategies for incorporating the technology into the Army's plans.

Marshall will also lead that effort, which will culminate with a briefing to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army that is tentatively planned for March 2011, Claussen said. Whatever WNaN's future, he said, Marshall will be ready to adapt to it.

"Ms. Marshall is a consummate professional and a true team player," said Richard Costa, director of the SPO. "Her contributions have been instrumental in the successes associated with WNaN to date."

APG rich in local STEM resources

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During the luncheon, hosted by the Boys & Girls Club of America of Harford County, Graham urged attendees to participate in a pilot program that would pair up area scientists and engineers with local schools and youth groups to get students excited about STEM education.

This, he said, is the beginning of growing a new and vital generation of young American STEM professionals.

"Of the 3.8 million students entering 9th grade, 233,000 or 6 percent will have graduated from college with a degree in hard science, engineering or math," said Graham during a Dec. 2 phone interview with the APG News. "That's insufficient for our country."

While the low number of STEM professionals in the United States has always been a concern, "in the past that shortage was made up by foreign-born students. But with the improved economies in places like China and India, those scientists and engineers are going back to their own country," he said.

And still, only 50 percent of scientists in the United States were born in the

United States.

"If we don't produce smart innovative students in STEM, we could lose our preeminence as an economic and military super power. Where we graduate 70,000 engineers per year, China graduates 360,000 and India 310,000," said Graham, who compares America's decline in STEM power to the U.S.-Russian Space Race of the 1950's.

"What we're going through now with STEM is similar to when Russia put up Sputnik," he said. "That's what got our country's attention. It gave us a jolt. When I was a kid, during my generation, that's all we talked about. But America put the pedal to the medal and we won the Space Race. Not we're in a STEM race."

The Cold War competition sparked an unprecedented increase in U.S. spending in education and research that Graham is seeing replayed nationwide. He said CEOs at every major technology company across the nation has made a commitment to STEM outreach "because the company of their future depends on it. Our tech leaders know what we have to do, and that is to energize our students."

Randy Acosta, executive director for the Boys & Girls Club of Harford County, attended Monday's luncheon and said he's committed, 100 percent, to the STEM pilot program Graham plans to kick off in January.

And the APG area may be a prime location for STEM outreach.

"We would be foolish not to launch this program with all of the expertise we have here," he said.

Stephen Clapper, APG's school liaison officer, agreed.

"We're very rich in STEM resources," said Clapper. "Garrison-supported organizations on APG have provided scientists and engineers to STEM projects for both Harford and Cecil counties and national programs."

And the time for change is now.

"Two years ago at an international science exhibition, the U.S. came out 39th globally in science," said Clapper, who also attended the Monday luncheon. "That is atrocious. The U.S. went from ranking No. 1 for decades to 39th, so this is part of a crucial initiative to get kids interested, really hyped up about science

and technology.

Graham's non-profit Let's Go Boys and Girls organization will provide manuals and curriculum, a help desk, training and management to get the STEM pilot up and running.

If community members step forward and are willing to make a long-term commitment, Graham said he has no doubt the program will be a success. He said he is looking for a consortium of U.S. Army and local companies, many of whom are moving into the area as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure, that will commit for the long haul.

"It's not a fast process," said Graham. "We're talking about middle school students, so it will be years before they graduate college and join the STEM world professionally."

"We need people who will stay committed and support these students for the next four or five years, really get them through the pipeline," he said.

"But we shouldn't start it, if we don't mean it," said Graham. "The worst thing we can do is give them hope, then walk away."

Small businesses to receive \$2.8 billion

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Enterprise in a forum where potential requirements are openly shared with industry and future partnerships are formed to ensure support to the Warfighter is done effectively and efficiently.

"As we're rebuilding here at APG, we're counting on industry to augment our efforts with staff as well as ideas on business process improvements, and other areas of innovation. There will be a need for flexibility and an opportunity for growth. Together, we will succeed," said Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, CECOM commander.

C4ISR enterprise senior leaders took part in a detailed panel discussion about upcoming requirements and needs of their respective organizations. Briefing presentations included the objectives for the available contracts; as well as the contract type; estimated contract values; milestones; technical and contracting points of contact and solicitation numbers.

"We're constantly looking for new technology, especially in the C4ISR business, which is what we support," said Elgart. "It's really important to be on the cutting-edge at all times so we can

give our Soldiers the best capabilities so they can stay safe and alive, and that's what is most important."

Support to small businesses was one focus of the events.

"As of Nov. 1, there were 22,000 actions and \$13.2 billion for all U.S. obligations from the CECOM Contracting Center for fiscal year 2010," said Strong. "We awarded \$2.8 billion, or 21 percent, of those eligible obligations to small businesses."

One small business, Manufacturing Techniques Inc., or MTEQ, reaped the benefits of such an event.

Two years ago MTEQ attended the C4ISR small business conference in 2008 in New Jersey. Today, the women-owned, HUBZone small business was one of three awardees for the Quick Reaction Engineering for Warfighter Sensors, or QREWS, contract valued at up to \$245 million.

After the that conference, "Because we (MTEQ representatives) had the connection with the small business office and were able to do the advanced planning, we were able to become a success-

ful awardee," said Clara M. Schuster, MTEQ director of contracts.

MTEQ representatives followed the requirement for 18 months before the actual solicitation came out for bid, according to Schuster. "You really have to follow these things closely and be connected to the customer. Also, networking is very key. For many of these solicitations you have to have a team, especially with small businesses," she said.

One small business owner, Peter J. Martin, president of AmeriPack, said events like these allow small businesses to gain exposure to opportunities that larger companies would typically dominate.

"We want a level playing field, said Martin. "Small businesses want a chance to compete and participate in the government contracting process." He said small businesses can, and have, saved the government money in the past.

"We're not talkers, we are doers," he said. He referenced one contract specifically where his small business out-bid a product \$92.60 per unit, rather than at \$330 per unit, that a larger company bid.

Guest speaker Judy Bradt, founder and principal of Summit Insight, LLC, shared her words of advice to those interested in conducting business with the government.

"The most important reason to come out to an event like this (APBI/Small Business Conference) is that you focus or go broke," said Bradt. "The information that is available at an APBI, about what programs are being mounted; what are the priorities; what's the budget; and who are the people who are making the decisions and defining the requirements; that's all handed to you."

Strong closed his remarks by reminding industry to engage, inquire and network as the business community learns more about C4ISR and the opportunities it brings. "APG is becoming a beacon of transformation for the Army, the C4ISR community and this geographical region. This is the gateway for your engagement in C4ISR life-cycle management," he emphasized.

All briefings of potential contracting opportunities will be available on the events' registration website at <http://www.apgmwr.com/apbisbc.html>.

Twitter stream to supply CAC questions

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everyone who would like to attend," said George Mercer, Director, USAG APG Public Affairs. "We have expanded what we can do with Channel 97 fairly recently and are double-checking our ability to broadcast the meeting live."

Ortiz, however, wanted more feedback from the community, so the Public Affairs staff looked to the social media revolution for answers.

"We know it would be best if we have a way to get feedback from the community while the meeting is taking place," said Mercer. "There's the obvious way - by telephone - but social media not only gives people another choice, it adds some capabilities you can't get elsewhere."

The Public Affairs team researched how similar events are handled and found television news shows, podcasters and others using the social media site Twitter. The garrison already has a Twitter site, so the decision was made to try it.

"Twitter allows you to post short updates, but it also allows people to reply to those updates," Mercer said. "What we hope to do is send out tweets as the meeting progresses, and then people can reply to those with comments or

questions. So if someone were listening to the council meeting at home or at work, they could type in a quick question and we would see it pretty much instantaneously."

The social media site offers some other benefits during the council and after, he said. Because the replies stack up as they are made, the person monitoring them may be able to notice trends that would not be immediately apparent to a person taking phone calls one at a time. Also, anyone following the garrison's Twitter stream can see the trends and reply to other people.

"It really can be interactive," Mercer said. "Also, unlike phone calls, the Twitter updates and replies stay there. Anybody who wants to see them later can go to the site and search through them at their leisure. We can also put what they call a hash tag on the updates so that, if we continue to use Twitter in the future, people will be able to search through all past community action council streams to see what went on."

Whether the garrison will conduct future council meetings this way will depend on the staff's ability to pull it off and the community's response, Mer-

cer said.

"We're not going to try to kid anybody that this is going to go perfectly the very first time," he said. "We're doing at least three new things at once: broadcasting the meeting live, opening it up to questions from outside the room, and updating an interactive social media site during a live event. Any one of several things could go wrong, or all that activity could be too much for us to make sense of during the meeting."

"Nor do we know if the community is interested in this kind of thing. We know we have a community that is more high tech all the time. But is this how they want to hold their community action council meetings? Are the people interested in the council the same ones who are interested in Twitter or even calling in a question to a meeting you're watching on TV? We don't know."

"What we do know is that we have these technologies and a desire to give as much of the community a voice as we can," Mercer said.

People who would like to follow the meeting on Twitter can visit <http://twitter.com/USAGAPG> to watch the stream of posts. Those who want to reply during

the meeting will have to join the social media site and log in on the day of the event. Twitter posts are limited to 140 characters.

"Of course we're going to recommend that people join and follow us on Twitter," Mercer said. "All of our Facebook postings are repeated on Twitter, but Twitter seems better for use on cell phones, which makes it a good site to get out important alerts."

"We thought about doing this on our Facebook page, because it allows for longer posts," he added. "We also have almost 3,000 people signed up to follow us on Facebook versus only about 300 on Twitter. The problem is, when you post a status update on Facebook it shows up on the page of every one of those people. If we have a lot of updates and replies, it could dominate the Facebook news stream for all the people who like us. With Twitter people can go to our page and see what's going on without it taking over their social media stream for hours."

Event details are still being settled. Changes will be announced in the APG News, MilBlog, and the APG Facebook and Twitter pages.