

Post Shorts

Counterintelligence recruiting team visits APG today

The U.S. Army's CI Special Agent Recruiting Team will present an information briefing, 1 to 3 p.m., July 22, at Victory Hall, building 4727, Conference Room.

The briefing will include information concerning career field MOS 35L (CI Special Agent), including criteria for entry, how to apply for reclassification and the missions, assignments, and training opportunities for CI Special Agents.

The presentation is for enlisted, grades E4 through E6. Army CI is made up of unique individuals who have a genuine desire to detect, identify, assess and then neutralize or exploit foreign intelligence and security service activities against U.S. Forces.

For more information, call Randall Long, 520-533-2320, DSN 821-2320, or e-mail randall.long@conus.army.mil; or call Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Rodgers, 520-533-5952, DSN 821-5952, or email stephen.rodgers@conus.army.mil.

CIF relocates to Edgewood Area

The Central Issue Facility, operated by the Directorate of Logistics, has relocated to building E5707 on Magnolia Road in the Edgewood Area. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday. Customers must call in advance for an appointment. To schedule an appointment, call 410-436-2146 or e-mail: apgr-usag-cif-CentralIssueFacility@conus.army.mil.

Strong Bonds Couples Retreat

A Strong Bonds couples training and retreat will be offered at the Harbortown Resort in St. Michael's, Md. Aug. 4 to 6.

Strong Bonds is provided by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Chaplain and the Garrison Commander at no cost to the Soldier and their spouse.

Registration is being accepted at the Main Post Chapel.

To register, attendees must
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Rock and Awe entertains APG with energetic concert

Smith assumes command of 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE)

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

More than 250 dignitaries, Family, friends and 20th Support Command Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-yield Explosives (CBRNE) Soldiers and civilians gathered to honor the new commander of the 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE) during a traditional military assumption of command ceremony at the Edgewood Area McBride Parade Field July 8.

During the ceremony Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, and host of the ceremony, passed the organizational colors to Brig. Gen. Leslie C. Smith, symbolizing the transfer of leadership to Smith.

During Thurman's remarks he welcomed attendees to the ceremony.

"It is a great day to be a Soldier," Thurman said.

Thurman commended Smith for his extraordinary leadership skills, and said Smith was the right man to lead the 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE).

"Brigadier General Smith is a proven leader," Thurman said. "He brings a wealth of experience to the command and he is well-qualified to lead this unit."

Thurman added that Smith has previously served with 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE). From August 2007 to June 2008, he served as the G3, responsible



Photo by SEAN KIEF, GARRISON PHOTOGRAPHER
Brig. Gen. Leslie C. Smith (center), incoming commander of the 20th Support Command, accepts the organizational colors from Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, as 20th SUPCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Orosz looks on. Smith assumed command of the U.S. Army 20th Support Command during a ceremony at the McBride Field on Aberdeen Proving Ground July 8.

for the operations of two Explosive Ordnance Disposal groups, one CBRNE brigade and multiple combat enablers for the command.

"We are proud to add his name to the list of those commanders who have gone

before," Thurman said. "Brigadier General Smith is a proven leader, capable and worthy of the increased responsibility he receives today. He brings a wealth of experience and proven leadership to this command."

See CBRNE, page 7

USAMRICD holds first NCO induction ceremony

USAMRICD

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense held its first Noncommissioned Officer Induction Ceremony June 25. The inductees were Sgts. Erin Bouligny, Nydia Conder, Felix Huang and Zachary Phillips.

As the guest speaker, Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Kelley, of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Fort Detrick, Md., gave a speech designed to inspire, motivate and encourage each of the new NCOs to strive to exceed all expectations as the newest leaders of America's Army.

After Kelley's speech, the NCOs raised

their right hands and recited the Charge to the Noncommissioned Officer, led by Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Frock, MRICD detachment sergeant. They then signed the Charge to confirm their obligations and responsibilities as noncommissioned officers.

"This unit hasn't done anything like this before," said Sgt. 1st Class John Evans, MRICD senior enlisted advisor. "All NCOs should have an opportunity to take part in this experience and the great tradition of becoming a noncommissioned officer."

"I was truly honored to be a part of this highly important event," said Frock. "I've taken the first big step in my mil-

itary career," said inductee Sgt. Zachary Phillips after the ceremony. "I'm looking forward to the giant steps that follow."

"I am proud to be a noncommissioned officer in the United States Army," added fellow inductee, Sgt. Felix Huang. "I look forward to leading and mentoring Soldiers [for the rest of] my career."

Sgt. Nydia Conder agreed, adding, "This is one of my biggest accomplishments and I plan to live up to all the qualities of an NCO in the United States Army. I feel very lucky to be an NCO in the greatest military in the world."

Each inductee was presented with a
See INDUCTION, page 9



Master Sgt. Essie Bennett left, reviews a document with Sgt. Marlon Brandon. Bennett is retiring later this month with more than 22 years of service to the Army.

'More than I could ever imagine' Retiring Senior NCO reflects on Army career

Story and photo by
CHANEL S. WEAVER
20th Support Command (CBRNE)

When Master Sgt. Essie Bennett graduated from Lenoir High School some 25 years ago, the small-town girl from LaGrange, N.C., didn't have many aspirations.

"I was the daughter of a preacher, and I had a close-knit family," Bennett said. "I didn't want to travel far beyond my community."

Bennett obtained her first job as a cashier at the local Kentucky Fried Chicken, making \$3.35 per hour.

But after three years of the same routine and struggling to make ends meet, she decided to aim higher.

"Money was tight, and I wanted a job with educational opportunities, health benefits, stability and a decent income," Bennett said.

So, she joined the U.S. Army. She entered

the military in March 1988 as a chemical specialist.

"The Army was the only employer I knew who could guarantee a retirement after only 20 years of working," Bennett said.

Now, more than 22 years later, she prepares for her retirement later this month. She is grateful for a career that has broadened her horizons and opened her to opportunities far beyond what she could imagine.

Over the years, Bennett has served in Germany, Korea, and Iraq during Operation Desert Storm and various stateside assignments. She has served in many leadership positions as a squad leader, platoon sergeant, drill sergeant and first sergeant.

Bennett has also broken barriers in her fields, becoming the first female to be selected as the drill sergeant instructor for the Army's Training Doctrine Pre-Command

See CAREER, page 7

VA simplifies health care access for veterans with PTSD

www.va.gov

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced a critical step forward in providing an easier process for veterans seeking health care and disability compensation for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, with the publication of a final regulation in the Federal Register.

"This nation has a solemn obligation to the men and women who have honorably served this country and suffer from the often devastating emotional wounds of war," said Shinseki. "This final regulation goes a long way to ensure that veterans receive the benefits and services they need."

By publishing a final regulation in the Federal Register to simplify the process for a veteran to claim service connection for PTSD, VA reduces the evidence needed if the trauma claimed by a veteran is related to fear of hostile military or terrorist activity and is consistent with the places, types, and circumstances of the veteran's service.

This science-based regulation relies on evidence that concluded that a veteran's deployment to a war zone is linked to an increased risk of PTSD.

Under the new rule, VA would not require corroboration of a stressor related to fear of hostile military or terrorist activity if a VA doctor confirms that the stressful experience recalled by a veteran adequately supports a diagnosis of PTSD and the Veteran's symptoms are related to the claimed stressor.

Previously, claims adjudicators were required to corroborate that a non-combat veteran actually experienced a stressor

See PTSD, page 7

League of Dreams practice continues

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Practice resumed for players on the League of Dreams softball team, July 17, after it was postponed due to rainy weather the week before. Frank Kolarek, founder and president of League of Dreams, led the practice assisted by volunteers who included members of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades, who was instrumental in bringing the program to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Kolarek led players through a series of exercises focused on catching and throwing and then gave each player a turn at bat and running the bases.

Parents said they were excited for their children, most of whom were experiencing team play for the first time.

"I think the program is awesome," said Sean Wilhelm, a civilian with Child, Youth and School Services who, along with his wife, Jennifer, assisted their daughter Micki, 15, during the practice. "This is her first time doing any organized sports and she doesn't like the heat but she wants to give it a try," he said.

"He loves to watch baseball but this is the first time he's ever played it," said J.D. Webber, a civilian with Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. "He loves it, and I'm very excited and happy to have him in the program."

Dawn Snarskr said Bill Kegley, CYSS director of youth sports, suggested that she enroll her son Joey, 6, in League of Dreams.

"He's doing great and I think the coach is awesome," Snarskr said. He's surprised us," she said of Joey. "This is kind of a new thing, playing with other kids, and just to watch him is pretty awesome."

One volunteer, Cpl. Joshua Schneider, 20th Support Command (CBRNE), said he loves the game and that he used to volunteer with the Special Olympics.

"This is my chance to get involved and give back to the community," he said.



Jennifer Wilhelm helps her daughter Micki, 15, play catch during League of Dreams practice at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center July 17.



BOSS Soldier and volunteer, Pfc. Billy Pardue from the APG Garrison, runs the bases with Antonio Stanfield during the July 17 practice at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center. The League of Dreams team plays its first game 10 a.m. this Saturday, July 24 at the Youth Center field.

Egyptian theme highlights Vacation Bible School

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Egyptian-themed settings and lessons set the scene in the Main Post Chapel as children learned the story of Joseph and his rise from slavery during the Ecumenical Vacation Bible School held the week of June 21.

Over the five-day session, colorfully costumed instructors and volunteers guided children through projects focused on learning how Joseph overcame being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers to become the most powerful man in Egypt after the Pharaoh.

Titled, "Egypt - Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace," the sessions featured skits, art work projects, role-playing and sing-a-longs with Egyptian themes and spiritual messages.

Each session began with a musical sing-along in the chapel sanctuary led by 'Egyptian maidens' Lisa Henson of the Gospel service and Breonna Lewis and Naomi O'Donnell from the Protestant service. After the sing-along children separated into age-specific groups with Egyptian names like "Memphis," the Old Kingdom Capital (near Cairo) and "Giza" home of the great pyramids. The groups rotated to classes in the chapel classrooms and fellowship hall.

"It's been a wonderful week and so great to see how excited the kids are about learning," said Deborah O'Donnell, wife of Chaplain (Capt.) Kurt O'Donnell, formerly with the APG Garrison and now with the 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort).

Lessons varied from day to day and at the end of the week,



From right, John Grantham, Ebony Sexton and Carolyn Todd use Ancient Egyptian costumes and backgrounds to teach lessons in the 'Drama' room on the last night of Vacation Bible School at the Main Post Chapel June 25.

the children reviewed all they learned and received certificates of completion during the closing ceremonies.

Jeanne Colopietro, who led arts and crafts projects, said she "tried to show what life was like in Ancient Egypt."

During the week, children created colorful sarcophagi for mummies, and talked about embalming customs and pulling roots from the Nile River to weave baskets, she said.

"We mainly talked about the different Egyptian customs and cultures," Colopietro said. "It was a fun history lesson and I

think they enjoyed it."

Colopietro also taught children the Senet board game, an Ancient Egyptian game similar to backgammon.

"It's a fun game they can play with their families," she said.

Children did a lot more than just eat in the "Snacks" room. They created pyramid playgrounds on paper plates using Golden Graham crackers, yellow sugar and vanilla icing. Shannon Kittok, a volunteer instructor from the Catholic service said the art projects featured foods and focused on Egyptian themes.

"They had a blast playing catch the brain with spaghetti, [an embalming game]" she said.

In the Bible Points class, Donna Lewis, a Protestant Service volunteer, said the point for the day was "God gives us a Family."

"We reinforce each Bible point of the day, with audio visual enhancers," she said, "So they can experience all levels of input."

John Grantham, from the Catholic Service and other volunteers performed skits in the 'drama' room. Grantham told the story of Joseph who

became a high advisor to Pharaoh and eventually reunited with his Family. He said the Bible point, "God Gives Us a Family" shows how Joseph regained his brothers and his father through forgiveness and how we are part of a big Family.

"The main thing is the children were energetic and eager to learn and I think they all got something out of it," Grantham said. "The week went very well and it was neat having Catholic, Gospel and Protestant service members all together working on the same thing."

APG News

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PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1153, DSN 298-1153; send a fax to 410-278-2570; send e-mail to editor-app@conus.army.mil or pat.mcclung@us.army.mil or contact reporters Yvonne Johnson at yvonne.johnson5@us.army.mil or 410-278-1148 or Rachel Ponder at rachel.ponder@us.army.mil or 410-278-1149.

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

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Snap into safety

Installation Safety Office
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

No life preserver can “preserve a life” if it is stuffed in a boat compartment, slung across a seat, or lying under a pile of fishing equipment. According to Larry Merrill, Aberdeen Proving Ground Marine, Wildlife and Environmental Officer, “There is simply no good reason not to wear a life preserver while out on a boat. Having one inside the boat is not enough; it has to be worn.”

Wearing a life vest while on the water is a simple requirement, but it is one thousands of boaters, water skiers, and fishermen have learned the hard way after the drowning or injury of a friend or Family member.

Merrill went on to say that Maryland law has special requirements for children ages 4 and under 50 pounds, and boats of various lengths. Vessels 16 feet in length and over are required to have a Type V throwable flotation device.

Effective April 1, 2010, Maryland law requires that all children under the age of 13 must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (life jacket - Type I, II, III or V) while underway on a recreational vessel under 21 feet in length on Maryland waters. A recreational vessel includes motorboats, sailboats, canoes, kayaks, rowboats, and any other device capable of being used for transportation on the water when the vessel is being used for other than commercial purposes.

Merrill cautions that the life jacket must be the proper size for the child and must be in good and serviceable condition.

He said that a child under the age of 4 must wear a PFD which features additional safety precautions, as appropriate for an infant, toddler, or young child, so as to:

- Hold the child securely within the PFD, including a strap that is secured between the child’s legs to fasten together the front and back of the PFD;
- Maintain the buoyancy of the child, including an inflatable headrest or high collar; or
- Ensure the ready accessibility of the child from the vessel, including a web handle.

Merrill added that these requirements do not apply when a vessel is moored or anchored, or when a child is below deck or in an enclosed cabin.

Personal Watercraft (PWC) Information

“Personal watercraft, often called Jet Ski’s or Wave Runners, is the fastest growing form of boating in Maryland and across the United States. There are more than 12,000 registered PWC’s in the state and the state’s Safety Education Division wants to make sure that all owners and operators ride in a responsible manner,” stated Merrill. “Remember, a PWC is a boat and must follow all the rules of the road. The waterways are for everyone to enjoy so please respect the rights of others and practice common courtesy while riding.”

The USCG reported that in 2008, there were 4,789 boating accidents that resulted in 709 deaths and 3,331 injuries. More than two-thirds of boating accident fatalities drowned, and of those, 90 percent were not wearing life jackets.

The Army has also seen its share of accidents where a life preserver might have kept a Soldier alive. In 2009, two Soldiers drowned in separate boating accidents – one while river rafting and the other on a fishing trip. Neither Soldier was wearing a life preserver.

Coast Guard officials encourage everyone to snap into a life preserver before setting out on a water adventure. They report that many people have the same excuse for not wearing life preservers: “they are too bulky,” or will “mess up tan lines.” But none of these excuses are valid. According to the USCG, today’s life jackets come in all shapes, sizes, and colors to fit every style and water activity, and there is no reason not to wear one.

A life jacket is just one part of staying safe on the water. The USCG reports five common factors that contribute to boating accidents every year. These are inattention, reckless operation, passenger/skier behavior, operator inexperience, and no proper lookout. Alcohol use has also been a contributing factor in many accidents.

At the beginning of every boating season, boats should be checked thoroughly from bow to stern. The Coast Guard Auxiliary offers free vessel safety checks at: www.vessel-safetycheck.org. A five point check includes inspecting the engines, navigational equipment, communication devices, lights and safety equipment,



as well as a weather report that should be completed every time a boat leaves the dock.

The Coast Guard also expects all boats to have some sort of emergency kit on board. These should contain a first aid kit, whistle or horn to use as a distress signal, a towline, emergency radio, bailing device, fire extinguisher, flashlight, a paddle, extra batteries, sun screen, matches, flares, and a local map.

Danger in the Water

Chris Sollers, Safety and Occupational Health Specialist with the Installation Safety Office, says, “Anyone boating around APG knows that it contains numerous scenic areas ideal for boating, but the water, shorelines, and islands of APG are used for weapons and ammunition testing, and can be heavily contaminated with unexploded ordnance [UXO].”

The use of APG’s surrounding waters is restricted in accordance with APGR 210-10, Sollers said. Authorities prohibit the beaching of boats or walking on the shorelines or islands within the restricted water zone at all times. He added that boaters are advised not to handle or attempt to remove any items found within the proving ground.

“These items may be extremely dangerous and may include unexploded ordnance,” he said.

Larry Merrill added that according to federal regulation, 33 CFR 334.140, “it is illegal for anyone to come ashore or enter within restricted waters in the

Maritime Jurisdiction of APG without permission from the post commander.” This is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding six months. For information on APG restricted water openings and closings, call 410-278-2250.

Merrill suggested that when a boater is in doubt about navigating the restricted waters, he should request assistance from officers in APG patrol boats. APG operates a fleet of patrol boats which are positioned at the perimeter of the restricted water zone during testing. They can be contacted on VHF channel 68. The boats are equipped with loudspeakers and flashing red or blue lights and are easily identifiable.

Float Plans

An avid boater and fisherman himself, Sollers advocates developing a float plan.

“A float plan outlines such things as where the boater is going and when they will be back. A copy of the plan should be left with a friend or Family member who can notify authorities if the boat does not return,” he said.

A sample float plan is available at www.floatplancentral.org. More information can be found at: www.safeboatingcouncil.org and at www.dnr.state.md.us/boating/regulations/

“Maryland’s waters offer wonderful opportunities for recreational boaters,” Sollers added. “With the ever-increasing number of boaters on our waters, it is the responsibility of all of us to work together to ensure that our waters are clean and safe.”

CSI: Edgewood engages students in STEM

Story by
MARY DOAK
ECBC

Scientists of the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center presented the hands-on educational outreach activity CSI: Edgewood at the eCYBERMISSION's Army Enrichment Day June 22.

The scientists showed 60 sixth- to ninth-grade eCYBERMISSION regional winners the relevance and excitement of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) career pathways as well as the realities of their jobs at the nation's premier resource for chemical and biological defense. The National Defense Education Program funds eCYBERMISSION.

"It has been a pleasure seeing the students vigorously engage in the STEM activities that ECBC scientists offered at each work station despite the extremely hot weather conditions," said Community and Educational Outreach Program Manager Mary Doak. "CSI: Edgewood gives them the opportunity to experience the reality of the center's mission and interact with our scientists."

"I personally thank our scientists for all the time they invested to make this happen," she added.

Before conducting hands-on experiments, ECBC Research Chemist Dr. Alan Samuels briefed students about the areas that form the foundation for ECBC's research, development and engineering efforts: detection, protection and decontamination.

"Our goal today is to play 'Myth Busters' on the way forensic analysis is represented on TV shows like CSI and to demonstrate how ECBC scientists and [Department of Defense civilian] support teams contend with some of the nation's most critical chemical and biological threats," Samuels said. "Our work is focused on the uniformed service members, but our technical products extend into the defense of the homeland."

Rotating through three ECBC-themed work stations, student groups experienced ECBC real-life challenges, implemented scientific approaches and investigated solutions for potential chemical and biological threats.

"I really enjoyed today's activities and learned a lot about things that go on behind the scenes that we don't see or know about for example the challenges of the [current] oil spill, a world problem that people are trying to solve," said eCYBERMISSION student Danielle



Photo by JENNIFER CARROLL, ECBC

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Research Biologist Dr. Vipin Rastogi takes and analyzes DNA samples with eCYBERMISSION regional winners from right, Emma O'Hara, Jonathan Berman, Sean Nauta and Shannon MacMaster, and others during CSI: Edgewood activities at ECBC June 22.

DeFlores. "This was a great experience for all kids and I highly recommend it."

Robert Zolkiewicz, eCYBERMISSION co-team advisor and technology advisor at Saint Dominic Elementary School, Brick, N.J. applauded ECBC's creative, hands-on educational outreach approach.

"Coming from the business world, I can definitely say that there is a need for students in the STEM field," he said. "And, this is exactly what we need to get students interested and engaged and to study. This is terrific."

CSI: Edgewood's work stations included Hazard Response and Presumptive Identification; DNA Extraction and Gel Electrophoresis; and Surface Tension, Surfactants and the current Oil Spill Crisis.

CSI: Edgewood experiment descriptions

Samuels took the lead on the Hazard Response and Presumptive Identification Station allowing students to use a portable Raman spectrometer to collect a spectrum on samples of various mate-

rials. The laser technology of the Raman spectroscopy helped students identify the materials in the samples that included corn starch, confectionary sugar and baking soda.

Enhancing the exercise, students were afforded the opportunity to partially don personal protection equipment (PPE) and experience the challenge of collecting inert samples in a protective suit. This experiment showed students how ECBC operations experts tackle the challenge of receiving an unknown material and the procedures they follow to characterize material and assess the degree of the potential threat.

ECBC Research Biologists Lalena Wallace and Dr. Vipin Rastogi with Intern Tony Chowdhury introduced students to the DNA Extraction and Gel Electrophoresis Station. During this experiment, ECBC scientists guided students through the process of separating deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from a biological sample and visualizing the DNA material using gel electrophoresis. With the objective to isolate a (non-pathogenic) bacterial chromosomal DNA

for detection and identification purposes, this group worked on extracting unique genetic codes that comprise the "molecular fingerprint" of the microorganism.

The chemical procedure used for this exercise is called cell lysis, in which cells are broken open and other cellular components, such as DNA, are released. After isolating DNA from the solution and re-dissolving it, students analyzed the genetic material and learned how to use this technique for the identification of the organism. While conducting this type of research, students also practiced collecting samples and their pipetting skills.

Branch chief of Chemical Analysis Physical Properties Michael Ellzy, Ph.D. taught students about surface tension, surfactants and the current oil spill crisis. His series of experiments introduced students to the concept of surface tension and the effect of surfactants on liquids' surface tension.

Using the current oil spill in the Gulf region as a learning subject, Ellzy educated young scientists on the challenge of finding a solution to a world-wide biological disaster and threat. After conducting experiments that provided students a visual understanding of the concepts surface tension and surfactant, they were challenged to clean up a miniscule "oil spill" in their Petri dishes using a surfactant of their choice. In the process, Ellzy encouraged students to use the scientific method which entailed delivering a hypothesis and a conclusion, recording their results and sharing their findings on which material best contributed to cleaning up the oil. While conducting surface displacement experiments and using pipettes to transfer water droplets onto a penny, students competed for prizes.

Participating in this work station showed students the physical property of surface tension and cohesion as well as the effects of surfactants on liquids' surface tension. Furthermore, the groups were introduced to apply oil spill-related scientific terms to their understanding of the scientific method. Ultimately, students experienced the challenge of solving a real-world problem, such as the clean-up of the current oil spill in the Gulf region, and performed scientific experiments pertaining to the area of concern.

Commentary: Preventing oil in our waters

By
RICHARD WIGGINS
DPW Environmental Division

An oil spill reaches coastal waters killing local wildlife and contaminating fragile wetlands. It sounds like a massive disaster, similar to the one seen in recent headlines, but in reality this is an event that occurs on a regular basis in our own community.

We have all seen the oily sheen on puddles and in gutters during rain events. Storm water flowing across a parking lot, on the highway, or even down your driveway comes into contact with oils, grease, dirt and other pollutants from our vehicles. These materials are carried along with storm water, through the storm water drains, and out into wetlands and streams, as well as other ecologically sensitive areas, like the Chesapeake Bay. It is estimated that just one gallon of oil, about the same amount used during a typical oil change, can contaminate up to one million gallons of water. That is approximately a one-year supply of water for 50 people.

In the United States, pollution from storm water run-off is responsible for 21 percent of impaired lakes and 45 percent of impaired estuaries. Aberdeen Proving Ground, located in the northern portion of the Chesapeake Bay and consisting of 72,000 acres, is made up of many wetlands, streams and rivers which drain into the bay, the country's largest estuary. Whether on a large or small scale, oily residues in storm water run-off have a negative and often devastating effect on fragile ecosystems.

Oil in storm water can be generated by a number of activities including vehicle maintenance activities, vehicular and equipment failures, vehicle and equipment washing and of course, accidental spills. Due to the nature of the operations performed at APG, oil coming into contact with storm water is an unfortunate reality, however; these instances are not isolated in the workplace, and can also occur at home. Simple tasks like performing an oil change in your driveway or fueling your lawn equipment can also lead to oily discharges in storm water.

One of APG's goals is to minimize,

or better yet, eliminate storm water pollution whenever and wherever possible. As part of its efforts to minimize storm water pollution APG has developed a formal Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program, which includes illicit discharge, detection and elimination, pollution prevention and the implementation of Best Management Practices in all facets of its operations. This system, however, does not work without input from each and every individual at APG.

Each person can help minimize the discharge of oil to our storm water. When performing maintenance on a vehicle or other equipment, following some of these simple steps could make a huge difference.

Keep vehicles free from leaks and drips. Not only will this prevent oily storm water run-off but it will help keep your vehicle in good working order.

Whenever possible perform maintenance on a vehicle inside to prevent oils from coming in contact with storm water.

When performing maintenance on a vehicle, be sure to catch spills and drips in a container. Do not let oils drain onto the ground.

If oils do come in contact with the ground be sure to clean them up using rags or other absorbent materials. Kitty litter works great. Avoid using water whenever possible.

Dispose of any waste oils properly by taking them to a local drop-off location. These facilities are often found at municipal landfills, recycling centers, and auto parts stores. Do not dispose of oils by dumping them into drains, throwing them in the trash or spreading them on the ground.

For more information about how to reduce pollutants in storm water run-off, visit the APG Directorate of Public Works Web site at www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/directorates/dpw/ or the Maryland Department of the Environment Storm Water Web site at www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/WaterPrograms/SedimentandStormwater/index.asp.

For more information contact Richard Wiggins, DPW Compliance Branch program manager, at 410-306-2279.

Career

From front page

Course to instruct senior leaders.

As the team leader for 22d Chemical Battalion's Alpha Company, 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort), Bennett's duties include planning the training for Soldiers, mentorship, performing administrative tasks, counseling and maintenance and accountability for more than \$2 million of specialized equipment.

Although Bennett is retiring with quite a distinguished career, she said the road to success was full of struggles and challenges as well as benefits and rewards.

Her first challenge occurred when she was a drill sergeant at Fort Jackson, S.C.

"I was not a fast runner, so I felt like I was being hypocritical when I would stress physical fitness with the new recruits when I could barely manage," Bennett said. "In the end, I was able to condition myself physically and mentally to keep up with the privates."

Bennett said she was grateful for her

most challenging assignments because overcoming obstacles was key to her success.

"My favorite duty positions were assignment as a drill sergeant and first sergeant," she said. "These positions made me the leader that I am today."

As a female in the chemical field, Bennett said she saw few female chemical Soldiers. She said she would occasionally encounter resistance from male soldiers because she was in a non-traditional field for females.

"When I first joined, the male Soldiers would try to help me carry things or help me perform duties, but I always refused such help," Bennett said. "It was very important for me to do everything that I saw the males doing. I did not want any Soldier to think that I was not pulling my own weight."

In addition to performing her job well, Bennett also excels in the academic arena. She earned her bachelor's degree in 2007 from the University of Alabama in Human Environmental Science and in May 2010, she obtained a master's degree in Procurement and Acquisition Management from Webster University.

As she leaves the Army, her senior leaders said Bennett leaves a legacy of excellence.

"Master Sergeant Bennett will be missed because of her energy, enthusiasm and reliability," Maj. Brian Hooks, former Alpha Company commander, said. "Her leadership has been an asset to this command, and everywhere she goes, she makes things better."

Bennett attributes her leadership style to the life lessons she learned.

One such lesson occurred when she lost her sister-in-law to breast cancer in 2007.

"During that time, the Army was very supportive of my Family and me," Bennett said. "They allowed me time to be with the family and showed they cared."

Bennett reciprocates that care and concern on a daily basis.

"I firmly believe in taking care of my Soldiers and showing them respect," Bennett said. "My leaders always took care of me, and I have always tried to be there for my Soldiers."

So far she feels she has been very successful.

"When I look back at my career, I can

see that I have made an impact," Bennett said. "If I could help somebody as I pass along, then my living has not been in vain," Bennett said, recalling the lyrics of the popular gospel tune.

Bennett is married to retired Sgt. Maj Michael Bennett. They have three sons, Joshua, Michael Jr. and Cortez, and one grandson, Jarius. They also have two dogs, a Boxer named Champ and a Shih Tzu named Precious.

Her future plans include finding a job in the business management field or contracting industry. When she is not working, she enjoys exercising, traveling, and performing community service projects. She said she plans to spend time visiting elderly patients in nursing homes and volunteering at local animal shelters.

"The best part about animals is that they give their love unconditionally," Bennett said.

Just as members of the 22d Chemical Battalion say they will miss seeing Bennett's smiling face, Bennett said that she plans to keep in touch.

"I plan to stay in Maryland for a while," she said. "I like the view from outside of my small town."

CBRNE

From front page

For the past 24 years he has had some of the most challenging assignments in our Army. He will put his extensive leadership experience to work here as he prepares the men and women of this command for the unknown challenges that lie ahead. [He] is the right man at the right time."

Thurman said that Smith's wife, Vanedra, compliments his abilities as she deeply cares for Soldiers and their Families.

"Vanedra inspires others to make a difference, because on so many occasions she has made a difference herself," Thurman said.

"She will be a perfect fit for Aberdeen Proving Ground, a place she has called home before."

During Smith's remarks he said he looks forward to working with the members of the 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE) team as the organization maintains a legacy of outstanding service to the nation.

"The [20th] Support Command has a tradition of excellence," Smith said. "Our goal will always be to be that good example in everything we do for the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Civilians and Families that we have serving now with the 20th Support Command and Joint Elimination Coordination Element and in the future as we grow into what the nation expects of our command."

Brig. Gen. Leslie C. Smith

Smith comes to APG from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., where he served as the commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School and deputy commanding general, Material and Technology, U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence.

Smith's military education includes the Chemical Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, and Command and General Staff College. He holds a Master's degree in Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master's degree in National Strategy from the National Defense University. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Legion of Mer-

it, Defense Services Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Joint and Army Staff Identification Badges.

U.S. Army 20th Support Command (CBRNE)

The 20th SUPCOM (CBRNE) gives the Army and the nation a flexible response capability to operate in a variety of environments, from urban areas to austere sites across the spectrum of military operations. CBRNE operations detect, identify, assess, render safe, dismantle, transfer, and dispose of unexploded ordnance, improvised explosive devices and other CBRNE hazards. These operations also include decontaminating personnel and property exposed to CBRNE materials during response.

PTSD

From front page

related to hostile military activity. This final rule simplifies the development that is required for these cases.

VA expects this rulemaking to decrease the time it takes VA to decide access to care and claims falling under the revised criteria. More than 400,000 veterans currently receiving compensation benefits are service connected for PTSD. Combined with VA's shorter claims form, the new streamlined, science-based regu-

lation allows for faster and more accurate decisions that also expedite access to medical care and other benefits for veterans.

PTSD is a medically recognized anxiety disorder that can develop from seeing or experiencing an event that involves actual or threatened death or serious injury to which a person responds with intense fear, helplessness or horror, and is not uncommon among war veterans.

Disability compensation is a tax-free benefit paid to a veteran for disabilities that are a result of -- or made worse by -- injuries or diseases associated with active service.

For additional information, go to www.va.gov or call VA's toll free benefits number at 1-800-827-1000.



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

Community Notes

THURSDAY

JULY 22 DAY ON THE BAY

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Day on the Bay, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Enjoy the day sailing to Charlestown, Md., bird watching, sightseeing then lunch at the Wellwood Club and return. Tickets cost \$55 for adults, \$28 for children ages 10 and under. Credit cards will be accepted. Reservations are required. For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

FRIDAY JULY 23 FAMILY CAMPFIRE

Food and roasting sticks will be supplied at the Pontoon Pier for a campfire program; bring chairs. This program will be held 8 to 9:30 p.m. for all ages. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per Family (limit 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.

MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person

(21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, light munchies and margaritas.

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

SATURDAY JULY 24 BLOOMING MARSH KAYAK TRIP

Tour the marsh and enjoy the wildflowers in bloom. This program will be held 9 a.m. to noon for ages 8 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

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

FOLLOW THE FEET

Meet at Bosely Conservancy to search the mud for critter tracks and trails. Be prepared for muddy walking. This free program will be held 2:30 to 4 p.m. for Families; ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an 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.

MIXER MADNESS

Enjoy an evening sail and Martha's favorite mixed drinks and munchies, 7 to 9 p.m. Reservations are required. Cost is \$40 per person (21 years of age or older).

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

SUNDAY JULY 25 TIN FOIL MEAL MAGIC

Learn quick, easy, nutritious meals by cooking in foil on coals. This program will be held 11 a.m. to noon for ages 8 to adult. The cost is \$4 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.

ALL TIED UP

Learn basic knots and what they are used for. This free program will be held 3 to 4 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.

FULL MOON CANOE

Paddle dark marsh waters under a full moon to discover nature's night shift. This program will be held 7:30 to 10 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required.

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

MONDAY JULY 26 PICAROONS OF HAVRE DE GRACE

Join the crew of the Skipjack Martha Lewis for adventure, fun and plunder as we learn about pirates of the Chesapeake Bay called 'picaroons' from the Spanish picaroon, a rogue. Children ages 8 to 12 can join the crew of the Martha Lewis, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15 per person. For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

TUESDAY JULY 27 LUPUS SUPPORT GROUP

Lupus Foundation of America DC/MD/VA Chapter offers new, free Lupus Support Group at New Shiloh Baptist Church in Baltimore. The group meets 7 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of each month and is led by a trained professional who understands the challenges of lupus, a chronic, autoimmune disease with no known cure that can damage any part of the body including the skin, joints, heart, lungs, blood, kidneys and brain. For more information, call 800-777-0934, 888-349-1167 or visit www.lupusgw.org.

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

Post Shorts

bring a DA31, as a PTDY, signed by their command to the chapel and register with Joyce Wood, the command chaplain's administrator. For information call 410-278-4333. Child care will be provided.

Well-Being Action Council Meeting

Come take part in the discussion of issues that affect your quality of life on Aberdeen Proving Ground at the monthly Well-Being Action Council Meeting. The next meeting will be held Aug. 19 at the Edgewood Area Chapel.

Green Dragon Ball

The National Capital Region 2010 Joint CBRNE Green Dragon Ball will be held Saturday, Aug. 14, at Top of the Bay. The keynote speaker will be the Hon-

orable Paul McHale, Jr., former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense. For more details visit the Green Dragon Ball Web site www.edgewood.army.mil/greendragonball/index.html. For more information, call Tracey Kelly, 410-436-4438 or Capt. Jessica Perez, 410-436-4000, or email to apg.green.dragon.ball@conus.army.mil.

CPR, AED classes available

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services is offering CPR and automated external defibrillator 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 Aberdeen Area, classes will be held at the Post Chapel, classroom 3, Sept. 15 and Nov. 17.

In the Edgewood Area, classes will be held at the Conference Center, building E-4810, Aug. 18, Oct. 20 and Dec. 15. Class size will be limited to 30 participants.

For more information or to register, call Mike Davis, 410-306-0572, or e-mail michael.ray.davis@us.army.mil.

KWVA recruiting new members

The Korean War Veterans Association chapter 271 is actively recruiting new members. Membership is open to those who served honorably in Korea during and after the Korean War or at anytime between 1945 to the present. Associate membership is open to non-Korean War veterans who support the goals of the KWVA.

The chapter is chartered under the National KWVA and meets quarterly on the last Monday in February, May, August and November.

For more information, contact Nick Guerra, chapter commander, at 410-272-0458.

Volunteer drivers needed

The Veterans Administration Maryland Health Care System needs a few good drivers to serve at the Fort Howard Outpatient Clinic, transporting veteran patients to and from scheduled appointments. The VA Maryland Health Care System will work around a volunteer's availability. Drivers for weekday mornings or afternoons are needed. Volunteers can work one day a week or more, or whatever best suits their schedule.

For more information or to sign up, call David Sevinsky, voluntary service specialist, 410-605-7102/7000 ext. 3929.

APG cable channel switches to Channel 97

Aberdeen Proving Ground residents who receive cable through Comcast can now view both the APG and Harford County Public Service Channels on a cable ready TV set or through a Comcast Digital cable box. The Harford County Cable channel will broadcast on Channel

21. APG's Cable channel can be viewed on Channel 97.

UMBC Training Centers are granted GI Bill Eligibility

University of Maryland Baltimore County Training Centers have been approved for GI Bill eligibility, enabling veteran students to receive tuition reimbursement via the Montgomery GI Bill. For a full listing of eligible programs, visit: www.umbc.edu/trainctr/admissions/financial.html.

For more information, call Nick Driver at 443-543-5413.

KUSAHC after-hours medical needs

For urgent medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, please contact Staff Duty at 410-278-1725 or call 443-807-0725. The Staff Duty NCO will coordinate your referral. To avoid Point of Service copayment charges, you will need a referral to go to any Urgent Care Center/Clinic. Care from a hospital Emergency Room does not require a referral. If unable to reach Staff Duty and you cannot wait, seek the nearest participating facility. Please call the clinic the following business day. The Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Referral Management telephone number is 410-278-1736. The Patient Advocate telephone number is 410-278-1724.

The Thrift Shop closes on Saturdays

The Thrift Shop, building 2458, will be closed on Saturdays.

The Thrift Shop is open Wednesday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and consignments are accepted 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Thrift Shop is open Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and consignments are accepted 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call 410-272-8572.

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

Security clearances require self-reporting When in doubt, report it

Story by
JUDY PATISHNOCK
DPTMS

A security clearance is granted by the U.S. government as a determination that an individual is eligible to access classified information. Access to classified information is based on the need-to-know.

Anyone who holds a security clearance, restricted area badge, or has access to government computers has certain responsibilities, including but not limited to, self-reporting specific information about their background.

The following paragraphs contain examples of the type of information that should be self-reported to an activity security manager or security representative.

Change in status

A change in name, marital status, marriage or intended marriage of a foreign national, citizenship, adoption of a foreign national child, termination of employment or a personnel security clearance for access to classified information is no longer required.

Representative of a foreign interest

A foreign interest such as inheriting or purchasing property in a foreign country must be reported.

Foreign travel

Any foreign travel, whether for official business or pleasure, must be reported and travelers should receive an out-of-country briefing prior to making the trip. Upon returning, report any suspicious contacts that may have occurred during the travel.

Adverse information

Personnel with security clearances

must self-report [personal] adverse or potentially adverse information. Examples of adverse or potentially adverse information include charges of driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence, bankruptcy, drug involvement or arrests. Self-reporting can help to mitigate the negative impact of adverse or potential adverse information. Reporting adverse or potential adverse information regarding another cleared person must be based on fact, not rumor or innuendo.

Suspicious contacts

Any suspicious contacts by individual(s) trying to obtain illegal or unauthorized access to classified or sensitive information or trying to compromise cleared personnel must be reported. Cleared personnel should report all contacts with known or suspected intelligence officers from any country, or any contact which suggests personnel may be the target of an attempted exploitation by the intelligence services of another country.

Loss, compromise, or suspected compromise

Personnel with a security clearance must report immediately any loss, compromise, or suspected compromise of classified information. Do not delay reporting as this could harm national security.

Espionage, sabotage, or subversive activities

Information regarding actual, probable or possible espionage, sabotage, or subversive activities should be reported promptly and may be reported directly to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Individuals whose background information falls in the aforementioned categories should contact an activity security manager or security representative.

Environmental Management System

EMS awareness training mandatory for all

Story by
APRIL TULL
DPW Environmental Division

Aberdeen Proving Ground implemented an Environmental Management System in September 2009. A key component of the EMS is ensuring that all military, civilians and contractors at APG have completed the mandatory EMS awareness training.

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, deputy installation and APG Garrison commander, has set a goal to have 100 percent of the workforce trained by December.

To support this requirement, the Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division, has developed four ways to administer this training:

- EMS awareness training is available online through the e-Learning Web site at: www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/elearning.cfm. This is open to all who have access to the Garrison intranet.

- The online training may also be

provided to garrison supported organization Web site administrators for posting through the GSO's respective intranet. Training must be tracked and trainee names must be provided to the Environmental Division.

- The Environmental Division offers this required training in person on the first Monday of each month in building E5771 from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Class size is limited to 20 people. Additional classes may be held if the Environmental Division receives a high volume of trainees. The next training session is scheduled for Aug. 2.

- For large organizations that cannot connect to the EMS training, the Environmental Division will come to a location of the organization's choice and administer the training. Contact training coordinator, Barbara Seker, 410-436-9239, or e-mail barbara.seker@us.army.mil to make arrangements for training.

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, 410-278-5327, e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

April Avina	Juanita Guzman	Amanda Nordell
Shanelle Bell	Sharon Hardesty	Marie D. Nowak
Debra Bonsall	Richard Harvey	Michele Reamey
Georgia Braun	Walter Holland	Betty Spurlin
Alena Calm	Kari Jackson	Earl Taylor
Robert Cook	Angela Lambert	Linda Terzigni
Charlene Corun	Anthony Lee	Luis Villafane
John Daigle	Larry Maines	Victoria Yates-Sparks
Meg Downey	Cheryl Mitchell	
Wayne Erb	Deborah Moore	



From left, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense Sgts. Erin Bouligny, Nydia Condor, Zachary Phillips and Felix Huang celebrate their entry into the noncommissioned officer corps after the organization's first NCO Induction Ceremony June 25.

Induction

From front page

framed copy of the Creed of the Non-commissioned Officer and a copy of Field Manual 7-22.7; The Army Non-commissioned Officer Guide.

The tradition of commemorating the passage of a Soldier to noncommissioned officer status can be traced to the army of Fredrick the Great. Before one could be recognized fully as an NCO, he was required to stand four watches, one every four days. The ceremony emphasizes the pride that every service member shares as part of such an elite corps. It also honors the memory of those who have served before them with pride and distinction.

Charge to the Noncommissioned Officer

I will discharge carefully and diligently the duties of the grade to which I have been promoted and uphold the traditions and standards of the Army.

I understand that Soldiers of lesser rank are required to obey my lawful orders.

Accordingly, I accept responsibility for their actions.

As a noncommissioned officer, I accept the charge to observe and follow the orders and directions given by supervisors acting according to the laws, articles and rules governing the discipline of the Army,

I will correct conditions detrimental to the readiness thereof. In so doing, I will fulfill my greatest obligation as a leader and thereby confirm my status as a noncommissioned officer.



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

New hours

The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, the Leisure Travel Office and the Library located in building 3326 have new hours of operation.

The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center will open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday. The Leisure Travel Office will open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The Library will open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Community Connections Expo Aug 11

Aberdeen Proving Ground invites Families to attend the Community Connections Expo Wednesday, Aug. 11, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Recreation Center in building 3326 on Erie Street in the Aberdeen Area. The purpose of this Expo is to affiliate Families with education and special needs resources. Call Army Community Service for more information, 410-278-2420.

Colonial Williamsburg joins Blue Star Museum Program

Colonial Williamsburg in Williamsburg, Va., has joined the Blue Star Museum Program that provides free admission to active duty military.

To receive the free admission, active duty military or their Family members can present a valid military identification card at the Colonial Williamsburg Visitor Center.

The free admission offer ends Labor Day, Sep 6.

For more information, contact MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, at 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil, or visit www.apgmwr.com, or www.colonialwilliamsburg.com.

Maryland State Fair tickets available

MWR Leisure Travel Services offers discount tickets for the Maryland State Fair to be held Aug. 27 to Sept. 6 in Timonium. Admission tickets cost \$7 for adults; \$2.50 for children ages 6 to 11; \$17 for all-you-can-ride vouchers; and a book of coupons costs \$4.50.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR-LeisureTravel@apg.army.mil.

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire tickets available

Tickets are available for the 2010 Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, located on 2775 Lebanon Road, Manheim, Pa.

Tickets cost \$23 each for adults and \$9 for children ages 5 through 11.

The Renaissance Faire will be held on weekends 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 14 through Oct. 31. Enjoy a marvelous trip back in time to the days of yore featuring 35 acres of jousting knights and royal delights. Tickets are good for any day. Themed weekends include Pirate Invasion, Children's Fantasy, Heroes of the Realm, Scottish Weekend, Octoberfest, Irish Weekend and more.

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

Hershey Park trip

Hershey Park happy, Hershey Park

fun! A trip to Hershey Park will take place Aug. 15. Cost is \$55 per person and includes park ticket and roundtrip transportation. Bus departs 7:30 a.m. and will return 9 p.m. Seats are limited. Reserve a seat today. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

For more information, call MWR Tickets and Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Military Long Drive Championship qualifier at Ruggles Golf Course

Ruggles Golf Course will host the first level qualifier for the Military Long Drive Championship, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 7. The first place winner will receive a trophy and advancement to the second level event at Dallas, Texas on Sept. 11. The second place winner will receive a \$200 Pro Shop gift certificate and the third place winner will receive a \$100 Pro Shop gift certificate.

Entry Fee costs \$10 per try and includes six golf balls and a chance to participate at the \$10,000 Long Drive Contest on Nov. 3, in Mesquite, Nevada.

This event is open to all U.S. active duty military personnel and Family members age 18 and older with valid military ID card, Reserve and National Guard, active and inactive, and retirees.

For more information or to register, e-mail debra.long1@us.army.mil.

APG Variety and Talent Show auditions

A variety show and two talent shows are planned for Sept. 24 and 25.

A Tribute to the Troops Variety Show will be held 7 p.m., Sept. 24. APG's Got Talent Show will be held Sept. 25. The youth talent show will be held 4 p.m. and an adult talent show will be held 7 p.m.

Auditions for both shows will be held 6 to 8 p.m., every Thursday beginning July 9. Auditions are open to the entire APG Community and its partners.

Volunteers and performers are needed for both shows.

For more information, call 410-278-3854.

A free week of camp for Military children

Boys and Girls Clubs are offering children of National Guard, Reserve and active duty Families a free week of camp at any club location. Mission Youth Outreach is a services-sponsored youth outreach initiative with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Boys and Girls Clubs of Harford County serve 3,500 children at four Clubs in Harford County and one in Carroll County. Through a variety of educational, sports and recreation, health, arts, and character development programs, the Clubs create a positive environment where children are encouraged to develop their ambitions and turn them into reality.

For more information, call 410-272-0010, ext. 10 or visit www.bgcharford-co.org.

Birdie Cafe opens at Exton Golf Course

The Birdie Café is now open for the golf season at Exton Golf Course in the Edgewood Area. Patio or indoor seating is offered at the Exton Clubhouse. The café is open 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Menu options include grilled hot dogs, burgers, chili and pulled BBQ Chicken sandwiches, chips, snacks, and assorted beverages.



HIRED!

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

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

Keeping your job

Teens will learn about understanding leadership, following direction, and ethics trust.

This program is for teens age 15 to 18, 2 to 3 p.m., Aug. 10, at building 2503.

Register at CYSS, building 2503. For information, call 410-278-3250.

Preparing Teens for the Work Place

This all-day seminar is for teens age 13 to 18 to prepare them to become members of the work force. Register at CYSS, building 2503 for this class to be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 19 at Youth Services, building 2522. For information, call 410-278-3250.

Discount tickets for APG Tickets available for Toby's Dinner Theatre

Toby's Dinner Theatre has two locations: Best Western Hotel and Conference Center located on 5625 O'Donnell Street, Baltimore and 4900 Symphony Woods Road, Columbia, Md. (South Entrance Road between Route 29 and Little Patuxent Parkway). Shows are open to all DoD ID card holders.

Baltimore shows

Upcoming shows include Godspell, July 23 through Sept. 10; An Andrew Lloyd Webber Musical, Sept. 11 through Nov. 7; A Christmas Carol, Nov. 12 through Jan. 2, 2011.

Sunday through Thursday, tickets cost \$47.50 per person for adults and \$33.50 for children; Fridays, tickets cost \$50 per person for adults and \$34.75 for children; Saturdays, tickets cost \$52 per person for adults and \$34.75 for children; and Sunday Matinees cost \$47 per person for adults and \$33.50 for children.

Columbia shows

Upcoming shows include Hairspray, through Aug. 10, 2011; Nunsense, Sept. 23 through Sept. 9, 2011; Rent, Sept. 23 through Sept. 9, 2011; and Cinderella, Nov. 18 through Jan. 23, 2011.

Sunday through Thursday, tickets cost \$45.50 per person for adults and \$32 for children; Fridays, tickets cost \$47 per person for adults and \$32.75 for children; Saturdays, \$50 for all ages; and Sunday matinees: \$45 per person for adults and \$32 for children.

Prices expire June 23, 2011. Prices are subject to change without notice. Reservations must be made at the time of purchase.

MWR Leisure Travel offers discount tickets to amusement parks

MWR Leisure Travel offers discount tickets to amusement parks in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia.

Get discount tickets for Six Flags America, Six Flags Great Adventure, Dorney Park/Wild Water Kingdom, Dutch Wonderland, Hershey Park, Sesame Place, Busch Gardens, Kings Dominion, Colonial Williamsburg and more.

Take advantage of the Atlantic City Daily Run for \$28 per person, roundtrip transportation included. Discount tickets are also available for the Baltimore Zoo, Luray Caverns, Va., Longwood Gardens, Pa., Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, the National Aquarium, Regal Movie Theaters, Spirit Cruise in Washington, D.C. and more.

Prices are subject to change without notice. Gate prices may include tax and other applicable fees. Season passes are

only available for a limited time; season passes are prepaid tickets, and should be ordered three weeks in advance.

For seasonal tickets and specials visit www.apgmwr.com. Prices are subject to change without notice.

For more information, call MWR Tickets and Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Swim Lessons

Swim lessons run through July 23 for youths; July 26 through 30 for adult swim lessons and toddlers at the Shore and Bayside Pools. Swim lessons cost \$50 first Family member, \$45 for each additional Family member.

Session 2 - Aug. 2 to 13

Shore Pool
8 to 9 a.m., levels 5 and 6
9 to 10 a.m., levels 3 and 4
10 to 11 a.m., levels 1 and 2

Bayside Pool
8 to 9 a.m., levels 5 and 6
9 to 10 a.m., levels 3 and 4
10 to 11 a.m., levels 1 and 2.

Olympic Pool - July 26 to 30

Adult and Parent/Toddler swim lessons.

Leisure Travel Services available at EA Recreation Center

Limited services are available at Leisure Travel Services, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesdays, at the EA Recreation Center, building E-4140.

For more information, visit or call 410-436-2713.

For full services, visit or call the APG Leisure Travel Office located in the AA Recreation Center, 410-278-4011 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Volunteer today

Explore a new career, develop new skills, network with other professionals and create opportunities. Army Community Service has many opportunities and needs support for its various programs.

For more information, call Army Community Service, 410-278-2453.

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.

SKIES Unlimited

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

Private Guitar Lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 through 18 will be held 1 to 7 p.m., on Monday or Tuesday, July 26 through Aug. 16, at the AA Youth Center, building 2522.

No experience is necessary. Cost of the lessons is \$68 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks.

Students also are required to purchase books required for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Books are a onetime purchase. Students must also provide their own guitar.

Local Heroes Workshop

Have you ever dreamed what it would be like to be a fire fighter or policeman? Children ages 4 to 6 will get an inside scoop in this local heroes workshop, 9 to 11:30 a.m., through July 22, at the CYSS Administrative Building, 2522. Cost is \$45 per child. Children will read stories of bravery and courage and then use

their imagination for an activity afterwards. They may even get to meet a real live local hero. Bring a nut free snack daily.

Twilight Teen workshop

Twilight fans ages 9 to 14 can join a workshop, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. through July 22. Take time to explore the wonders of the books and movies. Participants will make Team Edward or Team Jacob t-shirts, create a trivia game, get creative by writing alternate endings to the story and maybe even view one of the movies. Bring a white t-shirt and a lot of imagination and dive into this saga together. Every diehard Twilight fan should bring a nut-free snack daily.

Private Piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 to 18, 1 to 7 p.m., on Monday or Tuesday, July 26 through Aug. 16, at the AA Youth Center, building 2522.

Lessons cost \$68 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.

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

July bowling specials

• Children bowl for free every Monday with each paying adult.

• Each Tuesday, bowl 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$1.50.

• Each Wednesday, bowl 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. for 1.25 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.

• Every Friday in July, from 7 a.m.

to 5 p.m., up to six people can bowl for \$14 an hour. Includes shoe rental.

• Each Friday, Cosmic bowling 5 to 11 p.m. for \$14 per hour.

• Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza and one pitcher of soda for \$32.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

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

Week of July 19

Special #1: Manicotti with salad, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

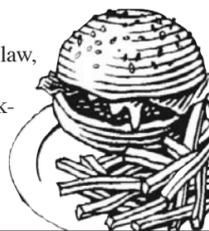
Special #2: Egg salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.25.

Week of July 26

Special #1: Crab cake sandwich with French fries, coleslaw, cookie and regular soda for \$7.50.

Special #2: Chicken salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.95.

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



Rock and Awe entertains APG with energetic concert

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Rock and Awe, a USA Express Concert presented by the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, came to the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center July 10 to the delight of many attendees who sang and danced along with the performers.

USA Express is the Army Entertainment Division's deployable musical performance group. The band is a highly energetic, six to seven person, top 40 variety show group.

The group is comprised of active duty, National Guard/Reserve military musicians and singers chosen for their outstanding military performance, musical ability and versatility.

During the concert, the group played a variety of crowd pleasing hits like Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Sweet Home Alabama," Journey's "Don't Stop Believing," Shakira's "Hips Don't Lie," Sugar Hill Gang's "Rapper's Delight," Alicia Key's "If I Ain't Got You," and "Billie Jean," "Beat It" and "Smooth Criminal" by Michael Jackson.

One of the last songs of the night was dedicated to the military, Toby Keith's "American Soldier."

The concert also featured a step performance by members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

The audience members, which included Soldiers from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, seemed to have a good time as they cheered and danced to their favorite songs.

"The concert was amazing," said Pvt. Ruben Passman, from the 61st Ordnance Brigade. "No one can beat it."

Sgt. 1st Class David Price from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion said that he felt the group was top-notch.

"I have been to many Army concerts in my career and I thought that this group was outstanding and put on a really enjoyable show. They were rockin'."

Spc. Alex Mirandy who plays



Soldiers dance to the sounds of Rock and Awe during a concert at the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center July 10. Band members from left are Spc. Oleg Galanin, Staff Sgt. Mike Krzmarzick, Pfc. Travis Poole, Spc. Alex Mirandy, and Spc. Mike Cera, on drums.

bass guitar for the group, said that he felt honored to be able to perform for Soldiers.

"I have realized how important music is to Soldiers, who have stressful jobs," Mirandy said. "Music makes people happy and it is way to escape stress. I enjoy making Soldiers smile."

Staff Sgt. Chris Eschenfelder, the detachment leader, said that the concert shows audiences that Army bands can perform a wide range of musical genres.

"We want to get the word out that the Army bands can do more than just perform for ceremonies, they can rock out too," Eschenfelder said.

Other band members include Spc. Krysta Waters (vocalist, keyboard), Pfc. Travis Poole (bass guitar), Spc. Oleg Galanin (guitar), Spc. Mike Cera (drums), and Staff Sgt. Mike Krzmarzick (vocalist, guitar, musical director).



Members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Iota Nu Chapter perform a step dance during the concert. Front row from left: Capt. Richard Ricketts, Walter Lockhart, Lamark Holley. Back row from left: Rick Witherspoon, Russell Reese, Terrance Ware, Lamark Holley.

