

Post Shorts

Picerno takes over recycling

Picerno Military Housing is responsible for the collection of residential household trash and recycling in Aberdeen Proving Ground housing areas. Both the trash and recycling pick up will be on Tuesdays.

For more information, contact the Picerno Neighborhood Office 410-305-1076.



Registration open for Operation Purple

The National Military Family Association is now accepting applications for Operation Purple. Operation Purple is a free summer camp program for military children of all ranks and services. The goal of the Operation Purple camp program is to give military children tools to help deal with the stresses that result from a parent's deployment, through a memorable camp experience in a "purple" environment.

The dates and locations for camp sessions held in Maryland are as follows: Chestertown, Aug. 15 to 19 for ages 8 to 13; North East, July 18 to 23 and July 25 to 30, both sessions for ages 7 to 17.

Go to www.militaryfamily.org/ourprograms/operation-purple/ to register and for more information.

Please direct questions regarding the Operation Purple program to OPC@militaryfamily.org.

Military ID Section closed March 30

The APG Military Personnel Office, Identification Section will be closed March 30 for mandated training. Closure will affect the issuance of Common Access Cards, Army Civilian Identification Cards (DA Form 1602), Military Dependent Identification Cards, Military and Government Civilian Retiree Cards and the updating of the DEERS/RAPIDS database. The Identification Section will return to

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Stole ceremony signifies change in leadership of Protestant Service

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Scott Weichl assumed interim leadership of the Aberdeen Area Protestant Service from Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, former deputy Garrison Chaplain, during a Change of Stole ceremony at the main Post Chapel March 7.

Senior Garrison Chaplain (Col.) Ruben D. Colon Jr., led the ceremony. The stole, which is a vestment that symbolizes a chaplain's ordination vows, is a long, decorated cloth that Christian clergy traditionally wear over the shoulders. The exchange between clergy members signifies a change in responsibilities between the two; similar to a military change of command.

During the exchange, Colon praised Kim and welcomed Weichl. He said the chapel staff and congregation appreciated the "warmth, grace, kindness and loving spirit," with which Kim led the service, supported by his wife Sue, an accomplished vocalist who sang in the choir and his son, Emmanuel, who played the cello.

"It was wonderful to have his spirit present," Colon said.

He then welcomed Weichl who led the Call to Worship opening with the 23rd Psalm.

The ceremony was held on the Command Sergeants Major and First Sergeants Sunday – a segment of the services

See CHAPLAIN, page 3



Chaplain (Col.) Ruben D. Colon, Aberdeen Proving Ground senior Garrison chaplain, center, praises outgoing deputy Garrison Chaplain (Maj.) Young Kim, left, and welcomes Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William Weichl, behavioral health manager with the U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional), who will serve as interim pastor until Kim's replacement arrives, during a Change of Stole Ceremony at the Aberdeen Area Chapel March 7.

Census forms mark beginning of 2010 campaign

Story by
JUDY PATISHNOCK
DPTMS

Delivery of the printed census forms to every resident in the U.S. began March 15 according to the U.S. Census 2010 Web site. The census form must be completed using pen and ink; however, there may be instances where census takers will visit households to complete the form face-to-face. The U.S. Census Bureau is not providing an online option to complete the 2010 Census form.

The 2010 Census form consists of questions regarding, name, sex, age, date of birth, race, household relationship, and if you own or rent. The census does not ask about the legal status of respondents or for their social security numbers. If you do not complete and send back the form, you will receive a visit from a census taker. If a census taker visits you, ask to see their identification. All cen-



Photo courtesy of U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE After verifying an address, census workers give residents a handout about the 2010 U.S. Census and the reasons for the visit.

sus workers carry an official government badge marked with just their name. Also ask for additional photo identification, such as a valid driver's license.

Census workers may also carry a U.S. Census Bureau bag. The U.S. Census worker will not ask for, money, donations, PIN codes, passwords or similar

access information for financial accounts, or to enter the home. If an individual asks for any of this prohibited information or if uncertain about their identity, call the Regional Census Center at 215-717-1020 to confirm their employment with the Census Bureau.

Information about the 2010 U.S. Census can be reviewed on the Web site for those wanting information the U.S. Census Bureau is collecting on the census form. For additional information about the U.S. Census 2010, go to <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/index.php>.

The 2010 Census website also features an area dedicated to Protecting Your Answers, including information on Common Privacy Questions, Security Questions, and Avoiding Fraudulent Activities and Scams. Access this section by visiting <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/privacy/index.php>.

AER keeps Soldiers, Families Army Strong

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Emergency Relief Campaign held a kick-off meeting Mar. 8 which provided unit representatives materials and instructions needed to conduct the campaign within their organizations.

AER is the Army's own emergency financial assistance organization and is dedicated to "Helping the Army Take Care of Its Own."

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

Maj. Matt Petraitis, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company and APG AER campaign military coordinator, commented that AER is a trusted way to provide financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families.

"AER is a worthwhile program." Petraitis said. "The money donated is managed well. Donors can be assured that money is going to help the Soldiers."

Petraitis commented that AER gives Soldiers peace of mind that their Families will be taken care of during emergencies while they are deployed. Having an organization like AER in place helps Soldiers concentrate on their mission.

According to AER headquarters, last year AER distributed \$79 million to 72,000 Soldiers and their Families.

Petraitis said that in 2009 APG collected \$62,000 worth of donations and gave



\$383,000 worth of grants and loans to Soldiers.

He added that the number of APG Soldiers that have received grants and loans has risen even as the APG Soldier population has decreased.

Petraitis said that this year the Garrison goal is \$55,000 and thanked the representatives for their participation.

About AER

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

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

See AER, page 9

APG celebrates WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Army's first African American female command sergeant major served at APG

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground played a significant role in Army Women's History three decades ago when it became the home of the first African American female command sergeant major in the Army.

Mildred C. Kelly first made history when she was promoted to sergeant major while serving at the Pentagon in 1972. Two years later, she did it again when she became the first female command sergeant major of a major installation – Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Kelly was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., January 24, 1928. She graduated from Howard High School and then attended Knoxville College where she earned degrees in Chemistry and Mathematics. Kelly taught high school chemistry for a short while before deciding to enlist in the U.S. Army's Women's Army Corps in 1950.

She first served at APG in the early 1960s when she was a young noncommissioned officer. Two former WACs and members of Aberdeen's Free State Chapter 70 Women's Army Corps Veterans Association, June Adcock and Thelma Garbinski, served under Kelly during those years.

Adcock called Kelly a "go-getter." "I remember she was in charge of our drill team," she said. "She was the kind of person you wanted to be like. Even then you knew she was going places."

Garbinski also remembered Kelly for her professionalism.

"She was my barracks sergeant when I first came to APG," she recalled. "Her appearance was perfect all the time and I modeled myself after her."

She said Kelly recognized her efforts and made her an assistant barracks sergeant when she was only a private first class.

"I would try to make my shoes shine like hers and she would always look at them and say, 'Oh, yuck,'" Garbinski said, "But I knew that that was just to keep me motivated."

She added that she kept up with Kelly's career over the years and was not surprised when she learned of her promotion to sergeant major.

"I was so proud of her," she said. "It was wonderful to know that a female command sergeant major in the Army was someone I had looked up to and modeled myself after."

Much has been written about Kelly's ground-breaking military career. Highlights of her life can be viewed on the U.S. Army Center of Military History, Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA) and ncohistory.com Web sites.



Photo courtesy of APG NEWS ARCHIVES
Aberdeen Proving Ground commander Col. Walter R. Harris, left, welcomes Command Sgt. Maj. Mildred C. Kelly, center, and her mother Maxine Kelly, right, to Aberdeen Proving Ground in this photo that appeared in the June 26, 1974 issue of the APG News. Kelly was the first African American sergeant major and became the first female command sergeant major to lead a major Army installation.

According to ncohistory.com, after basic training at Fort Lee, Va., Kelly's first assignment was at Fort Knox, Ky. where she became a personnel clerk at the U.S. Army Finance Center in St. Louis, Mo. In 1954 she was assigned to Japan where she served as a personnel sergeant until May 1956 and then was assigned to Fort McClellan, Ala. In 1959, she reenlisted and was promoted to management specialist at the U.S. Army WAC Center and transferred to the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School. While at APG, Kelly was promoted to staff sergeant. She later returned to Fort McClellan and went on to form and serve on the WAC Drill Team from 1965 to 1966.

In 1972, while serving as the WAC Senior NCO advisor for the enlisted personnel directorate, Office of Personnel Operations, Kelly was promoted by Brig. Gen. Jack T. Pink, director of personnel. Along side Kelly stood her mother Maxine Kelly.

On June 30, 1974, Kelly became the

first African American woman to hold the grade and position of Command Sergeant Major of a major Army headquarters at APG.

Kelly believed that "no matter how far you go, you can always look to a higher position."

She retired in 1976 and joined the American Association of Dental Schools where she worked until 1990. She was on hand at the Pentagon when the U.S. Postal Service presented a set of stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of Army integration on July 20, 1998. At the time of her death, she served on the board of the WIMSA Memorial Foundation, Inc., which she helped to establish, the Maryland Veterans Commission, and the Veterans Advisory Board. Kelly served in the Army until her retirement in 1976. She died Jan. 27, 2003 at age 75 and was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

Constance Burns of the U.S. Army Center for Military History visited Kelly in her hospital room days before she

died. Burns got to know Kelly while organizing a conference on African Americans in the Korean War and Kelly was to appear on a panel discussing the role of African American women in the war.

"She was a great warrior," Burns said. "She loved to get women's stories out there."

Kelly is survived by an older brother, Frederick Kelly, dean of students at Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis, Ind., niece Sheila Lewis, owner of a marketing firm in San Francisco, Calif., and two nephews who live in Seattle, Wash., Dr. Rayburn Lewis and Ron Lewis, deputy director of the city's Sound Transit mass transit system.

Frederick Kelly remembered his sister fondly.

"She taught school for six weeks and then joined the Army," he said. "She just decided she didn't want to teach school. She had an outstanding career and she was one of the forerunners of the WIMSA memorial. We are very proud of her."

VAMHCS honors Women's History Month with expanded health care programs for women veterans

VAMHCS

March is Women's History Month, and the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System honors the essential roles women have been playing in the United States armed forces since 1775.

Military women have made great contributions and achieved stellar accomplishments in service to the nation throughout history, and the numbers of women in the military are steadily increasing. Today, women represent about 14 percent of the nation's returning veterans, and they are well represented among all ranks in each branch of service and all career fields. Because the percentage of women in the military has doubled in the last 30 years, women veterans compose one of the fastest growing subpopulations of veterans, second



Department of Veterans Affairs

only to elderly veterans. Today, of the 23.4 million veterans, 1.8 million are women, and the population is projected to increase to nearly 2 million by 2020. In Maryland, of approximately 484,013 Veterans, 47,276 are women.

Women veterans have left their children, husbands, and loved ones, deploying on orders when actively serving. This sacrifice is like no other, and the VA is committed to honoring that service by increasing funding for women's health care programs by nearly \$20 million in

2011. The VAMHCS thanks women veterans everywhere for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the nation.

To serve the growing number of women veterans in Maryland, the VAMHCS Women Veterans Program has been expanded to include same-day, urgent, and Saturday appointments. The Women Veterans Program offers a comprehensive health care plan that spans the range of all women's needs from mental health to primary care and gynecologic services.

The VAMHCS is dedicated to meeting

the needs of all veterans and during Women's History Month, it takes extra time to ensure that women veterans throughout the state are aware of their eligibility for VA health care and the specialized services available for them through our Women Veterans Health Care Program.

To learn more about the Women Veteran's Health Care Program, call the Baltimore VA Medical Center Women's Clinic at 1-800-463-6295, extension 4981, or the Perry Point VA Medical Center Women's Clinic at 1-800-949-1003, ext. 5768. To make an appointment for Women's Health or Primary Care, call 1-800-463-6295, ext. 7333. To enroll for VA health care, call the Enrollment Center for the VA Maryland Health Care System at 1-800-463-6295, ext. 7324 or visit www.maryland.va.gov.

APG News

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

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Support helps children cope with deployments

Story by
ELAINE WILSON
American Forces Press Service

Children with a strong nondeployed parent or caregiver and a solid support system are better able to cope with deployments, two recent studies have shown.

Anita Chandra, a behavioral scientist from Rand Corp., and Leonard Wong, a research professor from the Army War College, highlighted the findings of these studies during testimony to the House Armed Services Committee. Both studies focused on military children ages 11 to 17.

“We had a very strong relationship between the caregiver’s mental health and their ability to cope as well as the ability for their children to handle some of the deployment stressors,” said Chandra, describing the findings of the study “Children on the Homefront: The Experiences of Children From Military Families.”

This independent study included more than 1,500 military Families, focusing on the well-being of youth ages 11 to 17 and their nondeployed parent or caregiver.

The study’s goal was to show how children from military Families function with respect to academics, peer and family relations, general emotional difficulties and overall problem behaviors, Chandra explained. The study found that, when compared to a sample of U.S. children, military children have a higher average rate of emotional difficulties at each age, she said.

Older children and girls, particularly, had a greater number of difficulties dur-

ing deployment, she noted. And the total months the parent was deployed, rather than the number of deployments, was related to a greater number of challenges as well.

Relating to family strength, “we found that caregivers with poorer mental health themselves reported more child difficulties during deployment,” Chandra said.

Chandra suggested that Families may benefit from targeted support to deal with stressors at later points in the deployment, and not simply during initial stages.

“Families in which nondeployed caregivers are struggling with their own mental health may need more support for both caregiver and child,” she said.

Wong also found a strong connection between family strength and children’s ability to cope with deployment in the Army study, “The Effects of Multiple Deployments on Army Adolescents.”

For the study, an anonymous, Web-based survey was issued to a random sample of more than 2,000 active-duty Soldiers, as well as to more than 700 Army spouses and about 550 military children between ages 11 and 17. The study focused on what factors might influence the magnitude of stress related to deployments, he said.

Wong found that the No. 1 factor in mitigating deployment stress was a child’s participation in activities, such as sports, followed by a strong Family foundation. Activities serve “as a distraction to the negative feelings associated with a deployment,” he explained.

Another, unexpected predictor of Dimatulac; and 1st Sgt. Roman Victor from Company C as well as 1st Sgt. Luis Natal from USAPHC (Prov).

Colon and Kim presented the non-commissioned officers with Soldiers New Testament for Excellence bibles and chaplain coins in appreciation of their support of chapel programs and APG Soldiers.

Rhoades expressed his thanks to Kim for his support of Garrison events and his leadership of the Protestant Service.

“I have never [before] been blessed with a chaplain like this,” Rhoades said.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jeffrey Zust, RDE-COM, delivered the morning message.

Kim is heading to Fort Meade.

deployment stress was a child’s belief that the American public supports the war, he said.

“Sports as a diversion for deployment stress, that makes sense and youth sports programs are relatively easy to create,” he said. “But that the strength of a child’s perception of the American support for the war would be associated with their deployment stress was a surprise, and it’s a much more complex issue to deal with.”

In addition to looking at what factors influence the magnitude of stress, the study also examined how well adolescents coped with deployments overall. Along with the previous factors such as strong Families, activities and a child’s belief that America supports the war, the largest predictor of stress was a child’s belief that the Soldier is making a difference in the world.

“This finding is surprising, yet intuitive,” Wong noted. “These children understand that the Army is a ‘greedy’ institution demanding all of time, energy and focus of a Soldier.” They also understand from personal experience that the Family is a greedy institution that requires constant attention and care.

“They see deployed Soldiers caught in the middle of both noble institutions,”

he added.

Looking ahead, Wong noted the importance of building strong Families and focusing on activities such as sports to help mitigate stress. A child’s belief system, however, may be a more complicated factor to tackle, he said.

“The factors of children’s beliefs, what they feel about the Army, what they feel about the nation, make a difference. “And so how do you influence a child’s beliefs? That’s a critical question and that will have us thinking for a long time.”

While the studies are useful, more work remains to be done on behalf of military children, Chandra said.

“Both of our studies really point to the needs of older youth,” she said. “What we hope from this work is that it starts to identify some of the needs of older youth and teenagers so that we can look at the programs we currently have and try and figure out if we are aligning our programs with those needs, particularly with adolescents, and particularly those older adolescents.”

“Despite the contributions of previous studies, significant knowledge gaps remain, especially for older children,” she said.

Chaplain

From front page

monthly themed Sunday observances – which featured senior Aberdeen Proving Ground enlisted leaders assisting during the service.

APG Command Sgt. Maj. Hector Marin, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades collected tithes and offerings and 1st Sgt. John Daugherty, HHC 22d Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort), delivered the scripture reading. Also present or assisting from the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) were Command Sgt. Maj. Raymund

APG youths learn sports skills through EDGE! program



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

Christine Gifford, far left, volleyball instructor, passes the ball to Eddy Nubine Jr., 14, far right, during a practice exercise, while Marangely Quinones, 13, center, looks on. The volleyball program, which takes place at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center during the month of March is part of an ongoing Child, Youth and School Services program called The EDGE! For more information on EDGE! programs, contact Chuck Rose, a youth workforce preparation specialist with APG's CYSS office and program lead, 410-278-1399.

The EDGE!

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

Spring is almost upon us and with it comes a whole variety of new EDGE! programs for April. Now is the time to get outdoors, stretch your legs and enjoy the great weather that comes with a new season.

Zumba

A free Zumba exercise program will be offered 4 to 6 p.m., every Monday in April at the Athletic Center, building 3300. Zumba is more than just a regular exercise program, it is a dance to the music of different cultures from around the world. This program is open to all eligible Department of Defense children and youths ages 11 to

18. Youths will learn how to shake it and groove to the beat of exotic music. They call it exercise, but it's just downright good fun for you and your friends. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Build a Kite

The EDGE! will offer a "Build a Kite" program 4 to 6 p.m., every Wednesday in April at the APG Bowling Center. The program is open to all eligible DoD children and youths ages 6 to 18. A \$40 fee will be applied to all youths ages 6 to 10 who are not current regular users of Child, Youth and School Services programs. Youths will pick out a kite, learn how to put it together, add the swirling long tail and then take it out to fly. Watch as your pride and joy soar as you run around the open field.

Paintball

A free paintball program will be held 4 to 6 p.m., every Thursday in April at

the Robin Hood Paintball complex in Havre de Grace. All eligible DoD children and youths, ages 11 to 18 can participate. Paintball is more than just hide and seek. Paintball is a game of learning to use cover, stalk an opponent and come together as a team with the goal of capturing an opponent's flag. Youths will have tons of fun crawling on the ground, hiding behind expertly placed obstacles and sneaking up on the "other guy." Bring a friend and sign up for paintball now. Roundtrip transportation will be provided from Aberdeen Youth Services, building 2522. The bus will leave 3:45 p.m. and return 6 p.m. All participants should wear old clothes, and sneakers or boots along with a hat. Dress warm – the activity takes place outdoors.

Scrapbooking

A free Scrapbooking program will be held 4 to 6 p.m., every Friday in April at the APG Bowling Center. Scrapbook-

ing is open to all eligible DoD children and youths, ages 11 to 18. Dreams allow us to think of good things in our lives, of things that are and things we want to be. Pictures and the written word make it all a keepsake. Scrapbooking is the way to bring it all together to remember next week, next month or later on in life. Learn how to keep current and future memories near and dear. Youths can use their imagination on develop their own book, keep it current and share it with their friends. Keep your memories from fading away. Sign up for Scrapbooking now.

All EDGE! Programs are open to eligible DoD children and youths living on and off post. Registration at the CYSS Central Registration Office, building 2752, is required.

For more information, call Chuck Rose, 410-278-1399, or e-mail chuck.rose1@us.army.mil.

On 3-game winning streak, MRICD tops USAF, 40-32

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense used a refuse-to-lose attitude to crush the U.S. Air Force Detachment during a March 3 intramural basketball game at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center.

The two teams kept it close in the first half, with no more than two or three points between them until the final seconds of the half. USAF, up by one point at 16-15, looked like it would carry the lead into the break until MRICD's Mark Zottola turned a desperation shot into a 3-pointer at the buzzer for an 18-16 halftime lead.

"We're doing great," said MRICD coach Darryl Bowen. "We're a bunch of old guys but we're coming together. We won the last two games because we play with our heads more than our legs."

USAF coach Joel Wheaton, the team's high scorer, acknowledged his players were "struggling."

"We lost a lot of experience and were left with a lot of young players, but we're having fun and that's what it's all about," he said.

MRICD pulled away in the second half. A run of 10 unanswered points midway through the half, with the game's lead scorer and youngest member, Zach Phillips leading the way, put MRICD in control the rest of the way as the team cruised to a 40-32 win.

"We'll be in the championship," Bowen chuckled as he congratulated his players.

He said the team came together nicely despite the fact that none of the players were on last year's team.

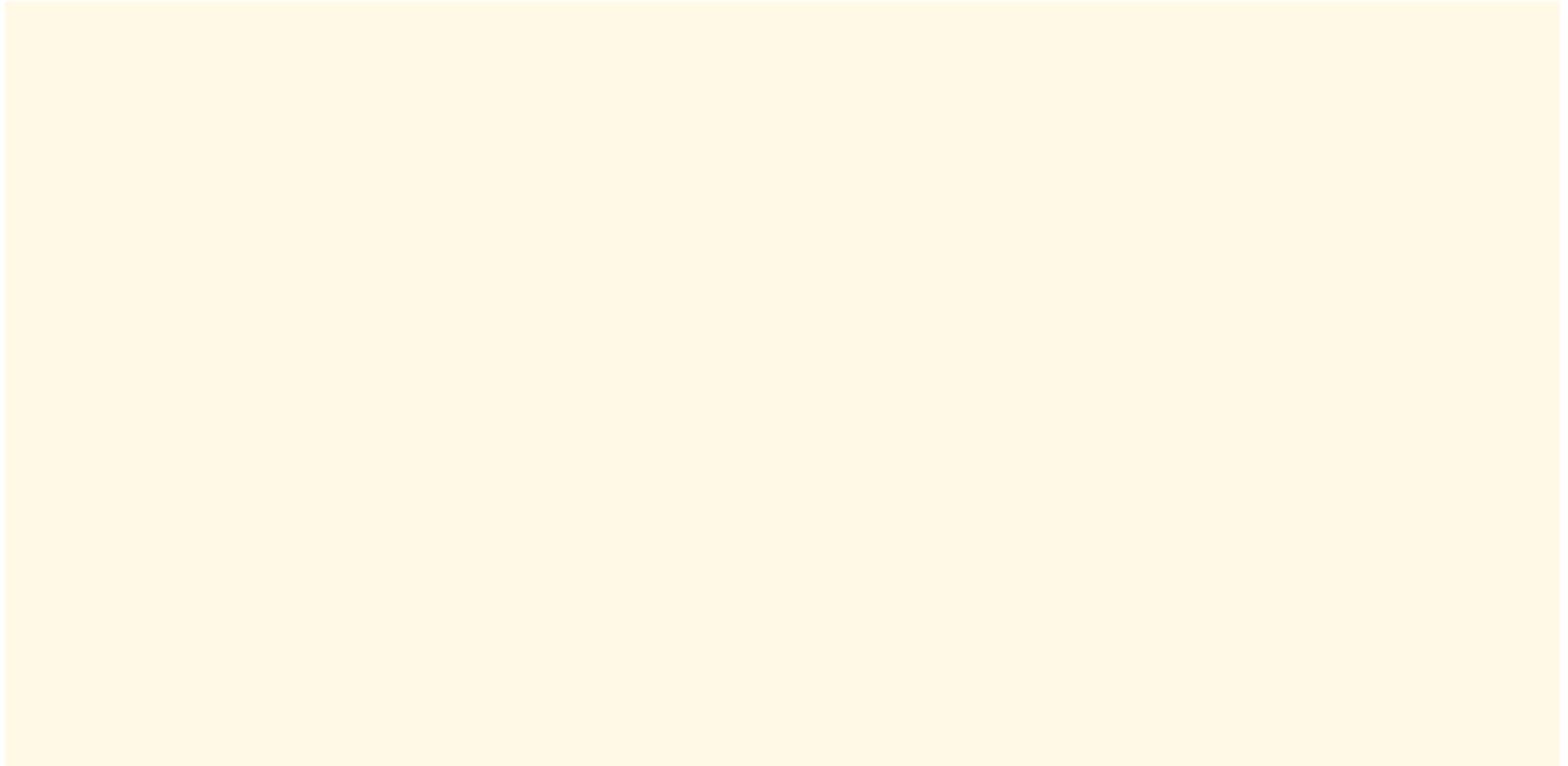
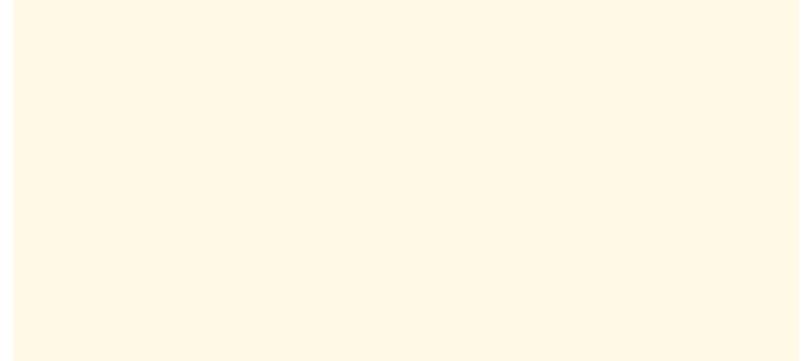
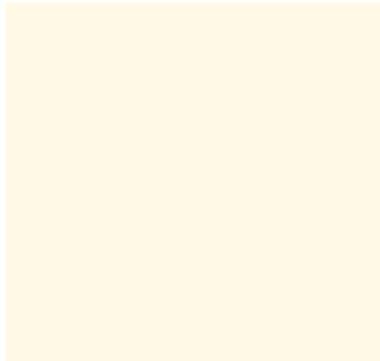
"We all decided we wanted to get in shape," he said. "All we do is come out and have fun."



John Evans of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, 24, shoots for two points over the U.S. Air Force Detachment's Henry Foradory, 12; Chris Furnas, 23; and Joel Wheaton, 23, as MRICD's Tom Hott, 38, USAF's Luther Lawrence, 22, and MRICD's Zach Phillips look on during the two teams' intramural basketball game at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center March 3.



MRICD coach Darryl Bowen, 23, watches USAF's Andy Balint, 21, go up against MRICD defender Jason Williams, 28, and USAF's Alex Wilke, 54, tries to hold off MRICD's Brian Molles. MRICD won its third consecutive game, 40-32.



Capitol Hill panel discusses National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program

Story by
DEREK LAVALLEE
National Guard Youth Challenge

A panel discussion moderated by Senator Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, on Capitol Hill Feb. 24, highlighted the high cost of high school dropouts to the American economy.

Panel members, including Landrieu, Senator Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, Cecilia Rouse, a member of the Council of Economic Advisers; Lt. General Harry "Bud" Wyatt III, director of the Air National Guard; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs David L. McGinnis; former West Virginia Governor Bob Wise, director of the Alliance for Excellent Education, National Guard Youth Challenge Foundation President Greg Sharp; and the new Youth ChalleNGe spokesperson World-Wide Wrestling Entertainment on the Raw Brand superstar Montel Vontavious Porter who spoke about the crisis of high school dropouts and the cost not only to the economy but to Families whose young people are falling through the cracks.

The National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program was highlighted as one of the most successful programs available to dropouts, giving them the opportunity to earn their high school degree or General Equivalency Diploma and go on to join the workforce, attend college or join the military.

Cadet Hamilton Cunningham shared his personal story of dropping out and the road he took to earn a second chance to succeed. Landrieu also introduced a resolution in the U.S. Senate that celebrates Feb. 24 as National Guard Youth Challenge Day.

America has one of the highest dropout rates in the world among developed nations. Nationally, an estimated one-third of high school freshmen do not graduate from high school in four years; in the 50 largest U.S. cities, the dropout rate may be closer to 50 percent. That totals 1.3 million high school dropouts each year. In Maryland, the



Dream. Believe. Achieve.

graduation rate for high school students is 73.5 percent with an estimated 21,100 students dropping out each year.

"The soaring dropout rate is a national crisis that costs our economy billions each year to support dropouts who are more likely to be unemployed or underemployed, incarcerated, on public welfare, or teen parents," noted Sharp. "And while the cost to our nation is significant, the cost to American Families is even greater."

Wise highlighted research from the Alliance for Excellent Education that estimates an economic cost of \$335 billion in lost productivity and earnings over the course of a high school dropout's lifetime. Over the next decade, if current dropout rates persist, the economic loss to the nation will total more than \$3 trillion Wise said. In Maryland, the additional lifetime income for those students would have totaled \$5,494,580,000, a significant loss to state tax revenues and added cost to state welfare programs.

The research findings identify costs for social welfare programs that are targeted heavily to dropouts. For example, the unemployment rates for dropouts total 40 percent as compared to the national average of 10 percent.

Each class of dropouts costs

states \$17 billion in publicly subsidized health care costs over the course of their lives. Individuals lacking a high school education also make up 90 percent of the nation's prison population accounting for \$45 billion of the \$50 billion spent annually on incarceration. One in every three teen mothers is a dropout, and one in four babies is born to a high school dropout.

Wyatt presented data on a program that is giving high school dropouts a second chance to succeed. Independently rated as one of the most cost-effective and efficient programs for at-risk youth in the U.S., the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program has graduated more than 92,850 former high school dropouts from the program to date, with 99 percent of them going on to pursue higher education, a career in the military or employment, according to a recent audit. This program has a remarkable one percent recidivism rate.

Established by the National Guard in 1993 to help at-risk youth aged 16 to 18 who have dropped out or been expelled from school, the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program includes a 5-month residential program and 12-month mentoring program in which participants learn life skills, gain real-life work experience,

receive on-the-job training, participate in community service and have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma or GED.

It is one of the largest mentoring programs in the nation, second only to Job Corps, and it has contributed more than 5 million hours of community service.

"It costs [\$17,000] to graduate one child from the Youth ChalleNGe program, as compared to [\$50,000] to incarcerate that same youth," noted Wyatt. "To date, the program has saved an estimated \$109 million in juvenile corrections expenses and welfare programs and added revenue through employment taxes and community service hours. Based on these results, our nation can no longer afford to turn our backs on our young people if we are to remain competitive in this global economy," he added.

As a recent graduate from the program, Cunningham, spoke movingly about his experience. "When I dropped out of school I found myself with no options - I had no job prospects and was headed to a life on the streets," he said. "The Youth ChalleNGe program gave me a second chance - and the opportunity to earn a degree and go on to college. I don't know where I would be today if I hadn't joined the program."

There are currently 32 Youth ChalleNGe programs available in 27 states and Puerto Rico, and efforts are underway to make it a national program available in all 50 states. The Obama Administration included an additional \$20 million in its FY2011 budget. Eleven states are seeking to add programs, and an additional three are seeking to increase the number of programs available in their state.

"The cost of this program pales in comparison to the cost of not addressing the epidemic of high school dropouts," added Sharp. "Ensuring the success of today's students is an investment in Families and our nation's future that will have a

positive impact on our economic bottom line."

About the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program

The National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program is a community-based program that leads, trains and mentors at-risk youth so they can become productive citizens in America's future. This award-winning program has been recognized as one of the nation's most effective and cost-efficient programs for targeting youth who are at the greatest risk for substance abuse, teen pregnancy, delinquency and criminal activity.

Maryland's Freestate ChalleNGe Academy is a two-phased 17-month intervention program for underemployed, drug-free, "at-risk" high school dropouts from the state of Maryland. The first phase consists of 22 weeks in residency at the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

After graduating from the resident phase, the cadets are mentored for an additional 12 months. During this time they are placed into jobs, continue their education or enter the military. The mission of the academy is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and to produce graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline needed to succeed as adults.

The program has been in operation in Maryland for 17 years. One-hundred eighty-seven students graduated in 2009, and more than 2,500 cadets have graduated since the academy began in 1993. The alumni of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy are responsible, productive citizens who are now contributing to their communities throughout the state of Maryland by employing the values and skills taught to them while at the academy.

For more information visit the program Web site at www.ngycp.org/site/state/md

Community Notes

THURSDAY

MARCH 18 DEFENSE, TECHNOLOGY & INTELLIGENCE JOB FAIR

The Susquehanna Workforce Network will host the Defense, Technology & Intelligence Job Fair, 2 to 6 p.m. at Ripken Stadium, 873 Long Drive, in Aberdeen. Positions being recruited include engineers, chemists, procurement specialists, program analysts, technical writers, contracting specialists, IT and help desk specialists and technicians, Web developers, business development specialists, acquisition professional, receptionists, database administrators and more.

This event is free and open to the public. Dress for success and bring plenty of resumes. For more information, call 410-939-4240. A list of participating employers can be found at www.swnetwork.org.

FRIDAY

MARCH 19 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo will be held 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 each, extra packs cost \$5 each. Proceeds will benefit Aberdeen High School Senior Class. Bring a canned good and/or non-perishable item for a bonus prize ticket. Needed items include jellies, stews, chili, chunky soups, pancake

mixes and syrups. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332 or e-mail Diana.Jackson@hcps.org.

SATURDAY

MARCH 20 BASKET, PURSE AND JEWELRY BINGO

Basket, Purse and Jewelry Bingo will be held 7 p.m. at Aberdeen Middle School located on Mount Royal Avenue, Aberdeen. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 each, extra packets cost \$5 each. Proceeds to benefit Aberdeen High School After Prom Party. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Bring a canned good and/or non-perishable food item for a bonus prize ticket. Needed items include jellies, stews, chili, chunky soups, pancake mixes and syrups. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332 or email Diana.Jackson@hcps.org.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo will be held 1 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, 21 North Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors open at noon. Handcrafted baskets made by members of the Deer Creek Basketry Guild will be available for sale. Tickets

cost \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Cost includes 20 games, specials and door prizes. Food and bake sale available by the Havre de grace Boy Scout Troop 965. Handcrafted baskets by weavers will also be for sale.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-734-7906.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

In honor of Women's History Month, the MD-She Serves committee of the VFW will hold a free event Honoring Women with Military Service, 4 p.m. at VFW Post 10029 located on 822 Old Philadelphia Road, Aberdeen. This event is open to any woman who has served in the military, regardless of the branch or length of service. Discussions will include legislation and health issues specific to women veterans.

Guest speakers include retired Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, with the Women in Military Service for America Memorial (WIMSA) and B.J. Allgood, an Iraqi war veteran who will discuss PTSD and TBI. There will be vendors, counselors, Vet Outreach center, opportunities for pampering and more. There will be an opportunity to network with other women who have served and identify what we need. Vendor spaces are still available.

For more information, call 443-866-0533, or e-mail Sharon_snead@yahoo.com or Denise Perry at hairstoncpa@comcast.net.

JUNIOR BIRD WATCHING

This is a kick-off birding course for young birdwatchers and is a nice primer for those interested in bird watching and entering the Youth Bird watching Competition (sponsored by the Maryland Ornithological Society and the Harford Bird Club). Get the edge on the competition with a bird identification program with local birding guru and competition coordinator Mark Johnson. Wear appropriate shoes, if weather conditions allow, for an outside walk. Binoculars will be provided, or bring some. This free program will be held 9 to 11 a.m. for ages 10 to 17. 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.

RETURN OF THE OSPREY EVENT

There will be presentations by scientists involved in osprey banding and migration tracking. Author Jennifer Keats Curtis will read "Osprey Adven-

ture," followed by book sale and signing. Other activities include construction and installation of fishing line disposal containers for osprey conservation, a hike to check on the return of the Otter Point Road osprey, and osprey observation. This free program will be held 1 to 3 p.m. for all ages. 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.

SPRING CLEANING E-CYCLING

Come to the Estuary Center on the first day of spring and recycle old electronics. While here, calculate carbon footprint, sign out a kill-a-watt meter, find out what it means to be a green center, or learn about other ways to recycle and save energy in the home. TVs (no console or plasma) and small electronics can be recycled. This includes CPUs, monitors, keyboards and mice, printers, scanners, cables, power supplies, VCRs, DVD players, telephones, cell phones, stereos, fax machines, circuit boards, and video display devices. No registration required. Activities will be held 2 to 4 p.m. and E-Cycling drop-off will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is not required.

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

SUNDAY

MARCH 21 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 free program will be held 12:30 to 2:30 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.

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

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

Audrey Alba	Bennie Ford	Marie D. Nowak
April Avina	John Furchert	Michele Reamey
Debra Bonsall	Allan Gayhart	Deborah Shirley
Georgia Braun	Walter Holland	Anna Smelley
Jason Burr	Kari Jackson	Betty Spurlin
Alena Calm	Angela Lambert	Cherie Trees
John Daigle	Anthony Lee	Luis Villafane
Meg Downey	Colin McCloskey	Victoria Yates-Sparks
Wayne Erb	Deborah Moore	

POST SHORTS

full operations at 8 a.m. on March 31.

Customers that have military identification material expiring March 30 should make an appointment now for reissuance of the Common Access Cards through the CAC online scheduler or call 410-306-2404 for an appointment. DA Civilian Identification Card holders should call 410-306-2328 to make their appointment and military sponsors should bring their Family members in for reissuance of dependent and retiree identification material prior to the close of business March 29. Individuals requiring DoD identification material service March 30 may contact the Air National Guard, 175th Wing, 410-918-6204 or the Maryland National Guard Headquarters, 410-702-9050, for assistance.

This closure will not affect CAC pin reset operations which will continue to be provided 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30. For more information call the DHR, Military Personnel Officer Tom Shumate, 410-306-2303.

Harford Gate and Wise Road Gate hours change

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area will open 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. and the Wise Road Gate in the Edgewood Area will open 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. The Harford Gate and Wise Road Gate will remain closed weekends and holidays.

The Maryland Boulevard Gate (Route

715) in the Aberdeen Area and the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area will remain operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Magnolia Gate will also continue to open 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., weekdays for outbound traffic only.

Picerne Open House

Please visit Picerne Military Housing's open house 3 p.m. March 18, and 1 p.m. March 20, to meet the staff, tour a model home and participate in a free raffle for prizes including a Nintendo Wii. Enjoy complimentary refreshments and discover the benefits of living on-post at Aberdeen Proving Ground. All residents, future residents and community members are invited. The open house will be held at 3800C Veteran Court. For more information call Meagan Murray, 410-672-4072.

Co-Ed Volleyball League

The sign up deadline for the APG Co-ed Volleyball League is March 19 - a rules meeting will be held 11 a.m. at the AA Recreation Center, building 3326. All military and civilian or mixed teams are welcome. The volleyball season starts April 12. Twelve member co-ed teams will play 5:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost to participate is \$250 per team.

For more information, call the Sports Office, 410-278-3929

FWP Training and Awards

DAU takes applications

Defense Acquisition University is taking applications from Army Civilian Acquisition Corps members, in the Aberdeen Proving Ground or Fort Monmouth areas for the 2010-2011 Senior Service College Fellowship Program at APG.

Fellows will be selected by a centralized selection board. Applicants, in addition to being a member of the Acquisition Corps at the GS 14,15 or equivalent grades, must be within a Demonstration Project or the National Security Personnel System and have a Level III Certification in at least one acquisition functional area; have a command endorsement letter from the first General Officer/Senior Executive Service level in the applicant's chain of command; have or be able to obtain a SECRET clearance; have a Bachelor's Degree; be an Army Acquisition Corps

member at the time of application; be serving in a competitive appointment Tenure Group 1 or 2; be identified by one's organization as being on the track for executive-level service; and while not mandatory, it is strongly preferred that applicants have completed the Program Management PMT 352 Course.

Applications will be taken online through March 23 using the Army Acquisition Professional Development System accessed via the Career Acquisition Management Portal. Individuals will upload their command endorsement letter, SF-50, Performance Appraisal, etc.

Further application information will be posted at the USAASC website <http://asc.army.mil>. For more information contact Jim Oman, DAU-SSCF program director, james.oman@dau.mil, 410-436-7257 or 703-254-3255.

AER

From front page

to widows and Wounded Warriors.

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

AER assistance is available to Soldiers and their Families whenever they are located, and the amount of assistance is only limited by a valid need. AER's Command Referral Program has increased dramatically in Soldier's access to AER assistance. The Command Referral Program gives company or battery commanders and first sergeants the authority to approve up to \$1,000 in interest-free loans for their Soldiers.

It's a meaningful way for the company chain of command to be directly involved in addressing financial problems of their Soldiers," Petraitis said.

All contributions are fully tax deductible. Donors may make contributions to the general assistance fund or they may make contributions to specific programs

such as education and widow's assistance.

Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit chain of command or go to their local installation AER officer. Families not located near an Army Installation AER office can seek assistance at an Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard base from the Air Force Aid Society, and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance respectively or from any chapter of the American Red Cross.

Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit change of command or visit the APG AER Officer Marge Fissel in building 2574, Rodman Road, second floor.

The APG AER Campaign coordinators are Maj. Matt Petraitis, Garrison Headquarters Company, 410-278-2104, mathieu.petraitis@us.army.mil; and Capt. Ginger Hammerquist, the incoming Garrison Headquarters Company Commander, 410-436-4432, ginger.hammerquist@us.army.mil.

Full details on AER's assistance programs may be found by contracting Marge Fissel, AER officer, 410-278-2508, marge.fissel@us.army.mil, or visit www.aerhq.org. For campaign information, call Petraitis, 410-278-3000.

Program

The Annual Federal Women's Training and Awards Program will be held 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., March 24, at Martin's West, located at 6817 Dogwood Road, Baltimore. This year's theme is "Writing Women Back Into History." Dr. Allie B. Latimer will be the guest speaker.

For more information call Cassandra Fowlkes, 410-966-4963, or e-mail cassandra.fowlkes@ssa.gov.

Basic Boating Classes

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 22-04 will offer Basic Boating classes, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 27 and 28; April 10 and 11; April 24 and 25; May 1 and 2; and May 29 and 30. Classes will be held at the Middle River Yacht Club located at 200 Nanticoke Road, next to the Riverwatch Restaurant in Essex, Md.

The course will feature instruction on essential topics of boating to include navigational rules, safety equipment and boat handling along with lessons on essential knot tying and nautical history. Graduates will receive a State of Maryland certification.

Maryland law states that anyone born on or after July 1, 1972, must possess a certificate of boating safety education to operate any motorized vessel.

The cost of instruction is free; however a charge of \$25 per student is needed to cover administrative costs. All required material will be provided.

For more information and registration, call Army Fox, 410-287-8863, or e-mail captainsly@comcast.net.

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.

CAC Appointment Scheduler

The Directorate of Human Resources has launched an online CAC renewal appointment scheduler application to support the empowerment of DHR customers. The CAC appointment appli-

cation provides customers the ability to access an automated appointment calendar and schedule their CAC reissuance within 90 days of its expiration date based on time and date availability.

Additionally, the application allows customers the flexibility to cancel and reschedule appointments to avoid work schedule conflicts and a confirmation appointment e-mail, through their AKO, as well as appointment instructions.

Customers can access the CAC renewal appointment scheduler through the APG Web site - www.apg.army.mil/AKOSSOprompt/cacrenewal.cfm.

For questions or more information contact Tom Shumate, 410-306-2303.

RAB meeting topics have changed

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., March 25, at a new location: Aberdeen Senior Center, 7 Franklin Street, Aberdeen.

The new topics of the meeting will be an update on the O-Field, and Performance Based Contracts. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

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

CBRNIAC offers technical inquiry service

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Information Analysis Center, or CBRNIAC, provides a technical inquiry service.

The service offers up to four hours of technical analysis service at no cost to authorized users from Department of Defense agencies, other federal government agencies, DoD and federal contractors, state and local governments and emergency response organizations. The service covers the full range of CBRN defense and related homeland security topics.

To take advantage of CBRNIAC's Inquiry Service, complete the "Submit an Inquiry" form on its Web site, <https://www.cbrniac.apgea.army.mil/Products/Inquiry/Pages/default.aspx>.

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

Active Army spouses get chance to tell the Army what's on their mind

Story by
ROB MCILVAINE
FMWRC Public Affairs

The U.S. Army recently sent out the 2010 Survey of Army Families VI to a random selection of civilian active Army spouses to assess the support provided to Families and Soldiers during the past nine years of conflict.

"This survey is your chance to tell the Army leadership what it's like during this difficult period with so many of our Soldiers deployed," Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, IMCOM commander told 75,000 civilian spouses of active Soldiers in a letter introducing the 2010 Survey of Army Families VI.

Because this number represents just a small portion of the total number of spouses, it's extremely important to complete the survey, according to survey officials. Every four years, this valuable information gives the Army a grassroots view of how Family's opinions and attitudes have changed, and provides an opportunity to evaluate the effects of programs on Families.

The survey also tracks trends regarding the characteristics of Army Families, identifies new and emerging Family issues, and supplements other studies on Army Families.

"Your voice is extremely important. As a spouse randomly selected to participate in this survey, you will be not only be speaking for yourself, you'll be representing many other Army spouses," said Joseph Rayzor, FMWRC director of Marketing.

Army leadership will use the survey results to plan, formulate, and improve policies and programs which benefit Army Families. For example, results

from previous surveys of Army Families have helped the Army design Family Readiness Groups and improve Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

This year's focus is the impact deployments have on Army Families.

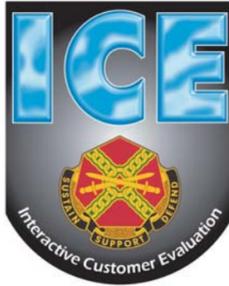
"Multiple deployments during this time of persistent conflict may have changed the needs of our Soldiers and their Family members. We must hear from our customers in order to make the best informed decisions for the Army, our Soldiers and their Families," Rayzor said.

The Survey of Army Families was institutionalized to meet DoD's requirement for military departments to perform Family research and program evaluation, and an Army requirement (through a 1983 CSA White Paper) to conduct research on the role of Army Families and the effect of Army life on Families.

After receiving the letter about participation in the 2010 Survey of Army Families VI, spouses may complete the survey on the Internet or using a hard-copy version provided by mail.

To keep the survey as scientifically accurate as possible, only those selected during the random sampling will be able to participate in the survey.

Spouses not selected for the survey but who wish to provide comments, suggestions or critiques of support programming are encouraged to use their spouse's chain of command, participate in the AFAP process, or speak to their local Family Support Group or Army Community Service directors to learn how to direct their comments to the appropriate agency



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



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

I.AM. STRONG. tour to feature singer Leigh Jones March 28

MWR

The Army "I. AM. Strong." concert tour featuring recording artist Leigh Jones will be held 2 p.m. at the Post Theater, Sunday, March 28. Guest performers include the band Animate Objects and comedians Jessi Campbell and Drew Thomas.

This is a free, ticketed event. Four tickets per person can be picked up at the Leisure Travel Ticket Office in the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326 or at Stark Recreation Center, building E4140 in the Edgewood Area.



<http://www.apgmwr.com/events.html>

Leigh Jones

Jones is enjoying the success of her powerful debut album, *Music in My Soul*, on Peak Records - a division of the Concord Music Group. According to Kerry Gordy, her manager/producer and son of Berry Gordy, "In my initial meeting with Leigh, she was so cool, intelligent, attractive and talented, that I felt excited and privileged to have the opportunity to be involved with someone I believed could make a significant impact in the music industry. Her qualifications have far surpassed my expectations," Gordy said.

Jones' musical influences include Ella

Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Marvin Gaye, D'Angelo, Jill Scott and Joss Stone. Her rich, soulful style, mixed with jazz and R&B influences creates a distinct retro sound.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

The "I. AM. Strong." campaign empowers Soldiers to Intervene, Act, and Motivate to prevent sexual assault. For more information, on the I. AM. Strong. and Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP) Program visit www.preventsuxualassault.army.mil.

Activities/Events

Franklin Mills Mall bus trip

Go shopping at Franklin Mills Mall, Philadelphia, March 19. Franklin Mills Mall has 200 stores, two food courts, seven theme restaurants and an AMC movie theater. See more about the mall at www.simon.com/mall/?id=1245.

Cost of the trip is \$20 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart the Best Western on Route 24, Edgewood at 9:30 a.m. and return 8 p.m. Payment is required to reserve a seat. Make a payment at the Leisure Ticket Office, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, or EA Recreation Center, building E4140.

For more information, visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, or call 410-278-

4011/4907, e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Egg Hunt and Spring Celebration

There will be an Egg Hunt and Spring Celebration, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E1902, March 24. Activities include face painting, cookie decorating, pin the tail on the bunny and more. This event is open to all youths from EA Youth Services, Child Development Center and Family members in the EA community. Children must be accompanied by an adult or care giver.

For more information, call 410-436-2098.

ACS Egg Hunt Extravaganza

Picerne Military Housing will sponsor the Army Community service Egg Hunt Extravaganza, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., March

27 at 2754 Rodman Road. All military, DoD civilians and Family members are invited to come. This is a free ticketed event.

For more information or to pick up free tickets, visit the Aberdeen Area ACS, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, building 2754, 410-278-7572/4372.

MSGA/Golfnet Handicap Tournament

There will be a Maryland State Golf Association (MSGA)/Golfnet Handicap Tournament March 27, at Ruggles Golf Course. Entrance fees cost \$30 for annual patrons; \$52 for all authorized patrons; and \$55 for guests. Cost includes annual handicap fee, light refreshments and prizes. Carts are not included.

For more information or to enter, call Dave Correll, 410-278-4794, e-mail david.correll@us.army.mil.

Medieval Times discount tickets available

The Leisure Travel Office has discount tickets for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournaments located at Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md. now through March 31. Tickets cost \$44.75 per adult and \$32 per child (ages 3 to 12 years). All reservations made through the Leisure Trav-

el Office will include a complimentary upgrade to the Royalty Package.

If you are celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or any other special event please let Leisure Travel Office know. Reservations must be made at the time of purchase; other locations are available upon request. All prices and savings are based on the final cost to include all taxes and fees.

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

New York City shopping trip

Leisure Travel will offer a shopping trip to New York City April 17. Enjoy the city without the driving or parking problems. Cost is \$36 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. from the Edgewood Best Western parking lot at Route 24 and return 10:30 p.m.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call MWR Leisure Travel Office,

Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 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, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Free babysitting course

Become a certified babysitter after taking the free 4-H/Army Child, Youth and School Services babysitting class for ages 13 to 18.

The class will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 5 and 6, at the Aberdeen Area Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522. The objective is to familiarize participants with the responsibilities of babysitting. Class is open to all DoD ID card holders.

Private Piano Lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays or Fridays, April 13 through May 21. Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose

which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.

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

Beginner Tae Kwon Do School

Join the Unity Tae Kwon Do School of Martial Arts at APG. Tae Kwon Do promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning. Beginner Tae Kwon Do classes will be held for ages 6 to 14 at Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522, 6 to 7 p.m., through March 31; April 12 through May 5; and May 10 through June 7. Cost is \$65 per student per 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.

Classes will be taught by instructor U.S.K.B.A. Fighter Kyo Sa Nim Sean Williams.

Learn to bowl

Youths ages 6 through 14 can learn to bowl, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, April 14 through June 2 at the Bowling Center, building 2342. Participants will learn techniques of bowling as well as technology of ball evolution, equipment, etiquette and scoring. They will also learn skills to improve accuracy and pin fall. Class is limited to 12 participants. Cost is \$80 per person. Open to all DoD ID card holder Family members.

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.

Easter Brunch

Reserve your seat now for Easter Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 4 at Top of the Bay. Cost is \$21.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children ages 6 to 11 and \$2 for children ages 3 to 5.

The breakfast buffet includes an omelet station, waffles with toppings, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon, biscuits with sausage gravy, home fries and grits, bagels, muffins, danish and cereal.

The luncheon buffet includes chick-

en cordon bleu, carving station with prime rib and roast pork, shrimp creole, rice pilaf, parsley buttered red skin potatoes and assorted vegetables.

Cost also includes assorted desserts, mimosas, juice, coffee and tea.

Reservations are required by March 31.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-278-3062/2552/5915/5936, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sessions for teens

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program, CYSS SKIES Unlimited, HIRED program and CYSS Edge, in partnership with the Financial Education Department of APG Federal Credit Union, will hold the following sessions for teens ages 13 through 18. Space is limited.

Job vs. Career classes for teens

This class will be held 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., April 6 and Aug. 3, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road.

Today's workforce offers many challenges and rewards. Learning has a tremendous impact on future earnings. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job.

The class will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success. Topics include:

- What employers are looking for
- How to apply for a job
- Tips on resume writing, interviewing experience

Mad Money City session

Mad Money City will be held 12:30 to 3 p.m., June 30, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

Experience life in the future with Mad Money City. You have just been transported into the future with your friends. Some of you have just graduated from college or technical school. You already have Families of your own and you've just started your first full-time, professional job. You're earning money and have bills to pay. Now you have to select housing, transportation, food, household necessities, clothing, day care, and other wants and needs. Lots of choices to make. Oh, and you need to build a budget based on your income and debt. Welcome to Mad Money City

For more information or to enroll teens in these free sessions, call Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Readiness specialist, 410-278-9669.



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.

Summer Youth Job Fair

A Summer Youth Job Fair will be held 9 a.m. to noon, March 20 at the Aberdeen Workforce Center located on 34 North Philadelphia Boulevard #303, Aberdeen. Transportation will not be provided. To register, visit <https://mwe.dllr.state.md.us/Shared/EventDetailView.asp?SessionUID=x&EventUID={A1F42303-C02D-4F11-8A62-0EFF5A8DBD0F}&Target=&menutype=HOME>.

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

Entering the World of Work for Teens

This presentation for teens ages 14 to 18 will be held 6 to 7 p.m. The presentation talks about how to start, where to apply, how teens present themselves and what they deserve as a teenager in the workforce. The facilitator will be a child and youth behavioral military and

Family life consultant

Ultimate Career Guide for Young People

Training will be held 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., April 14. Teens ages 14 to 18 will focus on choosing a career path that is right for them. Facilitator will be Angie Cummings, a licensed financial management instructor.

You have the Job, Now Keep it

There will be workshop training for teens ages 15 to 18, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., April 29. Teens will learn about understanding leadership, following direction, and ethics trust.

All the programs will be held at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

For more information or to register, call the CYSS Central Registration Office, 410-278-7571/7479, building 2752, or call Jay McKinney, workforce preparation specialist, 410-278-3250 or e-mail jay.a.mckinney@us.army.mil.

March bowling specials

Bowling specials

- Bowl for \$.75 per game, 1 to 5 p.m. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one

pitcher of soda for \$32.

- Every Friday, bowl from 9:30 p.m. till closing for \$12 per hour. Shoe rental is included.

Call for availability of lanes on discounted days and hours.

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 March 15

Special #1: Crab cake with French fries, coleslaw, cookie and regular soda for \$10.50.

Special #2: Chicken salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.75.

Week of March 22

Special #1: Chicken tender sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$7.25.

Special #2: Pork barbecue with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

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



FORT MONMOUTH HISTORY CORNER

Philadelphia plays a lead role in Signal Corps history

Story by
FLOYD HERTWECK

Staff Historian
U.S. Army CECOM LCMC at APG

The Signal Corps' 150th anniversary this year provides the perfect opportunity to revisit all manner of Corps history. Philadelphia's role in that history is often overlooked. The city has supported signal and communication-electronics activities at various points over a 100-year period. It was especially involved in signal equipment activities during World War II.

In fact, a U.S. Army Center for Military History report emphasizes the importance of these wartime operations, saying, "If enemy bombs had been aimed at the heart of Signal Corps supply, Philadelphia would have been the target."

Pre-World War II Activities in Philadelphia

The newly established Signal Corps first turned to the Philadelphia area for contractual support during the American Civil War. Dr. Albert Myer, the first chief signal officer, faced an urgent need for telescopes used in signal communications, and turned to a Philadelphia company, James W. Queen & Co., to satisfy this need.

The Signal Corps began recording weather observations in the 1870s. The Signal Corps first established a weather station in downtown Philadelphia on Chestnut Street. The station moved to the Chamber of Commerce Building on Second Street in 1872. These weather observation stations transferred to the National Weather Service in the 1890s.

Philadelphia was the point of origin for one of the first Telegraph Battalions that would report to Camp Little Silver (now Fort Monmouth, N.J.) upon its opening in 1917. This Battalion, the 1st Telegraph Battalion, consisted of companies from Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Also during the World War I, one of four early recruiting stations for the Signal Corps was located in Philadelphia.

There are indications that signal-logistics functions were also located in Philadelphia in the 1930s. Information on these operations is scarce, however.

World War II Signal and C-E Activities in Philadelphia

During WWII, Philadelphia was the home of one of the largest signal depots. Depot facilities offered abundant space for the placement of procurement, contracting, and inspection agencies in the area. Then, as the numbers of civilian employees increased, so did the need for labor-related offices.

The Philadelphia Signal Depot operation had been located in Brooklyn, N.Y., until it relocated to the Atwater-Kent Building in Philadelphia. At the time, Sears, Roebuck, & Co. owned and occupied the building. The government acquired it by condemnation at a cost of \$2 million. It provided 1.5 million square-feet of floor space, acreage for outside storage, easy access, rail sidings, and a power plant. The size of the depot provided for the growth of signal activities in the area. The facilities, however, were cold and drafty. The roofs leaked. Only makeshift food services were available. Personnel transferred from the Brooklyn Depot viewed the Philadelphia site with disdain. They quit in large numbers and were replaced by local workers.

Numbers of personnel were also lost to military furlough. Because of this, women in increasing numbers filled positions in the depot increased traditionally held by men. These included chauffeurs, welders, assemblers, laborers, forklift operators, tractor drivers, machinists, crystal grinders and checkers.

The signal depots were the repositories for signal stock items. Each had a specific supply mission and also could be a key depot. Key depots stocked certain items and were a distribution for a specific zone, and/or a filler depot for a port of embarkation. Philadelphia was the key depot for pigeon equipment. Depots could also handle specific repair, assembly, and procurement duties or specialties. Some depots, including the Philadelphia Depot also used German prisoners of war for routine tasks.

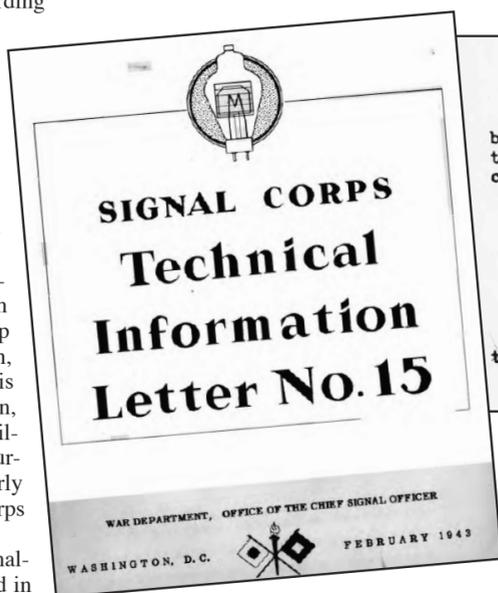
The Philadelphia Depot was responsible for at least 100,000 stock items and employed as many as 1,100 people. Commodities handled included ground radio and radar equipment, as well as associated items. The Philadelphia Signal Depot, also included a Supply Training School that trained 851 officers in field supply. The depot continued operation until the late 1940s.

The Philadelphia Depot Repair Shop



Section of the Philadelphia Signal Depot in August 1942.

Photos courtesy of FLOYD HERTWECK, STAFF HISTORIAN U.S. ARMY CECOM LCMC AT APG



was the repair point for equipment returned to stock. Separated operationally from the depot, a repair shop was a small factory capable of the repair or fabrication of most signal items. As the war progressed, and material shortages increased, repair became more important and more efficient and the repair shops grew in importance.

The Signal Corps Inspection Agency, Philadelphia Zone, a component of the Signal Procurement and Distribution Service, was responsible for the inspection of various commodities. Included were simple mechanical inspections of wiring, soldering, and fastenings, to more complex inspections of vehicles and radios. During the war women proved to be very capable inspectors. The Philadelphia Zone, located in the Atwater Kent Building, was responsible for inspections of goods originating from plants in parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Delaware, Washington D.C., North and South Carolina, Maryland and Virginia.

The Cost Analysis Agency operated as a part of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer. While speed in satisfying procurement needs was vital, contract costs were also considered important. This agency was responsible for the analyses of signal contracts to determine if prices were fair and reasonable, and were in the best interests of the government.

The Philadelphia Price Adjustment Field Office, the most active of the two field offices, worked closely with the cost analysis office to ensure there were no excess profits that would cause a need to renegotiate contracts. Excess profits resulted when the actual cost of material could not accurately be determined prior to production and the production costs were lower than estimated.

The Storage and Issue Agency operated as a part of the Material Branch. Originally established as a branch of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, it changed to the S&I Agency when it moved to Philadelphia in 1942. There were also S&I operations in other areas with a high density of signal-related activities such as in Dayton, Ohio. Dayton's operations grew out of the transfer of meteorological equipment associated operations out of Philadelphia to the Dayton Signal Depot to support signal needs for the Army Air Force.

Located in the Philadelphia Signal Depot, the S&I Agency was the central point for stock and stock movements. Interestingly, the transfer to Philadelphia took place in one night, because there had been a forward operation estab-

PIGEONS DONATED TO THE SIGNAL CORPS	
Approximately twenty thousand pigeons were donated to the Signal Corps by patriotic civilian pigeon fanciers residing in the continental limits of the United States during January, 1943. Especially generous contributions came from fanciers in the following cities:	
Baltimore, Md.	900
Cleveland, Ohio	3,000
Columbus, Ohio	1,000
Toledo, Ohio	1,000
Philadelphia, Pa.	1,200
These racing homing pigeons were obtained without solicitation or cost to the United States Government.	

From a 1943 Signal XXX Status Report.

lished in Philadelphia. The forward operation was put in place because it was anticipated that approximately 30 percent of the staff would not make the move, and continuing the mission was vital. At one point, this agency handled 16,517 requisitions and employed 1,525 civilians, with a backlog of 6,000 unprocessed requisitions. Ultimately, the backlog was rectified with a 7-day work week, and as much as 68 hours of overtime per employee and by hiring high school students to do clerical work.

In December 1942, a group from the signal equipment Nomenclature Section relocated to Philadelphia to form a new field agency, the Stock Numbering Agency. SNA was formally activated the following month, and was responsible for providing the means of identification for signal items. Its experts also studied parts to determine interchangeability with parts produced by other manufacturers. They also cross-referenced duplicate, superseded stock numbers, and developed a manual of standard descriptions of signal items. Headquartered in Philadelphia, there were three field branch offices (Philadelphia, Dayton, and Chicago).

The Supply Survey Agency also was located in Philadelphia. It was responsible for gathering data to control estimates of supply needs. Interestingly in 1943, this Agency sent specially trained officers familiar with all aspects of signal supply to theater. Their mission was to "compile accurate data and complete reports on signal replacement factors."

Another Philadelphia operation, the Signal Corps Ground Signal Maintenance Agency, stood up to alleviate spare parts problems at the laboratories (e.g., Fort Monmouth and Camp Evans, N.J.) It also developed maintenance procedures for ground signal equipment and trained personnel to service and repair equipment.

In addition to supply related activities during the War, Philadelphia was also home to the Plant Engineering Agency, Philadelphia Regional Labor Office, and a Legal Division field office. The PEA was a major field installation. It was the epitome of signal operations. Its engineers would deploy to where no systems existed and would pioneer new systems. Philadelphia was selected for its location due to the large Philadelphia Signal Depot's close proximity to eastern manufacturing sources, easing coordination in filling requisitions. The PEA furnished material, equipment, engineering, and installation service for Army fixed communication locations and for Army Air Forces communications.

The Philadelphia Regional Labor Office was one of a number of Signal Corps labor offices located in the U.S. It too was physically located at the

Philadelphia Signal Depot. Labor offices came about to handle the growing number of labor issues, because of the concern that anything affecting the production of signal equipment was a Signal Corps problem that needed to be handled internally. The Labor Office and an associated Labor Liaison Office handled labor supply, labor relations, draft deferment and morale-building programs.

The Legal Division initially was a part of the Materiel Division. It ultimately would report to the chief signal officer. The Philadelphia Legal Division formed in December 1942 to provide legal assistance on contractual and supply matters in the Philadelphia region. Similar offices also existed in various cities where larger signal operations were also located.

Post-War Operations in Philadelphia

While related activities continued after the war, they did so at a slower pace. Included were logistics-related functions such as the Signal Supply Agency, activities related to inventory control and stock level control and the Logistics Evaluation Committee.

Originally called the Signal Supply Agency, the U.S. Army Electronic Materiel Agency was located at 225 South 18th Street. It began as part of the Signal Laboratory's "technical services" in the 1950s. It continued operation in Philadelphia as part of ECOM into the mid-1970s, when it relocated to the CECOM Office Building in Tinton Falls, New Jersey. It was responsible for oversight of contractor bids. It also evaluated conflicts involving bidders (those supplying equipment or parts), reported on contract performance, and developed contract specification modifications for devices supplied to the Army.

During the Korean conflict, the Army Corps of Engineers remodeled an area of an existing building to convert it into a modern office space for operations related to inventory and stock level control. This office supported activities in Korea by providing the numerous parts needed to service electronic gear in use there. The location was the Pennsylvania Athletic Club located in Rittenhouse Square in Central Philadelphia.

Philadelphia has been an important source of support to signal and C-E activities. This included supplies, such as telescopes, and Soldiers, to include the first signal regiment at the new Signal Camp in New Jersey. Large-scale logistics support provided during World War II was vital to the U.S. victory in the war. Interestingly, the World War II Signal Corps and its signal laboratories faced issues not unlike what C4ISR faces today with relocations, vacancies, and forward operations.

APG NCO begins quest for sister lost to breast cancer

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground noncommissioned officer is challenging his mental and physical toughness to make a difference in memory of a sister he lost to breast cancer.

1st Sgt. Larry Tyson of the APG Garrison's Headquarters and Headquarters Company has enrolled in AVON Walk for Breast Cancer, which sponsors nationwide events to find a cure. Tyson will participate in the AVON Walk in Washington, D.C. May 1 through 2. He trains almost daily in preparation for the nearly 40-mile walk that begins and ends at the Washington Monument.

Tyson said he was compelled to do something after helplessly

watching his sister, Pricilla Brown, who passed away July 27, 2007, battle the disease for three years.

He said he also lost his step-father, father-in-law and mother-in-law to some form of cancer and that he was driven to action after the death of his friend, APG employee Brenda Clayton, a records management officer with the former U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, who succumbed to breast cancer Oct. 2, 2009.

Tyson said he found out about his sister's disease accidentally because she never talked about it.

"Her motivation was my emotional well being," he said. "She didn't want me worrying. That kind of affected me but I understand."

Pricilla passed away just days before her 50th birthday and she was buried the day before.

"That was real hard," he said. "I kept asking myself what I could do and I then came across AVON Walk for Breast Cancer.

"I feel like if I can raise money for the cure in her name, I can help the cause and raise awareness at the same time."

Although he has participated in Relay For Life walks, which are sponsored by the American Cancer Society, the AVON walk surpasses

marathon distance and requires preparation, he said.

Tyson has been training since January and he is up to more than 15 miles at a time. He often can be seen walking Route 40 in the early morning hours, between the Home Depot store in Edgewood, his starting point, and the Walmart in Aberdeen, a round-trip distance of 15.5 miles.

"I don't think it's that physical a requirement although I've never trained like this before to reach that level," he said.

He plans to increase his training gradually and complete a 22-mile walk on his own before the actual event.

He said AVON provides guidance and coaching as well as ideas for fundraisers.

"I really haven't experienced any negative side effects from the training," Tyson said. "When you register, they suggest gear, foot care and other things to help in your training. All we have to do is bring our bodies and our energy."

Tyson has named his quest "Team Cilla" after his sister. Upcoming fundraisers he has planned include a carwash at the Aberdeen Auto Zone on Route 40 April 10 and 17 and raffle ticket sales for a 32-inch flat screen HDTV with a drawing date of April 24.

For more information, visit the AVON Walk for Breast Cancer Web site at www.avonwalk.org/goto/larry.tyson, or call 443-655-5089 or e-mail Tyson at larrytyson@hotmail.com.



ASAP offers solution to medication disposal

ASAP

If anyone was unable to take advantage of the drop-off stations for expired and unused prescriptions and over-the-counter medication drop off sites last week, the Army Substance Abuse Program has a "SMARxT" solution to offer.

The SMARxT disposal campaign recommends safe disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medication.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the American Pharmacists Association and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America have joined together and developed the SMARxT disposal program.

When the clocks spring forward most people check the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and flash lights. ASAP staff encourages all to add one more item to their March 14 checklist, the expiration date on prescription and over-the-counter medicines.



**SMART
DISPOSAL™**

A Prescription for a Healthy Planet

"Everyone should check their prescription bottles and OTC medicines in their medicine cabinet and follow the disposal directions listed," said Cindy Scott, ASAP Prevention coordinator. "Follow the medication prescriber's

instructions and use medications as instructed. Follow any specific disposal instructions on the drug label or patient information that accompanies the medication. If all of your prescribed or over-the-counter medications were not used, take these few small steps and make a huge impact in safeguarding lives and protecting the environment by disposing of unused medicines properly," she said.

The SMARxT disposal campaign recommends safe disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medications using the following guidelines.

Do not flush unused medications and do not pour them down a sink or drain.

Be proactive and dispose of unused medication in household trash.

When discarding unused medications, ensure protection of children and pets from potentially negative effects. Pour medication into a sealable plastic bag.

If medication is a solid (pill, liquid

capsule, etc.) crush it or add water to dissolve it. Add kitty litter, sawdust or coffee grounds (or any material that mixes with the medication and makes it less appealing for pets and children to eat), to the plastic bag. Seal the plastic bag and put it in the trash.

Remove and destroy all identifying personal information (prescription label) from all medication containers before recycling them or throwing them into the trash.

"When used as prescribed and directed, prescription and OTC medicines provide assistance with medical illnesses. When they are not, they can cause serious problems and even death," Scott said. "Keeping everyone and our environment safe is the goal of your ASAP staff."

For more information, call Scott, 410-278-4013, e-mail Cynthia.Scott1@conus.army.mil, or visit the SMARxT Web site. www.smarxtdisposal.net.



Holy Season worship schedule

Lenten and Easter services

All are welcome to attend Easter Sunrise service, 7 a.m., April 4, inside the Main Post Chapel. Refreshments will be offered after the service.

Lenten and Bible Study will be held 11:30 a.m., March 24 and 31 in the Main Post Chapel Social Hall.

Main Post Chapel (Aberdeen Area)

Catholic services

- March 19, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, Soup and bread
- March 21, 8:45 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday
- March 31, 6:30 p.m., Anointing Mass
- April 2, 3 p.m., Veneration of the Cross
- April 3, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass
- April 4, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

Protestant

- March 21, 10:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, 10:15 a.m., Easter Cantata
- April 4, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

Gospel

- March 21, noon, fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, noon, Palm Sunday
- April 4, noon, Easter Sunday

Edgewood Area

Catholic services

- March 21, 10:45 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 26, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
- March 28, 10:45 a.m. Palm Sunday
- April 1, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday Mass
- April 2, 3 p.m., Veneration of the Cross
- April 4, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

Protestant

- March 21, 9:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, 9:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
- April 4, 9:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

Jewish events

The Passover Seder, is March 30.
For more information, call Lt. Col. Jonas Vogelhut, 410-306-4051, or e-mail jonas-vogelhut@us.army.mil.



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

APRIL 4, 7 a.m.

Inside Main Post Chapel (AA)
Hot breakfast after service

ALL WELCOME!