



Photo by Rachel Ponder

Rising gas prices pack a wallop

Briant Breitigan, a customer at the Aberdeen Area Shoppette, fuels up before heading to work Monday. Across the country, Americans have seen an increase in prices at the pump. As of Monday, motorists at the APG Shoppette were paying 3.07, a few cents less than the national average. Gasoline prices in the United States this year could rise to about \$3.50 a gallon, according to a top Toyota Motor Corp executive quoted in a Jan. 10 Reuters article. And those costs could hit \$4, the highest amount since 2008, in states like California that have higher taxes and other costs. On the national news stage, experts have speculated that gas prices could rise to \$5 per gallon by 2012. Although keeping a close watch, Breitigan said the rising prices haven't hurt his wallet too much, yet. "I am very glad that I have a fuel efficient car," he said. "The the next car I buy will have to be fuel efficient like this one. I am not sure if I believe the reports that gas will rise to \$5, but I want to be prepared." He said gas is generally cheaper in Harford County than near his hometown in southern Chester County, Pa., where gas has risen to \$3.16 per gallon.

Health Command NCO, Soldier of Year named

By **JANE GERVASONI**
U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)

Winners of the U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional) Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year competitions were announced this month in a ceremony at the command's Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., headquarters.

Sgt. Raymond R. Stanford, Public Health Command Region-Europe, and Spc. Rusty Farias, Army Institute of Public Health, are both medical laboratory specialists. They will represent the USAPHC (Prov) at the U.S. Army Medical Command competi-



Farias



Stanford

tion next year, competing against all MEDCOM regional medical commands and major subordinate commands.

Stanford and Farias competed in multiple events to earn their titles. The competition started with an Army Physical Fitness Test. Next, they faced weapons quali-

fication. Both participated in the Army combatives event, warrior tasks, essay writing and a mystery event in which they had to identify uniform discrepancies. Finally, they went on to an oral board, where they were bombarded with questions about Soldier skills.

But these Soldiers excel in more than the standard Soldiers skills that distinguish them. Both Soldiers perform technical missions in the USAPHC (Prov) laboratories—Stanford in Landstuhl, Germany, and Farias at Aberdeen Proving Ground—that help protect their fellow Soldiers, according to Sgt.

See **FARIAS**, page 15

Bluegills monitor treated groundwater

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

If you see the bluegill fish coughing, it doesn't have a cold. But it is showing mild distress.

The bluegill's sensitivity to water quality makes it an ideal species for monitoring the cleanliness of area groundwater, said Nate Davis, who oversees the testing.

And Davis should know. He's been monitoring the reaction of the small freshwater fish, known by many as brim or copper nose, for several years in the groundwater treatment facility in Edgewood.

He is one of several employees who are helping to

See **EARLY**, page 15



Photo by Eric Engbreton, US Fish and Wildlife Service

When exposed to toxins the fish will flex their gills, a type of fish coughing. For more information about the bluegill fish, see page 15.

Managers urged to eye fraud

Staff report

Reporting a crime could save you from being charged. Managers who choose to handle fraud and illegal activity by counseling employees, rather than reporting it to the authorities, may suffer the consequences.

Joseph Kaffl, the installation's chief of Security and Intelligence Division, said there have been several recent cases in which employees have committed crimes and supervisors chose to reprimand the employee administratively.

"Examples of crime include anything from stealing everyday office supplies to taking lumber home from the shop to build furniture," said Kaffl. "Basically, it is any instance in which an employee takes and uses government supplies or equipment for personal benefit."

Kaffl said it is critical that supervisors report this activity directly to the APG police desk and not confront the employee or take any further action.

"If a criminal violation takes place and you attempt to handle it administratively, it places both yourself and the government in a very precarious position," he said. "It could interfere with the effective prosecution of crime and possibly subject you to criminal charges for not reporting it."

Calling in outside help may seem like a drastic step, but it helps safeguard the rights of everyone involved.

Regulations state that it is everyone's duty to look for violations of the law, but clearing up misunderstandings also has a positive effect on teamwork and builds confidence in the Army, not only among employees, but among Soldiers and the taxpayers who ultimately pay for our operations and benefit from the Army.

Reports to the APG police desk can be made to 306-2222 at Aberdeen and in the Edgewood area to 436-2222.

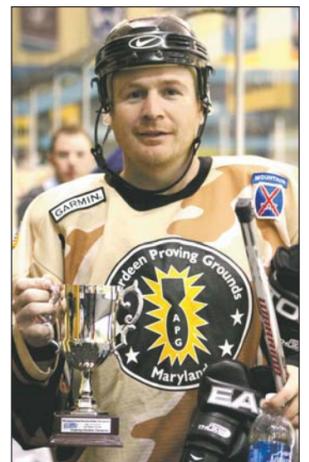
Hockey team scores big on national stage

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

For the love of the game, a group of locals hit the ice, forming a hockey team that would go head-to-head against other players in the area.

They played, and played and played. Until they boosted themselves onto a wider stage.

Joint Task Force (JTF) Blast, made up of Soldiers, civilians and contractors from Aberdeen Proving Ground, recently nabbed the national title during the 8th Annual Hockey for Heroes / Armed Services Classic, held Nov 11 to 14 in Las Vegas.



Courtesy photo

Maj. Steve Tingley of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center holds the championship trophy from the 8th Annual Armed Services Hockey Tournament, which was held in Las Vegas in November.

See **JTF BLAST**, page 15

WEATHER
Thu
28° | 18°

FITNESS BLOG

APG reporters kick it into high gear

Check out Yvonne and Rachel via Twitter, MilBlog and Flickr as they take on their New Year's fitness resolution.



Soldier Show nominations page 13



DTC change of responsibility page 7

ONLINE

www.apg.army.mil
apgnews.apg.army.mil
facebook.com/APGMd
twitter.com/USAGAPG
flickr.com/photos/usagapg/



INDEX

Pg 2Op Ed
Pg 3.....Letter to the editor
Pg 7.....AAFES News
Pg 8 Com Notes
Pg 8..... Post Shorts
Pgs 11 & 12..... Classifieds
Pg 15.....Jumps

Op Ed

What can you do to make APG even better?

Aberdeen Proving Ground is a great place to live and work, but this year it's going to get even better. As we settle into our routines in 2011, I urge you to think about our installation and what you can do to make it better.



Did you know APG is home to three properties on the National Historic Register? That's quite an honor, and also a big responsibility.

As we stand on the doorstep of the future, we must take steps to preserve the past. The post became operational in 1918, but its history didn't start there.

Quiet Lodge, also known as the Presbury House, is located in the Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground overlooking the Gunpowder River. Although the exact date of construction is uncertain, the house was probably completed in 1720.

The Methodist Meeting House that also stands on Edgewood was built in

I want to make APG look like someplace you want to work. This will continue to be a challenge in a resource-tight environment, but it will not be impossible.

1773. You can see it on the left as you come on post through the Magnolia Gate. Many believe this structure could be the oldest Methodist meeting house still standing in America.

Pooles Island Lighthouse, which by the way I intend to light on Armed Forces Day, was built in the 1820s. The lighthouse stood dormant for decades. I see this historic building as a symbol for what lies ahead for this region. As the new home for Army science and technology, we're lighting the way to the future!

I share this with you because I want you to know this place is a treasure. While we remember what this installation was, we must also focus on the future.

To be a first-class facility, we should look like a first-class facility and we're working toward that goal. We want

APG to remain what it has been, in terms of an installation focused on supporting our Warfighters; however, we must modernize.

To that end, we identified 288 buildings for demolition. This process is already well underway. We are deep into the process of tearing down dilapidated buildings that have long passed their useful life.

As we complete the Base Realignment and Closure process, as well as a myriad of ongoing major construction projects, you will see new buildings continue to open their doors. We will soon be inundated with ribbon cutting ceremonies -- and that's a good thing.

We want Aberdeen Proving Ground to be a showcase of the tomorrow's Army.

This is where we need your help. As a Soldier or civilian employee,

I'd ask you to identify the areas to your chain of command where you can make APG a better place. It may be a simple, self-help project to renovate your office or quarters, or even a beautification project. These efforts don't have to cost a lot of money or take a lot of time. It's a matter of pride and ownership, and you can make a difference.

This year we will absorb even more newcomers. Our workforce population will continue to increase for the foreseeable future. It's our responsibility to create a workplace that fosters creative solutions to empower, unburden and protect our Warfighters.

Bottom line: I want to make APG look like someplace you want to work. This will continue to be a challenge in a resource-tight environment, but it will not be impossible. The APG of the future is within our grasp. It's an exciting time to be here. Let's focus on making APG a great place to serve.

Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Nick Justice

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

IMCOM seeking your input

Like many others this time of year, I have been reflecting on the past twelve months and looking forward to the new year. In my professional capacity, I am focusing on the future of the Installation Management Community. Specifically, what should the Installation Management Community look like a year from now?



I have been asking this question of Installation Management personnel during meetings, town halls, and garrison visits. After all, the dedicated professionals at the garrisons and headquarters are doing the work on a daily basis; they know what it takes to deliver the facilities, programs and services that support our Soldiers and Families.

I have also been seeking feedback from Soldiers, Families and leaders through a number of avenues, including installation visits, the Family Forums at the Association of the United States Army annual conference, the Army Community Service focus groups I recently held, and the Army Family Survey. This feedback is critical because everything we do is focused on providing Soldiers and Families the programs, services and facilities that support their well-being, resilience and readiness. We need to know where we are on target and where we are missing the mark.

I urge everyone—Installation Management personnel, Soldiers, Family members, leaders—to continue to

I urge everyone to continue to send me solid ideas that help answer the three fundamental questions: Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?

send me solid ideas that help answer the three fundamental questions: Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?

The point of asking for input from so many different people is to build a shared vision of where we are going in the next year. I am meeting with senior Installation Management Community leaders this month to develop that vision based on all of this input. The shared vision will enable us to begin with the end in mind. Once we have a shared vision of what right looks like, we can figure out how to get there from here. We can eliminate random activities and focus all our efforts on the initiatives that will have the greatest impact on Soldiers, Civilians and Family members.

We started 2010 by producing version one of the Installation Management Community's Campaign Plan. The Campaign Plan laid out a vision, strategy and way ahead for providing the programs, services and facilities that support Soldiers and Families. With the Campaign Plan and the three fundamental questions as our guides, we have continually challenged ourselves to improve our performance.

Some of our efforts are visible to

those we serve. For example, based on feedback from Soldiers and Families, we have enhanced delivery of several vital programs, including the Exceptional Family Member Program, Survivor Outreach Services, the Total Army Sponsorship Program, the Army Substance Abuse Program and the Army Continuing Education System.

Many of our efforts will not be immediately apparent to those outside of our workforce. For example, we are reducing the number of administrative regions from six to four and integrating the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command into IMCOM Headquarters. Soldiers and Families will see no difference in the quality of support or number of services they receive, but behind the scenes, we will be working smarter. We will streamline delivery of services to our customers and generate savings that can be applied to Soldier and Family programs.

Now, as we build a shared vision of what the Installation Management Community should look like in November 2011 and lay out the plan to achieve that vision, we will continue to challenge ourselves to go beyond what we already know and are comfortable with.

We will continue to look at the shape and size of our organization and workforce. We will continue to reach out and build relationships with others committed to supporting Soldiers and Families, including universities, businesses, non-government organizations, and other government agencies. We will continue to identify, develop and align the resources, policies and processes needed to support Family programs, safety, sustainability, energy security and other priorities.

The process of developing a shared vision can be difficult for some, since it carries the possibility of change, but it can also be energizing, and it is important for us to do if we take our jobs seriously. For one, we owe it to our fellow citizens to be good stewards of all the resources entrusted to us. We always have to be mindful of how we impact the environment, how we treat our people and how we spend taxpayer dollars. If we do our job well, if we are good stewards of the resources entrusted to us today, then we will have the resources we need in the future.

An even more important reason is the Soldiers and Families we support. We are committed to providing a strong, supportive environment in which they can thrive. We do not chase change for change's sake, but if the only reason we do something is because we have always done it that way, then we can do better. We owe it to our Soldiers and Families to ask what right looks like and to make sure we are on track to get there.

Support and Defend.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

IMCOM Commanding General

APG NEWS

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

print advertising from that source. Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising and mailing. To obtain a yearly subscription, which costs \$16, the price for weekly mailing, or for problems with incorrect mailing addresses, contact the publisher at 10 Hays Street, Bel Air, MD 21014, or call 410-838-0611. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised. For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor

at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; send e-mail to editor-apg@conus.army.mil or adriane.foss2@us.army.mil or contact reporters Yvonne Johnson, yvonne.johnson5@us.army.mil or 410-278-1148, or Rachel Ponder, rachel.ponder@us.army.mil or 410-278-1149.

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

Staff

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



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

A solution for annual resolution malfunction

Are you resolved to make that annual New Year's fitness resolution stick this year?

APG News reporters Yvonne Johnson and Rachel Ponder are. Follow their fitness exploits via Twitter, MilBlog and —against the advice of friends and family—photos on Flickr. “We’re really going to put ourselves out there. Nothing to hide,” said Johnson. “It’s going to be pretty raw. What you see is what you get.” Stay tuned as they share their progress—and pain—as they sample various exercise classes like Zumba and Body Blast classes, work out on the elliptical and other machines. Johnson and Ponder said they hoped community members will join with them on this journey by sharing their personal fitness trials and advice, feedback and encouragement. “Whatever they have to say, we want to hear. They can Tweet their ‘two cents’ or they can blog it, e-mail us, whatever works for them,” said Johnson. “The goal is to stay motivated and see how long we can keep this up!”

Reporter receives commentary congrats

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hello. I wanted to compliment the writer Yvonne Johnson on the Dec. 23 commentary titled “Christmas in the Desert.”

The story touched me so much that I grabbed several copies and am letting folks know that they need to read it. Sometimes we get so busy that we never get past the headlines.

I’m also going to include it in my

kids’ yearly scrapbook. I put together a notebook of mostly their school work through the year, but I also add noteworthy news articles, photos, poems, etc. I want my kids to understand the value of character, teamwork, determination, loyalty, friendship, sacrifice and to understand the world outside of their own.

We have so much to be grateful for,

folks such as Ms. Johnson who serve in the military and are willing to give up so much for our freedom and safety. Her story says all that, and more, so well!

Thanks again and I hope you enjoy a prosperous and successful New Year at APG!

Carmen Kifer

Chemical Engineer, HQ, USACMA

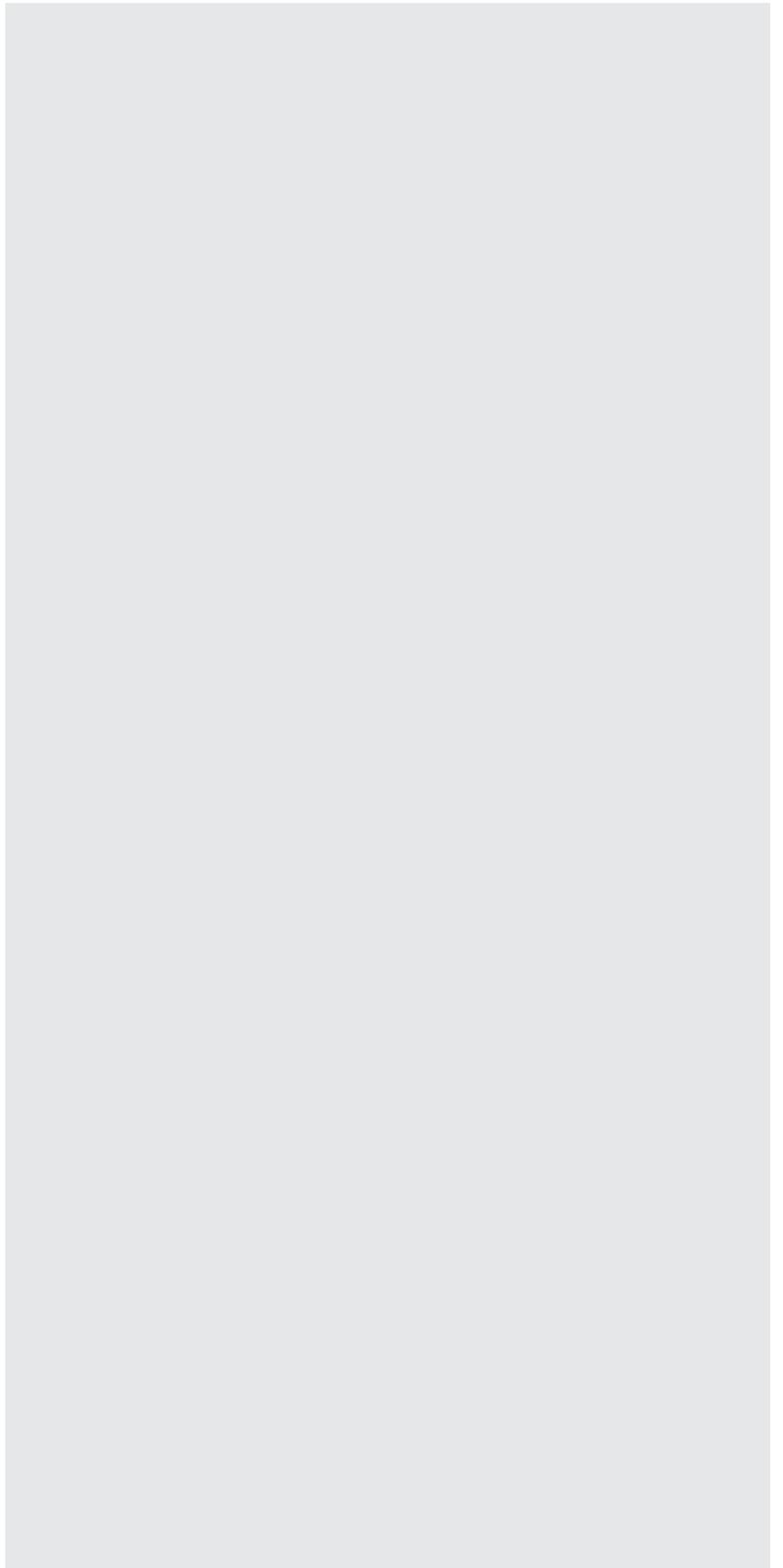
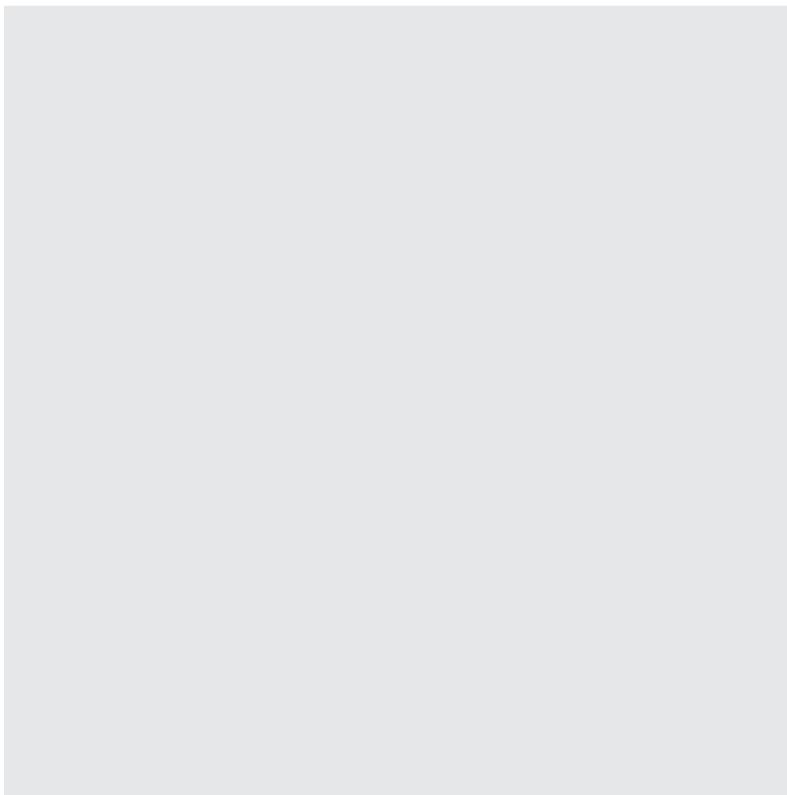
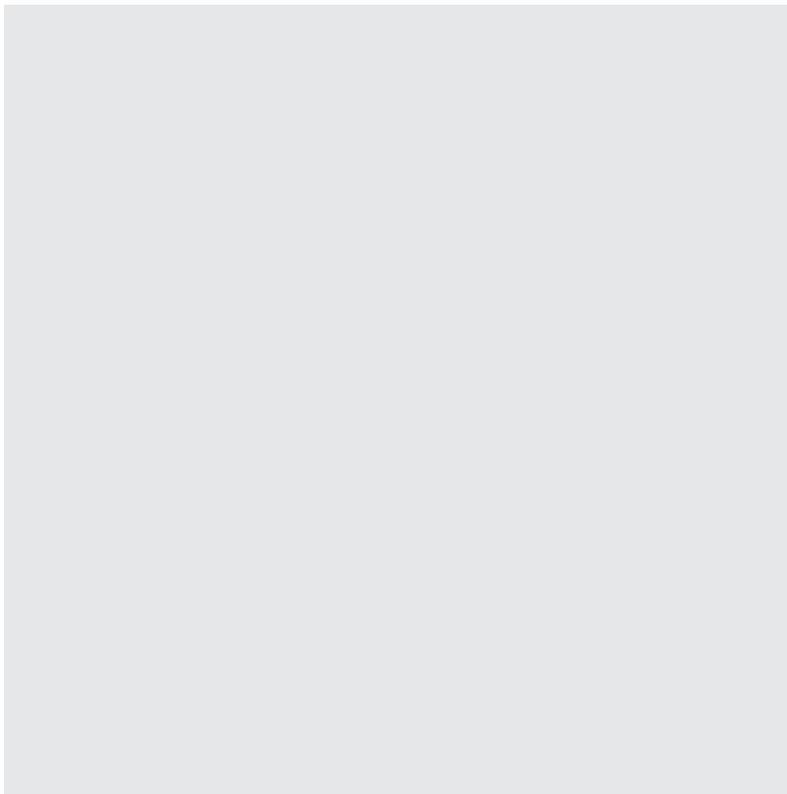




Photo by Sgt. Ry Norris

Task Force Marne Soldiers from 3rd Infantry Division board a C-17 scheduled to depart Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, Aug. 23. More than 100 Soldiers were part of the responsible drawdown of forces to 50,000 troops by the end of August 2010.

Army lifer provides steady hand during drawdown

By **CLAIRE HEININGER**
Symbolic Systems, Inc.

During his 22 years of military service, Rich Miles studied battle tactics – enrolling in advanced courses, soaking up the expertise of Army leaders and legends.

But it was as a civilian that he finally deployed to a war zone.

Now serving in Iraq as the Liaison Officer for the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications – Tactical (PEO C3T), Miles is putting his preparation to use. As the on-the-ground representative for the PEO, he is responsible for sustaining and supporting C3T systems in theater, as well as synchronizing the withdrawal of equipment and personnel with the drawdown of forces in Iraq.

“There’s nothing better than seeing it – talking to the Warfighter on the ground and seeing plans being developed,” Miles said. “You read this in the book, you read about tactics, but when you live it you know it’s true that we have good Soldiers and they want to do the right thing.”

Miles, who retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel in 2003, deployed to Iraq in January 2010 as the PEO C3T Liaison Officer (LNO). He serves as the subject matter expert on PEO C3T systems in theater, including key communications networks such as the Warfighter Information Network - Tactical (WIN-T), and force protection systems such

as those provided by Program Director, Counter-Rocket, Artillery and Mortar (C-RAM). Miles also represents the PEO to the United States Forces - Iraq (USF-I) headquarters, the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade and numerous other Army and Joint organizations.

“His candid and forthcoming attitude fostered and maintained a cohesive team and partnership with PEO C3T and United States Forces - Iraq,” said Lt. Col. Terry M. Wilson, Product Manager Command Post Systems and Integration (CPS&I). PdM CPS&I, to which Miles is assigned, is part of Project Manager, WIN-T. “His performance has been absolutely superb in spite of the complexity of the drawdown environment and an Army that is transitioning to support and assist operations.”

The U.S. mission formally shifted from Operation Iraqi Freedom to Operation New Dawn on Sept. 1, 2010.

During the height of the conflict, the U.S. presence stretched to thousands of posts throughout Iraq. The drawdown called for shrinking that footprint to just six enduring hub locations for both people and equipment. Throughout the transition, Miles is ensuring visibility and accountability for hundreds of PEO C3T personnel and thousands of pieces of equipment, while distilling numerous operational orders into “clear and concise directions,” Wilson said.

“He has been invaluable in keeping the PEO informed of theater expectations and activities involving the drawdown of forces in Iraq,” said Joseph Hollenbeck, director of the PEO C3T



Miles

See ARMY, page 15

RDECOM scientists give San Antonio students taste of MREs

By **MARQUES CHAVEZ**
RDECOM

The science and chemical reactions required to produce food for the American Warfighter were on full display by U.S. Army scientists visiting San Antonio for Saturday's U.S. Army All-American bowl, for students at East Central High School.

Physics, chemistry, culinary arts and food science students, as well as members of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, attended the presentation.

The demonstration was part of the educational outreach effort by the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command as it participates in activities at the high school bowl game.

The game featured stellar high school athletes from across the nation and was televised nationally by NBC.

Jeremy Whitsitt, scientist at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center in Natick, Mass., demonstrated the science behind the heating system for the Army's Meals, Ready-to-Eat.

"The MREs are self-heated by a chemical reaction of magnesium, sodium chloride, water and iron. The reaction between the magnesium, sodium chloride and water create the heat while the iron ensures the food reaches the proper temperature," Whitsitt explained.

"This is one example of how science is used in producing food for the Soldier."

Whitsitt added that Army scientists and engineers have now created an endothermic chemical reaction that heats the food without water. He also stressed that there are numerous other factors that must be considered when developing food for the warfighter.

"How many of you have your food delivered to you by having it dropped one-hundred feet from the sky?" Whitsitt asked the students. "Food for Soldiers must be able to withstand a one-hundred-foot drop without a parachute and a twelve-hundred-foot drop with a parachute apparatus."

The food must also be able to last a long time without spoiling, since it is likely that an MRE will not be eaten until at least a year after it is created. Currently-produced MREs are required to last at least three years without spoiling. They must also be able to withstand extreme high or low temperatures and stand up to being rough-handled in the field.

"Technology is developing at a rapid pace, but there are still many more challenges that we need to overcome on the battlefield. A lot of that depends on you guys, the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians," Whitsitt continued.

The presentation opened the eyes of the students to the dynamics of producing food for Soldiers.

"I didn't know the chemical mechanics required for producing the food. I had no idea how the process works and how far the science has developed. This was



Photo by Tom Faulkner, RDECOM

Army food scientist Jeremy Whitsitt demonstrates the chemical reaction used to heat Meals, Ready to Eat for students at East Central High School in San Antonio. The demonstration was part of an educational outreach effort by the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

very informative," said Enrique Alonzo, a senior.

"It takes a lot of work to support the Soldiers who go to battle. It is so much more than walking around and firing weapons. Soldiers have to eat and they have to have water," said Chrystal Donahoe, a junior.

"More goes into supporting the military than people realize."

Whitsitt was joined by Amanda Bonaca, a senior at Framingham State University, in Framingham, Mass., and member of the U.S. Army Student Career Experience Program. SCEP provides work experience directly related to a student's academic program and career goals.

“Food for Soldiers must be able to withstand a one-hundred-foot drop without a parachute and a twelve-hundred-foot drop with a parachute apparatus.”

Jeremy Whitsitt
RDECOM

"If you have an option to participate in these programs and earn money for college, do it. It helps you gain valuable experience. I love what I do," Bonaca said.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Whitsitt hammered home the primary focus of all of the work con-

ducted by the Army science and technology community.

"We go out into the field and test the products with the Soldiers. We get their feedback and use that feedback in the development of the product. The last thing we want to do is rest on our laurels. That's not good enough. They deserve better and we strive to provide better," Whitsitt concluded.

Jimenez takes DTC reins

By **MIKE CAST**

Army Developmental Test Command

A ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground Dec. 17 marked a change in leadership for the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command (DTC) as well as its new director's promotion to the Senior Executive Service. David Jimenez, who was the Associate Director, System Engineering, for the Communications Electronics, Research Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC), became an SES as he assumed responsibility for DTC. Its former director, Mike Etzinger, now leads the U.S. Army Evaluation Center (AEC).



Jimenez

Both DTC and AEC come under the aegis of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and its commander, Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, who officiated at the Dec. 17 ceremony. He lauded both Etzinger and Jimenez for their service to the nation and the important work they are doing for the Army and the United States. During his remarks, he noted that 2011 will be a year of change for APG as well as DTC.

"This is going to be the year of transition for a lot of different reasons," he said. "Of course the BRAC, as everybody is well aware, is bringing all sorts of things to this installation, and also to the headquarters and the (DTC) command. But there is also going to be some transition and transformation within the command that we are going to launch into as we go forth over the next few months. That will carry on, probably over the next couple of years, as we organize and look at how we do business better and more efficiently in a shrinking budget environment. So both gentlemen are going to have their hands full . . . helping with the transformation."

As he presided over Jimenez's ceremonial elevation to the rank of SES and assumption of responsibility for DTC, Dellarocco paid tribute to his family for contributing to his success as a civilian Army leader at CERDEC. He presented coins to Jimenez's daughter, Rebecca; his son, Gabriel; and his wife, Ida.

"His success is grounded on Family, and I can see that," Dellarocco said of Jimenez. "He has had a really great career. He's the right guy at the right time for this job. This installation has had a test focus for decades, but now it is getting a different flavor. The folks from Fort Monmouth are coming down, and it's going to change the complexion of this (installation) pretty substantially. He's my go-to guy to make this work."

After presenting Jimenez with the certificate of appointment to the Senior



Photo by Sean Kief

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, presents coins to show his appreciation to (from left), Ida Jimenez and daughter, Rebecca, and son, Gabriel, the family of David Jimenez, director of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

“I promise to work hard for you every day, and together we are going to figure out the Army’s big challenges in test and evaluation.”

David Jimenez

Director DTC

Executive Service, Dellarocco administered the oath of office. Then, according to tradition, Jimenez unfurled the SES flag that symbolizes his attainment of that rank.

Etzinger ceremonially passed the DTC colors to Jimenez through DTC Command Sgt. Maj. Carlton Handy. For his leadership of the command from May to December 2010, Etzinger received the Superior Civilian Service Award. The award citation read, in part: "Mr. Etzinger's extraordinary vision, technical competence and superb leadership ensured the Army developed and acquired equipment and systems that were instrumental in protecting our warfighters. Through his personal efforts and tireless dedication, Mr. Etzinger motivated his employees to their highest levels of performance, ensuring the success of the command mission."

"For anyone who has worked with me or actually been in close proximity

to me, I guess there are a couple things that are fairly apparent about me," Etzinger said afterward. "One: I say what I mean. Two: I mean what I say. With that in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to express my most heartfelt thank you to the entire DTC family. It has been a pleasure. It has been a privilege. Test for the best. Army strong."

During closing remarks, Jimenez said mentors guided him along his path to leadership.

"I'll tell you that I was incredibly fortunate the minute I walked into the Army in the mid eighties," he said. "I was taken under the wing of somebody who served as my mentor. You look back at those experiences, and those are the things I built my career upon – things like work as hard as you can, always do the right thing, look out for the interests of the Army, and that drove me to where I am today. All those things I just told you, you couldn't accomplish without the support of family. You can't accomplish it without the teamwork of people that you meet along the way."

He said his success was not his alone but one he shared with his wife – and that he was "humbled" by the warm welcome he received from people in DTC. To his new DTC staff he added, "I promise to work hard for you every day, and together we are going to figure out the Army's big challenges in test and evaluation."

AAFES NEWS

FDA Recalls 'Exchange' alcohol prep pads, swabs, swabsticks

AAFES news release

The Food and Drug Administration issued a recall specific to all lots of alcohol prep pads, swabs and swabsticks manufactured by Triad Group merchandised under the "Exchange Select" label.

At various Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard Exchanges as well as Veteran's Canteens, the products have been recalled due to concerns about "potential contamination of the products with an objectionable organism, namely *Bacillus cereus*."

The FDA said it issued the recall "out of an abundance of caution" as use of contaminated alcohol prep pads, swabs or swabsticks "could lead to life-threatening infections, especially in at-risk

populations, including immune suppressed and surgical patients."

To date, the FDA said it has "received one report of a non-life-threatening skin infection."

All affected product have been removed from shelves. Military shoppers who previously purchased Exchange Select alcohol prep pads, swabs or swabsticks are advised to return recalled products to their nearest Exchange or Canteen for a full refund.

Post Shorts

Reduced gate hours

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Martin Luther King holiday. The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area and the Wise Road Gate in the Edgewood Area will close at their normal times Friday, Jan. 14. Both gates will reopen at 5 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18.

The Maryland Gate in the Aberdeen Area and the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area will be open throughout the holiday period.

Aberdeen Road Gate hours extended

The Aberdeen Road Gate in the Aberdeen Area is open from 3:30-5:30 p.m. on duty days, for outbound traffic only.

Freedom Award nominations

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

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

Post phone prefix changes Jan. 18

Beginning Jan. 18, dialing off post will change.

Back in May, the commercial prefix was changed from 9 to 99.

This led to some issues when on several occasions people misdialed, accidentally calling 911 when attempting to reach non-emergency numbers.

To correct this issue, beginning Jan. 18 the new commercial prefix is as follows:

Commercial Numbers 9-7

Long Distance Numbers 9-7-1

The DSN dialing prefix, 94, will not change. Additionally, the emergency call number, 911, will stay the same.

APG employees should ensure their organizational publications reflect the new numbers. For information, call Carrie Silbernagel at 410-306-1310.

Italian Specialty Meal Jan. 18

The Italian Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facility in Bldg. 4503 and the Edgewood Area dining facility in Bldg. E4225 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. Jan. 18.

During this event all military personnel, Family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$4.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and Family member of sergeant or above, DoD civilians, retirees and guests. The discount meal rate of \$3.65 applies to spouses and Family members of enlisted personnel in the ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The Italian Specialty Meal Menu includes minestrone soup, spaghetti w/ choice of meatballs or Italian sausage, assorted pizza, pesto shrimp fettucine, chicken parmesan, vegetable lasagna, garlic roasted potato wedges, Italian vegetable combo., deep fried eggplant, zesty rotini salad, Italian style pasta salad, assorted salad bar, toasted garlic bread, assorted breads, assorted desserts, soft serve ice cream w/ assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

The menu is subject to change without notification. For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green at 410-278-3142/3892.

SAME meets Jan. 20

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post will meet 11:30 a.m. Jan. 20 at the Wetlands Golf Club, 740 Gilbert Road, Aberdeen.

Guest speaker will be Col. David E. Anderson, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. Anderson will provide a presentation on emerging post-BRAC challenges. The meeting is open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required.

For more information or to register, call 410-688-0318 or register online at <http://www.same-chesapeake.org>.

Volunteers needed for research study

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory is seeking male volunteers between ages 18 and 35 to participate in a study

assessing how well individuals can detect vibrations produced by vibrators held next to the head by a head band.

Hair must be short and conform to military regulations. The vibrators in the study are similar to those used in cell phones. The task will be to detect the vibrations while sitting, walking and jogging.

The aim of the study is to develop ways of presenting information to Soldiers. By volunteering, participants will influence the development of a new communication method.

Time commitment is one hour. Non-government civilians will be paid \$20 per hour for their time. For males in the military, no compensation will be provided, other than helping further research that benefits troops.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Kimberly Myles at 410-278-5998 or kim.myles@us.army.mil.

Starting Small Business

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program will sponsor four sessions of How to Start Your Small Business, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Feb. 2, May 4, Aug. 3 and Nov. 2 at Child, Youth and School Services, Bldg. 2503.

The free 90-minute program provides an overview of starting a business, successful entrepreneurship and how to write a strategic business plan.

The sessions are open to DoD cardholders, including contractors and retirees, and Family members and guests. Space is limited.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Marilyn Howard at 410/278-9669/7572.

NAF Open Season begins

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

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

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

FSA's also require yearly election.

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

Changes requiring Open Season eligibility became effective Jan. 1, 2011 provided the employee was actively at work.

Flu vaccine available for troops, civilians

Influenza vaccine is available at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic for TRICARE beneficiaries and Department of Defense civilians on a first-come, first-served basis. Walk-ins are welcome. Hours of operation for the immunization clinic is 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Patients who are receiving the vaccine must be observed for possible allergic reactions and should arrive before 4 p.m. For more information, call 410-278-1746.

2011-2012 Acquisition University SSCF program accepting applications

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center is currently accepting applications for the 2011-2012 SSCF Program through March 15.

Over the course of 10 months, the program provides leadership and acquisition training to prepare senior level government civilians at the GS-14/15 level or equivalent for senior leadership roles such as product and project managers, program executive officers and other key acquisition leadership positions.

For complete program information and application requirements, visit <http://asc.army.mil/default.cfm> under Events and on the Fellowship website at www.dau.mil/sscf.

Contact Jim Oman at 703-254-3255 or james.oman@dau.mil for more information.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

JANUARY 15 BONSAI BEAUTIES

Learn about bonsai plants, how to care for them, and start one to take home. This program will be held 3 to 4 p.m. for ages 10 to adult. Ages 10 to 14 must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$6 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.

ON SILENT WINGS

Come to Swan Harbor to listen for owls. Last year both Great Horned Owls and Eastern Screech Owls were heard. Please bring a flashlight and bundle up.

All ages are welcome to enjoy the sounds of the night but children must be able to be quiet when listening. This program will be held 7 to 8:30 p.m. for Families. The cost is \$5 per Family. Registration is required.

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

SUNDAY

JANUARY 16 BACKYARD BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn to attract birds to the backyard for feathery photography fun. Bird identification, feeder selection, food preferences, and tips for getting the best shots will be discussed.

This program will be held 1 to 3 p.m. for ages 15 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.

TUESDAY

JANUARY 18 AUSA MEETING

The AUSA monthly general mem-

bership meeting is set for Jan. 18. The guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Harold Greene, deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command and commanding general of the Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass.

Due to ongoing renovation at the Top of the Bay, AUSA will hold its January meeting at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

The cost is \$21 (non-refundable) and can be paid via PayPal. Multiple tickets and tables may be purchased via PayPal. To pay at the door, indicate this in your RSVP to help ensure an accurate headcount and seating availability.

This meeting may qualify for CLP.

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 19 THRU FEBRUARY 23 NATURE'S PLAYGROUP - SESSION I

Little ones and their parents play and learn in the natural world. Stories, songs, simple crafts and discovery outings will highlight each day's theme. This program will be held 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for ages 0 to 4. The cost is \$30 per child. Registration is required.

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

NATURE'S PLAYGROUP - SESSION II

Little ones and their parents play and learn in the natural world. Stories, songs, simple crafts and discovery outings will highlight each day's theme. This program will be held 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages 0 to 4. The cost is \$30 per child. Registration is required.

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

SATURDAY

JANUARY 22 INVASINATORS

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

This program will be held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. Registration is required.

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

TWIG FRAMES

Have fun making easy but uniquely individual photo frames created from nature's winter staple, twigs. Bring a picture to frame. This program will be held 2:30 to 4 p.m. for ages 10 to adult, 10 to 14 with adult. The cost is \$2 and 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.

WINTER SKY CAMPFIRE

Enjoy a blazing campfire dinner of roasted hot dogs with all the fixings while surrounded by winter's beauty. Bundle up. This program will be held 4:30 to 6 p.m. for all ages. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family and registration is required.

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

SUNDAY

JANUARY 23 WINTER WOVEN BASKET

Cold weather is a perfect time to get crafty. Cozy up to the stove and

make a basket to hold winter decorations, gifts, or warm baked goods. This program will be held 1 to 5 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. The cost is \$20 per person. Registration is required.

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

IF A WOODCHUCK COULD CHUCK...

Through story, play and craft, learn about groundhogs and why they have a special day honoring them. This program will be held 2 to 3:30 p.m. for Families. The cost is \$2 per person or \$7 per family and registration is required.

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

FRIDAY

JANUARY 28 THE FINTON FORMULA FUN VISITING SCIENTIST SERIES

Come out for exciting hands-on chemistry and environmental science fun, guided by guest scientists from the local community. This program will be held 4:30 to 6 p.m. for ages 10 to 13 or 5th to 8th grade. The cost is \$3 per program and 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.

MATH FOR PARENTS

Everyday Math for Parents Session 2 will be held 9:30 a.m. at the Center for Educational Opportunities, 253 Paradise Road (next to Aberdeen High School) in Aberdeen.

For more information, call Steve Clapper at 41-278-5014.

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

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

Ice skating lessons offered at Ice World

SKIES Unlimited offers ice skating lessons for ages 4 to 18 at Ice World, located at 1300 Governor Court in Abingdon. Lessons cost \$74 per person after using the \$25 coupon. Participants must register with CYSS to receive the \$25 coupon.

Lessons will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Feb. 22 to March 29 and April 5 to May 17; and from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays, Feb. 19 to March 26 and April 9 to May 21.

Lessons are open to all DoD ID cardholding Family members.

LEARN TO SKATE is based on the fundamentals of the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA), and is necessary for those wishing to proceed on to ice hockey or freestyle.

The six weekly sessions offer professional instruction with a half-hour of instruction time and half-hour of practice each week. Limited free skate rentals. Classes will be grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions will be provided.

There will be no make-up classes or refunds.

For more information or to register, call Central Registration at 410-278-7571/7479, Bldg. 2503.

Driver's education

Aberdeen

Driver's education classes are scheduled through Jan. 25; Jan. 31 to Feb. 14; Feb. 28 to March 14; and March 28 to April 11. There are no classes on federal holidays.

Classes will be held Monday to Friday, 5 to 8:15 p.m. at the Ultimate Driving School, LLC, 13 North Parke St. in Aberdeen. Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind the wheel instruction.

The last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

Cost is \$335 per student. Prices are subject to change without notice. Parents must attend on the first and last day of classes with the students.

Edgewood and Abingdon

Driver's education classes are set Jan. 17 to 28; and Feb. 14 to 25 at 423 Edgewood Road in Edgewood.

Driver's education classes are Jan. 17 to 28; and Jan. 31 to Feb. 12 at 49 Kings-ton Parkway in Abingdon.

Classes will be held Monday to Friday, 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind the wheel instruction.

Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18. Open to all DoD ID cardholders. Cost is \$299 per student. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Discount Aquarium tickets

The Leisure Travel Office offers discount tickets to the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Adult tickets cost \$23.25 per person; tickets for children ages 3 to 11 cost \$17.50; active duty tickets cost

\$19 each and are issued one per active duty ID card only.

Tickets do not include the dolphin show or the 4D Theater, but are upgradeable at the aquarium.

Take an unforgettable journey into the mysteries of water and the beauty of the natural world. Watch brilliantly colored triggerfish explore a coral reef. Marvel as sharks glide through the shadowy depths just an arm's length away.

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

Monster Jam tickets available

Take the Family to the Monster Jam at the 1st Mariner Arena, 201 West Baltimore St., Baltimore. Performances will be held Feb. 25 to 27. Times vary. This show includes high flying fun, car crushing craziness and hardcore horsepower that the whole Family will love.

Seating is located in the 200's middle level. Tickets cost \$27.75 each for adults ages 13 and older; tickets for children ages 2 to 12 cost \$10 each. All tickets must be pre-purchase before Feb. 18. For show times and seating, visit <http://www.baltimorearena.com/>.

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

Open Mike Thursday

APG community members can express themselves at the APG North Side Grill during Open Mike Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m., Jan. 27. Doors open at 4 p.m. Featured performers will lead the "Wide Open Mike" in categories including spoken word, vocals or instrumental. The grill will offer light fare. A full service snack menu, beer and wine will also be available. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Walk-ups are welcome.

For more information or to sign up, call 410-278-3854 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Spoken Word

The Spoken Word is a free program that gives youth the opportunity to learn how to express themselves through poetry, prose, song, writing and more. This is an intuitive and thought-provoking program open to all DoD-eligible youth and teens ages 11-18. This program will be held 4 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, through Jan. 25 at the Edgewood Area Youth Services, Bldg. 1903 and on Thursday, Jan. 27, at the Aberdeen Area CYSS Conference Room, Bldg. 2503. Snacks and beverages will be provided. For more information or to register, call 410-278-7571/7479.

Taekwondo classes to begin

Join the Unity TaeKwonDo School of Martial Arts at APG.

Taekwondo promotes discipline, muscle toning and conditioning.

Classes will be held for ages 6 to 14

Mondays and Wednesdays from Jan. 24 to Feb. 16; Feb. 23 to March 21; and March 28 to April 18 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522.

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

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

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

Freestyle motocross event

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

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

To purchase a ticket, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil

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

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.

the edge

Spoken Word

How often have our youth and teens searched for ways to communicate with their parents, other adults and even their friends? Some kids find it easy to bring their thoughts out and communicate with people while some crawl into a shell frightened of what others may think. In January, the EDGE program brings the "Spoken Word", a program which teaches and allows youth and teens to show self-expression through poetry, prose, the oral word, body language and much, much more. Locally renowned teacher Larry O'Neal brings his abilities and teachings to the APG com-

munity to assist our youth and teens in reaching their true value and self-worth. There are many ways to communicate with others, but through the "Spoken Word", they can learn to express themselves effectively and completely.

This innovative participatory program is offered on Tuesdays, through Jan. 25, 4 to 6 p.m., at the Edgewood Youth Center and on Thursdays, January 6-27, 4:00-6:00pm at the Child, Youth and School Services Building conference room, Bldg 2503 (next to Kirk Clinic). Registrations are now being taken at the Parent Central Registration Office in the CYSS Bldg. Call 410-278-7571/7479 for more details. Parents are also invited to attend the last session of the program with their youth or teen to hear what they have to say.

Stevenson University Campus Tour

Tour Stevenson University in Stevenson, Md., Jan. 22. For high school teens only. Sign up at CYSS Central Registration. Teens will depart the youth center, Bldg. 2522, at 8:30 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. Registration deadline is Jan. 14. Bring money for lunch. Space is limited to 10 teens.

Teen Interview Skills

This class will be held for teens ages 15 to 18, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Jan. 27 at the CYSS Administrative Bldg. 2503. Teens will learn to successfully conduct job interviews.

To register for these programs, register at Bldg. 2503 Central Registration. For more information about APG HIRED! Program Coordinator, call Jay McKinney at 410-278-3250.

hired!

Dress for Success

Dress for Success for Teens will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Jan 20 at the CYSS Administrative Bldg. 2503. Teens will learn how to dress appropriately for an interview and a job.

Teens explore True Colors

Exploring True Colors will be held for ages 15 to 18, 6 to 7 p.m., Jan. 13, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. The True Colors Personality Assessment provides easy to understand insights into participants' behavioral style and personality type and those of others.

January bowling specials

Children bowl for free every Monday.

- Early Bird Special: Bowl one game and get the second game free from 7 to 10 a.m. Shoe rental costs \$2.

- Students' special: Children bowl for free with each paying adult on Jan. 3, 4, 7 and 8.

- Monday to Friday, 2 to 3 p.m., from Jan. 10 to 31, bowl for \$.75 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.

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

rental costs \$1.

- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., up to six people can bowl for \$12. Includes shoe rental.

- Birthday party special: Book a birthday party anytime in January and receive 10 percent off the total cost.

New bowling rates

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

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Lunch delivery is available for all orders \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

Week of Jan. 10

Special #1: Double bacon cheese burger with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$7.95.

Special #2: Roast beef sandwich on Kaiser roll with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.50.

Week of Jan. 17

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

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

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



SKIES Unlimited

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

Tots and Tutus

This toddler dance class is full of stimulation in sight, touch and sound.

Held 5:30 to 6 p.m. Fridays from Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522, for ages 18 months to 2 and a half years.

This class is a wildly interactive introduction to dance for little ones. Adult participation is required. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Martial Arts at APG present Tiny Tigers

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

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

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

The Tiny Tiger program is an age-appropriate version of taekwondo that will help direct energy into confidence and charac-

ter building skills. Students learn traditional taekwondo techniques such as blocking, punching and kicking including "Stranger Danger" and "Fire Safety" skills.

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

The Tiny Tigers program will be held at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522.

Princess Series

Girls ages 3 to 4 will stretch their imaginations as well as their toes as they dance their way through a storybook collage of fairy tales. The Little Princess Workshop will be held 6:15 to 7 p.m., Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Each of the six-week sessions features one of two fairytales that have been turned into a ballet. Cost is \$45 per child. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Pip Hop

Children ages 4 to 5 can participate in Pip Hop from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. Jan. 21 to Feb. 25 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Parents, do your pipsqueaks want to dance like the big kids? Well now is their chance Pip Hop is full of rhythm, body awareness, simple choreography and high energy craziness all set to cool funky music. Parents, let your pipsqueaks get their groove on in this class. Cost is \$45 per child. Open to DoD ID cardholders.

Leaving federal service? Know what restrictions apply to you

By **MELLANY ALIO**
CECOM Ethics Program Coordinator

If you plan on working for a non federal entity (such as a contractor, state or local government, or other private business) after you leave government service, you are likely wondering how the post government employment restrictions are applicable to you.

Many people contact the legal office looking for a list of prohibited companies. Fortunately, the post government employment restrictions (PGE) are a bit more nuanced. Often, when it comes to PGE restrictions the proper question to ask is “After I leave federal service on which matters must I avoid representing my new employer to the federal government?” rather than “After I leave federal service, which companies am I prohibit-

ed from working for?”

As a federal employee, you are permanently barred from trying to influence any federal agency or court on a contract, grant, claim or other particular matter in which you had personal and substantial participation. If the matter was under your official responsibility during your last year of government service, even if you did not personally participate in it, you are barred from making representational contacts about that matter for two years.

It’s important to underscore that these are representational restrictions. That means that you are prohibited from representing your new employer or any third party before the government with the intent to influence the government’s decisions or actions on a particular matter, e.g., a contract, grant, or proposal. You may still

work behind the scenes provided that you are not interacting with or communicating with any government official.

Representational restrictions do not prohibit normal social interactions between you and former co-workers. Nor do they prohibit administrative type actions (contacting a government official to get a form or to ask a question about your benefits).

The restriction only prevents you from advocating on behalf of a third party after you leave federal employment on a matter which you were personally and substantially involved while working for the federal government. The rules are intended to prevent “side-switching” after leaving the federal workplace.

If you worked on certain trade or treaty negotiations during your final year of government service and have had access

to certain restricted information, you are barred for one year from aiding or advising anyone other than the United States concerning those negotiations.

In certain rarer instances if you made a decision to award a contract, task order, or delivery order or to settle a claim in excess of \$10 million you may be prohibited from working for the contractor who received the funds.

This is a broad restriction. If you think this restriction is applicable to you, you MUST contact the legal office.

As a federal employee, you are ultimately responsible for ensuring that you follow the applicable rules.

The Staff Judge Advocate Office stands ready to assist you in understanding how the rules apply to your particular circumstances. For more information, call 410-278-1107.

Local scientists receive Army research and development award

By **CINDY KRONMAN**
MRICD

The Army Research and Development Achievement (RDA) Awards for calendar year 2010 were recently announced, and among the winners for outstanding technical achievement are two scientists at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The institute is a subordinate activity of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Ft. Detrick, Md.

Dr. Patrick McNutt, who until recently was a major in the Army’s Medical Service Corps, and Capt. Mariano Mesngon were recognized for their research project entitled “Development of embryonic stem cell-derived neurons (ESN) as a tissue culture platform for botulinum research.”

“This is both an advancement for botulinum neurotoxin research and a valuable alternative that can be further developed to replace the use of animals with an

in vitro cell system,” said Col. Peter J. Schultheiss, MRICD’s commander.

Botulinum neurotoxins (BoNT) are extremely poisonous bacterial enzymes considered by the Centers for Disease Control to have a high potential for use as a weapon of bioterrorism. Exposure to BoNT disrupts neuronal control over skeletal muscle, including the muscles that control breathing, leading to a paralytic state that rapidly causes death by asphyxiation unless immediate medical care is provided.

The toxin remains active for weeks to months, meaning that victims must stay under constant supportive care in an ICU

“We anticipate that this embryonic stem-cell derived neuron model will accelerate drug discovery.”

Dr. Patrick McNutt
MRICD Scientist

until they regain muscular control. Despite decades of research, there is no pharmacological treatment to rescue intoxicated patients.

In 2004, a panel con-

vened by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health identified a need in BoNT therapeutics research for a cell-based system in which the effects of poisoning were similar to those exhibited in animal models, that could be cultured in the quantities required for screening therapeutics, and that could be modified genetically to provide flexibility in the drug

discovery process.

McNutt designed a research protocol with the objective of evaluating whether neurons derived from mouse embryonic stem cells (mESC) could be “a highly sensitive, genetically tractable, biologically relevant cell culture platform for BoNT research and drug discovery.”

To date his and Mesngon’s results have confirmed that mESC are a flexible cell culture model that satisfies the protocol objective, with sensitivities to BoNTs that are equivalent to motor neurons.

“We anticipate,” said McNutt, “that this embryonic stem-cell derived neuron model will enable the identification and validation of novel therapeutic targets and accelerate drug discovery.”

The next step in the project is to begin screening candidate compounds for their ability to inhibit BoNT.

Award winners will receive an official plaque that will be forwarded to the organization’s command for presentation.



Photo by Rob McIlvaine, FMWRC

Soldiers deliver a high-energy song and dance number during the 2010 U.S. Army Soldier Show performance. Auditions for the 2011 show close Jan. 18. .

Nominations for Soldier Show due Jan. 18

By **WILLIAM BRADNER**
Family & MWR Command

Nominations for performer and technician positions in the 2011 U.S. Army Soldier Show are being accepted through Jan. 18, 2011.

“The packets need to be here on the 18th,” according to Andy Gilliam, Army Entertainment Division (AED) director, “because we’re opening them up and making audition selections on the 19th.”

AED is seeking vocalists, dancers, and musicians to perform, as well as lighting, audio, video, costuming and stage technicians to support the performers. The Soldier show is a high-energy live musical that showcases the talents of Soldiers. National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers must be activated by their units to be eligible.

“It’s the toughest job you’ll ever love,” explained Gilliam.

“The courage it takes for these Soldiers to get on stage and perform a 75-minute routine is tremendous,” he explained. “Not only do we take them out of their comfort zone and make them do things they are not used to, we ask them to do it in six weeks. This includes the vocal training, choreography, scene/costume transitions, set build and tear down, and more.”

The Soldier performers and technicians also are their own road crew, setting up and breaking down the stage and lighting at each of the 70-plus stops the tour makes worldwide each year. They tour primarily by bus in the continental U.S., with a handful of overseas performances at the end of the season.

“To successfully manage this tour, all Soldiers gain strength from each other, family members, religious beliefs, physical training, and self preservation,”

Gilliam said. “Once a Soldier becomes comfortable with the daily routine and confident with their performance, they shine. They shine because they put their heart and soul into something they love to do for the many men and women who play a part in protecting our way of life, be it military, civilian, family members, or retirees.”

The selection of nominees through local installation and/or regional level competitions is encouraged, but not required. Interested Soldiers may self nominate by sending their packets directly to the AED offices.

All nominations must include an official Department of the Army photo, a copy of the Soldier’s enlisted or officer record brief, current physical test scores, and a copy of the latest NCO Evaluation Report or Officer Evaluation Report. Performers must also submit a video-

audition on DVD and technicians are required to submit a resume and photos of past work.

Complete details on the nomination process are available on ArmyMWR.com.

AED Officials will review all packets and select 12-20 Soldiers to travel to Fort Belvoir, Va., for live auditions. All travel costs will be paid for by the Family and MWR Command. Soldiers selected through the audition process will be attached to AED through Nov. 30, 2011, and must have a letter of release from their command, endorsed by a battalion-level or equivalent officer.

Nominations should be sent to: U.S. Army Soldier Show, Attn: 2011 Selection Committee, PO Box 439, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.

Follow the U.S. Army Soldier Show on Facebook.

Army converts garbage into energy, reduces carbon footprint

By **MARQUES CHAVEZ**
RDECOM

Dr. Emmitt L. Brown, the scientist from the movie “Back to the Future,” had things fairly well devised several years ago, feeding trash to the “flux capacitor” to power his time machine.

The U.S. Army is now furthering its goal to empower, unburden and protect the Warfighter by developing “green” technology that converts waste into fuel.

Importing fuel and exporting garbage to and from the battlefield is an expensive and dangerous process for the Army. Doing so requires convoys that put Soldiers in danger and the disposal of the garbage is both an environmental and security issue.

“What you end up with is a public health problem, a public relations problem and a security problem,” said James Valdes, scientific advisor for biotechnology for Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, an element of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

The Tactical Garbage to Energy Refinery is a hybrid technology that alleviates these burdens by converting a broad spectrum of waste into a usable power source. The TGER metabolizes waste into ethanol and compresses undigested waste into pellets which are then converted into a composite gas. The ethanol, composite gas and a 10 percent diesel drip are injected into a diesel generator that produces electricity.

“A 500-man unit generates about 2,500 pounds of trash per day. We figured if we could convert the trash into power, we could cut down on the need to haul fuel into the operating base and cut down on the need to haul garbage out,” Valdes said.

The TGER has a zero carbon footprint and gives a 30-to-one reduction in the volume of trash. For every 30 cubic yards of trash processed through TGER, one cubic yard of ash is produced.

“We had the ash tested by the Environmental Protection Agency and it was determined that it is a benign soil additive. You could take the ash and use it on your roses,” Valdes explained.

Army scientists and engineers tested TGER at an operating base in Iraq for three months. They wanted to use it in an unforgiving environment to stress the system.



Photo by Marques Chavez

James Valdes, scientific advisor for biotechnology for the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, explains Tactical Garbage to Energy Refinery (TGER) technology to visitors at the Army Tech Zone during the U.S. Army All-American Bowl Jan. 8 in San Antonio.

“Any technology works perfect in a laboratory setting. We wanted to test TGER in a harsh environment to see what was going to break. We now know what works on site and we’ve designed it to fit the warfighter’s needs,” said Valdes.

The technology behind the TGER has applications beyond the Army. It potentially could be used as relief for an area hit by natural disaster.

“Often in a natural disaster area the power is out and trash is everywhere. TGER fits in a six-by-six-by-twelve-foot box that can be flown into the area hit by the natural disaster. It could be used to help eliminate trash and produce electricity,” Valdes said.

The ECBC scientist explained the futuristic technology at RDECOM’s Army Tech Zone within the Army Strong

Zone during the U.S. Army All-American Bowl. The Army Tech Zone featured several emerging technologies developed by the Army’s science and technology community.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh visited the Tech Zone and expressed great interest in the TGER.

“We have money for that,” he said, addressing further development of the TGER, as he left the exhibit area.

“It’s rare that a scientist gets to see something he helps develop actually go into the field in an operational situation and see it work. That’s a real nice thing,” Valdes said.

Did you know?

- The TGER has a zero carbon footprint and gives a 30-to-one reduction in the volume of trash. For every 30 cubic yards of trash processed through TGER, one cubic yard of ash is produced.
- The technology behind the TGER has applications beyond the Army. It potentially could be used as relief for an area hit by natural disaster.

Farias, Stanford win SOY NOY

Continued from Page 1

Maj. Osvaldo Ponzo, USAPHC (Prov)'s most senior enlisted Soldier.

"Being in the Army lets me build my character, confidence and competence to perform those complicated tasks in the medical field that are part of my day-to-day job at the Army Public Health Command," said Stanford. "The AMEDD and the APHC provide the opportunity to perfect those skills I learned and put them to good use in order to maintain the fighting strength of our forces.

"Providing leaders with knowledge about the best possible resources so that they can make plans to ensure health is the biggest thing I do to help Soldiers,"

he continued. "As workers in the lab, we must provide scientifically sound data in a timely manner that is accurate and precise."

Stanford explained that he performs eight wet chemistry methods to determine the aesthetic or physical quality of drinking water most suitable for consumption for military personnel in deployed and garrison settings. He says that what he has learned in the Army will help him in the future as he aims for a doctorate in molecular and cell biology.

By winning the NCO and SOY competitions, these Soldiers have demonstrated their tactical capabilities and

every day in the laboratory, they display the technical skills that meet the high standards of excellence required to assure quality and professionalism, Ponzo said.

"I'm responsible for performing preparation analysis for occupational and environmental samples submitted for metals analysis," explained Farias. "I get the opportunity to prep samples received from throughout the world, CONUS and OCONUS, and [I know] that the final analysis of these samples provides useful data to decision-makers regarding information about potential health threats to our troops."

Both Soldiers said they feel that being in the Army gives them a chance to achieve greater goals such as going to school and providing services for the Army family. They agreed that this competition gave them the opportunity to show that it takes faith and hard work to go beyond the standard to achieve success.

"By being part of the Medical Command and Public Health Command, I can help make the quality of life better for those around us, whether it's military, retired or civilians," said Farias. "As a Soldier, I feel I have a duty to help create a better world in which we live."

Army lifer helping educate Iraqis

Continued from Page 4

Readiness Management Division.

"Rich has been instrumental as the authoritative and responsive source providing our Program and Product Managers the most up-to-date planning guidance allowing them to plan proactively – not execute reactively."

Given that the Status of Forces Agreement between Iraq and the United States calls for the last American troops to leave the country by the end of 2011, Miles is also laying the groundwork for the future. He is helping to educate Iraqis so they fully understand the tactical capabilities of systems like WIN-T, as well as how to safeguard the information traveling over the network.

"They are trying to secure their tactical communications, and they're leaning on us," Miles said. "It's going to lay down what it's going to look like when

we leave. How many times do you get a chance to do that?"

He was also instrumental in ensuring frequencies were allocated for the Command and Control on the Move (C2OTM) digital backbone, Wilson said. C2OTM is a network of integrated Battle Command applications inside a mobile platform.

Colleagues say Miles is well-suited to a difficult and evolving mission. His strong relationship with units and constant on-the-ground feedback has allowed senior leaders to adjust system components to Warfighters' needs, said Jimmy Preston, chief of the business management branch for PdM CPS&I.

"He is a very outgoing person, very personable, and he's well-versed in the subject matter," Preston said. "And anything that he's not versed in, he's the

type of guy that will dig until he gets the data and information required to do the job. He's very thorough and he's well-respected among his peers."

Though Miles was prepared for his mission, he said there were some lessons he could only learn on the ground. For one: Don't be defined by rank or status.

"Regardless of your situation – if you are a contractor, or you're a government person, or you're a Soldier – it's a 'One Team' thing here," Miles said. "From the general down to the private, they're always willing to learn and be a cohesive team to bring you into the fold. Everyone treats you with respect."

Another surprise was the around-the-clock pace. Miles calls it "two for one" – for every day worked by those at home in the United States, the team in Iraq works twice as long. After a patrol is com-

plete, that can mean many more hours of review, analysis and ensuring everyone and everything is accounted for.

"The mission just doesn't stop here, and that's not a bad thing," he said. "The mission just goes, and you've got to go with it."

Miles' first deployment is going to last longer than planned, as his service in Iraq has been extended for another six months. He said he is eager to finish what he started, and with the support of his wife and the PEO C3T community, the time goes by quickly.

"I couldn't have asked for a better chain of command," Miles said. "I've been here for awhile, but it doesn't seem like that. I'm so proud to be here, to experience this."

Claire Heining is a staff writer for Symbolic Systems, Inc. supporting the Army's PEO C3T.

JTF Blast hopes community will turn out

Continued from Page 1

Maj. Steven Tingley and Maj. Alexander Babington, of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center, formed the team in the spring and they played in the adult hockey league's Independent Division at the Ice World rink in neighboring Abingdon.

"Most of us had kids who play and we thought it would be great to get a military team together," said Tingley.

JTF Blast is now working closely with the APG Morale, Welfare and Recreation sports staff to start an installation hockey team.

"More importantly, we wanted to represent this community, to let people know that it's a good community with more than just military families," Babington said. "We very much wanted to be affiliated with APG."

Babington said although most of the team members are lifelong hockey players, many of them had not played for

some time, and it showed early on.

"I played 10 years ago in college and my mind and body knew what I was supposed to do but my legs weren't doing it," he said.

Despite a string of losses, the team kept their heads held high and their sticks to the ice, and eventually they gelled, said Babington.

"We started getting our legs back and scoring close games and then winning some."

With the start of the winter season in October, the team went undefeated through six games.

They purchased their own uniforms and began gaining more of a reputation, and players. Buoyed by their success, they decided to enter the Las Vegas tournament.

Babington said participants in the tournament are service members, police officers and firefighters, thus the name Hockey For Heroes.

"We were just playing at our level and we did well," he said.

"We're all lifelong hockey fans," Tingley added. "I played on a pond in my front yard since I was a kid. This is a way for us to have fun playing the game we love and represent APG in a positive way at the same time. We're hoping APG hockey fans will come out to watch us play and support the team."

Experience levels on the team vary as widely as ages, Babington said. The youngest player is 23 and the oldest is 64-year-old APG civilian Don Zugner. Other members include Mark Orlando, who played hockey for Pennsylvania State University and Jason Scott of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command who also played through childhood and college. Babington said the team has drawn so much interest they likely will have to form two teams for the next season.

"We started with 10 players and now

we have more than 30," he said. "We'll elect captains and I'll manage both teams."

Membership is open to anyone, including women.

"It's a lot of fun," he said. "You get to enter tournaments and play hockey year-round. We pay for everything on our own and play through the winter and summer leagues."

Babington coaches his daughter's soccer team for Child, Youth and School Services. She also plays hockey at Ice World with the Harford North Stars, along with the children of other JTC Blast members.

"It's very much a family affair," said Babington.

Anyone interested in trying out for the APG Hockey Team must be an eligible MWR patron or Family member. Tryouts will be held in the spring. Contact the Sports Office for more information at 410-278-3929.

Early warning system keeping cities safe

Continued from Page 1

make Aberdeen Proving Ground cleaner, and greener.

Davis said that when exposed to toxins, the bluegill will repeatedly flex their gills to expel unwanted irritants, a type of fish coughing.

Another characteristic that makes the bluegill ideal for monitoring is that they tend to remain motionless for long periods of time, minimizing interference with the minute electrical signals used.

The biomonitoring operation takes place at the groundwater treatment facility that was built by the Army and located at Edgewood's Old-O-Field in 1994.

Groundwater is pulled from underground wells, cleaned and discharged into the Gunpowder River and then into the Chesapeake Bay.

During the fish monitoring process, up to eight fish are monitored at a time in compartmentalized chambers. A slipstream of the treated groundwater is continuously funneled through the chambers, explained Jeff Aichroth, the APG Directorate of Public Works employee who oversees the groundwater treatment facility.

If the fish respond normally to the treated water, a tracking line on the biomonitoring screen turns green. If the fish are in distress, the line turns red, said Aichroth.

If more than half of the fish experience severe distress or death, an alarm is triggered which stops the release of treated waste water into the river.

"Then we go into a recirculation cycle and try to figure out what caused the fish to be irritated," explained Aichroth. "Once we figure that out and resolve the issue, we go back to discharging the treated water." Aichroth and Davis said that over the past few years, this has not happened. "We have never lost a fish due to toxicity," Davis said.

After the bluegills have served their three-week tour of duty, Aichroth said they are fattened up and released.

The state-of-the-art early warning system used at Edgewood was developed by Army scientists, for the Army, over a decade ago and is now sold under the commercial name 1090 Intelligent Aquatic BioMonitoring System.

Today it is available and is being used in major U.S.

cities, including Washington D.C., where it monitors the capitol's water supplies for signs of unintentional or intentional terrorist introduction of chemicals. This is the first in a year-long series on environmental efforts at Aberdeen Proving Ground. If you have an environmental article you'd like to see published, e-mail editor-apg@conus.army.mil.

Bluegill Scientific name: Lepomis macrochirus

Size:

- About 6 inches, but can reach 12 inches

Distribution:

- Inshore from the Great Lakes to Florida.
- In all tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay with salinity less than 18 parts per thousand.
- Many times these fish will be stocked along with largemouth bass in many Maryland ponds and lakes.

Habitat:

- Bluegills are a freshwater fish, although they will venture into slightly salty water.
- They like quiet waters such as lakes, ponds and slow flowing rivers and streams.

Food Preference:

- Spiders, insects, crayfish, fish eggs, and other small fish are their favorite foods.
- Young bluegills often become food for larger fish, birds and water snakes.



Photo by Eric Engbretson, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Fun Facts:

- Bluegills are a member of the sunfish family.
- Many people call bluegills "sunnies".

www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/bluegill.asp