



Team ATC's Scott Ritch, 25, leaps to defend against an incoming volley as Team Individuals players, from left, Alex Jestel, #52, Mike Slichter, #30, Felix Reyes, #55, Amy Alton, #31 and Juliana Dunbar, #21, stay ready during the intramural volleyball championship at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center June 2.

## ATC wins volleyball championship

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

The intramural volleyball season concluded June 2 with the post championship going to the Aberdeen Test Center.

The team fought its way out of the loser's bracket to best Team Individuals, 25-13, 25-19, 25-20 and 15-8 with their one loss, 25-14, coming in game 2 of the second match.

Mike Goodman is the ATC coach and Ed Keenan leads the Individuals team which is made up of players from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Chemical Materials Agency, Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense and Regional Environmental and Energy Office-Northern.

See ATC, page 9



Team Individual player Amy Alton, #31, watches ATC's Casey Cramer, #32, handle a volley.

## Clinic command changes hands

Story and photo by  
**RACHEL PONDER**  
APG NEWS

Lt. Col. Ellen S. Daly assumed command of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic from Lt. Col. Mark A. Ireland during a change of command ceremony at the Aberdeen Proving Ground North Recreation Center May 31.

Daly comes to APG from Fort Detrick, Md., where she served as the executive officer at the Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center.

Ireland's next duty station will see him working for the surgeon general of the Australian Defense Force as part of the U.S. Army's officer exchange program.

The ceremony's host was Col. Leon E. Moores, commander of the U.S. Medical Department Activity at nearby Fort Meade.

During Moores' speech, he noted that Ireland led through some significant changes during

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Incoming Commander Lt. Col. Ellen S. Daly (left) accepts the guidon from Col. Leon E. Moores during the May 31 change of command ceremony.

## Memorial service held for drowned Soldier

APG News staff report

A memorial service was held June 3 for an APG Soldier who was killed in an apparent swimming accident in Deer Creek in Rocks State Park May 27.

Private Anthony Carlson, 19, C Company, 143rd Ordnance



Carlson

Battalion, was at the park with fellow Soldiers when the incident took place. Emergency services were immediately contacted and Carlson's body was recovered more than an hour after he was reported missing. An investigation was conducted by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Battalion, garrison and other installation leaders expressed sadness at the loss of a fellow Soldier and offered condolences to his friends and family.

# APG employees take top FEB honors

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG NEWS

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board held the 44th Annual Excellence in Federal Career Awards Luncheon and ceremony May 6 at Martin's West.

APG employees or groups garnered 10 gold, 31 silver and 38 bronze awards.

Supervisors from federal installations or organizations submitted nominees for FEB awards months in advance and a blue ribbon panel of senior executives, along with members of the executive committee, selected the winners.

APG employees from the following organizations received awards: U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency; Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Aberdeen Test Center; Army Evaluation Center; Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Developmental Test Command; Research, Development and Engineering Command; Army Research Laboratory; Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; Army Test and Evaluation Command; 20th Support Command; and Public Health Command.

**Gold winners are as follows:**  
**Category 1c-Outstanding Supervisor-Trades and Crafts**

**Dennis Hash**

Dennis Hash is the chief of the Experimental Fabrication Branch, Weapons and Materials Research Directorate, U.S. Army Research Laboratory. In this capacity he supervises 13



Hash

technicians in the wood, sheet metal, and welding disciplines to design, construct, and modify innovative hardware and prototypes to support the critical research, development and analysis of ARL.

Hash led his team in providing exceptional support for an urgent Operational Needs Statement from Afghanistan that required producing a load-bearing system for a prototype piece of equipment of equipment that ARL developed. Within 24 hours, the facility produced

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### WEATHER

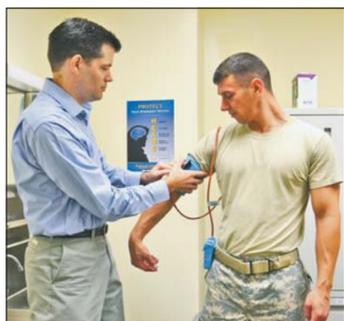
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### COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL

The next Community Action Council meeting will take place June 16 at the APG South (Edgewood) Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

# OPINION

## DoD and Army provide smoking cessation options and assistance

By **MAUREEN ROSE**  
The Turret, Fort Knox, Ky.

*Editor's note: This is the second in a two-part series.*

Part one of this series discussed the negative effects of tobacco use—both physical and mental.

Research findings reveal undeniable conclusions: tobacco is hazardous to your health, whether you smoke it, chew it, sniff it, or dip it.

In fact, smokeless tobacco contains more nicotine than cigarettes and, because the duration of exposure is often increased, the addiction may be even stronger for smokeless tobacco users compared to cigarette smokers.

Because Soldiers use smokeless tobacco at a significantly higher rate than civilians, the Defense Department has made several resources available to those who want to quit.

At Fort Knox's Ireland Army Community Hospital, two different tracks are offered for tobacco cessation. The Gold Standard offers better quit rates because more time is required and it's geared to users who have more addiction. Because the Ireland program is a Best Practice program, its funding has been renewed each year for the last 11 years.

"We've been able to build a premier program," said Carol Appler, Ireland's chief of population health as well as health and wellness. "The benefits of the Gold Standard Track is (that Soldiers are) able to use more of the nicotine replacement products and medications because they are monitored every week."

For those who can't or won't make a six-week commitment to the classes, Ireland also offers the Fast Track to tobacco cessation, which only requires one class and is designed for those who are less heavily addicted. However, those on the Fast Track do not receive Zyban or Chantix to help them through the withdrawal process.

No one denies the fact that quitting is hard work.

"Some people who think tobacco use is just a bad habit wonder why you can't quit," Appler said. "It's not just a bad habit, there's more to it. There is a physiologic addiction to nicotine."



She'll be just as happy when you quit tobacco.

Although many feel they don't need the support of a group, Appler reports that the surveys done with those who have successfully quit using tobacco reveal that group support and medication are the two most helpful parts.

She explained that nicotine use increases dopamine levels in the brain, which is pleasurable. It's hard to give up the "feel good now" for a future possibility of negative consequences.

Behavior modification techniques are certainly part of the tobacco cessation classes, she added, and the instructors help users to identify the benefits that are common to all quitters as well as individually-specific rewards.

"Setting a reward for yourself helps compensate for the 'loss' of the nicotine pleasure," she said.

The reward will be different for each person; some look at the cash outlay they are avoiding by not buying tobacco products and save up the money for a special trip or gift from themselves. Guest speakers in the classes share their success stories and techniques.

Breaking any addiction requires willpower and focus. Once you're really focused on the reasons to quit, think about your timing. Most tobacco users try to quit six times or more before they're successful, according to Appler. Quitting cold turkey is the toughest way to go; the more likely path to success involves planning.

Plan when to quit—there's no point to try quitting when you're facing a particularly stressful event.

Develop a support group—friends or Family who know you're trying to quit.

Identify your triggers—the situations when you generally use tobacco. For some people it's morning coffee. For others, it's going to a bar or a party.

If classes just aren't for you, DoD and many others offer Web sites full of suggestions and resources to help tobacco users quit. Available 24/7, the Web sites address the motivation to quit, suggestions to beat cravings, triggers that lead to relapses, as well as on-line coaches, blogs, and games to play to help quitters relieve boredom. The help designed to assist service members is located at [www.ucanquit2.org](http://www.ucanquit2.org). More on-line help is available at [www.quitnow.org](http://www.quitnow.org) or [www.mylastdip.com](http://www.mylastdip.com).

In addition, Group Tobacco Cessation Support classes are held noon to 1 p.m., at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and continue for four weeks.

To register call the Public Health Nurse at 410-278-1771/1774.

## Homecoming fraught with peril – take heed

Recently our ombudsman sent out the standard list of Homecoming Dos and Don'ts. This was a tactful list meant to remind us that Dinky, your 140-pound Rottweiler, really doesn't belong at Homecoming no matter how much your service member loves him.



That the gate guard really isn't going to let you on base without ID no matter how hard you cry.

That somehow weapons are not appropriate homecoming gear.

This is my seventh homecoming (yay!) and I have my own private list of Dos and Don'ts that the ombudsman forgot to provide and that I must strive to remember.

**DO** remember this takes forever. Even though you wake up at Oh-dark-thirty and arrive five hours before the plane/bus/ship is gonna arrive you cannot make them get there any faster. This is an all day thing. Plan for the long haul. Bring a breath mint.

**DO** remember undergarments. The

**“DON'T look up from his kisses and start noticing that the ceiling really needs to be painted. That the screen door must be replaced.”**

gods of the land and sea laugh when they see your raincoat/nothing-under-it-but-heels getup. Remember how the last time they sent that wind to blow up your coat at the least attractive moment imaginable? And how that photographer was taking a group shot? And how the video ended up on Tosh.0?

**DO** remind kids what Daddy looks like. What if kids run to the wrong daddy just cause the guy is wearing a uniform? What if Daddy doesn't recognize baby he has never seen outside the womb? What if mom no longer recognizes child with newly dyed black hair and fang-shaped dental implants?

**DO** bid goodbye to your own parents, in-laws, siblings, and friends at the pier or the airport. Even if those people insisted on coming with you for the actual moment of homecoming, this

is your time, not their time. Let them know I said so.

**DON'T** let service member drive anywhere. Even though our men and women in uniform have lived in the United States of America before, they have not driven in months. Let them get used to the scenery, the new traffic pattern, and the speed limits before they drive.

**DON'T** look up from his kisses and start noticing that the ceiling really needs to be painted. That the screen door must be replaced. That someone has to teach Stanley how to pee standing up. Even though it is natural to immediately start creating a Honey-Do list the moment you realize you have a Honey, it is bad ju-ju to hand it over right away—even if your to-dos are delivered between kisses.

**DO** watch with delight as your ser-

vice member wanders through the house checking all the rooms like they did at mom's house the first time they came home from basic training or college. Watch them touch furniture as if they are surprised to see it still standing. Laugh when they wonder what happened to the Christmas tree. This is the sensation of everything old made new, made wonderous. Pat the walls yourself, grateful for all the shelter that has been provided to your family.

**DO** make wild passionate love to each other when you are finally alone. Wild passionate love doesn't happen every day. Ask your civilian neighbors.

And be sure to wake up suddenly in the wee small hours of the morning, aware of an unfamiliar weight in your bed (could be your toddler). Look over at your sleeping service member and run your fingers through his or her hair.

Run your hand over the person's shoulders, past the rough skin on the elbows, over the fine hairs upon the arms. Close your eyes and cry tears of blessed relief. Your spouse is here, safe, HOME.

**Jacey Eckhart**  
CinCHouse.com

### APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



## 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.

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

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# Gates: Bin Laden death could change attitudes

By **JIM GARAMONE**

*American Forces Press Service*

The death of Osama bin Laden has been noted by the people of Afghanistan, but it hasn't made any discernable difference to the Taliban yet, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates told Soldiers in Afghanistan June 6.

But it could mean changes in attitudes on the horizon, he said.

Bin Laden and Taliban leader Mullah Omar were very close, the secretary said to the soldiers of the Task Force Ramrod.

"If I was in the Taliban, I would say, 'What's al-Qaida ever done for me, except get me kicked out of Afghanistan?'" the secretary said. "You might see a growing divide between al-Qaida and the Taliban."

American and Afghan forces must keep the military pressure on through the summer and hang onto all the territory taken over the past year, the secretary said.

"If we can expand the security bubble, especially in the south, and if you

guys can keep disrupting them up here and preventing the Taliban bed-down in Ghazni and elsewhere, then I think sometime the end of this year these guys will start thinking seriously about reconciliation," the secretary said.

"That certainly is my hope, but I don't expect it to make much difference in Afghanistan in the short term. But it could be a game changer long-term," he added.

Gates also said relations with Pakistan are complicated.

"The fact is, we need each other," Gates said. The two nations have different priorities, he added, and working that out takes time.

The Pakistani military has 140,000 troops in the federally administered tribal area along its border with Afghanistan, and has taken thousands of casualties battling terrorist groups there, Gates said.

"There's no question that the sanctuaries in Pakistan are a problem for you," the secretary told the Soldiers. "But this is something you just have to keep working at. It's like a troubled marriage -- you kind of keep working at it."

## Community invited to Army Birthday Run June 14

The Army Birthday Celebration Run will take place June 14 at 6:30 a.m. at APG's Fanshaw Field. Everyone is invited to participate -- Soldiers, veterans, civilian employees, Family members and friends. Motorists can expect traffic delays during the run. To view the run route, visit APG's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/APGMd> or APG Live at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>. Call 278-3177 for more information.



# FAMILY AND MWR

## Activities/Events

### Father's Day Golf Tournament

Ruggles Golf Course will hold a Father's Day Golf Tournament with a tee time of 1 p.m. Nine hole two man team Net Better Ball format. There is a four child limit per team. Dads may be captain of more than one team. Prizes and refreshments after event; carts are optional. Cost per two person team is \$15 for active duty military; \$25 for annual patrons; \$25 for authorized personnel; and \$15 for guests.

For more information, call 410-278-4794.

### Lynyrd Skynyrd/Doobie Brothers tickets go on sale

Pre-sale tickets for the Aug. 20 Lynyrd Skynyrd concert featuring the Doobie Brothers at Aberdeen Proving Ground are on sale for government ID cardholders only. Tickets are \$25 to June 10. Pre-sale opens to the public June 10 to 12. Prices increase to \$30 June 13.

Sales are over-the-counter only at APG North's Bldg. 3326 or APG South's Bldg. E4140, recreation centers. Present a military ID or CAC card at time of purchase.

### Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

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



chase. Also appearing will be rock songstress Dilana, who may be best known for her participation on the hit CBS reality-show "Rock Star: Supernova." Call 410-278-4621 for information.

### Movies under the stars

Enjoy a fun family night out free of charge. Pre-movie festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. and include games, a deejay and karaoke. The movie will begin at 8 p.m. or at dusk. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Food and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

Movies include:  
 June 10, Kung Fu Panda, at the AA Shore Park  
 June 24, Madagascar, at the EA Bay-side Pool  
 July 8, Harry Potter, AA Shore Park  
 July 22, Karate Kid (2010), EA Bay-side Pool  
 Aug. 5, Happy Feet, AA Shore Park  
 For more information, call 410-278-4124

### APG Fitness Center closure

The APG Fitness Center, Bldg. 320, will be closed through Labor Day weekend. Work to install a new air conditioning system with duct work, expanded shower and locker rooms, new flooring and entrance area will be done. Call 410-278-9725.

### Hoyle Gymnasium closure

The court side of Hoyle Gymnasium, Bldg. E4210 will be closed through Labor Day for fire suppression system installation, ceiling repair work and expansion of the second floor area. During the time the court side is closed, fitness classes will be relocated to the Edgewood Area

Recreation Center, Bldg. E4140. NOTE: small areas of the fitness center side will be disrupted at times for fire suppression installation. Call 410-436-7134.

### Weather damage Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park will not open as earlier promoted due to maintenance issues and effects of severe weather over the last six months. The go cart track, mini golf and batting cage maintenance will be assessed over the summer. It will be determined if it is cost effective to open the park in 2012. For more information, call 410-278-4124.

### Medieval Times discount tickets available through Leisure Travel

The Leisure Travel Office has discount tickets for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournaments located at Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md. Tickets cost \$39.25 per adult and \$32 per child (ages 3 to 12). Reservations must be made at the time of purchase; other locations available upon request. All prices and savings are based on the final cost to include all taxes and fees. Prices are subject to change without notice.

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

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

### 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](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).

### Single father books available

Army Community Services cares about the single fathers in the community and recognizes the unique challenges that many single fathers, including those whose wives are deployed, encounter. With Father's Day around the corner, ACS has purchased "The Complete Single Father." It includes chapters on communicating effectively with kids, making your house a home and parenting styles. Stop by ACS 2503 High Point Rd, Room 123, to pick up your copy. Supplies are limited.

### Personal Training

APG Sports Branch is offering personal training programs. All active duty military and Family members, DoD civilians and family members, and DoD contractors are eligible.

Training is offered at the athletic center, fitness center and Hoyle Gym to assist customers in meeting their personal fitness needs. The program is offered in individual half-hour and one-hour sessions and blocks of sessions. Individual half-hour sessions cost \$40 each; one-hour sessions cost \$55 each. Blocks of six half-hour sessions for the cost of five sessions is \$200; blocks of six sessions for the cost of five sessions is \$275

Contact the athletic center or Hoyle Gym for details.

### Luray Caverns discount

Take a spin through time, 400 million years worth to be exact, to discover the amazing history of these unearthly caverns. Tickets cost \$18.25 for adults 13 years and older; tickets for children ages 3 to 12 cost \$9.25. Luray Caverns is located on 970 Highway 211 West, Luray, Va., in the Shenandoah Valley. Prices are subject to change without notice. Visit <http://www.luraycaverns.com/PlanYourVisit/AboutLurayCaverns/tabid/507/Default.aspx>. 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](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).

## June bowling specials

• Flag Day special: June 14, wear red, white and blue and bowl for \$1.50 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.

• Father's Day special: All fathers bowl for free when accompanied by a child.

• Early Bird Special: Bowl for one hour for \$12 from 7 to 9 a.m. Includes shoe rental.

• Each Friday, 3 to 10 p.m., bowl one game for \$3.50 and receive one game free. 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 \$34 (Up to six people). Includes shoe rental.

### 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.

### New hours for summer

Effective through September, The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday; 3 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday; the Bowling Center will be closed on Sundays. Holiday hours will be announced at a later date.

## APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Lunch delivery is available for orders of \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

### Week of June 6

Special #1: Chicken salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75.

Special #2: Roast beef sandwich on Kaiser roll with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75

### Week of June 13

Special #1: Gyro with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

Special #2: Pepperoni pizza with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.50.

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.



## Post pools open, swim lessons available

The post pools are open to all Department of Defense identification cardholders and their guests. For more information, call 410-278-4124.

### Aberdeen Area

#### Olympic Swimming Pool, Bldg. 3325

- Opening day is June 13.
- Daily operation: June 13 to Sept. 2
- Child, Youth and School Service Day Camp 9 to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Friday, June 20 thru Aug. 18
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Lap swim lane available 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., June 13 through Sept. 2
- Swim lessons, 1 to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, June 20 through Aug. 12
- Weekend operation schedule: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 thru 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

#### Shore Pool, Bldg. 2031

- The Shore pool will be open on weekends only through June 19, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Opening day is June 20
- Daily operation: June 20 through Sept. 5, 11:30 to 7 p.m.
- Lap swim lane available 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., June 18 through Sept. 4
- Weekend operation schedule: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 through 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

### Edgewood Area

#### Bayside Swimming Pool, Bldg. E4655

- Open weekends only through June 19, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Opening day is June 20
- Daily operation: June 20 thru Sept. 5
- Morning swim: 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., June 13 through Sept. 2
- Child, Youth and School Service Day Camp, 9 to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Friday, June 20 through Aug. 18
- Swim lessons: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 through 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

### Pool pass fees

<b>Daily passes</b>	
Daily .....	\$5
Under 5 .....	Free
Guest of eligible patron .....	\$9
5 and under (guest) .....	\$2
Active duty and immediate Family members .....	Free
Lap swim .....	\$2
<b>30-day pass</b>	
Individual .....	\$35
Family .....	\$70

### Season passes

Individual .....	\$85
Family .....	\$175

Swimming lessons will be offered in the Aberdeen and Edgewood Areas. Lessons cost \$50 per person for the first session and \$45 for each additional member of the same Family. There will be a 10 percent discount for each additional session.

### Swimming Lessons

- **Olympic Pool**
- Monday through Thursday, June 20 through 30
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4
- July 11 through 22
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4
- July 25 through 29
- Adult lessons, 6 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Parent/Toddler, 6:30 to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Aug. 1 through 12
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4
- **Bayside Pool**
- Monday through Thursday, June 20 through 30
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4
- July 11 through 22
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4
- Aug. 1 through 12
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4

# Post Shorts

## APG Army Birthday Picnic

Celebrate 236 years of proud military tradition at the APG Army Birthday Picnic Celebration, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center, APG-North, Bldg. 3326. Cost is \$15 per person while supplies last. Commemorative Coins will be given to those attending. Visit [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com) or call MWR Leisure Travel at 410-278-4011.

## Ceremony to reroute traffic

Roads leading to APG's Ryan Building (Bldg. 314) temporarily will be closed June 21 to accommodate a ceremony noting a change of responsibility at the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

Barricades will be placed at five locations –

- On Longs Corner Road where it forks from Aberdeen Boulevard (directly in front of Bldg. 300);

- On Johnson Street where it intersects Longs Corner Road (adjacent to the Bldg. 305 parking lot);

- On Plumb Point Loop's east side where it intersects Plumb Point Road; and

- On Longs Corner Road at the intersection with Tower Road, restricting traffic flow toward the building 310 traffic circle.

- At the entrances to the building 311 parking lot which will be reserved for VIP parking.

The shutdown will begin at approximately 1 p.m. and will last two to three hours. During this time, traffic will be diverted to an alternate route.

## VA Summer Youth Volunteer Program

The VA Maryland Health Care System has announced that the 2011 Summer Youth Volunteer Program will begin in June at each facility. Orientation classes

es will be held for new participants and is mandatory to be accepted in the program. Youth volunteers must be between the ages of 14 and 17; must be able to show proof of age with a birth certificate; and must commit at least 75 hours of service throughout the summer. Youth volunteers will work only three days per week; they will NOT be permitted to work an assignment area with parent or guardian in tow.

Sign up now to volunteer and to begin the June Orientation classes. Interested youths must complete a volunteer application, available online at <http://www.volunteer.va.gov/apps/volunteernow/>.

## Sign up at APG for Satellite communications

The Satellite Communications: Systems, Technology, and Applications course will present a comprehensive description of the technology and applications of satellite communications that is interesting and understandable to engineers and non-engineers.

The course will be held at Aberdeen Proving Ground July 11 through 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will benefit engineers, technicians, managers, planners, as well as marketing, contracts and procurement specialists. Cost is \$1,350 per student.

For more information, including an outline of the course and registration form, visit <http://www.tdicourses.com>. Download and e-mail your registration form by July 1 to [tdi98@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tdi98@sbcglobal.net) and send check or money order for \$1,350.00 to: TDI, 140 North Vista Street; Los Angeles, CA 90036 or provide credit card information on registration form.

The course instructor, Dr. Arthur Einhorn, has more than 25 years hands-on experience in system development and engineering in the aerospace industry.

Direct questions to 323-935-4649 or 323-496-0397.

## Traffic Update

Due to ongoing construction at Aberdeen Proving Ground, traffic routes will continue to change. For continuous updates, visit the APG Live Blog at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/?p=762>.

## Veteran and Active Military Appreciation Nights

In an effort to honor the military, the Bowie Baysox, the Double-A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles will introduce five branch-specific Veteran and Active Military Appreciation Nights on select Wednesday nights during their 2011 season. Ask about the Bowie Baysox group rates and active military discounts at all regular season games. Each night is themed, but none are exclusive to a specific branch.

- July 6, Marines
- Aug. 31, Army

Stop by MWR office for \$7 Lower Reserve seats.

Directions for the Bowie Baysox: Take Exit 13A off of Highway 50, Prince George's Stadium, 4101 Crain Highway, Bowie, Md.

For more information, call 301-805-6000, visit [www.baysox.com](http://www.baysox.com) or e-mail [jleber@baysox.com](mailto:jleber@baysox.com).

## Local Hazards Course

The Local Hazards Course is designed to familiarize drivers new to the installation with local driving hazards. The course is mandatory for all Soldiers and Family members who drive, civilians and contractors within 90 days of their arrival at APG. It is also mandatory for anyone who is TDY for 30 days or more at APG and Soldiers younger than 25.

The 30-minute course is held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 4305, Room 243B.

### Intermediate Driver's Course

This two-and-a-half hour course is held 1 to 3:30 p.m. in Bldg. 4305, Room

243B. Course dates are June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 31, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

Additional LHC and IDC classes will be added as needed.

Attendees must register online at AIRS through the APG Web site or at <https://airs.lmi.org>.

For more information, call 410-306-1081.

## Overseas travel briefings

The CECOM G2 reminds all government personnel to attend required briefings prior to official and non-official overseas travel. Briefing requirements vary based on destination, security concerns, and nature of travel.

Contact your organization's local security office for more information. For more information call Bob DiMichele, 410-417-0358.

## Blood drive dates

APG will host blood drives on the following dates:

21-Jun-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
25-Jul-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
23-Aug-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
27-Sep-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
31-Oct-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
29-Nov-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
5-Dec-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		



**MORE ONLINE**

More shorts can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under **Shorts**.

# COMMUNITY NOTES

## FRIDAY

### JUNE 10

#### LIX CONCERT AT TYDINGS PARK

The Lix Band will perform a free concert, 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Millard E. Tydings Park, Havre de Grace. Enjoy classic rock music played by this five piece group, sponsored by the Havre de Grace Arts Commission. Bring chairs or blankets and picnics. In the event of rain, the concert will be held at the Havre de Grace Activity Center on Lewis Lane. The band plays Motown to 70's funk and rock to contemporary country.

For more information, call 410-939-2100 or visit <http://lixband.com/>.

## SATURDAY

### JUNE 11

#### HCC ASTRONOMY OPEN HOUSE

There will be an Astronomy Open House at 8 p.m. Telescopes will be set up in the parking lot of Harford Technical High School (across from entrance 2 of Harford Community College). Disabled parking is available. In the event of rain or clouds, an indoor presentation will be available in Edgewood Hall, Room 132 (first building on the right when using entrance 3 of the college). Scouting and educational programs are available before the open house; registration is required for those events.

Call 410-836-7285, email [harfordastro@yahoo.com](mailto:harfordastro@yahoo.com) or visit [www.harfordastro.org](http://www.harfordastro.org).

## HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

The American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold a Horseshoe Tournament 1 p.m.; registration begins at noon. All ladies and men are welcome to participate. Entry fee costs \$20 per person and includes free draft beer. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

For more information, call Gordon at 410-322-7168.

## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

### JUNE 11 AND 12

#### NEW JERSEY RENAISSANCE FAIRE

The 2nd Annual New Jersey Renaissance Faire is coming again to Liberty Lake, 1195 Florence-Columbus Road, Bordentown, N.J. The event will be

held 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 4-5 and 11-12. The Renaissance Faire is set in the 16th-century English Shire of Crossford, and will feature jousts, mounted knights battling to knock opponents from the saddle, wandering minstrels and more. The Faire will feature a King Arthur theme, with the noble Knights of the Round Table battling to overcome a curse placed by the wicked Morgana la Fey. Visit [www.njrenfaire.com](http://www.njrenfaire.com).

## AUDITIONS FOR BYE BYE BIRDIE

Phoenix Festival Theater, a community theater at Harford Community College, will hold auditions for the musical Bye Bye Birdie, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 11 and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 12 Edgewood Hall. Auditions are on a first-come, first-served basis; no appointment is needed. No previous experience is necessary, and all roles are open. Bring sheet music and be prepared to sing 16-32 measures; accompanist will be provided. Comfortable clothing and footwear should be worn for music/dance auditions. Bye Bye Birdie will be performed Sept. 9 to 11 and 17 and 18. Call Jessica Brockmeyer, 443-412-2217 or email [jbrockmeyer@harford.edu](mailto:jbrockmeyer@harford.edu).

## SUNDAY

### JUNE 12

#### 25TH ANNUAL CELTIC FESTIVAL

Steppingstone Museum, located on 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, will host the annual Celtic Festival, noon to 5 p.m. Cost of admission is \$5; free for children 12 and under and members.

Includes music by Barleyjuice, Irish step dancing by Ryan School of Dance, Welsh clogging, spinning and weaving demonstrations, sheepherding demos, clan gatherings, military regiment, vendors, food and more.

For more information or directions, call the museum office, 410-939-2299 or toll free, 1-888-419-1762; e-mail [steppingstonemuseum@msn.com](mailto:steppingstonemuseum@msn.com) or visit Web site [www.steppingstonemuseum.org](http://www.steppingstonemuseum.org).

## FRIDAY

### JUNE 17

#### JERICO BRIDGE CONCERT

Enjoy a free concert by Jericho Bridge, 7:30 to 9 p.m., at Millard E. Tydings Park in Havre de Grace. In the event of rain, the concert will be performed at the Havre de Grace Activity Center, 351 Lewis Lane. Jericho Bridge is a bluegrass band that mixes

traditional, contemporary and original songs and instrumentals. Bring chairs and picnics. Call 410-939-2100 or visit [www.jerichobridge.com](http://www.jerichobridge.com).

## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

### JUNE 18 AND 19

#### ANNUAL CIVIL WAR WEEKEND

The Friends of Jerusalem Mill, located at Jerusalem Mill Village, 2813 Jerusalem Road, Kingsville, Md., will hold their 8th Annual Civil War Weekend Reenactment, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 18, and 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on June 19. The event is open to the public. Tickets cost \$7 for ages 16 and up; \$5 for ages 6 to 16, over-60 seniors active duty troops with I.D.; ages 5 and under are free. Scouts in uniform with adult or Family member are \$3. Special Family price of \$25 includes two adults and three or more kids. Call 410-877-3560 or 410-877-0080.



**MORE ONLINE**

More calendar events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under **Community Notes**.

# MRICD's final steel beam in place

By **NICOLE CAWTHERN**  
Garrison Transformation Office

Clark Construction, the prime contractor for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense facility, hosted a 'Topping Out' ceremony and luncheon May 25.

The event took place on the construction site of the new facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood). Clark welcomed employees, sub-contractors, members of the USAMRICD community, U.S. Army Health Facility Planning Agency, APG community and their partners in the project from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to join in this momentous occasion.

The ceremony, as is tradition, marks the completion of the building's frame and involves placing the final piece of structural steel.

Representatives from USACE, HFPA, USAMRICD and Clark Construction spoke at the ceremony, thanking participants and highlighting the project's uniqueness.

Gary Schilling, Chief of the USACE Integrated Program Office, discussed the solid working relationship between Clark Construction, APG and USACE.

"The Baltimore District is pleased with the progress and very proud of what has been done thus far," said Schilling. "We are optimistic of this group's ability as they have proven themselves to date and we look forward to the completion of the project in 2013."

Greg Colevas, division president for Clark Construction, echoed Schilling's comments on the strong partnership his company has with USACE, noting that this is just one of the many successful projects that they have completed together. He said there are more than 45 project engineers from Clark (not including subcontractors) working on this project and about 275 trades people report to the site for work daily.

"The project is on schedule, within scope and remains within budget," said Colevas. "We are eager to complete this project with a satisfied customer and look forward to the USAMRICD community moving into their new facility."

USAMRICD is the U. S. Department of Defense's lead laboratory for conducting medical chemical defense research. Scientists began studying the effects of chemical warfare at Aberdeen Proving Ground in the Edgewood area, then



MRICD photo

**Col. Peter Schultheiss, United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense commander, signs the ceremonial piece of steel next to his dedicated commander's coin at the USAMRICD Steel Topping Ceremony. This is the final piece of structural steel which will be placed on top of the facility completing the frame of the building.**

Edgewood Arsenal, as early as 1922 under an organization called the Medical Research Division.

By the 1960's, the organization's name changed to the Biomedical Laboratory and in 1981, it became known as USAMRICD. According to the mission statement, USAMRICD works "to discover and develop medical countermeasures to chemical warfare agents for U.S. military and U.S. citizens; to train and educate personnel in the medical management of chemical casualties; and to provide subject matter expertise in developing defense and national policy and in proper crisis management."

Not only do researchers work to prevent chemical injuries, they also study the effects of numerous chemical warfare agents, including both long and short-term effects. The information helps scientists to develop and experiment with various methods of medical treatment. They assess the use of preemptive treatments that can be given before exposure to chemical agents to lessen or prevent the harmful effects, as well as the use of treatments after exposure and their ability to reverse the effects.

After 9/11, and similar incidents,

senior leaders and government officials at the highest levels saw a need to reevaluate and enhance research programs which counter national threats such as chemical weapons, said Matt McGovern, on-site project manager with HFPA. White House support was given to the recapitalization of U.S. medical research and laboratory facilities including the USAMRICD project.

There is difficulty in completing cutting-edge research while working in antiquated facilities, explained McGovern. The USAMRICD replacement facility will improve the institute's mission with the availability of brand new state-of-the-art functional/collaborative research labs, and modern supporting facilities focusing on logistical analysis as well as administrative areas to include space for facilitating USAMRICD's teaching mission.

McGovern attended the ceremony and represented HFPA. HFPA is responsible for the Army's healthcare replacement facility program and they report directly to the Medical Command chief of staff. McGovern commented on the uniqueness of this project noting that "the new building is a complex laboratory facility that will have over five-hundred thou-

sand square feet in space and will be unlike any other facility in the world."

McGovern noted that the timeline of the project demonstrates the precision and dedication that went into this project.

"From the beginning of the planning effort to a fully operational new lab facility is greater than a decade," said McGovern.

Ceremony attendees were invited to sign their names to the commemorative steel beam, forever locking their participation on the project into place within its structure. A unique touch to this 'Topping Out' ceremony was the addition of six commander's coins that were attached to the beam. The coins were contributed by Maj. Gen. James K. Gillman, commander of the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command; Brig. Gen. Timothy K. Adams, commander of the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and former USAMRICD commander; Col. Harry F. Slife, military deputy for Research and Technology, Army Medical Research and Materiel Command and former USAMRICD commander; Col. Peter J. Schultheiss, commander of the USAMRICD; Col. Stephen Wooldridge, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Command, HFPA and Col. David Anderson, commander of USACE, Baltimore District.

"We felt honored to participate in the topping out celebration for the new MRICD," said Schultheiss. "As the previous commander, the past commander, and the present commander, Brig. Gen. Adams, Colonel. Slife and I were thrilled to contribute coins that will remain a part of the institute for as long as it continues to stand."

He noted his excitement at seeing the progress of the building and thanked everyone who contributed to the project, commending them for their "amazing contribution to society, country and nation."

"Celebrating the contributions of everyone involved in planning, building and outfitting this architectural gem of Aberdeen Proving Ground was one of those career highlights that each of us will always fondly remember. It was a great and very special Army day," said Schultheiss.

While a small portion of the funding for USAMRICD is from the BRAC program, the facility is not under strict regulation to meet the BRAC completion deadline of Sept. 15, 2011. Completion of this project is expected in 2013.

# Ten APG employees net gold awards

Continued from Page 1

four options for a rapid response evaluation. Upon conclusion of the field evaluation, six of the load-bearing systems were fabricated and shipped immediately to Afghanistan for evaluation by operating units.

Hash also sets the standard in ARL for ensuring an excellent safety culture within his facilities. During the past year he had zero lost time injuries or accidents. Personnel development and mentorship are at the forefront of Hash's core values as a leader.

"I feel very honored to win the award," Hash said. "I want to thank my supervisor for nominating me and the employees that I supervise. It is a team effort. We are asked to do a lot of experimental work; they make it happen."

## Category 2a-Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

### Song Park

Song Park, a computer engineer with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, has developed and demonstrated heterogeneous computing solutions for tactical missions for Army Warfighters. The approach, based on an intelligent coupling of multicore central processing units, programmable digital circuits, and high-speed processors found in the computer gaming world, allows for deployable binary computing performance on the level that was once only possible in large computing centers.



Park

Park developed algorithms that would blend the strengths of these various processing cores in a way that gives Army Warfighters real-time and rapid answers to complex processing within their tactical environments. His work in this field has been exemplary.

His approach is based on commodity resources; cost is kept low in terms of actual hardware and, perhaps most importantly, in terms of the time-to-field solutions. New approaches that show promise for detecting threats to Soldiers can literally be fielded overnight, as compared to months of design and fabrication with dedicated hardware circuit approaches. Finally, the system is flexible. If new advances are made in the research world, or bugs in software are discovered, the entire system can be upgraded or fixed in software quickly and easily.

By applying these heterogeneous techniques, Park was able to work with radar processing experts and demonstrate a 500x performance increase over the baseline, monolithic signal process approach. This is a level of performance that can greatly enhance Army Warfighter success in tactical environments. Park is currently working with his team to apply these techniques to other important Army Warfighter problems, such as increased situational awareness and threat assessments.

"I was very honored to be nominated it felt great," Park said. "I would like to thank my supervisor for nominating me. I would also like to thank my coworkers. We work together as a team and I receive a lot of support and help from them."

## Category 3A-Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

### Greg Thompson

Greg Thompson is an industrial designer for the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Engineering Directorate rapid response division. Thompson's artistic talent and vision provides a unique and unparalleled capability within the U.S. Army to quickly conceptualize customer-based ideas and solutions. In 2010, he led or supported a large number of high profile programs and urgent needs requirements, including a simulated U.S. Homeland Attack animation, counter-sniper asset concept of operation animation, interactive web-based training supplements, Improvised Explosive Device (IED) training assets, and futuristic designs for an interactive mobile Army recruiting vehicle.



Thompson

"It felt great," he said. "It's very nice to be recognized among your peers and colleagues for all the hard work and dedication that goes into your job."

Thompson thanked several people, including his Family, for their support and encouragement.

"I would like to thank Mark Schlein for providing the opportunity to work

for the Army and for creating a new position within the government catered towards artist/designers, allowing us to have creative influence over many of the projects that get pushed through our support role within the Army. I would also like to thank my immediate team members Jeff, Joseph, Jason, Dan, Jacob, Nate and Azra as well as all of Advanced Design and Manufacturing and ECBC for creating a great work environment and the opportunity to work on challenging projects that help to benefit the Warfighter."

## Category 3B-Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support-Team

**The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) In-theater Embedded Instrumentation or "Blackbox" Effort Test Team**, comprised of 33 individuals, received the Gold Award for their collective hard work and technical excellence in working on the Blackbox project.

The Blackbox Effort is a multidisciplinary military engineering project focused on obtaining critical ballistic and automotive data from armored vehicles. This project directly supports Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in all regions of Afghanistan. The Blackbox was built on the foundation of ATC's earlier successes of the micro Advanced Distributed Modular Acquisition System, now the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's common instrumentation suite. The Blackbox incorporates state-of-the-art ballistic live fire and automotive instrumentation with the latest developments in micro signal processing into a single military hardened system the size of an external hard drive.

The Blackbox has far ranging benefits to many organizations by providing key operational usage information, allowing Department of Defense materiel developers and ATEC to align vehicle capabilities and test regimens more effectively with real battlefield requirements. In blast events, the Blackbox also provides critical insights into the actual Warfighter threats, giving materiel developers and their private industry partners the data they need to continue to improve a vehicle's armoring and survivability. Currently, 162 Blackboxes are operating in all-terrain vehicles and MaxxPro Dash vehicles assigned to US Army, US Marine Corps, and US Special Operations Command in Afghanistan. As individuals, these ATC employees have been recognized for their outstanding effort they give every day.

"It is exciting to be a part of this project, to be a part of history," said Matt Riess, chief of Reliability Availability and Manageability/ Integrated Logistics Support Evaluation Branch. "The whole team spent a lot of time and effort to bring this project to success."

## Outstanding Administrative Work Group or Team

### Weapons & Materials Research Directorate Support Team

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Weapons and Materials Research Directorate Management Support Group provides the administrative underpinnings that enable the critical research and development mission of the ARL WMRD. In an organization with 440 civilians and more than 360 on-site contractors and with a total budget in excess of \$310 million, this group is responsible for providing support in the areas of financial planning and execution, travel, training, logistics, and procurement. The extraordinary accomplishment of the group this past year was their support for a major reorganization from 13 to 22 branches. In order to facilitate this transformation, all business processes had to be realigned and organizational funding had to be re-distributed since the effective date was not aligned with the beginning of the fiscal year. The team performed these functions in a very timely manner on top of all of their normal duties. They were extremely diligent in following up with issues during the months following the initial reorganization, ensuring that all branches and assistance in resolving their issues. During this period of time, they were working with nine acting branch chiefs. Many of these leaders had little or no experience with the business processes of the organization. Undeniably, the success demonstrated by this group was based not only on their collective knowledge of Army financial and business management processes, but also on their ability to clearly communicate and cooperate within WMRD and across

ARL. Their efforts have made the operational effectiveness in WMRD and across ARL.

Their efforts have made the operational effectiveness in WMRD and ARL first-rate, and have directly contributed to ARL setting the standard for excellence in the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) and beyond. The members of this team bring great credit to those in the ranks of Federal Service.

"I would like to thank the team. They went above and beyond their normal duties," said Todd Rosenberger associate director of WMRD. "They are an example of the kind of civil servants that work for the good of the public. It was exhilarating to know that they won. I am very proud of them as their supervisor."

## Category 8B-Volunteer Service-Group Award

### Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) Program

Members of Aberdeen Proving Ground's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) Team volunteered their Saturdays during the summer to implement the League of Dreams. The League of Dreams is an adaptive baseball/softball program for children with special needs. APG was the first military installation to host this program. BOSS also helped bring homes to two Families in Maryland while volunteering over 200 hours to Habitat for Humanity. These Soldiers also volunteered numerous times over a five-month period at the Easterside Family Resource Shelter, which is home to over 90 battered women and their children.

Read the full story in the May 12 online edition of the *APG News* at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil).

## Category 8A-Volunteer Service-Individual Award

### Judy Matthews

Judy Matthews is a 26-year breast cancer survivor and a lead volunteer of The Johns Hopkins Breast Center, where she offers one-on-one dedicated and much needed emotional support to women newly diagnosed with breast cancer and their Families under the Survivor to Survivor Program. Matthews serves The Johns Hopkins Breast Center as an event planner for special breast cancer programs. She has served in this role for 12 years, coordinating the breast cancer survivor retreats held each fall.



Mathews

"It is wonderful to be recognized but it is more about for whom I volunteer services for than the recognition," she said. "I would like to thank my supervisor Karen Taylor for supporting my volunteer efforts and nominating me."

## Category 9 Distinguished Public Service Career

### Patricia Cook

Patricia Cook's dedication, enthusiasm and work ethic over her 35 year career as a Department of the Army civilian led to countless contributions to various Army programs, policies, procedures and ultimately to the Soldier. She served as the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity's M1 Abrams Tank Test, Design and Evaluation coordinator for the majority of the period from program inception to tank's fielding. Her contributions led to significant improvements in the system's lethality, survivability, reliability, mobility, testing, and sustainability. She was the Army representative on the OSD Oversight and Review Process Action Team to streamline the Army's acquisition review process and served as the co-chair to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development, and Acquisition) chartered PAT which recommended streamlining measures for the Army System Acquisition Review Council process. She received Vice President Gore's Hammer Award for her contributions to this effort. She never stopped pursuing and completing programs for self-development to include the Senior Management Executive Development Program, Defense Leadership and Management Program, and the Army War College. Cook held numerous positions to include the Chief of the Combat Evaluation Division as well as Chief of the Strategic and Operational Support Division. She also managed and coordinated the Army's Career Program 16 1515 Operations Research Systems



Cook

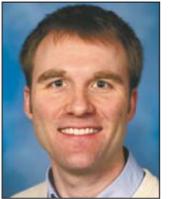
Analysis sub-program. Cook has exemplified the qualities that define a civil servant throughout her entire career. Her efforts and contributions during government service for the Army and in the local community have made a significant difference. Her career accomplishments and contributions serve as benchmarks for others to follow.

"It's always been a privilege and a passion to help Soldiers get the best equipment," Cook said. "It is very rewarding, and very fulfilling. I would like to thank those who nominated me, Eric Grove and Rick Woppert, and all the people I have supervised."

## Scientific and Program Support

### Adam Morehouse

Adam Morehouse, a former U.S. Army officer, has demonstrated an understanding of Army Values and incorporates them whenever possible into the conduct of his job. Morehouse is consulted on all aspects of the of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency's antiterrorism and intelligence programs. He demonstrated an innate ability to identify key issues and track



Morehouse

down information to address issues internally and externally. He has found opportunities to use his knowledge to contribute to a secure working environment throughout the Agency. His knowledge, dynamic personality, and passion for his craft changed attitudes about AT and security for both leaders and the workforce throughout the Agency.

"This is a great start to my career," Morehouse said. "I would like to thank my wife, Rachel, for supporting me. I would also like to thank my boss Michael Jorgenson, who mentored me."

## Category 10C-Rookie Employee of the Year Trade and Crafts

### William "Jack" Spangler

William "Jack" Spangler joined Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Advanced Design and Manufacturing Division in 2009 as an engineering technician / machinist. Spangler's initial duties included Computerized Numerical Control and Conventional Machining, Injection Mold Design and Injection Mold Making. He has since expanded his duties and made himself a crucial team member through his immense impact on teamwork, technical capabilities, efficiency, and manufacturing and subsequent fielding of numerous tangible items to support the Warfighter.



Spangler

Spangler has assisted in the design and personally completed the manufacturing of over 28 quick turnaround rapid response projects. He took the initiative to request and complete training on electrical discharge machining, injection molding, computer aided design, CNC machine operation, and computer aided manufacturing, and now serves as the subject matter expert in several areas including standardized machine tool controllers, electrical discharge machining and Ram EDM, assisting in selecting machines and training on the equipment.

Spangler also advanced the center's injection molding capability by implementing a process enhancement and developing and fabricating several plastic injection molding tools with improved performance. Spangler frequently passes his newly acquired skills, giving his team expanded capabilities only possessed by a few elite organizations. Additionally, Spangler is a member of Volunteers for Medical Engineering and donates his personal time and skills to developing custom assistive items for the handicapped. Spangler combined his thoroughness, enthusiasm, selfless commitment to duty and extensive skill-set with the high-tech manufacturing capabilities of his new team to significantly expanded already leading-edge manufacturing capabilities to new levels.

Spangler said that new employees shouldn't hesitate to share their ideas with their coworkers.

"Voice your own opinion," he said. "And think outside the box."

"It was a great feeling to receive the award, I felt like I was part of something important," Spangler said. "I would like to thank my corporation, ADM, my boss Mark Schlin and my supervisor Dan Lumpkins."

(Silver and bronze awardees are listed on page 9.)

# ATC boasts regular season undefeated

Continued from Page 1

It was Team Individuals that sent ATC to the loser's bracket after a first-round loss in the playoffs.

Before play started, Keenan said his team struggled through an up-and-down season to become good friends.

"We've gotten to know each other pretty well and I like our chances tonight," he said.

Equally confident ATC coach Goodman, noted that his team finished the regular season undefeated.

"We've come a long way since the first game," he said. "This will all come down to them making mistakes and us letting them beat themselves."

Afterwards, the teams congratulated each other and received championship medallions and trophies from the Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff.

"We took it as far as we could," Keenan said. "We had a great season and we had fun doing it."

"We came out to win and they came together and made it happen," Goodman said of his team. "We've been doing this all season and we'll be back again next year."

Referees Sharon Yohn and Kevyn Glover presided over the games.

See more photos at [flickr.com/photos/usagapg](http://flickr.com/photos/usagapg).

Team ATC players pose with their medallions and trophies after winning the intramural volleyball post championship June 2. (From left,) Melisa Redlich, #30, Don Cook, #45, Casey Cramer, #32, Scott Ritch, #25, Coach Mike Goodman, #52, and Lisa Goodman, #31.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson



# Community welcomes Daly, farewells Ireland

Continued from Page 1

his tenure, including the implementation of the patient centered medical home, changes in the beneficiary population due to Base Realignment and Closure and substantial renovations and upgrades to the clinic.

"During this period of time Lt. Col. Ireland has demonstrated extraordinary professionalism, intense intellectual insight and a deep concern for the patients and staff with whom he has been entrusted," he said.

Moore added that during Ireland's tenure he participated in a human capital summit for the MEDDAC designed to make sure that all staff throughout the command are performing tasks which support the current and future missions to the greatest degree possible.

Moore welcomed Daly and said she will continue to advance implementation of patient centered medical home, the

comprehensive behavioral health system of care and other key initiatives of the Army Medical Command.

During Ireland's remarks he thanked the APG community and his Family for their support during his tenure. He added that he admired the strength and resilience that the KUSAHC staff showed during a time of many changes.

"I have full confidence that you, the Kirk Soldiers and civilians, all our beneficiaries, our community, are in the great hands of Lt. Col. Daly and Col. Moore," he said. "They will continue to lead, mentor, guide and support you to even greater success."

Daly said she was grateful for the opportunity to serve the APG community.

"I am proud to be given the opportunity to serve with you and look forward to facing the challenges and opportuni-

ties that lay before us," she said. "I am honored to be joining such a great organization and team."

After Daly's speech, Garrison APG Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz and

Daly signed the Army Medicine Healthcare Covenant. The document was also previously signed by Installation Commander Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, who could not attend the ceremony.



**Lt. Col. Ellen Daly**

Daly is a native of Mechanicsburg, Penn. She graduated from the University of Scranton as a Distinguished Military Graduate in 1992 and was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps.

Her military education includes Officer Basic and Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services School, and the Battalion Maintenance Officers Course. Her previous military assignments include medical platoon leader and executive officer, 557th Ground Ambulance Company, Wiesbaden, Germany; executive officer, Wiesbaden Health Clinic, Wiesbaden, Germany; chief patient administration, Fort Meade MEDDAC, Fort Meade, Md. Daly is actively involved with the American College of Health Care Executives. She is also an elected member of the editorial board for the Health Care Executive magazine.

# Silver, bronze winners announced

Continued from Page 8

## Silver and bronze award winners are as follows:

### Category 1a- Outstanding Supervisor GS13 and Above

#### Silver Award

**Don E. Barclay**, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

**William R. Fisher**, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity

**Mark C. Hassler II**, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center

**James F. Myers**, U.S. Army Evaluation Center

**Lt. Col. Shannon A. Stutler**, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense

**Joyce A. Williams**, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

#### Bronze Award

**Barbara J. Daugherty**, U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)

**John M. Kovac**, 20th Support Command (CBRNE)

**Michael Maher**, U.S. Army Research Laboratory

**Robert T. Puhalla**, Program Executive Office Integration

**Candace A. Rehling**, Headquarters, Civilian Human Resources Agency

**David L. Smylie**, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

### Category 1b-Outstanding Supervisor-Grade 12 and below

#### Silver Award

**Cpt. Gleeson Murphy**, MRICD

### Category 2a-Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

#### Silver Award

**Rashmi Ankam**, AMSAA

**Chika N. Nzelibe**, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

**Gary W. Rowe**, ATC

**Dr. Alfred M. Sciuto**, MRICD

**Brian T. Watson Sr.**, DTC

#### Bronze Award

**Buane Delaine**, PEO I

**Mark B. King**, USAPHC (Provisional)

**Betty L. Manthei**, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

### Category 2b Outstanding Professional (Administrative Management Specialist)

#### Silver Award

**Debra A. Jennings**, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

**Tina L. Pollitt**, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center

#### Bronze Award

**Lea A. Bull**, AMSAA

**Stacey J. Davidson**, 20th Support Command (CBRNE)

**Kimberly Krauer**, CMA

### Category 3a-Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

#### Silver Award

**Leo Bulavko**, RDECOM

**Joanne Holloway**, MRICD

#### Bronze Award

**Jason Brooks**, ATC

**Jon E. King**, USAPHC (Provisional)

**Dennis P. Phillips**, AMSAA

**Jacob M. Rubinstein**, DTC

**Raymond O. Yaukey**, CMA

### Category 3b- Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support-Team

#### Silver Award

**Hazardous Duty Pay Team**, DTC

#### Bronze Award

**Bio-Decon Group**, ECBC

### Category 3c- Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisor) Administrative Management Analyst, G8 & Above

#### Silver Award

**Teresa Brady**, ARL

**Michelle M. Deaner**, U.S. AMSAA

#### Bronze Award

**Stephanie L. Aguiar**, DTC

**Georgia Bancroft**, CMA

**Dana Fritts**, ATC

**Linda S. Thompson**, ECBC

### Category 4a- Outstanding Administrative Assistance/ Management Assistant

#### Silver Award

**Charlone Antoine**, ATC  
**Jessica R. Green**, DTC

#### Bronze Award

**Terri L. Handler**, AMSAA

**Karie Newcomb**, U.S. Army Garrison, APG

**Amanda L. Porter**, ARL

### Category 5-Outstanding Trades and Crafts (Non-Supervisory)

#### Bronze Award

**Lawrence E. Oswald**, ECBC

**James Wolbert**, ARL

### Category 6- Workforce Diversity/ Equal Employment Opportunity Service

#### Silver Award

**Mark H. Ralston**, AMSAA

#### Bronze Award

**Dawn Buford**, CMA

**Staff Sgt. Bountieng Somsamayvong**, MRICD

### Category 8a-Volunteer Service-Individual Award

#### Silver Award

**Jeffrey J. Swab**, ARL

**Sabrina White**, CMA

### Category 8b Volunteer Service-Group Award

#### Silver Award

**Middle School Mentoring, Engineering, and Science Group**, AMSAA

### Category 9 Distinguished Public Service Career

#### Silver Award

**Richard B. Belmonte**, RDECOM

**Steven H. Benjamin**, ATC

**Kent D. Kimsey**, ARL

### Category 10a-Rookie Employee of the Year Administrative/ Management Analyst

#### Silver Award

**Grace H. Gryp**, ATC

**Joseph T. Lariviere**, ARL

#### Bronze Award

**Jessica D. Knight**, DTC

**Sandra L. Leonard**, ECBC

**Jade L. Makfinsky**, MRICD

**Beverly R. Norton**, RDECOM

**Karen A. Price**, CMA

### Category 10b-Rookie Employee of the Year Technical Scientific and Program Support

#### Silver Award

**Bonnie L. Kolaya**, ATC

**David McNamara**, ARL

#### Bronze Award

**Coleen F. Carrion**, AMSAA

**Erik A. Johnson**, MRICD

**Anthony Manske**, RDECOM

**Ryan W. Thomas**, DTC

# PEO IEW&S changes hands as BG Greene returns

By **BRANDON POLLACHEK**  
PEO IEW&S Public Affairs Officer

In front of a packed house of more than 500 Soldiers, government civilians and contractors in the Myer Auditorium along with many more watching via video teleconference the start of a new era began as the charter for the Program Executive Office- Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors was placed into the hands of its newest leader.



Greene

During the Change of Charter ceremony on May 26, Douglas Wiltsie relinquished leadership of PEO IEW&S to Brig. Gen. Harold Greene, in a ceremony that was hosted by Lt. Gen. William Phillips, Military Deputy, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics & Technology).

Greene, who is returning to PEO IEW&S where he previously served as a product manager, takes over the organization that is responsible for the development, acquisition, and life cycle management of the Army intelligence, electronic warfare and sensor systems with an annual portfolio of \$4.3 billion and 112 programs.

Prior to his assignment at PEO IEW&S, Greene served as the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command deputy commanding general and senior commander of the Soldiers System Center, Natick, Mass. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in Materials Science as well as masters degrees in engineering from both Rensselaer and Southern Californ-

**Phillips also shared specific instances where Soldiers were saved by IEW&S systems during the past seven months including multiple occasions where common missile warning systems saved aircrews and passengers from enemy missiles as well as instances where Persistent Surveillance Threat Detection Systems were instrumental in detecting enemy actions and neutralizing threats.**

nia. He also holds a Masters of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College and is a registered professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Upon assuming leadership of the PEO, Greene shared his thoughts on joining the PEO as well as being a part of the collaborative environment on Aberdeen Proving Ground as the base realignment and closure process comes to an end.

“We have come to a transition point where we have to look at bringing into fruition everything that was talked about in the BRAC, and that is synergy,” said Greene. “I am thrilled to not only be a part of Team C4ISR but also the larger Team APG.”

In accepting the charter Greene discussed how serving in the role as PEO not only requires a professional commitment but a personal one as well. He pointed out that just like many members of the organization he has Family members in the armed services who could be placed in harms way who rely on the protection and situational awareness PEO IEW&S systems provide.

“I want to make sure you know that PEO IEW&S has my full commitment and you are going to get my best effort so that we can support our two customers: the Warfighter that is out there depending on us to provide the equipment that gives them a decisive advantage and the taxpayer who provides the resources,” said Greene.

In reflecting on the time Wiltsie spent as the acting PEO, Phillips pointed out that he was anything other than “acting” as the organization fielded more than 40,000 systems within a short timeline. Phillips also shared specific instances where Soldiers were saved by IEW&S systems during the past seven months including several occasions where common missile warning systems saved aircrews and passengers from enemy missiles as well as instances where Persistent Surveillance Threat Detection Systems were instrumental in detecting enemy actions and neutralizing threats.

“Under Doug Wiltsie, this PEO worked through the significant challenges involved in transitioning operations during wartime from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Ground. And, let

me tell you that this outstanding team did not skip a beat in providing superior technology and support for our Warfighters in theater,” said Phillips.

Wiltsie who served as the acting PEO since September will return to his previous position as the Deputy PEO for IEW&S.

Following the ceremony, Greene hosted a meeting with the entire PEO to lay down the foundation of the areas he expects to focus on. Given expected budget constraints and an opportunity to make any one particular program more valuable to Soldiers in the field Greene stressed that it is necessary for product managers to work on their assigned system as well as being dedicated to a systems of systems approach.

Mindful of the upcoming changes the DoD will face over the coming years, Greene highlighted the numerous challenges the PEO will face including completing the BRAC move, operating with decreased resources due in part to a steady reduction of overseas contingency funds, adjusting to new leadership at the highest levels of the Army and DoD while preparing for another drawdown in Afghanistan.

# More Soldiers die from silent killer than from combat

Story and photo by  
**PATRICIA DEAL**  
CRDAMC Public Affairs

Many people think that combat is the most life threatening event for Soldiers, when actually more Soldiers may die off the battlefield fighting a common enemy.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. About every 25 seconds, an American will have a coronary event, and about one every minute will die from one, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Between 70 and 89 percent of sudden cardiac events occur in men, and as part of Men’s Health Awareness Week June 13 through 17, 2011, the medical professionals at the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center want to make sure male beneficiaries know the best way to help reduce their risk.

There are several risk factors affecting heart disease. High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, is the leading cause of stroke, according to the American Heart Association.

Hypertension has been labeled “the silent killer” because there are no symptoms. It may remain unnoticed for many years.

A significant number of Soldiers are affected by hypertension, according to the Department of Defense’s 2008 Survey of Health Related Behaviors. Approximately 17 percent of Soldiers have reported high blood pressure since they entered the Army.

Another 1.7 percent said they never had the condition checked, and 12.7 percent reported they didn’t know or remember what their blood pressure was.

“Hypertension definitely affects the readiness of our troops. Once a Soldier is diagnosed with hypertension, our goal is to get it under control and manageable so he can deploy,” said Maj. (Dr.) Alcario Serros, chief of Internal Medicine at Darnall. “The majority of the time, cases can be controlled through intervention, either with medication and/or lifestyle changes.”

The key is in the diagnosis, Serros said, and fortunately for Soldiers, they have a much better chance of detecting hypertension early as they have better access to care. Soldiers are required to have a physical every year, and blood pressure checks are done at every appointment and during the pre-deployment process.

Blood pressure is measured as systolic, when the heart beats while pumping blood, and diastolic, when the heart is at rest between beats.

A normal blood pressure level is less than 120/80 mmHg. Pre-hypertension is diagnosed with readings of 120-139/80-89 mmHg and hypertension is diagnosed with readings greater than 140/90 mmHg. Higher readings are more serious, and usually require immediate intervention.

There are a number of causes of hypertension, but in 90 percent of the cases, the causes are unknown. There are



**Michael Bergeron, clinical pharmacist, hooks up Sgt. David Callahaun to an Ambulatory Blood Pressure device, which automatically records patients’ blood pressure readings continually for 24 hours.**

several medical conditions and lifestyle choices that are known to increase a person’s risk to hypertension. Most risk factors are controllable, while factors such as age and genetics are not.

Risk factors that can be controlled include cigarette smoking, poor diet, unhealthy weight/obesity, lack of physical activity and excessive alcohol use. Sleep apnea (breathing stop during sleep) is also a known cause of hypertension.

Stress is another known risk factor, and unfortunately for Soldiers, combat stress has been linked to hypertension. According to research reported in the Journal of the American Heart Association, “combat exposure may exert long-term adverse effects on cardiovascular health.”

“The bad news is that the typical lifestyle of Soldiers puts them at a higher risk for hypertension and heart disease. Too often, Soldiers cope with the stress of Army life by smoking, drinking and eating unhealthy,” Serros said. “The good news is though, with lifestyle changes and/or medication, you can reduce your risk.”

There are a number of different types of medications that are effective in lowering blood pressure.

“It’s a matter of tailoring the medication to the individual, finding which type and what dose will help. Our goal is to give the smallest amount of medication and still get the most benefit,” said Michael Bergeron, clinical pharmacist at Darnall. “But medication alone is not enough to manage hypertension. You still have to make lifestyle changes to bring it under control.”

Serros said that it comes down to

patients taking an active role in their health care.

“Some are motivated and some are not. I try to appeal to their emotional side. Often, they have to have a traumatic event or scare to motivate them,” he stated. “Even though they have high blood pressure, they aren’t feeling any pain or discomfort, so it’s harder for them to give up habits that they enjoy.”

While most lifestyle changes are difficult, Maj. Nicole Charbonneau, chief of Nutrition Services at CRDAMC, believes that patients struggle the most with dietary changes.

“But, proper diet and exercise can do wonders to help reduce blood pressure, allowing many patients to control it without medication,” she said. “We recommend the DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) diet, which helps prevent or lower high blood pressure.”

It’s low in sodium, cholesterol and fat, and high in fruits, vegetables and low-fat dairy that provide essential minerals such as potassium, magnesium and calcium.

Getting more physical activity while on the DASH diet provides the best benefit, Charbonneau added. She suggests that even patients in the normal to pre-hypertension range follow the plan as it substantially reduces the risk of developing hypertension in the future.

“The hardest change for most people is reducing the salt in their diets. We have become so accustomed to adding salt to everything, even before tasting it. Many people believe that food just won’t taste as good without salt,” said Ms. Barbara Hughart, dietitian for Nutrition Services.

“You need to cut out the use of added salt to meet dietary guidelines,” she explained. “Try cutting back slowly by using ‘lite’ or sea salts with 25-30 percent reduced sodium, then move to saltless seasonings such as spice-herb blends. It may seem hard, but your taste buds will adapt.”

Current dietary guidelines for Americans recommend that adults in general should consume no more than 2,300 mg of sodium per day and adults in certain population groups should consume no more than 1,500 mg. The average American gets about 3,400 mg of sodium a day.

“It’s just not table salt that’s a concern,” Hughart explained. “People don’t realize most of our sodium intake comes from packaged foods and fast food and restaurant meals. Canned foods are especially high in sodium as are certain condiments such as soy sauce. It’s best just to eat foods as close to fresh as possible.”

Hughart offers more advice and tips for all beneficiaries with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and triglycerides at her weekly Heart Healthy Eating class.

Spc. John Felt, D Company, an Abrams tank crew member, was recently diagnosed with hypertension as he was being treated for a lower back injury incurred during a deployment in 2009-2010. Felt’s blood pressure was 158/128.

“I’m just 39 years old and I never had problems with my blood pressure before so I was surprised it was so high. I don’t know my family history, but the doctors think it is probably genetic,” he said. “I’m sure stress has a lot to do with it, too. Plus, I’m a smoker.”

Felt said he learned quite a bit from Hughart’s class. He’s making some changes and his wife is cooking healthier now, cutting out the salt. With those changes and getting the right medication, he’s happy to report that his blood pressure is lower, at 101/68.

Once patients are able to manage their high blood pressure, Serros said it is imperative that they continue to be checked and monitored.

“They may have had success in lowering their blood pressure, so they think they’re out of the woods. But if they don’t continue to actively take their meds or stick with their healthier habits, they’re just putting themselves in more danger,” he said.

To more accurately monitor blood pressure readings, Bergeron will start using an Ambulatory Blood Pressure device. The patient wears the portable device continually for 24 hours and it automatically records readings throughout the time period.

Bergeron said he also believes that follow-up care is crucial in helping patients with hypertension. He is in the process of developing a “hypertension clinic” which would devote resources to ensure proper follow-up of hypertension patients.

# RDECOM News

## APG leaders seek strategy to fill jobs

### Nearly half of workforce eligible for retirement in five years

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
RDECOM Public Affairs

Aberdeen Proving Ground needs a robust strategy to fill the large number of job openings expected in the next five years, a senior installation executive said May 19.

Within five years, 45 percent of the APG workforce is eligible for retirement, said Gary Martin, executive deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"We need a strategy for people, not just a strategy for mission. You can't get the job done without people," he said. "My concern is what we do for the long haul. How do we keep the extended pipeline of people available?"

Martin spoke before the local chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers at Wetlands Golf Club. He compared APG to Silicon Valley because of the influx of scientists and engineers to the area.

"APG is turning into an international hub for science, technology and engineering. It's happening all

around. Companies are popping up all over," Martin said. "When you look at the breadth of the missions and the extensive amount of science and engineering, there is no place that matches APG in the Army. This will be the next major innovation area for the country."

Because the Army is expanding the installation into its largest research and development center, Martin emphasized the need for local school districts and colleges to embrace the challenge of providing future scientific talent.

Martin said RDECOM has signed cooperative research and development agreements with the University of Delaware, Morgan State University and the University of Maryland within the last two years.

APG leaders are also reaching out to local school districts to strengthen their science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, programs. Martin has helped lead two STEM summits this year, with the next set for July. The summits bring together APG leaders, defense contractors, local government officials and educators.



Photo by Tom Faulkner

**Gary Martin, executive deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, speaks May 19 before the local chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers at Wetlands Golf Club in Aberdeen.**

## RDECOM employees gather for town hall

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
RDECOM Public Affairs

As the U.S. Army seeks efficiencies in the face of budget cuts, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Chief of Staff Col. Kirk Benson said the organization will increase productivity by empowering each worker.

"The Army is going to start realigning itself significantly in terms of money, i.e. downsizing. We are going to have to make decisions in terms of force structure and what programs we invest in," Benson said.

Benson addressed the headquarters of more than 150 military, civilian and contractor employees June 2 at the Ball Conference Center during a town hall meeting.

Benson took over as chief of staff in February and used the town hall to explain his vision for the staff. He started with an Army video titled "Symbol of Strength: More than a Uniform" and videos about unmanned aerial vehicles and Strykers as examples of the value added by Army scientists and engineers. He encouraged employ-



Photo by Conrad Johnson

**U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Chief of Staff Col. Kirk Benson addresses headquarters staff June 2 during a town hall meeting at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.**

ees to continue their work to empower, unburden and protect American Warfighters.

Benson said RDECOM leadership is restructuring headquarters staff to improve efficiency.

"How can we improve ourselves as a staff? We have a great set of people. Any organization must be continually evolving," Benson said. "The changes should allow us to empower and enable all the way down the indi-

vidual person. If you have good people, empower them and they will do profound things. When we empower to the individual level, we can take advantage of all the talent we have in this room."

## Scout heads civilian monument beautification

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

A rededication ceremony that took place at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood) May 30, all began when a local Boy Scout wanted to honor government civilians who lost their lives while serving on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Thinking it would make a fitting Eagle Scout project, he proposed a project to post officials that would allow him to erect a monument. Was surprised to learn that the installation already had one.

The World War II-era monument had gone largely unnoticed in recent years so 14-year-old Tommy Surdu refocused his efforts on reviving the monument and educating the community on its existence and significance.

Surdu, a Scout with Troop 810, St. Francis de Sales in Abingdon, led the undertaking from proposal to completion, taking on endless tasks that included researching the history of the site, planning, organizing and documenting every detail of its revitalization.

Surdu is the son of Col. John R. Surdu, military deputy to the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics, Research, Development and Engineering Center.

"When I found out a monument existed and then saw its condition, I decided to beautify it instead of building one," the young Surdu said.

He said planning began in September 2010. After talking to his father and Scout master, he was directed to APG South workers including historian Jeff Smart who provided him with much of the information about the structure.

"I worked on the proposal little by little, sometimes every night," he said, adding that he received final approval from the garrison during the Christmas season.

Surdu's planning book contains every minute detail from diagramed measurements of the site, to projected supplies, tools and man hours.



**Boy Scout Tommy Surdu, (left), accepts a commander's coin of excellence from Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, for leading the beautification and rededication of the civilian monument in APG South for his Eagle Scout project.**

Troop 810 Scout master Walt Scowden said that despite Surdu's young age, he has well developed leadership qualities.

"Planning for a project like this has to be so thorough that if he couldn't be here for whatever reason, we could actually be able to pick up his book and complete the project," Scowden said. "Tommy more than met that requirement. He's a very good leader and he's been very thorough. And, he'll be the youngest Eagle Scout we have in our troop."

The scouts of Troop 810 and several volunteers descended on the site May 7 and 8 and spent the weekend digging holes, mulching and planting flowers and shrubs, assembling and installing park benches in cement, scrubbing the granite memorial and performing numerous other beautification tasks.

Tommy even assisted in planning the dedication program which featured

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, APG garrison and deputy installation commander, as the guest speaker. Guests in attendance included Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and Joseph Wienand, technical director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

Surdu's father, who hosted the event, said the site represents 386 hours of research, planning and labor. He said it was fitting that the ceremony was conducted on Memorial Day, just prior to the installation ceremony at the Edgewood Arsenal Cemetery.

"Typically, we concentrate on our fallen military. Rededication of this monument allows us to remember the sacrifices of our civilian workers as well," he said.

Ortiz said that while it took teamwork to bring the project to fruition, Tommy Surdu's individual contributions could

not be overlooked.

"It was Tommy who had the drive and initiative to conceive the idea, design the reconstruction, coordinate resources, oversee the physical labor and plan this ceremony," he said, adding that by his actions, Surdu successfully reminds current and future observers of the often overlooked contributions of government civilians.

"He forces us to remember that Soldiers are not the only members of our Army to perish in support of our nation, but civil servants do also," he said. "We must always remember it takes a team ... Soldiers, civilians and contractors, working together. "Tommy, thank you for raising our consciousness."

The site sits on Magnolia Road between Hoadley and Wise roads near the APG South shoppette. Surrounded by trees, it consists of three bricked walkways leading up to the 7-foot Port Deposit granite slab with a brass plaque that reads "In honored memory of those civilian employees of Edgewood Arsenal who made the supreme sacrifice for their country. Presented by the Employees Welfare Association, 1946."

Visitors to the site can also read about the history of the monument. Installed by the Scout troop alongside the monument, there is a stand, constructed and donated by Tom Mitchell. The stand contains a book with information assembled by Surdu that details the monument's history.

Surdu said he was grateful for help and support from Ortiz and Lori Austin, garrison staff action specialist; Tony Hale from the Directorate of Public Works; Tom Mitchell, builder and donor of the bookstand and other on and off-post organizations and volunteers. Other contributors included the Country Garden Center, Wendy's Restaurant, Lowes, the Edgewood Shoppette, Dee's Florist, Oakland Living and several adult and youth volunteers.

See more photos at [flickr.com/photos/usagapg](http://flickr.com/photos/usagapg).