

APG NEWS



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Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Thompson

Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey pins Spc. Rossina Marshall, an awards NCO with the 335th Signal Command, with the rank of sergeant during his visit to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait Dec. 24. Casey visited Camp Arifjan to speak with Third Army Soldiers, thanking them for their hard work in the Drawdown of Iraq and their contributions to the war on terror.

Army returns to patrol cap, makes Velcro optional

By **C. TODD LOPEZ**
Army News Service

The voice of the Soldier has been heard: the Army announced the patrol cap will replace the black wool beret as the default headgear for the Army combat uniform.

Also changing are the options for how Soldiers can attach certain items to their ACU shirts. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said Soldiers will soon be able to sew on name tapes, service tapes, rank insignia and skill badges, instead of using Velcro.

The changes were made after Dempsey received input from Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, who had been tasked to gather opinions from Soldiers in the field.

"I am a scout for General Dempsey, who asked me to look into everything a Soldier wears from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet," Chandler said. "These are changes that



Photo by Staff Sgt. Manuel J. Martinez

U.S. Army Pvt. Jeffrey Lunz receives his beret during basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C., Jan. 16, 2008

See OUT, page 7

APG News reporter honored

APG News staff report

APG News reporter Yvonne Johnson recently won best feature photo in this year's Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association journalism competition.



Johnson

The photo that nabbed Johnson the award for photographic excellence in the weekly newspaper category was the cover photo in the May 27 (2010) APG News depicting the removal of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's sign.

The sign was removed by the installation's Directorate of Public Works personnel in preparation for the organization's base realignment and closure move from APG to its new home at Fort Lee, Va.,

See JOHNSON, page 7



Bob Dennison and Shaun Blische of the Directorate of Public Works' buildings and structures division return to the task of removing Ordnance emblems from building 3071, after handing co-worker Tony Vincenti part of the sign from the former U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools headquarters about 5:45 p.m., May 19.

See CECOM, page 11

CECOM deputy retiring

By **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
CECOM

"It's hard to believe I've been here since 1974," said Edward C. Thomas, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command deputy to the commanding general, as he reflects on his CECOM career before retiring this summer. "Thirty-seven years went by in a heartbeat."

Much like today, Thomas entered into government service in a time of change. But as a comptroller intern fresh out of college, he had no idea that he'd one day help lead the effort for one of the largest Army logistical moves in history.

"I still remember the day I walked into the lobby of the CECOM office building in New Jersey to in-process," Thomas recalled. He said there must



Thomas

See CECOM, page 11

WEATHER

Thurs.



89° | 73°

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NO NEED FOR SUMMER BLUES

Find out what's happening at APG for kids. SEE PAGE 10

OPINION

EML: Make the most of time away from battlefield

When I was a child, everything seemed large and monumental. The highest number I could fathom was 100.

When I played the counting game, you could pretty much count on my response: "Bubble gum, Bubble gum in a dish, how many pieces do you wish? One hundred!"

A mile was a long way, an hour a long time. A day seemed like a week, a week seemed like a year, and a year? Well, when I was 5 and my mother told me on Dec. 26 that Christmas was now an entire year away, I cried; because to me, that was an eternity.

Now that I'm older and a little wiser, I learned 100 is not such a big number after all. Nowadays, a hundred bucks won't cover the cost for a family of four to go out to dinner and a movie. Now, as I've recently learned, I can fit 100 pieces of gum in my mouth. It was a challenge from Sgt. 1st Class Vito Powers - I had to accept.

A mile; well, I have to run two miles for a physical training test, and I can do that in less than 17 minutes. At least, I'd better if I want to pass.

A week seems to fly by, even here in Afghanistan. And a year, well, before you know it, it's going to be October and time for the 10th Combat Aviation Brigade to come home!

Think about how many years you have been in the Army. When you look back, I bet most of you will say, "Wow, has it really been that long?" When you put things into perspective, a year is not much time at all; 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days. Some can even break it down to the hours, minutes and seconds. It's all the same amount of time, no matter how it's broken down. Time is relative to how it is spent.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Todd Pouliot

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Travis Vreeland of Ventura, Calif., a MEDEVAC pilot with Company C, Task Force Phoenix, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade/TF Falcon, waits for an Environmental Morale Leave earlier this year.

The best part of this year is the two weeks of Environmental Morale Leave, also known as rest and recuperation; the 15 days Soldiers get to spend away from the combat mission. I recently came back from my EML, and I can tell you it went faster than a dozen jelly donuts at a police station. I can say that because I was a military policeman a dozen years ago. Wow, has it really been that long? See! Anyhow, I had a lot of big plans for my 15 days of vacation. I was going to do it all. I was going to see all of my friends and Family - not only in my home state of Florida, but New York, Georgia, Arizona, and oh yeah, spend a few days in Las Vegas, too!

You see, I was a child again, and 15 days was a long time. However, once

I was home, I quickly realized 15 days was not all that long. At first, I was frantically looking at dates and times and calling this person and that person to nail down my plan and maximize my time. I was becoming frazzled - how was I going to do everything.

Then it happened; a song from childhood popped into my head: "Relax" by Frankie Goes to Hollywood. I found myself singing, "Relax! Don't do it, when you want to go to it. Relax!" After all, it is called rest and recuperation for a reason.

Once I accepted the fact I was not going to be able to see everyone and go to all of those places in 15 days, I was able to do exactly that - relax!

Make realistic plans for your time

off. Accept you're not going to be able to do everything you want to do in 15 days so you can maximize your time off. Remember what this time off is for - to recharge.

Slow down. Spend time with your friends and Family. Take comfort in the fact you don't have to have a million and one plans to enjoy your time off. You don't want to be on a rigid timeline - that's what you do here. You don't have to wake up at zero-dark-thirty for physical training, shift change or some meeting. You can sit down and enjoy your meals with real cutlery.

Sometimes, the best laid plan is to have no plan at all. It will take a few days to become adjusted to not having to carry a weapon to Walmart or out to dinner. It will take time to adjust to being called by your first name or mommy or daddy.

EML is your time and that is important to keep in mind when making plans. It's not about the cruise, the beach or the weekend at a ski lodge; it's about being with friends or Family; or alone if you want, for 15 days and enjoying that time wherever and however it's spent.

Remember, 15 days is not a long time. But, put into perspective, neither is a year. Before too long, it will be time to make plans for an even happier moment - when you are once again with your Family upon completion of this tour of duty; a time when miles will not distance you and time will not have to be spent apart. An hour can once again seem like a day; a day like a week and a week like a year. Enjoy your EML and don't forget what Frankie said ... RELAX.

Staff Sgt. David Boyle
10th CAB Master Resiliency Trainer

Military children adapt well to change

Growing up, I hated the military.

It was the military's fault that I was born with dual citizenship. I blamed the military when I had to leave for the United States and wondered if they spoke English there or not. I hated the military when it sent my dad to Korea for a year and it was the military's fault when the following year my mom had to go to Greenland for a year.

It was the military's fault when I had to leave the small capital of Wyoming to go to the busy city of Las Vegas. I hated the military every time I looked up to the stands and didn't see the cheering faces of my parents when I scored a goal. It was the military's fault that my brother moved out to 'Aim High.'

It was the military's fault that I had the opportunity of a lifetime to see the world and its fault that I eventually started to like it.

Being a military brat has given me so much. It not only gave me the opportunity to live and experience other cultures, but also brought me home to the United States.

It taught me how to make friends quickly and how to say goodbye, by not saying goodbye.

It has taught me to be independent and know right from wrong.

It has shown me patriotism, pride and dignity.

It has taught me how to love, respect and honor the one's who give their lives for our country.

It has taught me to stop and cover my heart every time the national anthem is played and to teach others about devotion.

It has given me an education and allowed me to travel to places I would have never gone.

It's the reason I joined in 2003 and

the reason I continue to serve.

It has opened doors for me and held them open so that I can proudly walk through with my head held high, accomplishing my goals.

It has taught me a language that not many know and has shown me that even though I don't think I can, I can and will do what has been placed before me.

It has given me the strength to go on when others can't and to pick up those who struggle.

The military introduced me to my husband and gave us a safe place to raise our son. It's the reason I raise my son to honor the fallen and thank the wounded. It's the reason he takes his baseball cap off at hockey games and points out every American flag during a car ride home. It's the reason why he is able to go outside and play safely because he knows he's being taken care of by the men and women who serve

our country.

There are many reasons why a military brat is special. They are taught to live life to the fullest, love others unconditionally, to never quit and to always know that they're never alone. They make friends easily and don't let them go. They know when you say goodbye, it's not really goodbye - it's only the beginning. Military brats are well-rounded, down to earth people who understand differences and accept diversity.

April was the Month of the Military Child, but we should take the time every day to honor our service members' children and pat them on the back for all that they do. For all military brats, every month is your month. We appreciate you, love you and adore all that you stand for.

Sharilyn Wells
Paraglide, Fort Bragg, N.C.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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

Staff

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

Planning key for peak-season moves

By **MITCH CHANDRAN**

Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

Each summer, about 225,000 Defense Department and U.S. Coast Guard household good shipments are slated for movement, creating a phenomenon in the transportation industry aptly called the “peak moving season.”

Officials from the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command’s personal property directorate, responsible for the DOD’s household goods moving program, want service members to know a successful move during this peak time is possible with proper planning.

Peak moving season runs from May through August each year, with the busiest portion being from Memorial Day through July 4. This peak season creates a capacity challenge for commercial carriers to accommodate moving dates. But with planning and active involvement, service members can have a successful move even during the busiest moving season.

This summer is busier than normal because of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law directing many organizations and units to move by the end of September. This adds an additional 17,000 service members and Family members to the normal peak season, stretching the moving industry’s capacity even further.

Making a successful and timely move during an already challenging peak moving season will require added vigilance from both the service member and the commercial companies assigned to move them.

“The bottom line to a successful move is not a matter of chance,” said John Johnson, branch chief for SDDC’s personal property directorate. “It is the result of concise planning and preparation by both the [transportation service provider] and service member.”

Johnson said the directorate has been aggressively posturing for this year’s “peak of the peak” moving season since last summer. The directorate, he added, has been engaged with service representatives and the moving industry to prepare for this unusually busy moving season.

Carrier capacity is an issue because the sheer volume of shipments this time

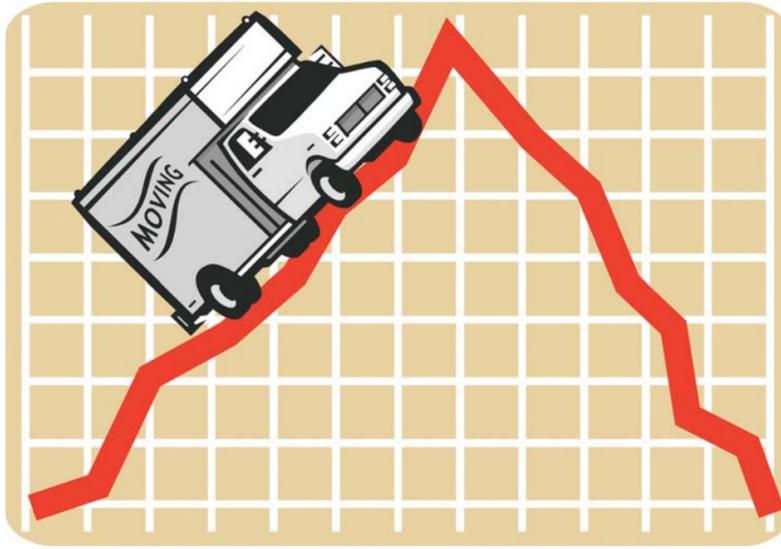


Illustration by Nick Pentz

Peak moving season runs from May through August each year, with the busiest portion being from Memorial Day through July 4.

of year can exhaust the moving industry’s resources. The DOD shipments compete with corporate and private moving requirements throughout the country, and carriers must manage schedules and resources to meet demand.

Officials advise service members to book their shipments early in the process and stay within their weight entitlement.

Most importantly, service members should become familiar with the Web site at <http://www.move.mil> and visit their local personal property shipping office. Once a carrier is assigned to perform the move, service members

should remain in continuous communication with these contacts throughout the process.

On the move day, service members or a designated representative need to be at the residence when the carrier arrives. Otherwise, they may be liable for an attempted pickup or delivery charge.

A rule of thumb to gauge the weight of household goods is to figure about 1,000 pounds per room as an initial estimate. Service members are encouraged to dispose of any unnecessary items to reduce the weight of their shipment as any weight shipped in excess of their

entitlement will be charged to them. If service members are close to or over their weight allowance, they can request a reweigh at delivery.

For questions, service members can visit <http://move.mil> or contact their local transportation office, personal property shipping office or joint personal property shipping office.

The success of DOD’s household goods program is, officials said, a result of the commitment of SDDC’s commercial partners in the household goods moving industry. The commercial carriers range from the largest moving companies down to small, regional local companies and agents. All Defense Personal Property Program carriers are DOD-approved and supply a wide range of moving options and capabilities to meet the needs of individual customers.

Peak moving season is a challenging time for the moving industry because its capacity is pushed to the limits. This responsibility is not taken lightly by the vast majority of carriers, but the fact is, some sign up for more than they can accommodate. Already this year, one major carrier was suspended for 90 days for failure to meet contracted obligations, officials said.

“It’s a tough call to remove a [transportation service provider] from DoD business,” Johnson said, “but it’s also important we adhere to our contractual responsibilities. If we are to provide a quality program for deserving service members and their Families, then as the policy managers of the household goods program, we should remain consistent with our expectations from the TSPs.”

QUICK TIPS FOR MOVES TO AND FROM APG

There are five military installations in Maryland, as well as JPPSO Ft Belvoir and Dover AFB, all of which use the same moving companies. To help ease your move, APG’s Personal Property Shipping Office offers the following tips:

- Movers should have alternate moving dates.
- Do not change moving dates once they have been booked.
- Try to obtain orders as early as possible.
- If a service member must depart early, consider providing power of attorney for someone to act on the troop’s behalf.

■ **Start early:** The shipping office needs at least a 30 day notice during peak season to schedule your move. All move dates for a particular month may be fully reserved the previous month.

■ **Contact APG’s Personal Property Shipping Office** before you vacate your premises to find out how long it may take before household goods can be picked up.

■ **Be proactive:** Visit www.move.mil, activate your password and put your initial information into the system to make the process quicker and smoother.

Information provided by Aberdeen Proving Ground’s DOL Personal Property Shipping Office

Airborne Intelligence fallen honored at APG

By **BRANDON POLLACHEK**
PEO IEW&S PAO

Members of the Special Electronic Mission Aircraft community who died in the line of duty were honored during a recent tribute at the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance complex on Aberdeen Proving Ground North.

"We are dedicating this memorial to acknowledge our debt to the fallen, to offer thanks and to always remember them," said Col. Keith Hirschman, Project Manager Airborne Reconnaissance and Exploitation Systems.

A conference room within the new C4ISR complex was dedicated and will serve as a reminder of the contributions of the Soldiers, government civilians and contractors—pilots, operators and support personnel—who sacrificed their lives while operating various aircraft during the past five decades.

"The Special Electronic Mission Aircraft Memorial Conference Room is built around the theme of a highly tech-

When you see the placards that describe the accidents that took lives over the past 40 plus years, think about those serving forward today, taking that risk and rededicate ourselves to make sure we give them the best equipment possible.

Brig-Gen. Harold Greene
PEO-IEW&S

nic and specialized community that is centered around teamwork, they are dedicated to the success of the mission no matter what the cost," said Hirschman.

"The placards on the wall will be viewed during every meeting and my hope is that they will remind us all of who we build these systems for," he said. "I hope it will spur us to be ever mindful of the need to provide systems that will be safe, that will provide the intelligence

products to decisively achieve combat objectives and preserve combat power that ultimately saves lives."

Brig-Gen. Harold Greene, PEO-IEW&S who was responsible for fielding various SEMA aircraft while previously serving as the product manager for Aerial Common Sensors, shared during the ceremony the special meaning this memorial has for him.

Seven of the men and women memori-

alized died in two accidents that occurred during his time as product manager. The conference room depicts the losses of 38 SEMA professionals who served in various roles from Vietnam to Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The dedicated team here serves to provide capability to those folks that go out and do the nation's bidding and unfortunately some of them give that ultimate sacrifice and this provides us the opportunity to recognize those who have done that," said Greene.

"When you see the placards that describe the various accidents that took lives over the past 40 plus years, think about those that are serving forward today, taking that risk and rededicate ourselves to make sure that we give them the best equipment that they could possibly have," he said.

SEMA aircraft continue to provide critical intelligence to commanders in the field as Guardrail, Medium Altitude Reconnaissance Surveillance Systems, and other airborne ISR aircraft conduct missions in Afghanistan, Iraq and other areas throughout the world.

How to cut down on your drinking

ASAP APG

If you are concern about have much you drink, you can improve your life and health by cutting down.

Cindy Scott, Aberdeen Proving Ground's Army substance abuse prevention coordinator, asks "How do you know if you drink too much?" Scott recommends answering the following questions honestly.

- Do you drink alone when you feel angry or sad?
- Does your drinking ever make you late for work?
- Does your drinking worry your Family?
- Do you ever drink after telling yourself you won't?
- Do you ever forget what you did while you were drinking?
- Do you get headaches or have a hang-over after you have been drinking?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may have a drinking problem. Check with your doctor to be sure. Your doctor will be able to tell you whether you should cut down or abstain.

To help you reach your goal, keep a "diary" of your drinking. Write down every time you have a drink for one week.

If you are alcoholic or have other medical problems, you should not just cut down on your drinking--you should stop drinking completely. Your doctor will advise you about what is right for you.

If your doctor tells you to cut down on your drinking, these steps can help you:

1. Write your reasons for cutting down or stopping. Why do you want to drink less? There are many reasons why you may want to cut down or stop drinking. You may want to improve your health, sleep better or get along better with your family and friends. Make a list of the reasons you want to drink less.

2. Set a drinking goal. Choose a limit for how much you will drink. You may choose to cut down or not to drink at all. If you are cutting down, keep below these limits: Women: No more than one

drink per day. Men: No more than two drinks per day

3. A standard drink is a 12-ounce bottle of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine or a 1 1/2-ounce shot of liquor. These limits may be too high for people who have certain medical problems or who are older. Talk with your doctor about the limit that is right for you.

4. Write your drinking goal on a piece of paper. Put it where you can see it, such as on your refrigerator or bathroom mirror.

5. Keep a "diary" of your drinking. To help you reach your goal, keep a "diary" of your drinking. For example, write down every time you have a drink for one week. Try to keep your diary for three or four weeks. This will show you how much you drink and when. You may be surprised. How different is your goal from the amount you drink now?

Now you know why you want to drink less and you have a goal. There are many ways you can help yourself to cut down. Try these tips:

1. Watch it at home. Keep a small amount or no alcohol at home. Don't keep temptations around.

2. Drink slowly. When you drink, sip it slowly. Take a break of one hour between drinks. Drink soda, water, or juice after a drink with alcohol. Do not drink on an empty stomach and eat food when you are drinking.

3. Take a break from alcohol. Pick a day or two each week when you will not drink at all. Then, try to stop drinking

for one week. Think about how you feel physically and emotionally on these days. When you succeed and feel better, you may find it easier to cut down for good.

4. Learn how to say NO. You do not have to drink when other people drink. You do not have to take a drink that is given to you. Practice ways to say no politely. For example, you can tell people you feel better when you drink less. Stay away from people who give you a hard time about not drinking.

5. Stay active. What would you like to do instead of drinking? Use the time and money spent on drinking to do something fun with your family or friends. Go out to eat, see a movie, or play sports.

6. Get support. Cutting down on your drinking may be difficult at times. Ask your family and friends for support to help you reach your goal. Talk to your doctor if you are having trouble cutting down. Get the help you need to reach your goal.

7. Avoid temptation. Watch out for people, places, or times that make you drink, even if you do not want to. Stay away from people who drink a lot or bars you normally frequent. Plan ahead of time what you will do to avoid drinking when you are tempted.

8. Do not drink when you are angry or upset or have a bad day. These are habits you need to break if you want to drink less.

DO NOT GIVE UP! Most people do not cut down or give up drinking all at once. Just like a diet, it is not easy to change. That is okay. If you do not reach your goal the first time, try again. Remember, get support from people who care about you and want to help.

For more information, contact the ASAP EAP at 410-278-5319 or Cindy Scott at 410-278-4013/DRUG or Cynthia.Scott1@us.army.mil.

Scholarships available for female federal employees

Special to the APG News

The Maryland Tri-County chapter of Federally Employed Women presents the annual \$300 scholarship called the 2011 Dottie Dorman Working Woman's Scholarship to a deserving woman to pay for or offset college expenses incurred in pursuit of her continuing education.

To qualify a nominee must: be a female federal employee in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County; currently be pursuing college-level education studies; prepare a short essay (not to exceed one typed page) summarizing educational plans and explaining how the scholarship will be used. Indicate in the essay whether currently receiving federal aid for education, whether involved in a reduction in force, and what the promotion

potential is in applicant's current federal position. Provide the name; home and work addresses; home and work telephone numbers; e-mail addresses; name and telephone number of current supervisor (to confirm federal employment); and name of nominee's educational institution. Applications should be submitted to the Maryland Tri-County FEW Scholarship, c/o Karen Jobs, 130 Remington Circle, Havre de Grace, MD 21078 no later than July 25. The winner will be announced during the APG Women's Equality Day observance and awards ceremony, 1:30 p.m., Aug. 23, at Ball Conference Center.

For more information, call Karen Jobs at 410-436-4429 or Melissa Smith at 410-642-2411, x5129.



MORE ONLINE



To view more photos of events going on at and around the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, visit the garrison Flickr site <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or scan the QR code.

APG's green initiative letting the sun shine in

By **TERRI KALTENBACHER**
DPW Environmental Division

Even though you don't see at APG the huge photovoltaic solar panels that are widespread in Florida, California and the Southwest, our installation is making strides towards harnessing sunlight to power our lives.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2010 and other Department of Defense energy mandates require military installations to improve energy efficiency and reduce reliance on fossil fuels by using renewable resources like the sun.

Several weeks ago, APG relit the Pooles Island Lighthouse by installing an LED light source and acrylic Fresnel lens, powered by a pedestal-mounted solar and battery system. The new optic has more than a six nautical mile visual range, but needs just a 12-volt battery to operate.

Storage of sun power enables the light to flash for up to 46 days without sunshine, an important feature during Maryland's long, gray winters.

The historic relighting utilizes the sun for its power source, not only because of the lack of electricity on the island, but to symbolically show the Army's interest in moving forward with renewable resources and alternative energy.

The lighthouse is now classified as a private aid to navigation with the U.S. Coast Guard and has been chosen as our post symbol by Research, Development, and Engineering Command and Installation Commander Maj. Gen. Nick Justice to "light a path to the future".

When Harford Technical High School students designed the Pooles Island Lighthouse replica and time capsule to celebrate this year's Earth/Arbor Day, many of the construction materials used were salvaged and recycled.

"The lighting mechanism is operated by a small solar battery pack, to simulate how the "real" lighthouse is lit, "according to Michael Svezese, the students' trades and industry instructor. He further commented that "the focus of this project was to get the students to think in terms of sustainability and reducing carbon footprint in a real-world sense, by using a model as an example".

The Pooles Island Lighthouse is off limits to the public, but you can stop by the garrison headquarters in Bldg. 305 to see the replica on display in the main lobby.

Current solar energy initiatives on APG include the installation of a passive solar insolation capture system



Courtesy photo

(From left) DPW Maintenance employees Mike Wise, Harold Whitaker and Steve Coale install the environmentally friendly lighting at the Pooles Island Lighthouse in April.

that is near completion on the roof of Bldg. 525. Unlike photovoltaic cells that generate electricity through direct conversion of solar radiation, the dark colored roofing system absorbs the radiant energy of the sun and captures heat in the three-inch interstitial space between the roof panels and the insulation.

The hot air is then piped throughout the 150,000-square-foot building via ductwork, reducing the amount of gas needed to heat the building in the winter by 15 to 20 percent. Bruce Erdner, DPW roofing systems engineer, said the solar roof system uses off-of-the-shelf materials and components and the APG project is the largest installation of its kind on the east coast.

Erdner added that the new roofing system is projected to pay for itself in less than eight years, illustrating that going solar isn't just good for the environment; it also has proven cost savings in the long term.

Other projects involve incorporating solar tubes into several of the post's buildings for additional natural light. These strategically placed, high-tech skylights will save on energy costs by delivering daylight to the building inte-

rior while reducing the need for electric light during the workday.

Installation Energy Program Manager Anh Dang said he is interested in further pursuing solar and that "at some point, solar technology development will increase to allow us to capture and store sun energy to power our buildings, even at night."

Presently, the amount of money and space needed to implement full-scale sun power makes it a challenge at APG, partly because of limited sunlight hours

especially during winter, and the amount of vegetation present that impedes the placement of solar panels. However, Dang believes that eventually "the cost of solar will come down just like it did with LED lighting, which is now commonplace."

For more information on the Pooles Island Lighthouse solar powered lighting unit, solar tubes and solar air-heating, click on the Environment Tab of the APG Live Blog at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>.

WHAT IS CLEAN TALK?



Clean Talk is a monthly series that highlights APG's continuing efforts to restore our environment and protect our natural and cultural resources.

These articles, focusing on the garrison's environmental program, will profile cleanup success stories, bioremediation breakthroughs, pollution prevention and greening efforts on the installation, both past and present.



Dining options topic of June CAC

Timothy Knox, Aberdeen Proving Ground's Alcohol and Drug Control Officer raises a question during the June Community Action Council meeting at the APG South (Edgewood) chapel June 16. Highlights of the June meeting included presentations by UFood Grill and Tim Hortons, vendors who will be bringing new food service options to APG soon. See the CAC slideshow presentation at www.slide-share.net/USAGAPG/. The next CAC meeting will be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel July 21.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG? Tell us how we are doing. Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>. Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

Johnson wins award for Ordnance photo

Continued from Page 1

Specifically the photo shows a worker walking away with the Ordnance sign in hand, shortly after it was removed from Bldg. 3071.

The judges comments noted that “it was nice that the photographer managed to capture the moment when the sign was removed and work it into the overall of the building.”

“It was really a great photo, and great timing,” said APG News Editor Adriane Foss. “It is one of those iconic photos that speaks volumes about a single issue—in this case, BRAC. Fifty years from now we could run that photo again and it would be an appropriate representation of not just the Ordnance move, but the 2005 BRAC round.

“We’re very fortunate to have her on the staff,” said APG Public Affairs Officer George Mercer. “In addition to being a very talented journalist, Yvonne is a

“It was really a great photo, and great timing. It is one of those iconic photos that speaks volumes about a single issue—in this case, BRAC. Fifty years from now we could run that photo again and it would be an appropriate representation of not just the Ordnance move, but the 2005 BRAC round.”

Adriane Foss
APG News Editor

hard worker and has an excellent rapport with the community. “

Johnson said she just happened to drive by after duty hours that day and noticed DPW employees at work on the

building.

“I didn’t have my camera on me so I had to rush to the office, grab it and rush back,” she said. “I got there just in time to snap this shot.”

“Those words were on that building for close to a century,” she said, “so I was thrilled to capture that moment in history.”

Johnson is a contractor and employed by Homestead Publishing Company of Baltimore, Md. Her latest win is her fourth MDDC award. Last year Johnson took home the top prize in the Critical Thinking category for her “Waiting for Obama” commentary that detailed her five-hour wait in the frigid cold at the Edgewood training station for the train transporting then President-elect Barack Obama and vice president-elect Joe Biden to Washington, D.C.

(Founded in 1908 as the Maryland Press Association for weekly newspapers, the MDDC counts all of the daily and most of the non-daily newspapers in Maryland, Delaware and D.C. among its active members.)

Out with the new (beret), in with the old (cap)

Continued from Page 1

the field said they wanted to see.”

Typically, uniform changes come as a result of a board that meets twice a year. But Chandler said issues surrounding both the ACU headgear and the use of Velcro were changes the Army chief of staff wanted to bring to the Secretary of the Army immediately.

Chandler said he spoke with “several thousand” Soldiers and also received comments via social media sites, like Facebook.

“I have also discussed this with my board of directors -- the most senior sergeants major of our Army,” Chandler said. Post-deployment combat uniform surveys were used as a basis for the changes.

The No. 1 and No. 2 issues, Chandler said, involve the beret and Velcro.

“The Soldiers didn’t like the fact that the beret was hot -- it was not something that they wore the majority of the time,” he said. “And they didn’t like the fact it didn’t shade the sun and it took two hands to put on. And they didn’t like to carry two pieces of headgear to do different functions during the day.”

The beret has been the standard headgear for the Army’s ACU -- the camouflage uniform worn by most Soldiers. But most Soldiers still needed to switch to the patrol cap based on the work they were doing -- in a motor pool or in the field, for instance.

Those Soldiers would have to carry two pieces of headgear with them, one in each pocket, and switch depending on what they were doing. In the field, they put on the patrol cap. Back on base, they’d have to switch to the beret.

The new policy will make the patrol cap the standard. But the beret isn’t going anywhere. It will remain as the standard for the Army service uniform, and as an optional uniform item with the ACU -- at the discretion of commanders.

“They could choose to say for an event, like a change of command, that they want them to wear the beret,” Chandler said.

The change in the beret policy will save the Army about \$6.5 million over the lifecycle of the ACU. New Soldiers had been issued two berets, now they will be issued one.

Chandler pointed out that Soldiers didn’t ask to eliminate the beret -- just to change when it’s worn.

“Soldiers said we don’t want to wear it with this uniform, but they do feel they look very professional wearing it



Photo illustration by C. Todd Lopez

Recently announced changes to the Army Combat Uniform involve allowing Soldiers to sew on certain items to their uniform in lieu of using the provided Velcro.

with the Army service uniform,” Chandler said.

The Army implemented a mandatory wear date for the ACU in April 2008. The ACU, a replacement for the Battle Dress Uniform, featured many design changes. Included among those were a different cut for the fabric, new placement for pockets and a new “digital” color pattern.

Also included were Velcro fasteners that allowed pockets to be sealed shut, sleeves to be cinched down, and rank insignia, name tapes, service tapes, patches and skill badges to be added and removed at will -- without time-consuming and sometimes costly trips to clothing alterations.

Still, some Soldiers were displeased with Velcro on the uniform, Chandler said.

The Army’s new policy on attaching accouterments to the ACU will allow Soldiers to sew on rank insignia, the name tape and the service tape. Additionally, skill badges such as the Airborne, pathfinder, combat action, combat infantryman’s, and expert infantryman’s badge will also be authorized for sewing.

Currently, those badges are provided in painted metal and have to be pinned to the uniform. Pinning badges to the uniform can be a lengthy process because they have to be aligned using a ruler. The new policy will allow Soldiers to sew those badges to the uniform.

Combat and unit patches on the left and right sleeve and the U.S. flag will remain

Velcro-only, the SMA said. Additionally, the ACU will continue to come with Velcro in the same locations it is now. Where a Soldier is authorized to sew something on, they will sew it on top of the Velcro.

Chandler also said Soldiers had asked for changes to how cargo pockets are fastened. Velcro had been used -- now, ACUs are available with buttons used to keep the pockets closed. A similar change is being discussed for how sleeve cuffs are fastened, but Chandler said that decision will be made by the July uniform board.

A more localized uniform decision will affect Soldiers assigned to the Army’s headquarters at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. There, Soldiers had been wearing the ACU as their daily uniform. By as early as October, those Soldiers will show up to work in the Army service uniform, Chandler said.

“Our perspective is that this is the corporate part of the Army,” he said. “The business-part of the Army is done in the Pentagon, and as a professional there are certain standards of attire associated with certain activities. For the business aspect of the Army, it is the Army service uniform.”

The announced changes took place June 14. Soldiers should read Army Directive 2011-11 for full details.

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

APG Team Paintball Tournament

Do you enjoy extreme sports? If so, gather up your friends and form a three-man paintball team for the APG Shoot Out 3 Versus 3 Paintball Tournament 11:15 a.m. July 30 at Shore Park.

Navigate, strategize and compete in our inflatable paintball "Mega Dome." First and second place teams receive medals and the winning team photo will be featured in the trophy case at Outdoor Recreation. Music, games and refreshments will be available. (Paintballs will not be real paint. Pellets only). Team entry fee is \$20 for pre-registration. Registration starts 11:15 a.m. with a tournament start time at noon. Teams may also register before July 30 by calling 410-278-4124/5789.

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 24, Madagascar, at the APG South (Edgewood) Bayside Pool
 July 8, Harry Potter, APG North (Aberdeen) Shore Park
 July 22, Karate Kid (2010), EA Bayside Pool
 Aug. 5, Happy Feet, AA Shore Park
 For more information, call 410-278-4124

Staying Connected with Your Teen

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will present "Staying Connected with Your Teen." It is an exciting time for parents and teens as they develop into young men and women. Along with the excitement there may be some growing pains such as, "I can't control my child," or "My child is rejecting me." This class is intended to help parents let loose without letting go as their teens transition from children to adults. The class uses the "Social Development Strategy Model." The model is designed to help parents guide their teens toward healthy behavior by establishing healthy

beliefs and clear standards and helping parents to provide opportunities, skills, recognition, and nurture their individual characteristics as a means to help them bond with the Family, community, school and peer group. Childcare is available.

"Staying Connected with Your Teen" will be held on 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, June 23 and 30. The class will be held at the ACS Bldg. 2503 Highpoint Road, Room 123.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-7478.

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.

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.

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

- Daily operation: through 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., through Sept. 2
- Swim lessons, 1 to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 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

- Daily operation: through Sept. 5, 11:30 to 7 p.m.
- Lap swim lane available 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., 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

- Daily operation: through Sept. 5
- Morning swim: 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., through Sept. 2
- Child, Youth and School Service Day Camp, 9 to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Friday, 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

- Daily passes**
- Daily\$5
 - Under 5Free
 - Guest of eligible patron\$9

- 5 and under (guest)\$2
- Active duty and immediate Family members Free
- Lap swim\$2

30-day pass

- 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, through June 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, through June 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

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at 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.



June bowling specials

- 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. 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 20

- Special #1: Turkey club sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$7.45.
- Special #2: Egg salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.50.

Week of June 27

- Special #1: Tuna salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75.
- Special #2: Tuna salad-salad, cookie and regular soda for \$7.50.

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.



Cash awards could be just a suggestion away

The ASP seeks suggestions that improve work methods, materials, processes, equipment, logistics, utilities or tools that will benefit the Army.

Suggestions that save money can be eligible for a cash award up to \$25,000. The more money saved, the larger the potential award.

Visit <https://armysuggestions.army.mil> for info, or contact Marjorie Sexton, Installation ASP coordinator, at 410-278-0944 or marjorie.sexton1@us.army.mil.

Post Shorts

Motorcycle safety card waived

The requirement for civilians to provide a MSF card to enter the installation will be waived for the next 90 days. During the 90-day period the Safety Team will attempt to identify training resources to support the training of military Family members, civilians, retirees and contractors. Active-duty military must present valid MSF cards at the gate. For more information, contact the Installation Safety Office at 410-306-1081.

Resident Picnic and Bike Rodeo

In appreciation of its residents Picerne Housing will host the annual Resident Picnic June 25 at the Pavilion in Patriot Village from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Activities for the Family include games, moon bounces for the kids, face painting, food and more.

The Directorate of Emergency Services will also host its annual Bike Rodeo. Children should bring their own bikes and helmets in order to participate in this year's rodeo.

The event is free to all on-post residents. Call 410-305-1076 for more information.

Good Shepherd accepting applications

Good Shepherd Catholic School in Perryville is accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year. The school provides a safe and nurturing learning environment for a faith-based education for grades Pre-K to 8. We offer small class sizes, before- and after-school care and a strong tradition of academic excellence. Good Shepherd is accredited through the Middle States Commission. Tuition assistance is available. We invite you to call or stop by and visit at 800 Aiken Ave., Perryville, MD 21903. For more information, visit www.goodshepherdschool.net or call 410-642-6265.

VBS slated June 26-30

Vacation Bible School will be held June 26 -30, 6 to 8:45 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) post chapel for children ages 5 to those completing sixth grade. This year's theme is "HOMETOWN NAZARETH: Where Jesus was a Kid." There is no cost but donations of boxed juice or health drinks are appreciated. Pre-registration is requested. Contact Gerri Merkel at 410-278-2516 or caroline.j.merkelciv@mail.mil; Sondra Watson

at 443-528-1916 or sondrawatson@yahoo.com; or Shannon Kittok at 912-492-7898 or Joeyandeve@yahoo.com. Nursery only for VBS adult volunteers with children ages 4 and younger. Registration forms are in the foyer of the main post chapel.

Thrift Shop closes Saturdays

The APG Thrift Shop will be closed on the first Saturday of the month until further notice. Regular store hours remain: Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with consignments from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with consignments from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

From pots and pans to sporting goods, clothing, toys, furniture, jewelry and more, the Thrift Shop is a one-stop shop for serviceable second-hand goods. Proceeds go back to APG. Call 410-272-8572.

Register now for MSA degree

Central Michigan University offers a master of science in administration degree at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The MSA degree provides a solid core of management skills and a choice of four concentrations to include Human Resources, General Administration, Public Administration, or Information Resource Management. Registration for fall session is being accepted. Programs are offered to the entire APG community. CMU is a fully accredited university. Alternate weekend classes available. Degree completion takes two years or less. No graduate management admission test or graduate record exam required. Credit available for prior learning. Online option available. Call 410-272-1532, 703-525-4971 or email aberdeen.center@cmich.edu.

Actors, singers sought for Arsenic play

The APG Theater Group is still casting minor parts for its Aug. 6 performance of Arsenic and Old Lace. Actors and singers are needed. No experience necessary. Arsenic and Old Lace is the hilariously macabre film directed by Frank Capra and based on a play by the same name. In 2000 the American Film Institute listed Arsenic as one of the funniest movies in American cinema.

To take part in the APG Theater Group's inaugural performance, have fun and entertain the community with one of America's most beloved comedies, e-mail triciadev@hotmail.com or

stop in at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Thursday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. or Saturday at the post theatre 9 a.m. to noon.

Reserve a picnic area

All installation activities, units and the public can make reservations for the upcoming spring and summer.

Picnic areas include

"Shore Park in the Aberdeen Area, just off Aberdeen Boulevard and Frankford Street. It is the largest picnic and recreation area.

"Woodpecker Point in the Aberdeen Area is located at Spesutie Island Road. This picnic area is medium sized holding up to 200 people and may be split.

"Kipper's Point is located in the Edgewood Area at Skipper's Point Road. It is a smaller picnic area located near the water.

Aberdeen Proving Ground's picnic areas can be used for large events, including organization days, Family reunions, retirement parties and more.

Picnic sponsors must submit a roster of non-ID card visitors' names no later than two weeks in advance of picnic date. All invited visitors must stop at the visitor's center by turning right onto the road entrance for the Ruggles Golf Course.

All adults and youths 16 and older must present a valid photo ID. An FMWR representative will use roster to check in visitors attending picnic. Any visitor not on the roster must follow visitor entrance procedures. For information or reservations, call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124.

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 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 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.

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 or e-mail Jerran Leber at jleber@baysox.com.



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

COMMUNITY NOTES

FRIDAY

JUNE 24

BIG CAM & THE LIFTERS CONCERT

Get your feet moving with rock 'n roll songs featured by this five-piece group, sponsored by the Havre de Grace Arts Commission. Free. Bring chairs & picnics. Location: Millard E. Tydings Park in Havre de Grace. Rain Location: HdG Activity Center. Call 410-939-2100 or visit thelifters.com.

SATURDAY

JUNE 25

STEPPINGSTONE BLUES FESTIVAL

The Steppingstone Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, will host its annual Summer Blues Festival, 2 to 8 p.m., with entertainment by Matt Wigler, Just Foolin' Around Band, The Johnny Monster Band, Professor Louis and the Crownmatix, Ghost Town Blues Band and Ed and Rick. Tickets cost \$20 in advance or \$25 at the gate. This is an outdoor concert, rain or shine, with no refunds granted. Bring blankets or lawn chairs. No alcoholic beverages are allowed. Call 410-939-2299 or 888-419-1752. Visa and Mastercard accepted. E-mail steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit www.steppingstonemuseum.org.

SUNDAY

JUNE 26

AUDITIONS FOR HARRIET'S HAPPIEST HALLOWEEN

Harford Dance Theater will hold auditions for Harriet's Happiest Hal-

loween 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Amoss Center, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air. Ages 11 and older may audition. Bring dance shoes; combinations will be given at the audition. Auditions for Harriet's voiceover will be held 1:30 p.m. Performance dates are Oct. 20 to 23.

For more information, call 443-412-2112

THURSDAY

JUNE 30

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT PUBLISHER

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air will offer Introduction to Microsoft Publisher 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Edgewood Hall, Room 215. Explore the basics of Microsoft Publisher to create professional-looking publications. Work with text boxes, shapes and graphics to make colorful cards, calendars and other projects. Tuition cost is \$99 per person. Course fee is \$99 per person. Course number 26268. Call 443-360-9108.

SATURDAY THRU SUNDAY

JULY 2 THRU 10

KUTZTOWN FOLK FESTIVAL

The Kutztown Folk Festival is located at the Kutztown Fairgrounds, 225 North White Oak Street, Kutztown, Pa. The festival is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 3 to 11. Events include more than 200 American craftsmen and folk artists, food, quilts, entertainment, a civil war reenactment, kids activities and more. Cost is \$14 for adults; \$13 for ages 55 and older; \$5 for ages 13 to 17; under 12 is free; An all-week pass costs \$24. For information or a free brochure, call 888-674-6136 or visit www.kutztownfestival.com.

TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

JULY 5 THROUGH JULY 7

NATURE DISCOVERY CAMP

Eden Mill Nature Center, 1617 Eden Mill Road, Pylesville, Md. is taking registration for the Nature Discovery Camp for ages 4 and 5. Camp will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. Participants will become detectives as they explore and understand the hidden wonders of nature. They will explore the meadow, wetlands, and trails and participate in environmental activities, crafts and games. The fee is \$75 for members or \$85 for non-member. Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register, call 410-836-3050, email edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com or visit www.edenmill.org.

TUESDAY

JULY 5 THROUGH

AUGUST 9

SAT PREP FOR MATH

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air will hold SAT preparations for math 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays in Fallston Hall, Room 201. Review math skills and test-taking strategies needed to excel on the SAT1 test. Tuition is \$85 per person. Course number 35446. Call 443-412-2115.



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

Summer blues? Find out about APG child and teen summer activities

Compiled by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

JUNE

Movies under the stars

Location: Shore Park and Bayside Pool

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Cost: Free

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.

Dates: June 24, Madagascar, at the APG South Bayside Pool

July 8, Harry Potter, APG North Shore Park

July 22, Karate Kid (2010), Bayside Pool

Aug. 5, Happy Feet, Shore Park

For more information: Call 410-278-4124/4011.

APG Teen Splash Bash

Date: June 24

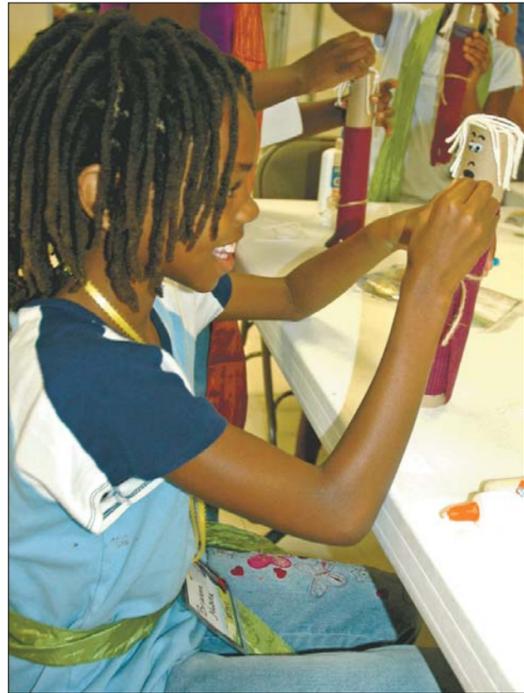
Time: 4-8:30 p.m.

Ages: 12-18

Cost: Free

Come to the end-of-school party with swimming, basketball, volleyball, soccer, disc golf, a DJ and food and drinks. A mini bus will be stationed at both the APG South (Edgewood) Route 24 Gate and the APG North (Aberdeen) Route 715 Gate. Parents can drop off and pick-up at gate. Pick up time is 4 p.m. sharp. Buses will return to gates at 8:30 p.m.

For more information: Call 410-278-5014/2857



During Vacation Bible School at APG North (Aberdeen), Brianna Nubine creates a puppet of the Apostle Paul during an arts and crafts session.

Vacation Bible School

Date: June 26-30

Time: 6 to 8:45 p.m.

Location: APG North post chapel

Ages: 5 to sixth grade

Cost: free, donations of boxed juice or health drinks are appreciated

This year's theme is "Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus was a Kid."

Registration: Contact Gerri Merkel at 410-278-2516 or caroline.j.merkelciv@mail.mil; Sondra Watson at 443-528-1916 or sondrawatson@yahoo.com; or Shannon Kittok at 912-492-7898 or Joeyandeve@yahoo.com.

The Dark Side of Social Media

Date: June 29

Time: 11 a.m. to noon

Location: Bldg. 2503, room 214

Ages: 13-18

Cost: Free

Teens will learn what social media is like and how to protect themselves, and their job. This session will be facilitated by Sean Wilhelm, Child Youth and School Services functional technology specialist.

Registration: Parent Central, Bldg. 2503, Rooms 210 or 211.

For more information: Call Jay McKinney, workforce preparation specialist, 410-278-3250.

JULY

Challenger Soccer Camp

The Challenger British Soccer Program delivers quality coaching with a unique British cultural twist. This summer's camp features new drills and practices designed to improve individual ball control, foot skills, fakes and moves.

Date: July 11-15

Location: APG North Soccer Field

Ages: 3-14

Cost: First Kicks: ages 3-4, 9 to 10 a.m. \$68

Mini Soccer: ages 5-6, 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. \$84

Half Day: ages 9-14, 9 to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. \$110

Full Day: ages 9-14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$157

Register online at www.challengersports.com

For more information: Call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297



File photos by Rachel Ponder

Kollin Wisniewski, 9, and Joseph Fernandez, 9, participate in a drill called King of the Ring during the Challenger British Soccer Camp.

Parent/Child Golf Tournament

Date: July 14

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Ruggles Golf Course

Ages: 5-17

Cost: \$30 per parent/child twosome

The tournament will be a 2 person captain's choice scramble format with teams consisting of 1 parent/child team.

Registration: Register at Ruggles golf course one week prior to the event.

Avoid Credit Card Trap for Teens Class

Date: July 14

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Army Community Service, Bldg. 2503, second floor conference room.

Cost: Free

Looking for a credit card? In the land of plastic, there are so many to choose. This session is packed with valuable information delivered in humor and fun. Topics include how to avoid fees and penalties that can destroy your budget, how to avoid any related costs, and traps that come with owning a credit card. You will know what important questions to ask when shopping for the right credit card.

Participants will be coming home with valuable lessons that they can use for life.

Registration: Contact Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service Employment Readiness Manager, 410-278-9669/7572.

Army Community Service 46th Birthday

Free picnic and activities to celebrate the 46th birthday of ACS

Date: July 21

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Shore Park Area

For more information: 410-278-2472/7572

SKIES Unlimited Piano Lessons

Ages: 4-18

Dates: Mondays beginning July 25-Aug. 15; Tuesdays beginning July 26-Aug. 16.

Classes are conducted Monday or Tuesdays 1:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Cost: \$68 per student, open to all Department of Defense cardholders.

Each class is a private, one-on-one session, 30 minutes long for four weeks, once a week.

Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child. Students will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Registration: call the Registration Office located in Bldg. 2503, at 410-278-7571/7479 for an appointment. Registration for July classes begins June 20.

For more information: Contact Stacie Umbarger, SKIES Unlimited director, 410-278-4589, or e-mail stacie.e.umbarger.naf.mail.mil.

SKIES Unlimited Tae Kwon Do

Tae Kwon Do class featuring instructor Sabunim Sean A. Williams, promotes discipline, as well as muscle toning and conditioning. Students must wear a white t-shirt and sweat pants.

Ages: 6-14

Eligibility: Open to all DoD cardholders

Dates: Mondays and Wednesdays

Time: 6:00 -6:45 p.m. White Belts-Yellow Belts; 6:45-7:30 p.m. Yellow with Green Stripe and above

Location: APG North Youth Center

Cost: \$65 per student per 1 month session, \$150 per student for a 12 week 3 month session.

Registration: Call the Central Registration Office located in Bldg. 2503, 410-278-7571/7479. For more information, contact Umbarger.

SKIES Unlimited Tiny Tigers

TinyTigers, featuring instructor Kyo Sa Nim Sean A. Williams, builds confidence and self-esteem in young students. Students must wear a white t-shirt and sweat pants.

Dates: Mondays and Wednesdays

Time: 5:30 p.m. -6:00 p.m.

Location: APG North Youth Center

Ages: 3-5 (parent participation required)

Cost: \$40 per child parent paring

Registration: Call the Central Registration Office located in Bldg. 2503, 410-278-7571/7479 D

For more information: contact Umbarger.

SKIES Unlimited Worldwide Driving Academy

Class includes 30 hours classroom instruction and 6 hours behind the wheel instruction. Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class.

Ages: Students must be between the ages of 15.9 -18 years old

Dates: Classes are conducted Monday-Friday at the following locations:

Edgewood Location:

6:00 p.m. -9:15 p.m. July 18-29; Aug. 1-12;

Aug. 15-26

11:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m. July 5-16.

Abingdon Location:

6:00 p.m.-9:15 p.m. July 5-16; Aug. 1-12;

Aug. 15-26.

11:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. July 18-29; Aug. 1-12;

Aug. 15-26

*More SKIES Unlimited classes to be announced. Contact Umbarger for more details.

EDGE! program

Free EDGE! classes for the summer to be announced. For more information call Jay McKinney, 410-278-3250.

AUGUST

CYSS Sports Fall Soccer

Dates: Practice begins the first week of August

Location: APG North Soccer Field

Ages: 4-14

Cost: Under age 6 fee is \$20 and the age 8 through age 14 fee is \$40

Registration: ends June 29



Leah Jones practices kicking during a SKIES Unlimited taekwondo class taught by Sean Williams of the Unity Taekwondo School of Martial Arts.

CECOM CSM bids farewell to APG

Continued from Page 1

Forward Command Group.

“Col. [Augustus] Owens, Master Sgt. [Walter] Farrell and Karen Quinn-Doggett did a phenomenal job with coordinating with APG Garrison and being our eyes and ears on the ground at APG in the early stages of the BRAC [2005 Base Realignment and Closure] implementation,” said Johnson.

Johnson spent much of his time reaching out to the warfighter and raising the awareness of CECOM’s services available to battalions and brigades all over the world.

“One of my biggest objectives was to go out and talk directly to the warfighter,” said Johnson. “I visited as many CECOM sites as possible. Our folks are doing a great job out there and it was my job to identify what we as a command could do even better to support the warfighter, as well as our workforce.”

During his tenure, with guidance from his commander, Johnson initiated a Wounded Warrior employment focus at CECOM during the early stages of the move.

“In preparation for the command’s relocation, we were hiring at rapid numbers to reconstitute the workforce,” said Johnson. “So my first thought was, ‘let’s employ wounded warriors,’” said Johnson.

Two years ago, Johnson led the effort for CECOM’s participation in a job fair at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for the sole benefit of wounded service members in search of new careers as they transition from military service.

Johnson’s passion for taking care of the nation’s wounded warriors led him to work with CECOM personnel and the Wounded Warrior Program representatives to identify avenues to offer employment through the program.



Photo by Sean Kief

Michael Vetter, (left) director G4, Logistics and Engineering, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, escorts Command Sgt. Maj. Tyrone Johnson, CECOM LCMC and a group of sergeants major through the Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance construction site at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The tour was part of a CECOM LCMC and Army Team C4ISR sergeants major conference.

“We had always hired veterans, but this was the first time we were able to utilize the Wounded Warrior Program as the hiring vehicle to bring them onboard,” explained Johnson. “Everyone has been really receptive to supporting this program. This year, we made our first job offer as a result of this effort. He accepted. That is a mission success,” said Johnson with a smile.

In 2009, the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer, Johnson encouraged enlisted personnel to go out into the communities to help tell the NCO story.

“For me, the success was in the community’s response to us. I received a lot of positive feedback from the community indicating they appreciated our presence and they even invited us back year after year,” said Johnson.

Johnson hosted a Senior Enlisted Conference where Soldiers representing commands such as AMC, Signal Command and the Acquisition Command, worked to identify new ways to collaborate and learn more about CECOM’s services.

“They know who we are, and that

is our aim...to spread the word about CECOM’s services.” said Johnson. He traveled to a variety of sites across the nation, and even to overseas locations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Germany to visit Soldiers and observe CECOM operations being implemented in theater. “We have a large mission in the Iraq Draw-down effort to plan and execute the logistical efforts necessary to recover communications equipment downrange back to the [United] States.”

Johnson commended the Soldier-Civilian hybrid workforce for demonstrating the ultimate meaning of teamwork and collaborative effort.

“Here and in the field, I have witnessed our partnership efforts in practice,” he said. “CECOM and C4ISR personnel have truly put the mission first during a time when they are faced with life altering career decisions. This workforce is top-notch and they continue to put the warfighter’s needs first.”

In leadership, tough decisions must be made, said Johnson. “Know your commander’s intent. Realize that, as a leader, the decisions you make just don’t affect you, but the organization, its people and their Families. Support initiatives that are ethically, morally and legally sound.”

As Johnson transitions, he encourages Soldiers and civilians alike to continue to seek challenging assignments, self-development opportunities, and follow the Army values.

“Celeste [Johnson, his wife] and I would like to bid a very fond farewell to both the Fort Monmouth and the APG community,” said Johnson. “Our bodies and minds will be in Virginia, but our heart will always be with the CECOM Family.”

CECOM deputy retires after 37 years

Continued from Page 1

have been a few hundred new personnel in line that day in the 600,000 square foot new office building lobby. “In front of me was Eddie Bair and behind me Tom Tanguay, two people I had never met. Little did I know that we would become great lifetime friends and colleagues,” Thomas said with a smile.

Thomas compares his first day on the job to what he imagines many CECOM new interns experience today.

“It was just a vibrant, new experience for so many people, and all of us were learning together,” said Thomas. Beginning his careers at the GS-05 level, he only hoped he would make it to GS-11 by retirement. He never thought he’d one day be one of the top senior leaders in the organization.

“At that time the annual salary was \$7,000. And I remember thinking, ‘If I could ever get myself to the GS-9 level, and maybe even GS-11, I’d be good to go; that was my long-term plan,’” he said with a smile. He credits his success to a long list of supervisors and mentors he respected and who took an interest in his professional development throughout the years. “I’ve had a ‘charmed’ career.”

Today, Thomas reflects fondly on 37 years of change, evolution and relationships lasting a lifetime.

“Fort Monmouth and now APG [Aberdeen Proving Ground], really became, not only your job, and your career, but you became part of a family,” said Thomas. He chuckled at the thought of what he called his ‘crew’ the ‘Lancers,’ a social group he often played softball, basketball and bowling with during his career.

With change being the only constant in Thomas’ career, he was often instrumental in driving changes to evolve the command as the times dictated.

In the 1980s, CECOM was involved with the fielding of a battlefield communications network named the Mobile Subscriber Equipment. Thomas described this network as the first of its kind. The network operated much like a telephone system on the battlefield for the entire Army to utilize and was the starting point for the Army’s digitized battle command capabilities, explained Thomas.

In the 1990’s, the Army’s Vice-Chief of Staff ordered a study that resulted in CECOM receiving several new missions in software engineering; logistics systems; and other business applications the Army uses in day-to-day operations. Up until this study, CECOM had been primarily responsible for software related to tactical weapons systems, according to Thomas. As a result, CECOM evolved into a world-wide command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance organization it is known as today.

“We saw the growth potential as the

“It was just a vibrant, new experience for so many people, and all of us were learning together.”

Edward C. Thomas, CECOM deputy to the CG

Beginning his careers at the GS-05 level, he only hoped he would make it to GS-11 by retirement. He never thought he’d be one of the top senior leaders in the organization.

Army, and the nation, became more dependent on information technology. We saw the need to stand up a separate organization to fulfill our new mission requirements,” said Thomas. So, in 1996, the CECOM Software Engineering Center was created to streamline software support missions Army-wide with improved technological and cost-effectiveness.

Computers and information technology and software infrastructure soon became a top priority for the Army as the new millennium approached.

“Do you remember Y2K [Year 2000]?” asked Thomas. According to Thomas, CECOM had a great impact on the Army’s communications equipment in providing continuity of communications given the ambiguity of the new millennium as it relates to Army communications equipment. “Nothing bad happened. The clock struck midnight, the year turned over and nothing happened. That was a mission success,” he said.

He gives a great deal of credit to the CECOM workforce and their efforts in the last 10 years in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and now New Dawn.

“It’s just amazing to me how the people of our community, of CECOM, have responded to all of those day-to-day requirements, to provide support around the world, in the midst of having to uproot their Families and move here from New Jersey, to APG,” said Thomas. CECOM personnel have been instrumental in not just military operations during his tenure, but also humanitarian missions in a variety of crisis situations.

September 11, 2001; a date most Americans can remember exactly what they were doing when the country was attacked on American soil. Thomas was called into a secure meeting with then Maj. Gen. William H. Russ, 9th CECOM commanding general, who led CECOM’s 9/11 rescue assistance efforts during 2001-2004.

“We gathered in the war room and he [Russ] just started asking open-ended questions about how we could help,” said Thomas. Russ challenged his leadership to identify CECOM and C4ISR capabilities that could assist with rescue operations.”

CECOM and C4ISR personnel answered the call to duty with people,

technological support from the CECOM emergency response team in Sandy Hook, N.J., to assist in the efforts to help escort people who were fleeing Manhattan after the attacks and help reconstitute the Pentagon’s communications capabilities, Thomas recounted.

The C4ISR team provided antenna placements and portable listening devices to assist in the search and rescue efforts; probes equipped with an integrated micro-thermal camera to help rescue teams search for signs of life; portable laser Doppler vibro-meters to help monitor nearby structures for signs of potential collapse; and providing overhead shots of the area using geo registration capabilities to help the New York Fire Departments with situational awareness on the ground.

“We were really proud of the support we provided during such a dark time in our country’s history,” reflects Thomas.

Serving as deputy commanding general for the past four years, Thomas was instrumental in the efforts to establish CECOM as a Life-Cycle Management Command in 2005 to provide an integrated, holistic approach to product development, acquisition, system support and sustainment for customers across the Department of Defense and other government agencies. With that came the responsibility of nurturing a new partnership between the U.S. Army Materiel Command and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, commonly referred to as ASA/ALT. Today these team members comprise the C4ISR portion of the Army’s Materiel Enterprise, one of four Army enterprises.

In the same year CECOM was designated as a life-cycle command, command leadership was notified that it would soon reside at APG, the Army’s new home to Army technology. The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision brought about a, “[...] little bit of déjà vu,” said Thomas.

“When I started with CECOM, the command had just moved a large portion of its operations from Philadelphia to New Jersey, similar to a BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure] move before they called it BRAC.” Now, after 35 ½ years of service at Fort Monmouth, Thomas was faced with relocating to Maryland like the rest of the CECOM

workforce. He understood the challenges and concerns of personnel and felt it was imperative that he, too, make the move south.

“I decided I was going to become one of the pioneers,” said Thomas. “If we were expecting the workforce at large to make the move, I felt it was important for them to know that their senior leadership was making the move too.”

And move he did; Thomas arrived at APG in February of 2009.

Thomas emphasized that the continuity of operations for a move of this magnitude can be a matter of life and death to a Soldier in the field. He boasts on the workforce’s dedication to the mission.

“You know, people could have slowed down, and even gone on strike, but they didn’t. Our workforce has always kept our bottom line in mind; our support to the Warfighter,” said Thomas. “They understood the importance of the work that they do and they just couldn’t have done it any better.”

Among many pivotal leaders during the command’s transition, Thomas credits Lt. Gen. Dennis L. Via, former CECOM commander and present AMC deputy commanding general, for leading the way to set conditions for a successful move, said Thomas.

Maintaining continuity of operations, retaining institutional knowledge, and providing uninterrupted support to the warfighter was first and foremost on CECOM leadership’s list implementation activities, said Thomas. He credits Via for leading the effort to gain permission for the command to recruit and hire in anticipation of out-going positions; establishing a forward presence and having the foresight to implement the move in phases; and securing temporary facilities and workspaces for forward personnel at APG while the new C4ISR Center of Excellence construction was being completed. Via charted the pathway for a successful move, according to Thomas.

Looking back on his 37-year career, Thomas feels lucky that he had mentors to help him along the way. Retired Lt. Gen. Al Mallette, Frank Fiorelli, and Vic Ferlise, taught him the value of understanding people while in a position of leadership. As a result of their leadership styles and his own experiences, Thomas adopted a leadership style of agility, flexibility, open communications, and being a team player.

Thomas decided to retire only after the biggest phase of the move had been completed. As he looks toward his new future, he boasts on doing a lot of nothing during the summer. “I decided that the summer was a better time to do nothing rather than the middle of winter,” he said with a smile. Thomas plans to stay in the Harford County area as he pursues a second career.



From the promenade you can see the Bayou Condominiums, a historic building that was a luxury hotel from 1921-1934 hosting famous clients from Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York to hunt canvasback ducks on the flats, fish, and attend local horse races. The building later served as a Franciscan Sisters retirement home.

Tydings Park offers day of relaxation by the Bay

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

About 10 miles from Aberdeen Proving Ground North, Tydings Park and the promenade boardwalk in Havre de Grace is a great place to relax after work or to bring the Family for a picnic.

Tydings Park is located on a hill overlooking the Susquehanna River and the Havre de Grace Yacht Basin and includes picnic areas, clean public restrooms, a playground and pavilion. And if you get hungry, there is a little restaurant called Promenade Grill at the bottom of the hill.

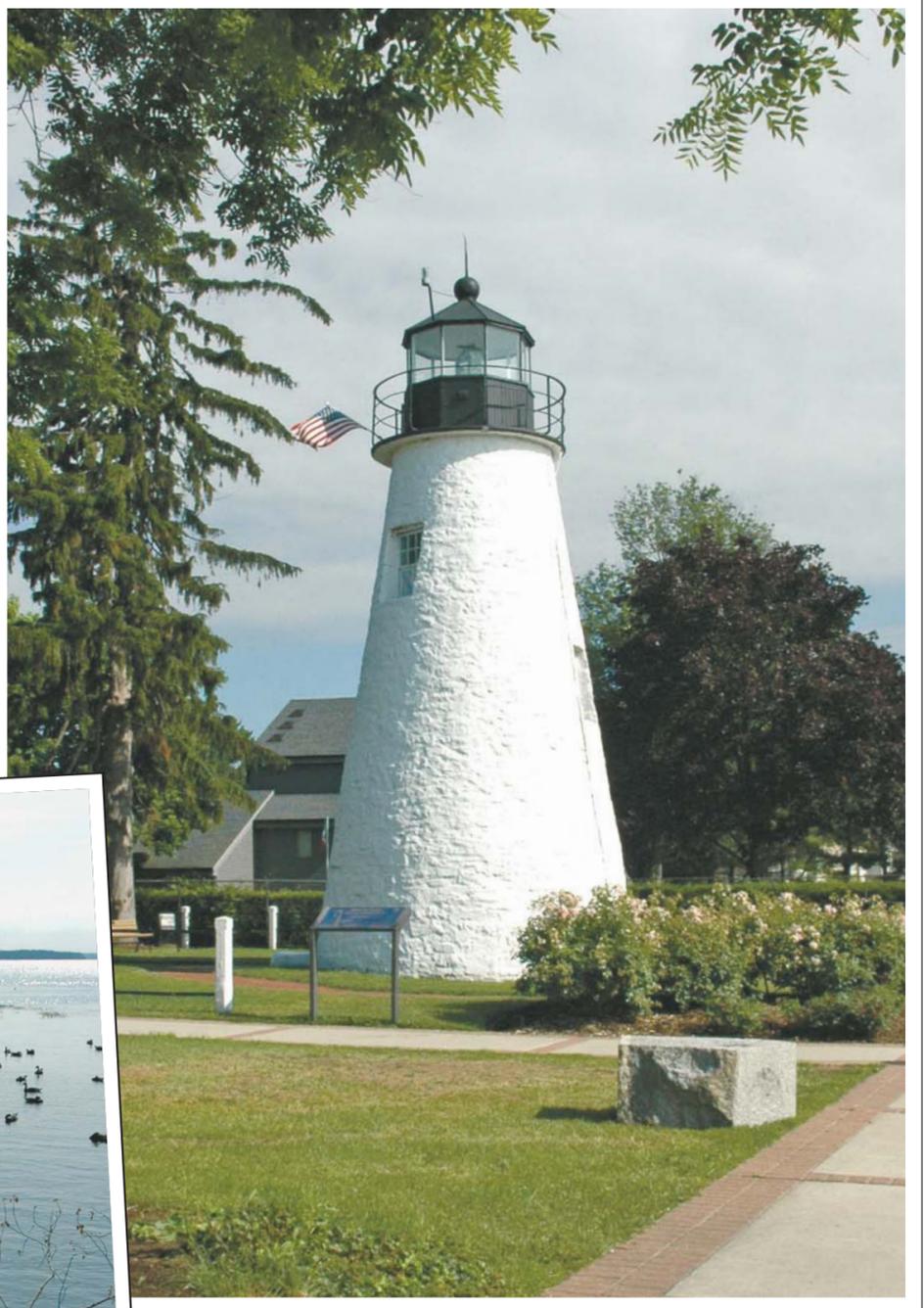
The promenade, adjacent to the park, features a half-mile walkway that runs along the Susquehanna shoreline. Plenty of benches line the path, allowing visitors to sit and admire waterfowl and other wildlife that live in the wetland. The benches also provide a perfect spot to get lost in a good book.

The area also features the Decoy Museum, Maritime Museum and Concord Point Lighthouse, the second oldest tower lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay.

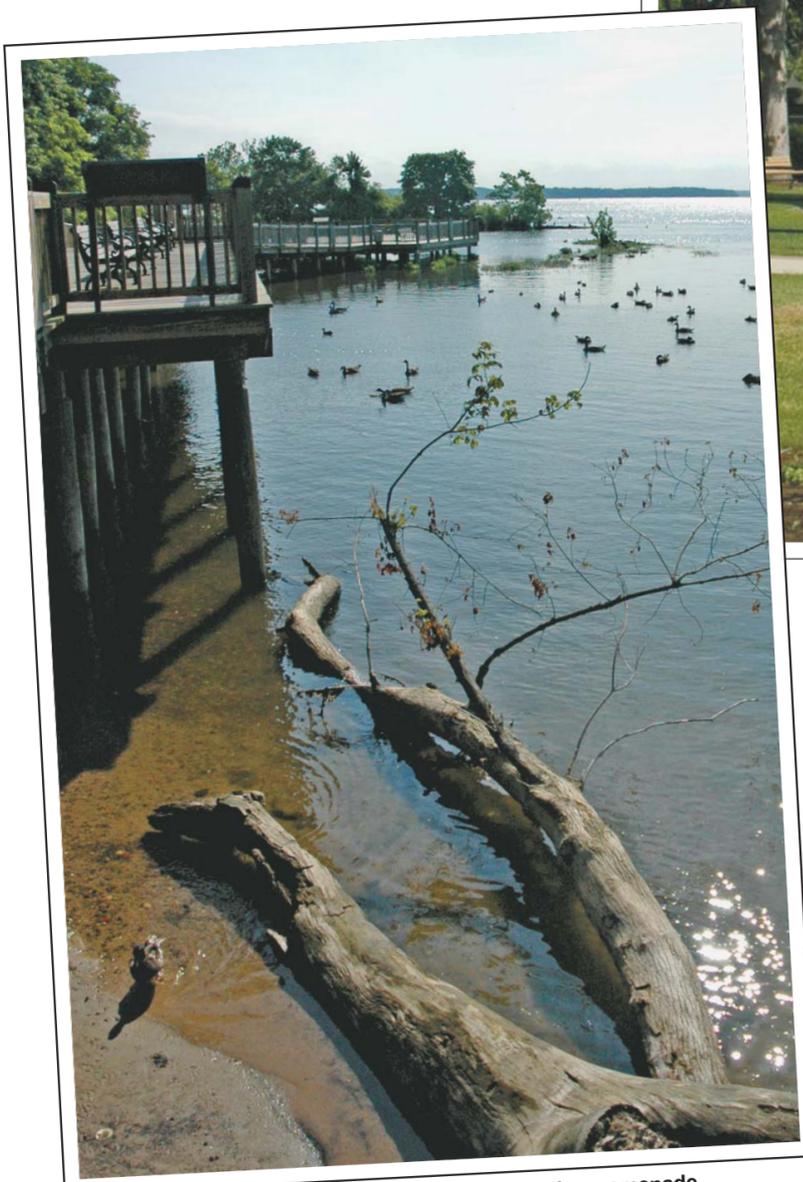
And don't miss the free summer concerts and festivals in the park. On July 3 the city will host its annual Fourth of July celebration featuring a parade, carnival and fireworks over the water.

Promenade Guidelines

- The Promenade is open daily from sunrise to 11 p.m.
- Bicycling is permitted from sunrise until 10:00 a.m.
- Dogs, roller blades, skates, skateboards or alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the promenade.
- Fishing is permitted in designated areas only.



The Concord Point Lighthouse, the second oldest tower lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay, is located at the end of the promenade.



Bird and animal watching is a popular activity on the promenade.



Visitors can get exercise while enjoying the views on the half-mile walking trail.