



APG honors Guard unit as it deploys

Mission includes air assault, air movement operations in Iraq

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**
RDECOM Public Affairs

Hundreds gathered inside Aberdeen Proving Ground's Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges Armory Feb. 26 to exchange handshakes, hugs, kisses and goodbyes. Seventy-seven Soldiers, flanked by Family and friends, prepared for deployment on a sunny, brisk

morning. Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 224th Aviation Regiment and detachments of the Maryland Army National Guard will support Operation New Dawn in Iraq for one year. Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland, thanked the Soldiers and their Families for their service and sacrifices. "You've been given an opportunity to

MORE ONLINE



To view or download photos from the Feb. 26 deployment ceremony, scan the QR code at the bottom of this story (Page 14) with a smart phone or other enabled device.

be great American Soldiers. You join a long line of patriots who have served this nation and state," he said. "Look out for

each other. Take care of each other. "Now to those who have the toughest job -- Family members and loved ones who remain behind. We know it's going to be tough as you take care of a sick baby, fix the car and pay the bills as your loved one serves abroad. You should know that you're part of a larger Guard family. You should never hesitate to call on us for support and assistance." Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown said the state is committed to supporting the

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NASHVILLE CONNECTION

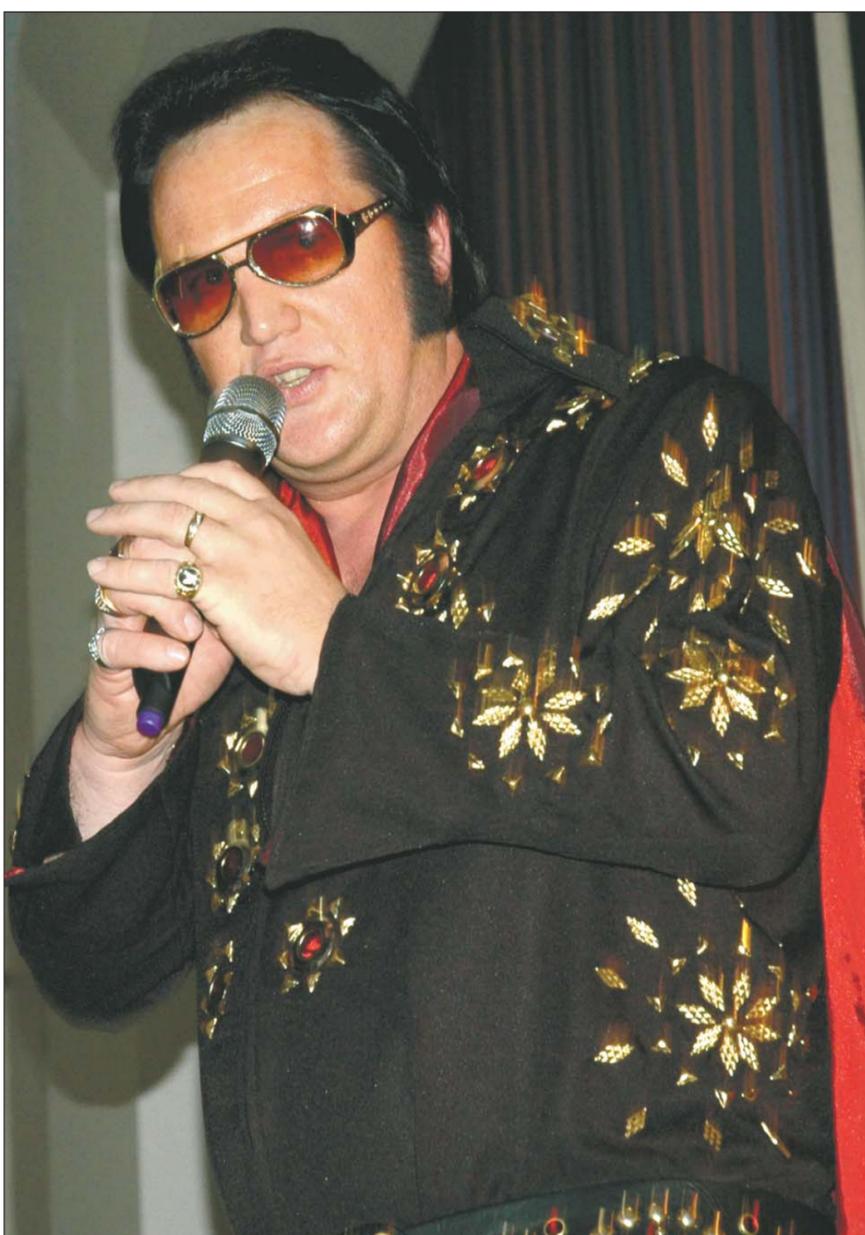
Tribute concert entertains the troops

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Elvis was in the building, along with Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Carrie Underwood and the Blues Brothers for The Nashville Connection, a tribute show celebrating the roots of Rock and Roll. The concert, which was presented by the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, was held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edge-wood) Recreation Center Feb. 26. The show featured six Memphis Mafia tribute performers. Tricia Devine served as the

Master of Ceremonies. "Bopper G," performed by Gary Baker, opened the show by singing crowd-pleasing oldies like "Run Around Sue," "Pretty Woman," "Shama Lama Ding Dong" and "Chantilly Lace." Following Bopper G, Johnny Cash, performed by Jim Rapposelli, sang favorites like "Walk the Line," "Ghosts Riders in the Sky" and "Ring of Fire." Rapposelli also sang "Soul Man,"

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Ted Tharp as Elvis closes the concert by singing several chart topping hits by the King of Rock and Roll. "We want to give back and support the troops and thank them for everything that they do," Tharp said. Tharp has been paying tribute to Elvis Presley for the past 6 years.

Congress told every MWR dollar will count

By **ROB MCILVAINE**
Army News Service

The House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel began its 2011 hearing cycle the week of Feb. 14 looking at the Defense Department's Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

MWR can be broken down into two categories:

- Mission support activities, which include fitness, libraries, recreation centers, single service member programs, intramural sports, and unit activities
- Community support activities, which include child and youth development programs, outdoor recreation, crafts and automotive skills and small bowling centers

"MWR programs will be subjected to increased pressure to maintain effectiveness while operating more efficiently," said Congressman Joe Wilson (R-S.C.), chairman of the Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee.

"(But) we must not allow MWR programs to become easy targets for the budget cutters," Wilson said.

While Wilson acknowledged

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Last American WWI veteran dies at age 110

Veterans' Affairs news release

Frank Woodruff Buckles, who lied about his age to enlist in the Army in 1917 and became the last known U.S. veteran of World War I, died on February 27, 2011 at the age of 110.

"We have lost a living link to an important era in our nation's history," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "But we have also lost a man of quiet dignity,



Buckles

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Sean Jamison as Garth Brooks, interacts with the audience while singing "Rodeo."



Jim Rapposelli (left) and Treavor Biggers as the Blues Brothers perform "Soul Man."

WEATHER

Thurs.



38° | 28°

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Got a smartphone? Find out how QR codes can help you link print to Web.

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Data mining: Find out what it means for you.

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Guess whodunit during March 11 dinner theater.

Retiring employees honored

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

One Soldier and two civilians with 89 years of combined service formally retired before Family members, coworkers and friends during the Aberdeen Proving Ground retirement ceremony at the Ball Conference Center Feb. 24.

The honorees included Master Sgt. Rodney D. Shelby of the 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort); William C. Vick III of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and Kay F. Allen of the APG Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, APG garrison and deputy installation commander, hosted the program and presented awards assisted by garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades.

Ortiz called the retirees "humble, but proud," and thanked them for their service to the nation.

He encouraged attendees to continue to take the time to recognize individual contributions.

"I believe in showing honor and respect to those who served our country and we have a proud tradition of doing that here at APG," he said. "Make sure your coworkers know about these events and encourage them to come out and continue the tradition."



Master Sgt. Rodney D. Shelby



William C. Vick III



Kay F. Allen

Master Sgt. Rodney D. Shelby

Shelby was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal; the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation signed by President Barack Obama; the Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement signed by Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey Jr.; and a U.S. Flag. His wife, Kim received a DA Certificate of Appreciation, also signed by Casey.

He retires after a 26-year career as the noncommissioned officer in charge, Combined Explosive Exploitation Cell, Company A 22nd Chemical Battalion. During his career, Shelby served in three war zones in support of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He credited longtime men-

tor retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jordan Jones Jr. for teaching him a strong work ethic.

"He always told us to 'do it because you love it,'" Shelby said, adding that he plans to remain in the APG community. To the Soldiers he's led, past and present, Shelby added, "Don't ever stop trying."

William C. Vick III

Vick was awarded the Governor's Citation from Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley; and the DA Superior Civilian Service Award and the Certificate of Retirement signed by ATEC commander Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco. His wife Gwendolyn received the DA Cer-

tificate of Appreciation, also signed by Dellarocco.

A former APG Garrison Directorate of Logistics accountable officer, Vick extended his thanks for "all the friendships, and working relationships that developed over my career."

"Special thanks to ATEC and the garrison," he said, adding that college courses and Caribbean cruises top his list of "things to do" in retirement.

Kay F. Allen

Allen was awarded the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and the DA certificates of appreciation and retirement signed by Ortiz.

Allen ends her 21-year career as a senior budget analyst with the DFMWR.

She is credited with coordinating several programs including the securing of savings bonds for the Soldiers Award Program and the Army Community Service Volunteer Program.

Allen was joined by her daughter Tina Krakosky. She said her plans include volunteering in the community.

"When I came up a lot of females were joining the Army. This was my way of serving my country and I'm proud that I did it," Allen said. "I was even more proud to serve our military men and women through MWR."

APG News introduces QR codes in paper

Readers can now link to Internet for additional content

Staff report

The APG News is answering the call of its tech-savvy readers.

The newspaper's March 3 edition kicked off its use of QR encoding, a technology the garrison public affairs staff is hoping will make the print experience more enjoyable for readers.

QR codes are like bar codes seen on everyday products from grocery packaging to price tags in your favorite department stores.

And like bar codes, QR codes are scanned and pass on information to the user.

"In this case, when APG News readers scan a QR code with their camera-enabled smart phone, they will be linked to an Internet site for more of the story, photos or additional information," said Adriane Foss, APG News editor.

Readers who have smart phones that link to the Internet and run apps need only download the application that will decode, or translate, the QR code.

On page 14 of this week's APG News, a QR code will link readers to the Flickr website where they can view and download additional photos.

"Obviously newspapers can't publish every photo and piece of information they'd like to run. In those cases, QR codes are an ideal technology," said Foss. "Friends and Family members of the troops who deployed last week might find this useful. Scanning the code in the deployment article will link them to lot of excellent photos that we didn't have space to run."

"But that's really just one small example of how we plan to take advantage of this technology," said Foss. "The opportunities, to link our

readers from the printed page to the digital world, are endless. We can link them to interview excerpts, surveys, customer feedback and online registration. And most people have their smart phone in their pocket or purse while reading the newspaper. It's too easy."

"Many of our readers use interactive mobile technology," said George Mercer, APG Garrison public affairs officer. "We want to enhance the APG News experience by making more content available and making access easier and more convenient."

"Many readers already surf the web with their phones. They're looking up movies schedules, driving directions and enjoying games," Mercer said.

"QR codes are a near effortless introduction to that world." With smart phones becoming less expensive and more easily accessible, QR codes are likely to change how we use paper media.

With so many websites offering free QR encoding, the technology is virtually free, said U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, Korea Chief of Public Affairs Dan Thompson.

Thompson kicked off a QR code campaign last month at Yongsan, (one of) the first Army garrisons overseas to take advantage of the technology.

"Yongsan plans on using these codes to link Installation Management Command Campaign Plan videos to promotional posters, make in-processing easier by putting codes in welcome centers that link to forms on the Internet, and putting the codes on policy letters that will link to a command video. The possibilities are really exciting...and completely sustainable."

"It is out there waiting to be used for little to no cost," said Thompson. "Whenever we can offer a better service at little to no cost while embracing smart phones, which I believe are slowly replacing traditional laptops, it is something to get excited about."

Murder mystery set at reunion

Audience to find out whodunit during APG dinner theater

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Mystery fans won't want to miss the whodunit, "Murder 101," an interactive comedy murder mystery coming to the Aberdeen North Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 March 11.

"If you haven't attended a murder mystery dinner theater production, you'll want to attend this one," said Earlene Allen, MWR special events coordinator "It's going to be a really fun event. And anytime you can have a hilarious evening out, combine with a meal and support FMWR, it's worth doing."

The production is set at a high school reunion during which old rivalries and new alliances reveal hidden secrets, murder and other mayhem.

What did the prom queen do that night? Will the school nurse reveal a hidden secret? What was said at that infamous football playoff? Audience members are encouraged to take notes, follow along and ask questions as they try to solve the mystery.

And for those who would like to entertain instead of being entertained, FMWR is still seeking volunteer cast members. Professional directors will visit the garrison and conduct a five-day workshop to prepare volunteers for the performance.

Volunteers will learn theatrical terminology and concepts. The creative program, led by theater directors Kenneth Freehill and Darryl Allara, is in its tenth year entertaining military Families.

Allen said no performance experience is necessary and cast members are not required to memorize lines, opening up possibilities for casting to "anyone who has ever considered taking part in a production, but who thinks they don't have the time or experience."

A cast of 25 to 30 people is needed for the production. Rehearsals will be held 4:30 to 8 p.m., March 7 - 10.

The mystery dinner theater coming to APG is the result of an Entertainment Summit led by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner starts at 6:30, and the performance begins at 7. Tickets cost \$20.

To register, for more information or to purchase tickets, contact Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/4907 or visit <http://apgmwr.com/events.html>.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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

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OPINION

Heading for divorce? Maybe it's combat stress

When I was getting ready for this deployment, I clicked the online PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) booklet, What Families Should Know, What Families Can Do. I thought it was an awesome resource—well-written. Clear. Reassuring.

My husband thought so too. “But we don’t really need that,” he said. “None of that stuff will ever happen to us.”

Which is probably true, I think. But I still wanna be ready. So I noted the dramatic symptoms I’ve seen on TV and in movies: flashbacks, trouble sleeping, difficulty concentrating, an unwillingness to socialize, inappropriate anger, reliance on drugs and alcohol.

But then I read the more subtle indicators for combat stress and PTSD and TBI, (traumatic brain injury) the ones that weren’t so dramatic, weren’t so obvious. These sounded more familiar. I hear from military spouses all the time in person and online about service members who return from deployment and just don’t want to talk. Act angry all the time. Have no interest in their marriage or spending time with their spouses. Get easily annoyed with the kids. I’ve even heard from spouses who are stunned after the deployment to hear that their service member thinks the relationship is over.

According to the research, those can be signs of combat stress, too. But surely the researchers also recognize that these signs are also a whole lot like the ol’ He’s Just Not That Into You. If there isn’t a blood test for PTSD or combat stress, how are we families supposed to differentiate between the physical/psychological consequences of war and the crumbling of the relationship?

Because we spouses are well aware that military relationships do end sometimes. Couples—even long married couples—can develop problems during deployment. But how are we supposed to distinguish between for better or for worse from combat stress? Booklets like “What Families Should Know,

What Families Can Do” are a good place to start. I’ve always found Military OneSource is great when I need to connect with a real person. I know lots of people are working on solutions to help our service members and their Families handle combat stress, PTSD and TBI.

That is all good. But I want to do something now. Before anything happens. While we are both whole. Before either of us are debilitated with anger or numbness or depression.

So I went ahead and printed out the booklet for Brad. He made a rude noise through his nose.

“But I bet it feels real,” I told him. “I bet those guys with combat stress feel like their anger or whatever is legitimate, logical. Like when I would cry at nothing when I was pregnant. Or rage when I was breastfeeding. Those things felt real. What will be the test for us so that we both know something is really wrong?”

Brad didn’t say anything then. But later during the game he said that if he didn’t want to do any house projects that would be a sign that something was wrong. A few days after that he came home from work and said that if he called me or the kids any names that would be really wrong for him.

So I had him write those two things down on my printout of the booklet. “If I stop doing projects or call people names, I promise I will get help.”

“OK?” he said, signing his name. “OK.”

When he left I looked over that book again. I told myself this would never happen to us. I’m just overdramatic. But I wrote underneath his words anyway: I promise I will hold on to who you really are. The real you. The way you are with us. The way you are before you go.

And I won’t let go of that. I won’t let go.

Jacey Eckhart

CinCHouse.com

Big Brother in the global village

By
JOE FERRARE

Garrison APG Public Affairs Specialist

Cautionary tales about people being embarrassed or even fired because of a comment or photo posted online have already surfaced, spiked and faded into the background noise of the Internet.

Web sites that scrape other web sites for silly photos or embarrassing social mistakes are an established business model like selling hamburgers. You can buy stock in other people's embarrassment now and make money off the service they use to search for cat videos.

It seems that as soon as people become aware of the potential drawbacks of conducting their social lives online they start forgetting about it. They might tweak a privacy setting or resolve to keep their most private thoughts really private, but soon enough a friend or acquaintance tags them in a photo or tells a story about them and they realize they don't really control their online images.

This was all predicted by Marshall McLuhan, who coined the term global village back in the 1960s. One of his theories was that when we use technology to extend ourselves, we become numb to the consequences. One non-online example is telemarketing. Before telemarketing, no one I knew would have dreamed of being rude to someone on the phone. Now, people who are otherwise courteous and friendly will brush off a telemarketer as if he were a mime performing the ubiquitous trapped-in-a-box routine at grandma's funeral. They're rude because the part of their mind that controls courtesy has been numbed by the fact that technology has brought salesmen into their homes.

A lot of people have already become numb to what social media does to their lives. They can live with being tagged, poked, @ed, #ed and even posting something innocent that becomes a double entendre, inviting a slew of comments. It's the price they pay for the benefits of being able to update, and be updated by all their friends, all over the world, all at once.

Unfortunately, while all that hilarity

“These tricks won't protect you completely. We have to pay attention to what the sites we deal with are doing with our info, and that includes what the government is doing about it (Facebook's policy drew immediate Congressional attention, for example).

is ensuing on the surface of the Internet, behind the scenes people, companies and governments are putting a lot of time and money into mining all that data. There are already companies that specialize in mining social media data. Yes, it's another seemingly incomprehensible computer- or online-related term. So what does data mining mean, exactly?

Picture a miner with one of those pans they used to pan for gold. The idea is simple: you scoop up a bunch of sediment from the bottom of a river and wash away the mud and rocks until all you have left is little nuggets of gold.

Now imagine you could scoop up the mud, shake the pan and all the gold inside would come together into a ball and pop to the top. That's what data miners are trying to achieve with data generated online.

The nuggets are things like your name, buying preferences, health, education, legal status, political leanings, etc. Each data point is like a dot in a pointillist painting: individually it may not tell you much, but put them all together, step back a bit, squint, and a pretty good portrait comes together. And they are developing systems so they can pour terabytes of data into a program that will then connect all the dots for them.

Different companies are doing different things with the data they mine. Some just want to sell you things more efficiently. If an airline can figure out that you live in Maryland but do a lot of searches for mountain climbing in the Rockies and have bought or rated a lot of camping gear online, they can offer you a cheap seat to Colorado and not bother about, say, Paris.

If they can somehow peg your vacation dates, number of Family members and income bracket, they can do an even better job of offering you just what you want. Of course, they can also do the same for your children.

It gets worse. Even if sites promise to not share “personally identifiable information,” often that doesn't mean things like screen names. I have one screen name that I use for sites I don't think I'll use much. Some require things like e-mail addresses to register, others don't. If a data miner can connect me to one, he can connect me to all with a certain degree of confidence.

But that's the obvious stuff. Web site logs scrubbed of screen names and e-mail addresses can still have Internet addresses, time spent on the site, purchases made, articles read and perhaps other things.

Internet addresses pinpoint a machine or a router, so if a data miner can pinpoint your router by using data from one site that included a link between your name and your Internet address, he can then connect you – to some degree – to every use of that Internet address. That's the kind of information the music industry has been using to sue people for illegally downloading music.

Social media sites are not helping. In January Facebook started and quickly stopped a process that ended with application developers getting a user's name and address. They haven't given up on the idea, they're just working on making it easier for users to understand what they're agreeing to.

The obvious question is, can we do anything about this and still use the



Internet? The biggest thing is being aware. Read those screens that pop up on your computer (which includes your smart phone, netbook, pad...) and think about what you're agreeing to.

If you're all over the place online and feel uncomfortable about it, take some time to consciously decide what you are comfortable with and then scale back accordingly.

You might want to consider killing off the accounts you have now and creating new accounts that are not linked directly to you. Get a free online e-mail address to use for signing up to sites you may not care about, or may not want to be associated with.

Use screen names that are not related to your real name. Consider using something like virtual private network software. Take advantages of the services that offer log-in information so you can bypass mandatory free registration on web sites.

Engage the private browsing or incognito mode on your browser so you're not broadcasting your information to the whole Internet. There are many more tricks online if you search for them.

These tricks won't protect you completely, of course. We all have to pay attention to what the sites and companies we deal with are doing with our information, and that includes paying attention to what the government is doing about it (Facebook's policy drew immediate Congressional attention, for example).

The days of the carefree, Wild West Internet are over, but that doesn't mean Big Brother has to become the mayor of the Internet, either.

How are we doing? E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at editor-APG@conus.army.mil

Army foundation unveils commemorative coins

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

Three coins commemorating the Army are now available for purchase from the U.S. Mint.

At a ceremony at the Pentagon Jan. 31, the designs for the three coins were unveiled. The coins feature artwork that commemorates the Army at war, the Army during peacetime, and the modern Army of today. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the coins goes toward construction of the National Museum of the United States Army.

“What I love about these coins being launched today is that they celebrate Army history with their images and honor the 30 million American men and women who have worn the uniform since 1775,” said retired Brig. Gen. Creighton W. Abrams Jr., the executive director of the Army Historical Foundation.

Abrams said the coins are important for two reasons. The first, he said, is that sale of the coins will help the AHF build the Army museum at Fort Belvoir, Va., just outside Washington, D.C. The museum, he said would become a “national landmark.”

“It will engage, educate, inspire and honor Soldiers, veterans, families and visitors of all ages,” Abrams said.

It is expected the museum will open in 2015, in conjunction with the Army’s 240th birthday.

The retired general also said the symbolism of the coins is also significant.

“These are great designs,” he said. “These are the first-ever Army commemorative coins, and I think they are great mementos if you have got a relative who served in the Army or if you served yourself.”

The three pieces include a \$5 dol-

lar gold coin, a silver dollar and a clad half-dollar.

The gold coin features five Soldiers, from the colonial times through the modern era. The silver coin features both a male and female bust, in front of a globe, meant to symbolize today’s worldwide deployments. Finally, the clad coin represents the peacetime contributions of the active Army, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve Soldier.

“Their symbolic value is certain to resonate with our more than one million serving Soldiers and their families, and our 11 million surviving Army veterans across the country as sincere public appreciation for their selfless service and personal sacrifices,” said Abrams.

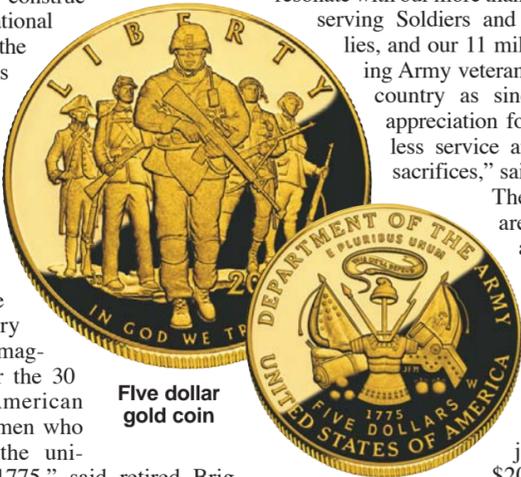
The three coins are now available for purchase on the U.S. Mint’s website -- and range in price from just under \$20 for the clad coin to \$450

for the gold coin. The coins were designed by artists at the U.S. Mint, and will be struck at the mints in Denver, San Francisco, Philadelphia and West Point, N.Y.

“The men and women of the United States Mint are proud to produce these coins, not only to celebrate the Army’s exemplary history, but also to honor the dedication, courage and sacrifices of all American Soldiers, many of who are deployed throughout the world today,” said Daniel P. Shaver, of the U.S. Mint.

The number of coins to be produced by the mint is limited by the public law that allowed them to be created in the first place. The mint will produce 100,000 gold coins, 500,000 silver coins, and 750,000 half-dollar coins.

Those interested in purchasing coins can visit the U.S. mint website at www.usmint.gov/catalog.



Five dollar gold coin

Leadership of PM NV/RSTA changes hands

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

The Project Manager office with the largest portfolio within the Program Executive Office - Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors (PEO IEW&S) witnessed the end of an era as its leadership changed hands during a Change of Charter ceremony on Feb. 15.



Stawowczyk

Col. Linda Herbert, Project Manager Night Vision/Reconnaissance Surveillance and Target Acquisition (PM NV/RSTA), relinquished command to Col. Edward Stawowczyk during a ceremony hosted by Douglas Wiltsie, (acting) PEO for IEW&S, at the Fort Belvoir Community Center.



Herbert

The PM NV/RSTA oversees the product manager offices for Integrated Tactical Systems, Radars, Robotics & Unmanned Sensors and Forward Looking Infrared. The organization is spread out amongst various locations including Fort Belvoir, Va.; Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Fort Monmouth, N.J.; and Huntsville, Ala. to go along with numerous deployed members.

Tell them you saw it in the APG News

Last Doughboy is end of U.S. era

Continued from Page 1

who dedicated his final years to ensuring the sacrifices of his fellow 'Doughboys' are appropriately commemorated."

Burial with full military honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery. Details about the funeral are expected to be released soon.

A long-time resident of Charles Town, West Virginia, where he had a farm, Buckles was born in Bethany, Missouri. He enlisted shortly after his 16th birthday and served in France and Germany.

At the start of World War II, he was a civilian working with a steamship company in the Philippines. He was imprisoned in a Japanese prisoner of war camp for three and a half years.

In his later years, Buckles became an advocate for the expansion of a little-known memorial to World War I Veterans from the District of Columbia into a national memorial.

More than 4,700,000 Americans served in the military during World War I. About 53,000 died of combat-related causes, while another 63,000 deaths were listed as non-combat.



Courtesy photo

Cpl. Frank Buckles, shortly after he arrived in Winchester, England, on his way to France in 1917.

APG Newswatch

The February 2011 edition of the APG Newswatch video news program is available for viewing online through the Army's media player: <http://go.usa.gov/gW0>

The lineup for this month's program includes:

- Installation Commander briefs Maryland General Assembly on APG BRAC status
- Raytheon opens new building at the GATE on APG
- The US Army Public Health Command (Provisional) renovates building on APG South
- RDECOM consolidates HQ at APG, closing Ft. Belvoir office
- Aberdeen chapter of AUSA gets



briefed on new Army acquisition strategy

■ APG honors Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and

■ APG supports Harvest for the Hungry & the Maryland Food Bank

The proponent for APG Newswatch is the RDECOM Public Affairs Office.



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Comprehensive Soldier Fitness a tool for you

Comprehensive Soldier Fitness (CSF) is a long term strategy that better prepares the Army community - including all Soldiers, Family members and Department of the Army civilian workforce - to not only survive, but also thrive at a cognitive and behavioral level in the face of protracted warfare and everyday challenges of Army life that are common in the 21st century.

The program, based on 30-plus years of scientific study and results, uses individual assessments, virtual training, classroom training, and embedded resilience experts to provide the critical skills our Soldiers, Family members and Army civilians need.

The initial major component of Comprehensive Soldier Fitness is the Global Assessment Tool, or GAT. The GAT (for Soldiers and DA civilians) is an online, 105-question survey that takes most people less than 15 minutes to complete. The GAT (for Family members) is comprised of approximately 200 questions and takes approximately 25 minutes to complete. Your responses are completely confidential. Only you see your results because the GAT is a self-awareness tool.

Completing the GAT is an annual training requirement for all Soldiers. There are variants of the GAT for Family members and for Department of the Army Civilians, but completing the GAT is optional for these groups.

To take the GAT, visit <http://www.army.mil/csf/>

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

APG site of major contributions by women

Females calculate weapon trajectory; forerunner of modern computer funded by APG

By
DIANA KARAKOS

ORISE, Cultural Resources

Aberdeen Proving Ground is the site of significant contributions by women to the U.S. military.

At APG, women were recruited during World War II to calculate weapon trajectories for Soldiers. After the war, five of these women were asked to take part in programming the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer, or ENIAC—the predecessor to the modern computer.

The ENIAC was a massive computing machine that added, subtracted, multiplied, and divided. It was developed by scientists at the University of Pennsylvania and funded by APG.

Devil's in the details

With the majority of men overseas or already caught up in a different aspect of the war effort, these women stepped up and performed the crucial trajectory calculations that helped determine the outcome of the war. In fact, their numbers were so accurate they were able to tell whether the enemy was standing up or lying in a trench.

In 1942, the U.S. military secretly hand-picked these gifted mathematicians from high schools and colleges throughout the country and brought them to the University of Pennsylvania where they were given a crash course in ballistics equations and then thrust into the thick of the U.S. offensive, working six days a week and pulling double or triple shifts in order to complete the calculations for the Soldiers.

Similar to the women who replaced men in factories, as represented by the famous image of Rosie the Riveter and her flexed bicep, these women went into overdrive, flexing their brains for the men overseas.

Initially the women sped up their

“I don't feel these men had any evil intention. It's just reflective of a mindset that existed then and exists now, to a different degree. Without question, there are just tons of amazing women in science and technology that nobody knows about.”

Carolyn Leighton

Founder of Women in Technology International

work through the use of a machine called the differential analyzer. A differential analyzer is a mechanical analogue computer which solves differential equations through integration, using wheel-and-disc mechanisms to perform the integration.

Throw away pencil and paper

However, the machine proved unreliable and the women often checked its work by hand, in effect cancelling out the machine's true usefulness.

Jean Jennings Bartik, one of the women recruited, arrived in Pennsylvania from Missouri in 1945. Even though

the war ended several months after her arrival, she remained at the University to work on a second, special project funded by APG with Penn scientists John Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert Jr.

These two men had developed the ENIAC, which weighed over 30

tons and required 18,000 vacuum tubes to function. In fact, the new APG Museum will house a portion of this historic computing machine.

According to Bartik, she and four other women debugged the tubes and learned how to make the giant machine function, in effect becoming some of the first computer programmers.

When the time came, they showed the military commanders how the ENIAC worked, proving that it could compute problems in minutes that would have taken hours with a pencil and paper.

Did you know?

The ENIAC, the forerunner to the modern computer, weighed over 30 tons and required 18,000 vacuum tubes to function. It was developed by scientists at the University of Pennsylvania and funded by APG. A portion of the historic ENIAC will be housed at APG's new museum, slated to open in October 2012.

Not model behavior

Despite their incredible accomplishments they were never publically recognized for their work. Instead, they were perceived as models hired to show off the computer.

While many of the women involved in this lesser known aspect of the war remained in the work force when the fighting ended, knowledge of their participation in this historic project was allowed to fade with time. It was never included in any of the official histories recorded about WWII or the development of the computer.

“I don't feel these men had any evil intention,” said Carolyn Leighton, the founder of Women in Technology International. “It's just reflective of a mindset that existed then and exists now, to a different degree. Without question, there are just tons of amazing women in science and technology that nobody knows about.”

The story of these talented young ladies' accomplishments was recently brought to light by filmmaker, LeAnn Erickson. In 2003, Erickson was conducting interviews for a completely separate project when sisters Shirley and Doris Blumberg mentioned their roles as female 'computers.'

Uncovering the story

Never having heard of this position before and realizing that the women who participated in this secret project would not be around for much longer, Erickson decided to investigate their story before it was too late. Erickson's research resulted in the documentary film “Top Secret Rosies: The Female Computers of World War II,” recently released and available on DVD.

Erickson also embarked on a high-

ly successful speaking tour. Because of the high demand for the history of these women, she developed an educational edition of her work for teachers to use in their classrooms.

Decades after their work at the University, Bartik and several of her colleagues were inducted into the Women in Technology Hall of Fame in 1997. In 2008 Bartik also became a Fellow Award honoree at the Computer History Museum in California. Through research such as Erickson's, these women are receiving much deserved recognition for their accomplishments.

“The most important part of all of these stories is how we can use them to shape the legacy for the next generation of women,” Leighton said. “We know now, without question, how role models can inspire and affect choices. It's not only for them, but the young women and men we can inspire.”

Because these women were not content to sit at home while their loved ones fought and died, stereotypes were broken and ground-breaking discoveries were made. In this instance, both the development of the modern computer and the resulting technological revolution sweeping the world today were initiated by these women's intellectual efforts.

To learn more about the “Top Secret Rosies,” visit www.topsecretrosies.com.

To watch a 2008 video interview with Jean Jennings Bartik at the Computer History Museum, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=buAYHonF968>.

The Top Secret Rosies were also recently highlighted in an article by Jamie Gumbrecht in CNN Today: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/TECH/innovation/02/08/women.rosies.math/index.html?iref=allsearch>.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Joan Campbell, 410-278-5668, e-mail joan.campbell@us.army.mil.”

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Tidy Baptiste	Maia Kaiser	Paul Shelley
Sarah Blevins	Jessica Knight	Lena Shelton
Debra Bonsall	Shantiea Mack	Diane Simmons
Diane Bratton	Sheila Martin	Philip Sibley
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Lynae Green	Russell	Tammy Woodard
Walter Holland	Pedro Rodriguez	Bruce Woodmansee
Debra Ingram	Maria Santiago	Victoria Yates-Sparks
Kari Jackson	Gloria Scott	

Post Shorts

CAC slides available online

To view slides from the Feb. meeting go to www.slideshare.net/USAGAPG/feb-apg-community-action-council-slides.

Women's History Month events

The APG Federal Women's Program will observe Women's History Month with a training program March 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Edgewood Conference Center. The training is free to APG's military and civilian employees. Register at <https://www.apg.army.mil/AKOSSOprompt/fwp.cfm/>. For more information, call Inez Tyson at 410-436-7864 or Sheryl Coleman at 410-278-5964.

FWC awards, training events

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board Federal Women's Council will host their annual awards and training program March 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Martin's West. Register early due to limited seating. Visit http://www.baltimorefeb.us/documents/2011_FWT Awards Program.doc for more information, or call 410-278-5964.

Also, the APG FWP will host Lilly Ledbetter March 24 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. Call 410-436-7864 for information.

CPR and AED Classes

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services offer free CPR classes with Automated External Defibrillator (AED) certification on APG.

Two classes will be held 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month.

APG South (Edgewood), classes will be held at the conference center, Bldg. E-4810, April 13, June 8, Aug. 17, Oct. 19 and Dec. 14.

APG North (Aberdeen), classes will be held at the post chapel March 16, May 18, July 20, Sept. 21 and Nov. 16.

Class size will be limited to 30 participants and will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. Pre-registration is required.

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

Traffic Alert Construction causes traffic changes

Continuing for the next several weeks, there will be intermittent shoulder and single lane closures on Boothby Hill Avenue and Havre De Grace Street in the vicinity of the new BRAC Integration Facility.

The work area on Boothby Hill Avenue is located between the intersections of Bel Air Street and Havre De Grace Street.

The work area along Havre De Grace Street will be between Boothby Hill Avenue and School Road.

All work will be performed between 9 am and 3:30 pm to minimize impact to traffic. Traffic control in the form of signs and flaggers will be used as necessary.

Drivers are requested to use Susquehanna Avenue as an alternate route during this period to avoid the construction.

Motorists who must travel through the construction areas are advised to use caution.

Satellite communications course slated at APG

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 April 11-15 from 8:30 am-4:30 pm 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 April 1 to tdi98@sbeglobal.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.

MCSC scholarship

The Military, Civilian and Spouses' Club at Aberdeen Proving Ground will award merit-based academic scholarships in the spring. Please visit www.apgmcsc.org for additional information and the application form. The deadline for submission is March 15.

Arbor Day event set April 29

This year's APG Arbor Day Celebration theme is "Light of the Bay." Arbor Day will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 29 at CAPA Field in the Edgewood Area. Events will include awards for best poster essays as written by students from Harford, Cecil and Baltimore county schools. For more information, call 410-278-5014.

Clearance sale at Thrift Shop

A clearance sale is ongoing at the Thrift Shop throughout the month of March. Baby clothes on clearance will be further reduced to \$.25 and adults clothes on clearance will be reduced to \$.50. Store hours are Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 pm. For more information, call 410-272-8572.

Warm up with a purchase of green energy at APG

APG has firewood available at a cost of \$10 per pick-up truckload, standard one-half ton truck. Permits to buy wood are good for 10 days, or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Permits will be issued on a first-come-first served basis in APG South (Edgewood), Bldg. E4630 and Bldg. E5774, Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. At APG North (Aberdeen), call Kathy Thisse or Scott English for an appointment.

For more information, call 410-436-9804/7379/8789.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

FRIDAYS

MARCH 4 - JUNE 3 SMALL BUSINESS CLASSES

Maintaining a profitable business can be just as challenging as starting a new one. The Cecil and Harford County Offices of Economic Development are sponsoring a series of small business group sessions that offer valuable business advice from three international coaching firms packaged into one free program.

Classes will be offered March 4-April 15 on Fridays from 9 a.m.-noon at the Cecil County Office of Economic Development or April 22-June 3 on Fridays from 9 a.m.-noon at the Harford Community College, Edgewood Hall.

Visit <http://www.harford.edu/sbdc/counseling.asp> for brochure and registration.

SATURDAY

MARCH 5 10TH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE & CANDY FESTIVAL

The community is invited to a fun-filled and family-friendly afternoon of chocolate, candy, and sweet treats at

the Bel Air Armory 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 (kids under 6 are free).

Each paid admission receives three tickets to enjoy free samples from chocolatiers, candy makers, and sweet treat merchants. There will be music, a children's activity area with chocolate and candy themed crafts for kids, a downtown Bel Air scavenger hunt, art exhibit and more.

MONDAY

MARCH 7 GUNPOWDER TOASTMASTERS (APG SOUTH)

Going on a job interview? Giving a presentation? Toastmasters can assist. Toastmasters will help you develop better speaking and presentation skills. Learn to think quickly on your feet, build leadership abilities and hone listening skills in a supportive, self-paced atmosphere.

The Gunpowder Toastmasters meet the first and third Mondays of each month (unless on a federal holiday) from 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, Bldg. E-4516, Seminar Room.

Visit <http://gunpowder.freetoasthost.info> for directions or contact Heather McDowell at 410-436-7816 for information.

TUESDAY

MARCH 8 SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 201 Mt. Royal Avenue, Aberdeen will hold a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 to 8 p.m. Cost of the supper is a freewill offering. Proceeds will benefit the St. Paul's youth trip to the New Orleans Youth Gathering.

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 9 AFCEA LUNCHEON

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association will hold its monthly luncheon, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Ripken Stadium Club Level, 873 Long Drive in Aberdeen. Guest speaker will be Justin Filler, Deputy Director, PEO C3T MilTech Solutions Office. Join fellow col-

leagues in government, industry and education at the luncheon. Cost is \$20 per person (cash or check, non-refundable). There is a \$5 discount for active duty military, government and academia. Checks should be made payable to AFCEA.

For more information or to RSVP online, visit <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=c6kmqleab&oeidk=a07e3enr604f280a291>.

SATURDAY

MARCH 12 BASKET AND PURSE BINGO

The Harford Technical School located at 200 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air will sponsor Basket and Purse Bingo, 7 p.m. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person; extra packets cost \$5 each. Food and drinks will be available. Bring a canned good or non-perishable food item for a bonus prize ticket.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Michelle Hash, 410-688-

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

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

Developmental delay service offered

ACS/Exceptional Family Member Program is sponsoring Harford County Infants and Toddlers at the Ruggles Golf Course Sutherland Club House March 16 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

The Harford County Infants and Toddlers Program provides a variety of early intervention services (speech, occupational, and physical therapies and special instruction, etc.) to children from birth to age 5 and who are at risk for developmental delay, have developmental delays or atypical development.

Services are provided at no cost to children living in Harford County.

Nicol Elliott, Program Manager will provide an overview of the program, its services and the eligibility/referral process.

Kelly Nelson, family support services coordinator will discuss the services and resources available to family members participating in the program.

For information, call Nancy Goucher at 410-278-2420.

Trip prices increase

All ticket prices for casino trips have increased by \$1. The upcoming Atlantic City trip is now \$31 per person. Tickets for the NYC day trip are now \$45.

Saint Patrick's Day Fun Run

Faith and begorrah! A St. Patty's Day Fun Run will take place 3 p.m. March 17 at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center, Bldg. 3300. All runners and walkers are encouraged to register now. Cost of registration before race day is \$15 and \$20 day of race with T-shirt; registration is free without T-shirt.

Visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/events.html> to register or for more information.

Racquetball Tournament

All eligible MWR patrons 18 years of age and over are invited to play in a racquetball tournament March 5 and 6 at the Athletic Center, Bldg. 3300. Singles play will take place Saturday and doubles will take place on Sunday. Categories include novice and open.

For more information or to register, call Jason Foley at 410-278-7933/7934.

Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program is committed to offering support to the APG Family through a series of dynamic classes. What makes FAP classes so dynamic is a mix of the community members who participate, the exciting and innovative materials, and the facilitators. Classes are free and are open to all members of the APG community, so don't delay. Families can get the tools that they need to get on the right track by joining a FAP class today.

All programs will be held at ACS, Bldg. 2503 High Point Road.

- Effective Parenting Training (Teens): 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., March 8, 15, 22 and 29

- Effective Parenting for ages birth through age 5: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., March 22, 29 and April 5, 12, 19 and 26

- Follow Up Class Effective Parenting for parents of children ages 6-12: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., March 28

- Couples Communication Class: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., April 6, 13, 20 and 27

- Blended Families (Stepfamilies): 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., May 5, 12 and 26

- Staying Connected With Your Teen: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30

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

AFTB Level III training class

ACS Army Family Team Building will host an AFTB Level III training class. This is a volunteer-supported Department of the Army training program designed to teach individuals and families how to be more independent within the military environment. The class will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 15 and 16 in ACS Bldg. 2503, upstairs on the second floor in the CYSS conference room 214.

Pre-registration is required. Call 410-278-2453 for information.

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.

SKIES Unlimited

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

Private piano lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 4 to 18 will be held 3 to 9:30 p.m. Fridays from March 4 to April 8; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays from March 5 to April 9; and 3 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays from March 8 to April 12 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Cost of the lessons is \$102 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks. Parents choose which time frame session they want when registering. Students are responsible for buying instructor-recommended books for the course. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

Private guitar lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 to 18 will be held 3 to 9:30 p.m. Fridays from March 4 to April 8; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays from March 5 to April 9; and 3 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays from March 8 to April 12 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. Cost of the lessons is \$102 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks. Parents choose

which time frame session they want when registering. Students are responsible for buying instructor-recommended books for the course. Books are a one-time purchase. Students must also provide their own guitar.

Ice skating lessons at Ice World

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

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

Lessons are open to all DoD ID card-holding Family members.

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

The six weekly sessions offer professional instruction with a half-hour of instruction time and half-hour of practice each week. Limited free skate rentals.

Classes will be grouped by age and ability. Three free passes to public sessions will be provided.

There will be no make-up classes or refunds. For more information or to register, call Central Registration at 410-278-7571/7479, Bldg. 2503.

Free career and financial sessions for teens

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness and Financial Readiness in partnership with the APG Federal Credit Union will provide free career and financial sessions for teens ages 13 to 18. All fun filled sessions will be held at ACS Bldg. 2503, High Point Road, second floor conference room. Space is limited. For information or to register, call 410-278-9669.

Job vs. Career

To be or not to be – that is the question. The Job vs. Career class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 21. Teens will learn the benefit of a career over a job. The class will help guide teens through the job and career preparation process so they can achieve their own employment success. Learn the basics of a job interview, writing an application letter, resume and setting smart goals.

Budget

This class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 23. My Money, My Choice: A computer notebook, a new gaming system, a car, or college tuition ... How do you spend (or want to spend) your money? In this exciting, hands-on session, teens will learn the skills to spend their money and make wise choices, all while on a budget ... and have fun doing it.

Avoid the Credit Card Trap

The class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 14. Looking for a credit card? In the land of Plastic, there are so many Credit Cards to choose. What is the best match for teens? This session is packed with valuable information delivered in humor and fun. Topics include how to avoid fees and penalties that can destroy a budget, how to avoid any related costs and traps that come with owning a credit card. Teens 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, especially in these tough financial times.

Car Loans and Credit

A Car loans and credit class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 11. Need a Car? In this fun and interactive game teens will be able to:

- Acquire what it takes to apply for a car loan,
- Recognize the benefits of establishing a good credit history,
- Practice managing expenses within a budget,
- Realize the importance of savings.

A dream car can become a reality if teens know how to handle their credit responsibly.

March bowling specials

- Early Bird Special: From 7 to 9 a.m., receive one hour of bowling for \$12. Shoe rental costs \$2.

- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl one game for \$1.00 and pay \$1 for shoe rental.

- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra)

and one pitcher of soda for \$32. Shoe rental costs \$2.

New bowling rates

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

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

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

Week of Feb. 28

Special #1: Kielbasa and sauerkraut on roll with French Fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.50.

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

Week of March 7

Special #1: Gyro with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

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

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



Fellowship offered at APG

During a January tour to central Florida, which included visits to combatant commands, U.S. Central Command, and U.S. Special Operations Command as well as Team Orlando, Senior Service College fellows Ray Fontaine, Dan Shearer and Raj Malhotra practice their marksmanship proficiency in the engagement skills trainer. "The trip provided an unparalleled opportunity to develop an understanding of the role played by the combatant commands in protecting our national interests as well as to learn about the latest modeling, simulation and gaming capabilities available to the nation's warfighters," said Jim Oman, SSCF program director. The Senior Service College Fellowship at Aberdeen Proving Ground is now accepting applications through March 15. Over the course of 10 months, the program provides leadership and acquisition training to prepare senior level government civilians at the GS 14/15 level or equivalent for senior leadership roles such as product and project managers, program executive officers and other key acquisition leadership positions. For more information please visit: www.dau.mil/sscf

Photo by Dennis Teefy



Combat capability tied to MWR

Continued from Page 1

that decisions about programs needing to be cut or reduced will be difficult, he hoped that MWR managers are prepared to justify the programs that are truly critical to service members and their Families.

Acting FMWR director Linda Edwards said APG is making wise use of every dollar.

"It is critical, now more so than ever, that we maintain our full spectrum of MWR programs to ensure the total well-being for our APG community," she said.

"In an environment categorized with multiple deployments and a struggling economy, stresses on Families has reached an all-time high," said Edwards. "Our APG team is vigilant in ensuring that resources are applied judiciously while maintaining the caliber of programs for which Army MWR is known."

Wilson said "We hope to learn more about the strategy that MWR managers will pursue in the coming months to meet the demands of this new era of budget austerity."

Wilson, a retired Army National Guard colonel, opened the hearing Feb. 10 with other congressmen, directors of military MWR programs, and Robert L. Gordon, deputy assistant secretary of defense for Military Community and Family Policy in attendance.

"This subcommittee has always viewed the wide range of programs that comprise the...MWR community as essential elements within a healthy military community...and it remains strongly committed to supporting these programs," Wilson said.

DOD, Wilson said, has correctly crossed over into a new era of austerity

marked by increased fiscal scrutiny of all programs and a pursuit of increased budget efficiency.

"While demands for increased effectiveness and efficiency are to be expected, I fear that misperceptions about the absence of a link between MWR programs and combat readiness will place those programs at greater risk of being cut too deeply,"

Wilson said, adding that superior combat capability is directly dependent on the strength of the military community.

On Jan. 24, President Obama announced 50 initiatives by 16 federal agencies to help support military Families with programs designed to improve psychological health resources, ensure excellence in education for children of servicemembers, develop career and education opportunities for military spouses, and increase the availability of child care.

Speaking to cabinet members, military senior leaders and their spouses in the White House Green Room, Obama was reported as saying, "One-hundred percent of Americans need to be supporting the one percent who are fighting U.S. wars."

First Lady Michelle Obama, according to a House Armed Services Subcommittee report, announced a year-long campaign to promote the plan and draw more attention to the needs of military Families.

Gordon told the panel that the services have been doing a good job to assess their programs by sharply focusing on what service members and Families want.

It is critical, now more so than ever, that we maintain our full spectrum of MWR programs.

Linda Edwards

Acting FMWR director

"In the defense department, we are about machines and people. We've been at war for ten years and Families, in terms of retention and readiness, are essential," said

Gordon, a West Point graduate with an Army career of 26 years.

"So, with respect to leadership, with respect to assessment of programs, and with respect to the infrastructure in place, I think we're in good shape," he said.

Rich Gorman, executive director and chief operating officer of the Army's Family & MWR Command, acknowledged the need to be fiscally conscious.

"When the Army Chief of Staff General George W. Casey Jr. came out of Iraq in April 2007, he said the Army was out of balance. So, he immediately put us to work to create the Army Family Covenant and the commitment to funding that is steadfast," Gorman said.

"At the same time, we also accept the responsibility to develop, what Gen. Casey calls, a cost culture, where we turn a new page in our approach to fiscal management. It's not about executing dollars, but it's about what we get for the money we spend in terms of val-

ue we provide our service members and their Families in exchange for their magnificent service," he said.

Casey and Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the Army Installation Management Command, said Gorman, frequently say that the Army is not going to break because of its Soldiers, but it might break because of its Families.

"Economy, efficiency and effectiveness have long been goals of Army MWR programs, although their relative priority has changed over time, driven by deployment, budget and staffing requirements," Gorman said.

"Where it makes sense, we will embrace change to address what's missing. But our focus will remain not on 'change' but on 'better' as we strive, with your help, to keep our promise to provide Soldiers and Families with a quality of life commensurate with their service and sacrifice," he said.

At the conclusion of the second day of hearings, Gordon summed up the efforts of the military MWR program directors for the panel of congressmen that included Susan Davis (D-Calif.), retired Army Lt. Col. Allen West (R-Fla.), and Congressman Austin Scott (R-Ga.).

"Be assured that as we move our defense enterprise toward a more efficient, effective, and cost-conscious way of doing business, we will take care of our most valuable asset: our service members and their Families," he said.

"I look forward to working with Congress in this effort. We share a passion for improving the quality of life of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines and their Families," Gordon said.



Photo by Tom Faulkner

Soldiers stand at attention during their unit's deployment ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Maj. Gen. Warren D. Hodges Armory Feb. 26.

Unit stops by Texas for training

Continued from Page 1

families of deployed Service members. "Rest assured, while you're focused on your mission, we're going to focus on your family. We're going to take care of your family," Brown said. "We can't deploy in hazardous environments unless we know that we have the love and support of Families and friends."

Brown has served in the Army active and reserve components since 1984. In 2004, he deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, for 10 months. He is currently a colonel in the reserve.

Brown said he understands the Sol-

diers' emotions from his own experience.

"My role here today is to symbolize the pride that we have in Maryland for each and every one of you," Brown said. "In the last five years in Maryland, we've deployed more men and women to war than any time since World War II. The most important mission is to make sure that you come home safely."

The unit will conduct additional training at Fort Hood, Texas, before traveling to Iraq. Its mission is to conduct air assault and air movement operations to extend the tactical reach of the maneu-

ver commander, negate effects of terrain and seize key ground.

MORE ONLINE

To view or download photos from this ceremony online, scan this graphic with a smart phone QR reader. (Just search your phone's app source to download a QR reader.)



Elvis closes night

Continued from Page 1

"Sweet Home Chicago" and other Blues Brothers songs with Trevor Biggers.

Another crowd favorite was Sean Jamison as Garth Brooks, who sang "Rodeo," "The Dance," and "Papa Loved Mama." Jamison got the crowd on their feet by singing most of his set in the crowd.

Fourteen year-old Rachel Bauer made her professional debut with the Nashville Mafia that night as Carrie Underwood, by singing "We're Young and Beautiful" and "Before He Cheats."

"We are very proud of her, she wants to be a professional singer," said her mother, Cyndee Bauer.

Ted Sharp as Elvis, closed the night by performing several chart topping hits.

The audience members, who were mostly composed of Soldiers from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, seemed to have a good time as they cheered and danced to their favorite songs.

Pfc. Chris Weber, who is stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground for training, said that he enjoyed going to the concert because it gave him something to do on a Saturday night.

"This is something different, I like having some time away from the barracks," Weber said.

To view more photos, visit www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/.

CBRNE command zeros in on ever-changing threats

EOD responds to nearly 250 U.S. incidents last year

By
ALEXANDRA HEMMERLY-BROWN
Army News Service

At the sixth annual Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosives Defense Summit in Washington D.C. Feb. 14 – 16, one of the Army's leaders in the field said it's a daily challenge to rebuff the efforts of insurgents in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"As we improve, so do our adversaries," said Col. Thomas Cartledge, chief of staff of the 20th Support Command, at the summit Feb. 16.

Cartledge explained that the military's Chemical and Explosive Ordnance Disposal, or EOD, troops work persistently to develop research and new technology in defense of the nation. In support of threats abroad, Cartledge said there has been a transformation in the force structure and the Army has doubled its number of EOD troops.

"The biggest challenge right now is maintaining the force structure," Cartledge said, explaining there is a big demand for Soldiers in the EOD and chemical fields.

Formed in 2004, the 20th Support Command located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is responsible for all of the United States-based CBRNE Soldiers about 4,500 troops. The command is equipped for rapid deployment for weapons of mass destruction elimination and site exploitation worldwide, as well as countering and defeating improvised explosive devices.

Last fiscal year EOD teams also responded to nearly 250 U.S.-based incidents.

"It's important for everyone to understand the capabilities that reside within the 20th Support Command. We have very unique capabilities and



Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway

Staff Sgt. Stephen Durling, center, 2nd Platoon, 663 Ordnance Company (EOD), team leader, teaches a class on munitions classification to soldiers of the Iraqi Army Bomb Disposal Company, 14th Iraqi Army Division May 27, 2010, at Contingency Operating Base Basra, Iraq.

very unique challenges," Cartledge said.

Some of the unique capabilities recently developed, Cartledge explained, include the Single Threat Integration Radiological System -- an inter-linked sensor system that uses both ground and aerial sensors to feed back to a single computer.

Another current development is the improvement of mobile chemical test sets for the battlefield -- similar to those seen in air-

ports. Cartledge said it is important for test sets to be lightweight, portable and non-invasive to enable Soldiers to look for trace chemical residues.

The continual expansion of the Army's chemical and biological protective arsenal comes at great expense, but it's one that Cartledge thinks is well worth the Soldiers' lives that are saved.

"When you look at all our potential adversaries, most of them either have or want a Weapons

of Mass Destruction program. Those are large-scale threats that can be done with very small devices," Cartledge said. "We know the terrorist community very much wants to acquire WMD to potentially use against us, so for the near term I think the 20th will stay in business."

The 20th Support Command also works closely with the civilian defense and intelligence communities, and the Soldiers are sometimes called upon as technical assets. They also regularly participate in joint training exercises in case of a national emergency.

Cartledge noted that if a chemical or biological threat is suspected, anybody -- military or civilian should call their local authorities or 911. When local authorities discover unexploded ordnance, they often call the nearest EOD unit.

For more information, visit the command's website at www.cbrne.army.mil.

Spotlight on APG

The APG News will run biweekly features on organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The feature will include a brief profile and feature article and is intended to give readers a better understanding of the organization.

If you'd like to see your unit featured, e-mail editor-apg@conus.army.mil.

20th Support Command (CBRNE) profile

Unit: US Army 20th Support Command (CBRNE)

Leadership:

- Commanding General: Brig Gen. Leslie C. Smith
- Chief of Staff: Col Thomas Cartledge
- Command Sergeant Major: Ronald E. Orosz

Mission:

Provide trained and ready forces in order to counter CBRNE and WMD threats in support of the operational force and national combating WMD objectives

Also, on order the 20th SUPCOM deploys, provides C2 for the Army and/or joint specialized CBRNE forces, executes WMD-E operations and other specialized CBRNE operations and provides technical capabilities and CBRNE subject matter expertise to joint and Army commanders to achieve national CWMD objectives

Top Priorities:

- Conduct command and control
- Establish, organize and operate a joint task force
- Counter CBRNE weapons and threats in the operational area

About the 20th SUPCOM:

The Edgewood based 20th Support Command (CBRNE) is the Army's sole command for weapons of mass destruction that has both peacetime and wartime missions both at home and abroad.

Formally established in October 2004, the command is home to approximately 5,000 Soldiers spread across 23-states, and includes more than 200 civilians.

The unit command all chemical units and explosive ordnance disposal and nuclear disablement teams nationwide.

The command provides support to Army, Department of Defense, North-

SPOTLIGHT ON APG



ern Command, Pacific Command, primary force provider for Task Force Troy in Iraq and Task Force Paladin in Afghanistan, as well as the homeland defense mission to provide WMD support to federal, state and local law enforcement and other government agencies when requested.

Notable history:

The history of the 20th Support Command is relatively short compared to most Army units. This was a unit originally created during Operation Iraqi Freedom I, from the Fort Sill, Okla., based 75th Artillery Brigade headquarters that took control of all CBRNE assets and became 75th Exploitation Task Force and it became clear this type of CBRNE command needed to be enduring. In October 2004 the "Guardian Brigade" was stood up to be the enduring operational headquarters to command and control specialized CBRNE operations and become the primary Army force provider of specialized CBRNE capabilities.

In February 2006, the unit became a joint task force-capable headquarters and in September 2009 the 20th SUPCOM reached initial operational capability for deployment and today is still transforming itself to respond to the Army's and the nations needs.

Today, the 20th SUPCOM is the sourcing command for both joint task forces Troy and Paladin. JTF Paladin is the command responsible for the counter IED mission in Afghanistan; JTF Troy is responsible for the same mis-

sion in Iraq.

In addition to deploying overseas, the 20th SUPCOM has a vital homeland defense mission in providing EOD teams in rendering safe munitions found on former battlefields, former military installations as well as providing counter-explosive support for high-ranking government officials and federal, state and local law enforcement when called upon.

The 20th SUPCOM, is not just a Soldier organization, but one that has a wealth of highly-specialized civilian talent as well. Organizations as the CBRNE Remedial Activities Activity or CARA, is a civilian-dominated organization within the 20th SUPCOM that is staffed with a wide array of highly technical and specialized personnel from scientist to aviators.

Organizational elements:

The command's major units are the 48th Chemical Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas, 52d Ordnance Group (EOD) in For. Campbell, Ky., the 71st Ordnance Group (EOD) at Fort Carson, Colo., the 111th Ordnance Group (EOD) (Alabama National Guard) and the 21st EOD Co. (WMD) based at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Activity or CARA, and nuclear disablement teams.

Why we're here:

The 20th SUPCOM, is the nation's primary asset for countering weapons of mass destruction.

This includes threats from foreign

governments to the legacy munitions found on many of our nations battlefields or former military installations. We provide the nation with the trained, dedicated and skilled forces needed to counter weapons of mass destruction from chemical, biological, radiological nuclear or from high-yield explosives.

We are part of the national strategy for combating WMDs, the three methods of countering WMDs are non-proliferation of WMDs, counter-proliferation and consequence management.

The 20th SUPCOM in its role as Joint Task Force-elimination can operate in all three areas, its primary mission is counter-proliferation and its five mission areas-- interdiction, offensive operations, active-defense, elimination and passive defense.

JTF-E Soldiers and civilians are specially trained and have the capability to advise supported commanders or agencies how to best employ CBRNE assets to accomplish these missions.

APG and Transformation:

20th SUPCOM has been located at APG (Edgewood Area) since its activation in October 2004, and is among the last Military unit remaining at Edgewood Area, but is scheduled to move to APG-N in FY2012(?). The command mission continues to grow and the civilian workforce is expected to grow as well.

From the Command:

"When you look at all our potential adversaries, most of them either have or want a weapons of mass destruction program. Those are large-scale threats that can be done with very small devices," Col. Thomas Cartledge, chief of staff of the 20th Support Command said. "We know the terrorist community very much wants to acquire WMD to potentially use against us, so for the near term I think the 20th will stay in business."