



AER campaign underway

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The annual fundraising campaign for Army Emergency Relief, the Army's own emergency financial assistance program, has begun.

The theme for this year's campaign, which runs through May 15, is "Helping to Make Soldiers and Their Families Army Strong."

AER is the only program that's dedicated to solely helping Soldiers and their Families in times of emergency financial need.

AER provides financial assistance in the form of a no-interest loan, grant or combination of both to eligible requestors.

What makes AER assistance unique is that it's a right-now solution for right-now problems.

"AER cuts through the red tape and allows Soldiers to get immediate assistance for their needs, as early as the same day," said Capt. Malukah McCormick, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company and the Aberdeen Proving Ground AER

See **AER**, page 15

McCormick assumes command of HHC Garrison

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

During a change of command ceremony at the Ball Conference Center March 3, Capt. Ginger G. Hammerquist turned over the leadership of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground to Capt. Malukah McCormick.

Hammerquist, who served as HCC Company commander for one year, is leaving the Army. She received an award

See **COMMUNITY**, page 7



McCormick

Post employees awarded for response to explosion

By **MIKE CAST**
Army Developmental Test Command

Several APG employees received awards March 3 for their actions after an anti-tank round exploded in the barrel of a Russian-made T-55 during testing in 2009.

The accidental explosion resulted in the deaths of two ATC test-support employees and serious injury to a third. The lone survivor of the accident also received an

award but was not present for last week's ceremony, held at the installation's recreation center.

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, the commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, presented the Secretary of the Army Award for Valor to Kevin Banigan, Christopher Raab, Philip Sibley Jr. and Michael Williams. He presented the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to

See **EMPLOYEES**, page 15

MORE ONLINE



To view or download photos from the awards ceremony, visit the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command website at <http://www.dtc.army.mil/news-room/default.aspx>.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Shaun Jarrar, a Harford Technical High School construction student, calculates the dimensions of part of the Poole's Island lighthouse replica. A time capsule featuring environmentally friendly items donated from Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations will be placed in the replica during the Arbor Day/ Earth Day ceremony April 29 at the APG Museum.

Time capsule items sought

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community is invited to donate environmentally friendly items that will be placed in a time capsule during the Arbor Day/ Earth Day ceremony April 29 at the APG Museum. The time capsule will be closed for 50 years, then opened May 1, 2061.

Items donated by garrison and garrison supported organizations should demonstrate APG's green ideas of today. This can be anything from sample data to part of a solar panel.

"The time capsule should show a moment in time," said APG School Liaison Stephen Clapper, who is assisting with the project. "In fifty years, did we achieve the green that we are pushing for today?"

Donated items should be small enough to fit inside the time capsule, which is expected to be six inches wide by 24 inches long.

Harford Technical High School construction and carpentry instructor Michael Svezese and 10 students are building a

See **TIME**, page 15

GUIDELINES

- Fits inside a 6 x 24 inch container
- Paper, photographs and textiles are sealed in Mylar
- No organic items
- Coins or metal objects should be placed in a bag to prevent erosion and avoid tarnishing other items
- No tape or adhesives

APG Live blog up and running

Staff report

Aberdeen Proving Ground has added another channel to its growing list of communications media with the launch of a new blog called APG Live.

The blog is hosted by the Department of Defense Live team at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>, so it is accessible to anyone with a browser and Internet connection, explained U.S. Army Garrison APG Public Affairs Officer George Mercer.

"We felt a need to round out our use of the Internet to reach the various audiences interested in APG," Mercer said. "We've had a very good response to our Facebook page with about 3,400 people liking our page. We've also seen a steady rise in followers on Twitter."

"What we lacked was something with the immediacy of Facebook or Twitter that people don't have to join. The software the blog runs on makes it almost as easy to blog as it is to post things on Facebook or

Twitter, but anybody can pull up our public blog at any time."

The garrison team has already been blogging on MilBlog, which is part of the greater Army Knowledge Online community of websites and therefore requires an AKO account to access. However, the software that runs MilBlog is the same used to run APG Live. Because the systems are so similar, public affairs work-

See **POST**, page 15

WEATHER

Thurs.



54° | 43°

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Daylight Saving Time begins March 13

Clocks should be turned forward one hour before retiring for the night on March 12. Daylight Saving Time begins 2 a.m., Sunday, March 13.



Get your answers at March 17 CAC.

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ONLINE

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



MURDER MYSTERY

Guess whodunit during March 11 dinner theater. **SEE PAGE 4.**

OPINION

Survivors never forgotten

I commanded the 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart as part of the surge in Iraq in 2007-8.

During that time, 153 Soldiers died in combat, in a place on the battlefield where I put them. I pray for those Soldiers and their Families every day.



Their loss is something I have to live with. For any leader, the loss of a Soldier hits hard. But the loss that Survivors experience is magnitudes deeper and wider, because they have lost not just a Soldier, but a friend, a son or daughter, a husband or wife, a father or mother.

When I visit installations, I meet with those who have lost loved ones on active duty. I make sure to talk with Survivors for two reasons.

One reason is that now, as the commander of the Installation Management Command, I need to know how we are doing with one of our newest programs, Survivor Outreach Services.

The other reason is that Survivors need to know that the Army recognizes and honors their Soldier's service and sacrifice.

The best, most meaningful thing we can do to honor our Fallen Soldiers is to support and care for those they left behind. Survivor Outreach Services was established in April 2008 to do just that, in a more comprehensive manner than ever before.

The Army is fortunate to have a leader like Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr., who had the vision and compassion to propel the effort to support Survivors beyond casualty assistance alone.

Casualty assistance officers work

“But grief is very personal—it cannot be standardized or resolved in a set time period. With the help of a panel of Survivors selected by Gen. Casey, SOS was developed to provide longer-term, expanded support and care, taking up where casualty assistance ends.”

with Families during a very difficult time, a heart-rending time, when Families are notified of their Soldier's death and have to make funeral arrangements and decisions about entitlements and benefits.

But grief is very personal—it cannot be standardized or resolved in a set time period. With the help of a panel of Survivors selected by Gen. Casey, SOS was developed to provide longer-term, expanded support and care, taking up where casualty assistance ends.

SOS offers support through benefits coordinators, who help Survivors understand and apply for local, state and federal benefits; financial counselors, who assist through investment and estate planning education; and support coordinators, who facilitate support groups, provide life skills education and connect Survivors with counseling resources.

More than 200 SOS personnel are now working on installations throughout the United States and overseas, to include National Guard and Reserve locations.

The three components work and train together very closely on this One Army program, to provide SOS services close

est to where Survivors live.

It does not matter how a Soldier died, and there is no time limit on SOS services. SOS coordinators extend a hand as Survivors are working with casualty assistance officers in the first few months after a Soldier's death, but Survivors do not have to accept assistance right then or ever.

They can decide to return months or years later. The important thing is for Survivors to know that the support is there. They are not alone—they are part of the Army Family for as long as they want to be.

There are also no exclusions in the definition of a Survivor.

For the SOS program, a Survivor is anyone—immediate Family, extended Family, a friend, a fellow Warrior—who feels the loss of a Soldier.

Every Survivor is not entitled to the same benefits under law or regulations, but SOS coordinators will work with any Survivor to access counseling and other resources. Our partnerships with local and national support organizations make this more expanded, inclusive approach possible.

SOS staffs have made tremendous

progress in a short time, receiving more than 24,000 cases from Casualty and Mortuary Affairs and continually reaching out to Survivors, both those who have suffered a loss recently and those whose loss pre-dates the program.

As the program becomes established, they continue to refine and enhance services as more Survivors provide feedback on their challenges and needs.

For example, this past year, when it became clear that Survivors who do not have ID cards were having difficulty getting onto post to use services, SOS developed a Survivor vehicle decal program to ease access and provide special recognition. The decals are currently being distributed through SOS offices.

More information on SOS services and Survivor resources is available on Army OneSource (www.myarmyonesource.com/FamilyProgramsandServices/SurvivingFamilies/SurvivorOutreachServices.aspx), the SOS Facebook page and garrison SOS web pages. There are also links to partner organizations whose support is so critical to connecting with and providing for Survivors.

The loss of a Soldier is not a topic people want to talk about, but it is a reality of military life. We do what we can to prevent losses. We train for and plan our combat operations. We stress safety in garrison. We have enhanced programs to prevent risky behaviors and suicide.

In the end, though, despite our best efforts, we cannot prevent every loss. That is why Survivor Outreach Services is so crucial. To honor the Fallen Soldier's service and sacrifice for our nation, we can do one last thing—offer support for the loved ones the Soldier left behind.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
IMCOM Commanding General

For more information, contact APG's SOS coordinator Annette Sanders at 410-278-2861 or annetesandersnash@us.army.mil

APG coexisting with Mother Nature

Aberdeen Proving Ground is home to an abundant amount of wildlife.

While APG's workforce and infrastructure grows, the encroachment of the habitat is increasing. Mother Nature will allow the animals to adapt to the ever-changing environment they call home.

It is our responsibility to learn to coexist with Mother Nature and enjoy the beautiful wildlife sanctuary that APG offers.

Spring is right around the corner and everyone with cabin fever will be out enjoying the weather. This is also the time all the critters will be out frolicking around with their offspring.

The animals' environment happens to be in close proximity to the places we routinely work and travel. For this reason, the wildlife at APG is conditioned to seeing people and machines. Our animals have become curious of people and have lost their fear of humans, which brings me to what we must do—learn to coexist, not be afraid but

become mindful of the wildlife.

You will not see “DO NOT FEED THE ANIMAL” signs posted around APG like at national parks, but this is a common problem. Be aware, then, of the scraps at the picnic table and close the dumpster lid when discarding food and trash.

Another major concern is when we are traveling in our motor vehicles. Animals are not, and will never be, trained to look both ways before crossing the road. It is every driver's responsibility to be extra cautious of wildlife while operating their vehicle on APG.

Specific instances to watch out for include geese with goslings crossing the road; a fox darting out; a snapping turtle moving ever so slowly from the marsh in search of high ground where they can nest and lay eggs; a rabbit or raccoon; opossum or squirrel and the many other species of wildlife on APG.

I especially urge motorists to be alert for deer. Pay special attention from sunset to dawn when deer are more active. Here are some tips to

avoid a collision:

- Deer standing near the road may suddenly move in front of a vehicle. Drivers should slow down and sound the horn to scare the deer away from the road.
 - If you observe a deer crossing the road ahead, slow down and scan for more deer. Deer tend to travel in groups and others may be out of view.
 - If you have to react to a deer in the roadway, slow down and brake to avoid a collision, but do not swerve. Swerving may cause you to lose control of the vehicle, increasing the chance of property damage, personal injury or death.
 - Increased awareness for deer during early morning and late afternoon year round and when deer are breeding in the fall.
 - Be alert and slow down in areas where deer crossing highway signs are posted. These areas indicate areas where deer frequently cross.
- If you observe animals being a nuisance, are concerned about the health of

any animal—sick or injured, or for your personal safety, contact one of the following agencies on APG:

- The Directorate of Emergency Services Marine and Wildlife Law Enforcement Offices at 410-278-3305 at APG North (Aberdeen) or 410-436-6181 at APG South (Edgewood).
- The Entomology Office at 410-278-3303
- The Veterinary Clinic at 410-278-4604.
- The Police Desk at APG North at 410-306-0565 or at APG South at 410-436-2022.

Remember, the animals you see on APG are wild species, and we have encroached on their environment.

Do not attempt to pick them up or feed them, just stop and take the time to enjoy their presence.

By doing this, we will continue to coexist with Mother Nature.

Matthew Stewart
DES, Marine and Wildlife Law Enforcement

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising and mailing. To obtain a yearly subscription, which costs \$16, the price for weekly mailing, or for problems with incorrect mailing addresses, contact the publisher at 10 Hays Street, Bel Air, MD 21014, or call 410-838-0611. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised. For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-

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

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

Staff

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

Action & reaction

APG Schools Liaison Stephen Clapper (right) discusses the project "Action and Reaction" with its creators, Aberdeen High School seniors Katelyn Fendrani (left) and Brittany McMahon during the school's 3rd Annual Science Fair competition Feb. 28. Brittany is the daughter of ECBC research chemist Leslie McMahon.

APG Garrison commander Col. Orlando W. Ortiz and scientists from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center served as guest judges for the science fair. The installation regularly supports school programs through its longstanding partnership with Harford County Public Schools. "This is just another example of that partnership at work," said Christine Zatalava, AHS science department chair and fair coordinator.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson



Traffic Safety: Leaving your vehicle unattended

Most drivers take steps to ensure their vehicles do not fall into the hands of thieves.

As criminals become increasingly organized, motorists may need to take extra caution to protect their vehicle and its contents. And think, for a moment, about the contents.

I have witnessed on several occasions, here on APG, drivers leaving children, unattended, with the keys in the ignition.

Fortunately, APG hasn't experienced violent car jackings or many vehicle thefts, likely due to our law enforcement presence and military environment.

According to statistics released from The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from July 2000 to June 2001, an estimated 9,160 nonfatal inju-

ries and 78 fatal injuries occurred to children 14 and younger as a result of being left unattended in a motor vehicle, including 625 child deaths within the last decade.

In Maryland, the transportation code addresses unattended vehicles as follows: "A person driving or otherwise in charge of a motor vehicle may not leave it unattended until the engine is stopped, the ignition locked, the key removed and the brake effectively set." The penalty for violating the provision of this law may lead to a \$500 fine.

Don't be a victim. Do the right thing and secure your vehicle and protect the most precious packages of all: our children.

Lt. Joseph Davis

APG Police Traffic Section

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Visit the Women in Military Service for America Memorial

www.womensmemorial.org

For the 14th consecutive year, the Women In Military Service For America Memorial, the words duty, honor and pride come to life in the stories and memorials of nearly 2 million women who have served in defense of the nation.

The WIMSA Memorial Foundation's mission is to collect, preserve, document, analyze, and make available the history of women's service in and with the U.S. armed forces, from the American Revolution to the present.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization was established to raise funds needed to build the memorial and continue to raise funds to operate and maintain the Memorial Education Center.

Led by retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, the foundation broke ground for the memorial June 22, 1995. It was dedicated Oct. 18, 1997 and officially opened to the public Oct. 20, 1997.

Keeping a record

The foundation collects official and personal records, oral histories, photographs, and other memorabilia to help portray records of service and citizenship.

The actively growing collections includes a library of nearly 1,000 books by and about military women, photograph and document archives, personal and military-issue artifacts, memoirs and oral histories.

These considerable resources have made WIMSA a leading educational resource on women in U.S. military history.

All women who have served or are serving in the U.S. armed forces are eligible to document their service on The Register. The Foundation is actively seeking to register as many veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserve service women as possible. Women who served with service organizations overseas during wartime, as well as Cadet Nurses, are ALSO eligible. Approximately 250,000 of the two million women eligible have been registered thus far.

The Memorial Education Center houses the Hall of Honor, Court of Valor, exhibits and artifacts of women's military service, a 196-seat theater, a gift shop, an upper terrace, and the memorial's computerized Register.

The heart of it all

The Register, which serves as the "heart" of the Women's Memorial, is a computerized database of information in which women service members and veterans have documented their service. All women who have served or are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible to document their service on The Register.

Visitors can access the photographs, military histories, and individual stories of registrants by simply typing names into a computer terminal. The Register serves as an active resource, creating an on-going record of history as it is made.

You, too, can register

The Foundation is actively seeking to register as many veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserve service women as possible. Women who served with service organizations overseas during wartime, as well as Cadet Nurses, also are eligible. Approximately 250,000

of the two million women eligible have been registered thus far.

Site and design

The memorial site is the 4.2-acre Ceremonial Entrance to Arlington National Cemetery directly across Memorial Bridge from the Lincoln Memorial at the end of Memorial Drive.

A 30-foot high curved neoclassical retaining wall stands at the entrance. The 33,000 square-foot Education Center sits in the cemetery hillside behind the existing retaining wall.

The memorial site includes a reflecting pool on the plaza in front of the curved gateway, or hemicycle, with an arc of glass tablets on the upper terrace.

The memorial's roof is an arc of glass tablets, 250 feet in diameter, inscribed with quotations by and about women who have served in defense of their country. Sunlight passing over these quotes creates changing shadows of the texts on the walls of the gallery below and brings natural light into the interior of the Education Center.

The glass tablets illuminate the cemetery hillside at night and during the day, serve as skylights to the interior of the Education Center. Four staircases pass through the hemicycle wall, allowing visitors access to a panoramic view of Washington, D.C., from the terrace.

A perfect gesture

Described by The Washington Post architecture critic Ben Forgey as "a perfect gesture in a proper place at a fitting moment," the multi-award-winning design for the Women's Memorial has been hailed as an elegant solution to integrating an exciting new purpose with an existing, historic structure.

The Women's Memorial was authorized by Congress and is supported by the Departments of Defense, Transportation and Veterans Affairs.

When to visit

The Women's Memorial is open every day except Christmas. Admission is free and it is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Oct. 1 to March 31 and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from April 1 to Sept. 30. For more information, visit <http://www.womensmemorial.org/index.html>.

Can you solve the mystery?

Tickets available for Murder 101, mystery dinner theater

No need to cook on Friday. Seats are still available for the murder mystery dinner theater production, "Murder 101," a family-friendly interactive whodunit comedy playing at the Aberdeen Proving Ground North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, March 11.

Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner starts at 6:30; and the performance begins at 7.

Tickets cost \$20. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or visit <http://apgmwr.com/events.html>.

The dinner theater production is set at a reunion of high school classmates 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.

The dinner menu includes chicken Marsala, beef burgundy, vegetable lasagna, rice pilaf, vegetable blend, dinner rolls, coffee, iced tea and assorted desserts.

The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater is presented by the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command and the Aberdeen Proving Ground MWR.

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

Two CBRNE Soldiers killed in Afghanistan

20th Support Command (CBRNE)

Two 20th Support Command (CBRNE) Soldiers were killed in Wardak Province, Afghanistan Feb. 28 when an insurgent improvised explosive device detonated during a dismounted patrol. Both were members of an explosive ordnance disposal team from the 705th EOD Company based at Fort Polk, La. Both were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Mays



Stark

Killed were:
Staff Sgt. Chauncy Ryan Mays, age 25, of Greenville, Texas
Spc. Christopher Glenn Stark, age 22, of Monett, Mo.

Mays joined the U.S. Army in June 2004 and after completing training, was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., with the 763d Ordnance Company. In Feb. 2009, Mays joined the 705th EOD Co. at Fort Polk. Mays previously deployed in support of the War on Ter-

rorism from February 2006 to August 2006 and from May 2007 until June 2008.

Mays' awards and decorations include: two Bronze Star Medals, NATO Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-Commissioned Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Senior Explosive Ordnance Badge and the EOD Badge.

Mays is survived by his wife, two daughters and his mother and father.

Stark joined the Army in August 2008 and after completing training arrived to Fort Polk in March 2010.

Stark's awards and decorations include: the NATO Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge and the EOD Badge.

Stark is survived by his mother.



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."



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FAMILY

Being part of a family unit that is **safe, supportive** and **loving**, and provides the **resources** needed for all members to live in a healthy and secure environment.

www.army.mil/csf

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.

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

Smartphones for troops 'makes sense'

Army News Service

It's not written in stone that every Soldier will get an Android phone or an iPhone -- but signs are pointing to it.

During a bloggers roundtable Feb. 24, Lt. Gen. Michael Vane, director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center, discussed the latest developments in how the Army is evaluating smartphone technologies and software applications to provide Soldiers the ability to learn anytime and anywhere.

The general said it was too soon to say for sure if Soldiers would all one day carry smartphones to enhance both training and operations, but he did say that in the next six to eight months, the Army would have had time to look at assessment results from pilot programs it is currently running involving smartphone technology.

"Whether or not we recommend that all Soldiers carry a smartphone would be sort of out in front of the conclusions," he said. "Though many people are already suggesting that that's a possibility. Even I have said there's a long-term vision here that would say if we can figure out the smart cost-beneficial way of doing this, this probably does make sense in the long run."

Vane did say, however, that successes with smartphone technology are more evident in the training environment than in the operational environment. He said in six to eight months the Army would finish cost-benefit assessments and be able to provide recommendations to Army senior leadership.

Challenges with smartphone technol-

“One of the most significant feedbacks you get from Soldiers in theater is they look at their Afghan army compatriots or the Taliban guy, who has a cell phone, and then the Army guy looks at his MBITR or his 117G radio and we want to deny that capability to our own Soldiers even through the enemy is using them?”

Lt. Gen. Michael Vane

Army Capabilities Integration Center director



Photo by C. Todd Lopez

ogy are twofold, Vane said. First, there are cultural challenges. Decisions makers -- those who decide how to spend money in the Army, are not nearly as savvy with the technology as those who want to be able to use it -- those he describes as "digital natives."

"People that haven't grown up with that have a cultural challenge with the use of these technologies and the ability to pick one of these things up and operate them very quickly, to look at a smaller screen, use a different sort of keypad -- all those sort of kind of things... there's a cultural challenge that is part of the issue for the more senior people," Vane said.

There's also concerns about security, Vane said. "It's both a technology prob-

lem and a discipline problem, or challenge for us on the network."

The security issue, he said, is one thing the Army might work through, however, because in some cases the value of perishable data now, outweighs the risk posed of handling it over an unsecure network, like cell phones might provide.

In Afghanistan, the enemy is already using cell phones successfully, Vane said. The Army can make the "risk decision" associated with information assurance to decide when is the right time to use an unsecure network to transfer a particular kind of information.

"One of the most significant feedbacks you get from Soldiers in theater is they look at their Afghan army com-

patriots or the Taliban guy, who has a cell phone, and then the Army guy looks at his MBITR or his 117G radio and we want to deny that capability to our own Soldiers even through the enemy is using them?" Vane asked.

"Can we operate quickly enough with just that kind of data that is perishable and not classified, and reduce the risk -- that's what we're experimenting with in these pilots," Vane said. "We think that may be a risk worth taking for perishable battlefield data."

Vane said that the Army isn't specifying a particular brand of smartphone, or software -- just "mission command-essential characteristics" within which the Army can quickly purchase commercial off the shelf technology.

Army to change online hiring tool

Installation Management Command Europe

Over the next two years the U.S. Army will transition from one automated recruitment tool to another for advertising vacant civil service positions, accepting applications from job seekers, and evaluating the job seeker's eligibility and qualifications.

In Europe, the transition from Resumix to USA Staffing will be completed by April 30, 2011. During the transition period, each job announcement will have

instructions to guide job seekers through the application process for the specified recruitment tool.

You will notice the following differences between USA Staffing and Resumix:

- USA Staffing uses assessments to determine the best qualified candidates instead of Resumix skills.
- Announcements will be available on www.USAJobs.gov and www.ArmyCivilianService.com
- Applicants must apply through USA

Jobs-Application Manager, not the Army Resume Builder.

- Applicants must answer assessment questions for each vacancy.
- Applicants can upload supporting documentation, for example DD-214 or SF-50.
- Managers will receive a referral list by logging in to an automated system called Selection Manager instead of receiving a PDF referral list via email.

Army officials recommended that you

create a resume in both Resumix and USA Jobs-Application Manager. Once your resume is on file in both systems, you can easily apply for jobs from the job announcement. The job announcement will provide guidance on which system to use to submit your resume.

For more information about the transition visit www.armycivilianservice.com and to [https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/Application_Process\[1\].pdf](https://cpolrhp.cpol.army.mil/eur/employment/Application_Process[1].pdf).

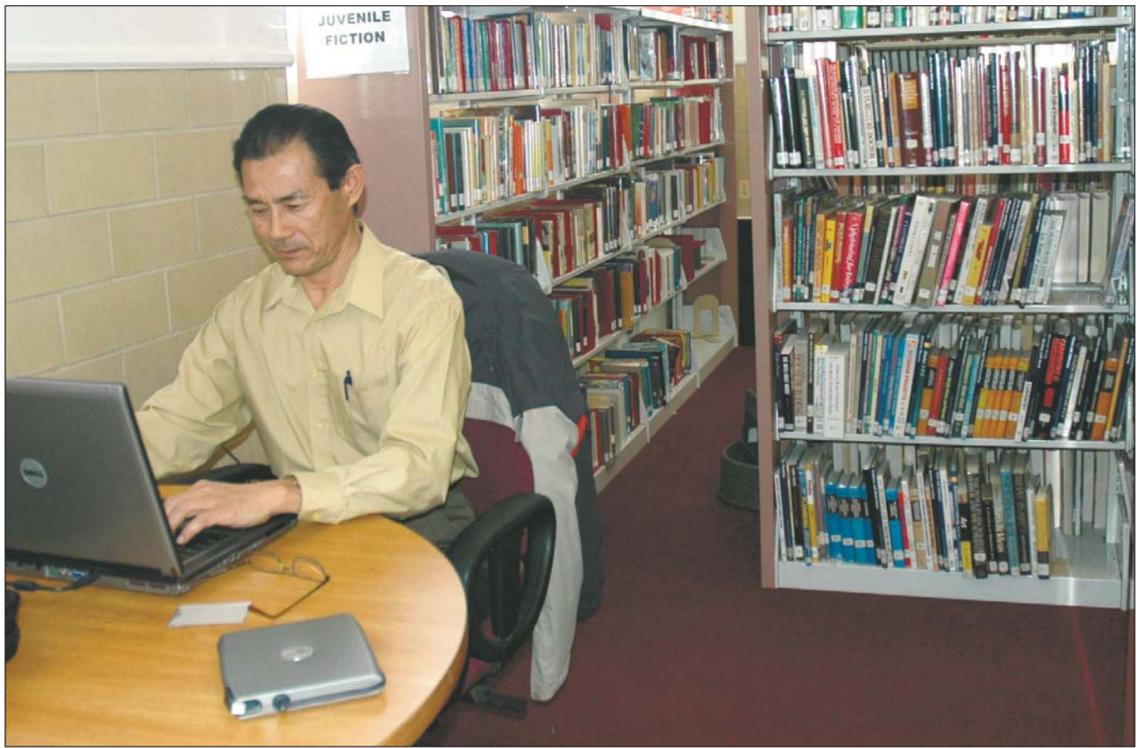
Studying in the stacks

Lee Arnold, a Chemical Research Development & Engineering Center employee, enjoys time at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation library.

"They have a good selection of reference materials plus they have free WiFi" Arnold said. "I come here everyday because it is a quiet place to study."

The library, located in the Aberdeen Recreation Center in Bldg. 3326, serves all active duty personnel, whether they are permanent party or TDY, Family members, retirees, DoD civilians and contractors. For more information or to search their online catalog, visit <http://www.mylibraryus.fmwr.net/search~S02> or call 410-278-3417.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Community farewells Hammerquist

Continued from Page 1

Army Commendation Medal for her leadership.

During remarks by APG Garrison and Deputy Installation Commander Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, he thanked attendees for their continued support.

Ortiz said HCC plays a leading role in the success of the installation and the units assigned here, and that the company commander is at the forefront of that responsibility.

"It takes a skillful balance and keen insight to be a good commander," he said. "You have to strive to use authority with firmness, but also with care and skill. You have to be a good manager of resources and a good leader of people."

Ortiz said although Hammerquist is leaving the Army, she will always remain a member of the APG team.

"She gave it her all and she never let me or those she served down," he said. "She led with distinction."

Ortiz said that during Hammerquist's tenure she improved community outreach programs, on and off the instal-

lation. She also consistently provided timely administrative personnel actions and support, and deployment readiness for more than 330 Soldiers who are deployed worldwide.

"Under her leadership, the company improved their personnel action timeliness rating to one of the top within the Northeast region of the Installation Management Command," he said. "She also established relationships with Gold Star Families, making them an integral element of Aberdeen Proving Ground ceremonies, events and observances."

During Hammerquist's remarks she recognized the efforts of the Soldiers and civilians of HHC and commented on several special events and fundraising efforts that took place while she was the company commander.

"You were all steadfast and honorable, and I am confident that (McCormick) will lead you all to further, greater and more rewarding victories," Hammerquist said.

During McCormick's remarks she thanked Family and friends and Ortiz for the opportunity to lead HCC.

"I will serve the Soldiers proud," she said. "Everyone knows that I expect a lot out of people, but I give 110 percent in return."

Hammerquist, who served in the Army for nine years, noted that what she enjoyed most about the military was mentoring young Soldiers, "working with them and watching them learn and develop their leadership skills and their identity, most of us, when we join the Army, we don't know who we are yet."

Welcoming McCormick, Ortiz said he has the utmost confidence that she, too, will give her all in her new position.

About Capt. Malukah McCormick

McCormick received a bachelor's degree from Morgan State University and a master's degree in Health Science with a concentration in Emergency

and Disaster Management from Touro University. After commissioning, she attended the Military Intelligence Officer Basic course at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

McCormick's previous assignments include Unmanned Aerial Vehicle platoon leader with 4th Brigade 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Bliss, Texas. She deployed with her Soldiers in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from October 2006 to January 2008. While deployed, she became the Military Intelligence Company executive officer. McCormick was assigned to APG in June 2008 where she worked for the Army Evaluation Center as an evaluator testing intelligence systems.

McCormick's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, as well as Army Service and Overseas Service Ribbons.

Post Shorts

CAC meeting set March 17

The next CAC will take place March 17 at the APG North (Aberdeen) post chapel at 9:30 a.m.

To view slides from the February meeting, visit www.slideshare.net/USAGAPG/feb-apg-community-action-council-slides.

Scholarship deadline nears

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

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.

Open Mic slated March 31

Open Mic Thursday will take place at the APG North Side Grill/AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, March 31.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Event begins at 5:30 and lasts through 8:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Performance categories are spoken word, vocals, instrumentals and comedy. Complimentary bar foods will be offered. Limited snack bar operation and cash bar for beer and wine will be available. Sign up online by March 30 at www.APGMWR.com to participate. Latecomers are welcome. Must be 18 years or older to participate.

RAB meeting March 31

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advi-

sory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m. March 31 at the Aberdeen Senior Center, 7 Franklin Street in Aberdeen.

The topic includes the O-Field Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public. All APG employees and citizens are invited.

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

Mowtown singer visits APG March 31

Don't miss a chance to hear from Mary Wilson a founding member of the "Supremes," Motown's premier act during the 1960's, when she comes to Aberdeen Proving Ground March 31, courtesy of the Army Test and Evaluation Command and APG.

This Women's History Month event takes place at 1 p.m. in the APG Recreation Center. Wilson will lead a workshop on women's historical contributions. The workshop will be followed by a surprise singing group that you won't want to miss.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Cynthia Pearson at 703-681-2743 or 443-315-8786.

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 April 11-15 from 8:30 am 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 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 Ein-

horn, 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.

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

Lunch time American Sign Language classes ongoing

A lunch time Basic American Sign Language class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Tuesday, through May 10 in the conference room in building E3330-31, Room 270 at Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood).

The class is for beginners to advanced students. The class text book, "ABC: A Basic Course in American Sign Language," can be purchased online or from a book store. To receive credit for the class, military and civilian personnel must complete 10 sessions and submit SF 182.

Students will:

- Learn basic communication skills (alphabet, numbers and finger spelling)
- Demonstrate use of everyday terminology – nouns, greetings, common usage terms, common objects
- Express the syntax of American Sign Language
- Become aware of what is accepted in deaf culture as opposed to hearing culture

There is no fee for the class. Obtain supervisor approval as needed. Bring your own lunch.

For more information or to register,

contact BethAnn Cameron at 410-436-7175, email BethAnn.Cameron@us.army.mil; or instructors Pat Reeves, 410-436-2917, or Randy Weber, 410-436-8546.

Arbor Day event set April 29

This year's APG Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration theme is "APG-Light of the Bay." Arbor Day will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 29 at the APG museum. 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.

USMC history division accepting applications for theses, fellowships

The Marine Corps History Division is seeking applications for its 2011 Marine Corps master's theses and dissertation fellowships on topics related to some aspect of Marine Corps history. The division awards two master's theses fellowships yearly, the Bernard M. Rosoff Memorial Master's Thesis Fellowship and the Lt. Col. Lily H. Gridley Memorial Master's Thesis Fellowship. Both include a \$3,500 stipend. The Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Memorial Dissertation Fellowship, which includes a \$10,000 stipend, is offered to students researching their doctorate dissertation. Applicants must be actively enrolled in accredited programs by September 2011, and have completed all requirements for a master's or Ph.D. degree, except for the thesis or dissertation. For more information, visit www.history.usmc.mil, call 703-432-4884 or e-mail charles.r.smith9@usmc.mil. Deadline for applications is May 1.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

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, 410-688-3442 or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

TUESDAY

MARCH 15

AUSA MEETING SET

The March general membership meeting for AUSA will feature guest speaker, Lt. Col. Jon Rickey, product manager for Soldier Protective Equipment.

Due to ongoing renovations at the Top of the Bay, meetings will be held at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

RSVP (with rank) is required. E-mail c2402@ausa.org no later than March 11. Seating is limited. Cost is \$21 (non-refundable) and can be paid via PayPal at <http://ausa-aberdeen.org/>.

To pay at the door, indicate this during your RSVP. Meeting may qualify for CLP.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

MARCH 15 AND 16

ANNUAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Registration is open for the Sea Service Leadership Association's 24th Annual Women's Leadership Symposium.

This year's theme is "Connect. Empower. Succeed." The symposium will offer women from all military branches an opportunity to focus on leadership development. The symposium will take place at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif.

For more information or to regis-

ter, visit www.sealeader.org through March 7.

THURSDAY

MARCH 17

RECRUITMILITARY OPPORTUNITY EXPO

RecruitMilitary in cooperation with The American Legion, will present the RecruitMilitary Opportunity Expo, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Renaissance Washington, D.C. Downtown Hotel located on 999 Ninth Street NW. RecruitMilitary Opportunity Expo is a free civilian employment, entrepreneurship and education Opportunity Expo for job seekers who have military backgrounds.

Veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and reserves, military spouses, and other military Family members are invited to attend.

For more info or to register, visit <https://recruitmilitary.com/expos/352-Washington/candidates/information>

SATURDAY

MARCH 19

CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

Giving every girl a chance for a night to remember, the Aberdeen Lioness Lions will host a dress giveaway event 1 to 5 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 201 Mt. Royal Avenue, Aberdeen. The dress giveaway event is for senior girls in Harford County, Cecil County and surrounding areas who are in need of a dress for their senior prom. Each girl will have the opportunity to choose a gown free of charge. Students must show current high school student ID to receive a dress. Limited quantities and sizes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call Sandy at 443-876-4472.

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

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival

Attend the Washington D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival April 9. Cost is \$30 per person. Bus departs Aberdeen at 7:30 a.m. Bus returns to Aberdeen at 7:30 p.m.

Space is limited so reserve your seats today. To purchase tickets, visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office in the Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. Or call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil for info.

Also, visit <http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org> for information on the festival

Coed Volleyball

APG Coed Volleyball League will open at APG. Signup deadline is April 5. Rules meeting is April 7 at 5 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

The regular season will begin the week of April 11 and is open to all

eligible MWR patrons. If there are enough teams, there will be separate divisions for the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas.

If we do not have enough teams, there will be one league and all teams will be required to travel. There is a fee of \$150 per team due before the season starts.

Spring Celebrations

MWR is hosting Spring Celebration activities for the whole family as follows:

■ At the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140 April 5 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

■ At the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 April 12 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Activities include an egg hunt with secret prizes at 5:30 p.m. in four age groups—0-3, 4-7, 8-12 and 13 and up.

A spring hat contest will also take place. Prizes will be awarded for the silliest, most creative, most team spirit and most patriotic in three age groups—9

and under, 10-17 and 18 and up. Judging is at 6 p.m.

Get your photo with the Easter Bunny. Children's fun includes live entertainment, face painting, balloon animals, refreshments and more.

Call 410-278-4011 for information.

New York City day trip

Leisure Travel will offer eight hours of shopping in New York City March 26. Enjoy the city without the driving or parking problems. Cost is \$45 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart from Mountain Road Park and Ride at 7:55 a.m. For information on New York City, visit www.nyc-tour.com.

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

Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail

APGR-USAG-MWR-Leisure-Travel@conus.army.mil.

APG Softball

APG Softball Leagues signup deadline is April 21. Rules meeting is April 28 at 5 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. The regular season will begin the week of May 3 and is open to all eligible MWR patrons. This is a coed program. There are leagues in both the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas and play is by modified ASA rules. There is a fee of \$250 per team due before the season starts.

Call the Sports Office at 410-278-3929.

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.

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.

Martial Arts present Tiny Tigers

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

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

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

The Tiny Tiger program is an age-appropriate version of taekwondo that will help direct energy into confidence and character building skills. Students learn traditional taekwondo techniques such as blocking, punching and kicking including "Stranger Danger" and "Fire Safety" skills.

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

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

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 through 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 through 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.

Upcoming golf events

Golf Scramble March 19

There will be a March Madness Blind 9 Golf Scramble March 19. Entry fee for annual patron is \$10; authorized patron is \$27 and guests are \$37 (not including cart).

Appetizers offered and prizes awarded immediately after the scramble, which includes Close to Pin and Long Drive contests. Register by March 17 at the Ruggles Golf Course pro shop. Call 410-278-4794 for information.

Establish your Handicap March 26

Start your 2011 season off right. Establish your MSGA & USGA Handicap March 26.

Schedule your own tee time, 7 to 11 a.m. Form your own group. Price includes 2011 season Maryland State Golf Association handicap. Net pricing; carts not included in registration fee.

Pricing varies as follows: annual members pay \$30; authorized patrons pay \$50 (Ruggles) and \$43 (Exton); guests pay \$60 -- \$55 (Ruggles and \$50 (Exton).

To register, call Ruggles at 410-278-4794 or Exton Golf Course at 410-436-2213.

Qualifying tourney March 27

Represent the courses at APG during the state team matches. Participate

in the qualifying tourney March 27 at Ruggles Golf Course. The top 15 players (includes five alternates) will represent APG at MSGA matches.

Entry fee is \$20. Additional fees will apply to each qualifier for purchase of team apparel. All participants must have USGA handicap and be regular players at Ruggles Golf Course.

Play will be from the professional tees (black) and 18 hole Gross Stableford scoring. Schedule your tee time between 7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Participate and see if you have what it takes to represent the courses at APG!!

Call Ruggles at 410-278-4794 or Exton at 410-436-2213

Armed Force Day touney slated May 16 at Ruggles course

The Armed Force Day 18 hole golf Captain's Choice tourney is set May 16 (rain date set for May 23) at Ruggles Golf Course.

There will be an 8:30 a.m. start and participants may register as a team or individual to be paired as part of team by golf program.

The cost is \$70 per player and includes greens fee with cart, continental breakfast, lunch and award presentation after completion of golf tourney. Also scheduled are A Hole in One, Closest to Pin, Long Drive and Straight Drive contests. Register at the pro shop by May 11.

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 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

Week of March 14

Special #1: Pepperoni pizza sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

Special #2: Chicken salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75.

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.



AROUND THE FORCE

Army PT test gets overhaul

Story and photo by
ROB MCILVAINE
Army News Service

For the first time since 1980, the Army's physical fitness test is being overhauled. It will be replaced by the Physical Readiness Test and the Army Combat Readiness Test.

Over the next few months, the two tests will be conducted at eight installations as part of a pilot program, where standards will also be developed. The new tests could go Army-wide as early as October, said Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Initial Military Training, at Fort Monroe, Va.

"Today's PT test does not adequately measure components of strength, endurance, or mobility," Hertling said.

Hertling and Frank Palkoska, director of the Army's Physical Fitness School, began discussing the need for better physical fitness tests while together at West Point's department of physical education in the early 1980s. But it was the progression of sports science that led to development of the new APRT and ACRT.

"We needed to come up with a program for the incoming young Soldiers who were not as focused on health, fitness and nutrition," Hertling said.

The two tests align with the new Army Physical Readiness Training program, outlined in Training Circular 3-22.20, that began Army-wide implementation in August.

The new training involves anaerobic exercise.

Used by athletes to promote strength, speed and power and by body builders to build muscle mass, anaerobic exercise leads to greater performance in short duration, high-intensity activities.

Aerobic exercise includes lower intensity activities performed for longer periods of time.

The Army, said Hertling, has been on an ebb and flow of physical fitness training for the last 60 to 70 years.

"Every time prior to combat, our fitness regimen and fitness testing is very different to what we do after we've experienced combat. But right after Vietnam, some of the fitness mavens, like



A Soldier high-steps over obstacles on the second leg of the new Army Combat Readiness Test after completing the first portion of the test, the 400-meter run.

Ken Cooper, sold the military on aerobic training. But this isn't necessarily the way we do things in combat," Hertling said.

One of the initial concerns on changing the test, Hertling said, anticipated comments such as 'why are we changing? It's been good enough for 30 years.'

"In fact, just the opposite is happening. Soldiers enjoy a challenge and many have come up to me and said, 'thank you for fighting for these changes,'" Hertling said.

The old test required completion of three events: two minutes of push-ups, two minutes of sit-ups and a two-mile run.

The new APRT has five events:

■ **60-YARD SHUTTLE RUN** mea-

sures lower body muscular strength and anaerobic power, assessing speed, agility and coordination

■ **1-MINUTE ROWER** (variation of a sit-up) measures total body muscular endurance and assesses total body coordination

■ **STANDING LONG JUMP** measures lower body muscular strength and assesses lower body power

■ **1-MINUTE PUSH-UP** measures upper body muscular endurance and assesses trunk stability

■ **1.5-MILE RUN** measures lower body muscular endurance and aerobic capacity and assesses speed stability

The new ACRT has five events:

■ **400-METER RUN** assesses upper

body muscular endurance and anaerobic power, coordination, speed, and stability

■ **INDIVIDUAL MOVEMENT** techniques assess upper and lower body muscular endurance, agility, balance, coordination, speed and stability

■ **AMMO CAN SHUTTLE SPRINT** assesses total body muscular strength and endurance, agility, coordination, speed, stability, and power

■ **CASUALTY DRAG** assesses total body muscular strength and endurance, agility, coordination, speed, stability, and power

■ **AGILITY SPRINT** assesses lower body anaerobic power, speed and power

In order to develop these tests, Hertling asked Palkoska to look both inside and outside the Army for subject-matter experts to help develop a test which is gender neutral and age specific.

Experts on the advisory board include Dr. Chip East, professor of physical education at West Point; Dr. Neal Bumgartner, program director of Air Education and Training Command at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas; and Tim Bockleman, sports medicine coordinator at the Marine Corp's Parris Island.

"Also, we couldn't develop a test that required buying equipment," Hertling said. "All you need is a track and some graders to administer the test."

Following the APRT portion, participant Danica Foster, an instructor at the Army Physical Fitness School at Fort Jackson, S.C. had only one piece of advice, "get in better shape."

After taking the ACRT portion, Sgt. 1st Class Cornelius Trammell, also an instructor at the school, had one thought on his mind: "My quads are on fire," he said. "I consider myself in great shape and always do well in distance running, but this was a challenge and made me breathe hard."

"This is what anaerobic training is all about," Hertling said. "It's like a boxer in the first and second round, just like in combat with all the stress and before you can relax and take in oxygen."

The proposed pilot test sites are: Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Fort Bliss, Texas; West Point, N.Y.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; and Fort Lewis, Wash.

Employees' heroic actions honored

Continued from Page 1

Richard Drennan, Harry Poynter and Robert Puckett.

Anthony Hardy received a Memorandum of Appreciation signed by Col. Jeffrey Holt, the Aberdeen Test Center commander, and an award from Jacobs Technology, the company that employed him to support the test mission at ATC.

Douglas Mauzy, who received third-degree burns over 70 percent of his body during the incident, had received the Superior Civilian Service Award for his support to ATC's test mission during several years of federal service, and particularly for his service from September 2005 until the accident that caused his injuries.

On May 21, 2009, Mauzy, Mark Henry and Joseph Gray were conducting an accuracy and fire-control test in the tank at the H-Field Firing Range, located at APG South (Edgewood). At about 9:30 a.m., as the crew fired the second Russian-made high-explosive round of the morning, it exploded after traveling about 16 inches down the barrel, according to a subsequent Army safety report.

When the accident occurred, Henry was supporting the test as the tank commander, Gray was the gunner, and Mauzy was driving the tank.

As soon as he heard the explosion, Sibley called the range tower for medical assistance and then ran after the tank into a swampy field containing unexploded test ordnance. He caught up with the burning tank after it had gone about 200 meters and come to a stop, and then climbed onto the tank to extract Henry and perform CPR on him.

While this was happening, Raab and

You took care of your teammates, your comrades in arms. No hesitation – you got your buddies out. I salute you – each and every one of you.

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco

U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command commander

Williams got into an ammunition truck and drove down the range road next to where the tank had stopped, then ran about 100 meters into the swamp to help Sibley with the rescue efforts.

Banigan drove Hardy to the accident scene to assist in the rescue of Mauzy, who had climbed down from the tank and into the swamp. Hardy assisted him to the road and administered first aid while Banigan went into the swamp to extinguish the tank fire and help with first aid.

Puckett remained at the range tower and helped get medical assistance to H Field. Drennan and Poynter guided emergency medical technicians from the APG Fire Department to the accident site and then assisted in the movement of the injured testers from the swamp to a nearby berm.

Henry was pronounced dead at the scene, and a state medical evacuation helicopter flew Gray and Mauzy to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. Gray succumbed to his injuries June 5, 2009, and Mauzy has undergone extensive surgeries to repair the severe burn damage and medical rehabilitation.

During their remarks at the award ceremony, Dellarocco and Holt praised the selfless service of the ATC test-support

employees and the contracted employee who rendered aid on the day of the accident. They both spoke of acts of heroism that day, as well as the many years of selfless service the accident victims and their companions have given to the Army and Soldiers.

Holt described the awardees as "teammates who did everything they could in the face of tragedy to take care of their teammates, and after the catastrophic explosion of that round, gave them every chance they could at life and recovery. They did that at great personal risk. They moved through unexploded ordnance to a vehicle that caught fire soon after it came to a halt."

He also spoke of the ongoing pain that Family members of Henry, Gray and Mauzy endure, which is shared by their teammates at ATC, while noting the presence of Family members at the ceremony.

"It would be completely inappropriate and wrong for us to not do the things to recognize that honor and sacrifice," he said, adding the recognition is well deserved by ATC's "most trusted partners," the emergency services and fire department personnel who responded to the accident.

Dellarocco spoke of the selfless service that civilians employed by the

Army provide to Soldiers and the United States, and noted that it can involve an equal measure of sacrifice.

He said he read the report of what happened on the day of the accident "over and over," and that it had a profound impact on him.

"The kind of work that they do here at Aberdeen is part of our national plan," he said of test-support personnel at ATC. "They help us provide the very best equipment to the Department of Defense, and there is some risk involved."

"That was evident on that fateful day in May," said Dellarocco. "They put the mission first. They never gave up. They didn't accept defeat. No one turned and ran. They climbed aboard that burning vehicle, risking their own lives, and they didn't leave a comrade behind."

"I couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you," he told the award recipients. "You took care of your teammates, your comrades in arms. No hesitation – you got your buddies out. I salute you – each and every one of you."

Of the accident victims, he said, "Every American fighting person counted on these gentlemen to execute their duties. In this case, they were figuring out what the enemy was going to use against us so we could build better equipment and defeat theirs. Selfless service, that's what it was."

An Army investigation of the accident did not pinpoint the exact cause of the explosion in the tank barrel, but it included various recommendations to enhance the safety of test personnel firing ordnance in support of the test mission.

AER funds now available

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campaign military coordinator.

Last year Aberdeen Proving Ground received \$53,000 in donations and gave more than \$260,000 in assistance to 207 individuals.

"I am optimistic about reaching or exceeding last year's goals through exciting, innovative ideas," McCormick said.

Another advantage of AER is that deployed Soldiers can concentrate on their mission, even in times of crisis at home because they know, thanks to AER, their Families will be taken care of.

She added that Soldiers should request AER funds when they are faced with an emergency instead of using cash-advance establishments which usually carry excessive fees or high interest rates.

Capt. Ginger Hammerquist, former HHC commander and AER coordinator, said that last year AER helped a Soldier finance a used car when his old car gave out.

"Young Soldiers with large Families have a hard time saving enough to cover such emergencies," she said.

She said anyone can give.

"From my perspective, retirees typically donate more than active duty Soldiers or civilians because they recognize the value of AER," Hammer-

quist said. "Lots of charities have high overhead costs. When you give to AER, a private non-profit program, effectively there is no overhead. The money goes directly to the Army."

For more information or to donate, call McCormick at 410-278-3000.

Full details on AER's assistance programs may be found by calling AER Officer Marge Fissel at 410-278-2508 or visiting www.aerhq.org.

About AER

www.aerhq.org

AER was founded in 1942 in response to Soldiers and their Families needing financial assistance during World War II. Since its founding, AER has provided more than \$1 billion in financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans or outright grants. In addition to emergency assistance, today's AER program provides education assistance in the form of scholarships to children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers, along with support to surviving Families of Fallen Soldiers and grants.

Active duty, retired Soldiers, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers on continuous active duty for more than 30 days (under Title 10 orders), their

dependents and surviving spouses and orphans of Soldiers who died while on active duty or after they retired, can apply for AER assistance.

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

All contributions are fully tax deductible. Donors may make contributions to the general assistance fund or they may make contributions to specific programs such as education and widow's assistance. Soldiers and their Family members requiring AER assistance can contact their unit chain of command or go to their local installation AER officer. Families not located near an Army Installation AER office can seek assistance at an Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard base from the Air Force Aid Society, and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance respectively or from any chapter of the American Red Cross.

Post urged to make use of new blog

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ers can easily write one post and put it in both places.

"Using the miracle of copy and paste, posting to two blogs only takes a couple of minutes more than posting to one," Mercer said. "We will have to change our workflows and so forth to accommodate these things, but it offers us a way to communicate much more directly with the community. That's impossible to pass up."

Mercer invited the public to visit the blog and post comments or questions. The PAO staff will monitor the blog just as it monitors Facebook to try to answer questions and respond to comments when it's appropriate.

"Answering questions is a little harder than posting things," Mercer said. "First, you have to look at the pages regularly, and integrate those little interruptions into your workday. Second, you have to know the answer or track down the answer, which can take time."

"Luckily, on our social media sites we've already seen cases where members of the community answer questions. That's the best case, because some are not really about APG or the garrison specifically. Others questions are about subjects we should not comment on, such as where is the best place to live off-post? We love all the local communities equally, but individuals have different opinions. They can comment on the question, and the person who asked it can decide whether to follow that commenter's advice or not," Mercer explained.

Visitors to the APG Live site will see content already in place on the blog, including comments.

"We've been training and staff members have been getting used to the technology and workflow, Mercer said. "Blogging is a fast-moving medium, so we didn't want to be still setting up the page or learning in full view of the public. Plus, now there is something to see when people visit for the first time."

The PAO team hopes audiences both on-post and off make APG Live a regular stop, Mercer said.

"The thing about blogs is, if you have to update them all the time. If you don't update regularly, people don't develop the habit of checking to see if anything is new."

"There are about 20,000 people working and living on APG, so there are always little stories to tell and different aspects of the installation to share with the public. We can only hope the public responds to it," Mercer said.

Time capsule a green project



Photo by Rachel Ponder

John Neal III, a Harford Technical High School carpentry student, touches up the exterior of the Poole's Island lighthouse replica that will be displayed outside of the APG Museum.

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replica of APG's Poole's Island lighthouse, which will hold the time capsule. The model lighthouse will be made to scale and is symbolic of this year's Earth Day/ Arbor Day theme at APG—Light of the Bay, which captures the spirit of APG's transformation. The solar powered battery-operated model will light up at night. Picerne Military Housing donated money to HTHS to fund the materials for this replica.

"The lighthouse itself is a green construction. We are using recycled materials," Svezze said. "Sustainability is the wave of the future; everything should be constructed this way. Also, the lighthouse will be displayed outside the APG museum, so it has to be constructed to withstand weather and moisture."

Clapper said it will serve as a reminder of how APG is striving to be a good steward of the Earth's resources while meeting its military mission requirements.

"I think a lighthouse is fitting," he said. "Items placed in the time capsule will show how we will light our way to a brighter future," Clapper said.

For more information or to donate, call Environmental Protection Specialists Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789 or Scott English at 410-436-9804. APG Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz and Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades will make the final decision as to what will be placed in the time capsule.