

APG NEWS



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Theater upgrades usher in change



Buzz Soltis Directorate of Public Works chief of construction (left) and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades examine the environmentally friendly roof of the newly renovated post theater, Bldg. 3245, during a March 7 inspection of the facility. According to Gil Lookingland, DPW contracting officer representative, renovations were extensive. The facility was gutted and reworked from floor to ceiling. Upgrades include everything from new lighting and state-of-the-art sound system to new seating and kitchen. The building will be turned over to the garrison in mid-April. Continue to check the APG News for construction updates on this and other post facilities.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Need a lift?

Post shuttle, trains to boost travel options

By **SYREETA GROSS**
USAG APG Transformation Office

A new Maryland Area Regional Commuter train schedule will offer personnel commuting to APG more travel options.

The MARC changes, which went into effect March 14, will

help commuters traveling from the Baltimore/Washington D.C./northern Virginia area to APG.

A MARC train will now leave Washington D.C. at 6:15 a.m., have stops in Baltimore and Martin's airports and arrive in Edgewood at 7:33 a.m. and Aberdeen at 7:42 am, allowing commuters to arrive to APG almost an hour earlier than previous schedules.

In the evening, a southbound Amtrak train will continue to

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BRAC transforms APG mission

By **DONNA MILES**
American Forces Press Service

With just over six months left to implement the Base Closure and Realignment Commission plan, the sweeping transformation it has sparked Aberdeen Proving Ground is well under way and slated to be completed on time and under budget, officials reported.

The BRAC plan took effect in November 2005, and impacts more than 800 military installations. It involves closing some, consolidating or realigning others, and ultimately relocating some 123,000 military members and civilian employees. By law, all these actions must be completed by Sept. 15, 2011.

The plan is bringing major growth to Aberdeen Proving Ground -- more than 6,500 people and more than \$1 billion in new

See MASSIVE, page 6



File photo by Conrad Johnson

Former World War II-era buildings undergo demolition as part of the first steps in implementing the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure.



Photo by Pvt. DeAngelo Wells

The new technology allows Strykers (pictured) and other vehicles to understand targets they may need to engage.

2nd generation night vision technology nets prestigious award

By **BRANDON POLLACHEK**
and **CHRISTINA BATES**
PEO IEW&S PAO

As he accepted the award for the Second Generation Forward Looking Infrared, Michael Doney, the deputy PdM FLIR, reflected on the vision for the

technology that was emplaced 15 years earlier.

It was that vision that led the National Defense Industrial Association to recently honor PM FLIR, and its SGF, with the 2009 Lt. Gen. Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr. Systems Engineering

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File photo by Yvonne Johnson

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison DPW personnel remove the Ordnance emblem from the façade of Bldg. 3071, the former headquarters of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and schools May 19, two days after the casing of the 61st Ordnance Brigade colors.

WEATHER

Thurs.



61°|49°

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SPOTLIGHT ON APG

Find out what the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command is all about. SEE PAGE 15

OPINION

Women's contributions honored

Last week we came together as a community to celebrate the contributions of women in our military and our society. We kicked off a day of celebration March 9 by honoring the contributions of those who have come before.

What a great way for us to begin our celebration. As in any military ceremony, it's all about honor.

We laid a wreath at a monument on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, on Magnolia Road near the Black Hawk Road intersection. The monument honors Army civilian employees killed one tragic day in May 1945. A grenade prematurely detonated in a munitions plant killing 17 people, 12 of them women.

These were women who raised their hands and volunteered to fill nontraditional roles working in factories during World War II. "Rosie the Riveter" became an icon and symbol of all Americans doing their part.

Times of crisis offer moments of great opportunity. We pause to reflect on the opportunities that rose from the crisis of WWII as we celebrate the achievements of women today.

Tireless assembly line workers were first in line breaking barriers and blazing trails. In the time since, much has changed as we recognize the potential of all people, regardless of gender, race



RDECOM photo

During an early morning wreath-laying ceremony, APG and RDECOM Commander Maj. Gen. Nick Justice (right) and APG Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz honor the 12 women who died and the 57 women and men who were injured during a massive explosion that took place at APG South, then known as "Edgewood Arsenal" May 25, 1945.

or other discriminators.

We are not perfect, but we are on the path toward a better and more perfect union.

When you read the U.S. Constitution you see incredibly powerful themes that

jump out at you. First, it's about we the people. Together we form a more perfect union. I believe it's a progressive, ever-more-perfect union.

Our founding document also empowers us to establish justice and domestic

tranquility. The Constitution empowers us to make the blessings of liberty available to all Americans.

It goes on to talk about protecting those liberties, which is really our role in the Army.

It discusses how we should come together as a people and look out for one another. It ends with a hope for the future that we secure the blessings of liberty for our posterity.

Today, women are astronauts, police officers, and senior leaders in our government and military. Women literally reach for the stars with unlimited potential, drive and energy.

It is fitting that we honor critical moments in our history where doors were opened and barriers were let down. It's also appropriate that we recognize the contributions of all women who had a part in building the American society of today.

Please take time -- especially during Women's History Month -- to honor the women around you and those who have made a difference in moving us forward.

Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Nick Justice

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



Still working toward my happy

I've found that few things are more relaxing than riding a stationary bicycle while listening to oldies on my iPod.

It amazes me how well Stevie Wonder rhythms can guide the pumping action of these rickety knees of mine. Since I started my New Year's resolution of working-toward-my-happy-self journey to greater fitness, I've learned a few other things:

1. Diet and exercise should not be thought of as a temporary state until you get to the weight or physique of your dreams, but as a permanent lifestyle change. Yes, permanent. I started by eating more raw fruits and vegetables and less processed foods. I know I'm getting there because I had my first middle of the night zucchini craving last week. Yikes!

2. Water here, water there, water everywhere. I'm not sure which way the experts' winds are blowing right now, but I'm finding that I enjoy a container of iced tap water with lemon juice as much as any bottled water out there. It's far less expensive. Just pour it in an empty bottled-water bottle and

go. Perrier, anyone?

3. It's okay to feel like not exercising as long as you know how to make yourself do it anyway. Hey, we don't feel like going to work every day but we do it, don't we? I've found that once you get started, it's hard to stop. And when you do stop, you feel real

good. About yourself. And that is what it's all about.

4. The best part of all is that using the MWR fitness classes, equipment, weight rooms, saunas, Nautilus, etc., is free to ID cardholders. Yes, completely free. So, no more excuses. Get

moving.

To learn more about APG MWR sports and fitness programs, call the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center in Bldg. 3300 at 410-278-7934, or Hoyle Gym at APG South (Edgewood), Bldg. E4210, at 410-436-3375, or visit www.apgmwr.com.

I plan to "Keep On Truckin'" with Eddie Kendricks and working toward my 'happy self.' See you out there!

Yvonne Johnson

APG News reporter

APG News reporter Yvonne Johnson pumps 5-pound hand weights and listens to classic Motown while working out on a stationary bike in the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center. Johnson said she's managed to stick to her New Year's resolution of making exercise a way of life, thanks to free, convenient fitness center options. (Photo by Rachel Ponder)

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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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.

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MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Conference offers women networking, professional development training

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

In celebration of Women's History Month, more than 150 Aberdeen Proving Ground employees attended the 21st Annual Federal Women's Program training conference March 9 at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Conference Center.

The FWP promotes the advancement of federally employed women in the workplace and the conference is a yearly educational event which addresses employment concerns. This year's theme was "Our History Is Our Strength."

Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, the APG and RDECOM commander, opened the ceremony by challenging women to network and empower one another. He urged them to use their knowledge and talents to serve their community and nation, and inspire youth toward STEM education.

"Empower the children to study and make our nation great," he said. "We are setting the traditions of tomorrow."

The day-long event included workshops on assertiveness and anger management by Aida Rivera from Army Community Service, and financial management training by Ryan Herbert and Michael Cabnet of the Prostatist Finan-

cial Advisors Group. Gyleen Fitzgerald, from the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, gave a presentation called "Got Skills? Leveraging Success by Using What You Know."

Col. Sandra Alvey, commander of the 196th Medical Support Unit, 7th Civil Support Command, gave a lunchtime presentation on life as a civilian and military employee. Attendees also visited vendors, who gave out door prizes.

Mary Beth Maahs, a Civilian Human Resources Agency employee, said she attends the conference every year for professional development.

"I try to take what I learn during the trainings and apply it to my work," said Maahs. "I like talking and meeting with the other women; it is a bonding experience. It helps to know that other women are going through the same things that I do."

FWP acting chairperson Inez Tyson said the FWP committee tries to present information that the APG workforce can use.

"(It's an opportunity) to network and gain pertinent information that can be used in the workplace, as well as one's personal life," said Tyson.

The FWP committee is seeking volunteers from APG organizations and units. Call 410-436-7864 for more information.

(It's an opportunity) to network and gain pertinent information that can be used in the workplace, as well as one's personal life.

Inez Tyson

FWP acting chairperson

MORE ONLINE

Visit www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/ or scan the QR code to view and download photos of the event. (To start scanning, just search your phone's app source to download a QR reader.)



APG to offer shuttle from train station

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depart Aberdeen at its normal time of 5:19 p.m. However, MARC has also added a southbound train departing Aberdeen at 6:33p.m. and Edgewood at 6:42p.m. to return travelers to the Baltimore/Washington D.C. area in the evening and give them more options.

“The APG garrison is completing plans to provide a shuttle from the Aberdeen and Edgewood train stations to transport employees on the installation,” said Col. Andy Nelson, deputy garrison commander for Transformation. “However, the shuttle must be based on demand.”

Anyone who is interested in taking the train and would need transportation from

“The APG garrison is completing plans to provide a shuttle from the Aberdeen and Edgewood train stations to transport employees on the installation.”

Col. Andy Nelson

Deputy garrison commander for Transformation

the Aberdeen or Edgewood train stations must complete a data form. Information provided will be used to establish routes and service needs. E-mail APGTransformationOfc@conus.army.mil or call 410-278-0915 to obtain a form.

Commuters traveling from New Jersey can now commute by subscription bus. Using a large tour-style bus, Triple D Travel runs a bus service from Hamilton Township near Trenton, N.J. to APG, Monday to Friday.

Owner David Tenney began the shuttle when a friend who commuted from New Jersey to APG told him of the need for the shuttle and asked if Tenney would be willing to help.

“This has been a good experience and we’re hoping to grow our ridership each month,” Tenney remarked. A monthly pass costs \$400. One roundtrip pass is \$40 and a one-way trip is \$25. Reser-

vations are required and can be made by calling 1-800-994-9985.

A federal commuter transit subsidy is available to federal workers to aid in the cost of mass transit options. The amount of the subsidy is up to \$230 monthly and can be used to defray the cost of vanpools, trains and buses. Visit <http://asafm.army.mil/offices/asa/masstrans.aspx?OfficeCode=1000> for information about the subsidy.

Commuter Resources:

- MARC train schedule: <http://mta.maryland.gov/services/marc/>
- Find a vanpool: <https://tdm.commuterconnections.org/mwcog/>
- New Jersey subscription bus: 800-994-9985
- APG Train Station Shuttle: 410-278-0915 or APGTransformationOfc@conus.army.mil
- Federal transit subsidy: 410-278-0915 or APGTransformationOfc@conus.army.mil

MORE ONLINE

Scan the QR code for the MARC train schedule. (To start scanning, just search your phone’s app source to download a QR reader.)



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

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Debra Ingram	Maria Santiago	
Kari Jackson	Gloria Scott	

3rd generation night vision on the way

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Excellence Group Award.

The award, which is competitively selected, is given annually to the product office that demonstrates outstanding achievement in the practical application of systems engineering. “The vision was to employ the very best in HTI and systems engineering practices to provide a common battlefield scene to Armor, Mechanized Infantry, and Reconnaissance forces which would, for the first time in the history of armor, enable Warfighters to see targets further than they could shoot, improving battlefield dominance,” Doney explained.

Currently, the Army’s SGF FLIR Program provides the U.S. Soldier with the world’s premier night vision capability for the Abrams Tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, Stryker Brigade Combat Team and the Long Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System. But this was not always the case.

“What began as a vision to produce, field, and sustain the most cost-efficient, horizontally-integrated technologies on ground combat vehicles, has ultimately led to the delivery of 15,000 sensors in theatre – with a major influx of 11,000 systems within the last three years supporting surges in OEF and OIF,” said Lt. Col. William Russell, PdM FLIR. “I think it is fair to say that the vision set in place more than a decade ago, has been realized to the fullest.”

Explaining the original impetus for what would become the SGF, Doney discussed the lessons gleaned from Operation Desert Storm: “One of the biggest problems the Army found was friendly fire and fratricide,” he said. “The (Army) recognized the need to upgrade the ability of platforms to understand the target they were about to engage and it turned out that the SGF technology had just become mature enough to enable the implementation of its use for platforms.”

At the time each platform was looking for its own solution for night vision, but due to the flexibility of SGF and the overall benefits of employing HTI, it was able to serve as a common material solution, saving precious time and reducing overall costs to the Army to provide the necessary night vision capability.

In this fashion, the SGF serves as an exemplar of the recent DoD’s directive to “do more without more.” For example, adherence to the early creation of systems engineering processes for the SGF led to a 320 percent cost reduction over the life of the program. Furthermore, cost savings have been realized throughout its lifecycle –the hardware and software commonality provides reduced acquisition costs by combining procurements, reducing logistics costs, and lowering the long term sustainment costs, meeting one of the key objectives of the SGF Program: to provide technol-

ogy that is affordable and supportable.

Moreover, platforms that are committed to the HTI approach have enjoyed readiness benefits based on the availability and maintainability of interchangeable parts among multiple platforms. Ultimately, the Program has sustained a price curve of 85 percent while continuing to provide the world’s premier night vision capability to the U.S. Army.

To realize these myriad efficiencies, while simultaneously providing Warfighters with the very best in night vision technology, the SGF Program employed classic systems engineering principles including gaining a full understanding of the customer’s needs and ensuring the requirements in the system specification were both valid and complete.

To produce a system that shared commonalities across multiple platforms (thereby avoiding the traditional stove-piped approach in which each platform would procure its own FLIR system), the SGF program aggregated the platform unique requirements into a single set of capabilities and technical performance requirements. As part of the requirements analysis, SGF systems engineers worked closely with platform managers to capture all of their functional requirements, while working within the design constraints of each platform as well.

The result was a common product baseline for the SGF system. Throughout the life of the program, integrated product teams, representing the various SGF stakeholders, ensure program activities are coordinated and understood across functional and regional boundaries. As a result, SGF systems engineers have been able to successfully build a product a single time for multiple platforms, rather than multiple times for individual platforms.

“The SGF has been a resounding success on numerous levels, but we don’t rest on our laurels at PM FLIR,” Russell explained. “We are now replicating this successful effort, drawing on the lessons learned and successes gleaned over the past 15 years as we embark on a mission to bring a third generation FLIR (3GF) solution into the Army inventory.”

Leveraging the exceptional systems engineering foundation of the SGF, the 3GF capability will provide simultaneous digital video streams of long-wave and mid-wave infrared imaging. As with the SGF, PM FLIR conducted extensive requirements analyses as part of its systems engineering practices. “These analyses enabled us to identify key capabilities requirements, as well as additional opportunities to implement a common materiel solution that will result in cost efficiencies over the life of the platforms, just as the SGF has realized cost

efficiencies,” Doney said.

The 3GF builds upon the strengths of the SGF, while adding extended identification range performance via mid-wave infrared imaging. Furthermore, the 3GF enables increased sensor design flexibility. For example, when a SGF is upgraded to a 3GF, there are two possible results: it will provide either significant range performance in the same sensor package, or it will retain the original SGF performance, but in a smaller

and lighter sensor package.

“At PM FLIR, we are always looking for ways to improve our support to the Warfighter,” said Russell. “With the SGF, we were able to provide the Warfighter with an exceptional, cost-effective capability to sense the enemy beyond the visible. The 3GF will build on that solid foundation and the resulting value to the Warfighter is clear - - increased platform standoff and enhanced survivability and lethality.”

“The SGF has been a resounding success on numerous levels, but we don’t rest on our laurels at PM FLIR. We are now replicating this successful effort, drawing on the lessons learned and successes gleaned over the past 15 years as we embark on a mission to bring a third generation FLIR (3GF) solution into the Army inventory.”

Lt. Col. William Russell
PdM FLIR

Sediment study may aid cleanup

By **TERRI KALTENBACHER**

DPW Environmental Division

If you want to talk to a highly enthusiastic and informed environmental worker in APG's Installation Restoration Program, start a conversation with Allison O'Brien.

O'Brien is the program officer for the Canal Creek Study Area IRP program.

She will tell you all about SediMite—not to be confused with Vegemite, a yeasty food paste from Down Under that Australians love to spread on their

toast.

The research conducted at APG by the SediMite team will provide practical methods and lessons learned to share with other installations facing similar environmental challenges.

Not only are these research efforts expected to help the Chesapeake Bay, but they will also demonstrate how the environmental program at APG is a crucial component of the overall research and development mission that is so often emphasized by our senior leadership.

Since 2008, scientists funded through the Department of Defense's Environmental Security Technology Certification Program, commonly known as ESTCP, have been working at APG's Canal Creek in an effort to demonstrate and fine-tune their activated carbon-based technology for sequestering, or isolating, harmful sediment contaminants, such as mercury, methyl mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), away from the organisms and animals that may be storing the toxins in their organs and tissues.

Non-invasive technologies are being used to minimize destruction of existing biotopes in contrast to more common technologies for sediment clean-up, such as dredging and mechanical mixing.

Two studies, two sites

Two Canal Creek sites are being studied by ESCTP-funded scientists. In the lower Canal Creek site, scientists from Exponent, Inc., with Dr. Charles Menzie as the project lead, are in the process of demonstrating the effectiveness of a treatment called SediMite™, which

are pellets consisting of activated carbon and a weighting agent that allows the pellets to sink through the water and onto the sediments.

Once there, the activated carbon is released and the native creatures, such as worms, shrimps and clams, mix it into the contaminated sediments. Acting much like a carbon filter in a fish tank, the activated carbon within the sediments sucks up chemicals—mercury, methyl mercury and PCBs, which are of concern in the Canal Creek. This process helps prevent the animals in the creek from being exposed to the chemicals.

Menzie and his team hope to determine the best method for spreading SediMite™ on the creek bed sediments in an even distribution, as well as demonstrate SediMite's™ effectiveness at taking up and holding contaminants.

In the lower Canal Creek where mercury is the primary concern, they will examine this by measuring total mercury and methyl mercury concentrations in the water between sediment particles and in the tissues of small native sediment-dwelling invertebrates like insect larvae and mullusks.

SediMite™ has also been applied in several test plots in the second study site, an upper West Branch Canal Creek wetland site, in order to determine its effectiveness in a wetland environment contaminated with PCBs. But that site is being more exhaustively studied by scientists from AECOM, with John Bleiler as the project lead, working in conjunction with the U.S. Navy.

The technical objective of this study is to determine if non-invasive, in situ application of activated carbon can be used to isolate PCBs in wetland, or hydric, soils. So far, applications of activated carbon materials have been primarily studied in submerged aquatic sediments, like at the lower Canal Creek site, and therefore are largely unproven in wetland soils.

Much like the Exponent study, Bleiler's team will be evaluating reductions in the water between soil particles and the tissues of native invertebrates. But this study also will focus on the best delivery method for applying the activated carbon (liquid or solid form) in both the high and low value wetland environments at that site.

With the Exponent team also applying SediMite™ at the wetland site, and with the SediMite™ product represent-

ing yet another way of delivering activated carbon, three different application methods will be evaluated at the Upper West Branch site.

Bleiler describes the site selection process that the Navy/AECOM underwent as extensive.

"Prior to determining APG's Canal Creek site as an ideal location, our team conducted a survey and immediately identified over 7,000 acres of contaminated wetlands on DoD properties where substantial wetland remediation plans are in-place," said Bleiler. "Numerous factors were considered, and based on the nature and extent of contaminants present, as well as the genuine interest by APG, Canal Creek was selected for our demonstration project."

The history

In the 1990s, contaminated sediments, and the difficulties and challenges associated with remediating them effectively, made national news when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency decided to reopen a "no action" decision for the PCBs-contaminated Hudson River sediments, a Superfund project since 1984, and study and evaluate the feasibility of dredging these sediments.

General Electric, the principal responsible party, operated capacitor manufacturing plants at facilities along the Hudson River, and for 30 years discharged an estimated 1.3 million pounds of PCBs into the river.

Challenges associated with this clean-up, which is not yet complete, have included resuspension of contaminants during the dredging process, management and disposal of the dredged sediments, the presence of contaminants in sediments deeper than the initial dredge line, and the impacts to ecological habitat via the intrusive dredging process as well as the need for habitat reconstruction.

The DoD is dealing with this environmental issue as well. It is responsible for the management of hundreds of sediments-contaminated sites with toxic chemicals, such as organic compounds and metals. And as such, DoD's ESCTP Environmental Remediation program has been particularly interested in funding studies addressing contaminated sediments.

DoD's contaminated sediment sites can be found in numerous locations, from Hunters Point in San Francisco and

Quantico, Va., to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to name a few. But APG also has its Canal Creek sediments site, in which various reaches of the creek and the adjacent wetlands include creek bed sediments and wetland soils contaminated with PCBs, metals and other compounds such as DDT.

This site has been under study through APG's Clean-up Program, in conjunction with the EPA and the Maryland Department of the Environment for a number of years, according to O'Brien.

But given the site's complexities, the high costs associated with some clean-up options, and the possibility of damaging impacts on the ecology through intrusive actions such as dredging, O'Brien and fellow IRP clean-up manager Jeff Aichroth are enthused about ESCTP's demonstration studies which use non-invasive techniques, and their possible implications for the clean-up of the Canal Creek sediments.

"Providing a site for the ESCTP-funded scientists is a great opportunity for APG's IRP", said O'Brien. "We have the great fortune of working with some of the country's best sediments specialists.

"The results will certainly improve the collective knowledge base about the best means and methods for sequestering the contaminants from critters in sediments in creek and wetland environments," she said. "But we will be looking closely at these studies' results as we develop site-specific clean-up alternatives at Canal Creek with EPA and MDE."

So, if you have seen people in boats in Edgewood's Canal Creek, blowing a fine material out in to the waters and sediments, they were not feeding the fish, nor were they trying to plant more sea grass or wetland plants. Rather, were trying to learn how to keep animals from being exposed to harmful contaminants in the sediments.

Scientists from Exponent and AECOM will be back at Canal Creek, conducting post-application site monitoring in late Spring 2011.

For more information on SediMite, check out the APG Live Blog under the environment tab (<http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>)

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

Massive upgrades prep post for BRAC

Continued from Page 1

construction to accommodate the new workers, Army Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, the garrison commander, told American Forces Press Service.

But it's also bringing a fundamental change to the post's historic mission, and how the Army ensures its warfighters have the most advanced equipment and systems possible to succeed on the battlefield.

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, the major tenant that defined Aberdeen Proving Ground's very identity for nearly a century, already has moved to Fort Lee, Va. There, it is part of the new Sustainment Center of Excellence, another BRAC initiative.

As officials at APG closed a page on their post's legacy, they were busy preparing to open an exciting new one that would transform the installation into a hub of cutting-edge communications and electronics technology.

Aberdeen Proving Ground has long been heavily involved in the Army's research, development, testing and evaluation mission, explained Army Col. Andrew Nelson, deputy garrison commander for transformation. But by consolidating many disparate and geographically separated organizations that supported those processes here at one post, BRAC is "bringing it to the next level," he said.

"Aberdeen Proving Ground has been, but will be to a greater extent, one of the Army's major hubs of research and development of new technologies, and the testing and evaluation of those new technologies that lead to fielding new systems to support the warfighter," Nelson said.

"This is the center of all of that -- the technology development that is leading to Soldiers being better equipped and better supported in the operational environment where they are," he said. "It's the clothes they wear, the radios they speak through, the computer system that tracks where individual vehicles and Soldiers are on the battlefield, to having [unmanned aerial vehicles] that give them the best intelligence of what the enemy is doing.

"That is what Aberdeen Proving

Ground already is, and what it will be about," Nelson said. "Everything we do here is all about ensuring that the individual Soldier and the combat leader have the best possible equipment and systems and technology that is giving them the advantage on the battlefield."

The biggest group of new arrivals to support this expanded mission is a collection of activities referred to as "the C4ISR materiel enterprise" that focuses on command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

The lion's share of its 7,200 people are coming from Fort Monmouth, N.J., which is closing under BRAC and transferring most of its functions to Aberdeen. The new arrivals hail from Fort Monmouth's Communications and Electronics Command and Communications-Electronic Research, Development and Engineering Center and several of their program executive offices. Others are arriving from related activities at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; and Fort Belvoir, Va.

CECOM established a forward presence at Aberdeen in 2007, and officially uncased its colors at APG in October 2010. A steady stream of its workforce began arriving this past summer, some directly from Fort Monmouth, some from temporary swing space at Aberdeen and others, new hires replacing workers who chose not to relocate.

Today, about 60 percent of the new C4ISR team already has made the move to Aberdeen Proving Ground, settling into the state-of-the-art research and development campus known as the "C4ISR Center of Excellence."

Meanwhile, construction crews are putting the finishing touches on the second phase of the C4ISR project, which Nelson said is expected to be completed this month or next. The entire C4ISR complex, once complete, will include 13 buildings and more than 2.5 million square feet of new space.

The next-largest group of newcomers to Aberdeen, numbering just over 600, hails from the Army Test and Evaluation Command headquarters and Army Evaluation Center, both in Alexandria,

Va. While construction was wrapping up on its new headquarters, Army Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco opted to move directly to Aberdeen, rather than temporarily to Alexandria, when he assumed command in October. Working in swing space at Aberdeen, he's paving the way for the rest of the headquarters elements to follow, while supervising subordinate commands that were already based at Aberdeen when the BRAC recommendations were announced.

In addition, BRAC is consolidating a variety of other organizations at Aberdeen. These include the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense from Falls Church, Va.; Air Force Non-Medical Chemical-Biological Defense Development and Acquisition, from Brooks City Base, Texas; the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research from Forest Glen, Md.; the Army Research Institute from Fort Knox, Ky., and the Army Research Laboratory's Vehicle Technology Directorate from Langley, Va., and Glenn, Ohio.

The BRAC initiative also has brought a broad range of defense contractors to Aberdeen Proving Ground, where many are operating in a new 416-acre complex just outside the gate.

Ortiz credited detailed planning that started before the ink had even dried on the BRAC 2005 recommendations with ensuring the post is ready to receive the new arrivals.

The planners worked closely with inbound organizations to identify their exact requirements, and with state and local officials to ensure surrounding communities were prepared for the influx.

And, able to take advantage of an economic slump that made bidding on the 17 major construction projects required at Aberdeen Proving Ground highly competitive, they realized huge cost-savings in implementing BRAC.

"In our fiscal year 2010 program, we were awarding contracts at 60 to 70 percent of what the government estimate was [in 2005]," Nelson said. "That's a big savings, money the Army didn't have to invest here."

The first major construction proj-

ect, a new gate with five vehicle inspection lanes, was completed in May 2009. As the other projects took shape around the installation, less obvious to casual observers were the tremendous infrastructure improvements required to support them. These included multiple-lane gate accesses, roadways, water, sewer and electrical line and miles and miles of fiber optic cabling.

Exciting as these new developments are, Ortiz said he's made a concerted effort to ensure Aberdeen's 70-plus previous tenants don't get short shrift.

"We don't want haves and have-nots," he said.

So the post has undertaken a massive plan to upgrade existing facilities and demolish many of its old World War I- and II-era buildings. Ultimately, plans call for demolishing 188 facilities and 775 housing units over the next five years. As these efforts continue, Nelson said he expects lots of activity at Aberdeen during the spring and summer months as workers move into new or renovated facilities. July is expected to be particularly busy.

With the clock ticking down, Ortiz said he's confident Aberdeen Proving Ground is on track to fully comply with the Sept. 15 BRAC deadline.

"We've already integrated a sizeable number of the new workers and the buildings that aren't already completed are very far along," he said. "The conditions are pretty well set."

The plan is going so well, in fact, that Ortiz expects Sept. 16, the first workday after the BRAC deadline, to be "just another day at work" at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"I honestly do not believe that on Sept. 16, folks are going to notice anything different," he said. "As the locals will tell you, for us, BRAC has already happened. The magic of that Sept. 15 date has long come and gone."

So instead of fixating on the BRAC deadline, Aberdeen Proving Ground is focusing on its new, expanded mission, Ortiz said.

"What we're focusing on is the future," he said. "That's where we really need to go."

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.

USMC history division accepting applications

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. Visit www.history.usmc.mil, call 703-432-4884 or e-mail charles.r.smith9@usmc.mil. Deadline is May 1.

Make a change, earn money

The Army Suggestion Program encourage Soldiers and civilians to submit ideas that increase the efficiency and productivity of the Army. Suggestions that save the Army money can be eligible for a cash award up to \$25,000.

The more money saved, the larger the potential award. For more information, visit <https://armysuggestions.army.mil>, or contact Marjorie Sexton at 410-278-0944 or marjorie.sexton1@us.army.mil.

FNSI, EA available for review

Aberdeen Proving Ground prepared a supplement to the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Building Demolition, Construction and Renovation finalized in 2009. The supplement amends the EA to add a few sections that are relevant to a very small subset of demolition activities, those that involve fire training activities on acquired structures. The draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact are available for review at <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/directorates/dpw/> until April 6. Comments can be addressed to USAGAPG, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PWE (Carol Young), 4304 Susquehanna Avenue, 3rd Floor, Wing B, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. 21005-5001.

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_FWTAWardsProgram.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.

RAB meeting March 31

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory 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.

Wholesale discounts

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor BJ's discount membership registration, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 6 at the APG North (Aberdeen) Bowling Center in Bldg. 2342; and from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on April 13 at the APG South (Edgewood) Stark Recreation Center in Bldg. E4140; and from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 20 at the Newcomer's Orientation, APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center in Bldg. 3326.

BJ's Wholesale Club offers 14-month membership for \$40 for civilian and military personnel, retirees and contractors. Renewal membership holders should bring their current card with them. Call 410-436-4467 or e-mail patti.harkins@us.army.mil.

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.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

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.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY MARCH 22 AND 23 LOYOLA GRADUATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Find out how to earn a master's degree in computer science or software engineering. Loyola University

Maryland will hold two open houses at 5:30 p.m. March 22 and 23. The March 22 open house will be at Loyola's Timonium Graduate Center, 2034 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, Md. The March 23 open house will be at Loyola's Columbia Graduate Center, 8890 McGaw Road, Columbia, Md.

For more information, call Lewis Berman at 410-617-2587 or 1-800-221-9107 ext. 2587, or visit <http://www.loyola.edu/cs>.



Holy Season worship schedule

Lenten and Easter services

All are welcome to attend Easter Sunrise Service, 7 a.m., April 24 at the Aberdeen Area Shore Park. Breakfast will be served at the Main Post Chapel following the service. Lenten and Bible Study will be held noon, March 23, 30 and April 6, 13 and 20 in the Main Post Chapel Fellowship Hall.

Main Post Chapel (Aberdeen Area)

Catholic services

- March 17, 6:30 p.m., Rosary Devotion
- March 20, 8:45 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 25, 11:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Annunciation Mass
- March 25 7:15 p.m., soup and bread
- March 27, no 8:45 a.m. mass
- April 3, 8:45 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- April 8, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
- April 10, 8:45 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- April 22, 3 p.m., Veneration of Cross
- April 23, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass
- April 24, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

Protestant

- March 20, 10:15 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
- April 3, 10:15 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- April 10, 10:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- April 17, 10:15 a.m., Easter Cantata
- April 24, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

Gospel

- March 20, noon, second Sunday of Lent
- March 27, noon, third Sunday of Lent
- April 3, noon, fourth Sunday of Lent
- April 10, noon, fifth Sunday of Lent
- April 17, noon, Palm Sunday
- April 24, noon, Easter Sunday

Edgewood Area

Catholic services

- March 20, 10:45 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 25, noon, Annunciation Mass
- March 27, 10:45 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
- March 27, 10:45 a.m., Confirmation/Reception
- April 1, noon, first Friday Devotion and lunch
- April 1, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
- April 3, 10:45 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- April 7, 6:30 p.m., Rosary Devotion
- April 10, fifth Sunday of Lent
- April 17, 10:45 a.m., Palm Sunday
- April 21, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday Mass
- April 22, 3 p.m., Veneration of the Cross
- April 24, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

Protestant

- March 20, 9:15 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 27, 9:15 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
- April 3, 10:15 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- April 20, 10:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- April 17, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
- April 24, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday



Oh my! She's most sincerely dead

"Dr. Patrick Chup" (left) tells a shocked "Barney Fife" that popular, yet witchy Reunion Queen, "Amber Price Ford" is really "most sincerely dead" and estranged hubby "Red Ford," (right) takes a closer look at the start of the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater production of "Murder 101" at the APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center March 11. More than 200 guests put their sleuthing skills to the test during the interactive high school reunion whodunit presented by the Family, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command. "Barney Fife" was played by Ken Freehill, who co-wrote and co-directed the production with Darryl Allara, both of the FMWR Command. See more photos of the production on Flickr and APG Live.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

MORE ONLINE

Visit www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/ or scan the QR code to view and download photos of the event. (To start scanning, just search your phone's app source to download a QR reader.)





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STRONG MINDS ★ STRONG BODIES

Physical | Emotional | Social | Spiritual | Family

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Performing and excelling in physical activities that require **aerobic fitness, endurance, strength, healthy body composition** and **flexibility** derived through exercise, nutrition and training.

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/>

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.

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

Scrapbooking crop April 16

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a Scrapbooking crop for seasonal scrapbookers or anyone who has always wanted to try it. "Crop Till You Drop" 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. The cost to attend is \$25 per person and includes lunch, door prizes and giveaways. Vendors will have items for sale and optional classes will be offered. Call now to reserve a spot or table of friends.

Contact Patti Harkins at 410-436-4467 or patti.harkins@us.army.mil.

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.

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.

Experience the Cherry Blossom Festival

MWR Leisure Travel Office will offer a trip to Washington, D.C. for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival April 9. Cost of the trip is \$30 per person and includes roundtrip transportation. The Bus will depart the Aberdeen Area 7:30 a.m. Reserve seats now, space is limited.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-4011/4907, email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil or visit MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3316.

Spring Celebrations

MWR is hosting Spring Celebra-

tion 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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, April 9 to May 21.

Lessons are open to all DoD ID cardholding Family members.

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

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

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

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.

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.

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 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 parings, 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 through April 9; and 3 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays from 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. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

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 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.

Week of March 21

Special #1: Double bacon cheeseburger with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$7.45.

Special #2: Grilled ham and cheese with the soup of the day, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

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



Q&A ATEC commanding general discusses move to APG, transformation, career progression

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco is the commanding general of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. In a recent interview, Dellarocco discusses the move to APG, transformation, and career progression.

Question: Would you give us an update on Army Test and Evaluation Command move? When do you expect the rest of the staff?

The magic date for us now is April 4. The law shows Sept. 15, 2011 (but after) a series of reviews we said "Hmmm. We really need to take a look at that because it doesn't do what we need it to do and give us the flexibility on the back end."

So we're going to essentially move the rest of the ATEC headquarters – those who said they were going to come -- by April 4, and we'll have a few more come in through the summer for a variety of reasons – Family situations, medical. Our plan is to comply with the BRAC law first and foremost.



Dellarocco

We'll have three headquarters elements here at Aberdeen Proving Ground – actually four when we talk about Aberdeen Test Center – but the ones we're going to concentrate on are the Army Evaluation Center, the Developmental Test Command, and the ATEC headquarters itself. We're going to combine those three together and look for efficiencies. We know there are going to be efficiencies, it just makes sense.

So, we'll be in line with not only with the law, but also with the current theme of efficiencies . . . and at the end of the day we'll actually have better service out of it. We'll have leaner staffs. We'll have a . . . different command shape here at APG.

Question: With the combining of your headquarters staff and making it leaner, there are some people who say, "I don't want to move. I'm going to take a job locally." Even though you're making a leaner staff, will that create openings for ATEC?

Actually, we're in a really good position. First of all, the people that aren't going to come – the ones that aren't going to retire – we've got to take care of, and we're doing that. We're trying to beef up their personnel file, give them opportunities, do some refresher type training so that they're more competitive with finding a job down there. This includes details and developmental assignments during this period where they're waiting for the priority placement system to work for them. We think we can succeed in taking care of everybody that way, and that's our goal. Other organizations weren't, well, we'll say they weren't as assertive as we plan to be. But we listened, and we learned from their lessons.

We'll probably harvest a lot of the vacancies because, when we combine the headquarters staffs, some functions are actually going to be overstaffed. And with the advent of the Fort Monmouth units and organizations coming here, they're bringing in several hundred vacancies, so we're going to be able to lean down and perhaps not fill all of our vacancies. We'll probably fill some, the critical ones, and then we'll reshape the organization . . . over the next couple of years.

And this is really the first phase of other reorganizations throughout the command that geographically are spread all over the United States.

Question: Now that you're here, what are your initial impressions of the transformations that APG has been going through in this area?

I've been coming to APG for a number of years, and the transformation just blows my mind. Where I used to just see deer walking, now I see a building or several buildings and pavement, and the deer are still walking on it!

It's going to be quite a beautiful place when all the mud's scraped off the roads and [they] get repaved. When all the construction is said and done, this place is going to be quite the office campus. This is going to be a place where people will want to come to work. I mean it's going to grow into quite an interesting place.

Question: With the Army considering this the new science and technology hub, how does this help ATEC and its mission?

We're going to get some synergies from the other BRAC organizations and the other tenant organizations here at Aberdeen, and that's being studied. From a test perspective [and that of] science and technology, you have Team C4ISR plus RDECOM headquar-



ATEC photo

An artist's rendering of the new headquarters building.

ters here, and some of their facilities, and you have a major test range here. There's bound to be some goodness come out of it. We've already identified it. There's a task force here, TESSA, studying that very dynamic. I think we're going to be able to spin out capabilities to the Warfighter much faster than [for] some commodities where we didn't have an opportunity. It wasn't there prior to the BRAC. So we'll actually do some good work for the Army.

Question: When ATEC folks first arrive, what do you tell them about the command, the region and the installation?

I'm brand new myself, (but I tell them) they're coming to a really good . . . situation . . . in terms of career progression.

If you look at it . . . several more organizations [are] coming [and] they have more vacancies than they have people to fill them. The (folks) that are smart, and there are a lot of smart people on this installation, will figure this out pretty quick. Some already have. . . . If employees get their records in order, expand their experience base a little bit and expand the other aspects of their resumes, they could probably get a promotion out of it, or two, over time.

This is really a target rich environment for folks that want to advance their careers.

Because of this and [because] some of the best government employees have a background that's varied . . . I think the folks here have a grand opportunity. I came from Huntsville, and the same thing happened there - lots of BRAC jobs came in. Within five years there should be at least one promotion just because of moving around and taking advantage of it. Some will get two and that's really great to be in that kind of positive work environment.

Question: Anything else you'd like to add?

Well, I think it's well known that this whole area from an environmental standpoint is absolutely beautiful area both on and off post. The Chesapeake Bay – the water, the land, the wildlife – it is one of those places that people don't quite understand until they get here. The geographic location is central to East coast metropoli-

tan areas, and you've got a fantastic rail system out here. You've got several major airports within basically an hour's drive, north or south. You can go to the mountains anytime you want. You can go to the coast anytime you want. You're ideally (situated) to do a lot of things professionally and personally, and, I suspect, if I had kids in school here [mine are in college], I suspect the schools are probably up there as well. To me this is a great place to raise a Family.

I'm glad to be here. It's personal. I didn't resist coming here. The longer I get acquainted with the ATEC mission, the more I'm amazed at the depth and breadth of it and the people. I've learned something new about the people every day. We've got some of the brightest, the smartest people around. It's really incredible.

Question: How did you like the Huntsville Area?

I liked it. It's a great area. I could tell by just the AUSA chapter. They won like five best chapter (awards) over the last decade. The industrial base is different. Here it is more commercial and industry. Down there, it's big space and big defense.

It's interesting from having experienced Huntsville for three and a half years and then (to) come here. I can see where APG is ahead in some areas, like the Enhanced Use Lease thing. We're . . . cutting ribbons, occupying buildings; I think that's a dimension

of what's happening here that's not fully understood because it hasn't been fleshed out on the industry side. That's another thing we need to talk about. Anybody who's retiring and wants to stay and get a second income and work for a support contractor, man, this is it. APG will catch up to Huntsville. It's going to take probably take a decade to do that, but all the underpinnings are here.

Question: Are you collaborating with other APG leadership?

I just attended a senior leaders luncheon today where all the SES's and GO's were attending. It was a good thing. I like that (type of) community forum. Discovered a few things that some of my neighbors had a problem with.

The synergies (of collaborating) will evolve with time. First of all, I've got to get all my people up here. Second, we have to get our building finished and move in. (The building will have) a pretty striking front and it'll be one of those buildings that becomes one of the trademarks of APG, along with . . . the new C4ISR buildings and The Stones . . . RDECOM has fixed those up very nice. (You will have) the new mixed with (the) old.

But transformation-wise, there's a lot left to do, and to learn, and discover. I think the community will, as everybody gets . . . here and we understand what everybody does and all of the construction projects get done, we'll probably generate other business and it will have a second or third order positive effects on this whole region.

Question: Tell us more about the impact of change?

If you look at the history of what both Aberdeen and Redstone went through over the years and how the communities grew up around them, you can see (the impact of change).

Redstone branched out further and did some really interesting things. Redstone was a sleepy hollow, very much like APG for a number of years. Then they have the space program [and] it infused a lot of other energy.

The Army side of Redstone was pretty quiet. They had an extension of the Ordnance School here at APG down there – the Explosive Ordnance Disposal School was at Redstone – but from an Army perspective, things didn't really start clicking until the BRAC of the mid nineties when they brought aviation in from St. Louis. That changed the complexity of that whole place.

As far as I know, APG didn't participate too much in the BRAC of the nineties, other than the Army Research Laboratory, but Redstone grew substantially because of it. Industry started moving in, all the big defense guys – Lockheed, Raytheon, General Dynamics, Northrop-Grumman, Boeing – you name them, they were there. And they started investing and you could see the difference, the transformation.

Now APG is poised to take off similarly . . . it's just going to be on a different timeline. The Enhanced Use Lease is going to be one of the catalysts, and others will evolve as we (better) understand how the relationship between the two major activities on post (plays out). With, I think, 80 tenants at APG, both north and south, there's going to be a lot of activity here. Being part of this community is going to be interesting because of the parallels to Redstone. We'll learn some very interesting things from our fellow tenants on Aberdeen and say, "Hey! This is pretty cool stuff."

MORE ONLINE



Scan the QR code to view Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco's bio. (To start scanning, just search your phone's app source to download a QR reader.)

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



U.S. Army photos

The Redstone Test Center in Alabama is the Developmental Test Command's Center of expertise for testing aviation systems.

DTC: challenging it here so it works there

Unit: U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

Leadership:

- Director: David Jimenez
- Technical Director: Robert Miele
- Chief of Staff: Louis Brown
- Command Sergeant Major: Carlton Handy

Mission:

Plan, conduct and report developmental and production tests across the full spectrum of environments. Support operational testing through early integration of developmental and operational testing with Army evaluation. Verify the safety of Army systems. Develop and procure new test technology, instrumentation, and selected models and simulations. Assure that developmental test range infrastructure is responsive to the needs of Soldiers and other U.S. armed forces. Provide support, expertise and test resources to operational missions as needed.

Top Priorities:

- Supporting the Warfighter
- Sustaining human capital and range infrastructure
- Managing organizational transformation
- Providing unbiased, technically precise data to Army evaluators

About DTC:

Established as the Army Test and Evaluation Command (TECOM) in 1962, this organization officially became the Developmental Test Command on October 1, 1999, as the Army restructured its acquisition program. Like the Army's Operational Test Command and Army Evaluation Center, DTC is subordinate to the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), which oversees all Army test and evaluation programs. DTC tests military hardware and software of every description under precise conditions across the full spectrum of arctic, tropical, desert and other natural or controlled environments. DTC offers a full range of test services, including reporting on the technical feasibility of early concepts, determining system performance and safety, assessing technical risks during system development, and confirming designs and validating manufacturers' facilities and processes at system and component levels. DTC offers its testing capabilities to all U.S. military services and Defense Department organizations, other federal agencies, state and local governments, foreign and allied governments, and private industry.

Organizational Elements:

- Aberdeen Test Center
- Dugway Proving Ground
 - West Desert Test Center
- Electronic Proving Ground
- Redstone Test Center
- White Sands Missile Range
 - White Sands Test Center
- Yuma Proving Ground
 - Cold Regions Test Center

SPOTLIGHT ON APG



- Tropic Regions Test Center
- Yuma Test Center

Notable history:

In fiscal year 2002, DTC conducted various test programs that would play a significant role in the survivability of U.S. warfighters during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Twenty-four Stryker vehicles representing six different Stryker variants underwent production-verification testing at five DTC test centers. In that year, 10 of the 24 vehicles underwent reliability and maintainability testing. DTC also conducted safety and performance testing on eight Stryker variants. Six underwent congressionally mandated live-fire testing. Testers equipped Strykers with a common instrumentation package that supports both developmental operational test requirements. They also used an information-fusion system from the web-based Versatile Information System Integrated On-line to consolidate test efforts in near real time. In the same fiscal year, DTC also helped the Army complete both developmental and operational testing of the Patriot Advanced Capability - 3 missile system. DTC's White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico was the site of most PAC-3 shots. One flight took place at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific.

This latest iteration of the Patriot missile incorporates hit-to-kill technology and increases the firepower of a Patriot battery by as much as 400 percent. Ten developmental and four operational missile firings established the capabilities of the PAC-3 against a target set including cruise missiles, aircraft, and tactical ballistic missiles. Since fiscal year 2002, the PAC-3 missile system has entered the process for materiel release. The success of the PAC-3 program led to the selection of this missile as the interceptor for the Medium Extended Air Defense System, a multi-national program that gives the United States, Germany and Italy a highly mobile, networked air defense system.

Setting the Record Straight:

In the ensuing years, DTC has been involved with a variety of critical test and evaluation programs, including the automotive and ballistic testing of armor kits for the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle as well as tests of up-armored HMMWVs and other tactical wheeled vehicles. The fast pace of DTC testing never slackened as its test centers conducted automotive and ballistic tests of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected family of vehicles and other countermeasures to improvised explosive devices.

DTC test centers also have played a key role in testing unmanned aerial and ground vehicles, including robotic systems such as the Talon, which have been instrumental in giving Soldiers intelligence and surveillance capabilities while helping them stay out of harm's way.

Why we're here:

DTC's technical support of the Army and the Department of Defense is a crucial element of military readiness as America confronts global terrorism and promotes peace and stability in a volatile world. Not only are DTC test programs supporting the readiness of our men and women in uniform to defend America abroad; DTC scientists, engineers and technicians are also committed

to supporting homeland defense initiatives whenever possible.

APG and Transformation:

This is a time of transition for both DTC and its major command, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC). ATEC, which has been headquartered in Alexandria, Va., since 1999, has moved the flag to APG, and a new headquarters building is under construction.

From the Command:

"The Army is in the midst of transformation, and change can seem intimidating to many of the people it will impact, but however we reorganize, our mission is not changing," according DTC Director David Jimenez. "It still is as critical as ever to support Soldiers to the best of our ability. What we do here at APG is helping Soldiers come home alive and uninjured to their families and loved ones. Everyone who contributes to that reality is doing something incredibly important."



The Developmental Test Command has conducted critical automotive tests of both wheeled and tracked Army vehicles at Aberdeen Test Center's Munson Test Area.



The Developmental Test Command's Aberdeen Test Center conducts live-fire testing of wheeled and tracked systems to help the Army determine crew survivability.

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 highlighted, e-mail editor-agp@conus.army.mil.