

APG NEWS



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New CDC providing child care, jobs

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Construction of the new Child Development Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground North is underway and expected to be completed in December.



Strauss

The new facility, which is scheduled to open in early 2012, will provide an additional 130 child care spaces and about 35 new jobs.

Construction project

The approximately 13,000 square foot building will come fully equipped, and will be very similar in design to the existing CDCs at APG North and APG South (Edgewood). It will also come with 20,000 square feet of playground.

"The centers are built to U.S. Army Center of Standardization guidelines, so that when a child moves and goes to a new CDC they will experience a sense of familiarity," explained Ruth Strauss,

JOB SEARCH

16 child care jobs are available. For more information, call 410-278-5126

See **SEVERAL**, page 15

END OF AN ERA



Photo by Sean Kief

Master Sgt. Sheila Sango stands at attention after posting the colors of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command during the BRAC Completion Ceremony at the post theater Sept. 15.

APG gathers to mark end of BRAC

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground marked the official end of Base Realignment and Closure Sept. 15 with completion ceremonies hosted by the installation's largest commands.

The BRAC law brought the most extensive changes the installation had seen since it was established in 1917. The most noteworthy change were the departure of the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps after 92 years at APG and the influx of new jobs and commands and thousands

of new workers, mostly from Fort Monmouth, N.J., which closed due to BRAC.

During the completion ceremony hosted by the APG Garrison and U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, APG's senior leader and RDECOM commander, awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal to Col. Andrew Nelson who as the deputy garrison commander for Transformation oversaw the six-year realignment that brought millions of dollars in construction, road and infrastructure repairs to APG.

C4ISR CAMPUS DEDICATION

See article on page 3

Nelson said he was honored to celebrate the achievement of BRAC and noted the structural and infrastructural achievements that have been accomplished and that have yet to be accomplished.

See **BRAC**, page 3



FMWRC photo

The 2011 US Army Soldier Show performs at APG Sunday, Sept. 25, in the post theater from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Carnival theme of APG Soldier Show provides Sept. 25 getaway

By **TIM HIPPS**
FMWRC Public Affairs

The carnival concept of the 2011 U.S. Army Soldier Show will take APG audiences on a globe-spanning journey to more fun-filled venues in 90 minutes than some folks experience in a lifetime.

Soldier-entertainers in this year's U.S. Army

Soldier show—slated Sept. 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the APG post theater—will take guests on a song and dance tour of carnivals across America and beyond, from the boardwalk and fun house circus to a country fair and time machine.

"It's an opportunity to actually take the audi-

See **SHOW**, page 15

STEM volunteers needed for Oct. 15 Scout event

By **ADRIANE FOSS**
APG News

Installation STEM professionals are needed for an October 15 Boy Scouts Merit Badge Day that will see more than 600 local Boy Scouts descend on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The Team APG-hosted event will take place on the grounds of the APG museum where volunteers serving as counselors will help Scouts earn merit badges in one of 16 STEM-related fields.

Col. William Montgomery III, chief of staff of the Communications-Electronics Command and one of the event organizers,

See **SCOUTING**, page 15



New spouse club name reflects new environment

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

In a move to reflect its all-inclusive nature, the installation's Military and Civilian Spouses Club has changed its name to the APG Community Women's Club.

"Some people may have been

reluctant to join because not all women are military spouses," said Club President Annie Brock. "Dropping the words 'military spouses' let's everyone know that we are open to all women of the Aberdeen proving Ground community."

See **WOMEN'S**, page 15

WEATHER

Thurs.



78° | 69°

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Local talent converges for FMWR talent show
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CERDEC NEWS:

RDECOM's communications-electronics center highlights its STEM summer. **PAGE 7**

OPINION

APG Celebrates National Recovery Month

In the 2011 National Recovery Month Proclamation, President Obama states “Today, alcohol and other drugs threaten the future of millions of Americans. Abuse of prescription medication has reached epidemic levels, drunk and drugged driving pose significant threats to public safety, and individuals in recovery continue to confront barriers to full participation in our society.” National Recovery Month is a national observance created to raise



awareness among Americans so they understand that a healthy, rewarding life is possible for those with a substance use or mental disorder. The main focus is to emphasize the strides made by those in recovery from these conditions, just as those who are managing health conditions such as diabetes; asthma and heart disease are acknowledged. Behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention efforts do work, treatment is effective and people can and do recover. The Army Substance Abuse Program believes that benefits from community awareness efforts renewed this September will be experienced throughout

this year and years to come. There are numerous helping agencies available at APG and the Community Health Promotion Council is the installation health and wellness program hub. Community support services are provided through the chapels, ACS, KUSAHC; FMWR, and ASAP Employee Assistance and Education Programs. Alcoholic Anonymous support groups are available at both APG North and South and throughout the local community with meeting lists available at the ASAP office and website as well as the local AA program in Aberdeen. When looking for support resources,

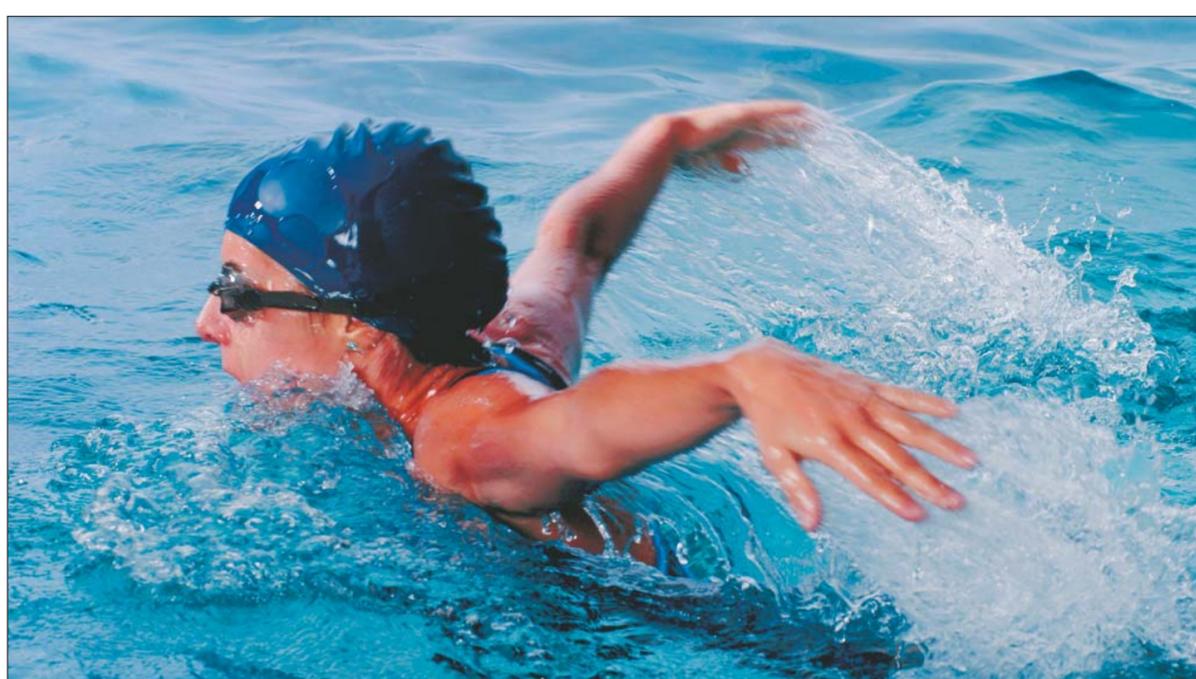
a good place to start is the CHPC website: <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/commander/CHPC/healthpromotion.cfm>. It is very user-friendly and has a wealth of information and support services points of contact. ASAP endorses the National Recovery Month principle that recovery from substance use or mental disorder is essential to overall health and through prevention awareness, treatment, and strong support services, recovery is possible. Contact me at 410-278-4013/DRUG or cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil.
Cynthia Scott
ASAP Prevention Coordinator

Experienced military wife has found her calming place—and it’s a wonderful place to be

I’ve never seen her swim. I only imagine Ginger in the water. I imagine her in goggles, her face turned to the bottom of the pool, her feet kicking out a rhythm, a cool flip turn at the end of the lane. I imagine Ginger in peace. And Ginger shouldn’t be this peaceful. She should be haggard by now. She should be jittery.



Ginger has been an Army wife for more than 30 years. One of her children is a helicopter pilot. The other is at West Point gearing up for a career in the Army. Because of her husband’s job, Ginger attends a lot of memorial services for men and women who are much too young to die, Soldiers who are other people’s spouses and parents, other people’s tender sons and darling daughters.



While I could imagine Ginger in the water, I couldn’t imagine what it would be like to carry that kind of worry every day. How do people do that? I’ve been to funerals. I know they leave you drained for days even if the person was 90 and in pain and the process of death had taken a long time. How do you handle it when you witness the loss left by even one soldier? How do you handle that constant reminder? Me, I would just keep circling McDonalds drive-thru, swallowing burgers and pushing down the emptiness. But Ginger swims. I don’t mean she just exercises in the way that magazine articles might tell us to meet stress by sleeping well and eating right and exercising. (Burn CALORIES!!! Create ENDORPHINS!!!) Those things alone are good, I think, but they are not everything. There is more to those things than just checking them off a to-do list. That is why I wanted to tell you about Ginger. Because while she swims she recites the 91st Psalm. Not just the verse “You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day.” Ginger

printed out a copy of the psalm and took it to the pool in a plastic sleeve. She memorized the whole thing and recites it while she swims and focuses in turn on her husband, her children, her neighbors, these soldiers. I’m not telling you about this because it is some kinda magic and you should go jump in a pool. I am telling you about Ginger because she is deliberate in her efforts to handle what her military life has to offer. She deliberately chooses to quiet her mind, to quiet her body, to focus on her Army family. I see this in a lot of experienced military wives—which may be why they have managed to stick with it so long and have fewer face furrows. I want to be that kind of person myself. I want to have a deliberate practice of military life. Not all the time. Just when I need it. Because the closer my life resembles a normal civilian life—regu-

“I’m not telling you about this because it is some kinda magic and you should go jump in a pool. I am telling you about Ginger because she is deliberate in her efforts to handle what her military life has to offer.”

lar meals, a constant dent on my mattress, another adult to license the cars or paint the cabinets or recite multiplication tables—the less I need to be deliberate. It is when things get edgier, scarier, less predictable, less normal (in all the blessed sense of that word) that you and I need to be deliberate. When you are so worried that you don’t know what to do next, when you are pacing, when the thought of the safety of your family member is with you ever minute, then you need to be deliberate every single day. Not only to do the walk or the run or the swim, but to do in a deliberate combination with a spiritual practice that centers a person, calms a person, provides peace. Because it

looks to me like that makes all the difference.
Jacey Eckhart
CinCHouse.com
About Jacey
As an Air Force brat, Jacey Eckhart grew up swearing she would never enter the military or marry anyone who did. Of course, she married the first Navy guy she ever met. Eighteen years later, she and her husband Brad have moved 13 times. Tackled five deployments. Raised three kids. And Jacey has written over 400 columns that encourage, empower and entertain military Families everywhere. To read more, visit cinchouse.com, where military wives and women in uniform are commanders in chief.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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Photo by Sean Kief

Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Maryland Executive Director, Sub-cabinet for BRAC, delivers a proclamation on behalf of Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley during the Campus Dedication Ceremony at the C4ISR Center of Excellence Sept. 15.

C4ISR dedicates campus as BRAC comes to a close

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, commander of the CECOM Life Cycle Management Command, led the C4ISR Campus Dedication Ceremony at the Myer Auditorium on the organization's \$800 million Center of Excellence campus.

Accompanying Strong in the official party was Brig. Gen. N. Lee S. Price, PEO-C3T; Brig. Gen. Harold Greene, PEO-PEIW&S; Jill Smith, director of CERDEC; and Bryan Young, director of the U.S. Army Contracting Command-Aberdeen.

Strong said that while the BRAC move was "a long six years of effort," the C4ISR mission begins in earnest.

"Now, we refocus to our mission to provide world-class C4ISR capabilities around the world," he said.

Commenting on the closing ceremonies at Fort Monmouth, the organization's former home, Strong said "its reputation for excellence laid the foundation of C4ISR."

He thanked the community partners of Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania for assisting relocating personnel and APG Garrison Col. Orlando Ortiz for his role in the transformation.

He said C4ISR overcame numerous obstacles – including the recent run of severe weather in Maryland – to achieve the transition on time in accordance with the federally-mandated completion date of Sept. 15, 2011.

"Who knew that we would face an earthquake, a hurricane and a flood before we got to this," he said.

"We have to be a war fighting team," Price added, "and we continue to support the Warfighter and provide for our most valuable assets."

Greene noted that much of the equipment on display in the campus courtyard did not exist in 2005 when the BRAC law was announced.

"It exists today because of this community," he said. "We've done a tremendous job in moving and sustaining a mission since 2005 and this work force played a tremendous role in making that happen."

Smith said while she spent most of her time at APG she was proud to assume

the role of director a year ago.

"C4ISR has been actively building relationships with government and educational industries and invigorating rapport with the community," she said.

Young added that "a significant amount of federal, military and Department of Defense dollars poured into the area" to make the transition happen.

"The contracting mission represents the transformation of BRAC and encompasses a wide variety of support," he said.

The official party led a ribbon cutting on stage in a symbolic gesture of formal dedication of the C4ISR Center of Excellence. Joining them was Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation Col. Andrew Nelson, Program Director for the Corps of Engineers Atlantic Division David Leach, and Craig.

Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Maryland Executive Director, Sub-cabinet for BRAC, presented a proclamation on behalf of Governor Martin O'Malley to Strong and Harford County Executive David Craig.

The C4ISR Center of Excellence campus is a multimillion dollar construction project that encompasses 2.5 million square feet of office, laboratory and administrative space for more than 7,200 personnel. Ground was broken for the campus March 17, 2008.

Where once the C4ISR organizations were spread over 70 buildings at Fort Monmouth, in addition to sites at Fort Belvoir, Va.; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; and Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; the organizations are now combined at APG in 15 state-of-the-art buildings within walking distance of each other.

The campus is a corporate technology park with environmentally-friendly buildings with rooftop vegetation that prevents erosion, absorbs water and provides insulation and wildlife habitats. The buildings maximize the use of sunlight for heat absorption in the winter and reduce heat absorption in the summer.

Each building is named for a significant leader whose accomplishments built the foundation of the Signal Corps heritage.

Several family members of former leaders were in attendance for the ceremony.

BRAC completion

Continued from Page 1

"While missing the training mission of Ordnance Soldiers, the face and mission of APG is changed forever," he said, adding that the transformation is not about BRAC but "about the installation's enduring mission to support national defense and our Warfighter. The APG legacy of world-class support to the Warfighter continues as the transformation ensures APG will be relevant for decades to come," he said.

"This transition will anchor in memory for years to come," Justice added.

Lauding the governor, congressional delegates and the citizens of Maryland, he said the people of the state went out of their way to bring the transition about.

"You are what caused BRAC to be accomplished by the U.S. Army," he said.

Justice and Nelson unveiled a memento of the historic event—a framed illustration depicting the different stages of the transformation – created by Diane Burrier of the Visual Information Services Division.

The program's guest speaker, Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Maryland Executive Director Sub-Cabinet for BRAC, presented a proclamation to Justice from Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley. She said APG was the largest Maryland location affected by BRAC and that overall,

BRAC created 23,000 jobs in the state.

During the program, the flags of new APG commands were placed alongside those of the installation's existing organizations. They included the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM); the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC); the Army Research Institute (ARI); the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR); the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA); the Communications-Electronics, Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC); the Army Contracting Command (ACC-APG); the U.S. Air Force Chemical Warfare Defense Division (Air Force CBD); the Joint Program Executive Office – Chemical and Biological Defense (JPEO-CBD); the Program Executive Office Command – Control and Communications Tactical (PEO-C3T); and the Program Executive Office – Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (PEO-I EW&S).

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, BRAC was the largest infrastructure investment program the Army has seen since World War II, with roughly \$8 billion in military construction programs executed by the USACE.



Blackhawk UP!

A Blackhawk helicopter takes off after landing troops in a mock captured area containing enemy detainees during the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion (TECHINT) Technical-Intelligence Day demonstrations at Aberdeen Proving Ground Sept. 16. More than 150 observers from federal and state intelligence, law enforcement and military organizations attended the daylong event, hosted by Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Irene M. Zoppi. See the full story in the Sept. 29 issue of the APG news.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

TRICARE promises continued access to prescription meds

By **DONNA MILES**

American Forces Press Service

A dispute between Walgreens and a TRICARE contractor will not stop beneficiaries from getting their prescriptions filled, despite a Walgreen's ad campaign to the contrary, a TRICARE official said Sept. 16.

"Don't let that advertising, letter and internet outreach campaign scare you," Navy Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the TRICARE Management Agency, said. "Even if contract renewal negotiations fall through and Walgreens drops out of TRICARE's retail pharmacy network on Jan. 1, beneficiaries still will have plenty of other options for getting their prescriptions filled."

Hunter called the dispute between Walgreens and Express Scripts, Inc., the contractor for TRICARE's retail pharmacy and pharmacy home delivery programs "a business matter" between the two companies.

A similar impasse between the two companies in 2008 ultimately was resolved by mid-November, about six weeks before the new contract was to take effect, she noted.

Walgreens is a big player in the TRICARE pharmacy network, with about 7,000 participating outlets that Hunter said have filled prescriptions for one in 10 TRICARE beneficiaries at one time or another.

Concerned about a campaign that has alarmed some TRICARE beneficiaries, Hunter offered assurance today that regardless of how this year's negotiations go, patients will always have access to the medications they need.

"If Walgreens does drop out or fail to renew their relationship with ESI so they are not included in the network, patients will still have 56,000 other pharmacies to obtain their medications at retail," she said. "We have a very, very broad network" that, for the vast majority of beneficiaries, ensures them access to a participating pharmacy within two miles of their homes.

Meanwhile, Hunter emphasized other options TRICARE beneficiaries can use to get their medications: a TRICARE military treatment facility or the increas-

ingly popular mail-order and home-delivery plans.

Hunter is a big proponent of the mail-order and home-delivery program, helping boost participation by 9.9 percent this year alone as retail pharmacy use grew by just 1.6 percent. Delivering medications directly to the beneficiary's home assures an uninterrupted supply of medication, she said, while saving money for beneficiaries as well as the Defense Department.

"I would recommend that this is a great time to consider TRICARE [Pharmacy] Home Delivery for chronic medications," Hunter said.

But with more than three months left on Walgreen's current contract with ESI, she emphasized, "There is no emergency, and there is time for people to understand and consider their options."

Those who elect to stay with the retail pharmacy option but are concerned that Walgreens could drop out of the TRICARE pharmacy network also have the option of moving their prescriptions to another pharmacy in the TRICARE network now.

"We are not taking a position about whether patients should move their prescriptions," Hunter said. "We are allowing this issue to play itself out, but those who want to can do so, and that will absolutely be honored."

Because all prescription information is centralized, the only thing patients need to do to move their prescriptions is to take their medication bottle or tube to another pharmacy. "They don't need another prescription or visit to a doctor," Hunter said.

Beneficiaries also can elect to use pharmacies not included in the TRICARE network. However, Hunter offered a reminder that these users will receive only partial reimbursement for their out-of-pocket costs and could have to file their own insurance claim, where network pharmacies do that automatically.

"Our focus is on ensuring patients have access to the care they need," including reliable access to their prescription medications," she said. "Our goal is to be sure people have the information they need so that they get their medications in a timely fashion."

RDECOM NEWS

Future prototype facility hopes to deliver speedy solutions

By **DAVID MCNALLY**
RDECOM Public Affairs

When it comes to developing a high-tech solution to a technical problem, the Army turns to professional researchers, engineers and scientists at laboratories and research centers across the nation. But with Soldiers serving many time zones away, this is often a challenge -- especially when an immediate solution is needed.

Since January, the Army has been establishing a "technology think tank" where the troops need it most: Afghanistan.

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, with its headquarters here at Aberdeen Proving Ground, has Prototype Integration Facilities, or PIFs, at installations in Maryland, New Jersey, Michigan and Alabama.

By moving a small cell of personnel, equipment and expertise to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, RDECOM is attempting to better serve warfighters by removing time and distance barriers.

"I think the PIF will offer the warfighter immediate interface with the science and technology community to address capability gaps," Army civilian engineer Scott Smith said.

Smith wanted to be front and center of the Army's effort to bring technology solutions to Soldiers. He's nearly completed his six-month tour of duty in Afghanistan and will soon return to Warren, Mich., where he works at the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center.

"I responded to a solicitation and volunteered to deploy toward the goal of setting up a forward fabrication facility," Smith said. "The warfighter will be able to effectively drive up to the front door of the PIF, work with engineers and technicians to formulate a solution and have it built quickly."

The Army's stateside PIFs provide turnkey solutions for prototype



U.S. Army photo

Army civilian engineer Scott Smith works at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Forward Assistance in Science and Technology Center at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

development, manufacturing, systems integration, modification, experimentation and subsystem and system testing. As they are government owned and government operated, they keep costs low and remain focused on meeting warfighter needs.

A PIF's goal is to produce results as quickly as possible for the lowest cost. Army officials at the RDECOM Field Assistance in Science and Technology, or RFAST, Center said they hope to bring that capability online at Bagram Airfield soon.

"I see immense value in having the RFAST remain focused on the PIF," Smith said. "between theatre

and stateside facilities."

Smith is a former Soldier and Desert Storm veteran. He served in the active-duty Army for five years, and the Army Reserve for five years. His background as a truck mechanic and his education -- bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering -- give him the skills to bring technology solutions that are Soldier-focused.

"I have been able to get organizations to work together to bring capabilities to the warfighter," he said. "Our customers are happy to get needed capabilities. Personally I think working with Soldiers kicks ass."

UMBC urged to push high-tech skills

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**
RDECOM

Partnerships with academia are vital to APG's continued success as it becomes the Army's hub for science and technology, senior installation commander Maj. Gen. Nick Justice said at Aberdeen Proving Ground Sept. 14.

Justice discussed the needs of APG's future workforce with six University of Maryland-Baltimore County deans and vice presidents for engineering and research.

Universities and the military both benefit from their expertise in similar research and development areas, Justice said.

"If I can get my people into your facilities, and you can get your students into our facilities, we're going to build a great nation and state of Maryland," he said.

Justice urged UMBC to take a leading role in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

"Help those young kids get high-tech skills. Our country desperately needs it," Justice said. "When you see what we're doing here, you'll understand."

"Helping your university is going to develop my workforce for tomorrow. I want to be a partner."

Systems engineering is an area for growth in the Department of Defense that universities should explore, Justice said. DoD has partnered with 20 schools, including the University of Maryland-College Park's Clark School of Engineering, as university-affiliated research centers to develop systems engineering programs.

"Systems engineering at UARCs is a tremendously powerful organization in DoD," he said. "Ten years from now, those 20 universities are going to be feeders for almost all engineering into DoD."

Systems engineering is an interdisciplinary field that focuses on designing and managing a complex engineering project during its life cycle.

The group also toured the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Rodman Materials Research Laboratory and the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center's prototype integration facility at APG.

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."

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Photo by Kristen Kushiyama

CERDEC math and science summer camp students tour the center's labs at APG.

CERDEC summer rife with STEM outreach

By **ALLISON BARROW**
RDECOM CERDEC Public Affairs

Exciting elementary students about the world of math and science, working with teachers to enhance engineering curriculums and paving pathways to future careers for college students describes this year's busy summer of outreach for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's communications-electronics center, or CERDEC, headquartered at APG.

Since 1994, CERDEC has actively supported an outreach program to encourage and retain student interest in science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, by hosting and participating in local and national STEM initiatives.

"By dedicating our time to work directly with students and teachers through these programs we can help build the future science and engineering workforce of this country. We have the resources and the expertise to open opportunities for local students in STEM, and because of that, it's our responsibility to do so," said Jill Smith, CERDEC director.

This was the first summer CERDEC hosted its math and science summer camp entirely in Maryland, following the center's relocation from Fort Monmouth, N.J., due to the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Law.

Eighty-one students in grades five to 10 participated in hands-on, week-long sessions taught by local teachers. The curriculum was based on the science subjects the students will learn in the upcoming school year. Sessions incorporated science and math concepts in sports materials, food packaging, composites, snap circuits, electrical connections and engineering.

"Honestly, my mom sort of signed me up. Of course I just said 'okay' because I had no choice right there. I thought on my first day it was just going to be boring but then I got to interact with people, I got to do all this fun engineering stuff, and the teachers, they really taught us a lot about the different engineering fields, that just got me really interested in everything," said Saidi Williams, Edgewood High School student.

CERDEC's outreach didn't end with the students. CERDEC participated in Harford Community College's STEM Teaching Academy, where CERDEC engineers taught a four-hour electrical engineering workshop.

"The goal of the program was very clear; it was intended to arm teachers with knowledge to introduce kids to engineering to 'ignite the spark of science,' a Senior Science Society mantra, and especially to provide takeaways - ideas and electronically-available info that the teachers could use in their classrooms," said Dr. Bruce P. Burns, recently elected President of the Senior Science Society of Harford County who helped organize the STEM Teaching Academy. "I pulsed teachers a lot during the week about whether or not they were getting takeaways, and the response was always very positive."

CERDEC engineers provided an

overview of the electrical engineering field and discussed with teachers ways to improve engineering curriculums, approaches to teaching tough concepts to different age levels and how to increase student interest in STEM.

"It was gratifying to see the effort that the teachers were putting into the planning of their curriculum. This was very evident from the questions they were asking as well as their focus on presenting the material in their classrooms in a manner that their students could relate to," said Kavita Goverdhanam, electronics engineer, CERDEC Space & Terrestrial Communications Directorate.

One area that seemed to get the students attention this summer was the field trips. Summer camp classes visited CERDEC laboratories that specialize in software engineering, intelligence and information processing, and communication and networking. Another popular trip was to the National Electronics Museum in Linthicum, Md.

"I mostly liked how it wasn't just them telling you about an engineering program, they actually had you experience engineering," said Marcus Garrier, Hillsboro High School student.

By placing students in real-world engineering situations, students went beyond simply seeing what an engineer does to having a hand at it themselves by designing projects including alarms, strobe lights, electronic games, miniature golf courses and more.

While the summer camp programs focused on students in fifth to tenth grade, CERDEC also mentored college students in the Science, Mathematics & Research for Transformation, or SMART, Scholarship for Service Program. SMART is a Department of Defense program that provides undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students majoring in a STEM-related field paid summer internships with DoD labs and helps fund part of their education.

In July CERDEC welcomed six new SMART scholars who will work in the center's labs starting next summer. These six joined three other SMART scholars who interned at APG this summer and a number of CERDEC SMART scholars who have graduated and are now on staff.

"I literally learn something new every day. Whether it's learning how a fuel cell works or how to strip wires with a wire cutter," said Jaclyn Lynch, a junior studying mechanical engineering at the University of Virginia, who interned with the CERDEC Command and Control Directorate, Army Power Branch, this summer.

As the summer draws to a close and students head back to school, CERDEC's outreach efforts won't slow down, said Ron Seldon, CERDEC outreach specialist.

"CERDEC will continue working with students and teachers through a number of in-school and after-school STEM programs this school year. Training and motivating students to maintain an interest in STEM throughout their education and beyond is a year round mission," he said.

Don't miss the Worldwide Day of Play Sept. 25

Now in its eighth year, WWDoP is an entire day dedicated to active play. Worldwide Day of Play is about encouraging kids to turn off the television and step away from the computer, head outdoors, and get active.

WWDoP is free and open to everyone. If you are in the D.C. area on Sept. 24, come out from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Ellipse on the National Mall. Get all the details for WWDoP at fitness.gov/

Thousands of families, schools, and organizations will also host local events across the country. If you can't join us in D.C., bring your community together for a day of activity by hosting a WWDoP event in your city or town.

Join the conversation on Twitter with @FitnessGov and #worldwidedayofplay!

Healthy Living

Post Shorts

Prayer Breakfast Sept. 23

Team-APG Prayer Breakfast is slated at the APG recreation center Sept. 23 from 6:30 to 8 a.m. The guest speaker is Former Detroit Lions Quarterback Eric Hipple. Special music provided by Rick Olivarez and Jeff Cheers. Admission and breakfast free. RSVP to william.benjamin1.mil@mail.mil required. The event is sponsored by ATEC.

Local MOAA Chapter meets Sept. 27

The Susquehanna Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will meet 7 p.m. at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace. The guest speaker is Maryland Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger.

The event includes a buffet dinner and open bar. Contact Ed Kreiner Sr., chapter president pro tem, to make reservations or for more information at 410-803-7177 or email edtkreinersr@verizon.net.

RAB Meeting Sept. 29

The next RAB meeting will be held Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center. Topics will be project update, RAO treatment plants and Graces Quarters.

Jewish New Year & Day of Atonement Sept. 28

The APG Chapel invites the community to join them for the Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement during the following events: Rosh Hashanah on Sept. 28 at 8 p.m., the Sabbath on Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m. and Yom Kippur on Oct. 7 at 8 p.m.

Events will take place at the Temple Adas Shalom Harford Jewish Center at 8 North Earlton Road Ext. in Havre de Grace. Call 410-939-3170/-273-6457 or email hjcmd@comcast.net.

Events are free for military members and their Families. RSVP and tickets are required. There is a nominal charge for civilians.

To RSVP or for information, contact Jonas Vogelhut at 95-2318, 443-619-2304 or jonas-vogelhut@us.army.mil

Disability Awareness Event

A Disability Awareness observance is slated Oct. 20 at 10 a.m. at the post theater. Call 443-861-9246/9259, 410-306-3053 or 410-436-2942.

UMUC Fall Startup

Get a jumpstart on your education by starting classes this fall! University of Maryland University College is sponsor-

ing a Start Up Event Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at UMUC's APG office, Room 210 of the Janet M. Barr Soldier Support Center on Susquehanna Avenue.

Advisors will be available to help students put together a degree plan. Students who make application at this event will have their \$50 application fee waived (except doctor of management applicants). Call 410-272-8269.

Hispanic Heritage Event scheduled Oct. 13

Team APG presents the Annual Hispanic American Heritage observance at 11 a.m. Oct. 13 at the post theater. Guest speaker is Jose Hernandez, a former NASA astronaut. Call 410-306-2053 or 443-861-9259 for information.

CPR classes offered

APG Fire and Emergency Services is offering free Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Classes with Automated External Defibrillator (AED) certification. Two classes will be offered on each date. The dates and locations of remaining 2011 classes are as follows. All classes are at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.:

- Oct. 19 APG South conference center E-4810

- Nov. 16 APG North post chapel

- Dec. 14 APG South conference center E-4810

Pre-register by contacting Michael Davis at 410-306-0572 or Michael.Ray.Davis@us.army.mil

Blood drive dates

APG will host blood drives on the following dates:

- 27-Sep-2011 TUE 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Recreation Center

- 31-Oct-2011 MON 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Recreation Center

- 29-Nov-2011 TUE 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Recreation Center

- 5-Dec-2011 MON 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Recreation Center

Get your firewood now

APG has firewood available at a cost of \$10 per pick-up truckload, standard one-half ton truck. Permits to buy wood are good for ten days, or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Permits will be issued on a first-come, first served basis at APG South (Edgewood), Bldg. E4630 Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789 or Scott English at 410-436-9804 for information.

New Hours of Operation

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division will offer

extended afternoon hours of operation.

The new client/claimant service hours will be Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. The office will be open each Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information about services, call 410.278.1583 or visit www.apg.army.mil, Services Directory, Legal.

Rate your community's health

Aberdeen Proving Ground has established the Community Health Promotion Council to look at the services currently provided, identify areas of opportunity for improvements, and work collaboratively with community partners to enhance our community health.

The council will provide a comprehensive approach to health promotion for all members of the APG community -- individuals and organizations -- and will work toward identifying and meeting the physical, emotional, spiritual, social and environmental needs of our APG community.

APG's active duty troops, Family members, retirees, DoD civilians, and contract employees are encouraged to participate in the community needs assessment survey, which will be distributed via email and accessible online at www.apg.army.mil.

CAC goes quarterly

Effective immediately, Community Action Council meetings will be held quarterly instead of monthly. No meetings are scheduled in August or September. The next CAC is in October on a date to be announced. Check the APG News or the APGLive blog site at apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/ or facebook.com/APGMd for more information.

Retiree Appreciation Day Oct. 15

The APG Retiree Council will host the annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 a.m. to noon, Oct. 15 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326. The event will include exhibitors who provide goods and services to the retiree population and a panel discussion with APG organizations. For more information, contact Drew Nobles, Retirement Service Officer/Retiree Council, at 410-306-2320 or drew.a.nobles.ctr@mail.mil or contact Richard Zalusky, Retiree Council, 410-278-5036 or richard.n.zalusky.civ@mail.mil.

Thrift Shop open

From pots and pans to sporting goods, clothing, toys, furniture, jewelry and more, the Thrift Shop is a one-stop shop for serviceable second-hand

goods. Proceeds go back to APG. Call 410-272-8572.

Islamic prayer Fridays

Islamic Prayer Services will meet and will take place every Friday from 1 to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) main post chapel. For information, call 410-278-4333.

Traffic Update

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

Overseas travel briefings

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

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

View CAC meetings online

Miss the March Community Action Council Meeting? View the video online at <http://www.youtube.com/usagappgpaol>.

Transition assistance available

To assist Soldiers in the transition from active duty to civilian life, APG offers Transition Assistance Program classes, which are facilitated by state employment services personnel. Guest speakers offer information about on finance, transportation, VA benefits, education and more.

Learn about job searches, career decision-making, resume writing and interviewing. Classes are held on APG North (Aberdeen) in Bldg. 4305 (Janet M. Barr Soldier Support Center) on Susquehanna Avenue monthly except in December. Participants must be within one year of separation date and two years from retirement date. Spouses are welcome. Register to attend at www.apg.army.mil. Or contact Debbie Edmonds at 410-306-2354 or dedmonds@dlr.state.md.us, or Jack Charles at 410-836-4635 or jcharles@dlr.state.md.us.



MORE ONLINE

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 22 MARYLAND WINE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Maryland Wine Cruise, 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The ship will take a cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area as passengers enjoy fine wines. The wine cruise will have a representative from the featured winery onboard telling passengers about their wines and vineyards and to answer any questions. Cheese and a fruit tray will be served. Reservations are required. Credit cards will be accepted.

For more information or for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 24 & 25 FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL AT STEPPINGSTONE

The Steppingstone Museum, located at 461 Quaker Bottom Road in Susquehanna State Park, Havre de Grace, will hold its annual Fall Harvest Festival and Craft Show, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Events include craft booths, scarecrow making, pumpkin painting, apple bobbing and pressing, hay rides, country music, clogging, square dancing, tours, food and more. Free parking is available. Cost of admission is \$5 for adults, free admission for museum members and children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call 410-939-2299 or 1-888-419-1762 or visit the museum's Web site, www.steppingstonemuseum.org.

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 26 MOAA DEFENSE FORUM

The Military Officers Association and U.S. Naval Institute will present the fifth annual Defense Forum Washington Sept. 26 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. The forum, "The Journey Back," will focus on the challenges and opportunities facing troops transitioning from military service back home and into a civilian workplace.

Guest speakers include Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Chiarelli and wife Beth Chiarelli, and two discussion panelists focusing on issues of readjustment in the home, the community, and workplace.

The forum, including lunch, is free to active duty and reserve component service members. Registration is \$45 for other USNI-MOAA members and spouses, \$75 for non-members, and \$25 for students.

Register on site beginning at 7:45 a.m. the day of the event at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. Visit www.defenseforumwashington.com.

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 29 MOAA DINNER

The Susquehanna Chapter of the Military Officer Association of America invites all military officers of the APG community—all branches and status—and their spouses to dinner Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at The Bayou restaurant in

Havre de Grace. Congressman Dutch Ruppensberger will be the guest speaker. Contact Lt. Col. Jeff Brock, USAF (ret), at brockja01@gmail.com or (410) 836-9373 for information and reservations.

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 30 LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a narrated lighthouse cruise, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis in Havre de Grace. Tickets cost \$30 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. Reservations are required. Cost includes a three-hour cruise enjoying water views of three area lighthouses: Concord Point, Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Island. Passengers need to bring their own lunch.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 1 LULAC HISPANIC CULTURAL EVENT

The League of United Latin American Citizens Maryland Councils will host a National Hispanic Heritage Cultural Event 7 p.m. to midnight at La Tolteca Restaurant in the La Quinta Inn, 793 W. Bel Air Avenue in Aberdeen.

Donation is \$35 per person.

The evening includes a buffet dinner, cash bar, door prizes, silent auction, Zumba dancing, a deejay, a live band and more. Attire is business casual; no jeans.

Proceeds benefit the LULAC Scholarship Fund.

For ticket information, contact Lucero Reyes, 410-272-1672; Rose Satz, 732-580-0766; or e-mail lulacmaryland@gmail.com.

23RD CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL RESCHEDULED

The 23rd Children's Arts Festival has been rescheduled and will take place Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Millard E. Tydings Park in Havre de Grace. Entertainment for children under 12 includes hands-on crafts, children's art contest displays, food vendors and scarecrow making. Bring child-size clothes and old pantyhose for scarecrows. Admission is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Open to the public. Call 410-939-0023

COMPOSTING 101

Master Gardeners teach some types of composting: how to get started composting, and finding the right mix to make black gold. Class includes time for questions and sharing experiences. Registration required. Classes will take place as follows:

Oct. 1 from 1- 4 p.m. at Harford County Extension Office, \$5 charge

Oct. 8 from 1- 4 p.m. at Eden Mill



MORE ONLINE

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

FAMILY AND MWR

Sports Happenings

■ NFL Youth Punt, Pass & Kick Competition is set for 7 p.m., at the Youth Flag Football/Soccer Field Bldg. 2522 on Bayside Drive. Boys and girls ages 6-15 can participate. Age cut-off date is Dec. 31, 2011. Register at www.nflppk.com and type in zip code 21005.

■ Youth basketball and cheerleading registration opens to boys and girls Oct. 17 to Nov. 9. The clinic is for ages 4-6. Cost is \$20. League ages: 7-8,9-10,11-12 and 13-14. Cheerleading ages: 5-14. Walk-in registration from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Appointments from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 410-278-7571. Coaches needed. Call Bill Kegley at 410-306-2297.

SKIES Programs

Hip Hop Dance

A hip hop dance class is set at the APG North youth center, Bldg. 2522 on Fridays from Sept. 23 to Dec. 2.

Cost is \$45 per student. Times are 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. for ages 6-8; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for ages 9-11; and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for ages 12-14. Hip hop is an explosive, funky dance style that combines memory, coordination, rhythm games, and loads of energetic fun.

Come learn the latest dance moves from all of your favorite video stars with APG's own Mr. Jeo. By combining fast paced rhythms and movement exercises, kids will get an excellent workout without realizing they are breaking a sweat!

Private piano and guitar lessons

Private piano and guitar lessons are offered for ages 4-18 at the APG North youth center. Tuesday lessons are Sept. 20 to Oct. 25; Thursday lessons are Sept. 22 to Oct. 27; and Friday lessons are Sept. 23 to Oct. 28. Classes range between 3 and 9 p.m. Price is \$102 per student for private one-on-one sessions that last 30 minutes for six weeks. Parents choose time frame during registration and will be responsible for purchasing the required books as recommended by the instructor.

Driving Lessons

Worldwide Driving Academy

423 Edgewood Rd in Edgewood or 49 Kingston Parkway in Abingdon. Classes are conducted Monday to Friday.

Edgewood Location:

- 6 - 9:15 p.m., Through Sept. 30, Oct. 3-14, Oct. 31 - Nov. 11
- 2:30-5:45 p.m., Sept. 26 - Oct. 7, Oct. 10-21

Abingdon Location:

- 6 - 9:15 p.m., Sept. 26 - Oct. 7, Oct. 10-21, Oct. 24 - Nov. 4
- Weekends (Only at Abingdon), Saturday and Sunday only, 11 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., Oct. 1-30

\$314 per student (prices subject to change without notice). Class includes 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind-the-wheel instruction. Parents must attend first and last day. Register for the class one week prior to the

first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 to 18 yrs old.

The Ultimate Driving School, LLC

13 N. Parke St. in Aberdeen.
Classes are conducted Monday to Thursday 5 - 8:15 p.m., Oct. 17 - Nov. 02, Nov. 07 - 23, Dec. 05-19

\$335 per student (prices subject to change without notice) Class includes 30 hours classroom instruction and six hours behind-the-wheel instruction.

Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class.

Students must be between the ages of 15.9-18 yrs old. Parents must attend first and last day of classes with students.

Open to all DoD ID cardholding family members. To register, call 410-278-7571/7479. For an appointment or info, email stacie.umbarger1@us.army.mil or call 410-278-4589.

Activities/Events

Lights On Oct. 3

Lights on Against Domestic Violence Event is set Oct. 3. The Army Community Service and Family Advocacy Program is encouraging community members to drive with their lights on Oct. 3rd to demonstrate their support in bringing awareness to domestic violence. If you or anyone you know is seeking information on domestic violence, call Kimberly Williams, Victim Advocacy, at 410-278-2435/7572

Frame Shop closed

The Frame Shop is closed until further notice. Patrons that may have any projects that are still in the building may call 410-278-4056/4124 to retrieve these items.

Intramural Women's Tennis Tournament

The APG Intramural Women's Tennis Tournament begins Sept. 26. The tournament will be double elimination for singles and doubles. Participants are required to travel to both APG North and APG South for matches. There is no charge to enter the tournament. Prizes will be awarded for first place and runner up. To register, sign up in person at the athletic center, Bldg. 3300, or call 410-278-7933, or at Hoyle Gym, Bldg. E4210, or call 410-436-3375, or email Jason.s.foley.naf@mail.mil.

Racquetball Tournament

Singles Matches will take place Sept. 24-25; deadline for signups is Sept. 22.

Doubles Matches will take place Oct 1-2; deadline for signups is Sept. 29.

There must be at least four entrants to have a bracket. For information, call the athletic center at 410-278-7933/7934 or Hoyle Gym at 410-436-3375/7134.

TAPS golf outing Sept. 30

The 4th Annual Viecore FSD Charity Golf Outing benefiting the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors will be held Sept. 30 at the APG Ruggles Golf Course with tee time of 9 a.m.

TAPS is the 24/7 tragedy assistance resource for ANYONE who has suffered the loss of a military loved one, regardless of the relationship to the deceased or the circumstance of the death.

Individual golfers, foursomes and corporate sponsors are welcome to support this cause. To register or for information visit www.taps.org/viecore or call 732-759-6327.

SibShop Set in September

A three-day workshop for children with special-needs siblings will take place at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center, Bldg. 2503, Sept. 15, 22 and 29 from 5 to 6 p.m. The ACS workshop is based on the belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another if they are given a chance. Attendees play games, make friends and take part in exciting discussion activities. Registration required. Space is limited. Call 410-278-2420.

September bowling specials

- Early Bird Special: \$1.50 off per game from 7 to 10 a.m.
- Each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 2 to 4 p.m., bowl one game and get the second game free.
- Each Saturday rent a lane for \$18.00 an hour. Rental includes up to 6 people and shoe rental.
- One hour of bowling (up to 6 people/shoes included), 1 whole cheese pizza (toppings extra), a pitcher of soda for \$32.00.

Bowling rates

Bowling costs \$3 per game, Mon-

day 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.

Winter leagues forming

Monday & Tuesday start time 5:20.

Wednesday start time 6:50

Thursday & Friday start time 6:30

Saturday Youth League start time 9:00 am for ages 4 thru 11 and 10:30am start time for ages 12 thru 20.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of September 19

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

Special #2: Peperoni pizza sub with french fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.50.

Week of September 26

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

Special #2: Pork BBQ with french fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.75.

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.



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.



Local talent highlighted during FMWR shows

By **RACHEL PONDER & YVONNE JOHNSON**

APG News

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation showcased the talents of the APG community with adult and youth talent shows Sept. 16 and 17 at the post theater.

Participants were judged on their talent, stage presence and audience response by the show's judges—Silvia Meranski of the Chesapeake Community Players; Lynise Wright, a CECOM employee and former radio personality and performer; and Mary Jane Jernigan former president of the Aberdeen Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

Tribute to Motown

Members of the APG community paid tribute to the Motown sounds of Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson, the Supremes and other artists during the adult talent show Sept. 16. Emcee Patricia Devine said the music was like a soundtrack to her life in the 1960s. She said that music really reflected what was happening in America during that time period.

"This is the music we grew up to; we fell in love to," she said, adding that the Motown music label impacted the American culture and was critically acclaimed for being the first black label to win over a mass audience.

"This music is distinctly American," said Devine.

Motown winners

The first place win went to Renesha Robinson, a U.S. Army Materiel Command fellow working at the CECOM Logistics Readiness Center. Robinson won \$300 for her rendition of "Chain of Fools" by Aretha Franklin. She also opened the show with a non-judged performance of "What's Going On," by Marvin Gaye.

"It feels phenomenal to win; I was surprised," Robinson said. "Aretha Franklin is one of my favorite artists. She is fun, soulful, and a reflection of me. Her songs pack a punch."

Robinson recently moved to the APG area from New Jersey due to Base Realignment and Closure. She said participating in the show gave her an opportunity to meet new people and showcase her talent.

"I would like to stay involved with MWR, and participate in more shows," she said.

Patsy Jackson, who serves as the Cath-



Renesha Robinson won first place for her rendition of Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools."

olic choir director for the main post chapel won second place and \$200 for her rendition of Aretha Franklin's "Dr. Feelgood." The audience also voted her the winner of the People's Choice award.

"I love entertaining people. It makes my heart feel warm to see people enjoying themselves," Jackson said. "I absolutely love Aretha Franklin."

She said when she heard about the tribute show, she knew she wanted to sing that song and dedicate it to her husband, Charles Jackson, who works on post.

"I like that that song. It has a positive message," she said.

Jackson, also sang "Stop in the Name of Love," by the Supreme's with Kim Bailey and Lisa Garcia.

Ashley Ramirez, a garrison mailroom employee took third place and \$100 for her rendition of "Big Black Horse and a Cherry Tree," by KT Tunstall.

"It is one of my favorite songs, and I think that it is a good song choice for my voice," she said.

Ramirez said she volunteers to sing whenever she has the opportunity.

"I love performing. It is my passion."

Other contestants included Cody Marham, Courtney Brewer, Rachel Acevedo, Jennifer Barnes and Al Carson. The modern rock band, 10Blade, performed during the intermission.

Festival of the Performing Arts

Darryl Allara and Ken Freehill, associate producers of the Army Festival of the Performing Arts, attended and judged not only the talent, but how the show was executed.



From left, Rachel Bauer, Maria Isabelle Reeves and Stephanie Meadowcroft, pose together after winning first place for their age group in the Kids Got Talent showcase.

The talent show will compete against talent shows on other U.S. military bases worldwide. Allara and Freehill also recommend talent for the annual Army Soldier Shows.

"I thought it was a phenomenal event; there is great talent at APG," Allara said.

Kids Got Talent

In the youth talent show, Kids Got Talent, Maria Isabella Reeves won first place in the 9-12 year group for the song "Dynamite" by Taio Cruz as well as the audience-voted People's Choice Award; and Emily Fitch came in second after dancing to Chemistry's "Almost In Love."

In the 13 to 15 group, Rachel Bauer won first-place for her rendition of the song "Young and Beautiful" by Carrie Underwood and Ysabelle Hulet won second for a performance and song on piano.

Age 16 to 18 winners included Stephanie Meadowcroft who won first place for a performance of "Unexpected Song," from the 1984 musical "Song & Dance;" Yenny Guevaro of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy who came in second for "Dance to a Latin Melody," and ChalleNGe cadet Rodney Brannum who won third for moon-walking in his dance to "Billy Jean" by Michael Jackson.

Other age 16 – 18 competitors included ChalleNGe cadets Angel Tate who sang "Apple Tree" by Erica Badu; Riche Tyler who sang Beyonce's "Ave Maria," and Destiny Younger who sang Melanie Fiona's "Gone and Never Coming Back."

All three top winners share a love for music and performing.

"I really like the song because it's a good fit for my voice," said Reese, who said she's been singing since age 4 and was hoping to do well. "I was very happy I won," she said.

Bauer, who came in second in the 2010 competition, said she grew up singing in the choir.

"I felt more confident this year," the 15-year-old said, "and I was singing one of my favorite songs."

A John Carroll High School senior with a background in community theater, Meadowcroft is the daughter of Cathy Meadowcroft, a dental assistant in the APG Dental Clinic.

She said she has been singing since age 9, has taken lessons at the Maryland Conservatory of Music and hopes to attend New York University. Meadowcroft said she chose the song while looking for something else.

"It's an old German song but I liked it because it was upbeat and different," she said. "My mother made the costume and I created a performance all my own."

Judges Jernigan and Wright said they were "impressed with the kids."

"From the youngest to the oldest there was great creativity and execution," Wright said. "I was surprised at the depth of their ability."

"It was very hard to judge," Jernigan added. "I'm very proud of the talent we have here at APG. I just couldn't quit smiling."

To view and download photos from the event, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.

Several child care jobs still available

Continued from Page 1

Child, Youth and School Services coordinator.

Jeff Thomas, the site project manager from Atlantic Marine Construction, said the centers are standardized using modular construction. This means that the building itself was made in an environment-controlled factory and then delivered to APG. Thomas' team began on-site construction in March.

"A big advantage to using modular construction is the speed in which the facility can be built," he said. "Even though recently the project was delayed a bit due to flooding in the area, the team is making genuine progress and we are getting back on schedule."

The construction of a new CDC, which cost \$4.9 M to build, was justified by APG's booming population due to the Base Realignment and Closure Act. As a result of BRAC, more than 4,500 jobs have transferred to APG.

With the increased population came a sudden increase in the need for on-post child care. Close to 300 children are on a waiting list to be placed in one of the APG CDC facilities.

Strauss recommends that parents seeking child care use the installation's Parent Central Office, on the second floor of Bldg. 2503, as a resource and referral office for local care. Information on how Military and Civilian Families can qualify for subsidized child care is also available.

Parents may also use Family Child Care. FCC provides small group care in certified homes on installation housing areas and throughout Harford and Cecil counties.

To enroll in an FCC home, call 410-278-7477/7140. For information on CYSS programs, call 410-278-7571/7479.

New jobs

Although some jobs have already been filled, CYSS still needs to fill 16



Photos by Rachel Ponder

Construction on the new child development center is scheduled to be complete in December. The 13,000 square foot building will come fully equipped, and will be very similar in design to the existing CDCs at APG North and APG South (Edgewood). It will also come with 20,000 square feet of playground.

child and youth program assistant positions before the center opens. The jobs, which are advertised on www.usajobs.com, range from flexible to fulltime employment. Part-time and fulltime employees are eligible to receive benefits.

Strauss said previous child care experience is not a requirement because new hires must undergo an extensive training program before working with children. Once they receive training, they will shadow and be mentored by experienced staff members.

Employees who complete the training program will qualify to receive 21 college credits toward an associates degree in Early Childhood Education from Harford Community College.

"This is a great opportunity for someone who wants to go into child care," she said.

Strauss also added that the new hires will be working with more experienced staff members.

"Not everyone at the center will be

a new employee," Strauss said. "Some staff members at the current facility will move to the new facility. This will provide the program with continuity."

For more information about applying, call the APG Nonappropriated Fund Human Resources Office at 410-278-5126 or e-mail naf@conus.army.mil.



Dominic Balbo prepares the floor for vinyl tiles by feather patching a hallway of the new child development center.

Scouting event set Oct. 15

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expects the installation's STEM professionals will reach out en masse to participate in the event.

He believes the volunteer hours they donate to this single event will open the riches of STEM to our youth in a unique and exciting way.

"This is really an ideal opportunity for adult professionals to teach and connect with youth from the community," said Montgomery. "These youth are the future scientists, engineers, and chief information officers.

STEM, which stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics, are considered by many to be the foundation for academic and professional fields of an advanced society.

"In many forums, including political/governmental and academic—the strength of its STEM workforce is viewed as an indicator of a nation's ability to sustain itself," explained Montgomery.

"This event provides that connection that could lead to a career or interest in a field that would not have occurred otherwise," he said.

Millions of Boy Scouts worldwide have earned merit badges—an award presented to a Scout when he completes the requirements in one of over 100 subjects ranging from sports and crafts to science and future careers.

Deciding to engage its young members in science, technology, engineering and math, the Boy Scouts of America began emphasizing STEM disciplines this spring in its current advancement programs.

We know there are numerous professionals who serve the Army on APG who have this background and want to share their talent with youth. That's who we are urging to participate—adult volunteers in the expertise of any of the STEM merit badges we are offering.

Col. William Montgomery III
CECOM Chief of Staff & Event Organizer

The 16 of 38 STEM-oriented merit badges that will be offered during the daylong event at APG are as follows:

- Architecture
- Automotive Maintenance
- Aviation
- Chemistry
- Composite Materials
- Computers
- Electronics
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Metalwork
- Nuclear Science
- Radio, Robotics
- Space Exploration
- Veterinary Medicine
- Weather

As Team APG continues to gear up for the daylong event, volunteers who wish to serve as merit badge counselors should contact the Garrison Operations leads John Kearney or Bill Babauta at

(410) 652-0878.

"We know there are numerous professionals who serve the Army on APG who have this background and want to share their talent with youth," said Montgomery. "That's who we are urging to participate—adult volunteers in the expertise of any of the STEM merit badges we are offering," said Montgomery.

Montgomery, who was a Boy Scout from ages 8 to 18 and served as an adult leader for more than 20 years, said he is no stranger to the positive influence Boy Scouting events can have on a young life.

"A Scout will grow and gain confidence through exposure to quality adults who serve as positive role models and mentor him," said Montgomery. "The merit badge is only a small piece of khaki cloth with a design embroidered in color, but its significance sets the foundation to inspire a boy for life."

Women's Club seeking members

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The club supports anyone who has an affiliation with APG—civilian or military, said the club's honorary president, Lori Borgna-Strong.

"This includes contractors," she said. "Anyone new to the community and needs to know where to go for services should reach out to us," said. "If they don't know their neighbors they can ask us."

And as the civilian and military populations increasingly merge on APG, Borgna-Strong said the name change became a no-brainer.

"It's all about relationships," said 2nd vice president Maria Montgomery. "As a group, we offer advice and trust. Our soon-to-be-published booklet, 'Going Local: An Unofficial Guide to Living in the APG area' is just one way we can help those new to APG."

The group gathers for monthly meetings, as well as smaller meetings for those unable to attend the monthly gatherings. In addition, activity groups will be available during the lunch hour and in the evening in APG North and South to enable as many women as as possible to participate. A group newsletter is distributed via e-mail and hard copy, and the group's goals remain the same, according to Brock. —to foster unity within the military community, provide support systems for members, and promote a strong bond between the military and civilian communities. The club, which boasts 65 members and is closely aligned with the garrison and community service organizations, raises funds for area high school scholarships, women's education and to support military units.

"Our goal is 200 members, and we're encouraging the women of APG to come out, get involved and become a part of the Community Women's Club experience," Brock said.

For information, visit www.apgmcsc.org or email president@apgmcsc.org. (The website and e-mail will change at a later date to reflect the name change).

Show boasts the international

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ence on a journey with us," Soldier Show director Victor Hurtado said. "And not just to the continental United States—we have a great international scene."

Africa, Samoa, Latin America, Nepal, with influences from India, Thailand and China are represented in the song-and-dance extravaganza that plays to the strengths of cast members from several countries. Each international scene will feature authentic music from that locale.

This Soldier Show cast features strong instrumentalists on the violin, drums, guitar, keyboards and bass who will keep the performers on the move as they dance from scene to scene. One central character will help keep the show moving by introducing each scene.

"There are a lot of dancers, a lot of movement in the show," Hurtado said. "But there some great voices as well.

And some great stage presence. We have some great rapper and spoken-word guys, so we have quite a bit of that driving the show."

Patriotism is woven throughout the show that does not so much resemble a military production.

"With MWR, we're in the business of taking Families and Soldiers away from the trials and tribulations of what they're going through, so I think this will definitely inspire the patriotism, but really help you escape and take you to places you wouldn't go all in one day," Hurtado said. "You wouldn't go to the circus, a boardwalk, a country fair, a fun house—in four different areas of the world—and a Fourth of July celebration, all in one day."

"You could never physically do that, but you're going to be able to do that at

this show."

"Entertainment for the Soldier, by the Soldier" is the working motto of Army Entertainment Division, which launched the 106-performance Soldier Show tour from Fort Belvoir, Va., to 61 installations, garrisons and other venues around the United States, Germany and Korea.

"As a group, they've really become very cohesive," Hurtado said. "We've really been able to get the show together quickly. They've been very engaged. It's pretty amazing."

The 2011 U.S. Army Soldier Show's eight-month tour will conclude Dec. 10 at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, the Army Base Realignment and Closure law-mandated future home of Army Entertainment Division.

Admission to all shows is free on a first-come, first-seated basis.