

APG NEWS



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From left, Sgt. 1st Class Eduardo Peraza of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command chats with Human Resources Representative Chezda Jones and Officer Doniese Collins of the D.C. Metro Transit Police during the Veterans Job Fair and Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Aug. 22. Forty-five local, regional and national employers drew more than 200 job seekers to the event.

Veterans job fair expo draws hundreds to APG

Story and photo by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Nearly 250 job seekers attended the APG Veterans Job Fair and Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Aug. 22.

Hosted by the Army Community Service Employment Readiness Office and the Workforce Development and Adult Learning Division of the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the fair was organized in response to the growing number of unem-

ployed veterans, according to organizers.

Janet Dettwiler, APG director of Human Resources, said organizers were pleased with the attendance numbers which included 45 local and national employers.

She noted that taking care of veterans is one of the core competencies of APG senior leader, Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell.

"This was the result of a good deal of command and state-level involvement," Dettwiler said, adding that even a military fellow from

Congressman Andy Harris' office was on hand.

"Due to the high number of veterans that reside in this area, leaders are taking a more vested interest to ensure veterans obtain worthwhile employment."

She added that Soldiers preparing to transition out of the service are getting in position to become more marketable and that new transition programs aid them by allowing them to earlier discover their weaknesses to help them channel their efforts sooner.

"Then, once they leave the service they are better equipped," she said.

Separating Soldiers, whether retiring, ETSing or separating for other reasons, are required to transition through the Transition Center on the first floor of Bldg. 4305.

In addition, employment services are available through the Employment Readiness Program office at ACS Bldg. 2503, led by Marilyn Howard.

See **VETERAN**, page 10



APG planning first Oktoberfest celebration

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Mark your calendars and tell your neighbors and friends: APG will hold its first celebration of Oktoberfest, Sept. 27 through Sept. 30 on the installation's Shine Sports Field. The four nights of family fun and entertainment being planned for young and old include German food and beverages, a Volksmarch, a Festhalle with live entertainment, carnival rides, a car show, fireworks and much more. The best part ... the event is open to the public and admission is free.

The purpose of the social event is to foster friendship and strengthen existing bonds between the installation and its partners, according to Capt. Odene Brathwaite from the APG Garrison.

"This will be a great opportunity for our civilian and military communities to join together to enjoy food and fun activities in a family atmosphere. It is just another opportunity to build relationships and recognize the partnerships we share," he said.

Guests can look forward to authentic German dishes provided by Prost German Restaurant from Port Deposit – formerly of Aberdeen. Plus, each night begins with an opening ceremony that pays tribute to a different community, resulting in Aberdeen, Bel Air, Havre de Grace and Cecil County nights, respectively. Every night is open to the general public for all to enjoy. Several other events are being considered and will be announced as plans come together.

Much more information will be released through the APG News and on installation websites such as Morale, Welfare and Recreation's www.apgmwr.com/oktoberfest.html and APG on Facebook at www.facebook.com/APGmd.



Photo by Graham Snodgrass

(From left) Col. Theresa M. Schneider, Army Medical Specialist Corps chief, administers the oath of office to Col. Myrna C. Callison of the U.S. Army Public Health Command, who was named the occupational therapy consultant to the Army Surgeon General during an Aug. 17 ceremony.

USAPHC officer named occupational therapy consultant

By **JANE GERVASONI**
USAPHC

During an Aug. 17 ceremony at the U.S. Army Public Health Command, Col. Myrna Callison was recognized as the occupational therapy consultant to the Army surgeon general.

Lt. Gen. Patricio D. Horoho, Army surgeon general, select-

See **CALLISON**, page 10

Cohort 4 links interns, mentors during Mission Speed Dating forum

By **CLAUDETTE MURRAY**
Garrison APG Public Affairs

APG Senior Leadership Cohort 4 hosted a Mission Speed Dating (MSD) event Aug. 13-14 at the Command Power and Integration (CP&I) conference rooms, Bldg. 6007.

Mission Speed Dating is a forum to help employees network on the installation. The first MSD event was held within the CP&I organization and linked 20 of their interns with mentors.

According to Cohort 4 member Deb Kramer

of JPEO-CBD, APG needs Mission Speed Dating to help organizations and individuals on post meet and identify potential mission synergies.

While each of the Cohort's Mission Speed Dating events will promote general networking, their inaugural session focused solely on the mentor-intern relationship. During Tuesday's event, participants were divided into teams under two of CP&I's divisions – Computing Platforms and Prototyping Integration and Testing.

See **MISSION**, page 10



Mentors interact with interns during CP&I's Mission Speed Dating forum Aug. 15 at Bldg 6007.

WEATHER

Thurs.



86° | 69°

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Retired Brig Gen Clara Adams-Ender visits APG

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28 Days to
APG Oktoberfest
September 27 - 30

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STREET TALK

How was your first day of school? What are you looking forward to this school year?

“Good. I liked the part where you learn about your new teachers. I’m looking forward to science projects.”



Anthony Chase
6th grade student

“Good. I liked the different classes. Particularly the culinary Family and Consumer Science class because we get to do cooking.”



Kayla Williams
7th grade student

“Overwhelming, because there were a lot of people and it was crowded. I liked meeting new people and new teachers. [I am looking forward to] field trips.”



Taylor Johnson
8th grade student

“Boring. I like when we do work but we didn’t. [I am] looking forward to science projects.”



Jahilyn Gibbs
7th grade student

OPINION

Labor Day Safety Message

Labor Day weekend marks the end of the “101 Critical Days of Summer” safety campaign, but most importantly, it is a time to celebrate the contributions that American workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and resiliency of our country. Holiday celebrations mean more travel and recreational activities, which increases the risk of accidents.



Please ensure you understand the risk

involved with any activity. Private Motor Vehicle (PMV) accidents present the greatest threat to our safety. Tragically, the Army has lost too many in automobile and motorcycle accidents this year.

Practicing a culture of safety based on risk awareness and accident prevention both on and off duty can help reverse this trend. As a start, be aware of the high-risk activities and ensure appropriate risk mitigation steps are in place. As we enter this holiday weekend, please review your travel plans, safe driving practices, and everyday activities to ensure a safety-focused holiday weekend.

I urge you to follow safety guide-

lines for the activities you plan to enjoy. When preparing to travel, use the Travel Risk Planning System (Trips) located on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center website <https://safety.army.mil>. When celebrating, assign a designated driver and always wear your seatbelt.

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to the mission. I wish you an enjoyable holiday and look forward to your safe return.

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell

Commander, U.S. Army
Communications-Electronics Command
& Aberdeen Proving Ground

Spouses find kindred spirits at job fairs

Like many military spouses, Allison Lattuca doesn’t mention her husband’s Navy service as she job hunts with each forced relocation every few years.

“I don’t put it on my resume,” Lattuca told me at an Aug. 2 Chamber of Commerce Hiring Our Heroes’ job fair in Hampton, Va. “But if asked, I tell them the truth.”

Lattuca recently gave up her job at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Santa Barbara, Calif., to relocate to Hampton with her husband. “My job now is finding a job,” she said.

Lattuca’s resume shows a bachelor’s degree and years of work experience in investments and securities. But those years show gaps in employment that inevitably come up at job interviews. “Sometimes it does come back to haunt me,” she said. “They don’t want to put that kind of money into you, knowing you’ll be moving again.”

Lattuca’s employment challenges are common for military spouses. Thankfully, what is changing is employers’ willingness to deal with those challenges. That is due largely in part to the efforts of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Hiring Our Heroes program, which partners with the Military Spouse Business Alliance, the Defense Department’s Military Spouse Employment Partnership and the first and second lady’s “Joining Forces” campaign to support military families.

Together, this quartet provides a powerful support network for spouses who otherwise may find job hunting a lonely endeavor.

What Lattuca and others found at the Aug. 2 job fair were people who understood their challenges – most either are or have been military members or spouses — and were willing to help. From a spouse networking event to workshops that gave career advice specific to them, spouses were among kindred spirits here.

They heard from spouses like Randi Klein, a former Navy officer whose husband served as a submariner for 33 years, who told them about In Gear Career, a nonprofit that gives networking and career help to spouses.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Dozens of job seekers peruse the displays and chat with representatives from 45 organizations during the Aug. 22 Veterans Job Fair and Expo.

“It’s important to my self-worth and self-value that I can come home at the end of the day and feel like I’ve contributed.”

Allison Lattuca
Military spouse

And Stefanie Goebel, another former Navy officer, who gave a presentation on the Chamber’s eMentor leadership program for spouses and veterans.

Then there were the hiring officials themselves. Nearly every organization seemed to have a person who either served in the military or was a military spouse. There was Andrea Hall, a CSC recruiter who was an Army spouse for 21 years, and Lockette Dickerson, a Navy wife and human resources associate for the Navy Exchange.

Shronda Walker, who is new to the military, said she felt optimistic after attending the fair. Her husband, Marshaun, joined the Navy 15 months ago and Shronda recently joined him here from their hometown of Buffalo, N.Y.

They can get by on his income, she said, but she would prefer to work. They don’t have children and the days alone can drag on while Marshaun works 13-hour shifts, she said.

“I’d like to have something to do,” Shronda, 23, said. “There’s only so much cooking and cleaning you can do.”

Walker and Lattuca represent some 85 percent of military spouses that the Defense Department, Chamber, and Joining Forces officials say surveys show either want or need to work.

Lattuca isn’t surprised by the high percentage.

“Yes, I want and need to work,” she said. “We like to go to restaurants and the movies, and to maintain a good lifestyle. And, it’s important to my self-worth and self-value that I can come home at the end of the day and feel like I’ve contributed.”

The combined efforts of the Chamber, DOD and the White House are giving spouses that choice.

Lisa Daniel
Family Matters Blog

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



86°|69°

Fri



91°|73°

Sat



90°|72°

Sun



84°|72°

Mon



81°|73°

Tue



83°|70°

Wed



84°|67°

APG NEWS



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

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ECBC provides back-to-school supplies for APG Families

ECBC

The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center held its fifth annual Back-to-School drive hand-off ceremony in its Berger Auditorium Aug. 20.

This event allowed military Families from the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) and the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) to select from a large variety of school supplies in preparation for the coming school year.

ECBC Director of Program Integration Suzanne Milchling, 20th SUPCOM Deputy Commander Col. Thomas Langowski and 22d Chemical Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Andrew Miltner kicked off this year's ceremony.

"We realize that our Soldiers and their Families make many sacrifices on a regular basis, and we are very thankful for their service," Milchling said. "As a token of our appreciation, we're glad to support them with back-to-school donations at the beginning of the school year."

ECBC employees donated more than 4,600 back-to-school items valued at approximately \$3,300. The items included more than 1000 pencils, 800 colored pencils, 500 erasers, nearly 300 washable markers, 120 crayon packs, 100 composition books and 18 book bags.

According to the National Retail Federation 2012 Back-to-School spending survey, the average person with children in grades K-12 will spend \$688.62 on their children, as opposed to \$603.63 last year. Combined K-12 and college spending will reach \$83.8 billion, serving as the second biggest consumer spending event for retailers behind the winter holidays.

In an effort to help unburden military Families during the back-to-school season, the contributions collected throughout this drive will benefit approximately 50 military Families and their children.

"This drive not only brings lots of joy, but plants the seed of giving in children especially in this day and age when dollars are tight," said Sgt. 1st Class James Morris, 20th SUPCOM chaplain's assis-



Photo by Jennifer Carroll

Soldiers and Family members from the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) and the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) select donated school supplies during the Back-to-School drive hand-off ceremony hosted by the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

tant. "These kinds of efforts also alleviate other stresses and concerns that Soldiers and their Families have."

"Furthermore, drives like these encourage reciprocation," he continued. "Whatever I was going to spend on school items this year, I can use to help someone else."

The parents and children that participated in the ceremony and stopped by to replenish their supplies for this school year expressed their gratitude.

"It's really cool that we were able to be here," said 11-year old Hanna Wal-

lace, daughter of Maj. Brandon Wallace of 20th SUPCOM. "Now we don't have to worry about back-to-school shopping anymore."

"I got everything I needed for the next school year."

About ECBC

ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our nation-

al defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> or call (410) 436-7118.

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.

Visit APG News online at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

Federal Women's Program names top individuals, orgs

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program celebrated Women's Equality Day with an observance and awards ceremony Aug. 21 in the Ball Conference Center.

The annual observance celebrates the passing of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. After a 72-year campaign the amendment was ratified Aug. 20 1920. In keeping with the celebration, Janet Dettwiler, APG director of human resources, representing the Installation Voter Assistance Office, was present to answer any questions.

This was the 27th year that APG

has recognized outstanding employees and organizations that promote equal opportunities and professional growth for federal women in the workplace. The theme for this year's event was "Women's Education, Women's Empowerment."

Garrison APG Commander Col. Gregory McClinton, welcomed attendees who included Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command and Maj. Gen. Genaro J. Dellarocco, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

The keynote speaker, retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Clara Adams-Ender, is the Executive Director of Caring About People With Ethusiasm or CAPE Incorporated, a foundation that is dedicated to raising funds to help students of modest means complete their education. Adams-Ender also serves on



Adams-Ender

See VOTING, page 10



Lora Owens

APG Bowling Center manager

Meet Lora Owens, APG Bowling Center manager. Owens oversees all of the Bowling Center's operations and manages employees. The Bowling Center is a 12-lane facility that includes party rooms, an arcade and a snack bar that serves hot grilled and deep-fried foods all day to include breakfast which begins 7 a.m., Monday thru Friday. Owens said she is working with the staff to expand the snack bar's menu, to include more cold sandwiches and wraps. Starting Sept. 12, Wednesday and Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. the Bowling Center will feature Happy Hour, during which customers can bowl and order drinks, wings and pizza at reduced prices. Other September plans include free events like karaoke and trivia nights.

"We want to attract APG employees, keep them on post [after work]," Owens said.

During Heroes Week, Sept. 9-15, all first responders, police, security, fire and EMT personnel, can receive one free game of bowling and shoe rental with appropriate ID. On Sept. 16 the Bowling Center celebrates the start of the NFL football season with "Team Pride Football" day dur-

ing which one hour of bowling and a meal costs \$10. A special event for teens ages 13-18 is planned for Sept. 30. Visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation/bowling.html for more information about monthly specials.

Winter leagues, including leagues for children and teens, are now forming and will begin in September.

"Bowling is great exercise, and it is a wonderful way to meet others who share the same interests," Owens said. "The Bowling Center is a social, Family environment."

She added that the Bowling Center can be used for birthday parties, team building exercises including inter-office competitions, church fellowship nights and more.

She said that what she likes most about her job is interacting with customers and helping them have a good time.

"I am a very hands-on manager," she said.

The Bowling Center is located in Building 2342, behind the Burger King. For more information, call 410-278-4041.



MORE ONLINE



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

Shuttle service, online shopping offers variety and convenience

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

(This is the second in a four part series on AAFES services at APG.)

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service provides many benefits to authorized customers including tax-free shopping and average savings of 10 percent to 20 percent per item. Listed below are a number of other special services and benefits offered through the AAFES.



Have Input?

Suggestions for topics on upcoming AAFES articles, can be sent to rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil or posted on the APG Facebook page at www.facebook.com/APGmd.

Distance, in store availability no longer an issue

SHUTTLE SERVICE

If the APG Main Exchange doesn't carry a product that is carried at the Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir, Dover Air Force Base or Andrews Air Force Base Exchanges, customers can request that the product be delivered to APG through a shuttle service. The shuttle service delivers products to the APG Exchange every Tuesday. This service is totally free for all AAFES customers.

APG Exchange Manager Debbie Armendariz said that the Exchange weekly flyer will advertise products that are not always carried at the APG Exchange. Customers can request items at the customer service desk.

Armendariz said the advantage of this service, is that it allows customers to have access to a wider shopping selection offered at bigger stores like the Fort Meade Exchange. For instance, the Fort Belvoir Exchange carries a large variety of name brand handbags like Vera Bradley, Brighton and Coach.

Armendariz added that if the requested product is sold out at all the stores listed above, the APG Exchange will not be able to obtain it for customers.

"Click to Brick"

Online exclusive deals can be found for authorized customers by visiting the Exchange website, www.shopmyexchange.com/. The APG Exchange participates in the "Click to Brick" program, which allows customers to request that certain items be shipped to the APG Exchange for free if the product says "Click to Brick." The APG Exchange has a computer available for customers to browse and make online purchases.

Armendariz said that this service allows convenient in-store access to various items, and is a great service for gift-giving occasions, because products are not shipped to the home.

"Most products that are found online are not offered in stores," Armendariz said. Customers can return online saleable items to the Exchange.



The Exchange Online Mall

The Exchange Online Mall, located on a tab on the Exchange main page, offers millions of items to authorized customers. This service is separate from the online store that offers items sold in brick-and-mortar Exchanges. These stores act as concessionaires, offering online discounts on their own products to military customers. Books-a-Million, Las Vegas Harley Davidson, Hot Topic, FTD, and AT&T Phone Cards are just some of the well-known vendors offered through the Exchange Online Mall. Customers can also find great deals in the Specialty Shops section of the website. Specialty Shops features well-known retailers like Gamezone, Office Depot, Dell Computers, In the Swim, Teleflora and more.



tion customers can score great deals on new items like collectibles, electronics, fine jewelry, sports memorabilia, toys and watches not sold in the Exchange.

"Customers can find a unique gift by shopping at the online auction," she said.

Mobile online shopping

Customers with smart phones can browse and make purchases at the Online Exchange Store by using the mobile optimized checkout. Online mobile shopping features Super Daily Specials promotions and other exclusive offers. Customers can text 95613 to receive exclusive deals via text message.



Buddy List

Customers can also sign up online or in the store to be added on the Buddy List to receive information about special sales and promotions via e-mail.



Online Auction

Armendariz said that another helpful service at www.shopmyexchange.com/ is the online auction, featuring \$1 no reserve bid auctions. At the Exchange Auc-



For more information about AAFES services contact Armendariz at 410-272-6828, or e-mail armendariz@aafes.com.

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Public Health Command examines air in Southwest Asia

By **LYN KUKRAL**
USAPHC

Air, and the potential health effects from breathing it, may be the environmental health question of most interest to emerge from the last 10 years of operations in the U.S. Central Command.

With partners in the Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs, and other government agencies and academic institutions, the U.S. Army Public Health Command has been involved in characterizing the air in Southwest Asia since the first Gulf War.

In this mostly dry, desert-like part of the world, the air routinely measures higher in particulate matter than almost all locations in the continental U.S. and commonly exceeds U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards.

“Particulate matter, or PM, is defined generally as a small mass of solid or liquid matter that is breathable. Organic and inorganic chemicals in this air can be attached to these small masses,” explained Jeffrey L. Kirkpatrick, USAPHC director of Health Risk Management. “Examples of PM that we have found in our (CENTCOM) sampling include dust from the terrain and weather conditions, primarily dust storms, and chemicals and compounds from oil fires, vehicle fuel and combustion, industry, and other human activities.”

He added that both naturally occurring and man-made PM have potential to cause health effects.

“We see this naturally occurring particulate matter as a potential cause of short-term, primarily irritant, effects on the respiratory system,” said Coleen Baird, a physician who heads the USAPHC Environmental Medicine Program. “It is an open question whether geologic sources of pollution are causing more serious and long-term illness. We are also concerned about other local and regional sources of particulates, such as industrial activity and military and indigenous waste disposal (burn pits).”

While service members have expressed concern about the health effects associated with breathing air in the CENTCOM region and especially with exposure to smoke from burn pits, scientific results to date are mixed.

“We know that upper respiratory effects due to inhalation exposures have occurred,” explained Baird, “These include sore throat, cough, eye irritation, runny nose and other cold-like symptoms.”

“We also know that chronic respiratory conditions such as asthma and chronic bronchitis may be worsened,” she added.

Despite multiple studies by USAPHC and other government and non-government scientists, the question of whether individual service members will suffer long-term health effects from PM in the air remains unanswered.

“The evidence to date does not support an association between deployment to Southwest Asia and chronic respiratory or cardiovascular conditions, nor does it disprove the existence of such an association,” Baird said.



Oil well fire in Southwest Asia.

Courtesy photo

“Based on medical literature and scientific studies in other occupational environments, long-term health effects are plausible,” said Joseph Abraham, an epidemiologist in the USAPHC Environmental Medicine Program. “However, long-term health effects have not been consistently observed on a population basis. We’ve looked at, and are continuing to monitor, respiratory and cardiovascular disease diagnoses. With one exception, they have not significantly increased.”

That exception is a non-specific International Classification of Diseases diagnostic code, ICD9 code 490, which stands for “bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic.” This diagnosis, Abraham said, appears to have increased over the last 10 years among military personnel though it isn’t certain why.

“It is unclear whether this diagnosis reflects an increase in a true chronic disease, bronchitis associated with viral or bacterial illnesses, or simply with changes in health care utilization patterns,” Abraham said.

Most studies done by USAPHC and other organizations are retrospective, looking at various records and trying to link medical conditions, primarily respiratory or cardiovascular, and inhalation exposures.

“Most of our studies have looked at the rates of medical visits for which a respiratory or cardiovascular disease code has been entered in DOD medical databases,” Baird explained. “We correlate these medical encounters with other databases that tell us how often, where and when a Soldier has deployed and what the general environmental conditions were at or near those locations.”

The fact that almost 70 percent of service members report respiratory symptoms in post-deployment questionnaires is cause for concern. However, USAPHC physicians and epidemiologists have not observed a consistent link between deployment and an increase in respiratory or cardiovascular diagnoses.

USAPHC scientists acknowledge their studies have limitations, however.

“Asking whether a population, in this case service members deployed to Southwest Asia, will experience chronic, long-term health effects from environmental exposures is a complicated and nuanced question,” Baird said.

One complicating factor is that the data available are not as specific or detailed as physicians and epidemiologists attempting to look back and draw conclusions about health effects would like.

In addition to changing health care utilization discussed above, clinicians may choose a diagnosis code that doesn’t correspond to a standardized clinical definition of a disease, Abraham explained. When scientists make decisions about how to interpret codes, there is a potential for error.

As well, medical records contain limited information on behavioral and other individual-level factors, like cigarette smoking and overall fitness that may affect the relationship between air pollution and health status.

It’s not just medical data that cause uncertainties.

“There are literally thousands of environmental surveillance reports associated with air quality in Southwest and Central Asia from the last 10 years,” Kirkpatrick said. “However, there is variability, and so uncertainty, in the degree to which these data represent usual conditions and exposures of personnel.”

Much research has been conducted to characterize air pollution health effects throughout the world. But associations between short-term exposure to air pollution and severe health effects in most studies have been observed in populations of children, older adults, and among individuals with pre-existing health conditions, Abraham said.

“The additional risk to health associated with naturally occurring particulate matter is small, so the long-term cumulative effects of exposure are often only observed in older age groups with relatively higher baseline risks of having adverse health events,” he added.

Other researchers have found evi-

dence of associations between deployment experiences and chronic disease.

Researchers at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Northport, N.Y., have published several studies linking asthma and lung function abnormalities with deployment to Iraq. Out of 49 Soldiers who were referred for lung biopsy to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tn., 38 were diagnosed with constrictive bronchiolitis, a chronic lung disease, and all were considered to have abnormal biopsy results. The biopsies and diagnoses are undergoing independent review at the National Jewish Medical Center in Denver, Colo. Representatives from both studies are working with the DOD and the VA to continue studies of potential health effects from PM exposure in CENTCOM and recommend appropriate medical treatments and monitoring.

The Environmental Medicine Program staff has not found literature that addresses presence or absence of cardiorespiratory effects in Southwest Asia’s indigenous population.

“I would not say that indigenous populations are not experiencing cardiorespiratory effects,” Abraham said. “We simply lack the data.”

USAPHC, the DOD and the VA are continuing to evaluate long-term health effects of deployment-associated inhalational exposures, Baird said. Most recently, the two organizations hosted an Aug. 21–23 symposium to discuss airborne hazards in the deployed environment and related health questions.

The U.S. Army Public Health Command focuses on promoting health and preventing disease, injury and disability in Soldiers and military retirees, their families, and Army civilian employees. As well, the USAPHC is responsible for effective execution of full-spectrum veterinary services throughout the DOD. The USAPHC was created from the merger of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and the U.S. Army Veterinary Command.

U.S. Department of Defense organizations launch inaugural Joint Science and Technology Institute

ECBC

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency’s Joint Science and Technology Office (DTRA-JSTO) partnered with the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC), the U.S. Army Public Health Command (USAPHC), the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) to launch its inaugural Joint Science and Technology Institute (JSTI) from July 28 to Aug. 10.

The two-week residential program, administered by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU), afforded 23 high school students from Maryland and Virginia and six high school teachers from Cecil and Harford County Public Schools the opportunity to work on leading-edge science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) projects with Department of Defense (DoD) scientists and engineers. In addition, students and teachers participated in extracurricular activities and toured sites, such as the Maryland Science Center, Fort McHenry and the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

“As leaders within the chemical and biological defense enterprise, we have a responsibility to attract and sustain a highly-skilled technical workforce that is prepared to protect our nation against current and future threats,” said Dr. Alan Rudolph,

“The opportunity to work in a biology lab with an environmental toxicologist has expanded my understanding and appreciation for this STEM field.”

Daezha Logan

11th-grade student, Galileo Magnet High School, Danville, Va.

the director of the Chemical and Biological Technologies Department, DTRA. “With the establishment of the JSTI, DTRA’s goal was to demonstrate its commitment to DoD’s strategic STEM objectives. Therefore, we asked other DoD organizations to join us in this collaborative STEM effort and to help us provide participating students and teachers an innovative, hands-on STEM experience.”

After the two-week JSTI kicked off with a tour of ECBC’s state-of-the-art facilities, students and teachers were divided into research groups led by mentors from each participating organization. Students conducted their science and engineering projects in ECBC and Harford Community College’s research laboratories.

“The chemical and biological defense community has been dedicated to offering students and teachers relevant hands-on STEM experiences,” said ECBC Technical Director Joseph D. Wienand. “I am very

proud and honored that ECBC was part of this first-of-its-kind DoD STEM initiative and, that we were able to collectively make a significant impact in the lives of participating students and teachers.”

Students were divided into six groups with research topics ranging from water quality monitoring to the design and testing of military packaging solutions, soil toxicology, forensic science, testing of bacteria resistant surfaces, and operational research focused on Wounded Warriors.

“The opportunity to work in a biology lab with an environmental toxicologist has expanded my understanding and appreciation for this STEM field,” said 11th-grade student Daezha Logan from Galileo Magnet High School in Danville, Va.

Cody Short, a 12th-grade student from Buckingham County High School, Va., who was assigned to the same research group added, “This experience has increased my interest in biology,

because I’ve learned something new in everything we’ve done so far.”

The teachers’ research areas included the design and testing of military packaging solutions, air monitoring, disease surveillance, toxicology screening, tactical biological detection, as well as environmental chemical analysis.

The JSTI concluded with a closing ceremony Aug. 10 at the Clarion Hotel in Aberdeen, with welcoming remarks from Wienand and a keynote speech from Maj. Gen. Jimmie O. Keenan, commander of the USAPHC. Students and teachers then presented their research results to Family members and senior leaders of participating organizations.

Keenan, a nurse by profession, reminded students during her keynote address that they should consider a career in healthcare taking care of America’s sons and daughters.

“The medical community needs individuals with the schooling and smarts to be doctors, nurses, behavioral health professionals, epidemiologists, engineers, and other scientific and technical disciplines that are STEM related,” she said.

For additional information on the Joint Science and Technology Institute, please visit: <http://www.orau.org/center-for-science-education/events/jsti/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FRIDAY AUG. 31 FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS SUNSET PADDLE SERIES

Beat the heat by paddling in the evening on the warm waters of the estuary. Enjoy the sunset with a summer paddle under the stars. This program will be held 6:30 to 9 p.m. for ages 12 to adult. The cost is \$10 and online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SATURDAY SEPT. 1 WEEKEND ROAD CLOSURE

Beginning Sept. 1, Maryland Boulevard will be closed for outbound traffic on the weekends so a sweep for unexploded ordnance can be performed at the Maryland pond, near the MD Route 715 gate.

The closure will occur on weekends only from 8 a.m. to sunset, weather permitting, until the work is complete.

Outbound traffic will be rerouted through the Route 22 (Harford) gate during these times only.

For more information, contact Rurik Loder at 410-278-6755.

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 5 THRIFT SHOP HOLDING \$.25 SALE

Starting Sept. 5, get select items for just \$.25 each in the APG Thrift Shop clearance room. The sale runs through the entire month of September. Thrift Shop hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; consignments 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; consignments 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The store is no longer open first Saturdays.

For more information, or to volunteer, call the Thrift Shop during business hours at 410-272-8572.

WEDNESDAYS SEPT. 5 - 26 TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES

Learn how to quit and stay quit, noon to 1:00 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Room 102. Each week a different topic will be discussed, to include: Tobacco cessation strategies, medication support options, life-style change management, diet & nutrition, stress management, and staying quit. Free to all APG DoD employees, contractors, active duty, Family members, and retirees. For additional information, contact Ann Laughton, ann.laughton@us.army.mil, 410-278-1774. Sponsored by Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic/Public Health Nursing and the APG Community Health Promotion Council.

THURSDAY SEPT. 6 DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR THE AFCEA ABERDEEN CHAPTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us for the annual AFCEA Aberdeen Chapter Golf Tournament at Ruggles Golf Course, Thur., Sept. 20. Check-in and tee assignments start 7:30 a.m. Shotgun start begins 8:30 a.m.

Sign up early – registration is limited to first 100 prepaid players. Entry fee includes breakfast, green fees, cart, lunch, unlimited beverages and snacks, prizes, awards and a catered BBQ lunch. Cost is \$110 for AFCEA members, all others pay \$120. No refunds after Sept. 6, but substitutions are allowed. Register at <http://www.afcea-aberdeen.org/files/events/GolfRegistration.html>

Proceeds benefit local deserving students interested in pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) degrees.

FRIDAY SEPT. 7 APG TALENT SHOW SLATED

FMWR will host vocalists, musicians, comics and other novelty acts during the APG's Got Talent competition 7 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. Come watch friends and neighbors compete for cash prizes and more. First, second and third place will be chosen by judges and awarded cash prizes. A People's Choice award will be chosen by

the audience and the winner will be awarded an "iPad." Admission is \$5. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the LeisureTravel Office at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140, 410-436-2713, or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 12 SEMINAR TO HONOR MILITARY/LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

ASIS International will host a special Military/Law Enforcement Appreciation Day during its Annual Seminar and Exhibits (ASIS 2012) at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pa. More than 20,000 security, business and government professionals are expected to attend the conference which takes place Sept. 10-13.

The event's comprehensive education program will offer 200 sessions and display exhibits from more than 700 companies across more than 230,000 net square feet.

Active law enforcement or military professionals can register online or onsite (valid government IDs must be presented at on-site registration) and will be granted free admission to all of the day's educational programs - including a special session: "Military and Law Enforcement Transitions: Strategies for Success" - exhibits, and a keynote address by former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

ASIS International is the largest organization advancing the security profession worldwide. For more information, visit www.asisonline.org.

HEALTH FAIR WITH A SWING

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and the Community Health Promotion Council will host a Resiliency Health Fair for the Aberdeen Proving Ground community 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. The event will offer a variety of vendors and services related to Health and Wellness. Free screenings such as dental, vision, podiatry will be offered along with health information and freebies. At noon, join in with others as they dance their way to better health. For more information, contact Sue Singh at 410-278-1771.

THURSDAY SEPT. 13 REUNION AND REINTEGRATION TRAINING - RESET READINESS

The next training will be Sept. 13 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Aberdeen post chapel. This training presents opportunities for active duty Soldiers, DA civilians and their Family members to think about how things are going being back home, the process of transitioning into their previous Family roles and relationships, and being together as a Family after deployment.

In partnership with military chaplains, behavioral health care services, and military Family life consultants, participants will be provided opportunities to share information, learn from one another and gather the skills and resources that will assist them with reuniting and transitioning as a Family. Some of the highlights of this training include expectations, reintegration adjustments strategies and resources, healthy communication, etc.

Registration is required. For more information, call Army Community Service at 410-278-2180/7572, or email dotslyn.e.ford.civ@mail.mil.

MOAA, NDIA SYMPOSIUM

Join the Military Officers Association of America and the National Defense Industrial Association in honoring wounded heroes and their families, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during the 2012 Warrior-Family Symposium at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C., 20004

The symposium theme is: "Saluting Their Sacrifice: A Decade of Challenges and Triumphs for Our Wounded Heroes and Their Families"

Confirmed keynote speakers include Florida Congressman Jeff Miller, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs and former Army Chief of Staff.

The 2012 Warrior-Family Symposium provides a forum for expanding on the collective efforts of government and non-government organizations to

improve the physical, psychological and overall well-being of Wounded Warriors and their families.

Register online at www.moaa.org or call toll free 1-888-503-1193.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY SEPT. 14, 15 & 16 FORT MONMOUTH REUNION WEEKEND

The Fort Monmouth chapter of the Association of the United States Army will host the 1st Annual Fort Monmouth Reunion Weekend for former employees and contractors. You do not have to be an AUSA member to attend. Events include a Sept. 14 Golf Tournament, 10 a.m. at the Suneagles Golf Course (\$95); an Evening Reunion Party, 6 to 10 p.m. at McCloone's Restaurant @ Gibbs Hall, Sept. 15 (\$60), and a Breakfast at the Applebee's Neighborhood Bar and Grill, 613 Hope Road, Eatontown, N.J., 8 to 10 a.m. (\$10).

In addition, a 1st Reunion Picnic will be held Sept. 15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the InfoAge, Camp Evans, 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, N.J. (\$25). Food and beverages will be supplied as well as a deejay and door prizes. Attendees will receive a commemorative coin and photo. Bring your own chairs, blankets, folding tables, umbrellas and alcoholic beverages. InfoAge museums will be open.

To register and pay, visit <http://www.ausa-ft-mon.org/> and click on "Upcoming Events." For more information, contact Yvonne Hicks Bova, AUSA member, at 732-389-6105 or email ybova@caci.com or Kit Roache, community coordinator, at 732-460-7870 or e-mail kroache@caci.com.

SATURDAY SEPT. 22 FAMILY FUN DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SARC is looking for volunteers to assist with the 3rd Annual Rising Above It Hot-Air Balloon Festival Family Fun Day set for Sept. 22, at the Harford County Equestrian Center, 608 North Tollgate Road in Bel Air.

Volunteers are needed to help with admissions/registration, main stage entertainment, exhibitors, vendor hall, food vendors, hot-air balloon interactive demonstrations, horse ring and feinting goats, activity areas and overall festival operations.

For more information, go to <http://sarcfamilyfunday.eventbrite.com>, email volunteer@sarc-maryland.org or call 410-836-8431.

TUESDAY SEPT. 25 HCC OFFERS ROMETRIP

Experience an arts-centered trip to Rome with Harford Community College Jan. 3-12, 2013. The registration deadline is Sept. 25; instructor permission is necessary prior to registration.

This winter, Creative Photography, History of Furniture and Decorative Arts, Drawing I, II, III, & IV, Sculpture I, II, III, & IV, and Creative Writing are being offered as part of the travel/study experience. The price (including gratuities and tour guides) is \$3,750 per person plus tuition. The first 20 students to register will receive a \$250 discount. Contact Dr. Ellen Avitts at drellenav@yahoo.com or any of the instructors for enrollment application.

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY SEPT. 27 - 30 APG OKTOBERFEST

It will be HOOAH with OOMPAH as APG hosts its first ever Oktoberfest celebration! Enjoy German food and beverages, carnival rides, games of chance, a Volksmarch, a car show, a Festhalle with live entertainment, fireworks and much more. Admission is FREE! Each day features a ceremonial salute to a local community: the city of Aberdeen, the town of Bel Air, the city of Havre de Grace and Cecil County. This fun-filled, four-day event will be held at the Shine Sports Field, rain or shine. Join your friends and neighbors in this family-friendly celebration of a 200-year-old Bavarian tradition. For information and updates, check the APG News; APG on Facebook at www.facebook.com/APGmd; visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation website at www.apgmwr.com/oktoberfest.html, or call 410-278-4011.

ONGOING CPR, AED CLASSES SCHEDULED

The APG Fire and Emergency Services Division of the Directorate of

Emergency Services is offering CPR and automated external defibrillator classes in the coming weeks. Two classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month from September through December.

Dates, times and locations are:

- Sept. 19, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the APG North Chapel

- Oct. 17, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810

- Nov. 21, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the APG North Chapel

- Dec. 19, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810

Class size is limited to 30 participants.

For more information or to register, contact Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, at 410-306-0566 or e-mail michael.p.slayman.civ@mail.mil.

HUNTING PERMITS ON SALE

APG 2012-2013 hunting permits are currently on sale at MWR Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 2184, and the APG North (Aberdeen) Hunting Management Facility, building 550B1. For information about hunting at APG, visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/recreation/odr/huntingfishing.html>.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Fall classes at APG & HEAT Center. Session 2 10/22/12-12/16/12

*IFSM 300 Information Systems in Organizations - Thursday 6:00-9:00pm

*HMLS 302 Introduction to Homeland Security - Tuesday 6:00-9:00pm

*WRTG 394 Advanced Business Writing - Wednesday 6:00-9:00pm

*HRMN 362 Labor Relations - Monday 6:30-9:30pm

*CSIA 412 Security Policy Analysis - Wednesday 6:30-9:30pm

*Online Hybrid courses are offered with approximately every other session on-site and the remaining sessions online.

For further information or to register, visit UMUC's APG office in Bldg. 4305, Room 210, or UMUC's HEAT Center office at 1201 Technology Drive, Room 206, Aberdeen or call 410-272-8269/443-360-9136 or visit www.umuc.edu.

REGISTER FOR HCC CLASSES ON APG NORTH

Harford Community College operates a full service education office in Building 4305, the Janet Barr Soldier Support Center, on APG North. The office on APG is open Monday through Thursday and alternate Fridays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Services are available to all members of the community. Information may be obtained by calling 410-272-2338.

Registration is ongoing for the following fall semester classes on APG North:

EDUC 110, Infant and Toddler Development, Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 9:20 PM, September 5th through December 12th

ECON 101, Macroeconomics, Monday and Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 8:50 PM, September 5th through October 22nd

BA 109, Principles of Management, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:00 -8:50 PM, September 4th through October 19th

ENG 101, English Composition, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:00 – 8:50 PM, September 4th through October 19th

Term II class starting October 23rd include ECON 102, Microeconomics; BA 246, Legal Environment of Business; ENG 102, Composition and Literature, and BA 210, Business Computer Applications.

MANDATORY MOTORCYCLE TRAINING

Motorcycle safety courses for active duty, Guard and Reserve Soldiers begin this month at APG. To find out the schedule for the basic rider course, experienced rider course and motorcycle refresher training, call Mike Alllen at 410-306-1081. Attendees must register online at <https://apps.imcom.army.mil/airs/>.



MORE ONLINE
More events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar.

Army scientist reflects on 43 years of service

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**
RDECOM

After more than four decades of scientific inquiry and leadership with the U.S. Army, Jim Baker associate director of the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, considers his colleagues to be a second family.

“Working at [ECBC] has been a wonderful experience for me,” Baker says. “I’d like to leave here and [have] people say, ‘I knew Jim Baker, and he was a really nice guy. I really enjoyed working with him. He seemed like a fair and honest individual.’ It’s a great place to work.”

Baker’s 43 years of commitment to America’s Soldiers, first as an active-duty officer and then as a civilian scientist, has yielded significant improvements for defense against chemical and biological threats. In a variety of research and management positions, Baker’s work has produced better protective masks, collective protection shelters and personal decontamination kits.

Beginnings of a career

Baker began at Edgewood Arsenal, which merged with APG in 1971. After completing his doctorate in 1969, he began active duty as a first lieutenant chemical officer at Chemical Systems Laboratory, which is now known as ECBC.

He described his first duties at Edgewood as establishing that the agent sarin could be safely incinerated.

“When I walked in here, the day after Thanksgiving 1969, my civilian boss said to me, ‘Graduate degree in organic chemistry. Have I got a job for you.’ They had told the colonel who ran the place that the way to get rid of the GB (nerve agent sarin) stockpile was to incinerate it,” Baker said. “There was good reason to do that, and it made good sense, but they didn’t have the data to show that it could be done safely.”

“They sent me to a building on Beach Point Road, and I built an incinerator. I burned up liter quantities of GB to prove that we could do it safely and that no GB made it through the incinerator. It was organic chemistry but in reverse. That became the process to get rid of the stockpile.”

Baker said he developed an interest in chemistry at an early age in rural Illinois that continued through his academic and professional careers. He earned a bachelor of science in chemistry at the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy in 1964 and then continued his graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin.

When his faculty adviser moved to Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., Baker followed and completed his doctorate in organic chemistry.

“When I was a kid, I used to play in my mother’s kitchen with the spices and stuff from the cabinets and mix things up. I think I was meant to be a chemist from an early age but never really figured it out until I got into college,” he said.

Baker had a two-year commitment with the Army through the Reserve Officer Training

Corps, but the Army released him early because of downsizing to the active-duty force at the end of the Vietnam War era.

Baker said he did not know what he wanted to do as a profession after leaving active duty.

“The Army put me out on what is probably the worst job market since the recent recession. I wrote -- on a manual typewriter -- 140 letters to companies inquiring about the possibility of employment,” he said. “Only seven of them even had the courtesy to write me back and say they really weren’t offering any jobs.”

“I had one interview near Atlanta with a company that makes contact paper, the sticky stuff that you put on kitchen cabinet shelves. They introduced me to their research and development department. I was really not impressed. I had been offered the possibility of a position here. It just wouldn’t materialize for a couple of months. I’ve been here ever since,” he said.



Photo by Tom Faulkner

Jim Baker serves as associate director of the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

Four decades of biology, chemistry

Baker continues to support Soldiers 41 years after joining the Army as a civilian scientist. His areas of expertise are decontamination and individual protection.

Baker moved quickly to management positions after a short time in the laboratory as a chemist. He has held numerous positions, including chief of Decontamination and Individual Protection Branch, chief of Decontamination Systems Division, and chief scientist and deputy director of Research and Technology Directorate.

He said significant advances in biology and chemistry during the last 40 years have changed how ECBC scientists support America’s national defense, and that the sequencing of the human genome has been one of the greatest scientific breakthroughs in this arena. ECBC has a laboratory that sequences genomes to assist the organization’s research and development of chemical and biological detectors.

“It gives us insight into how someone could genetically engineer a material and make a bacteria or virus that our detectors might not be able to detect,” he said. “We have to make sure we are staying on the cutting-edge of the science to make sure the basis of our detection systems is soundly based in science so that we can’t be fooled or tricked into missing something.”

Protecting Soldiers

Baker said that advances in technology, equipment, materials and computing have revolutionized scientific and engineering processes since his days in the laboratory. He described ECBC improvements in the fields of skin decontamination kits, protective masks and detectors.

“When I was the head of the decontamination division, we helped the medical community develop a new dry decontaminant for skin. We had been using a wet kit, which was effective, but it also had some drawbacks,” he said. “It was a little bit caustic, a little bit corrosive. It left your skin in bad shape. The new material [that] came along was a sorbent resin and became the standard. Now it’s used for equipment decontamination as well as skin decontamination.”

The Joint Service General Purpose Mask, commonly known as the M-50, is an example of Army research and development leading to a significantly improved product for all military branches, Baker said. The Navy and Air Force, whose previous generation masks were badly outdated, have fielded more

than 400,000 M-50 masks through the program manager for protection.

“That’s a success story for us. That program started here. The technology started here. The development was done by engineers in support of the program manager,” he said.

“Interestingly, the Army hasn’t started to adopt that mask yet because the mask that preceded it, the M-40, is a very good mask, also developed here. It’s a logistics issue. They are both good masks. The Army will eventually start fielding the M-50.”

“The mask has improved greatly since I first had one in the laboratory, which was an M-9. It worked, but it was rather clumsy looking compared with today’s technology.”

Better chemical detectors in today’s laboratories also make for a safer work environment, he added.

“Ion mobility spectrometry and mass spectrometry has greatly increased the sensitivity and selectivity. “When I worked in the laboratory and I spilled agent in the hood, there was a gas chromatograph that monitored the hood.”

“Today, we have small DAAMS,

tubes and other things [that] do that monitoring with much more accuracy and efficiency.”

Bolstering ECBC’S future

One of Baker’s responsibilities as ECBC associate director is professional staff development. He expressed his confidence in the organization’s future as he has worked with its young scientists and engineers.

“One of the reasons that I haven’t retired yet is that I get to work with a lot of young people. They just simply light up my day,” he said. “It’s so nice to look at the young people here and say, ‘There’s a future for

this place.’ That’s invigorating.

“We must bring young people into the organization because, otherwise, a bunch of old fogies like me will retire, and we’ll take our knowledge with us, and we won’t have transferred it to anybody. With the young people coming in, we get a chance to mentor them and help them learn about what we think we know about this business.”

“Our first goal in the strategic plan has to do with people -- mentoring our people and making sure we have the right people at the place [in] right time.”

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Voting hailed as civil right for women

Continued from Page 1

the Council on Foreign Relations. She said that when women vote, they uphold the legacy of women's rights.

"Today we reap the benefits of these women pioneers who fought long and tirelessly so that women could have the right to exercise their civil right to vote," she said.

Adams-Ender added that people should vote because it is their duty as citizens.

"As citizens of this nation, our rights and responsibilities are strengthened each and every time we exercise them."

Supervisor/Manager of the Year

Pamela Fry from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory was named Supervisor/Manager of the Year for promoting equal opportunity and professional growth for federal women. "I am truly honored and humbled by this recognition," Fry said.



Fry

Other nominees were Lindsay Yowell, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; Carol Eason, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; Amy Millikan, U.S. Army Public Health Command; Denise Mathews, CECOM; Mary Wade, ECBC; Regina Kistner, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; and Lucille Wesley-Gamble from CECOM.

Outstanding Woman of the Year

Dr. Asha Hall from ARL was named Outstanding Woman of the Year. Hall said that this recognition has inspired her to do even more to give back to her community. In addition to mentoring young engineers and scientists, Hall is an active member of Women in Defense and the Society of Women Engineers and has authored or co-authored 13 scientific public publications.



Hall

"As a professional woman in science and engineering, I find it my mission to mentor and encourage other women to go [into these fields]," she said.

Jamie Howard from AMSAA also was nominated.

Most Supportive of FWP goals

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center won the award for activity most supportive of FWP goals. Alvin Thornton, ECBC director of engineering, accepted the award. ECBC received the award for conducting activities during Women's History Month to develop and recognize females in the organization through work force activities including a lead-



Thornton

ership panel event, guest blog series, online discussion forums and a themed newsletter focused on Women in Science and Engineering.

"At ECBC we say that employees are the most valuable asset to the organization," Thornton said. "We truly believe that and live that."

Other nominees included the ATEC, USAPHC, ECBC, and AMSAA.

FEW scholarship

Sheryl Coleman, president of the Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women, presented the annual Dottie Dorman Working Women's Scholarship to Christine Reilly, a CECOM employee who is currently pursuing a doctorate degree at the University of Maryland Baltimore County.



Reilly

The scholarship is awarded to a female federal employee who works in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County and is currently pursuing college-level education studies.

FEW is a private membership organization that works with Congress and legislators as an advocacy group to improve the status of women employed by the federal government. The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of FEW covers Harford, Cecil and Baltimore counties. For more information about FEW contact Coleman at 410-278-5964.

Veteran job seekers view opportunities at APG Expo

Continued from Page 1

Dettwiler said initial feedback indicated that attendees were pleased with the fair.

"Many said they enjoyed having so many opportunities afforded to them without leaving the installation," she said. "They also thought it offered great networking opportunities with fellow job seekers. Some spouses were even able to inquire about spouse employment opportunities

"It's all about taking care of the total Army Family," she said.

Lane Williams, DLLR Veterans Program Manager, said the fair also was significant for employers due to the many veterans in the area looking to transition.

"We like coming to APG because everyone is so helpful, with programs that make a difference" he said. "We like the commander's interest. He knows he has a lot of veterans in this area and he wants to make sure there are lots of opportunities for them."

Looking for a job is a full-time job. You've got to be eager, motivated and work at it every day.

Lane Williams

DLLR Veterans Program Manager

He commended Howard for "doing a wonderful job creating great community connections."

His advice for veteran job seekers, he said, is to remain proactive.

"Looking for a job is a full-time job. You've got to be eager, motivated and work at it every day."

Employer displays included a wide array of specialties.

Gloria Chasey, chief of Human Resources for I2WD (Intelligence & Information Warfare Directorate), a part of RDECOM's CERDEC said the orga-

nization was looking to fill engineering positions.

"Most who showed an interest today had IT backgrounds or other computer-based interests," she said.

At the Metro Transit Police display, transit officers from Washington, D.C., Sgt. Salicia Belton and officer Doniese Collins, along with human resources representative Chesda Jones, briefed visitors on the training and responsibilities of transit police officers. Jones said a lot of interest was shown, particularly by Soldiers.

"We signed up 15 applicants for our next test on Sept. 18," she said, adding that service members usually don't have trouble meeting the physical requirements.

For career information, visit the Metro Transit Police site at wmata.com/jobs.

Kiera Cheneray, a human resources officer with Veterans Solutions, Inc., a contracting company for government and industry, said the organization specializes in placing veterans in law enforcement and intelligence, financial, and general services positions.

"VSI also is committed to supporting Wounded Warriors and disabled veterans," she said.

For more information about the ACS Employment Readiness Program, contact Jack Charles at 410-306-2354 or 410-836-4635, or Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

Callison named to Army Surgeon General Post

Continued from Page 1

ed Callison to serve as the occupational therapy consultant because of her demonstrated excellence in the field, according to Col. Theresa M. Schneider, the Army Medical Specialist Corps chief. Callison also was sworn in as the 19th assistant chief, occupational therapist section of the Medical Specialist Corps.

John Resta, USAPHC deputy commander for public health, explained that Callison would assist military personnel in the area of occupational therapy to maintain a state of excellence.

"She is an expert in her field," he said, "and this event recognizes her excellence."

Callison's supervisor, Donna Doganiero, director of the USAPHC Occupational Health Sciences Portfolio, said that Callison "has energy and compassion that is both infectious and con-

This is an exciting time for occupational therapy. I will be leading the team that will make things happen.

Col. Myrna C. Callison

Occupational therapy consultant to the Army surgeon general

tagious—in the best way."

"This is an exciting time for occupational therapy," Callison said. "I will be leading the team that will make things happen."

Callison will serve as the surgeon general's clinical expert in occupational therapy in addition to her USAPHC positions as Ergonomics Program manager and OHS Portfolio executive officer.

The U.S. Army Public Health Command focuses on promoting health and preventing disease, injury and disability in Soldiers and military retirees, their families, and Army civilian employees. As well, the USAPHC is responsible for effective execution of full-spectrum veterinary services throughout the DOD. The USAPHC was created from the merger of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and the U.S. Army Veterinary Command.

Mission Speed Dating

Continued from Page 1

The early afternoon event kicked off with a meet-and-greet at which attendees introduced themselves. Much like traditional speed dating, mentors stayed seated as interns rotated in a round-robin fashion, with each "meet" lasting six minutes.

The interns and mentors exchanged mini-resumes called brag sheets, so that each could see the other's educational background and experience. At the end of each meet, the interns and mentors completed rating forms, which the Cohort team used to match mentors to the interns.

Interns and mentors were encouraged to talk openly and take full advantage of the networking opportunity.

"It was a valuable opportunity to introduce our new employees to colleagues, and assign mentors to those new employees," said John

Willison, CP&I Director, Executive Champion of the Cohort 4 Mission Speed Dating Project and sponsor of the two-day event.

"From what I saw, it appears to have been very effective."

Interns took a brief survey at the end of the event and will be notified by event coordinators of mentor matches. Cohort 4 hopes the program will expand throughout the APG community.

For more information on Cohort 4 and Mission Speed Dating, contact:

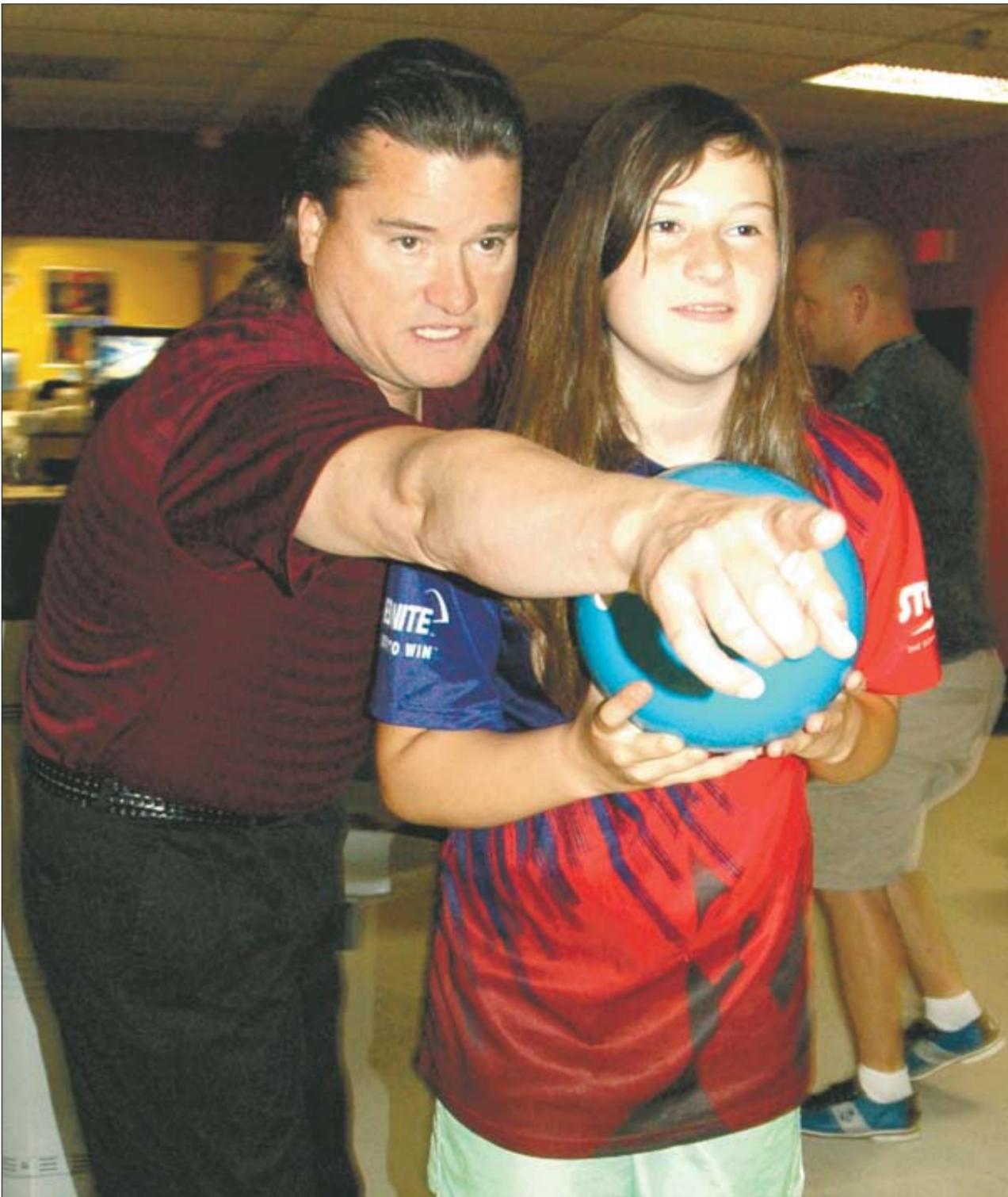
Tim Baker at 443-861-7066 or timothy.s.baker30@mail.mil; Deb Kramer at 443-655-0547 or Deborah.e.kramer.civ@mail.mil; Adam Bogner at 443-861-0755 or adam.s.bogner.civ@mail.mil; Dick Beyer at 410-278-6184 or Richard.a.beyer10.civ@mail.mil; or Tish Proctor at 410-278-0789 or letitia.m.proctor.civ@mail.mil.

It was a valuable opportunity to introduce our new employees to colleagues, and assign mentors to those new employees.

John Willison
CP&I Director

APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rdecom>.



APG BOWLING CENTER HOSTS FREE EVENT

(From left) Mike Cashman, a United States Bowling Congress certified instructor, helps his daughter Rachel Cashman, 12, improve her technique during the bowling league sign-up and picnic event at the APG Bowling Center Aug. 18. This fall, Cashman will offer private lessons and group instruction. For more information about joining a bowling league or receiving bowling lessons call the APG Bowling Center at 410-278-4041.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

DONATING BLOOD SAVES SOLDIERS

(From left) Phlebotomist Yolanda Velazquez draws blood from Stephen Norton of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center during an Armed Services Blood Drive held at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility on APG South (Edgewood) Aug. 23. A silver award recipient, Norton was among several donors who received bronze, silver and gold awards for their donations over the past several years. Of the 61 donors who volunteered to give blood, a total of 45 usable units were collected. ECBC led the drive with the support of the U.S. Army Public Health Command and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, as well as the Chemical Materials Agency and other organizations. The next Armed Services Blood Drive is scheduled for Oct. 25, location to be determined. For more information call Mary Doak at 410-436-7231. For more information about the Armed Services Blood Program visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Photo by Rachel Ponder

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Guest speaker Monique Ferrell, a member of the Senior Executive Service and the deputy auditor general for the U.S. Army Audit Agency, chats with Rita Savage, a CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center employee, after the APG Senior Managers Association luncheon at Top of the Bay Aug. 22. The Senior Managers Association was created this year to establish a networking forum for GS 14/15s and other pay system equivalents. The next meeting will be held Oct. 17. For more information call 410-436-0807.



File photo

NEVER FORGOTTEN

Aberdeen Proving Ground will also host a Patriot Day program Sept. 11 at the APG North main chapel in honor of Maryland's Fallen service members and their survivors. More details will be published in the *APG News*, on the homepage at www.apg.army.mil and on the APG Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/APGMd>