Kirk clinic duo named NCO, Soldier of Year

By YVONNE JOHNSON

A sergeant and a specialist from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic outdid other competitors during board proceedings to win the Aberdeen Proving Ground Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year honors at garrison headquarters April 27.

Selected were radiology technician Sgt. Oluyiwola Kugblenu for NCO of the Year and Spc. Matthew J. Gansel, a medical laboratory specialist, for Soldier of the Year.

"I gave it my best shot," said Kugblenu’s awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Gansel’s awards and decorations include the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the NCO Professional Development School and the Warrior Leader Course. He has also earned 68P Radiology Specialist Course and six certificates of achievement.

Kirk clinic duo named NCO, Soldier of Year

Area singles make connections during speed dating

Diong Patrick Spill and Tena Hall introduce themselves during a mini-date at APG’s first speed dating night at Ruggles Golf Course April 19.

More than 50 hopeful, eligible men and women turned out for Aberdeen Proving Ground’s first speed dating event April 19 at the Ruggles Golf Course. The event introduced single area singles to potential dates in a format that has been growing. With the increase in the number of online relationships and an APG contractor.

Scott Dorsey, one of the event organizers, said over the last decade, and is trending upward. While it is the goal of IMF to provide excellence learning for students whenever and wherever their military Families are transferred, all students in participating schools may benefit from the program.

APTIP research indicates that students passing advanced placement (AP) courses in high school are three times more likely to graduate, and five times more likely to complete a college degree. The dropping military retention rates over the last decade combined with the workforce’s increasing competition for employees has created a need for schools to develop programs that will educate military Families.

Dr. Robert Tomback, superintendent of schools, hosted the event. Special guests included Dr. Arun A. Seraphin, president of the National Security and International Affairs, representing the US Army; Dr. Linda Michelle Obama, Gregg Fleisher, national APTIP director; Maj. Gen. Craig Butler, commanding officer of ARDECOM, and the U.S. Army in the first year, the AP

APTIP was launched in 2010 in four schools and in the first year, the AP math, science and English scores increased 45 percent, almost six times the national average.

While it is the goal of IMF to provide excellence learning for students whenever and wherever their military Families are transferred, all students in participating schools may benefit from the program.

APTIP research indicates that students passing advanced placement (AP) courses in high school are three times more likely to graduate, and five times more likely to complete a college degree.

Dr. Robert Tomback, superintendent of schools, hosted the event. Special guests included Dr. Arun A. Seraphin, president of the National Security and International Affairs, representing the US Army; Dr. Linda Michelle Obama, Gregg Fleisher, national APTIP director; Maj. Gen. Craig Butler, commanding officer of ARDECOM, and the U.S. Army.
The Army is an American Profession of Arms. It is a vocation comprised of experts certified in the ethical application of force. Our Army, serving under civilian authority, endeavors to defend the Constitution and the rights and the interests of the American people.

At its most elemental and indispensable, the Army controls both Soldiers and civilians. It is the workforce of Aberdeen Proving Ground that exemplifies the Army standard and are accountable to a much higher standard—that of our Warfighters’ honor.

The profession of the Army is not one entered into lightly. It is a challenging career that requires a commitment to a culture of service and ethical standards. Our profession often requires sacrifice, but it is a profession that offers unmatched value to the nation. The brave men and women who volunteer to stand in harm’s way know the value of their profession’s worth. Those of you who support these professionals and their Families contribute to that value as well. Yet, there are challenges. As with any great organization, we need to ensure we can meet to our obligations and reflect on our accomplishments and check on our mission. This is one of those times.

The history of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army have tasked the Army Training and Doctrine Command, to conduct a review of the Army Profession of Arms. This mandate is not due to any specific or recognizable problem, but rather a standard process for the best organizations.

This kind of assessment separates routine reporting organizations from exceptional institutions whose mission in life is the stewardship of such a diverse population and represents the end of a test. It is healthy and allows for continuous improvement and growth—something our Soldiers and civilians learn daily in their careers. The war is in Iraq. The flag and democracy has taken root and continues to prosper while the war in Afghanistan continues to challenge our Soldiers and leaders. But the Army will soon withdraw completely from the Middle East area of operations.

These wars have required us to adapt our processes and even turn a blind eye to core roles and responsibilities. We all know that living by a code, a set of standards, is not easy as walking. Constant deployments, organizational restructuring and unit transfers have given priority to the stream at the individual, organizational and institutional level.

So, after more than a decade of fighting wars overseas—this Army will redefine itself along with our doctrine and culture.

We will use this time of slowing operational tempo to reexamine and refocus our commitment to our nation’s Armies. We will reaffirm our identity, values and purpose inspiring our entire organization to a fresh standard of the noble calling and duties of our professional Army and everyone who supports it.

Your leaders here at APG are fully committed to improving our Army by ensuring the necessary changes are implemented, ensuring decisions made during the transition to a leaner force guarantee the most professional force ready to deploy.

The Army profession—that of being a Soldier and supporting our Soldiers— is the finest career in the world. The Army’s workforce exemplifies this on a daily basis. We have the best and brightest, working within our gates, sharing in the steadfast commitment to our Warfighters.

By reaffirming our commitment to the core institutions of the Army’s in-culture of service, we will ensure a healthier, safer environment for our Soldiers, civilians and family members. Together, in the next few weeks, we will be a great day to be a Soldier and every day will be another day to report a Soldier at Team APG. Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell
Commander, U.S. Army Garrison
Aberdeen Proving Ground

Maj. Matthew Canale
20th Support Command

CAPT. NICOLE M. BARTHELSON
Technical Escort

Malvin Bantum
Retired military

OPINION
The Army: An American Profession of Arms

The Army profession is not one entered into lightly. It is a challenging career that requires a commitment to a culture of service and ethical standards. Our profession often requires sacrifice, but it is a profession that offers unmatched value to the nation.

By allowing people to gain confidence in their abilities want the same role every day, a means for providing for their Families, and happiness.

Everyone is fired up from other cultures. My wife, who is from Turkey, has introduced me to several Turkish dishes that I enjoy.

I like try foods from other cultures. My son-in-law has introduced me to several Chinese dishes that I enjoy.

An introduction to other cultures by inviting listeners to taste traditional foods and eating traditions. During these events, I find them very interesting. I always enjoy learning about other cultures. I have introduced my son-in-law to my culture by inviting him to Native American pow-wows.

Learning about other cultures.

How have other cultures enriched your life?

My son-in-law is from Spain. I introduced him to several Spanish dishes that he enjoys.

I have been exposed to many different cultures and have become more open-minded as a result.

TAPS seeks military mentors for ‘Good Grief Camp’

The Army has provided me with many opportunities to travel around the world many times. I have been exposed to many cultures and I feel like I have become more open-minded as a result.

There is great diversity in the world, each culture is special in its own way.

The Army profession is not one entered into lightly. It is a challenging career that requires a commitment to a culture of service and ethical standards. Our profession often requires sacrifice, but it is a profession that offers unmatched value to the nation. The war is in Iraq. The flag and democracy has taken root and continues to prosper while the war in Afghanistan continues to challenge our Soldiers and leaders. But the Army will soon withdraw completely from the Middle East area of operations.

These wars have required us to adapt our processes and even turn a blind eye to core roles and responsibilities. We all know that living by a code, a set of standards, is not easy as walking. Constant deployments, organizational restructuring and unit transfers have given priority to the stream at the individual, organizational and institutional level.

So, after more than a decade of fighting wars overseas—this Army will redefine itself along with our doctrine and culture.

We will use this time of slowing operational tempo to reexamine and refocus our commitment to our nation’s Armies. We will reaffirm our identity, values and purpose inspiring our entire organization to a fresh standard of the noble calling and duties of our professional Army and everyone who supports it.

Your leaders here at APG are fully committed to improving our Army by ensuring the necessary changes are implemented, ensuring decisions made during the transition to a leaner force guarantee the most professional force ready to deploy.

The Army profession—that of being a Soldier and supporting our Soldiers— is the finest career in the world. The Army’s workforce exemplifies this on a daily basis. We have the best and brightest, working within our gates, sharing in the steadfast commitment to our Warfighters.

By reaffirming our commitment to the core institutions of the Army’s in-culture of service, we will ensure a healthier, safer environment for our Soldiers, civilians and family members. Together, in the next few weeks, we will be a great day to be a Soldier and every day will be another day to report a Soldier at Team APG. Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell
Commander, U.S. Army Garrison
Aberdeen Proving Ground
Community members and local students attended Aberdeen Proving Ground’s annual Arbor/Earth Day celebration at the APG Museum April 27.

The event highlighted the installation’s stewardship to the environment in support of the principles of Arbor Day and Earth Day. During the event’s opening ceremony U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command-U.S. Army Evaluation Center Deputy-Commanding General Brig. Gen. John Regan challenged the audience to think about creative ways to reduce, reuse, recycle and repurpose.

“Students, your generation will soon be in charge of this planet,” he said. Regan told the students the earlier they implement green habits, the better. Simple practices like recycling paper, turning off lights and turning off the tap when brushing teeth can make a big difference.

He said many Army organizations implement green practices. For instance, ATEC committed to reduce paper consumption by implementing a paperless office program and regularly holding Paperless Office Weeks. ATEC employees do not print, copy or produce work products using paper.

Regan presented awards to the student winners of the Arbor/Earth Day poetry and poster contest. This year’s theme was “Trees are Terrific….from Acorn to Oak.” He said he was impressed by the level of enthusiasm the students expressed in their projects. “We have a bright future indeed,” he said.

Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz presented to the installation museum a tree slice taken from a black oak that stood on APG since the early 1800s. The slice will be used to educate visitors about the environment and local history.

The event also featured hands-on science demonstrations and activities from APG and community organizations. A popular attraction was Scales and Tales, an environmental program of the Maryland Park Service. Scales and Tales gave visitors an opportunity to see and learn about wildlife like a red-tailed hawk, turkey vulture, and an Eastern Screech Owl up close.

“I attended the event with my children because I want them to appreciate nature and enjoy spending time outdoors,” said Nadine Johnson, a Civilian Personnel Advisory Center employee. “Events like this are important, because the way we are living is not sustainable,” said Maia Kaiser, Directorate of Public Works Environmental Compliance Program, who led the recycling and composting demonstration. “The only way there will be enough resources for the future is by turning our waste into new products. We need to encourage the younger generation to adopt environmentally friendly habits.”

To view and download photos, visit http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/.

APG Arbor/Earth Day Poster Contest Winners
- 1st grade: 1st place-Zoya Keck, Child and Youth Services; 2nd place-Kaili Long, Child and Youth Services; 3rd place-Madison Passwater, Child and Youth Services
- 2nd grade: 1st place- Lauren French, Child and Youth Services; 2nd place-Mackenzie Freeman, Child and Youth Services; 3rd place-Taliah Ward, Child and Youth Services
- 3rd Grade-5th Grade: 1st place-Umar Khwaja, Prospect Mill Elementary School; 2nd place- Kailee Heilman, Abby Cheng, Imani Williams, Andrew Fung, Child and Youth Services; 3rd place-Julia Walsh, Prospect Mill Elementary School
- 6th Grade-8th Grade: 1st place-Dusharne Sparks, Child and Youth Services; 2nd Place-Darseille Spence, Child and Youth Services

APG Arbor/Earth Day Poetry Contest Winner
- 3rd -5th grade- 1st place-Shelby Johnson, Prospect Mill Elementary School
Picerne earns No. 1 ranking in resident satisfaction

Picerne Military Housing, a builder and manager of U.S. military housing, announced April 25 that it has been awarded the No. 1 resident satisfaction ranking for portfolios with at least 10,000 homes based on the 2011 Satisfacts Annual Resident Survey. The Satisfacts survey is a resident relationship management service for a range of residential multi-family property management companies, including those that manage military housing.

Residents served by nearly 150 property management firms participated in the 2011 survey interviews, which are voluntary and conducted at random over the phone and online.

“Our military Families make tremendous sacrifices to protect and defend the American way of life. We feel it’s our job to return that favor by providing the best possible customer service and improving the quality of life of our service members and their Families,” said John Picerne, President and CEO of Picerne Military Housing.

Picerne Military Housing provides homes for more than 20,000 service members and Families at military installations across the United States. Since 2001, the company has renovated more than 6,000 homes and has built more than 3,000 new homes. It pursues a continuous program of improvements at seven installations.

In addition to earning the top customer service ranking, Picerne also won the No. 1 Satisfacts Superior Resident Satisfaction Company award with a customer rating of 4.57 out of a possible 5.00 score. Other resident ratings included a 4.22 for speed and responsiveness to customer service requests, and a 4.20 for office responsiveness and dependability.

“Picerne Military Housing has increased their overall satisfaction score every year since they began participating in our resident survey in 2004,” said Doug Miller, founder and president of Satisfacts (http://satisfacts.com). “In order to earn a superior overall satisfaction rating in the 4.00-4.49 range, companies really need to go well beyond simply talking about great service.”

Picerne Military Housing has earned a superior rating from Satisfacts the past five years. It is the first company to win the No. 1 resident satisfaction ranking for portfolios with at least 10,000 homes four times.

Her multicultural sensitivity and awareness, meshed with solid integrity and character, makes her an absolute must for selection as an EO of the year.

Maj. Gen. Kenneth S. Dowd
Commander, 1st Theater Sustainment Command

Having come highly recommended, Marshall was awarded the 2011 Equal Opportunity Advisor of the Year. Her multicultural sensitivity and awareness, meshed with solid integrity and character, makes her an absolute must for selection as an EO of the year,” said Dowd.
By RACHEL PONDER

Three Soldiers and two civilians officially ended their government service careers during the installation retirement ceremony at the Ball Conference Center April 20.

Maj. Gen. N. Lee S. Price, program executive officer for Command, Control, Communications Tactical, hosted the event and presented awards and Chaplain (Maj.) Fred Townsend, Headquarters and Headquarters Companies, U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, gave the invocation.

Price said he was pleased to recognize the great work done by the retirees, whose service totaled more than 136 years.

“Thank you for supporting the Soldiers every day with the critical services you provided for them,” she said.

The retirees included Col. Donald V. Gibson, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; and Larry Carter. Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Cruz, Sgt. 1st Class Mario McCarty, and William L. Taylor of U.S. Army Garrison APG.

C. Don. V. Gibson

Gibson was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal, the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation and retirement letter, the Department of the Army certificate of retirement and a U.S. flag. His wife, Marcia Quezada, received a DA certificate of appreciation. Gibson married June 30, 1980, 30 years of service.

During his career, Gibson served five overseas tours to include Korea, Germany, Chile, and Saudi Arabia. He culminates his career as commander of the International Technology Center Americas with RDECOM.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Parachutist’s Badge.

“In a career of 35 years, I will always continue to serve.”

Larry Carter

Carter was awarded the Department of the Army Commander’s Award for Civilian Service, certificate of appreciation and certificate of retirement signed by Col. Orlando Ortiz, APG Garrison and Deputy installation commander. His wife, Leilah A. Carter, received the APG certificate of appreciation. Carter officially retired March 31 with 34 years and eight months of combined civilian and military service.

Carter enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at age 17 and went to boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. After his tour of duty with the Marine Corps, Carter said the G.I. Bill to obtain a college degree. He also received specialized education in the heating, air-conditioning and refrigeration trade. Carter became proficient in the skill trades and earned seven unrestricted master’s licenses with the State of Maryland in A/C heating, refrigeration, ventilation, hot water, gas fitting, and as a certified ventilation technician specialist.

Carter started working at APG in 1983 as an air conditioning equipment mechanic for the Department of Public Works. Later, he was promoted in 2001 to a contract performance specialist and as contract officer’s representative, monitoring various service contracts.

During his civilian career, Carter saved the Army money in many capacities. In 2008, he received the commander’s award for saving $608,000 in contract monitoring performance. In 2010 he received the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for saving the Army money in contracting monitoring and performance. In 2013 Carter received the commander’s award for his performance as a project manager of the APG Base Realignment and Closure excess furniture turn-in project, which resulted in an overall savings of $1,460,000 to the Army.

For his retirement, Carter said he plans to spend more time with Family, enjoy his hobbies, and make home repairs.

“I have been working since I was 17 years old,” he said. “Retirement is a big adjustment.”

Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Cruz

Cruz was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, presidential certificate of appreciation, Department of the Army certificate of retirement and a U.S. flag. Her husband, Willfredo Jesus Cruz, received a D.A. certificate of appreciation. She officially retired March 31 with 20 years of service.

Cruz enlisted in the Army March 11, 1992, and completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and advanced individual training at APG. Her overseas tours included Germany, Korea, and Iraq in support of the Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2007 to 2009. She is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in logistics.

Cruz has earned associate degrees in management from Cecico Acosta Technical Institute, Venezuela. She is continuing her education to earn a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from Excelsior College. Her military training includes: instructor qualifications, contracting officer technical representative program, contract specialist, and antiterrorism.

Cruz’s awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. She is a recipient of the Samuel Sleep-Over Award.

Cruz said her top priority during retirement will be spending more time with Family. She also plans to volunteer at a local Veteran’s Hospital and pursue a career in logistics.

“I am ending this chapter in my life, with satisfaction,” she said.

Sgt. 1st Class Mario McCarty

McCarty was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, presidential certificate of appreciation, Department of the Army certificate of retirement and a U.S. flag. His wife, Bianca McCarty, received a DA certificate of appreciation. McCarty officially retired April 1 with 23 years of service.

“Retirement is a big adjustment,” he said.

McCarty, currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in electronics and leadership positions of increased responsibility.

McCarty’s overseas assignments include Berlin and Katterbach, Germany. He served in Operation Iraqi Freedom I and III. His career culminated as a vehicle mechanic, assigned to the Directorate of Logistics, U.S. Army Garrison APG.

McCarty is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice with a minor in homeland security from Excelsior College. He expects to graduate in December 2012.

McCarty’s awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Bronze Achievement Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Professional Development Ribbon NCO, Air Assault Badge, and Driver and Mechanic Badges.

McCarty said he is happy that he will be able to spend more time with his wife and his two children. He plans to travel more and pursue a career in logistics.

“I feel brand new,” he said. “I feel freedom and liberation.”

William L. Taylor

Taylor received the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service. Department of the Army certificate of appreciation and certificate of retirement signed by the Retired Army, commanded by Maj. Gen. N. Lee S. Price, PEO C3T, at Post Dispatch Office Oct. 19, 2011, with 29 years of service.

Taylor began working for the government June 21, 1982, where he served 29 years with the U.S. Army Garrison APG Post Dispatch Office and continues his career as a budget clerk with the U.S. Army Garrison APG Department of Resources Management.

In 2004, he received the Presidential Volunteer Action Award from President Ronald Reagan.

“I enjoy giving back to my community, he said. “During my retirement I plan to stay busy by volunteering as a fire or police officer.”
It was a day for the military to show state-of-the-art equipment to the civilian population, and to honor and acknowledge members of the Armed Forces.

APG's Armed Forces history stretches back more than 100 years, as the installation annually with open houses, tours, exhibits, patriotic parades and displays as well as the community's favorite displays, a 6-ton dragon. The Armed Forces Week live-fire was discontinued in 1991, but the installation continues to honor its history.

APG leaders laud Holocaust survivor at Days of Remembrance

Continued from Page 1

APG leaders laud Holocaust survivor at Days of Remembrance

APG News • May 3, 2012

It was a day for the military to show state-of-the-art equipment to the civilian population, and to honor and acknowledge members of the Armed Forces.

APG's Armed Forces history stretches back more than 100 years, as the installation annually with open houses, tours, exhibits, patriotic parades and displays as well as the community's favorite displays, a 6-ton dragon. The Armed Forces Week live-fire was discontinued in 1991, but the installation continues to honor its history.

APG leaders laud Holocaust survivor at Days of Remembrance

It was a day for the military to show state-of-the-art equipment to the civilian population, and to honor and acknowledge members of the Armed Forces.

APG's Armed Forces history stretches back more than 100 years, as the installation annually with open houses, tours, exhibits, patriotic parades and displays as well as the community's favorite displays, a 6-ton dragon. The Armed Forces Week live-fire was discontinued in 1991, but the installation continues to honor its history.

APG leaders laud Holocaust survivor at Days of Remembrance

It was a day for the military to show state-of-the-art equipment to the civilian population, and to honor and acknowledge members of the Armed Forces.
Continued from Page 1

The board

By Annabel Jaffe


He said he felt confident after studying with Sgt. Sharia Leal, an NCO of the year candidate and former APG Soldier of the Year.

He said that while rapid fire questioning can be daunting, some of the other daters.

Several attendees said it was their first time participating in a dating event and was hesitant about this one. She invited several friends for moral support but was the only person from her group to attend. While a little displeased at the turnout, Hall said she had a good time and "would definitely do it again."

In addition, the program is designed to increase the number of students enrolled in math, science, or technology courses. Hitch said. "We hope they work out."

Specific goals for increased AP performance and qualifying scores have been set for both schools. Accountability will be tracked and assessed by NMSI at the conclusion of each of the next three school years.

For more information, visit www.nationalmathandscience.org

Continued from Page 1

for single people working on post to socialize with one another."

At the end of the night, participants were asked to rate the experience on a scale from one to ten and the results were turned into a combined average of all the ratings. Organizers rang a bell to let participants know when to move on to the next date, it was always followed by “What are your weaknesses and what you are doing to overcome them?"

The subjects were wide and varied. They included APG history, first aid, physical fitness, land navigation, Army physical fitness test, Army regulations, code of conduct, Warrior tasks and drills, leadership, uniform maintenance, NCO evaluation reports, field sanitation, Army values, substance abuse, the Army safety program, equal opportunity, the NCO support channel, the Warrior ethos, sexual harassment and rape prevention, current events and more.

Each Soldier was required to receive the Soldier Creed and each NCO reviewed the NCO Creed. After reviewing participant comment reports, Hitch said that while rapid fire questioning can be daunting, some of the other daters.

"We are really happy with the community's response and hope some people feel they had a good time," she said. "Being in the military, you learn to embrace change. The military is home when I didn’t know where my next home was so I’m glad to have found this. It is a big deal for my kids.

NMSI & APTIP

The candidates had different reactions to the event.

Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Mahoney, a multiple winner in global broadcast sys-

tems and fiber-optics from CECOM, said that while rapid fire questioning can be daunting, she was pleased with the turnout and "would definitely do it again."

"I’ve seen speed dating in movies and commercials but never participated in something like this," she said, laughing. "When I first arrived, I was really nervous. With the large military and civilian population at APG, I expected more male look-alikes, but there were definitely more girls than guys. However, I did have a good time and met some interesting people."

I would definitely do it again.

Spc. 1st Class Joshua Mahoney, a multiple winner in global broadcast systems and fiber-optics from CECOM, said that while rapid fire questioning can be daunting, she was pleased with the turnout and "would definitely do it again."

"I’ve seen speed dating in movies and commercials but never participated in something like this," she said, laughing. "When I first arrived, I was really nervous. With the large military and civilian population at APG, I expected more male look-alikes, but there were definitely more girls than guys.

However, I did have a good time and met some interesting people."

I would definitely do it again.
THURSDAY MAY 10
OLYMPIC PENNANT
Teens will learn basic automotive principles and skills for new drivers in this free class. Class size is limited to 20 per day, through May 24 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. This class is for students ages 14-17. The registration deadline is May 1. For information, call (410) 939-2299 / 888-622-0030. The Harford Historical Society will host a bus trip to Antietam Battlefield, near the Maryland/West Virginia border. The bus will leave from the Exit 74 park-and-ride at 9 a.m. to Potomac, Md., and will return at 6:30 p.m. A ticket is $25 per person. For information, call (410) 939-2299 / 888-622-0030.

COCKTAIL GALA
The Chesapeake Society of American Military Engineers will meet at the Wellsonga Golf Club beginning with a light summer luncheon, followed by a noon luncheon. The fee is $35 per person. For more information, contact Tanisha Calloway at 410-742-3629 or 410-772-9924.

SATURDAY MAY 12
EPIC DANCE CELTIC WEEKEND
This Celtic weekend celebrates the history of the Irish people, from early settlement to modern life. In addition, the Keg Celtic Band of Baltimore will perform. Featuring a variety of Irish dancing and music, the festival continues May 13-14. For information, call 443-441-7777 or visit www.irishfestivalmd.org.

APG News • May 3, 2012
10

FUNDRAISING MEETING
The Benefits Management Center is seeking participants in its Voluntary Leave Program (VLP) for the remaining months of the year. Participants can earn up to $250 per month for each day of leave they donate. Call tamera.kasten@mil.cdu by April 30 to learn more. The benefits of donating leave include:

- Helping the American veteran by providing needed resources and support
- Generating extra income
- Enabling better work-life balance through the use of leave
- Assisting with personal goals and financial planning

For more information, visit www.apg.army.mil/rel/rot/vlp/ and the Benefits Management Center at 410-278-4122 / 7134.

SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY
Picerne Military Housing residents are invited to stop by the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Resource Center on May 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to enjoy light refreshments and enter to win a drawing for a chance to purchase an AMA scholarship scholarship. For information, call (410) 939-2299 / 888-622-0030.

MAY 13
Cocktails 101
This class is a fun introduction to the world of cocktails and seizing the opportunity to learn about the history of cocktails and their importance in American social life. For more information, contact Olivia Burnette, career services assistant, at 410-939-2039 or olivia.burnette@apg.army.mil.

SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION
A Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation, in cooperation with the APG Community Foundation, will host a scholarship reception, 5 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Club beginning with an open house for military families, retirees and DoD civilians. A $2500 scholarship will be awarded to a student from the APG community. For more information, call (410) 634-4427 / 4428.

APG News • May 3, 2012
10

in honor of National Infarct Immu-
nization Week, April 21-27, Lt. Col. Ellyn C. Schwartz, assistant director of the U.S. Army Military Health Command clinic, spoke about the importance of vaccination and the link between vaccinations and quality of life. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

“Infarcts help keep children healthy for more than 60 years, resulting in long-term healthcare savings,” said the doctor. “Immunization has led to many of these diseases occurring rarely or being wiped out altogether, brought forward to the United States.”

Dietician Edith Picoult is still very present in the United States. “It’s unknown how the disease helps reduce breast cancer and other cancers, one out of every 200 women is hos-

spinalized from chickenpox and, four out of every 100,000 infants who get chickenpox die,” he added.

She said vaccines are solo an-

cing for additional information, visit

10 APG News • May 3, 2012

Today’s weather is partly cloudy, with a high near 70. Winds will be out of the west-northwest at 10 to 15 mph. The overnight low will be in the mid 50s with a northwest wind around 5 mph. The probability of precipitation is 20 percent. For the latest weather news, servicemembers can check the Weather Channel on the MyAPG app. Remember to dress according to the weather and to stay hydrated. Don’t forget your water bottle! For more information, visit www.apg.army.mil/rel/rot/weather/ and the Weather Channel at 410-278-4331.

WEDNESDAY MAY 12
13 MEDIEVAL DAYS
The Military Auto Museum will host Medieval Days from noon - 5 p.m. at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. The museum at 481 Quaker Bottom Road in Susquehanna State Park, near Harrods Grce, Events include medieval costumes, games, and activities such as fighting period craft demonstrations and living history. Also, there will be the display of arts and sciences, archery, crafts, and food. General admission is $10 for adults and $5 for children ages 12 and under. For more information, visit www.militaryautomuseum.org or call 410-278-3900.

Today’s weather is partly cloudy, with a high near 60. Winds will be out of the northwest at 5 to 10 mph. The overnight low will be in the low 40s with a northwest wind around 5 mph. The probability of precipitation is 20 percent. For the latest weather news, servicemembers can check the Weather Channel on the MyAPG app. Remember to dress according to the weather and to stay hydrated. Don’t forget your water bottle! For more information, visit www.apg.army.mil/rel/rot/weather/ and the Weather Channel at 410-278-4331.

TUESDAY MAY 8
SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION
The American U. Army Chemical Materi-
APG Snapshot


CONGRATS
Courtney Payne, a computer engineer with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, poses backstage with her trophy after placing fourth in her first bodybuilding competition at the Burlington Performing Arts Center in Burlington, N.J., April 21. The 2012 OCB (Organization of Competitive Bodybuilders) Beyond Nutrition Natural Contest was Payne’s first competition since taking up bodybuilding a few months ago. She competed in the Danny Figure category. Payne said she works out daily with free weights and other muscle-toning equipment at APG South’s Hoyle Gym.

TAKING OUT THE ‘TAKE BACK’
Timothy Knox, ASAP manager and Mike (Big Mike) Farlow, DES community policing officer, load 100 pounds of expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs at DES Headquarters April 28 for turn-in as part of the National Prescription Take-Back Campaign April 23 – 27 at five sites on APG. Farlow said the total weight was a big increase over last year. “The difference was having convenient drop-off points on both sides of the installation,” he said.

RINGSIDE ACTION
More than 300 community members turned out to watch International Championship wrestlers battle it out April 28 at the APG North Athletic Center, courtesy of Army Entertainment and APG’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. The night’s matches consisted of five bouts, including two men’s and one woman’s singles matches, a tag-team round and the main event with (pictured) Shawn Daivari wrest-ling Doink the Clown.

HATS OFF TO MILITARY KIDS
(From left) Three-year-olds Marleigh Williams, Ogheneruno Okoro, and Melody Turner show off hats made by program lead Margaret Dougherty during “Crazy Hat & Hair Day” April 18 at the APG North (Aberdeen) child development center. During April, APG CDCs and youth centers celebrated Month of the Military Child with special activities.

GIVE IT A SHOT
(From right) A young community member, with the help of volunteer teacher Jerry Johnson, takes the first steps of archery during the Aberdeen Archery Club open house April 28. APG’s Family and MWR Outdoor Recreation program is planning introductory archery classes for adults and youth, as well as leagues and other archery events for the summer. For information, call 410-278-4124, email zachary.r.vancleave2.naf@mail.mil, or visit www.apgmwr.com.

TAKING OUT THE ‘TAKE BACK’
Timothy Knox, ASAP manager and Mike (Big Mike) Farlow, DES community policing officer, load 100 pounds of expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs at DES Headquarters April 28 for turn-in as part of the National Prescription Take-Back Campaign April 23 – 27 at five sites on APG. Farlow said the total weight was a big increase over last year. “The difference was having convenient drop-off points on both sides of the installation,” he said.