

APG NEWS



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APG fares well during Sandy

Story and photo by
ADRIANE FOSS
Garrison Public Affairs

As Hurricane Sandy pummeled its way toward Harford County Monday evening, Aberdeen Proving Ground leadership and emergency essential personnel manned the APG emergency operations center, ensuring the installation's safe and continued operation.

"During any emergency situation, but especially during a potentially catastrophic storm like Sandy, we are working 24 hours a day to ensure procedures are in place that address every situation from power failure and storm damage to swift water rescue," said Rick de Oliveira of the EOC's Plans and Operations Division. "We want to make sure that, first and foremost, everyone is safe, and that residents and personnel are informed and know what to do as this storm wreaks its havoc."

"It's been a challenging few days, but I'm incredibly proud of the way Team APG—Soldiers, civilians and Families along with our local communities, all came together through



DPW crews worked around the clock to clean up storm debris and large tree limbs, like the ones that littered the area next to the garrison headquarters building. APG damages were mild and power outages short in relation to Hurricane Sandy's impact up and down the East Coast.

See **TEAM APG**, page 11

APG Tech Expo displays cutting edge in IT

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Hundreds of visitors viewed the latest in Information Technology products and services during the Fall Technology Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Oct. 24.

Hosted by the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biologi-

cal Center/Corporate Information Office and Federal Direct Access Expositions, technology expos are held twice annually and typically draw large crowds interested in viewing the latest innovations.

The expo consisted of more than 70 vendors and by lunch-

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(From right) Renee Alonso of AbilityOne Base Supply Center shows a brochure about privacy screens and other security products to Carlton Daniel of ATEC during the 2012 Fall Technology Expo. AbilityOne was formerly known as Office Eagle.

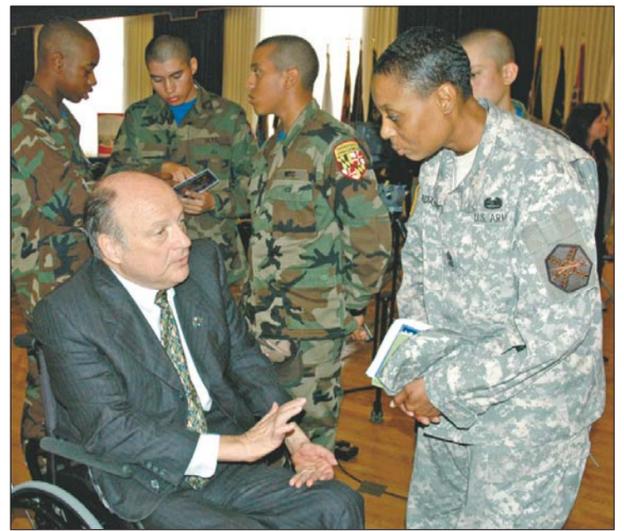
APG observes National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Team APG hosted the annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month program Oct. 25 in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

State's Attorney for Harford County and Purple Heart recipient Joseph Cassilly was the guest speaker for the event. Cassilly is disabled and uses a wheelchair as a result of injuries he received while serving in Vietnam. He is an advocate on issues for the disabled, and has served on design teams for Baltimore sports stadiums and other large projects. In 2007, Cassilly was given a Legacy of Excellence in Litigation from

See **HARFORD**, page 10



(From left) State's Attorney for Harford County Joseph Cassilly chats with HHC's 1st Sgt. Paula Adams after the annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month program held in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Oct. 25.

Karaoke, trivia contests and more offered at the Bowling Center

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The APG Bowling Center is offering new activities and specials this fall.

Every Saturday night, from 7 to 11 p.m., free karaoke will be featured. APG Bowling Center Manager Lora Owens said that karaoke is a great way to relax with family and friends after a long week.

"Singing is a stress reliever," she said. "Karaoke is fun

for all singing levels, gives you performing experience."

Beginning in November, the Bowling Center will host an APG Karaoke Contest on Saturday nights. Singers who wish to participate will need to sign up at the Bowling Center's front desk during the night of the competition. The competition will be ongoing, lasting several months.

"It is a chance for people
See **BOWLING**, page 11

LOL 2012 Comedy Tour coming to APG

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

One of the highlights of APG's Veterans Appreciation Month activities will be the Laugh Out Loud 2012 Comedy Tour planned Nov. 10 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.



Blue

Guests should prepare them-

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WEATHER

Thurs.



54° | 41°

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<http://ice.disa.mil/>
Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQlow>



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OPINION

Family Panel addresses exceptional issues

Recently I had the opportunity to serve on a Defense Department advisory panel dealing with special needs issues across the military.

The panel's meeting last month in Alexandria, Va., was the third of its kind conducted by DOD's Office of Community Support for Military Families with Special Needs, or OSN, in the past year to address the Exceptional Family Member Program's Family support priorities.

The panel was comprised of Family representatives from all services, including active duty and reserves, and addressed communication issues and concerns from military Families. The event was chaired by Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy Charles E. Milam.

As the father of three boys, one with autism, I took my role in the process very seriously. In reaching out for input from Families through networking, meet-ups and even an unofficial online survey, I found myself not only serving as the Air Force representative, but also as a joint representative to all our Families.

EFMP impacts a lot of Families, with enrollment mandatory for active duty Families with a special need. As of December, total EFMP service member enrollment was projected at 93,706 with numbers of EFMP Family members estimated at 126,153 across services.

The program becomes especially

important when planning and making a permanent change of station move. Some Families need support before the move to determine if services are available for their particular special needs. Some find that they need Family support assistance to navigate the system when they arrive at a new duty station. Contacts must be made with new school staff, to locate medical providers and work with a variety of offices to support providers on or off the installation.

During previous panels, we presented Families' frustrations with accessing information and services and confusion about policy since each service implements a slightly different program. Lack of standardization and consistency at different installations were top priorities. The panel listed as its three key areas for improvement consistency of support, communication and health care.

What I found is that much of the work our panel initially identified and advocated for a year ago was taken to heart by leadership and we are seeing results. OSN recently completed the first phase of an analysis aimed at standardizing service support for special needs Families across DOD. The analysis used a series of site visits to installation-level, headquarters-level and any centralized locations dealing with personnel, Family support and assignment processes. The culminating activity was a review by the services to look at enrollment and identification; assignment coordination; overseas Family

travel; and Family support.

Ultimately, the outcome is to consolidate these processes and make it easier for Families to maintain support from location to location. Simple things like common forms, databases talking to each other, more user-friendly websites to help Families as they transition from one location to another, accessibility of information to understand how to obtain care and support from available resources were all presented.

A TRICARE representative spoke about the health care management activity's efforts to improve communication with Families and collaboration with OSN, such as simplifying online navigation. The representative discussed TRICARE's Patient Centered Medical Home, which the services are implementing and eventually will address many of the panel's issues related to lack of consistency of medical providers and timely access to specialty care. It places emphasis on personal relationships, team delivery of holistic care, coordination across medical specialties and settings, and increases access to affordable care.

EFMP representatives from each service's headquarters shared their efforts to improve communication and outreach, as well as awareness on adult-age children or spouses with special needs, respite care and other EFMP initiatives such as joint base support.

I was especially pleased to see that the services are working more closely together to build cohesion across the joint force. It might not sound like

much, but as an Air Force Family on an Army installation; such cohesion is important and reflects a readiness issue for the military community at large.

Perhaps the hardest part of participating in these panels has been the expectations of Families after it ends. It's hard to tell Families that their concerns were presented, but won't be fixed right now. As I've learned, the complexity of coordination and needed approvals at the department or service level means change typically gets accomplished at one speed: glacial.

Despite more work to be done, military Families like mine with special needs should see some direct benefits from the recommendations brought forth through this panel, indicating the importance DOD is putting on listening to Families' concerns and working to act on their issues.

There are still going to be challenges with support and services in the short term, but the ball is rolling on lasting improvements to make things better for all our Families.

Air Force Maj. Nicholas Sabula

Defense Media Activity

Guest blogger Air Force Maj. Nicholas Sabula is a communication plans officer at the Defense Media Activity. He was selected to a 10-member panel as part of the Defense Department's Exceptional Family Member Program. He has a son with autism and, off-duty, is an advocate for military Families dealing with autism.

DoD teacher finds crossroads in American education

Common Core Standards, No Child Left Behind, STEM, differentiated teaching, merit pay. Keeping up with the latest policies, ideas and buzz words in education is enough to make parents' — along with more than a few educators' — heads spin.

That's why it was a special treat when I got to speak about these trends with Angela Wilson, who traveled to Washington D.C., recently to meet Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and conduct other official business as the Department of Defense Education Activity's 2012 Teacher of the Year.

Wilson has been a key player in national education issues since being awarded the honor last spring, along with other Teacher of the Year winners from each of the states and territories. Since then, Wilson has traveled several times to meet with national education leaders and work on projects to advance teaching, while bringing those experiences back to her seventh-grade language arts and speech students at Vincenza Middle School in Italy.

"It's been an amazing year," Wilson said. "It's really opened my eyes to what's going on in education around our nation. As teachers, it's easy to get stuck in what's happening in your classroom and not looking beyond that."

Wilson has met with President Barack Obama, whose sister, like Panetta's, is a teacher. She's also had conver-

sations with Dr. Jill Biden, who remains a teacher even as she is second lady, as well as Education Secretary Arne Duncan and other public officials. She has attended education conferences and participated in initiatives and met with former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, creator of www.icivics.org, and Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates, who spent a couple of hours speaking with teachers at the Educational Commission Conference in Atlanta last summer, Wilson said.

"He met with all of us individually ... and wanted us to tell him what's going on in our schools and how he could help," she said of Gates. "He wrote down what we said," then Wilson and four other teachers were chosen to be recorded for a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation video.

"That was really neat that he would turn our thoughts into a video" to advance education, Wilson said. "His goal is to make America one of those really competitive educational societies like it used to be."

Reports that American students' standardized test scores are falling below those of their international peers are unsettling, but Wilson said she believes the nation is on the cusp of reversing that trend, in part due to the rapid push for new initiatives.

"After attending all of this, I really feel like we as a nation have wanted to do

something in terms of big changes in education," she said. "I think we're ready to make significant changes and we're right there at that point about whether we're going to make that happen."

Being part of the national discussions, Wilson said, "has opened my eyes to what is happening in the American education system. I think in the DODEA system, we need to be more tied to that."

Of 1.3 million military-connected children, 80 percent attend public schools, Wilson noted, and the ones who attend DODEA schools mostly move in and out of it and public schools. DODEA works closely with military-connected public schools, even offering grants to help smooth transitions for students who move due to military relocations. Read more here.

Because of that, Wilson said, she is glad that DODEA has signed on to the Education Department's Common Core Standards, which mandates common core curriculum for students across grade levels. "We'll all have same vision and direction," she said. The standards also will be "more rigorous and more relevant."

While the details of implementation still have to be worked out, Wilson said, the policy, which is voluntary and not adopted by all states, will give teachers more flexibility in how they meet the objectives than No Child Left Behind, which DODEA did not take part in.

"I think it's going to be a combination of a lot of different methods that the states are doing," she said of implementation. "The advantage for DODEA is that we get to sit back and watch what some of the states have done and pick the best methods."

Wilson, who taught for three years in public schools, said the best thing teachers can do for students is to "differentiate" teaching to meet the varied learning styles of students. She acknowledges it can be hard, but has proven it possible by reaching out to parents and students, observing students, and placing them in small groups to understand how each learns best, then tailoring curriculum to each.

"It absolutely takes time," she said. "But I've found when I've run a classroom that really is differentiated, it is better and it can be done."

As for current trends in education, Wilson, who also is a parent of school-aged children, said parents should not worry. "The good thing is that we are at a turning point," she said. "There are a lot of things that other nations are doing that are great, and the states are doing great things that can be shared."

"The past year has made me even more excited about education and the possibilities for our future," she added.

Lisa Daniel

Family Matters Blog

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



54°|41°

Fri



52°|39°

Sat



52°|38°

Sun



53°|41°

Mon



50°|38°

Tue



53°|43°

Wed



56°|42°

APG NEWS

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Army undertakes Civilian Workforce Transformation

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

Civilian Workforce Transformation creates a number of changes to personnel, management and training policies for Department of the Army civilians.

Civilian Workforce Transformation, or CWT, will benefit civilians, commanders, the Army and the nation, according to Thomas A. Lamont, assistant secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, who initiated CWT last year. He spoke Wednesday at Association of the United States Army's Department of the Army Civilian Luncheon.

Among the benefits of CWT he cited were realignment of career programs into 31 categories to achieve better capabilities; greater opportunities for career education, training and technical development; improved career tracking; and reducing the time it takes to bring new hires onboard.

CWT will also play a part in manpower decisions. As the active and reserve components draw down their end

strengths, Department of the Army, or DA civilians are also seeing their numbers decline, Lamont said, "to the maximum extent possible, through voluntary departures and attrition."

He said manpower decisions are based on providing a "flexible and adaptable civilian workforce fully capable of supporting the Army and the nation.

"Army leadership is handling the drawdown in both the military and civilian workforce with utmost care and compassion," he continued. "But, we must do this smartly to achieve not just the right number of people but the right mix of skills to move our Army forward."

The type of civilians the Army needs, according to Lamont, are those who are "capable, technically proficient, well-grounded leaders, innovative, creative,

embrace change, work collaboratively, understand the values and skills of partnering and are empowered to solve needs and problems."

And to that list of desired traits, the assistant secretary added: "Willingness to take risks. (We need) great leaders who are not afraid to put it on the line from time to time -- and that's an all too rare commodity in our big building across the river," he said, referring to the Pentagon.

Lamont noted that civilians comprise a great percentage of the Army and also deploy alongside them, performing many critical missions. Of

particular value, he said, is the continuity civilians provide to the Army which is "lacking" on the uniform side.

"(I'm) fortunate to be surrounded by such talented and spirited men and women (who are) all striving to serve our country in the best way possible," he concluded. "Yes, you do make a difference."

“Army leadership is handling the drawdown in both the military and civilian workforce with utmost care and compassion. But, we must do this smartly to achieve not just the right number of people but the right mix of skills to move our Army forward.”

Thomas A. Lamont
Assistant secretary of the Army,
Manpower and Reserve Affairs

The military super suit: greater than its parts

By **KRISTEN DALTON**
RDECOM

It's all about coming together. The Army Research Laboratory (ARL) has collaborated with the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) in piecing together one of the military's most advanced chemical-biological defense systems for troops in combat: the Super Suit.

The over-garment suit protects Soldiers from potential bio-weapons attacks and may one day feature an automated, networked biological detection sensor that could identify and warn against Biological Warfare Agents (BWA) simultaneously.

"It's always been hard to come up with an all-in-one ensemble for any individual Soldier, sailor, Marine, or Airmen. That's very challenging because you have to use expensive testing to come up with that," said retired Master Sgt. Lamar Garrett, the ARL field element chief for ECBC.

"So what we're basically trying to do is come up with an integrative way of trying to make all of those components interoperable. In the past they've been piece meal."

The two entities are working together to create the Super Suit in order to enhance Soldier survivability during a time when deadly pathogens and environmental threats continue to evolve. The seamless integration of the suit's parts, which include a protective mask, gloves, boots, clothing and helmet, into one total operating system is a new concept that ARL and ECBC have been



Photo by Jasmine Morales

In 2008, Soldiers wearing chem. suits participate in the toxic industrial chemical protection and detection equipment training using a HazMat ID to identify chemical agents at Fort Hood, Texas.

developing in order to protect the military's troops while still allowing them to effectively perform at high levels.

According to Garrett, the all-in-one concept had been tested about 10 years ago before the project hit a snag in development, halting the process. Now, with ARL guiding the evaluation of the ensemble using ECBC resources, the two teams are working as one to determine whether or not it is feasible to pur-

sue the production of these suits without burning a hole in the budget.

Aside from keeping costs down for testing, putting together each component in a way that would not limit movement, restrict vision or add bulk and weight to the Soldier has been a complex challenge that engineers have faced during the research and development process. While ECBC has provided the expertise throughout the design and development

phases of the project, ARL has contributed a human factor support element that gives both teams insight into how the suit would affect the personnel wearing it.

The integration of these parts into one full-body protective suit, however, has raised challenges regarding the potential effects of encapsulation, or fully enclosing the human body to protect it from exposure to the environment. Cognitive functions like processing information, problem solving, logical and spatial reasoning, mathematical calculation, short-term memory and the ability to shoot a weapon are evaluated by the ARL and ECBC team. Additionally, physical conditioning, individual clothing, test loads and mobility are examined during marching maneuvers.

Garrett said the Soldiers typically submit feedback through assessments that ask the individual what they had seen, heard and observed about the suit while wearing it during the testing. The data is then compiled into a report that recommends what adjustments need to be made to the suit in order for a potential private company to begin production.

The Super Suit is currently undergoing additional testing and, if successful, Garrett said the gear could be equally beneficial to agencies outside of the military realm, including weapons of mass destruction civil support teams, firefighters, law enforcement and emergency management teams. Until then, ARL and ECBC will continue their collaborative efforts to fine-tune the Soldier's frontline defense against evolving chemical biological threats.

Meet APG Burger King Manager Ka'Haliah McCraney.

McCraney manages employees and oversees the APG North (Aberdeen) store's operations.

McCraney said that the restaurant recently hired five experienced employees who previously worked at the Maryland House Burger King (which recently closed) so that the store can serve customers faster during lunch time.

"The wait time at the drive-thru is generally faster than the wait in the dining room," she said.

McCraney said that those who wish to avoid the lunch time rush can place orders ahead of time by calling 410-273-7464. She recommends calling at least 20 minutes ahead for small lunch orders.



Ka'Haliah McCraney APG Burger King Manager

For bigger orders, she recommends calling by 10 a.m.

McCraney, who has worked at the store since 2008, said that she enjoys her job because she is always meeting new people.

"This is a friendly environment," she

said. "The co-workers are like Family here."

McCraney added that Burger King adds new items to its menu every season. During the summer, sweet potato fries and the Carolina BBQ Whopper were popular. This fall, the store is sell-

ing new chicken sandwiches and wraps, like the new Italian Basil Chicken Sandwich and the new Chicken Parmesan Sandwich. Raspberry smoothies, popcorn chicken and garden salad wraps are also new menu items.

McCraney said that Military Star Card customers get 10 percent off every order. During special promotions, customers can get up to 20 to 30 percent off.

Burger King is located in building 2330 Aberdeen Boulevard. Dining room hours are Monday-Friday 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drive-thru hours are Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Burger King is closed on Sunday. For more information call 410-273-7464, or e-mail mccraneyk@aafes.com.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

Remembering victims of domestic violence

Alberta Jones, from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, watches a video on domestic violence during a candlelight vigil at the main post chapel Oct. 24. KUSAHC's Behavioral Health hosted the event in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Margo Digan, from Behavioral Health, was the guest speaker.



Go to <http://ice.disa.mil>
Click on "ARMY" then
"Aberdeen Proving Ground."



New UFood Grill location offers full menu, online ordering

(From left) UFood Grill employee Brandee Cortez waits on Jan Roy Eustaquio, a PEO C3T employee, at the new UFood Grill in Bldg. 6010. This location features the full UFood Grill menu and online ordering. Customers can order by visiting www.ufoodgrill.com. For more information call 443-345-4663. Next year, another UFood Grill will open in ATEC Headquarters, building 2202. A Fruits restaurant, featuring smoothies, salads and wraps, will open in Bldg. 6007. A new Subway restaurant will also open at The Government and Technology Enterprise (The GATE) next year.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

Soldiers, civilians to see results of Army Profession Campaign

By **SGT. 1ST CLASS RAYMOND J. PIPER**

Army News Service

Soldiers and Army civilians will start to see the implementation of the Army Profession Campaign beginning in January, senior Army leaders said, Oct. 22.

"It's important that all Soldiers master their profession, whatever it might be," said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno. "We depend on you to understand what you do, because for us to be successful, we must trust that each and every Soldier understands what their job is and how it is interrelated."

To gather the information needed to establish how the Army should move forward following more than 10 years of persistent conflict, several assessment tools were employed by a "community of practice."

This community was formed with designated leads from Army Civilian

University, Army Capabilities Integration Center, Center for Army Leadership, Center for the Army Profession and Ethic, Initial Military Training, Institute for Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development, U.S. Army War College and the Warrant Officer Career College.

"We came to these conclusions, in regards to the Army profession, not as a result of a top-down directed process, but more importantly, the largest study on the subject of the Army profession that has ever been conducted," said Gen. Robert Cone, commander, Army Training and Doctrine Command.

The Army Research Institute distributed two Army-wide surveys. These surveys were designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of each of the essential characteristics of the profession. More than 41,000 Army professionals responded to these surveys.

Five installations conducted multiple focus group sessions organized by cohort. These focus groups solicited candid feedback from more than 500 Soldiers and Army civilians on the profession's concepts, strengths and weaknesses. These focus groups also presented numerous recommendations for how the Army might possibly shape the future of the profession.

Dialogue was captured and analyzed from 15 forums on the Army profession. These forums included hundreds of attendees from across the Army, academia and other services. During these forums senior leaders were presented with findings of the campaign and were able to share their perspectives.

The campaign also engaged the profession extensively through social media, and numerous topics were discussed in these venues. These discussions were monitored, captured, and analyzed for common themes, resulting in thousands of observations and comments being added to the campaign's body of knowledge from the social networking effort.

The TRADOC G-2 "Red Team" provided an analysis of possible threats to the profession and the professionalism of its membership.

Each community of practice member researched and reviewed prior Army studies to inform and compare to current findings. In total, over 35 studies were considered and 15 studies were thoroughly analyzed in support of the campaign.

Cone said the items and major concepts that arose from the Army Profession Campaign will be foundational to doctrine, ranging from leader development, training, and command and control.

"One of the things we know is that as a profession we must have certifications and standards," he said. "It repeatedly came back that we were not keeping up in regard to ensuring our subordinates (had) the professional military education that is commensurate with the rank they were wearing."

The study also identified there were a number of different erosions of leader responsibilities to subordinates, such as coaching, teaching and mentoring.

"These things are out there and they helped us find a plan of action," Cone said.

In all, he said, there were nearly 60 specific recommendations that came out of the Army Profession Campaign report and about half of those reside under TRADOC in terms of implementation within the institutional Army; the remainder are carried over to the operational Army. The full report can be found at [http://cape.army.mil/reposito-](http://cape.army.mil/reposito-ry/CY11ArmyProfessionAnnualReport.pdf)

[ry/CY11ArmyProfessionAnnualReport.pdf](http://cape.army.mil/reposito-ry/CY11ArmyProfessionAnnualReport.pdf).

"It all starts with doctrine," Cone said. "It's one of the things that repeatedly came back that as a profession the Army has to be based on standards, discipline and a unique body of professional knowledge."

To that end, the largest release of new doctrine recently occurred, and central to that, in each of the 30 manuals are the fundamental precepts of the Army profession, Cone said.

Cone explained that with the rewrite and release of the new doctrine, TRADOC was able to incorporate the lessons learned and then create a common terminology between the manuals and the ideas inside the pages. Once that was finished and released, the question remained on how to inculcate the doctrinal concepts into the operational force.

The easier part will be through the institutional training that takes place during a Soldier's career, Cone said. Both officer and enlisted courses are going

through major revisions to rebalance them from preparing Soldiers to go downrange to Iraq or Afghanistan, to a broad set of competencies consistent with the larger profession.

"The operational force largely comes in on how things operate in a unit on a day-to-day basis; how they are adapting doctrine, and how they are adapting the new training procedures," Cone said.

The civilian work force plays a crucial role in Army operations, since 60 percent of the generating force within the Army is made of civilians, said Karl Schneider, principle deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs.

"It seems to me it is vital that our Army civilians be incorporated into

the Army profession," he said. "We have to invest in the training, the education and the experience of our Army civilians if we want them to be part of the Army profession."

The Army Civilian Workforce Transformation is the first step. Every Army civilian now belongs to a career program and in that career program they will see a path of training, education and experience that will allow them to progress within their career program.

Schneider said that in the past, only 40 percent of Army civilians had a career program.

"We are working with the Army G-3 and TRADOC to make sure we have the ability to educate and train our Army civilians and to give them the experience to do well as members of a profession," Schneider said.

“One of the things we know is that as a profession we must have certifications and standards. It repeatedly came back that we were not keeping up in regard to ensuring our subordinates (had) the professional military education that is commensurate with the rank they were wearing.”

Gen. Robert Cone
Commander, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

Army continuing 'sacred duty' its Wounded Warriors

By **ELIZABETH M. COLLINS**
Soldiers Live

To date, the Warrior Transition Command has cared for some 45,000 wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and has transitioned 51 percent of them back to the force, WTC's commanding general said.

Brig. Gen. David J. Bishop, who is also the Army's assistant surgeon general for warrior care and transition, presented the stats during a Family forum at the Association of the United States Army's annual meeting, Oct. 23. He explained that the Army's commitment to its Wounded Warriors will continue beyond the drawdowns in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If anything, he said the Army has increased its commitment to ensuring that Soldiers are either able to return to duty or able to find gainful, meaningful civilian employment.

"Each Soldier develops (a comprehensive transition plan) for himself or herself with the support of an interdisciplinary team and, of course, their Families, who are very much invited to participate," Bishop explained.

"Soldiers set short and long-term goals that align with the domains of strength which you'll find in the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness model and, as you know, they're physical, emotional, social, Family, spiritual," he said. "At WTC, we've integrated another one called career, because we think it's so important to enable the transition. This [comprehensive transition plan] is the Soldier's road map to his or her desired future."

The Army G-1's Civilian Human Resource Agency is helping maintain a resume database for Wounded Warriors, and to help Soldiers achieve their goals, WTC has partnered with agencies across the federal government to help wounded veterans find jobs.

Operation Warfighter, managed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Warrior Care Policy, provides federal internships so Wounded Warriors, including about 600 Soldiers, can gain work experience, often on Army



Catherine Mogil, Ph.D., and Maj. Gen. John Uberti, the deputy commanding general for support at Installation Management Command, discuss some of the challenges Wounded Warriors and their Families face during a Family forum at the 2012 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition, Oct. 23, 2012, in Washington, D.C.

posts. The Navy's Sea Systems and Air Systems Commands also recently approached WTC about hiring Army Wounded Warriors.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides vocational rehabilitation and employment counseling for Soldiers in warrior transition units, known as WTUs, and the Department of Labor supports with local veterans employment representatives and disabled veterans outreach placement specialists.

The National Chamber of Commerce is even helping out: WTC is working on a pilot program with them to engage local chambers of commerce to assist in finding employment for returning service members.

"Now, while our Soldiers are focused on recovery, that can put a lot of pressure on Family members," Bishop acknowledged and two spouses of Wounded Warriors on the panel attested. That's why most WTUs provide a Family readiness support assistant who can help connect Families with community agencies and help solve challenges and problems they face.

Most WTUs are also located near a Soldier and Family Assistance Center,

which offers information, referral services and education and career counseling, financial counseling and services, Army Emergency Relief referrals, human resources and military benefits. The centers also usually offer childcare, added Maj. Gen. John Uberti, the deputy commanding general for support at Installation Management Command, so spouses can easily accompany their Soldiers to medical appointments.

"Each Family is unique, each Family member is unique, and the way they handle each of those transitions is unique," Uberti said. "Our goal is to make sure we're providing the services or access to the services to help our wounded, ill and injured and their Families make it through those transitions successfully."

And make no mistake: Families are every bit as affected by an emotional or physical injury as the Soldier, said Catherine Mogil, Ph.D., an assistant clinical professor at the Nathanson Family Resilience Center at the University of California, Los Angeles' Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. She also helps run a resiliency train-

ing program for military Families called Families Overcoming Under Stress, or FOCUS.

"Families do recover," she said. "They may not ever go back to the way it was, but they can move forward," and it's important for Wounded Warriors to recognize that they can still parent, that they're still vital members of their Families. They may just need to learn some new skills.

Soldiers and spouses may also need to learn how to speak up and advocate for themselves and their Families when they're confused or when they don't agree with, say, a medical decision, she said. Learning how to "emotionally regulate" and remain calm also makes it easier to communicate, she explained.

Mogil is also focused on helping parents explain their injuries to their children: "We can actually take the core components of what is most helpful to kids and really organize it for Families and give them a step-by-step guide on what you need to think about, and this idea of not just sweeping it under the rug and sharing your story with your kids, not in a way that's overwhelming, but in a way that's informative for them. It also gives them a sense of hope."

"For example, we help some of our service members use the language flare ups, because they feel a little more comfortable talking about it: 'I just had a flare up today.' And the kids use it too. So they now say 'Mommy had a flare up,' or 'Daddy had a flare up,' and that was the clue to them to maybe go and do something else, or maybe just come up and hold their parent's hand. It's also very normalizing to say, 'Oh, I had a flare up.' That's a lot easier than to say 'Well, I have this thing called [post-traumatic stress disorder].'"

And because marriages and relationships are often drastically changed after a serious injury, Bishop added, "WTC will be partnering with the USO soon to offer a program called Oxygen, which is a marriage enrichment course that will help couples build resilience in a way that is fun and nonthreatening."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TODAY PREVENTIVE LAW SERIES – ESTATE PLANNING

As part of our ongoing Preventive Law Series, the Client Services Division of the APG Legal Office will offer a presentation on Estate Planning on Thursday, Nov. 1 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Myer Auditorium (Bldg. 6000). Topics covered will be wills, trusts, powers of attorney and probate vs. non-probate assets.

All Service members, retirees and their Family members are encouraged to attend; government civilian employees may also attend as space permits.

For more information, contact Christi Peterson at Christi.c.peterson.civ@mail.mil

MONDAY NOV. 5 NAF OPEN SEASON BEGINS

The Nonappropriated Funds (NAF) Open Season runs Nov. 5 - 30. Department of the Army has mailed literature directly to eligible employees' home addresses explaining the changes and options available to each regular full-time and regular part-time employee. Additional information may be accessed at: www.nafbenefits.com All changes must be processed before close of business Nov. 30. To make an appointment to make changes to benefit elections or for answers to questions, call NAF Human Resources 410-278-5127/8992/8994.

TUESDAY NOV. 6 DIABETES EDUCATION INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Learn about diabetes in this informational session being offered at the C4ISR Center of Excellence Campus in the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 on Tuesday, Nov. 6 from noon - 1 p.m. The presentation is open to all installation employees, contactors and Military. For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7910; tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil or Keosha Pointer at 443-861-7915; keosha.l.pointer.civ@mail.mil

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY NOV. 6-7 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Come check out holiday arts and crafts, home décor, jewelry, gift items, baked goods and more from local vendors during the 2012 Holiday Bazaar 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center and receive a chance to win giveaways while you shop. For more information, contact the FMWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011 or visit www.apgmwr.com.

WEDNESDAY NOV. 7 HONOR VETS AT PERRY POINT WITH A VISIT

Aberdeen Proving Ground is honoring the veterans residing at the Perry Point

Medical VA Center in Perry Point, Md., Nov. 7, from noon to 4 p.m. This event will allow volunteers to spend time with those who have served our nation and paved the way for our future. Volunteers will participate in several activities including bowling, spades and bean bag toss at the Perry Point Recreation Center. The goal is for 60 personnel to volunteer for the trip, 10 personnel per unit, including Family mem-

bers. Civilian employees are welcome to participate, but must take leave, as appropriate. Bus transportation will be provided at noon in the APG Exchange (PX) parking lot. Refreshment will be provided during the event in the gymnasium, but participants are advised to eat lunch prior to the event. For more information, or to register by 3 p.m. on Nov. 1, email Spc. Eric Jimenez at eric.jimenez3@us.army.mil.

SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP

In honor of APG Veterans Appreciation Month, this event will provide information and advice to assist veterans with their small businesses. The workshop will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Army Community Service Bldg. 2503.

BOSS PROGRAM VISIT TO PERRY POINT

In honor of APG Veterans Appreciation Month, join the members of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) on a visit to hospitalized veterans at the Perry Point VA Medical Center in Perryville to play cards and enjoy other recreational activities, noon to 4 p.m. Meet in the APG Main PX parking lot at noon.

FRIDAY NOV. 9 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Are you a Marine who works on APG? All Marines, Active, Reserve, Retired, FMF Corpsman, Veteran, Army Civilian or DoD Contractor are invited to a luncheon at Top of the Bay on Friday, Nov. 9 at noon. Cost \$15.00 paid in advance. Let's get together and celebrate our 237th Birthday as is our tradition.

For more info go to www.Maryland-Marines.org or RSVP to Craig Reeling at 443-477-0670 Once a Marine, Always a Marine.

MILITARY NIGHT OUT

In honor of Veterans Day, The Restore Church, 616 Ontario Street in Havre de Grace, is offering free childcare 6 to 10 p.m. for veteran and military couples. Games, a movie, crafts, snacks and more will be available for children ages 6 weeks to 12-years-old. To register, fill out an online form at www.restorechurch.net. For more information, contact Anna Hiltibidal at 618-407-8881.

SATURDAY NOV. 10 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AND EVENTS

Honoring all who served. Events include Victory Fun run/Walk at 8 a.m.; Veterans Day ceremony at 9 a.m.; Pancake Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.; Live Band Performances at 11 a.m. and the Laugh Out Loud (LOL) Comedy Show at 8 p.m. For more information contact Capt. Maritzabel Mustafaa at 410-278-2104 or maritzabel.mustafaa.mil@mail.mil

LAUGH OUT LOUD TOUR FREE FOR VETERANS

Come enjoy an evening of pure hilarity as MWR presents the Laugh Out Loud 2012 Comedy Tour featuring active duty service members and veterans. The headliner is Josh Blue, winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing." Entertainers include "The GIs of Comedy:" USAF Maj. Jake Sarduy, retired Army Staff Sgt. Thom Tran, former USMC Sgt. Will C, and former Army Pfc. Tom Irwin. Comedian/Soldier Jody Fully will emcee. Doors open 7 p.m.; show starts 8 p.m.

There will be free food and a cash bar. General admission is \$15; \$12 for CAC ID holders. This show contains adult content; guests must be 18 and older. For more information, visit the Leisure Travel Office in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011, or go to the APG MWR website at www.apgmwr.com.

TUESDAY NOV. 13 VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT

FMWR will hold a Captain's Choice, Four Person Scramble Golf Tournament honoring the nation's veterans with a Shot Gun start of 8:30 a.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. The event is open to all veterans.

The \$60 price includes 18 holes, a golf cart and lunch. Sign up at the golf course. There is a \$5 discount for those signing up prior to Nov. 5.

For more information, contact Richard Bond, Ruggles manager, at 410-

278-4794 or e-mail richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil

DOGS HEALING HIDDEN WOUNDS

Learn how the unconditional love of pets can help heal wounded veterans during the Science Café, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Abingdon Public Library, 2510 Tollgate Parkway in Abingdon. Guest speaker Lynne Gartenhaus is the volunteer executive director of Companions 4 Heroes which provides companion animals and skilled companion and service dogs from shelters for free to military personnel, veterans and first responders recovering from psychological challenges suffered during their service. This event is free and open to the public. RSVP at info@nmtsciencecafe.org or call 443-360-9134. For more information, visit www.nmtsciencecafe.org.

SATURDAY NOV. 17 CROP TILL YOU DROP

Seasoned or beginning scrap bookers, gather your photos and enjoy a day of scrapbooking with your friends. Come and "Crop Till You Drop" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg 3326.

The cost is \$25. Call to reserve a seat or table. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

The day includes lunch and door prizes and giveaways. Vendors will be available with a variety of scrapbooking necessities.

SATURDAY NOV. 24 NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP

Spend the day in the Big Apple, at your leisure. There will be plenty of time for shopping, taking in the sights or catching a Broadway Show. The cost is \$46 per person for round trip coach fare. Bus departs APG at 6 a.m. and returns approximately 10 p.m. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

TUESDAY NOV. 27 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE

RDECOM along with Team APG will be hosting this year's National American Indian Heritage Month Observance Nov. 27 at the APG Recreation Center 10:30-11:30 a.m. For more information or to volunteer, contact SFC David J. Hall, RDECOM Equal Opportunity Advisor @ 306-2425 or david.j.hall.mil@mail.mil

SATURDAY DEC. 8 FREE SKATING AT ICE WORLD

Enjoy free admission courtesy of CWF from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. Bring your own skates or rent them. Advance reservations required. For more information or to make reservations, contact Patti Harkins, Civilian Welfare Fund Office, at 410-436-4467 or e-mail patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil

ONGOING COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

The annual Combined Federal Campaign is underway. For a list of charities or to make a contribution, visit https://www.cfcnexus.org/_chESA-peake/ For more information, contact Tom Johnson at 410-278-6456 or e-mail thomas.g.johnson5.civ@mail.mil.

APG SOUTH 25TH ANNUAL FOOD, TOY AND GIFT DRIVE

APG South (Edgewood) organizations kicked off the 25th Annual Food, Toy and Gift Drive Oct. 29 and it continues through Dec. 3. Donations will be distributed to less fortunate civilian Families within the community. Needed are new and gently-used toys for children of all ages (infant to teen) and non-perishable, un-expired food items. In addition, the group will sponsor military families selected through Army Community Service. A children's wish list will be posted on the Internet at <https://ftg.apgea.army.mil/default.aspx>.

Finally, a closing ceremony will be held Dec. 13 from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Berger Laboratory Auditorium at ECBC

Bldg. E3549.

Donation drop-off boxes are located at the following buildings:

- CMA: E4405, E4517, E4585, E4586, E4588

- JPEOCBD: E2800, E3551, and E5101

- MRICD: E3100 and E3081

- PEOACWA: E3331

- ECBC: E3150, E3330, E3400, E3510, E3516, E3549, E3831, E3942, E4301, E5100, E5232, E5234, E5560, E5951

For more information, contact Mary Doak at 410-436-7231 or e-mail mary.l.doak.civ@mail.mil.

USMC HERITAGE AWARDS

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation is accepting submissions for its annual awards program. Each year the foundation presents awards honoring outstanding, creative work of individuals in preserving Marine Corps history, traditions and culture. Marines, civilians and retirees can submit their own entries or the work of others. All winners receive a \$1,000 cash prize, a medallion and a commemorative brick along the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park pathway at the Marine Corps Heritage Center. Awards will be presented during the foundation's annual ceremony April 20, 2013. Submission deadline is Jan. 9, 2013. E-mail submissions to Susan Hodges, vice-president of administration, Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, at hodges@marineheritage.org. Mailed submissions should be sent to Susan Hodges, c/o Awards Program, 3800 Fetter Park Drive #104, Dumfries, VA 22025. The 2013 Awards Program Submission Form must accompany all submissions.

For more information, contact Hodges at 703-640-7961, e-mail hodges@marineheritage.org, or visit the foundation website at <http://www.marineheritage.org/Awards.asp>; click on "Programs" then "Awards."

NEW U-FOOD GRILL OPEN IN BLDG. 6010

The newest U-Food Grill has opened in Bldg. 6010. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ENTER RED RIBBON CONTEST BY NOV. 2

Families can get involved promoting awareness in youth drug prevention activities by participating in the National Red Ribbon Week contest to win a \$1,000 grant for their school and a new iPad for their home.

To enter, students and parents decorate their front door, mailbox, fence, etc. with this year's theme: "The Best Me Is Drug Free." Then, take a photo with the Family and the Red Ribbon Week decorations and upload the photo to www.redribbon.org/contest or www.facebook.com/RedRibbonWeek by Nov. 2. (Only parents or those 18 or older can upload photos). Then, the voting begins. Ask Family and friends to vote for your entry at www.redribbon.org/vote from Nov. 2 through Nov. 16.

Ten lucky winners from regions across the nation will win. Winners will be announced during events at the winning schools in December.

In its 27th year, Red Ribbon Week, celebrated Oct. 23-31, is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the nation. The National Family Partnership (NFP) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) are co-sponsors of this year's national contest.

For more information, visit www.redribbon.org/contest.

RT. 715 GATE MAY RESUME NORMAL HOURS EARLIER THAN PLANNED

The Maryland Pond UXO operations, which have closed the APG's 715 Gate over the past several weekends, are ahead of schedule and winding down. Normal weekend gate operations may resume in early November. Please check the APG website, Facebook, and Twitter for the latest information.

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>.



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

Great American Smoke Out

'Knock out cigarettes' attention all smokers and past smokers:

Special to the APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground is recognizing the Annual Great American Smoke Out Nov. 15. This nationally recognized event occurs annually to encourage smokers to quit, even if only for a day. To promote this huge commitment there will be four locations and events to encourage cigarette/tobacco drop-offs and to receive a reward.

Free Bowling or Bucket of Balls

coupons will be given to every Smoker/Dippers/Chewer who drops off their tobacco of choice and to non-users who bring a friend who is. Come early to have a choice of your reward to the APG North Bowling Alley, C4ISR Courtyard, and the Edgewood Shopette between 1130 and 1300. POC: Ann Laughton @ 410-278-1774.

Additional activities will include: Bike Rally: starting at the Swan

Creek Parking lot behind 2202 Aberdeen Boulevard for a 1 hour ride starting at 1130. Wear reflective gear and a helmet. All participants will receive a free gift. POC: Gale Sauer @ 443-861-9260

Half mile or 1 mile walk: at the C4ISR Courtyard starting at 1130. Take a healthy walk, give up cigarettes or tobacco and receive a Coupon or gift. POC: Tiffany Grimes @ 443-861-7910.



Tech expo draws hundreds of visitors

Continued from Page 1

time had more than 300 visitors. Organizers expected to top 600 by the day's end.

FDAE organizers Mark and Donna Flemister and their son Matt hosted the event along with ECBC personnel led by Mary McCully, a computer scientist and Acquisition Team member. McCully called the event "a great success" as well as a great opportunity.

"There's all kinds of equipment here geared for Soldiers in the field," she said. "This is a great way to see current technologies entering the market. Technology changes so quickly. With the expos, APG organizations get to see what's emerging."

"Overall, this event continues to grow," Donna Flemister added. "The APG audience is getting larger and they appreciate the opportunity to meet with vendors and query them about their products. So much information is exchanged and we get great feedback. Most want to know when the next one [expo] is."

She added that vendors scramble to be put on the waiting list and that unlike other events people never tire of technology expos.

"They don't get tired because it [technology] constantly changes. Therefore, we feel like we are providing a service for APG."

2012 APG Fall Tech Expo exhibitors included:

AbilityOne Base Supply Center (formerly Office Eagle); Agilent Technologies; Allied Electronics, Inc.; AMCO Enclosures; ATM Mid-Atlantic, LLC; BMC Software; Control Cable, Inc.; Dassault Systems SolidWorks Corp.; Dell; Delmarva Engineering; Dow-Key Microwave Corporation; DSA; Eagle Sales; Eastern Instrumentation of Philadelphia; Eaton Wright Line; ECS Case; EIC Solutions, Inc.; Emerson Network Power; EOX Sales; Fiber Instrument Sales; General Dynamics C4 Systems; Graybar; HCGI; Hitachi CTA; HP; Increditek; Information Technology Solutions (ITS), LLC; Inmarsat Government; Integral Components; IntelliPower, Inc.; Iron Bow Technologies; Jupiter Systems; Kardex Remstar; Konica Minol-



Versitron company president Rich Tull shows ATEC's Rod Knecht a converter component, one of several different types of copper-to-filter connectivity solutions offered by the Newark, Del.-based manufacturer.

ta; Leibert Maryland a WardBoland Co.; Lexmark; Libra Industries; MegaPhase; MRV Communications; National Instruments; Nelson White Systems; Newark Element 14; Palo Alto Networks; Panasonic Solutions for Business; Panduit; Plantronics; Plug-In-Storage; Preformed Line Products; Red Hat; Raxco Software

Inc.; RGB Spectrum; Spirent Federal; SRC, Inc.; STG, Inc.; Swish Data; System Source; Technology Specialists Inc.; Tektronix; Test Equity; The Test Connection; Touchboards.com & Tequipment.net; Versitron; Vision Technologies; Vizada; Whitlock; Wolfvision; Zentech Manufacturing; and Zero Manufacturing.

Harford County State's Attorney addresses crowd

Continued from Page 1

the University of Baltimore Law School and in 2011, he was named the "Outstanding Disabled Veteran" by the Disabled American Veterans.

"If you ask me, with respect to my job, am I disabled, the answer is no. I can do my job perfectly well," Cassilly said. "I have been in the State's Attorney's Office for thirty-five years, but it wasn't easy to get there."

Cassilly said that he overcame many obstacles while he was a student and during his career. He recalled when he was unable to take a required math class at the university he was attending because the class was located in a building without a wheelchair ramp. Cassilly had to teach himself through a correspondence course.

"That was the attitude; that you just have to put up with this," Cassilly said. "I am sure that there were other people that gave up; did not try anymore. We need to encourage disabled young people, let them know that there is nothing they can't do."

Cassilly said that over the years he has seen progress in attitudes towards the disabled. For instance, the Army has

If you ask me, with respect to my job, am I disabled, the answer is no. I can do my job perfectly well. I have been in the State's Attorney's Office for thirty-five years, but it wasn't easy to get there.

Joseph Casilly

State's Attorney for Harford County and Purple Heart recipient

made improvements in providing job opportunities for disabled Soldiers who were injured while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, he said.

"They are saying, we have roles for you," Cassilly said. "You are not disabled, you have more experience. That is one of the greatest statements about looking at the person, what that person brings to the organization, as opposed to looking at the disability."

He added that in some ways his disability actually enhances his job performance. For example he is able to understand the difficulties of clients who are disabled by drunken drivers.

"It gives me a unique perspective,"

he said.

The observance included the National Anthem sung by Courtney White from the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, and the invocation by U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Juan M. Crockett. U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command Chief of Staff Col. Charles Gibson gave welcoming remarks.

In addition to the program, the event included two workshops. Jill McClintick, from the APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, presented "Schedule-A Hiring Authority - How Does It Really Work?" and Exceptional Family Mem-

ber Program Manager Nancy Goucher, from Army Community Service, presented "Preparing Children with Disabilities to Move from School to Work."

Vendors from the local community provided educational information and exhibits. G1 Recruiter De'Shawna Gardner, from Army Team C4ISR, told attendees about the Always a Soldier program, designed for veterans with a 30 percent or more service-connected disability. For more information e-mail Gardner at deshawna.gardner@us.army.mil.

Several attendees said that they received helpful information during the event.

"I attended to learn more about federal job opportunities for my son, who is disabled," said Dee Thompson, a post resident. "The more information I receive the better advocate I can be for my son. It is harder to find help for your child, once they get to be a certain age."

"I think the program is fantastic, that they provide these services and information for us," said Bonnie Day, an RDECOM employee, who is disabled. "You don't find that in a lot of workplaces."

Team APG keeps post operational

Continued from Page 1

the storm," said Post and CECOM Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell. "Everyone focused on exactly the right things—safety and reaching out and caring for their teammates and neighbors."

Representatives from throughout the garrison monitored what was dubbed "the storm of the century" to make rapid, around-the-clock decisions.

APG was closed Monday and Tuesday. This mirrored the state's preemptive posture, as roads, schools, businesses, governments and travel had shutdown throughout Maryland as 90 mph winds churned toward the region. The installation opened late Wednesday with liberal leave in effect to support storm recovery efforts.

Despite the potential for catastrophe, APG fared well during the storm. Significant power outages took place Monday afternoon but DPW crews restored power relatively quickly. According to Deputy DPW Director Todd Henricks, no large trees were felled in the can-



Evacuation shelters were set up at the APG North (Aberdeen) gym (pictured) and the Holye gym at APG South (Edgewood) to accommodate residents and personnel displaced by the storm. Five community members took advantage of the emergency lodging.

tonment area and only minor flooding occurred at some intersections. Henricks said crews will continue to work

throughout the week to repair damages and clear storm debris, mostly leaves and small branches.

"I am very proud of our DPW forces, who worked long, hard hours throughout the storm to keep the post operational and keep community members safe," he said.

Henricks said residents and personnel can call 410-306-1400 to submit a work order for storm debris removal.

DPW, Picerne Military Housing and FMWR personnel responded to emergency maintenance issues in housing areas, barracks and recreational lodging. Three people at APG North (Aberdeen) and two people at APG South (Edgewood) voluntarily evacuated to the shelters, which were stood up and manned by FMWR employees.

Although Hurricane Sandy was downgraded by the National Hurricane Center to a post-tropical storm Monday evening, its damaging winds left 38 people dead in the United States and 8.1 million without power up and down the East Coast. Damage estimates are in the billions and rescue and recovery efforts were ongoing through Wednesday.

Bowling Center offers new activities for patrons

Continued from Page 1

to unleash their inner idol," said Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation employee Tricia Devine, who helps organize events at the bowling center.

Free trivia contests will be held Friday nights, beginning Nov. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. Interested parties should call the bowling center in advance, with teams of two people or more.

"Trivia contests are very popular right now," Owens said. "I am very excited to bring trivia to the bowling center; I think it will be a big hit."

"The winner for the night will be called 'APG's Brightest,'" Devine added.

Additionally, a 180-inch Jumbotron will be installed next month. Owens said the Jumbotron, which will take up four lanes, will be used during Monday Night Football and other special events. On Nov. 12, the APG Bowling Center will celebrate the new addition with a \$10 burger buffet during Monday Night Football.

Next month, the bowling center will also install new retro themed furniture and décor, including new booths.

Owens added that customers will have a chance to win prizes by playing bowling bingo, or "Infinity Bingo," which

will come to the Bowling Center in the near future.

"We are still working out the details," Owens said. "More information will be released soon."

Additionally, the bowling center can be used for birthday parties, team building exercises including interoffice competitions, church fellowship nights and more.

"This is a social, Family environment," Owens said. "This is a place where you can meet others in the community."

"And it is a familiar place for Soldiers to go, when they are away from home, on TDY," Devine added.

Bowling Center specials

The last Saturday night of the month will be designated as "55+ Night," where senior citizens can play cards, board games,



Photo by Rachel Ponder

Mary Beth Maahs, a Civilian Personnel Advisory Center employee, sings karaoke at the APG Bowling Center. A karaoke competition will begin in November. Call the Bowling Center at 410-278-4041 for more information.

Bunco and more in the party rooms, and will receive a discount on bowling.

The last Sunday of the month, is set aside as "Teen Night." Teens will receive special discounts on bowling, food and drinks.

"This is their night, their way," Devine said.

The first Sunday night of the month is designated as "Date Night" where couples can bowl and purchase food from 6 to 8 p.m. at a special price.

On Wednesday and Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. the center features Happy Hour specials, during which customers can bowl and order drinks, wings and pizza at reduced prices.

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

Owens said there is still space available for bowlers during the Friday night adult bowling leagues and the Saturday morning youth bowling leagues.

The bowling center is located in Bldg. 2342, behind the Burger King. For more information, call 410-278-4041. Visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation/bowling.html for more information about monthly specials.

Comedy tour features Army, Air Force and Marine vets

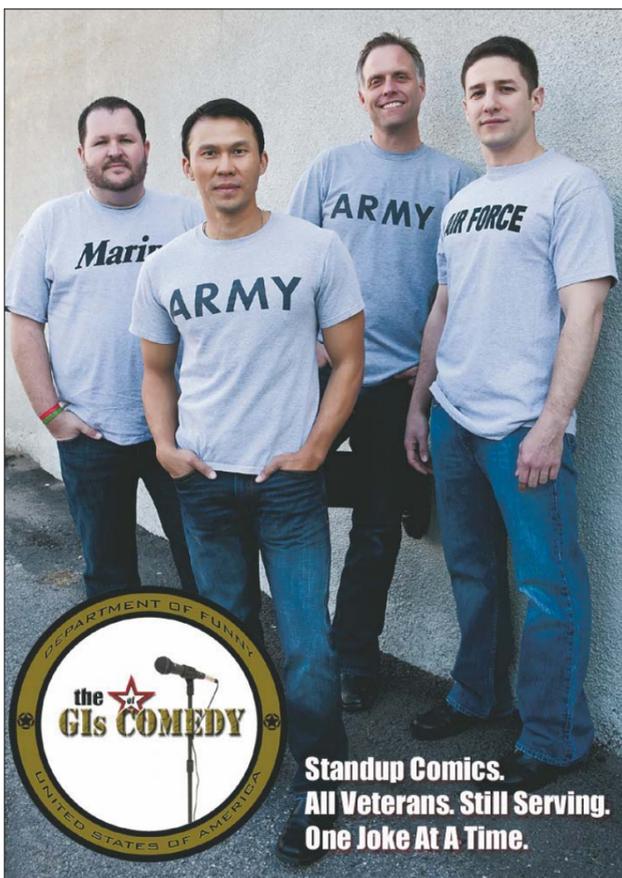
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selves for an uproariously fun time with Comedian Josh Blue and the GI's of Comedy. In honor of Veterans Appreciation Month, the show is free for active duty military and veterans. General admission is \$15 and \$12 for CAC ID card holders. Doors open 7 p.m. and the show starts 8 p.m. There will be free food and a cash bar for beer, wine and sodas. Guests will have an opportunity to take photos with the entertainers. This show is for mature audiences. Only 18 and over will be admitted. The show is open to the entire community. Visitors to APG should be prepared to present a valid driver's license and registration at the gate and all guests must present a valid photo ID.

The Comedy Tour emcee is Jody Fuller an Alabama National Guard captain, comic and motivational speaker. When not in uniform, Fuller travels the globe speaking to groups like the Boys & Girls Clubs of America or entertaining troops from Fort Lewis, Wash., to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

The show's headliner is Josh Blue the winner of the NBC reality show Last Comic Standing. Blue has cerebral palsy, and much of his self-deprecating humor is centered on this.

Blue got his start in comedy doing open Mic sets while attending Evergreen State College. In 2002, he won the prestigious Comedy Works New Talent Search contest and he has appeared several times on Comedy Central's Mind of Mencia. He was the first comedian to do stand-up on The Ellen DeGeneres Show. His other television credits include



Standup Comics. All Veterans. Still Serving. One Joke At A Time.

Live with Regis and Kelly and Comics Unleashed, plus numerous appearances on Fox, CBS, ABC, and MSNBC. He appeared in the 2009 low budget horror film "Feast 3: The Happy Finish" and he was voted the 13th best comedian by viewers in Comedy Central's Stand-up Comedy Showdown 2010 and the 11th best comedian in the 2011 show. Blue is also known for his skills in soccer as he played a part in the 2004 U.S. Paralympics team.

Blue said he appeared on Last Comic Standing to "make

people aware of the fact that people with disabilities can make an impact." He coined the term "palsy punch" during his final set of the final round of the show, when he said that the palsy punch is effective in a fight because "first of all, they don't know where the punch is coming from, and second of all, neither do I."

The GI's of Comedy round out the rest of the show. These four comedians – two Army, one Air Force and one Marine – share one common bond; their service to the nation. And they

have turned their experiences on the battlefield and on the road into humor for service members and civilians.

Thom Tran

A retired staff sergeant, Tran spent eight years in the Army, and had hoped to, "be Rob-in Williams in 'Good Morning Vietnam'." Instead, Tran specialized in small unit and tactical communications, and served in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

In 2003, Thom was awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded in combat, and in 2005 he retired from the Army because of those wounds. He said that after combat, comedy became his therapy and his goal is to bring that therapy to fellow Soldiers and veterans. Tran has several tours with the USO and the Los Angeles, Calif., resident appears regularly at the famed Hollywood Improv and the World Famous Comedy Store.

Jose Sarduy

A major in the Air Force Reserve, Sarduy also is a veteran of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. He said he enjoys taking audiences on the roller coaster that has been his life.

Sarduy has been featured in the Air Force Times and was selected as a finalist in the Seattle Comedy Competition in 2009. He performs all over the country and is rapidly becoming an audience favorite for his ability to make deportation and life threatening moments hysterically funny.

Tom Irwin

A former Army private first

class, Irwin spent his time in uniform with the Army's 5th

Engineers, and now builds his career as a standup comedian in Los Angeles when he's not touring all over the world. Irwin was an invited guest performer at the White House and is a mainstay at Hollywood comedy clubs like the Laugh Factory, and the Ice House.

He is best known for turning a nearly month long tour in Iraq into a riveting one-man-show called "25 Days In Iraq", which he has since taken to civilian and military audiences throughout the country.

Will C. Sergeant

Some people pick a branch of the military, and love it so much they stay forever. Sergeant loved the military so much he served in three branches. A veteran of the Air Force, Army, and Marine Corps, he is the group's USMC representative, he says, "Mainly because every other branch is already covered."

Sergeant grew up in a Midwest farming community near Kansas City, Mo. He said that as a child he was often dubbed "the chubby kid" by classmates and "the class clown" by teachers. His pursuit of a career in acting and stand-up comedy paid off and today, Sergeant can be heard on the comedy channels of both XM and Sirius Satellite Radio. His film credits include "Seven Pounds" with Will Smith and "Yes Man" with Jim Carey as well as dozens of commercials.

For more information about this and other events, check the APG News, APG web and social media sites and www.apgmwr.com.