

APG NEWS



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Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

November 29, 2012 Vol. 56, No. 48

Soldier encourages students to plan for the future

By **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
CECOM Public Affairs

"Where do you want to be in five years?" asked Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis J. Dent, Army Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

He addressed more than 70 students enrolled in the Advancement Via Individual Determination, or AVID, students at Havre de Grace Middle School to discuss the importance of getting a college education and how to best achieve their goals.

Students responded with a variety of answers, many of which included graduating from high school and attending the college of their choice.

"I learned that there are options with the military and they even have physical therapy and orthopedics...that's what I want to be," said Amari Barnes, 8th grade student and president of the AVID program at Havre de Grace Middle School.

Raising students' awareness of the career possibilities in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics fields has been made a priority among APG leaders, according to Dent.

In fact, the Department of Defense reports that more than half of the DoD personnel who work in STEM fields are over the age of 45 and will likely retire by 2020. STEM jobs have grown more than three times faster than that of non-STEM jobs over the last

See **CSM**, page 11

Army launches winter safety campaign

Directorate U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center officially launched the Army Safe Winter campaign Nov. 26, providing leaders, Soldiers and safety professionals valuable information to augment their seasonal safety programs.

The campaign is the second of four installments of the "Know the Signs" safety effort.

While fatal accidents usually dip during the winter months, it's no time to be complacent about safety.

"As an Army, we're doing extremely well regarding accidental losses," said Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Edens, director of Army Safety and commanding general, U.S. Army Com-

See **SAFETY**, page 10



Photo by Tom Faulkner

Edgewood High School Freshman Madelyn Miller constructs a tower made of marshmallows and spaghetti noodles during the APG STEM Expo Nov. 20. During this collaborative installation-wide event, students were assigned to one of three locations across APG.

APG STEM Expo sparks local student interest

By **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
CECOM Public Affairs

More than 400 students, teachers and school administrators gathered for Aberdeen Proving Ground's first Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Expo Nov. 20 at three locations across the installation.

Students from Harford and Cecil County Public Schools participated in rotating hands-on interactive STEM activities to create a memorable experience for both students and teachers.

"We've been in the planning process of having more students see what happens in our own backyard at APG," said Sara Morris, Supervisor of Mathematics K-12 Harford County Public Schools. She said events like this stimulate students' interests and sparks their curiosity in science and mathematics.

"The STEM Expo was an absolutely tremendous event for APG and I want to give a huge thanks to everyone involved in putting

See **TEAM APG**, page 10

Army Cemetery Director tours APG sites

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Executive Director of the Army National Cemeteries Program Kathryn Condon visited the APG North and APG South military cemeteries and one of the post's 14 private cemeteries during Nov. 16 a tour.

Condon, who was appointed to this position two years ago, led a complete organizational overhaul of Arlington National Cemetery after a 2010 Department of Defense report revealed misplaced remains and gross mismanagement at the world renowned graveyard. As a result of Condon's leadership, ANC, the final resting place for more than 300,000 individuals, is again recog-

nized as the military's center of excellence for cemeteries and a state-of-the-art national treasure.

During Condon's presentation to Team APG, she said all military cemeteries are to achieve the same accountability, operational and management standards achieved at ANC. This mandate is in accordance with Army Regulation 290-5, Post Cemeteries, DA PAM 290-5 Administration, Operation, and Maintenance of the Army Cemeteries, and the Department of Veterans Affairs regulations.

"No matter where a veteran is buried in a cemetery under the Army's oversight, the exact same accounting

See **CEMETERIES**, page 10



Photo by Terri Kaltenbacher

Garrison APG plans and operations specialist Fred Posadas briefs Kathryn A. Condon, executive director for the Army National Cemeteries Program (ANCP), on the installation's cemetery maintenance. Condon visited two military cemeteries and one of 14 private cemeteries at APG during the Nov. 16 tour.

WEATHER

Thurs.



46° | 32°

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



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OPINION

STREET TALK

The season's first snowfall could happen at any time. Are you ready?

"I'm very ready. I've bought [ice melter], pulled my shovels out of the basement and I'm still stocked up on batteries from the last storm.



Monica Gayden
MWR recreation assistant

"I'm not ready. I haven't pulled out shovels or snow tires. I feel like if I don't maybe the snow won't come.



Anthony Pacheco
DES Security

"I'm ready for whatever happens, from flash-light batteries to tires. I believe in being ready because you never know.



Mary Bonilla
USMC retiree

"Yes, I'm ready. I've cleared out my gutters, got my [ice melter], rearranged the snow equipment in the garage and just got new tires.



Clint Edmonds
USAF retiree

Warrior Care Month honors courage, sacrifice

November is traditionally the month when Americans reflect on the service of our nation's veterans and give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy because of their courage and sacrifice.

Since 2008, the military departments have observed Warrior Care Month during November as a time to reaffirm our country's commitment to care for and support our wounded, ill and injured service members and their Families. The theme for this year's joint observance is "Success Through Transition – Education, Employment and Entrepreneurship."

Since this program began in 2007, approximately 50 percent of all Soldiers in Warrior Transition Units have returned to the force. Approximately 23,000 of them are back in the fight, and our veterans who do leave

military service are prepared to lead strong and productive lives.

This program, overseen by the Warrior Transition Command, currently cares for 10,000 Soldiers in Warrior Transition Units and 9,000 Army veterans through the Army Wounded Warrior Program.

Warrior care goes well beyond providing the highest quality medical care possible to these Soldiers. We help wounded, ill and injured Soldiers to achieve employment and educational goals so they may return to their civilian communities prepared to succeed. And we are not alone in this important endeavor.

We are grateful to the educators and employers across the nation who recognize the unlimited potential and invaluable contributions of these men and women and open their

doors and hearts to them.

Warrior Care Month is the time to tell this story and to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed so much for the defense of our nation. There is no greater calling than helping to heal our brothers and sisters in arms when they return home from battle.

Together, let's celebrate the resilience and strength that our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers demonstrate every day.

Sgt. Maj. Raymond F. Chandler III

Sgt. Maj. of the Army

Gen. Raymond T. Odierno

U.S. Army Chief of Staff

John M. McHugh

Secretary of the Army

Army launches vet hiring campaign to debunk myths

By **EMILY ANDERSON**
Warrior Transition Command

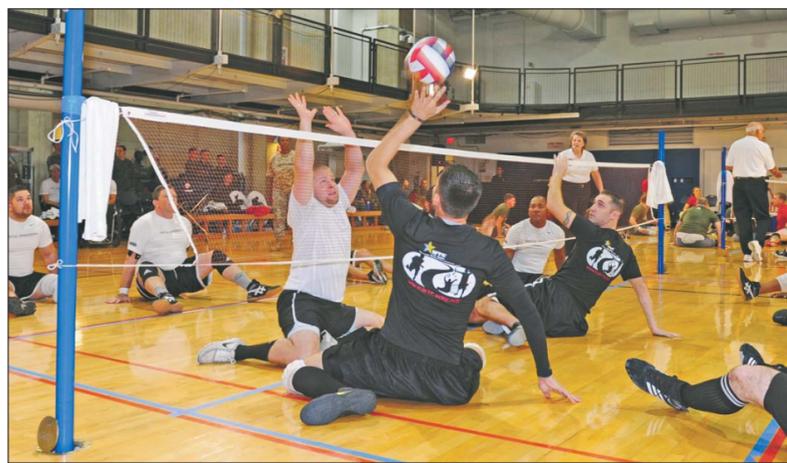
With more than 80,000 disabled veterans expected to enter the workforce over the next five years, the U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command (WTC) launched a national education campaign to address employers concerns that currently impede the hiring of wounded, injured, and ill veterans.

During a press conference at the National Press Club on Nov. 19, WTC launched "Hire a Veteran" to debunk the myths around Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, reasonable accommodations, and transferability of military skills.

"Our goal for this campaign is for employers to gain clarity on how well military skills translate to civilian employment; post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)/traumatic brain injury (TBI), and reasonable accommodations—which will result in the employment of more Wounded Warriors," said Brig. Gen. David J. Bishop, Assistant Surgeon General for Warrior Care and Commander, U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command. "We hope to amplify the incredible value our Wounded Warriors bring to the civilian workforce given their unique training and experience," Bishop added. "We hope to illuminate the fact that PTSD and TBI are treatable conditions which are not unique to the military and that most individuals affected go on to have productive, successful lives."

The campaign includes a 10-minute educational video providing solutions to the three obstacles, a two-minute "trailer" video, radio spot, and online employer toolkit. View the materials at www.WTC.army.mil or engage online with #hireaveteran.

The campaign was built on research conducted by the Society



Courtesy photo

In observance of Warrior Care Month, wounded, ill, and injured WTU Soldiers and veterans compete in the second annual sitting volleyball tournament held at the Pentagon on November 20th. This year's competition included teams representing Special Ops, Army, Air Force, Veterans Affairs, Navy, and Marines. Army and Special Ops (in white) contend for winners rights to move forward in the competition.

for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Founded in 1948, SHRM represents more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries. The random membership survey received a 14 percent response rate.

"I'll admit that our members are telling us there are challenges when it comes to recruiting, hiring and retaining veterans," said Dr. Jeff Pon, SHRM Chief Human Resources and Strategy Officer. "The good news is this: employers want to hire veterans, and they are actively interested in hiring veterans."

"Two-thirds of employers surveyed by SHRM said they have hired veterans within the past 36 months," he said. "This is a significant jump from 2010, when just over half of organiza-

tions said they had done so."

Tim Isacco, Orion International Chief Operating Officer, spoke at the press conference and agreed with the idea of veterans having difficulties translating their military skills to the civilian workforce.

"There is often times a disconnect when it comes to translating a 'military' resume into 'civilian', or understanding a veteran's background and skill set to determine a best fit," he said. "It is vital for corporate America to realize that while all veterans are trained within a military occupation that brings a specific level of training and qualifications, veterans universally possess many soft skills that make them invaluable within the workforce such as leadership, tireless work ethic, and proven performance under the most difficult of situations."

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



46°|32°

Fri



48°|37°

Sat



50°|39°

Sun



55°|45°

Mon



59°|43°

Tue



56°|45°

Wed



50°|34°

APG NEWS

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cation to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, IMAP-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-7274, DSN 298-7274; send a fax to 410-278-2570; send e-mail to patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil or contact reporters Yvonne Johnson, yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil or 410-278-1148, or Rachel Ponder, rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil or 410-278-1149.

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

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ECBC, MRICD launch Proteomics Core Facility

By **KRISTEN DALTON**
ECBC

Two Army institutions recently unveiled an unprecedented shared resource designed to support basic and applied research projects that will apply a broad but integrated biological approach to a wide variety of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives, or CBRNE, issues.

In October, the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense officially launched the Proteomics Core Facility, which will be used to support the Defense Threat Reduction Agency/Joint Science and Technology Chemical and Biological Defense Program and MRICD and ECBC missions to protect the Warfighter from the harmful effects of chemical and biological agents.

ECBC is the nation's principal research and development resource for non-medical chemical and biological defense. MRICD is the nation's leading science and technology laboratory in the area of medical chemical countermeasures research and development. Both are located at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Together, the organizations will support sponsored research in the areas of whole genomic sequencing and finishing, whole transcriptome analysis, expression analysis and microRNA. With the newly added equipment, ECBC and MRICD can extend their research utilizing mass spectrometry-based proteomics, high content image analysis of cells and tissues and gel-based imaging.

This new facility answers a need for both institutions, with both requiring additional proteomics and genomics tools.

"Rather than duplicate the capabilities, why not build them in one joint

facility?" said Dr. Jennifer Sekowski, molecular toxicologist and ECBC lead for standing up the Proteomics Core Facility.

"Having a combined Genomics and Proteomics Core now allows us to more easily share our resources, provide new training opportunities, and expand the amount and type of research we both can do," she said.

"This revolutionary joint capability is a wonderful illustration of the cooperation and collaboration across the Aberdeen Proving Ground Edgewood campus," said Joseph Wienand, ECBC

ECBC is the nation's principal research and development resource for non-medical chemical and biological defense. MRICD is the nation's leading science and technology laboratory in the area of medical chemical countermeasures research and development.

technical director. "In this time of fiscal awareness, it is a great example of our nation's leading scientists working together to share resources and save funding while working toward the common goal of the protection of our Soldiers and our nation."

MRICD Commander Col. Bruce Schoneboom said he was excited to see the unique

facility officially launched.

"The fact that two organizations came together to build a joint capability is a wonderful testament to the true spirit of collaboration in support of common scientific research, and I hope that this serves as a great example for other installations," he said. "I am very excited to see the great strides the talented MRICD and ECBC staff will take in proteomics and genomics research."

ECBC and MRICD scientists have joined forces for more than a year to build the Proteomics Core Facility, which comprises 625 square feet of renovated laboratory space on the third floor of the McNamara Life Sciences Building. Non-agent research operations began in August, with the official launch of the facility in October. Currently, ECBC and MRICD scientists will work on independent projects, though there is potential for collaboration in the future.

Barcode technology could improve emergency response to biological attack

ECBC news release

It looks like anthrax. It resembles most of the physical properties of the *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria. It even has a genetic make-up similar to that of the deadly pathogen, and most importantly, it makes hardy, durable spores like its virulent cousin. But it's not anthrax.

It is an imposter that is being used as a simulant in a groundbreaking effort at the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) to improve emergency preparedness in the event of a biological attack.

The simulant, *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *kurstaki* (Btk), is safe, found in nature and is available to the public at garden supply stores as a gypsy moth caterpillar control agent in organic farming.

For Dr. Henry S. Gibbons, research microbiologist at ECBC, it is the cornerstone of his group's work with a barcoded spore technology that uses small genetic signatures to track and identify the simulant spores during large-scale outdoor testing.

Monitoring the transportation patterns of simulant strains that mimic the behavior of actual anthrax spores increases the quality of data gathered by researchers, which could eventually be used to help mitigate the costs of clean-up and the extent of social disruption in the event of a real world biological attack.

"The barcoded spore technology helps us prepare for the eventuality of an attack. If we get hit again with something, we will have a better sense of where to clean it up, where it is likely to go, where to focus our emergency response efforts and determine what areas are at greatest risk," explained Gibbons.

Each genetic signature, or barcode, contains common and specific tags that are integrated into neutral regions of the DNA of the simulant Btk for tracking. ECBC researchers are able to detect and discriminate the barcoded strains from wild-type strains as well as from each other, which enables large-scale testing that could sample more than a dozen pieces of information and dramatically optimize data gathering.

Previous data gathering methods used by ECBC were expensive, labor intensive and involved more than 50 people to set up the outdoor detectors, which collected a limited amount of information in a single test.

According to Gibbons, the barcoded spore technology simplifies collection efforts, reduces testing costs and improves the control of previous uncontrollable variables that affect how bacterial spores behave when discharged in an open environment.

Large-scale testing now gives researchers the



Edgewood Chemical Biological Center photo

An ECBC scientist researches barcodes spores to improve emergency response preparedness.

opportunity to trace the simulant in more populous locations such as city subways or residential suburbs.

The simulant Btk strains used in the barcoded spore testing were selected by ECBC because of the center's commitment to safely conducting projects in an environmentally sound manner. The simulant is an ingredient registered with the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and found in common commercial products such as Dipel or Thuricide pest control, which is sold online and across the country at garden supply stores. The kind of large-scale testing in various conditions that Gibbons is striving for is a direct result of the heightened safety measures his team uses on a daily basis, with the EPA-registered Btk strain living at the core of the work.

"Better testing methods under multiple conditions can help improve our predictive models for different potential biothreat scenarios," said Gibbons. "We're hoping that we have a technology in these barcoded spores that can actually allow some testing on either mock structures or vari-

ous test beds where people can do some of these modeling studies with an organism that is relatively representative of what they would find in actual virulent *Bacillus anthracis*."

This new technology could be a tremendous asset to clean-up efforts in the wake of a future biological attack, he said, recalling how swabbing representative areas of various locations during the 2001 anthrax attack was the only effective way to track the pathogen during its outbreak through the U.S. Postal Service more than a decade ago. It marked the country's first case of bioterrorism when contaminated letters were mailed to congressional leaders and members of the news media. Gibbons called the Amerithrax events, as it was classified by the FBI, "one of the major catalysts for the expansion of the biodefense industry as we know it today."

"One of the problems that came out of the aftermath of the anthrax attacks was we didn't have a good sense of where to look for these spores and how to track them. We still don't have a very good sense for how long they'll last in a given environment," said Gibbons. "Anthrax has stunningly long term viability and that's one of the problems of the anthrax clean-up. The current standards for clean is there are no spores in a given location, but how do you certify that? Do you swab every centimeter of every surface?"

The work being done by Gibbons and his team furthers emergency response efforts with a barcoded spore technology that expands testing opportunities across research communities. The vast amount of information collected and data gathered could have a monumental impact on how first responders, medical personnel and decontamination teams operate during a potential crisis and future attack.

As a premier center that specializes in solutions to counter chemical biological threats to U.S. forces and the nation, ECBC's best offense is a good defense. In order to prepare for the worst-case scenario, the center is continuing extensive research and engineering innovative technologies that unite and inform the national defense community.

Gibbons, and more than 30 ECBC employees, are the authors of two articles on the methodology and process of the genetic barcoded spore technology that will be published in the December issue of *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*. The academic journal is peer-reviewed and published by the American Society for Microbiology located in Washington, D.C.

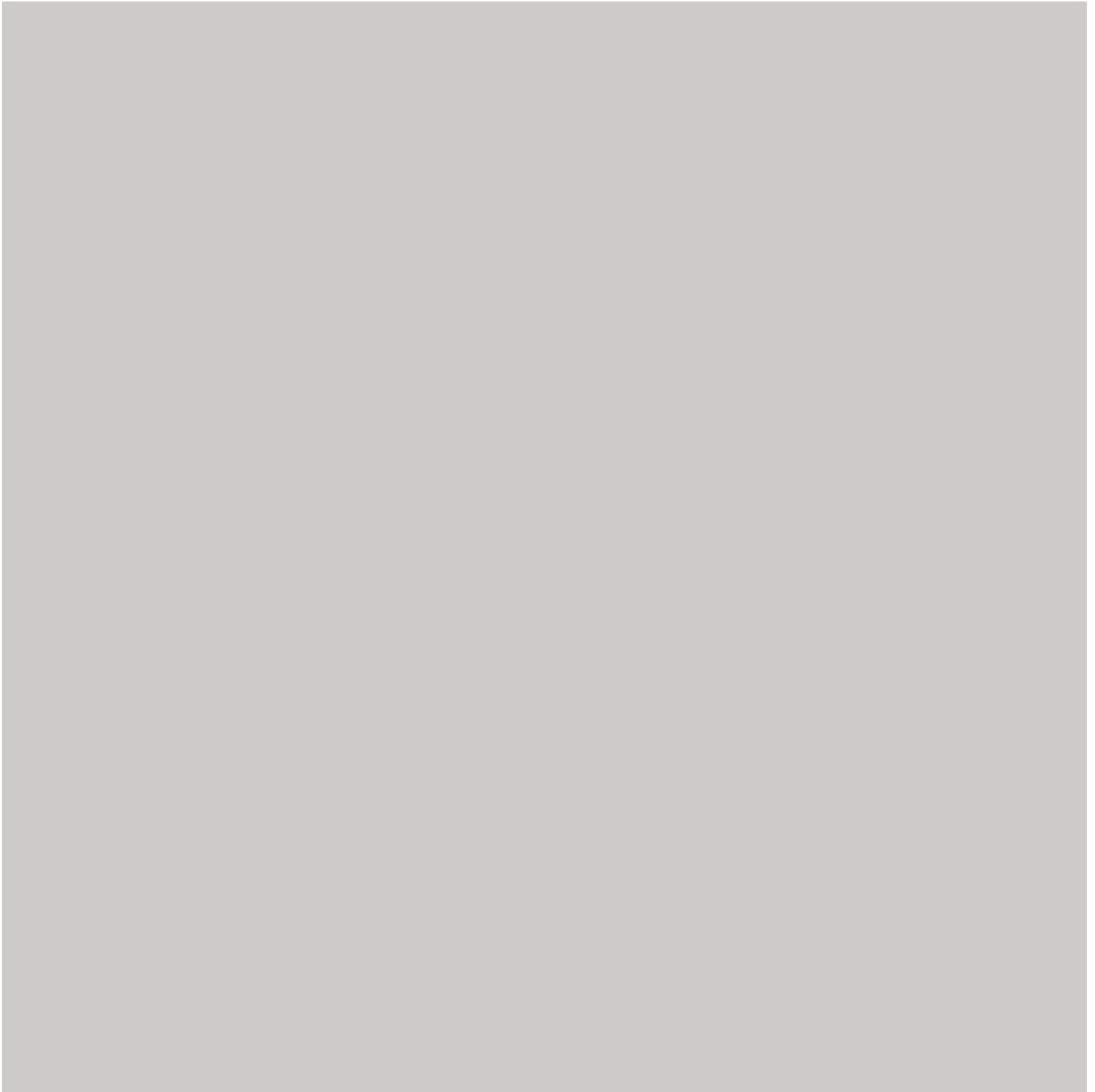
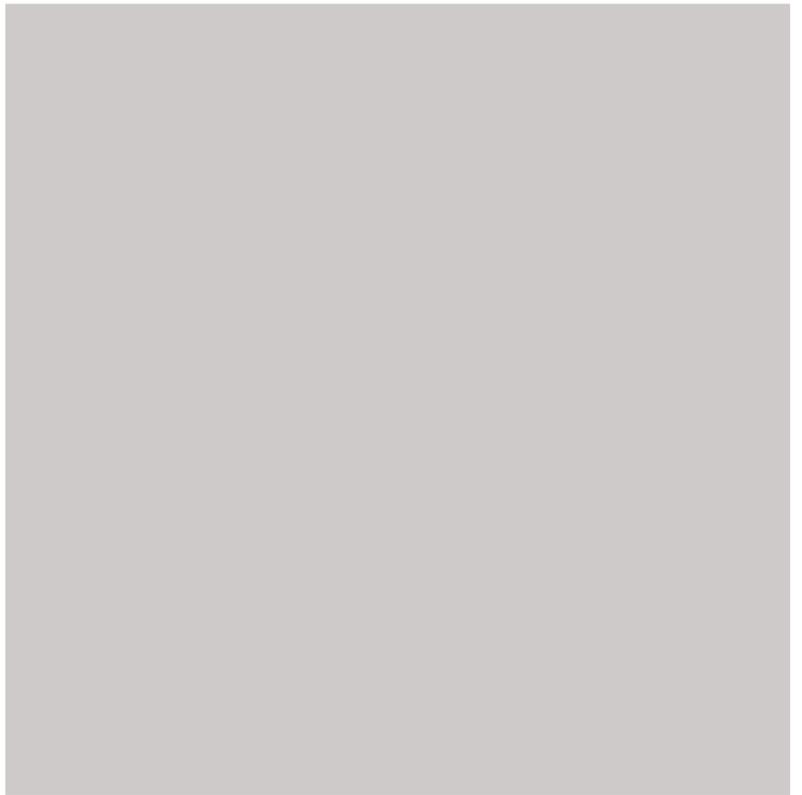
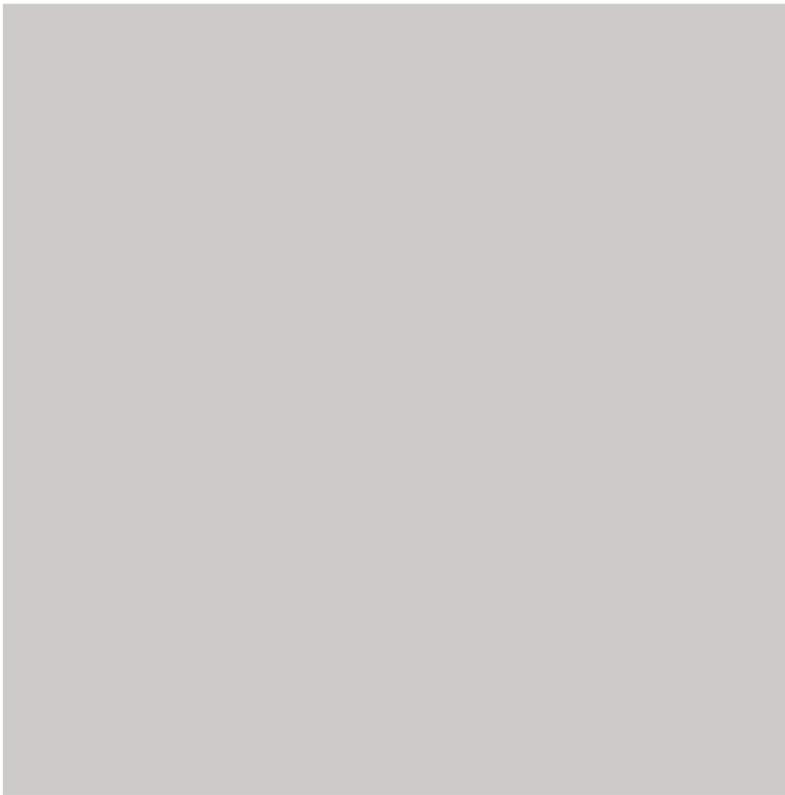
For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil>.



Education for our veterans

Marty Kindsvatter, a site coordinator for Harford Community College at Aberdeen Proving Ground, talks to Master Sgt. Thomas Suraci about local educational opportunities at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Nov. 19. The Veterans Education Day, held in conjunction with American Education Week and Veterans Month, featured education and career opportunities from 14 vendors. For more information, call the Army Education Center at 410-306-2042.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE THIS WEEKEND

The Bel Air Drama Company will present "It's a Wonderful Life" Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1. All evening show times at 7 p.m. Matinee on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Tickets \$10 in advance at www.belairdrama.org or \$12 at the door.

FRIDAY NOV. 30 BASKET BINGO

BINGO, sponsored by Giving Back Hope, will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 201 Mt. Royal Avenue, Aberdeen. Doors open at 6 p.m., early bird game begins at 6:45 p.m., BINGO begins at 7 p.m. Pack of cards for 20 games costs \$12, extra packets are \$5. Food and drinks are available. Bring a canned good and/or non-perishable for bonus prize ticket. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Brenda Conjour at 410-278-7332 or Gloria Williams at 410-273-1806.

SATURDAY DEC. 1 THE ABERDEEN ROOM

The Aberdeen Room Archives and Museum, 18 N. Howard Street in Aberdeen, will host its 25th Anniversary Open House from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy punch and cookies while taking in a guided tour of the museum's artifacts and learning about the rich histories of the city of Aberdeen and Aberdeen Proving Ground. The Open House is free and open to the public. For more information, call 410-273-6325; e-mail sayhello@aberdeenroom.org or visit the Aberdeen Room website at www.aberdeenroom.org.

SUNDAY DEC. 2 LUNCH & ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Enjoy a Thanksgiving-style lunch and advent wreath making social at noon at the APG South (Edgewood) chapel. Call 410-278-4333 for information.

THROUGH DEC. 3 APG SOUTH FOOD, TOY AND GIFT DRIVE

This event benefits civilian and military Families in the community. Donation boxes are located in the lobbies of JPEO-CBD, Bldgs. E2800, E3551, E5101; PEO ACWA, Bldg. E3331; CMA, Bldgs. E4405, E4517, E4585, E4586, E4588; ECBC, Bldgs. E3150, E3330, E3400, E3510, E3516, E3549, E3831, E3942, E4301, E5100, E5232, E5234, E5560, E5951; and USAMRICE, Bldgs. E3100, E3081.

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

TUESDAY DEC. 4 BASIC BUDGETING CLASS

Attend Basic Budgeting at ACS Bldg. 2503 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Having a budget really helps you to stay disciplined and organize your finances, which is the first step to knowing your overall financial health. In this easy-to-follow, one-hour class, you will get all the information you need to create and maintain your personal budget goals. Registration is required. Call 410-278-9669/7572 to reserve a seat.

FRIDAY DEC. 7 HOLIDAY BY THE BAY

All Picerne Military Housing residents are invited to celebrate the holiday season with neighbors and the Picerne team at the third annual Holiday by the Bay. The event is free for residents and will be held at 2727 Chesapeake Blvd. from 6 - 9 p.m.

Attendees can enjoy holiday music and treats, sip a warm cup of hot chocolate, work on crafts at Santa's Workshop, take a picture with Santa, or simply celebrate the season with Family and friends.

Call 410-305-1076 for more information.

HOLIDAY VARIETY SHOW

Don't miss the ultimate holiday office party—an anything-goes variety show at the APG North recreation Center. The party starts 6 p.m. and the show starts 7 p.m. Call 410-278-4011 for information.

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.

TUESDAY DEC. 11 APG WINTERFEST

Bring the Family and come celebrate winter and the holiday season during the APG Winterfest, 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. Enjoy the Hoppin Hawks puppet show and other live entertainment, photos with Santa, tree lighting, caroling, kid's activities, holiday craft vendors, holiday refreshments, a Ginger Bread House contest, an Ugly Sweater Contest and more. View contest rules online at www.apgmwr.com. The North Side Grille will open late for additional food choices. Admission is free. For more information, call the MWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/3854.

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP

Attend from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the ACS Bldg. 2503. Bring your own lunch. To enroll, call ACS at 410-278-9669.

WEDNESDAY DEC. 12 STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS

APG is offering a Stress Management class from noon to 1 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel, Classroom 3. Come learn how to manage work-related stress associated with the holidays. Registration is required. To register, or for more information, contact Gale Sauer at 443-861-9260 or e-mail gale.m.sauer.ctr@mail.mil.

THROUGH DEC. 13 HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

Donations can be dropped off at ACS Bldg. 2503 through Dec. 13. Cash and check donations accepted. Call 410-278-2851 or 410-306-4515 for information.

SATURDAY DEC. 15 HOLIDAY PARTY

The community is invited to the APG holiday party at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center 5 -9 p.m. Bring a covered dish and a 2-liter beverage or juice. Wear your ugliest holiday sweater for the ugliest sweater contest. Or compete in the holiday cake decorating contest. This event is family friendly. RSVP by Dec. 13 at APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil. Call 410-436-2713 for information.

WEEK OF DEC. 17 DECORATING CONTEST

Picerne Military Housing invites its on-post residents to participate in the annual holiday decorating contest.

Judges will tour the family housing areas and choose the best decorated yards in each of the neighborhoods beginning the week of Dec. 17. Each winner will be chosen based on creativity and overall impression, and will be given a gift card.

MONDAY DEC. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

All are invited to the Christmas Eve candlelight service and cantata at the APG North main post chapel. Call 410-278-4333 for information.

ONGOING DONATE TO CFC

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

YOUTH CENTER FINE ARTS EXHIBIT

Creative APG youth can participate in the annual Fine Arts Exhibit, an art competition open to eligible APG North (Aberdeen) youth center members in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Artwork must be entered in age groups 6 - 9, 10 - 12, 13 - 15, and 16 - 18 in the following categories:

Monochromatic Drawing; Multicolored Drawing; Pastel; Watercolor; Oil or Acrylic; Printmaking; Mixed Media; Collage; Sculpture; and Group Project. There is no theme or age designation for the Group Project.

All artwork must be submitted to Evette Griffen not later than Thursday, Dec. 20. For contest rules and guidelines, contact Griffen at 410-278-9061.

For more information, contact Norma Warwick, facility director, APG North (Aberdeen) youth center, at 410-278-9059, e-mail norma.a.warwick.naf@mail.mil.

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Don't miss it at Sutherland Grille on Sundays, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cost of \$ 9.95 includes all your favorite breakfast items. Menu includes a "create your own" omelet and waffle station. Lunch items and salad bar also included.

Sunday Brunch will not be offered Dec. 23 and 30. Call 410-278-4794 for reservation; email Richard bond for information: richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil

EXCHANGE, COMMISSARY HOLIDAY HOURS

The Main Exchange (PX) hours will expand on Fridays and Saturdays through Christmas. Friday hours will be 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The commissary will be open Monday, Dec. 24, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; and Monday, Dec. 31, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MWR HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Check the APG News or the APG MWR website at www.apgmwr.com to view the business hours of your favorite MWR facilities during the holidays. The list includes the APG gyms and fitness center; ACS; CYSS; APG recreation centers; bowling center; Auto Skills Shop; Outdoor Recreation and equipment rental center; library; Leisure Travel; North Side Grill (1st Sgt. Barbecue); South Side Grill; Top of the Bay; Sutherland Grill; Donnas' Pit Beef; Exton Café; and Ruggles Golf Course.

Information also will be posted at:

- apg.army.mil
- apgnews.apg.army.mil
- apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/
- [Facebook.com/APGmd](https://www.facebook.com/APGmd)
- [Twitter.com/USAGAPG](https://twitter.com/USAGAPG)
- Channel 97

UNIQUE ORNAMENT SALE

The APG Military and Civilian Community Club has commissioned a unique 3D gold Christmas ornament featuring the Pooles Island Lighthouse and a soaring American eagle. Proceeds from the sale of the \$15 ornament will go directly to the club's scholarship fund. Contact Sue Nappi at suenappi@yahoo.com to get your ornament! In addition to holiday gift-giving, the ornament can be presented throughout the year to retiring civilians or to service members in commemoration of time served at APG.

THURSDAYS SOCIAL HOUR

Socialize, network or just unwind with fellow Soldiers, coworkers, friends and Family while enjoying good food, music and camaraderie during Thursday Socials, 4 to 7 p.m., in the Top of the Bay Gunpowder Lounge.

Thursday Socials include complimentary light refreshments and a cash bar with additional fare for sale.

For more information, contact Teri Hall at 410-278-3062.

NOMINATE MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR BY DEC. 15

Operation Homefront has announced that nominations for the Military Child of the Year Awards are being accepted online at <http://militarychildoftheyear.org/> through Dec. 15. Winners will be recognized in April 2013.

The Military Child of the Year Award recognizes children who stand out

among their peers. Ideal candidates for the award demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and thrive in the face of the challenges of military life. These young heroes embody leadership within their families and communities.

This award is presented to an outstanding child from each branch of service - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The winners each receive \$5,000 and a laptop, and will be flown with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., for a special recognition ceremony at the Ritz-Carlton in Pentagon City on April 11.

For more information on how to nominate a child in your family or community, log on to <http://militarychildoftheyear.org/>

REPORT POWER OUTAGES TO PICERNE MILITARY HOUSING

During the fall and winter, the weather brings a lot of rain and snow. Often times this can lead to power outages.

All residential power outages should be reported to the Neighborhood Office at 410-305-1076. This will allow staff to determine if the outage is widespread or specific to the home and coordinate the responsible provider to restore power.

In the event a neighborhood office loses power, the phone system may also be affected. If the office cannot be reached, residents should call the following toll-free numbers to report outages and maintenance emergencies. Calls to the toll-free number will directly connect residents to the emergency on-call service.

Aberdeen Proving Ground: 1-866-958-5412

Patriot Village: 1-866-871-6257
NH Office: 410-305-1076

OBEY SPEED LIMITS

APG motorists are urged to obey the speed limit. Drivers should be especially cautious during physical fitness training hours as Soldiers exercise outdoors and conduct PT tests.

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

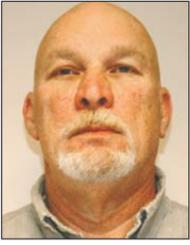
FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Firewood is now available at a cost of \$20 per level standard 8-foot pick-up truck; \$15 per level standard 6-foot pick-up truck; and \$5 per car trunk load. Permits to buy wood are good for ten days, or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Loads must be checked at either DES police stations in Bldg. 2200 in APG North (Aberdeen) or Bldg. E4420 in APG South (Edgewood) before exiting post.

Permits will be issued on a first-come-first served basis 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. APG South Bldg. E4630 Monday through Thursday. For more information, call Kathy Thisse, 410-436-8789 or Scott English, 410-436-9804.



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



Richard McClain

Army Lodging-Swan Creek Inn General Manager

Meet **Richard McClain**, general manager of Army Lodging-Swan Creek Inn on APG North (Aberdeen).

Army Lodging is a part of the Business Operations Division of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

As general manager, McClain oversees the daily operations of a military hotel consisting of 192 guest rooms and suites. Swan Creek Inn serves active duty military, DOD civilians, APG contractors, retirees and their families.

“Our mission is to provide quality temporary lodging accommodations and exceptional customer service for the official and recreational traveler coming onto the installation,” McClain said, adding that he enjoys daily interactions with employees and customers.

“I enjoy working with the great team that I have in all functional

areas of the operation,” he said. “I also enjoy the daily interface with our customers and the great feedback they provide that tells us [if]we are meeting their expectations or where we fall short and need improvement. Both are equally important.”

Swan Creek Inn amenities include full housekeeping service, laundry rooms in every building, full kitchens or kitchenettes in every room, high speed internet and 12 pet-friendly suites.

Swan Creek Inn, Bldg. 2207, operates 24 hours a day, every day, except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Check in is at 3 p.m. and check out is at 11 a.m.

For more information, contact the front desk at 410-278-4373. To make online reservations, visit <http://apgmwr.com/armylodging.html>.

You never have to miss an issue of the APG News

Visit us at <http://apgnews.apg.army.mil/archives/archives.html> or scan the QR code

ATEC News

ATEC and AMSAA renew partnership

Story and photo by
SANDRA GIBSON
ATEC

David Jimenez, U.S. Army Evaluation Center director, and William Forest Crain, director of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, signed a Memorandum of Agreement during a ceremony at the ATEC headquarters building Oct. 23. This MOA replaced the one signed in 2007.

In 1996, as part of a consolidation of the Army's tactics development and evaluation activities, AMSAA transferred its TD&E functions to the U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command, which later became the Army Test and Evaluation Command. After the organizational separations of the T&E and analytic communities a need for collaboration was identified, which resulted in the 2007 MOA between AMSAA and ATEC.

When the 2007 MOA became overly process-focused-- to the point that both organizations felt that it had become more of an administrative burden than a collaborative solution-- it was agreed that it was time to update the MOA. Both directors recognized the Army's



David Jimenez, U.S. Army Evaluation Center director, signs a memorandum of agreement as William Forest Crain, director of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, looks on during a ceremony at the ATEC headquarters building Oct. 23. ATEC and AMSAA signed the MOA, which supports collaboration between the test and evaluation and analytic communities.

analytical community would be stronger as a result.

"We have an opportunity here to do a lot of great things," said Jimenez. "I've always appreciated the partnership between ATEC and AMSAA. We're like two peas in a pod - two right and left brains and one body. It's a powerhouse in the analytical community."

According to Crain, the updated MOA will focus on identifying the real collaboration goals of both AMSAA and ATEC and how each organization might contribute toward achieving them. While the updated MOA will benefit both AMSAA and ATEC, the Aberdeen Proving Ground campus will ben-

efit as well.

"Real collaboration by major APG organizations provides benefits on a number of levels," said Crain. "First and foremost, it provides both of our organizations a level of synergy that really helps us carry out critical missions in these increasingly austere times."

Although Crain has since left AMSAA for his next assignment with the Center for Army Analysis, he felt honored that one of his last official duties was to sign the MOA between the two organizations.

"This MOA will help both of us move confidently into the future and achieve our mission for the Soldier," he

said. "Our partnership and our friendship are stronger than ever as we move into these exciting times."

Jimenez is equally excited about the new MOA and feels that it will not only keep ATEC and AMSAA's partnership strong, but it will make their relationship even stronger.

"If you look at APG today, it is very different from even 10 years ago," said Jimenez. "Now we have various program executive offices; we have Army laboratories; and we have a huge community of practice that needs to behave differently than how we behaved from the organization it came from."

Jimenez hopes the new MOA will serve as a model

to bigger community engagement across the APG campus, which will also allow them to take advantage of the great opportunities here.

"There are a lot of things that we can do together that we just haven't thought hard enough as to how to get them to combine," he said. "We have to work on that every day, but I hope that this one serves as a model."

ATEC plans, conducts, and integrates developmental testing, independent operational testing, independent evaluations, assessments, and experiments in order to provide essential information to decision makers. ATEC is the only organization within the Department of Defense to provide integrated evaluation supporting full spectrum testing by overseeing both developmental and operational test events. AMSAA conducts analyses across the Materiel Life Cycle to inform critical decisions for current and future Soldier needs. It is recognized as the authoritative source for responsive, independent analyses providing the foundation for current and future decisions throughout the Materiel Life Cycle.

Dixon receives Women of Color award

ATEC news release

Dr. Victoria Dixon received the Affirmative Action Award at the 2012 Women of Color STEM Conference in Dallas, Texas, Oct. 13. Dixon is the director of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Human Resources/Equal Employment Opportunity/Equal Opportunity program.

As the principle EEO director, Dixon planned, formatted and implemented an Affirmative Action for all employees program. This aspect of the EEO program resulted in the commanding general's command-wide policy on affirmative employment and is used by supervisors for fair and equitable hiring, training, discipline and promotion across ATEC.

"Dr. Victoria Dixon is a catalyst for change in the United States Army," said Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, ATEC commanding general. "She's responsible for ensuring that the command provides and maintains an affirmative action program of equal employment opportunity for employees and applicants."

He continued saying that Dixon champions educational

and workplace excellence for 10,000 employees from diverse backgrounds while promoting an inclusive environment that maximizes the potential of all employees.

Dixon has a long history as a change agent promoting diversity among the workforce. For example, she fosters participation in outreach programs like in Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Servicing Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Institutions recruitment. She also hired the Army's first EEO intern from the Wounded Warrior Program. She wants everyone to be treated fairly and with respect, a lesson she learned growing up in Louisiana.

"I was taught a lot of positive things growing up, but three of them stand out," said Dixon. "I learned to always help others and that everyone is proud of who they are. I also learned to accept and love people from all walks of life."

And Dixon does just that, every day, making a difference in the lives of the ATEC workforce and promoting equality across the Army.



Photo by Sandra Gibson

(From left) Dr. Victoria Dixon receives a certificate of appreciation from Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commanding general, during the Women of Color STEM Conference in Dallas, Texas, Oct. 13.

Command jumpstarts Profession of Arms campaign

By **SANDRA GIBSON**
ATEC

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command launched "Operation Solemn Promise" as part of the Army's Profession of Arms initiative this fall. In September, ATEC Soldiers and civilians reaffirmed their oaths of office to kick off the campaign, and now they are currently re-examining what the Army Values mean to the Army and to Army personnel.

The U.S. Army has a rich legacy of dedicated service to its country. Dating back to 1775 when the Army was first created by the Second Continental Congress, the Army has defended its country both domestically and abroad. Through it all, the Army's core values have sustained its fighting force during times of peace and, most importantly, while engaged in war. After a decade of fighting wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Army personnel across the service will reaffirm their oaths and allegiance and re-examine the Army's seven core values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

During the next seven months Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching, ATEC command sergeant major, hopes that ATEC's soldiers and civilians will get a sense of renewed commitment to the Army Profession by reaffirming their commitment to serve the nation.

"Our individual effectiveness as part of the Army team comes from within, from our upbringing, our character, and our values," said Fritzsching. "The Army is an organization that is guided by values. Army values are the basic building blocks that enable us to see what is right or wrong in any situation. They build the warrior ethos and they are mutually dependent - you can't fully follow one while ignoring another."

He added that these seven core values tell each of us what we need to be, every day, in every action we take and remind us and the world who we are and for what we stand. He went on to say that by accepting and living these values, American Soldiers fulfill their obligations, but that this is equally true for the Army's civilian cohorts. "They are a member of this team and should embrace our Core Values," said Fritzsching.

Now through April 2013, ATEC's Solemn Promise campaign will focus on training its military and civilian workforce on one Army value each month, starting with loyalty and ending with personal courage. ATEC will run a seven-part series of articles related to each Army Value that showcases what the core Army Values mean to its workforce. This affords Soldiers, civilians, and even contractors the opportunity to express their understanding of the values; explain the impact they have on their personal and professional lives; and share what these values mean to them.

Ultimately, the completion of Operation Solemn Promise will result in "increased accountability and professionalism for each member of the command," according to the ATEC operation order.

Sense of duty makes it happen

Duty. We all feel a sense of duty to someone or something.

It may be a sense we have toward our parents, our children, or our spouses; or a duty to our jobs or commitment to the American Soldier. Even the patriotic duty to our country and the freedoms and liberties we were sworn to protect and defend.

But perhaps just as importantly, we have a duty to ourselves and to each other -- to our co-workers, supervisors and senior leaders. Just as each of us feels a sense of duty for certain things, we also demonstrate our sense of duty in a number of different ways.

According to the Army, one of the ways we demonstrate duty is by resisting the temptation to take "shortcuts" that might undermine the integrity of the final product. Holly Travers, a security specialist, completely understands what the outcome of taking shortcuts could be and she strives not to take them.

"I try to visualize the long-term ramifications of my actions," she said. "If I skip a small step one time it may not matter at first, but if I skip that step every time, what will be the long term consequences?"

Travers understands that the consequences of taking shortcuts could mean a major clean-up effort on her part; it could also lead to putting an additional burden on a co-worker, and she would not want to put others in that situation. Neither would Al Thompson, inspector general for ATEC. He believes that we all are a part of a team and when someone isn't giving their all, they put the entire success of the mission at risk.

"Nobody can do it all, and if we are to succeed in our missions or assignments as an organization, we have to ensure everyone is contributing toward our success and trust they are performing to their utmost," he said.

Doing your duty means more than just successfully carrying out your assigned tasks. It also requires that you fulfill your obligations. For Fernandes Boyd, a human

resource specialist who retired from the Army after 21 years, this means doing what's needed, how it's needed, when it's needed -- regardless of why it's needed.

"Whether it's your command or a Soldier or civilian that needs you to do something, you make it happen," he said.

Fernandes understands how important it is for people to know that they can count on you to make something happen -- no matter how late it is or how much you may have to do. Being able to do so gave him a good feeling. "Every day I come in and give 110 percent to those who need me," he said. "I don't go home until I have taken care of everyone that I could have that day."

Just as duty can be demonstrated both in the big things we do as well as the small, so too can it impact our lives in both big and small ways. Jacob Rubinstein, acting chief of the G5 Strategy Division, said his wife, a stay-at-home mom, demonstrates duty in the selfless effort she puts into building them a great family without any hesitation or complaints. Keeping our two young children clean, fed, clothed, safe, well-behaved and well-loved takes tremendous effort," he said. "She knows what needs to be done and she knows that the children and I depend on it."

For Monica Webb, ATEC facilities manager, her father exemplified the definition of duty and instilled the sense and purpose of duty into her and her siblings. She said he began his career at the bottom of the ranks and worked his way to the top with diligence and humility. She said her father always performed beyond the call of duty and eventually became a leader in his own right.

"My father and the Army taught me that in order to become an effective leader, you must first know how to follow!"

Editors Note: This is the second in a seven-part series prepared by the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command on the Army Values.

Team APG hosts Nov. 20 STEM Expo

Continued from Page 1

it all together,” said Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell, APG senior mission commander. “The students were incredibly enthusiastic and our workforce loved interacting with them. I think they actually inspired each other.”

Raising student awareness of careers in STEM fields is a priority for APG senior leaders, as well as the Department of Defense. In fact, DoD faces a diminishing STEM capability within its workforce with a little more than half of its workers in STEM fields being 45 or older, according to its reports, and a significant portion of those personnel will likely retire by 2020.

Events like this one is aimed to spark students’ interest in STEM subjects early in their educational journey with the hopes of seeing more high schools graduates going on to college to study STEM subjects.

This collaborative installation-wide event, included participants from APG North and South. Students were assigned to one of three locations, APG South, at Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility led by the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center; the Army Research Laboratory and the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Campus at APG North.

“It was a great opportunity for the students to do hands-on activities. To see the different sides of technology and science and math curriculums to give them ideas of what they want to do in the future,” said Jaclyn Reamy, Aberdeen High School mentor teacher. “They talked about not only how the technology was used in the military but also in everyday life.”

C4ISR Campus

Students rotated through three sessions at the C4ISR, locations where they saw six laboratories each demonstrating C4ISR real-world applications to enhance capabilities for Soldiers.

In the first lab, students gained high-level expose to the world of military satellite communications. Students learned about satellite history, communications theories and hand hands-on experience in using the technology. Facilitators hosted a game show demonstrating the technology, and enabled students to communicate with locations outside APG.

“The coolest thing is when we phoned Fort Bragg,” said Mason Bragg, 9th grader at Aberdeen High School. “I’ve never used a phone like that before, it was like a walkie-talkie slash phone.”

Students went on to see a demonstration of the CP&I – Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance Track Common Tactical Vision system, which is basically a map on a giant touch screen (32” or 40”) computer. This demonstration allowed students to follow a soldier’s truck with video as it drives down a route and watch dismounted soldiers and gather other simulated intelligence.

“You get to do hands-on experiments and they [APG Facilitators] walk you through how it works,” said Nicole Campbell, 9th grader at Aberdeen High School. “You get to go behind the scenes.”

The labs varied in complexity and subject matter, ranging from Radar Testing and target laser function to working with elaborate replication, redistribution, installation, reproduc-



Photo by Rachel Ponder

(From left) Havre de Grace Freshman Delis Mattei-Lopez and North East Freshman Abigail Brown participate in a robotics activity during the STEM Expo at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory Nov. 20.

tion and training activities to learning how infrared signals and radio frequencies support today’s Army.

“It’s amazing what’s here,” said Morris, “the technology is ever-changing.”

“The program is designed to help kids see the importance of STEM and more importantly the opportunities they have in STEM careers,” said Frank Cordeaux, program coordinator for STEM for Cecil County Public Schools.

He described his program at length, detailing how Maryland’s state-wide STEM initiative is goes from pre-K through twelfth grade in an effort to build a pipeline in private and public schools to produce students who will go to college to study STEM fields.

“Besides the fantastic display of engineering that science and math uses here, the kids...their eyes are lighting up,” said Cordeaux. He said that’s the purpose of events like this one.

Aberdeen leadership is committed to continuing the relationships between the installation and the school, especially in the area of STEM outreach.

“The STEM Outreach effort is one of the key focus areas for APG,” said Ferrell. We’re working to do all we can to get young people at every grade-level, K-12, exposed to the exciting opportunities in STEM. Today’s STEM Expo is actually

a premier example of the kind of commitment we have to this program throughout the entire year. In fact, I hope I’m looking around at the next generation of APG scientists and engineers right now.”

“To encourage kids to work hard in school, because so many people try to take the shortcuts...you can take shortcuts in these fields. They have to work. This is exciting to students...take the extra courses,” he said. “These kids now see what they

have to study to do these things. This was a fantastic operation. You guys [APG leadership and staff] really stepped up to the plate and I want to say thank-you.”

ARL

About 80 students attended the STEM Expo event at U.S. Army Research Laboratory Rodman Building. During the event students completed two to three STEM activities ranging from electrical engineering, robotics, chemistry, civil engineering and materials engineering.

“The activities were a reflection of the some of the work that we do ARL,” said Dr. Sandra Young, ARL event lead. “It’s really important for students to come into a lab environment, meet with scientists and engineers to get a flavor of what is like to be in a lab. It can stimulate excitement for their science classes. Students seemed to enjoy what they were doing and learned things they wouldn’t normally learn while they were in school, so to me that is a success.”

Several students remarked that they enjoyed the hands-on activities and learning from STEM professionals.

“I like our in-depth our discussion, it was really cool,” said North East High School Freshman Tabor Ryan said after she learned how to make nylon in an ARL lab.

“I like the hands-on activities; it’s more fun than sitting in classroom,” said Bohemia Manor Freshman Kylen Trybus while learning to construct a bridge using K’NEX.

CBRNE defense community

STEM professionals across the chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) defense community engaged nearly 200 ninth-grade students from Cecil and Harford County Public Schools in 20 hands-on STEM experiences to

inspire them to pursue STEM career pathways at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility on APG South.

This STEM-focused event was organized into five separate STEM ‘Operations’ that each consisted of four STEM activities. Local freshmen had the opportunity to learn about the variety of careers available at APG, to interact with Department of Defense scientists and engineers, and to conduct real-world STEM experiences.

“It was a chance for scientists to come down to the student’s level, to show them what we do here,” said Edgewood Biological Chemical Center scientist Nicole McKnew, who assisted with an activity called “CSI: Edgewood” where students tested powders for the presence of a biological threat.

“This is event is great exposure for students, they get to see what careers the Army has to offer. It is important for them to see what they can do with science and technology outside of the classroom,” said Joppatowne High School teacher Alexander Maddox. “Our nation needs events like the STEM Expo. We need to encourage our students to set high goals.”

Participating agencies included the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity; the Defense Threat Reduction Agency’s Joint Science and Technology Office; ECBC; the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives; the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense; the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; the U.S. Army Public Health Command; and the 20th Support Command-CBRNE.

APG News reporter Rachel Ponder contributed to this article.

Cemeteries make the grade during Army visit

Continued from Page 1

that was accomplished at Arlington National Cemetery will be replicated,” Condon said.

She also discussed ANC’s gravesite accountability technology—a wireless smartphone app that leads visitors to burial sites by following a route on their handheld device with military-grade accuracy. (View or download this technology at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/GravesiteLocator/GravesiteLocator.aspx.)

and consolidated, he said the information system for APG cemeteries should be available to the public next year.

Garrison Plans and Operations Specialist Fred Posadas said he is working with Installation Management Command, G4 of Cemetery Operations, and the Army Contract Scanning Facility to upload the extensive geographic information system. Posadas is responsible for obtaining cemetery records of all interments and taking photos of headstones. After the data is processed

and consolidated, he said the information system for APG cemeteries should be available to the public next year.

During her visit, Condon visited both the APG South military cemetery. Considered inactive, it holds 138 interments. Buried in this cemetery are chemical warfare pioneers who founded Edgewood Arsenal back in 1918, and who in the path of duty lost their lives by accident or disease. The

APG North Cemetery, also inactive, holds 302 interments.

After tours of the cemeteries, Condon declared them up to standard, and said she was “very impressed.” She presented Posadas, who has maintained the APG North and APG South military cemeteries and the post’s 14 private cemeteries since 1997, a commander’s coin for his superior work and dedication.

Safety is about more than briefings, bulletin boards

Continued from Page 1

bat Readiness/Safety Center. “Fiscal [year] 2012 was our best year in more than a decade, and this year we’ve seen further decreases in fatal accidents.

“The last thing we want to have happen is Soldiers use that good news as a reason to drop their guard.”

Private motor vehicle acci-

dents remain the No. 1 killer of Soldiers. Inclement weather during winter can heighten risk while driving, whether on two wheels or four.

“Believe it or not, more Soldiers were killed on motorcycles during January and February this year than sedans and other conventional vehicles,” Edens

said. “Leaders have to know what their Soldiers are doing and stay engaged on the hazards they may face, even if it seems counter intuitive to the time of year.”

The Army Safe Winter campaign includes informative articles and posters that heighten awareness of

cold weather hazards. Media products from previous campaigns have become staple items in unit safety toolboxes.

“These campaigns have become the focal point for seasonal safety programs,” Edens said. “That’s a good thing, because it continually challenges us to think of new

and creative ways to relay the information. However, leaders shouldn’t use it as a crutch. Safety is a lot more than briefings and bulletin boards. It’s about the safety culture within the organization, and it begins with leader engagement at the lowest level.”

Internet romance scams use Soldiers' identities

Army News Service

Special agents from the Army Criminal Investigation Command are once again warning Internet users worldwide to be extra vigilant and not to fall prey to Internet scams or impersonation fraud -- especially scams promising true love, but only end up breaking hearts and bank accounts.

The Criminal Investigation Command, known as CID, continues to receive hundreds of reports from people worldwide of various scams involving persons pretending to be U.S. Soldiers serving in Afghanistan or elsewhere, according to CID special agents.

The victims are most often unsuspecting women, 30 to 55 years old, who think they are romantically involved on the Internet with American Soldiers, when in fact they are being cyber-robbed by perpetrators thousands of miles away, they said.

"We cannot stress enough that people need to stop sending money to persons they meet on the Internet and claim to be in the U.S. military," said Chris Grey, Army CID's spokesman. "It is heartbreaking to hear these stories over and over again of people who have sent thousands of dollars to someone they have never met and sometimes have never even spoken to on the phone."

The majority of the "romance scams," as they have been dubbed, are being perpetrated on social media, dating-type websites where unsuspecting females are the main target, he said.

The criminals are pretending to be U.S. servicemen, routinely serving in a combat zone. The perpetrators will often take the true rank and name of a U.S. Soldier who is honorably serving his country somewhere in the world, marry that up with some photographs of a Soldier off the Internet, and then build a false identity to begin prowling the Internet for victims,

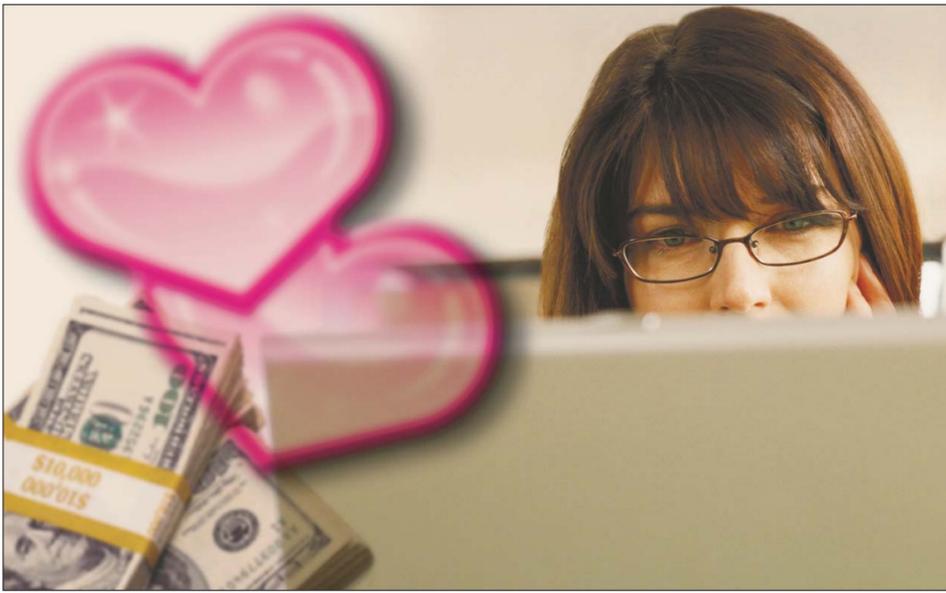


Photo illustration by Nick Pentz

Grey said.

"We have even seen instances where the Soldier was killed in action and the crooks have used that hero's identity to perpetrate their twisted scam," said CID Special Agent Matthew Ivanjack, who has fielded hundreds of calls and emails from victims.

The scams often involve carefully worded romantic requests for money from the victim to purchase special laptop computers, international telephones, military leave papers, and transportation fees to be used by the fictitious "deployed Soldier" so their false relationship can continue. The scams include asking the victim to send money, often thousands of dollars at a time, to a third party address.

Once victims are hooked, the criminals continue their ruse.

"We've even seen instances where the perpetrators are asking the victims for money to purchase leave papers from the Army, help pay for medical expenses from combat wounds or help pay for their flight home so they can leave the war zone," said Grey.

These scams are outright

theft and are a grave misrepresentation of the Army and the tremendous amount of support programs and mechanisms that exist for Soldiers today, especially those serving overseas, said Grey.

Along with the romance-type scams, CID has been receiving other complaints from people worldwide who were scam victims -- once again where a cyber-crook was impersonating a U.S. service member.

One version usually involves the sale of a vehicle; where the service member claims to be living overseas and has to quickly sell their vehicle because they are being sent to another duty station, said Grey. After sending bogus information regarding the vehicle, the seller requests the buyer do a wire transfer to a third party to complete the purchase. When in reality, the entire exchange is a ruse for the crook to get the wire transfer and leave the buyer high and dry, with no vehicle.

"These are not Soldiers, they are outright thieves," said Grey.

The perpetrators often tell

the victims that their units do not have telephones or they are not allowed to make calls or they need money to "help keep the Army Internet running," he said. They often say they are widowers and raising a young child on their own to pull on the heartstrings of their victims.

"We've even seen where the criminals said that the Army won't allow the Soldier to access their personal bank accounts or credit cards," he added.

All lies, according to CID officials.

"These perpetrators, often from other countries, most notably from West African countries, are good at what they do and quite familiar with American culture, but the claims about the Army and its regulations are ridiculous," said Grey.

The Army reports that numerous very senior officers and enlisted Soldiers throughout the Army have had their identities stolen to be used in these scams.

To date, there have been no reports to Army CID indicating any U.S. service members

have suffered any financial loss as a result of these attacks, according to CID.

The victims, though, have lost thousands in these scams, officials said. In one extreme example, a woman from New York took out a second mortgage on her home to get money to help her "Soldier." She lost more than \$60,000. More recently, a woman from the United Kingdom told CID officials she had sent more than \$75,000 to the con artists.

The U.S. has established numerous task force organizations to deal with this and other growing issues; unfortunately, the people committing these scams are using untraceable email addresses on "Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail," etc., routing accounts through numerous locations around the world, and utilizing pay-per-hour Internet cyber cafes, which often times maintain no accountability of use. The ability of law enforcement to identify these perpetrators is very limited, so individuals must stay on the alert and be personally responsible to protect themselves.

"Another critical issue is we don't want victims who do not report this crime walking away and thinking that a U.S. serviceman has ripped them off when in fact that serviceman is honorably serving his country and often not even aware that his pictures or identity have been stolen," said Grey.

Here are some places to visit:

Report a scam to the Internet Crime Complaint unit at: <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>.

Also, report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission. This will help law enforcement officials across the United States in their investigations. Visit: <http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft> or call: 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338). Or, mail: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580.

CSM highlights discipline, setting goals

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10 years. Eight million STEM jobs are expected by the year 2018.

"We must prepare our students to meet the global technology needs for our country to remain competitive and maintain our national security," Dent explained. "The Army, and APG, is committed to doing just that."

Aberdeen Proving Ground sponsors a variety of STEM outreach programs, including running the Army's eCybermission program, a web-based science, mathematics, and technology competition for in 6-9th grade students that promotes self-discovery and enables all students to recognize the real-life applications of science, math and technology. The Army Research Laboratory, also located at APG, sponsors the GEM, or Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science program, an extracurricular science education program enabling students to experience science in a real laboratory setting.

"I know many of you play video games and may even have smart-phones," said Dent. "But what if you were able to develop the software that makes those games and phones run? That's what studying, dedication and



Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis J. Dent, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, speaks with Advancement Via Individual Determination, AVID, students about achievement and charting a plan for the future during a Nov. 16 visit to Havre de Grace Middle School.

college will allow you to do."

And preparation starts early.

Dent highlighted the importance of good study habits and drove home the value of getting good grades and maintaining the balance between their academics and friends.

"You have to be a leader and a follow-

er," said Dent. "When your friends do something wrong, tell them you won't do it and why they shouldn't do it."

He encouraged students to not lose their focus and realize the importance of having a plan.

"Set your goals and the path you need to take to achieve those goals,"

said Dent.

Those are the values students participating in the AVID program are taught, according to Andrea Obenschain, Havre de Grace Middle School Teacher and AVID Site Coordinator.

"Students who participate in this program have to want to be here," she explained. AVID students are required to do more as it relates to organization and study skills and instilling the value of self-development and determination, according to Obenschain.

"Our students are pushed a little harder to challenge them academically and given access to tutors to help support them as they work to meet new challenges and increased workloads," she explained. "We want them to develop the skills necessary to go to and be successful in college."

Dent left students with three things to focus on. The first—set your standards and goals and meet them. Second, be disciplined in what you do, and finally, always have respect for yourself and others.

For more information about Army Educational Outreach Programs, visit www.usaep.com.

Families get unprecedented access at open house

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Illinois Institute of Technology. He was employed by Honeywell before completing doctoral studies in aeronautics at the California Institute of Technology.

"In this area, we're interested in the fundamental aerodynamic research that will enable the development of man-packable micro air vehicles that could give our soldiers situational awareness like what's over a hill, or autonomously move along with him or squad.

"We're interested in making these critters fly, so we study bird and bug flight to try to understand what nature does to make a vehicle that might better serve the Soldier."

About 60 people work inside the

We're interested in making these critters fly, so we study bird and bug flight to try to understand what nature does to make a vehicle that might better serve the Soldier.

Dr. Matthew Munson
ARL employee

newly constructed Vehicle Technology Laboratory, and another 20 or so work for VTD on Spesutie Island.

Dr. Mark J. Valco, acting director, brought his wife Amy to tour the facilities and made remarks to a 20-foot-long table filled with employees and their guests midway through a tra-

ditional Thanksgiving feast. Keeping with his staff meeting format, he began by first acknowledging the life and sacrifice of a fallen U.S. Soldier, killed in action, then he shared sentiments about the importance of the day's events.

Under his leadership, the Vehicle

Technology Directorate plans, manages, and executes air and ground vehicle research and transitions into advanced development programs. He also provides technical and engineering support to Army air and ground platform developers and program managers through collaborative and reimbursable agreements. These programs are primarily related to Army vehicle structures, propulsion, dynamics, aeromechanics, robotics, and unmanned systems for which unique facilities and skills exist at the NASA Langley Research Center (NASA LaRC) in Hampton, Va., the NASA Glenn Research Center (NASA GRC) in Cleveland, Ohio, and at APG.