



CPAC launches Installation Reassignment Program

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Civilian employees considering a career change and who want to continue working on APG can turn to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's Installation Reassignment Program (IRP) to search and apply for positions.



Vines

Leslie Lovick, director of APG CPAC, said that many organizations in the Department of the Army, including APG, find themselves facing budget cuts which can directly impact staffing levels.

The IRP program was established to help DA employees continue their careers at APG, and it provides a source for management to fill positions quickly. Another advantage is that organizations that use the IRP get an Army-trained employee.

"Organizations spend a lot of money training employees, why do we want to let them go?" Lovick said. "There is a lot of money wrapped into an employee."

Lovick added that CPAC has been working on this initiative for several months at the request of the APG installation commander, Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell, and has the support of APG senior leaders.

"This program is coming from a good place, to keep people employed at APG," Lovick said.

This program is open to current, permanent DA employees with a duty station of APG North and South only. IRP is intended for non-competi-

See IPR, page 10

Some CAC holders need to update cards by Oct. 1

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Some Common Access Cards (CAC) will expire Oct. 1.

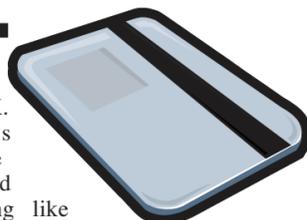
The U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) has mandated that all CACs with 64K/72K be replaced no later than Oct. 1, 2012. After this date CAC cards with these certificates will not be recognized and will not function.

To ensure that all CAC holders on the installation have a valid CAC prior to Oct. 1, the Military Personnel Office Identification Section is requesting that all personnel validate that their CAC is not a 64K/72K card.

This can be accomplished by reviewing the coding above the magnetic strip on the back of the card as follows:

Follow the "GEMAL" line to see if the

card is a 64K/72K. Cards that are will read something like this: "GEMAL TO GCX4 (72K) ..." or this: "GEMAL TO ACCESS (64KY2) ..."



See SOME, page 10

PATRIOT DAY



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Saluting Maryland's Fallen during Patriot Day Remembrance ceremony

Service members of every branch, police officers and firefighters surround the Patriot Day Memorial naming Maryland's Fallen in the War on Terror as APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin renders a salute during the 2012 Patriot Day Remembrance Ceremony at the main post chapel Sept. 11. Installation leaders, service members, employees and Gold Star Families gathered at the chapel for the ceremony marking the 11th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

Exchange renovating to ensure best selection

APG News

The APG Exchange is undergoing renovations in response to a significantly decreased customer base.

"We are reducing some inventory, but also making sure we have the merchandise our customers really want and need," said Exchange Manager Debbie Armendariz.

APG's active duty population decreased by more than half during the Base Realignment and Closure moves, and so did its sales. APG's Exchange sales steadily declined from \$10 million in 2008 to an expected \$4 million in 2012.

Armendariz said the store has struggled to make a profit since its pre-BRAC days, when it was not uncommon to sell 20 to 30 laptops per day on weekends.

Despite these challenges, she feels confident that the current renovations will improve operations and ensure the right items are available to customers.

"Yes, some items will be discontinued, but we will add other items, the right items," said Armendariz. "These are not casual decisions. We have taken a hard look at what is actually moving off the shelves; we've done extensive analyses

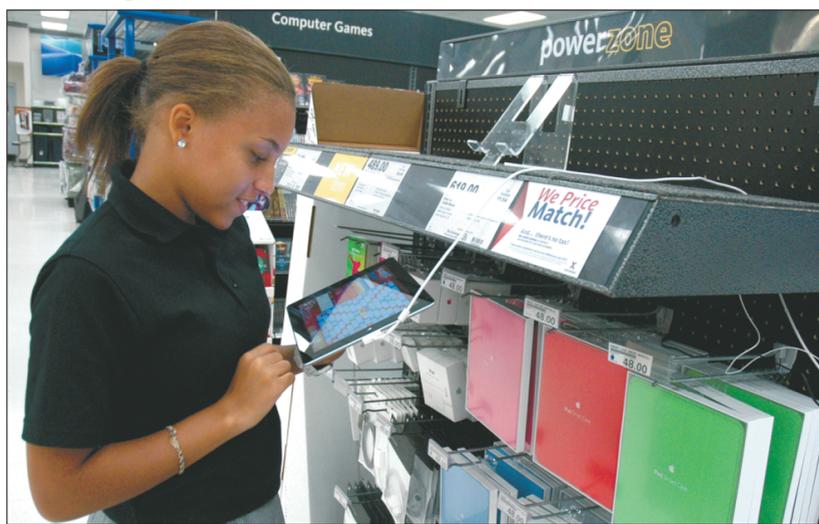


Photo by Rachel Ponder

Tona Raimpell, 14, views an iPad on display while shopping at the APG Exchange. Electronics like iPads, flat screen televisions and Blu-ray players are top-sellers at the APG Exchange.

and are looking at what our changing population wants."

Inventory will be reduced by 25 percent, but Armendariz calls it a smart reduction.

"The automotive department will go from 20 feet to 12 feet but we'll now

See EXCHANGE, page 8

Oktoberfest to feature two nights of fireworks

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Are you ready to savor some schnitzel while enjoying the upbeat sounds of an Oompah band?

Well, get ready because the inaugural APG Oktoberfest is almost here. The fun starts Thursday, Sept. 27 and runs through Sunday, Sept. 30.

Fest-goers can expect carnival rides and games, a FamilyKidz Corner, a Volksmarch, authentic German foods and beverages, a Festhalle, a car show and flea market and much more.

Opening ceremonies each day will salute a local community starting with the City of Aberdeen, 4 to 10 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27. Events this day include costumes and contests. The opening ceremonies begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28 events salute

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WEATHER

Thurs.



81° | 63°

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STREET TALK

Do you consider yourself a cat person or a dog person?

I am definitely a dog person. They seem to be more loyal.



Mike Turner
CERDEC employee

I prefer cats over dogs. They are less work and are more independent. They can stay outside by themselves.



Amber Matulin
Military Family member

I have both but I like my dog more. I think my dog makes less of a mess than my cat.



First Sgt. Vito Pizzo
203rd Military Intelligence Battalion

I like cats better. You can leave cats alone for longer periods of time, dogs need more attention.



Maurie McGowan
Military spouse

OPINION

IMCOM Commander addresses workforce

[Editor's Note: The following is a message to the workforce from IMCOM Commander Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter and Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice.]

The Installation Management Command has the best workforce we have seen in each of our 30-plus years of service. At every installation, base and depot we visit, we are impressed by the spirit, energy and teamwork exhibited by the IMCOM team.

We are just as inspired by the dedicated professionals in the IMCOM and region headquarters, who oversee operations that stretch around the globe from Japan and Korea, across the continental United States, to Europe, and even into bases in Afghanistan. Simply said, no one touches our Soldiers, our Army Families and our civilian workforce and retirees like we do every day.

In August, we marked the 10th anniversary of the installation management team-first Installation Management Agency and then IMCOM. That means we have experienced 10 years of evolution in our mission, our workforce and our methods of installation service delivery.

Those who have been with the orga-



Photo by Julie M. Lucas

IMCOM Commander, Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter and Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice visited the Vicenza Military Community Aug. 14. They visited numerous facilities recognizing exemplary employees and spoke to employees at a Town Hall meeting.

nization all or most of that time know it has been a constant learning experience in a business with really high stakes-the quality of life of our all-volunteer force. Sustaining such a high

quality force relies heavily on us, the installation management professionals, succeeding in our mission.

The installation management team

See IMCOM, page 11

Suicide Prevention - Every one matters

As the summer winds down, children are returning to school and summer vacation is becoming a distant memory of time you've spent with your families at the beach, at national parks, overseas, or simply relaxing in the company of Family and friends.



For many of our Soldiers and civilians, vacations were postponed until they return from duty in Afghanistan or some other distant location.

Eleven years of sustained conflict has placed significant stress on our all-volunteer force. Stress on Soldiers, civilians, and Families manifests itself in many ways, but none greater or more perplexing than the significant number and persistence of suicides affecting our broader Army Family.

This year suicides Army-wide have increased at a rate that could easily exceed last year's numbers. Military and civilian rates are both trending upwards. Therefore, Army leadership has worked to increase force-wide awareness on the prevention of suicides within our forces.

The Army will commemorate Suicide Prevention during the Week of Sept. 9-15, 2012. In addition, we will all pause for an Army-wide Suicide Prevention Stand-Down day on Sept. 27.

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Stand-Down is focused on increasing awareness, enhancing resiliency and improving the health and discipline across our APG Family; our Soldiers, civilians and Family members. Everyone

needs to be involved in suicide prevention efforts because Every One Matters.

We want to make sure our force is a ready force. As part of the Suicide Prevention Stand-Down, I encourage everyone to ensure you are up to date on your suicide prevention training.

To help meet this goal, APG will offer several face-to-face group training sessions in September. Information on the training opportunities will be distributed through your chains of command, in the APG News, on the APG homepage, Facebook and other outlets.

I also encourage the entire APG community to support the "Shoulder-to-Shoulder We Stand Up for Life" two-mile walk on the morning of the Stand-Down. This event will bring our entire community together in solidarity as we stand up for life.

I would like to highlight the efforts of our APG team, specifically the Public Health Command who leads our Community Health Promotion Council's Suicide Prevention Working

Group and our APG chaplains and volunteers who work diligently to ensure we have a trained force that is prepared to act during suicide crises and to lowering and preventing occurrences. Their continued efforts ensure the wellbeing and resiliency of those who live, work and play on the installation. You are life-savers! Thank you.

Please make an effort to attend this important event as we all continue to do our part for the well-being of Team APG. The loss of a life is a tragedy regardless of the reason. Our Soldiers, Families and Civilians are resilient and together we are Army Strong!

For more information or to help offer classes, call the APG North main post chapel at 410-278-4333 or Garrison Suicide Prevention Program Manager Timothy Knox at 410-278-3810.

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell

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

Counseling services offered on APG include:

- The Employee Assistance Program in the Army Substance Abuse Program building
 - Behavioral Health/Clinical consultation at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic for beneficiaries and for those in search of local resources
 - Army Community Service and the Military Family Life Consultant Program
- For anyone who is not a Tricare beneficiary, APG's on-site providers can help you locate alternate resources. Your federal insurer can also provide a list of participating off-post providers.

Available Resources:

- Once you receive training, the next step is knowing where to locate resources for help. Consider the following:
- The Suicide Prevention Hotline, 1-800-273-TALKS (8255), can be accessed 24-7.
 - For confidential help for service members and their Families, visit Militarycrisisline.net online.
 - Around-the-clock assistance is available for personnel in crisis by texting 838255.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMAP-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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

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2012 Legislative Session highlights

By **AMY L. SNYDER**
Installation Legal Office,
Client Services Division

The 2012 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly recently concluded. Here are some highlights from this year's legislative session:

Veterans Commission membership

The Maryland Veterans Commission altered its membership to add a veteran of the Iraq or Afghanistan conflict. The Commission also removed the requirement that one member of the commission be a representative of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, and instead added an honorary nonvoting member from the association.

Task Force on Military Service Members and the Courts:

To address increased risk of mental health disorders and substance abuse in veterans and military service members, which may result in violence or criminal activity, Maryland established the Task Force on Military Service Members, Veterans, and the Courts. The task force will focus on ways the courts may address drug and alcohol use and crimes committed by armed service members or veterans.

Taxes and Fees:

Sales tax on purchase of alcoholic beverages was raised from 6% to 9%. Maryland enacted a Stormwater Fee, which requires local authorities to collect a fee from property owners to fund stormwater cleanup. The amount of the fee will be based on the amount of paved area on the property (for example: sidewalks, driveways, parking lots). Maryland state tax on sewer systems, better known as the "flush tax", was increased from \$30 per year to \$60 per year. The tax is added on to the monthly water and sewer bill.

Compulsory school attendance

The compulsory attendance age for education was raised from 15 through 17. Prior to the enacting of the new law, children could drop out of school legally on their 16th birthday. Now a child can-

not legally stop attending school until his or her 18th birthday.

Estate tax on family farms:

The estate tax rate was lowered on family farms, subject to the property being used for continued agricultural purposes. This law was to preserve agricultural properties and prevent the growing problem of heirs who were forced to liquidate their family farms simply to cover estate taxes.

Maryland Healthcare Reform

The Health Benefit Exchange Act, a key piece of Maryland's health care reform legislation, put into place the policies which will ensure Maryland's Health Benefit Exchange, will be in operation by January 2014 (the deadline set by the federal Affordable Healthcare Act).

Requirements for debt collection:

New court rules require that debt collectors who wish to file suit on a commercial debt purchased from an original creditor (or from another debt collector) must submit additional documentation prior to getting a judgment, even a judgment in which the defendant does not file an answer. The additional documentation includes proof of the original debt (for instance, a bill with purchases or a signed agreement), each assignment or sale of the debt and an itemization of all interest and fees on the account (both before and after the debt was charged off).

Same-sex marriage

Maryland's Civil Marriage Protection Act was amended to reflect gender neutral language. This change would permit same-sex marriages in the state of Maryland. The effective date of the changes to the act was delayed, however, to permit the law to appear on the November ballot as a referendum.

Personnel eligible for legal services may contact the Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, by calling (410) 278-1583 or stopping by building 4305, 3rd floor, Room 317, for more information. Attorney consultations require an appointment.

Combined Federal Campaign opens

APG News

The annual Combined Federal Campaign has begun.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

"We have a goal this year of \$650,000. With a lot of support, we can make it. It's easy. All you have to do to contribute is visit https://www.cfc-nexus.org/_chesapeake/ and follow the directions," said Janet Brown, this year's Chairperson.

"What's different this year," she continued, "is that you can make a one-time donation using a credit or debit card instead of or in addition to making a payroll deduction."

She added to note that multiple entries in the NEXUS system will

count as multiple entries. "If you change your mind and want to change your donation you will need to notify the NEXUS representative named on the web site to prevent your entries from adding up: Subsequent updates do not cancel earlier entries".

CFC Coordinators and keyworkers are being appointed now. Training is available at https://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/apghome-secured/CFCPOC/cfc_registration.cfm. Their appointment letters should be e-mailed by

mid-September.

The Kick-Off meeting will be held at the Post Theater at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

NEXUS on-line donations can be made now, and face-to-face solicitation will begin on Oct. 1. The campaign will continue through Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Janet Brown at janet.l.brown.civ@mail.mil or at 410-278-1199.

What's different this year is that you can make a one-time donation using a credit or debit card instead of or in addition to making a payroll deduction.

Janet Brown
CFC Chairperson

EDGE! program holds first youth triathlon

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Twenty-nine athletes, ages 7-15, put their endurance to the test by participating in the inaugural EDGE! Youth Triathlon held on APG South (Edgewood) Sept. 8.

The event began at the Bayside Pool where participants were grouped into age brackets. The required distance the young athletes had to complete depended on their age bracket. For example the youngest age bracket, 7-8 years, were required to swim 50 yards, bike two miles and run one mile to complete the triathlon. The oldest age bracket, 15-18 years, were required to swim 250 yards, bike eight miles and run two and a half miles.

A team of 35 volunteers headed by DeeDee Burch, Cathy Towne, Terri Wallace and Julie Aarsen, ensured that the event ran smoothly and safely. Many volunteers served as course marshals at key intersections, providing directions to athletes, watching to make sure correct turns were made and streets were crossed safely and the athletes were wearing correct safety gear. Personnel from the Directorate of Emergency Services were also present in case of accidents or injuries. The Bike Shop of Bel Air, a major sponsor of the event, checked bike equipment before the race and handed out water bottles, coupons and other giveaways.

"This event was made possible with the support of volunteers," said EDGE Program Partnership Specialist Conor Joyce.

The event concluded with a closing ceremony at the APG South (Edgewood) youth center, where all athletes received medals and certificates.

Sonia Baker, an APG South



Cynthia Pena-Baker, 13, maintains a steady pace while running in the inaugural EDGE! Youth Triathlon held on APG South (Edgewood) Sept. 8.

resident, said that she was proud of all the athletes that competed.

"I think it's awesome," Baker said. "I told my children it doesn't matter what time they finish, just that they finish what they started."

Maj. Chad Foster, who volunteered during the event, said

that he was happy to see children from the APG community have the experience of competing in a triathlon.

"Most races are for adults, this is the first time that most of these children have competed in a triathlon," Foster said. "And it was held in a great location, not much traffic here on Saturdays."



Katelyn Aarsen, 13, is all smiles as she bikes by the APG South (Edgewood) youth center.



Athletes compete in the swimming portion of the triathlon, held at the Bayside Pool.

About EDGE!

EDGE!, a Child, Youth and School Services program, stands for Experience, Develop, Grow, and Excel and is open to youth and teens of APG service members, civilians, and contractors. The EDGE! program is designed for youth and teens in grades

1 through 12 to learn new skills and discover new hobbies using Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and partner facilities.

For more information about the EDGE! program, contact Joyce, at 410-278-1399, or visit http://www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_edge.html.

AMSAA battles back for big win over Team 13

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

After an up and down battle that could have been won by either side, AMSAA prevailed in grand fashion over Team 13 during the intramural (non-competitive) softball semi-final game at Shine Sports Field Sept. 5.

The two teams kept it close at first, tying it up 2-2 in the second and 4-4 in the fourth before AMSAA went ahead, 5-4 in the bottom of the fifth inning.

In the top of the sixth, Team 13 bats seemed to take on a life of their own. After the first batter popped out, the team didn't surrender another out until nine batters had come to the plate. During that span, Team 13 batters loaded the bases three times and logged six singles – four of them with runs-batted-in.

Two doubles, a walk and a sacrifice fly and the team jumped out to what looked like an insurmountable lead of 11-5.

Team 13 Coach Larry Bertrand said it's been like that all season.

"We've overcome a lot of adversity and setbacks from injuries to not enough players," he said. "This team just plays hard and sticks together."



Coach Tim Biscoe of AMSAA chuckles after drawing a walk. Behind him Team 13 Coach Larry Bertrand returns the ball to the pitcher during the intramural softball non-competitive semi-final game at Shine Sports Field Sept. 5.

The team is a mixture of players from CECOM and ATEC, Bertrand said.

AMSAA Coach Tim Biscoe said his team "had a lot of success" finishing the season with a 12-2 record. "When we hit a

bump we just come back. We've been playing together a while. It's what we do."

And, it's what they did. Biscoe led off with a double and the AMSAA batters calmly and quietly followed his lead.

Eight batters went to the plate before the first out was recorded. During that span the bases were loaded three times and runners clocked two bases-loaded walks, one double and four singles, two of them RBIs. After the first two outs, the comeback continued with four consecutive batters scoring RBI singles and driving in five runs. When the dust cleared, AMSAA led 15-11. Team 13 had one more at bat but chasing AMSAA line drives must have taken the wind out of their sails because they went quietly in the seventh.

Though disappointed, Bertrand took the loss philosophically.

"We had a lot of good guys and a lot of fun," he said. "We hung with the best teams in the league and we lost good players to injuries. We started off slow but we finished strong."

Biscoe said the team's morale was "fresh" and that they "kept it together" despite the Team 13 onslaught.

"They've been playing like that all season," he said. "This team has been together for four years and that makes a difference. We're like a band of brothers."

AMSAA played the third place (non-competitive) championship game versus WHAM Sept. 11.

Sango returns to All Army Golf Trials

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Three just might be the charm for Master Sgt. Sheila Sango. A career counselor with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Sango has been selected to compete in the All Army Golf Trials for the third consecutive year.

Sango and other selectees will warm up at Fort Jackson, S.C. Sept. 28 to 30 and then move on to Naval Air Station Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Fla. for a four-day tournament that will propel the top two male and female winners to the Armed Forces Championship Oct. 5-11, also at NAS Jacksonville.

Top finishers from each branch will compete in the CISM (Conseil International du Sport Militaire or International Military Sports Council, IMSC), championships Oct. 13-20.

Sango said that she chooses not to focus on her re-selection as acknowledgement of her considerable skills

but as another opportunity to proudly represent the Army.

“I’m happy I made it because it gives me the opportunity to do something good for the Army,” she said. “Along with that, I’ll be focused [on golf] and on doing better than last year.”

Each trip to the All Army Trials has expanded her knowledge of the game and brought her new friends, she added.

“Many of them will be returning,” she said, noting that she’s kept in touch with one colonel, two majors and a captain—all female golfers—from last year’s trials, all of whom will return this year.

“We encourage each other even though we compete against each other,” she said. “We put our game faces on but we’re still friendly. We have no problem telling each other to ‘shake it off’ if we mess up.”

The experience and knowledge gained is priceless, she said.

“I love to watch and learn. I don’t

always listen but I always watch to see what [techniques] I can apply to what I’m doing.”

Sango can be found at Ruggles Golf Course every day after work and on weekends. Her sessions consist of one hour a day putting and about four hours a day on the range. She said her game has improved thanks to critique and advice from Ruggles Golf pro Dave Coryell.

“Right now I’m concentrating on my driver; I need to straighten out my drive on the long course,” she said, “and Dave is working with me on my chip shot and my driver.”

With the Army’s best golfers in attendance, Sango knows her work is cut out for her, and that it will take all her skills to prevail. She’ll be packing a new \$500 putter friends chipped in and brought for her birthday.

“Everyone who knows me knows how much golf means to me,” she said. “I’ll try my best to do them proud.”



Master Sgt. Sheila Sango of ATEC practices her swing on the Ruggles Golf Course driving range as she prepares for her third consecutive trip to the All Army Golf Trials later this month.

APG NEWS

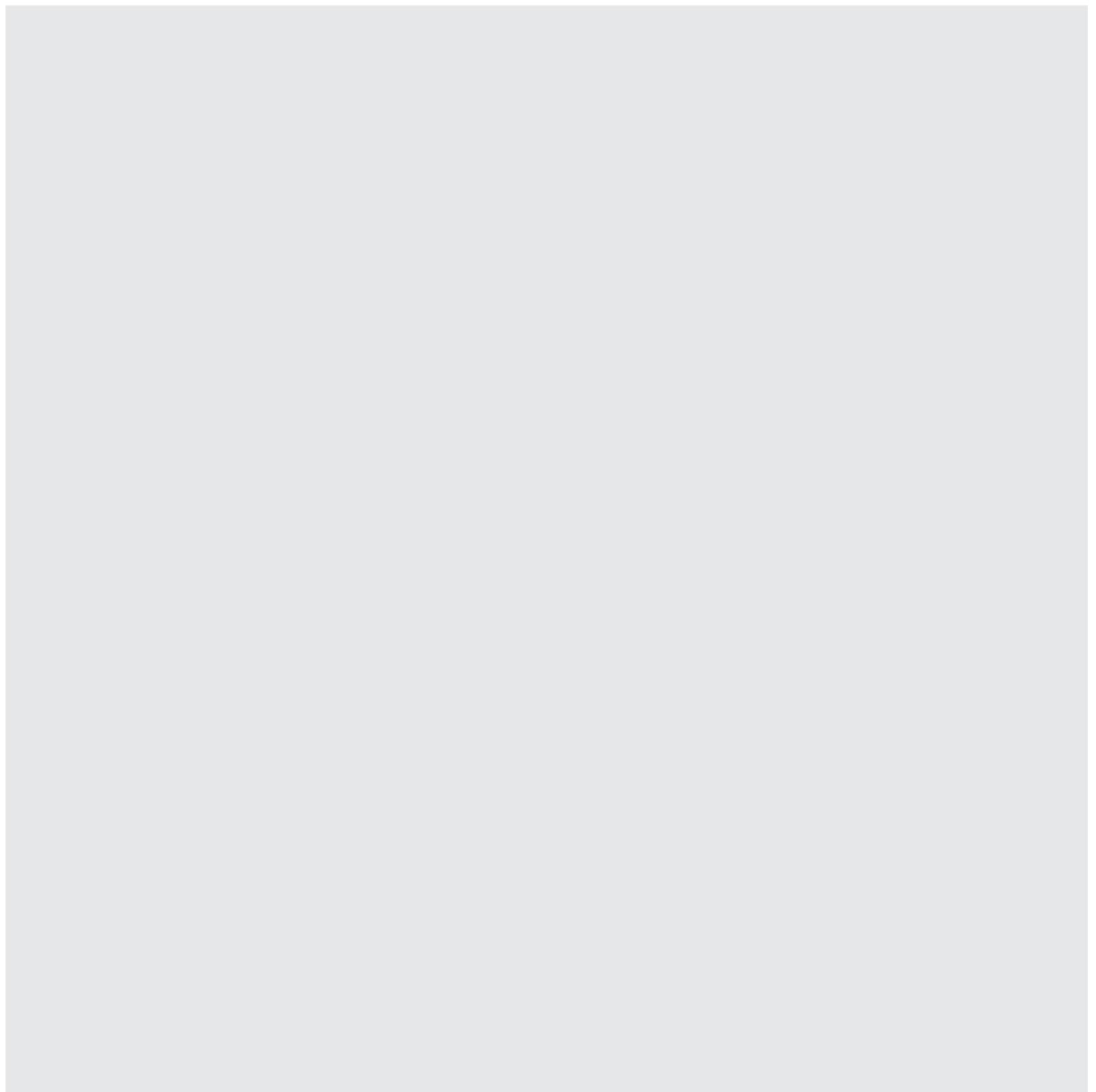
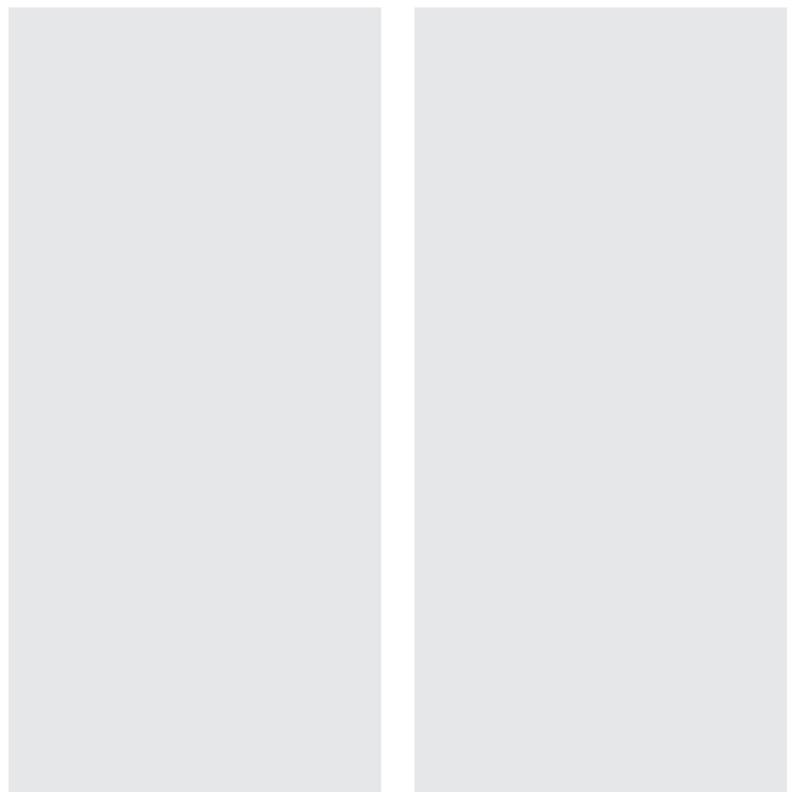
Local ordnance search ongoing

162 eagles call APG home

Get your purchase requests in early

Survivor services set at APG

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THURSDAY

SEPT. 13 REUNION AND REINTEGRATION TRAINING - RESET READINESS

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

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

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

MOAA, NDIA SYMPOSIUM

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

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

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

The 2012 Warrior-Family Symposium provides a forum for expanding on the collective efforts of government and non-government organizations to improve the physical, psychological and overall well-being of Wounded Warriors and their families.

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

CSD PREVENTIVE LAW SERIES

As part of an ongoing Preventive Law Series, the Client Services Division of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Legal Office will offer a presentation on how to be a successful landlord or tenant from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Post Theater, Bldg. 3245. Discussions will address the entire leasing process from the creation and signing of the lease, through move-in, tenancy, move out, and return of the security deposit. Early termination of the lease by both Soldiers and civilians will be discussed and information regarding the rights of tenants during the foreclosure process will be provided. In addition, the eviction process in Maryland will be reviewed from the perspective of both the landlord and the tenant. The presentation will last about 45 minutes; followed by a question-and-answer period. All service members, retirees and their Family members as well as government civilians are encouraged to attend. The Client Services Division attorneys will not provide individual legal advice during the presentation. Eligible clients who wish to make an appointment for individual consultations can call 410-278-1583.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

SEPT. 14, 15 & 16 FORT MONMOUTH REUNION WEEKEND

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

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

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

SATURDAY

SEPT. 15 SUMMER STAYCATION

Enjoy a campfire and a movie, 6:15 p.m. with Kathy Woods of Phoenix Wildlife Center. Learn about Wildlife Rehabilitation followed by campfire, S'mores and a movie. Movie time is 8 p.m. Bring lawn chairs/blankets and snacks. Rain date is Sept. 22. No cost to register but pre-registration is required. Call 410-836-3050 or e-mail edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com.

FAMILY CANOE TRIPS

Reserve space now for Eden Mill Nature Center's Family Canoe Trips. These trips help acquaint paddlers with the natural surroundings on Deer Creek where exploration of the environment, is enhanced by the use of canoes. A naturalist will provide environmental education and interpretations along with basic paddling instructions. Canoes, paddles, and personal flotation devices (life jackets) are provided. All trips originate and end at Eden Mill. Saturday morning trips are 8:15 to 11:00 a.m. Thursday evening paddles begin 5:45 p.m. and end 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Call 410-836-3050 or e-mail edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com.

MEET THE SNAKES

Join naturalist and meet our snakes in the Nature Center. This activity is offered 1 to 2 p.m. for all ages. The fee is \$3 members; \$5 for non-members. Pre-Registration is required. Call 410-836-3050 or e-mail edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com.

NATURE TRAIL RUNS

This Course is offered 9 to 11 a.m. for ages 10 and up. The fee is \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. The nature trail run program is designed to introduce people to the sport of trail running. All ability levels are welcome. Pre-registration is required. Call 410-836-3050 or e-mail edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAYS

SEPT. 19 - 26 TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES

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

SATURDAY

SEPT. 22 FAMILY FUN DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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

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

TUESDAY

SEPT. 25 HCC OFFERS ROME TRIP

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

This winter, Creative Photography, History of Furniture and Decorative

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

THURSDAY

SEPT. 27 SUICIDE PREVENTION STAND-DOWN

Mark your calendar to attend one of several Suicide Prevention Stand-Downs at various locations post-wide. The following are times, locations and units scheduled to attend:

- 10 – 11:30 a.m. at the APG South Chapel for the 20th, 22nd, JPEO

- 1:30 – 3 p.m. at the CMA Training Facility; Bldg. E4516 for MRICD and ACWA

- 2 – 3:30 p.m. at the APG North post theater for Garrison, G-1, 712th, 715th, 725th

- 10 – 11:30 a.m. at the Myers Auditorium for C4ISR/Legal PEOs

- 2 – 3:30 p.m. at the Myers Auditorium for ATEC, RDECOM, CECOM

For more information, please contact Wendy LaRoche at 410-417-2312

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY

SEPT. 27 - 30 APG OKTOBERFEST

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

THURSDAY

OCT. 4 JOB FAIR SLATED

The Susquehanna Workforce Network will host the 24th Annual Harford County Job Fair 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Richlin Ballroom, 1700 Van Bibber Road in Edgewood. Combine your workforce attraction needs with 29 years of workforce knowledge for a superior recruiting experience. Register in advance online at www.swnetwork.org. Dress for success and bring plenty of resumes. Sponsors include the Harford County Office of Economic Development; APG Army Community Service; Chesapeake Science & Security Corridor, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation; the Harford County Chamber of Commerce and Harford Community College. For more information or accommodations call 410-939-4240.

SATURDAY

OCT. 20 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BOY SCOUT STEM MERIT BADGE DAY

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) will host the STEM Merit Badge Day on 20 October 2012 at Shore Park in an effort to partner and support a STEM Merit Badge Day event with the Baltimore Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The intent of the day is to explore and potentially earn merit badges in up to 16 STEM categories.

For more information on this event or to volunteer, contact Garrison Operations at 410-278-4500

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY SLATED

Team APG will host Annual Retiree Appreciation Day activities 8 a.m. to noon at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Oct. 20. Area military retirees of every branch, their spouses or surviving spouses are encouraged to attend.

Updates on benefits like health care, TRICARE, Commissary, AAFES and Post Exchange privileges, ID cards and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities and more

will be presented. Also, meet and speak with representatives from the Veterans Administration; Social Security Administration; Retirement Services; Chaplain's Office; Staff Judge Advocate; Uniformed Services Family Health Plan; Perry Point VA Medical Center; Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic; and other activities.

The guest speaker for the event is former Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

For more information, contact retired 1st Sgt. Tom Shumate, 410-306-2303, thomas.s.shumate2.civ@mail.mil; or Janet Dettwiler, 410-306-2301, janet.l.dettwiler.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY

OCT. 25 DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH OBSERVANCE

CECOM will host the National Disability Awareness Month observance, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. The event includes a workshop and guest speaker to be announced. Check for updates in the APG News and on the APG Facebook site at www.facebook.com/APGmd.

For more information, contact your organization/unit EEO/EO representative or Tracy Marshall, CECOM EEO program manager, at 443-861-4366 or e-mail tracy.y.marshall@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/_chESAPEAKE/ For more information, contact Janet Brown at 410-278-1199 or at janet.l.brown.civ@mail.mil

CPR, AED CLASSES SCHEDULED

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

Dates, times and locations are:

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

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

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

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

Class size is limited to 30 participants.

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

HUNTING PERMITS ON SALE

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

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Fall classes at APG & HEAT Center.

Session 2 10/22/12-12/16/12

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Meet Betty Willard, Retirement Service Officer at the Personnel Processing Work Center located on the first floor of Bldg. 4305 in Room 141. As RSO, Willard oversees retirement and separation services for Soldiers ETS-ing or chaptering out of the Army. She said the majority of Soldiers separating at APG are ETS-ing, though some go directly into the Army Reserves.

"The DD214 is the most important document we handle," Willard said of the DD Form 214, a document given to individual service members at separation that represents the complete, verified record of their time in the military.

"If you get anything wrong on that, it will have to be corrected down the road so it's important to get it right the first time," Willard said.

Willard conducts pre-retirement interviews with Soldiers within nine to 12 months of their retirement date and often processes paperwork for Reserve and National Guard members who, at age 60, are eligible for retirement.

"We get a lot of walk-ins but most people call ahead, which is best," Willard said, "though we don't turn anyone away."

Separating Soldiers, retirees or veterans from any branch with questions about the Veterans Administration, its benefits and eligibility, can have them answered at the office or be referred to nearby off-post centers, Willard said.

The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs provides outreach services to Harford and Cecil counties, including APG.

At your service



Betty Willard
Retirement Service Officer, Personnel Processing Work Center

A VA representative is on-site in Bldg. 4305, room 133, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

A full time VA office is located at 2 South Bond Street in Bel Air; 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-836-4900.

Other VA outreach locations include the Elkton Vet Center, 103 Chesapeake Boulevard, Suite A, Elkton, Md., second Wednesday of each month, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and the Aberdeen Vet Center, 223 W. Bel Air Avenue, Aberdeen, Md., fourth Wednesday of each month, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Anyone with questions or wishing to make an appointment should contact Willard at 410-306-2322 or e-mail betty.a.willard.ctr@mail.mil.

Willard and two others, a retirement clerk and a casualty affairs specialist, are contractors with SERCO-N.A., a provider of professional, technology and management services to federal, state and local government.

Exchange responds to customer needs

Continued from Page 1

include gas cans and oil, items we previously did not sell but needed to be there."

Some of the brand names that will find a new home in the APG store include Michael Kors, Tommy Hilfiger, Chaus and Hearts of Palm. And to answer the desire for high-end purses, Armendariz continues to pull Coach

purses from the Fort Meade store to APG.

"But that's the case for any item. Whenever we don't have an item our customers want and we sell it at another store, we can usually get it for them within a week," said Armendariz, referring to the store's ability to shuttle items from neighboring Exchange stores.

Items that will be discontinued include plastic dinnerware, formerly a hot seller among younger Soldier populations living in barracks.

The store will also sell fewer CDs and DVDs, but that's a worldwide trend as customers purchase and consume more of their music and movies digitally.

eReaders, portable media players Internet streaming sites have taken a toll on the movie and music industry, but that's simply a sign of the times, said Armendariz.

As with any department store, electronics are a top-seller, and the APG Exchange will continue to carry iPads, flat screen TVs, smart phones, Blu-ray players and other in-demand items. The outdoor living section with its seasonal gardening items will return again in the summer, and the number of baby and

preschool toys will increase.

Armendariz said there are no plans to decrease hours or personnel.

"We are still here to serve the best customers in the world," she said. "We are not shutting our doors, and we will continue to funnel our profits to MWR to help underwrite quality-of-life programs for our Soldiers and Families."

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

Shopping options

Customers are encouraged to take advantage of the Exchange shuttle service which transports products not available in the APG store from Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir, Dover Air Force Base or Andrews Air Force Base. The free service delivers products to APG Exchange customers every Tuesday. Visit the customer service desk to submit a ticket.

submit a ticket.

The "Click to Brick" program on the Exchange website, www.shopmyexchange.com, allows customers to order items to be shipped to the APG Exchange. Check to make sure the product is labeled "Click to Brick."

Customers can also shop the Exchange quarterly catalog, which customers can access online or obtain a free hardcopy in the store. Smaller catalogs devoted to appliances, bridal, mattresses and tactical gear are also published annually.

We are still here to serve the best customers in the world. We are not shutting our doors, and we will continue to funnel our profits to MWR to help underwrite quality-of-life programs for our Soldiers and Families.

Debbie Armendariz
Exchange Manager

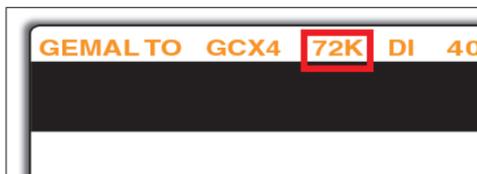
Some CAC certificates may expire soon

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To support this replacement process, the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) has provided individual notices through AKO e-mail and a by-name list of all personnel with the 64K/72K CACs who are located at APG to the installation Military Personnel Office.

Individuals with a 64K/72K CAC should visit the appointment scheduler website on the APG Human Resources page at <http://www.apg.army.mil> to schedule a CAC appointment. Scroll down to the @APG box and click on ID Cards. Click on the "CAC Appointment Scheduler" link in the second paragraph and then proceed to schedule an appointment.

For assistance or more information, contact the Military Personnel Office at 410-306-2404.



Some Common Access Cards (CAC) will expire on Oct. 1. If the card is a 64K or 72K card it will expire and need to be replaced so all cardholders will have valid cards.

APG's first Oktoberfest set for Sept. 27 - 30

Continued from Page 1

the Town of Bel Air with the same schedule as Thursday with an added 15-minute fireworks display starting at 9 p.m.

On Saturday, Sept. 29, APG salutes the city of Havre de Grace. Events include a Volksmarch at 8 a.m., a Craft Show/Yard Sale at 9 a.m. and a Car Show at noon. The carnival opens at noon and the Festhalle opens at 4 p.m. Opening ceremonies begin at 6 p.m. and fireworks start at 9 p.m.

The carnival runs noon to 6 p.m. on the final day, Sunday, Oct. 30. The ceremony saluting Cecil County starts 1 p.m. and features a Scales & Tales display by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Local town and city planners are working with APG to make this first-ever endeavor a success.

Brigitte Peters, marketing manager with

the Havre de Grace Tourism Office said that everyone up to the mayor is excited.

"This is a great opportunity for APG and Havre de Grace. We have a lot of attractions we can educate the public about. Our police department and tourism office will be reaching out with displays as well and we've reached out to the Main Street people to get them involved," she said, adding that the annual Havre de Grace Graw Days festival also occurs in October. "Really good communication brings great community involvement," she added.

Musical entertainment will be in abundance. Metal, Rock, Jazz, Country and Gospel will be represented along with traditional German Oompah bands. Scheduled acts include The Alte Kumpel Band, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept.

27, followed by The Leftstronger Band, a popular Baltimore metal band, from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

The German Band, Die Immergrum Musikantem, takes the stage Friday, Sept. 28, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., followed by local Blues band, Duffy Kane & the Freedom Riders.

On Saturday, Sept. 29, the Eric Marnier Band brings the sounds of jazz to the festival from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and then the Alte Kumpel Band takes over from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The final day, Sunday, Sept. 30, includes Accordion player Bob Cryster from 12:30 to 2 p.m., then Gospel music from 2 to 4 p.m. and closing the festivities out from 4 to 6 p.m. will be the Eddie Baccus Jazz Band.

Register now for Volksmarch and Car Show

The Volksmarch will be held 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 29, starting at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center, Bldg. 3300. Register online or from 7 to 8 a.m. the day of the event. For more information, call 410-278-4011. Register online at <http://www.apgmwr.com/Oktoberfest.html>, or e-mail the following information to usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

Name, mailing address, phone number, names and ages of all participants being registered.

Common Access Card (CAC) or Military ID cardholder? (Yes or No)

Will all registrants arrive at APG gates in the same vehicle? (Yes or No)

IRP helps DA employees continue employment at APG

Continued from Page 1

tive placements, which means reassignment to a position with the same pay grade or accepting a position at a lower pay grade.

All vacancy notices, including all series and grades, will be placed on MilSuite, www.milsuite.mil, with information about the position and how to submit an encrypted resume. A Common Access Card is required to access MilSuite. Employees should continu-

ously monitor MilSuite website for posting of employment opportunities.

The filling of positions is subject to all personnel rules and regulations, to include qualifications, eligibility and employment conditions, and Department of Defense Clearance procedures still apply.

"Management still has a say in selection, it is not a mandatory selection," Lovick said.

Lovick said an advantage of this program is that qualified applicants do not have to apply through the federal government's official job list, USAJOBS.

"This is a simplified way for APG personnel to get consideration for reassignment or change to a lower grade," Lovick said.

"Employees who have been in their organization their entire career might want to see what else is available.

They might have more opportunities to advance at another organization," said Michelle Vines, the APG CPAC action officer for this program. "I am very excited about this program, and look forward to working with employees."

Vines is available for questions and to assist employees with the MilSuite process. Contact Vines at 410-306-1447, or e-mail her at Michele.m.vines@mail.mil.

APG SNAPSHOT

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



RSO HOSTS BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAIR

(From left) Sgt. Julio Torrales, 22nd Chemical Battalion, watches as his daughter Karisia, 8, plays a hammer strength game during the annual Back-to-School Fair, hosted by the Religious Support Office. The event featured food and games for all age groups. Love offerings were given by attendees to support the APG Soldier Fund, which helps local Soldiers in need.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Photo by Rachel Ponder

NEW SCHOOL YEAR UNDERWAY

(From left) Lauren French, 8, Gerald Brown, 9, and Sean Deaner, 8, exit a school bus at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center Sept. 10. Students who attend Harford County Public Schools went back to school Aug. 27.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

ALWAYS A WINNER

Renisha Robinson of CECOM sings Whitney Houston's "I Believe in You and Me" on her way to winning first place in the APG's Got Talent contest at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Sept. 7. Robinson also won first place in the 2011 contest. View more photos of the event at www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg.

IMCOM facing reductions in funding; must reshape, resize

Continued from Page 2

has performed magnificently this year, just as it has in past years. Our ability to deliver services every day ensures our Soldiers and Families know we care about them and appreciate their service.

The entire Army is now affected by force and funding reductions. This means IMCOM will also reshape and reduce in size. This past year we accomplished all of our mandated reductions through voluntary actions. We also retrained and reassigned people within

our IMCOM team to allow for personal growth and to keep our team together.

Even as we reduced our numbers, we approved for hire almost 2,000 positions across IMCOM. In fact, many of these are vacant and I invite you to the IMCOM Enterprise Placement Program to see what is there and if there is a position that interests you.

Our workforce development is second to none. Our IMCOM Academy, developmental assignments, the men-

tor program, career program 29, and schools such as the Civilian Education System and the senior service colleges are providing immediate and positive return on investment in shaping our team for the future.

As we move into the year ahead, my goal is to create even more certainty for you. I want IMCOM leaders at every level to increase communication to build understanding and certainty for our team. We're getting ready for the

next 10 years of world-class installation services, so we need to get it right now.

To all of our great civilians: thank you for your dedicated service. Have a super weekend a great week ahead.

Army Strong!

Support and Defend

LTG Mike Ferriter

IMCOM Commander

CSM Earl Rice

IMCOM Command Sergeant Major