



MD Route 715 gate closes on weekends tentative starting Oct. 5

Weekend traffic to use Route 22 (Harford) gate

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Beginning Oct. 5, the MD Route 715 gate on Maryland Boulevard will be closed for traffic on Friday evenings and weekends as the installation's Directorate of Public Works conducts unexploded ordnance (UXO) survey operations at the Maryland Pond opposite Ruggles Golf Course.

Motorists will be rerouted to

the Route 22 (Harford) gate during these times only. Signs will be posted at the Route 22 gate to direct patrons to the golf course. Additionally, the visitor center and inspection lane will be relocated to the Route 22 gate.

"Old maps have revealed that the pond borders a former demolition area, so before

the area is overly developed, we have to go in and ensure it is clear of ordnance," said Rurik Loder, installation restoration program manager.

Loder said extensive safety plans are in place to ensure the safe and secure recovery and demolition of UXOs.

"We do not know if we are

going to find anything, but we are prepared to react appropriately if we do," he said.

In case a UXO is found, Loder said, from experience the majority of the time UXO items can be moved down range area to be rendered safe however there is a chance that the UXO item may have to be blown in place, and fortunately, APG is unique-

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20th Support Command (CBRNE) general awarded a second star

By **JESSICA MAXWELL**
20th SPT. CMD. PAO

Beginning with the fanfare of "Ruffles and Flourishes" and ending with The Army Song, the promotion of Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith, 20th Support Command (CBRNE) commander, marked the first time the command is led by a two-star general.

The Sept. 21 ceremony, hosted by Gen. David M. Rodriguez, commander, U.S. Army Forces Command, was attended by more than 200 Soldiers and civilians, and many of Smith's family members, including his wife and two daughters.

Rodriguez said, "No promotion goes without a few stories," prompting laughter from Smith and the audience. He spoke of Smith's determination and dedication to the command, as well as the Army, and paid special recognition to the Family.

"This day is as much about his family as it is about



Photo by Sean Kief

Newly-promoted Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith (center) commander of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) stands at attention as his wife, Vanedra, and Gen. David M. Rodriguez, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, pin his new rank on his uniform during his promotion ceremony at the post theater Sept. 21. Smith is the fourth commander of 20th Spt. Cmd. (CBRNE) and the organization's first major general.

him," Rodriguez said. "Family helps us develop and grow, and guides us as we go through life."

As Rodriguez noted some of Smith's accomplishments throughout his 27-year career, citing assignments at Fort

Bragg, N.C.; and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; he emphasized

See SMITH, page 12

Soldier pay affected by late reports

APG News Staff Report

Some Soldiers are getting incorrect paychecks.

"The basic issue is that units are not turning in documents in a timely manner," said Suzette Greene, director of the Defense Military Pay Office.

"The Defense Military Pay Office (DMPO) at APG is committed to providing excellent customer service for military pay functions to all military residents at APG. This goal is only achievable with the commitment and help of resident commands," she said.

When unit commanders don't submit documents in a timely manner, it can seriously affect a Soldier's pay.

See SOLDIER, page 6

Distracted driving regulations clarified

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

In the interest of making Aberdeen Proving Ground a safe place for all drivers and pedestrians, the Director of Emergency Services shared his thoughts on the following laws and regulations. Chris Ferris, who assumed the DES leadership in June, said he is concerned that too many drivers on APG are not familiar with state and installation laws concerning driver distractions involving cell phone use and texting.

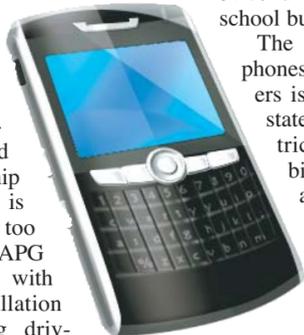
Ferris said that the first thing drivers new to APG should realize is that talking on a handheld cell phone while driving

is prohibited on the installation and it is banned in 10 states including Maryland. "Restrictions on cell phone use don't stop there," Ferris said. "They even address inexperienced or novice drivers as well as school bus drivers."

The use of all cell phones by novice drivers is restricted in 32 states and the District of Columbia and the use of all cell phones while driving a school bus is prohibited in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

In addition, text messaging while driving is banned in 39 states and the District of Columbia and novice drivers are

See DOD, page 12



Volunteers needed for Oct. 20 STEM Merit Badge Day

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground science, technology, engineering and mathematics professionals are needed to serve as merit badge counselors during STEM Merit Badge Day, Oct. 20, at Shore Park.

Team APG and the Baltimore Area Council of Boy Scouts of America organized the event. Volunteers will help Scouts, ages 11-18, earn merit badges in one of 16 STEM-related fields.

This is the second year in a row that Team APG has hosted an event of this nature. Last year, more than 640 Boy Scouts attended STEM Merit Badge Day.

Col. William Montgomery III, of U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research,



File photo

Sgt. 1st Class Jim Fuller of CERDEC (right) shows a group of Boy Scouts an Electronic Snap Circuits display during last year's STEM Merit Badge Day at APG.

Development and Engineering Command and one of the event organizers, called last year's event "groundbreaking."

"This was the largest gather-

ing of Boy Scouts for a STEM merit badge event," Montgomery said. "Boy Scouts came

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WEATHER

Thurs.



74° | 63°

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CPR/AED classes proven lifesavers

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Oktoberfest starts today!

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STREET TALK

What more can the Army do to prevent suicides?

I think having more open communication between lower-ranking Soldiers and higher-ranking Soldiers would help. They (junior enlisted and junior officers) should feel comfortable talking to their superiors if they are having a personal problem and need to talk. They should feel like they have someone to talk to if they are depressed, because other people are facing the same problems. They are not going through these problems alone.



Hamid Ali
DeCA

I think it's important for the military community to show that we care and appreciate our Soldiers. Soldiers need a close-knit support system to help them deal with stress. Single Soldiers can especially feel isolated, because they are so far away from their families. It is so important to get single Soldiers involved in the community. More activities and outings should be planned for them.



Theresa Baugh
Army veteran

This is one of the best posts for advertising and taking it (suicide) seriously. Leadership should continue to show videos and make trainings available.



Spc. Heather Holley
Army Evaluation Center

Have more team building activities to keep morale up, like special trips for single Soldiers. Get Soldiers and veterans more involved in the community. Have more military appreciation events on post.



Sidney Thomas
Army retiree

OPINION

Hispanic culture helped shape America

Community invited to annual heritage celebration Oct. 3

America's cultural diversity has always been the strength of our nation.

The Hispanic American community has a long and important history of commitment to our core values, and the contributions of this community have helped make our country great.

This month we celebrate the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Unlike other month-long observances, Hispanic Heritage Month starts in mid-month September to coincide with the independence anniversaries of seven Latin American countries – Mexico, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Hispanic Americans are a diverse group, uniting people from numerous ethnicities and races under a single language: Spanish. Ever since the Spanish first colonized the Americas during the Age of Discovery, the beauty of Hispanic culture has been woven into the fabric of our nation.

The Hispanic contributions to our military can be traced back to the American Revolution, when troops from Spain, Mexico and the Caribbean region, along with Hispanic Americans, were instrumental in defeating British forces along the Gulf of Mexico.



Hispanic Americans have played a vital role in every war, in every battle and in every fight. In fact, since the Civil War, there have been more than 44 Hispanic American service members who have received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award. Today, we have more than 162,000 Hispanic Americans currently serving in our Armed Forces with another 1.3 million veterans who have proudly served our nation.

With its diverse food, music and language, the Hispanic culture has helped shape our great nation. Today it is an integral part of the social and cultural foundation of our United States.

To celebrate, the APG community will host a Hispanic Heritage Month observance program on Oct. 3, 2012, at 11 a.m. in the APG Recreation Center. With a theme of "Diversity United, Building America's Future Today," we will enjoy many of the rich traditions and cuisine of the Hispanic culture. Rear Adm. Samuel Perez, acting assistant deputy chief of Naval Operations, will be our guest speaker for the event.

It is through programs like this that we are able to exchange information and develop a better appreciation of the many cultures that bind us together as one great nation.

Together, we are Ejército Fuerte... Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell

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

An open letter to the Aberdeen Proving Ground community

I want to personally thank each and every individual and organization for the support that was shown for my family and me after the recent apartment fire we experienced [on Aug. 24, 2012]. Your generous donations of food, clothing, and household items have made the rebuilding



process much easier than I could have hoped for. The outpouring of support from co-workers, friends, family, and strangers has been overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

Your willingness to extend a helping hand has benefited and touched my children and me in ways that cannot be placed into words.

(Read the full story on Page 3)

Conrad Arsenault

Directorate of Emergency Services APG EA, MD

Absentee Voters Week opportunity to register

Autumn is upon us. To most of us that means getting caught up in the hustle and bustle of going back to school, getting excited about football and preparing to winterize our homes.

However, every four years, autumn takes on a new significance. It is during this time that we prepare to elect or re-elect the leaders who will steer the course of our great nation. All of us have a responsibility to ensure that our voices are heard by registering to vote and casting our ballots on Nov. 6.

Our right to vote has been earned for us by generations past and is being defended by the current generation. Voting is the single most important means we have as Americans to make our voices heard and encourage change within our nation.

Absentee Voters Week begins Sept. 30 and runs through Oct. 7. Aberdeen Proving Ground is part of the Department of Defense and Army Voting Assistance Program and will host Absentee Voters Week efforts.

The Army Voting Assistance Program is designed to assist Army personnel (both military and civilian) and their Family members to register to vote, either at the polls or by absentee ballot. The mission of the VAP is to provide assistance for all elections, regardless of when they are held.

Each organization on APG has a Voting Assistance Officer assigned to it. The VAO's mission is to inform, provide assistance and help military personnel and their families to exercise their right to vote.

Contact your VAO for the SF 76 Federal Post Card Application or the 2012 Voting Assistance Guide. The SF76 only takes a few minutes to fill out and your VAO can assist if necessary and answer any questions you may have about the application, registering to vote, or casting an absentee ballot. For more information, check the 2012-2013 Voting Assistance Guide, or visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

The website has multiple links to assist anyone who wants to learn more about the voting process.

APG VAOs will be on hand to provide one-on-one assistance for those members of the APG community requiring more information during Oktoberfest festivities Sept. 28 and 29. They also will be at the APG North (Aberdeen) and South (Edgewood) Shoppettes on Oct. 4 from 7 to 9 a.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m.

Make this autumn count and exercise your right to vote!

Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Trowbridge

KUSAHC

Editor's Note: Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Trowbridge is the Unit Voting Assistance Officer for APG's Kirk Health Clinic.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



74°|63°

Fri



70°|60°

Sat



69°|56°

Sun



68°|54°

Mon



70°|52°

Tue



71°|54°

Wed



75°|57°

APG NEWS

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

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Oktoberfest starts today!

Grab your lederhosen and dirndl to partake in the fun!

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Don't miss the first APG Oktoberfest which starts today and runs through Sunday, Sept. 30 on Shine Sports Field. Festivities begin with a Family and Kidz Corner and the Festhalle opening at 4 p.m. A Salute to the city of Aberdeen kicks off the opening ceremony at 6 p.m. featuring remarks from APG commanders and Harford County leadership followed by live entertainment from the Alte Kumpel Band and the Leftstronger Band which play to the 10 p.m. closing. Attractions include a Market Place flea market and information displays by the Aberdeen Police Department, Harford County Tourism, Ripken Baseball and an Environmental Stewardship and Nature Craft Booth. Each day features authentic German foods and beer from Prost Restaurant and fireworks on Friday and Saturday at 9 p.m.

The fun continues Friday, Sept. 28 with the Oktober-



Get in the festive spirit with APG Oktoberfest mugs, t-shirts, hats, pins and other collectibles available for purchase during the four-day celebration, Sept. 27 -30.

fest grounds opening at 4 p.m. Friday events include a 6 p.m. Salute Ceremony to the town of Bel Air, music by Die Immergrum Musikantem at 6:30 p.m. followed by Duffy Kane and the Freedom Riders at 9:15 p.m. until the 11 p.m. closing. A fireworks display is set for 9 p.m. Bel Air will showcase police and tourism displays and much more.

On Saturday, Sept. 29 the day starts with a German Volksmarch from 8 a.m. to noon. A Flea Market begins

9 a.m. and a Car Show runs 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Oktoberfest grounds, including the Family and Kidz Corner and Festhalle open at noon. Entertainment includes a German Oompah Band, noon to 2 p.m., the Eric Marnier Jazz Band, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and the Alte Kumpel Band 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The EVTG Dance Group will have several German dance performances in the afternoon. The Salute Ceremony to the town of Havre de Grace begins 6 p.m. A fireworks display starts 9 p.m. and the fest grounds close 11 p.m. Havre de Grace displays will include the Lantern Queen Paddle Wheeler Model boat, tourism information, and museum representation.

Much fun and festivities abound on the final day of the inaugural Oktoberfest, Sunday, Sept. 30. Fest grounds open at noon and the Salute Ceremony to Cecil County begins 1 p.m. The day features music by accordion player Bob Cryster, 12:30 to 2 p.m., gospel music, 2 to 4 p.m., and the Eddie Baccus Jazz Band 4 to 6 p.m. Cecil County will hand out free soft pretzels and teach fest goers how to make sachets. The Upper Bay Museum will display a sneak boat and battery gun, a decoy carver, and a hunting blind station for family photo taking. Face painting and caricatures will also be provided free of charge.

All festivities end 6 p.m.

For more information, visit the APG MWR Oktoberfest website at www.apgmwr.com/Oktoberfest.html.

APG community helps DES employee after fire

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Although most of Conrad Arsenault's possessions were destroyed during a three-alarm fire on Aug. 24, with the generous help of the APG community, friends, Family, church members and even strangers, he and his two children are slowly rebuilding their lives.

"You never think this will happen to you," said Arsenault, a security officer from the Directorate of Emergency Services. Arsenault said that the fire in his Joppatowne apartment was caused by an electrical shortage in the kitchen, and was not preventable. The fire caused \$10,000 in damage to the apartment and \$5,000 worth of personal damage.

Arsenault said that he feels lucky that the fire happened during the day while no one was home, and that no one got hurt. Neighbors called 9-1-1 around 11 a.m. when they noticed smoke coming

"If I worked anywhere else I don't think I would have got the support that I received from my co-workers. We really are a family here; we help each other during times of crisis."

Conrad Arsenault

Directorate of Emergency Services security officer

from his house. Forty-five firefighters, including personnel from APG North and South, responded to the fire and were able to save the Family's cat and a few possessions.

"We were out celebrating my son's tenth birthday, my cell phone was dead, so we had no idea what was going on," he said. "When we came home and saw the damage it was an emotional shock, I

was distraught for several days. I wasn't sure what to do next. I was concerned for my children, that they have everything they need."

Arsenault said that although he didn't ask for help, his co-workers came to his aid by sending e-mails and making phone calls. Soon people from various organizations throughout APG came forward with donations of food, toys,

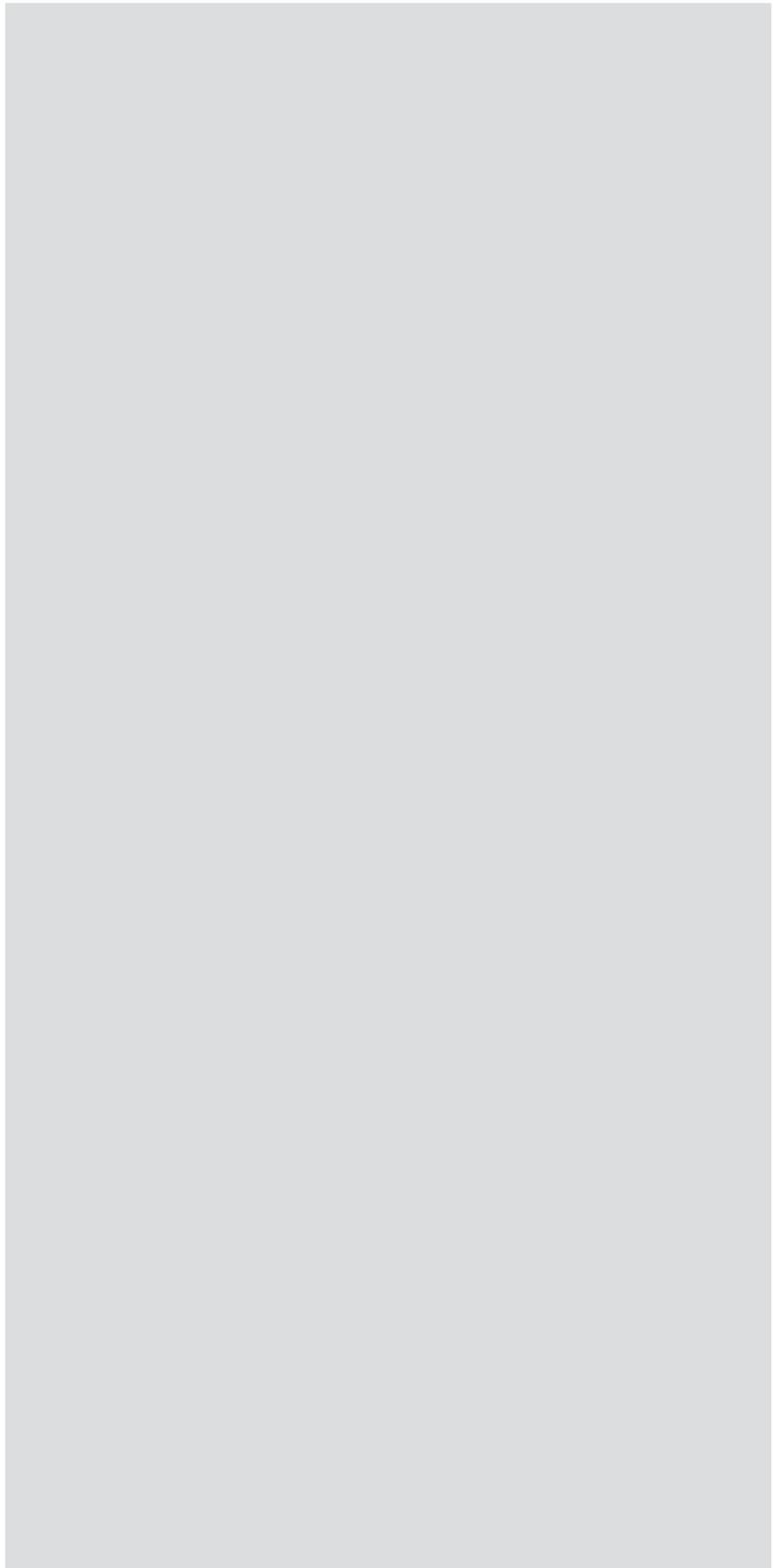
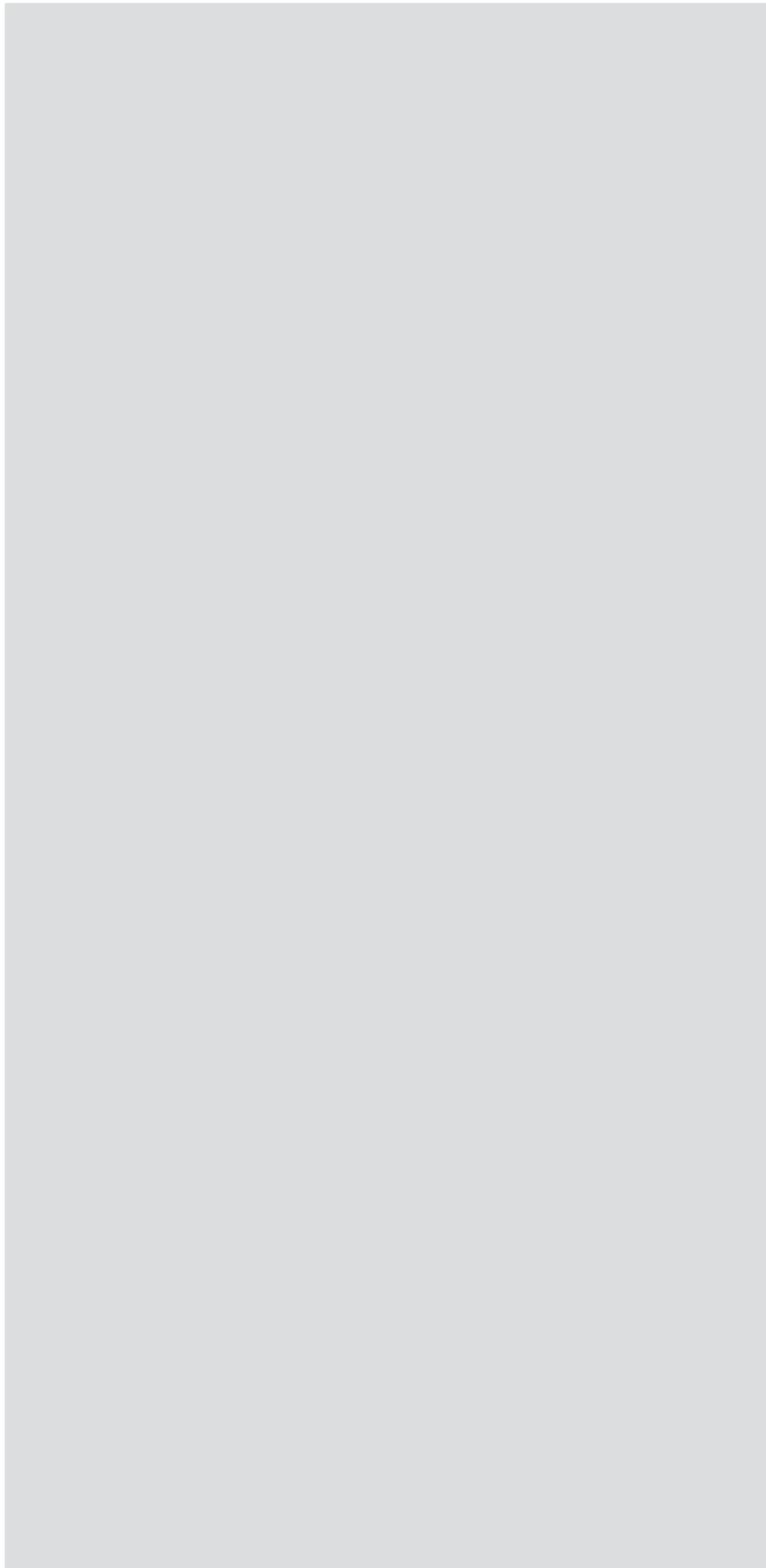
clothing, furniture, household goods and more.

Arsenault said he was touched that even strangers came to his aid. For instance, a military Family in Elkton that heard about the fire donated two beds to his children.

"Word spread like wildfire, it was overwhelming," he said. "I feel like God has been looking out for us. If I worked anywhere else, I don't think I would have got the support that I received from my co-workers. We really are a Family here; we help each other during times of crisis."

Arsenault said that he is also grateful to the Homes of Towne Plaza which relocated his Family to a new apartment in less than a week. He said that the new apartment and donations have helped restore a sense of normalcy for his Family.

"Life is getting better," he said. "I feel like a weight has lifted off my shoulders."



Health fair focuses on resiliency

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Resiliency Health Fair, held at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Sept. 12, featured information on physical, emotional, social, spiritual and environmental health. The event was organized by the Community Health Promotion Council and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

The fair featured demonstrations from 30 organizations. Highlights included free flu shots for Soldiers and DoD civilians, mini messages and give-a-ways. Dental, vision, lung capacity, blood pressure screenings and spinal scans were also a big draw. Health professionals were available to talk to attendees about various health topics like weight loss, asthma, allergies, tobacco cessation, stress and anger management, physical therapy, nutrition and more.

In addition, representatives from the Army Substance Abuse Program and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation were on hand to provide more information about available health and fitness programs and services offered at APG.

"This event provides one-stop shopping for individuals seeking health information," said Wendy Hines, a registered nurse from Upper Chesapeake Health's HealthLink program, who handed out information about diabetes, blood pressure and sleep apnea during the event.

APG Health Promotion Officer Wendy LaRoche said that the event encouraged attendees to take a proactive approach with their health. One way is to provide health screenings on-post so they are more accessible to people that live and work on APG.

LaRoche added that attendees provided valuable feedback by taking a mini survey.

"Health fairs help identify what the community really needs," she said. "For example, we found that many people requested body fat analysis and cholesterol screenings, which is something



(From left) Wendy Hines, a registered nurse from the Upper Chesapeake HealthLink program chats with Sgt. Ivan Daniels, from the U.S. Army Public Health Command during the Resiliency Health Fair at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Sept. 12.

we will try to provide in the future. We were also surprised to find that the handouts related to stress and anger management were so popular."

Community Health Nurse Sue Singh, from KUSAHC, said that the health fair demonstrates APG's partnership with the community.

"For this health fair I had an overwhelming responses from vendors but because of the size of the facility I had to limit the number of vendors," Singh said. "I enjoy organizing health fairs, as this gives me the opportunity to educate individuals and my focus is to empower

“Health fairs help identify what the community needs. For example, we found that many people requested body fat analysis and cholesterol screenings.”

Wendy LaRoche
Health Promotion Officer

them to take control of their health and wellbeing as we only have one life to live and it is never too late to make life style changes."

"I think events like these help boost morale in the community," said attendee Spc. Joanne Oloteo from USAPHC. "It is a chance for the whole community to come together, to get important information."

During the event, Staff Sgt. Rasheed Walker, from USAPHC, performed his original rap song "Combat Stress" which addressed the physical and mental strain of living in a combat environment.

The Resiliency Health Fair was part of APG's Suicide Stand Down activities that are occurring throughout the month of September. The next Resiliency Health Fair will take be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center March 20, 2013.

The fair is free, confidential and open to all," LaRoche said. Tenant organizations interested in participating in the Community Health Promotion Council health fair should contact LaRoche at 410-417-2312.



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG?
Tell us how we are doing. Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>.
Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground"

Office offers separation advice

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

The end of a marriage is a very difficult time. One of the most overwhelming tasks that must be addressed during the separation process is dividing one household into two households.

If the parties can work together to reach an agreement on the issues regarding the children and the finances, the transition becomes easier on everyone.

Putting the agreement into writing will make sure that expectations are clear and the parties continue to fulfill their obligations. The following is a list of areas that should be addressed in a marital separation agreement:

Separation – A separation agreement will usually include the actual or anticipated date of separation. It will also recite other general information, such as the date and place of the marriage, and the names and dates of birth of any children.

Custody – If the parties have minor children, they will need to address both legal custody (who makes decisions for the child?) and physical custody (who takes care of the child?). A custody agreement can be as general or specific as the parties feel is necessary for their situation. For some families, visitation may be fine without a set schedule. For other families, a regular calendar including specific holiday schedules works better. For military families, the custody provisions should address future reloca-

The Client Services Division can offer advice on separation and divorce, and assist eligible clients in drafting and executing a separation agreement. Attorney consultations require an appointment. Call 410-278-1583 or visit Bldg. 4305 for information.

tions or possible deployments.

Child support – Each state has its own method of calculating the recommended amount of child support. In Maryland, the child support guidelines are assumed to be correct and the court will not adopt an agreement that differs from the guidelines without a good reason. The child support provision may also address health insurance, college expenses, travel expense and extra-curricular costs.

Spousal support – In cases where spousal support (alimony) is agreed upon, the provision should address how much will be paid and for how long. The parties should also discuss whether the amount can be modified in the future and whether the payments will be taxable income to the receiving spouse. If no alimony is to be paid, then both parties should waive it in writing.

Personal property – The parties should address how any large items will be divided, particularly motor vehicles. If any of the vehicles has a lien, who is going to take responsibility for the loan should be specified. The parties may

also discuss how they are going to divide bank accounts or other liquid assets.

Real property – If the parties own a house, they will need to decide whether one person is going to keep the house or whether they will sell the house. If one party decides to keep the home, the agreement should specify if there will be any compensation paid to the other party and when. If the house is going to be sold, the agreement should specify how the expenses will be paid pending the sale, and how the proceeds will be split afterwards.

Debts – The parties should list any debt and how it is currently held (whether jointly or in one person's name). Any agreement by one person to take on a jointly held debt should also include how any default will be remedied.

Life insurance – If there are minor children, the parties may want to include a provision requiring life insurance to remain in place. The provision can specify how much the policy should be worth and who the beneficiary should be.

Military benefits – The agreement may address eligibility for benefits for

both the children and the non-military spouse. This includes medical, dental, GI Bill and possibly transportation.

Retirement benefits – If one party is entitled to a portion of the other's military retirement, the separation agreement should contain a provision containing enough information for DFAS to properly process the division of the retired pay. The agreement may also address TSPs, 401(k) accounts, or other retirement and/or pensions. The parties may also waive their rights to each other's retirements.

Taxes – The parties should address whether they wish to file taxes jointly or separately. If they have minor children, they should also specify which parent will claim the children on the return.

Waivers – Separation Agreements usually contain other standard provisions, most of which are waivers to rights which would normally come as part of marriage. For instance, the parties waive their rights to each other's estate. The parties waive their right to ask for anything else not specifically addressed in the agreement.

Personnel eligible for legal services may contact the Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, at 410-278-1583 or visit Bldg. 4305, 3rd floor, Room 317 for more information.

The Client Services Division can offer advice on separation and divorce, and assist eligible clients in drafting and executing a separation agreement. Attorney consultations require an appointment.

End of Summer Bash draws APG Families

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Dozens of APG families and friends enjoyed a fun-filled welcome to the fall season during the End of Summer Bash at CAPA Field on APG South (Edgewood) Sept. 23.

Fall officially began the day before, Sept. 22. Hosted by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the event offered something for everyone. Kids enjoyed a bounce house, bean bag toss and other games; moms and dads joined their youngsters in bingo for prizes, just about everyone ate their fill of cotton candy, popcorn and flavored ice drinks after filling up on grilled hot dogs, burgers and salads and listening to live entertainment by Blind Owl, a local classic rock/pop band from Baltimore.

"We're having a very good time," Jen Thomas said as she

and daughters Olivia, 9 months, and Madison, 3, enjoyed cotton candy and ice drinks.

Alejandro Ortiz, a sergeant with the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE), said he brought his sons Alex, 5, and Ares, 2, out for an afternoon of fun and games after a friend told him about the bash.

"I'm glad I did; they're having a good time," he said.

Linda Edwards, chief of the DFMWR business operations division, said that while the goal, as in most events, was to do something for the community, the real purpose was to bring Families together.

"We offered a lot of activities to have something to appeal to everyone," she said. "This was just a day for our Soldiers, civilians, contractors, retirees and their Families to just relax, play games, enjoy the food and the music, network and basically have a good time."



Jen Thomas purchases cotton candy for daughter Olivia, 9-months-old, during the End of Summer Bash at CAPA Field Sept. 23.

Ghost tour features haunted happenings in Havre de Grace

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

For a different kind of thrill this Halloween, take a walk around downtown Havre de Grace while listening to spooky stories during the guided Haunted History Tours of Havre de Grace, which gains in popularity during Friday and Saturday nights in October.

The tours feature true historical stories about murders committed during the 19th century that were documented by either newspapers or local historians. The stories are firsthand accounts from the people who experienced them. During the tours, guides, dressed in period clothing, lead participants through the historic district, stopping by businesses and homes that have had reported ghost sightings.

For example, the Spencer-Silver Mansion on Union Avenue, built in 1896, has had many ghost sightings. At night a woman will occasionally appear in bedrooms of the Victorian era mansion, which now serves as a bed and breakfast.

"The owners think the ghost might be Mrs. Spencer (the original owner)," said Lisa Ryan, a RDECOM employee and Haunted History tour guide. "The way guests describe her fits the description of Mrs. Spencer."

The building considered by some to be "the most haunted building in Havre de Grace" is the American Legion building on Saint John Street, which was originally the Lafayette Hotel. It is rumored that a woman who was murdered on the third floor still haunts the building.

Ryan said that during one tour the lights on the third floor flickered on and off as she was telling visitors about the building's haunted happenings.

Tour guide and history enthusiast Melissa Horton said that occasionally locals will approach tour guides on the street to tell their ghost sightings. Horton said some businesses, like the Spencer-Silver, have agreed to let her do paranormal investigations.

"Hopefully I will have more evidence to add to the tour after doing these inves-



(From left) Hannah Gates, 10, and Angela Gates, of Aberdeen, listen to a spooky story from tour guide Melissa Horton during the Havre de Grace Haunted History and Ghost Tour.

tigations," Horton said. "There is more to Havre de Grace than most people know. I love the history and folklore of this area. History can be fun, a source of entertainment."

Horton said that Havre de Grace is full of interesting stories because it used to be a gambling town with a race track known as "The Graw" that operated from 1912 to 1950. The track attracted colorful characters and notorious gangsters during the racing season. Havre de Grace earned the nickname "Little Chicago," referring to Chicago's high crime rate during the prohibition era.

"During this time period at least one

person a week would get murdered," Horton said.

And according to Horton, some of the ghosts that were murdered during this time period still linger in Havre de Grace.

Horton also recommends visiting and researching Rogers House Tavern, located at 226 N. Washington Street. The historically significant house, which was built during the late 1700s and left standing when the British attacked the town during the War of 1812, boasts many stories of ghost activity.

After the tour, Angela Gates of Aberdeen said she loved learning about the area's legends.

"I have driven by these historic buildings many times, and I have always wondered about their history," Gates said.

The Havre de Grace Haunted History and Ghost Tours are conducted Friday and Saturday evenings in September and October. Tours start 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. at Jana's Java at 217 N. Washington Street. Reservations are recommended as tours frequently sell out. The tours last 1.5 hours, and cost \$14 per person. Tours are available by request for groups all year long.

For tickets, visit www.ticketleap.com. For information, visit www.mainstreetHDG.com or e-mail HDGhauntedhist@hotmail.com.

Soldier pay affected

Continued from Page 1

"For example, one Soldier requested that TSP payments be stopped on a specific date through his unit," Greene said. "The unit did not submit the paperwork to Finance in time, and the Soldier made two additional payments to his TSP account that he did not want."

DFAS has agreed with the Department of the Army to pay all Soldiers accurately and in a timely manner.

"In order for us to achieve this goal," Greene said, "unit commanders must submit the Unit Commander Finance Report (UCFR). MILPER message 09-179 outlines the importance of the UCFR. The message also shows the roles and responsibilities of finance and the unit."

All units are to attend the monthly PAC/S-1 meeting held in Bldg. 4305 with a signed copy of the latest AAA162 report.

"Attendance at this meeting is lower than it should be," said Greene

The dates for this meeting are listed in the DMPO Newsletter. Fliers with the information are distributed to the units.

"At the meeting, the unit representatives are given their UCFR to take back to the unit commander for verification purposes. This report is to be returned to Finance by the 10th of each month.

"Some units don't even pick up the report until after the suspense has passed," said Greene. "Having the report in our hands by the tenth of every month allows the finance office to make any changes to a Soldier's pay account prior to the end-of-month cut off date."

This meeting also allows unit members to ask questions and bring up any issues they may be having. The DMPO issues any new procedures or policies at this time.

"Our office appreciates the efforts of every unit commander's cooperation with this task and ask that we continue to take care of Soldiers," Greene concluded.

For more information, contact Greene at 410-306-2359 or e-mail suzette.e.greene2.civ@mail.mil.

STEM volunteers needed

Continued from Page 1

from counties in Maryland, as well as Washington D.C., Delaware, Virginia, and Pennsylvania."

Montgomery said STEM Merit Badge Day gives young people the unique and exciting opportunity to learn from experienced professionals.

"Counselors can make a lasting impact on the life of a young person," he said. "If this event leads a Scout to choose a career in a STEM field, that is even better. Given our current economy, it is important that we expose our young people to different career opportunities."

During APG's STEM Merit Badge Day, 16 of 38 STEM-oriented merit badges will be offered. They are: Architecture, Automotive Maintenance, Aviation, Chemistry, Composite Mate-

rials, Computers, Electronics, Engineering, Insect Studies, Metalwork, Nuclear Science, Radio, Robotics, Space Exploration, Veterinary Medicine, and Weather.

In addition to merit badge counselors, volunteers from APG organizations are needed to provide interactive STEM-related displays, demonstrations, and activities. Volunteers are also needed to organize and run the event. For more information about volunteering, contact Bill Babauta at 410-278-5228.

This event is also open to non Boy Scouts, boys and girls, ages 11-18, with adult supervision. Registration is required. For more information and to register visit www.baltimorebsa.org/.

CPR/AED classes proven lifesavers

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

More and more APG employees are registering for the monthly CPR/AED classes offered by the Directorate of Emergency Services and the emergency medical responders who conduct the classes could not be happier.

Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, said that in the past two years, four lives have been saved through the use of automated external defibrillators (AED) and cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

"APG has a high number of successes," he said. "The national average is 7 percent and currently we're four for four."

The classes provide students a clear understanding of the step-by-step procedures for CPR and first aid for choking adults, children and infant victims, and walks students through the use of the AED.

During a Sept. 19 class at the post chapel, Slayman's instructions included explaining the stages of cardiac arrest and how it progresses, cautioning for other eventualities such as vomiting; and a question-and-answer period.

Slayman said the most common misunderstanding people have about the AED is that it will restart a stopped heart. The reality is the AED will not shock "flatline" patterns, he said. In that case, only a combination of CPR and cardiac stimulant drugs offer a chance of survival.

He said spreading this knowledge across the APG population helps make the emergency responders jobs easier. It increases survivability for the stricken or injured and reduces the effects of delayed treatment – brain damage and death.

He said that for every minute that a person in cardiac arrest goes without successful treatment (defibrillation) the chance of survival decreases by 7 to 10 percent each minute.

"This training not only saves lives, it makes scary situations less stressful for those first on the scene," he said. "And though AEDs are designed to be used by laymen, this is better than trying to use one without the training. People may have to make decisions during stressful situations and being familiar with the equipment and the procedures, not only gives you confidence, but helps keep you calm so you can make those deci-



Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, right, from left, Angelique Scharine, Bruce Amrein, and Mary Binseel of ARL, child care provider Briana Lewis, and Tanya Armstead of the APG child development center, how to perform CPR on an infant during the monthly CPR/AED class at the Post Chapel Oct. 19.

sions when seconds count."

Attendees agreed. Jeremy Gaston, Angelique Scharine, Bruce Amrin, Phuong Tran and Mary Binseel of ARL attended because they just received an AED in their building and wanted to learn how to use it.

Binseel said she ordered the AEDs through their branch partly because their building is "behind the fence" which could delay responders. She contacted Slayman for model suggestions and when they arrived, his personnel checked and installed them.

"I've taught all these courses but

things have changed in 25 years," she said. "It's just smart to have people prepared."

"I think I could handle a medical emergency now," Scharine added. "I definitely feel better prepared."

"When I was in basic training they only taught mouth-to-mouth resuscitation," Gaston said. "I've never had any training on the AED so all of this is new to me."

Tanya Armstead, from the Child Development Center said the certification was required for her job.

"I've had it [the training] before but

that was a while ago," she said. "It's definitely changed over the years. I feel like I can handle an emergency situation."

Slayman and other DES emergency responders conduct the classes – offered twice a day, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. - the third Wednesday of each month. The remaining classes for this year are at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 Oct. 17; the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel Nov. 21; and at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810, Dec. 19.

For more information, contact Slayman at 410-306-0566 or e-mail michael.p.slayman.civ@mail.mil.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THURSDAY

SEPT. 27 SUICIDE PREVENTION STAND-DOWN

Be sure to attend one of several Suicide Prevention Stand-Downs today 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 Myer Auditorium for C4ISR/Legal PEOs

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

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

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING TODAY

The RAB meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center. The topics will be ROA Update, Lauderick Creek Cluster 13 (Electrical Resistance Heating).

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, 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.

FRIDAY

SEPT. 28 PRESCRIPTION/OTC TAKE-BACK CAMPAIGN

Safely dispose of your unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medicines by dropping them off all week at the APG South (Edgewood) Police Station Lobby, Bldg. E4420; the APG North (Aberdeen) Police Station Lobby, Bldg. 2200, and at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Pharmacy, Bldg. 2501.

A special one-time drop-off site will be held Thursday, Sept. 27, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. during the Oktoberfest celebration at Shine Sports Field.

For more information, contact Cindy Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator, 410-278-4013, cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil or Mike Farlow, community policing officer, 410-278-3609, michael.b.farlow.civ@mail.mil

TUESDAY

OCT. 2 APG MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SPOUSES CLUB WILL HOST A SUPER SIGN UP EVENT

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses Club/Community Women's Club will host a Super Sign Up event 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. The club is adding a few more "clubs with in the club," Wine and Gourmet, Crafting, Lunch and Dinner Bunch and Adventure Club. BUNCO other clubs remain and more will be added. Those who would like to suggest clubs or lead one should e-mail Jenn Smith at membership@apgcwc.org. If unable to attend the Super Sign Up visit the clubs' website to sign up or fill out a membership form at <http://www.apgcwc.org>. Mail payments to APG Military, Civilian and Spouses' Club, ATTN: Membership, PO Box 250, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005.

WEDNESDAY

OCT. 3 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command will host the APG National Hispanic Heritage Month observance 11 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen)

recreation center. With the theme: "Diversity United, Building America's Future Today," the event will include a cultural food tasting, educational performances and exhibits. The guest speaker is Navy Rear Adm. Samuel Perez, Acting Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Operations, Plans and Strategy).

For more information, contact EO advisors: Sgt. 1st Class Howard Norcross, ATEC, 443-861-9251; Tracy Marshall, Installation EO, 443-861-4366; Linda Patrick, USAPHC, 410-436-1023; Sgt. 1st Class David Hall, RDECOM, 410-306-2425; or Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Cole, 20th Support Command (CBRNE), 410-436-0320.

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.swnet-work.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.

TUESDAY

OCT. 17 NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION

All newly assigned Soldiers and civilian employees must attend the APG Newcomers' Orientation at the APG-North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 from 1 to 3 p.m. More than 65 APG community activities and organization representatives will be on hand with literature and handouts and will answer questions about their programs and services.

All members of the APG community are welcome to attend; sponsors are encouraged to bring their Family members.

For more information, contact Annette Sanders-Nash at 410-278-9685 or at casandra.a.sanders-nash.civ.army.mil.

THURSDAY

OCT. 18 BREAST CANCER AWARENESS LUNCHEON

To promote the prevention, early detection and treatment of breast cancer during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the APG Community Women's Club and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Women In Defense (WID) will host a "Fifty Shades of Pink" luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Silks Restaurant in the Bulle Rock Golf Club in Havre de Grace. Military personnel, civilian employees and contractors – male and female – are encouraged to attend. Tickets cost \$18 for members, \$20 for non-member. RSVP by Oct. 10. To register, or for more information, visit the WID Mid-Atlantic Chapter website at <http://www.widmidatlantic.org/Events.html> or contact Heather Couvillon at 443-372-6004.

SATURDAY

OCT. 20 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BOY SCOUT STEM MERIT BADGE DAY

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) will host the STEM Merit Badge Day at Shore Park 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

PICERNE PUMPKIN PATCH

Picerne Military Housing will host its third annual Pumpkin Patch at 2727 Chesapeake Boulevard from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join Picerne for exciting activities for the whole family to include pumpkin picking, face painting, complimentary food, giveaways and more. There will even be scarecrow building; Picerne will provide the hay, just bring clothes for your scarecrow.

The event is free to all residents living on post. For more information, call the Neighborhood Office at 410-305-1076.

WEDNESDAY

OCT. 24 FALL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXPO

APG will host the 2012 Fall Information Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street. More than 50 vendors will display the latest state of the art technologies. This event is free and open to all military, DOD civilians and contractors. Refreshments will be served. For more information or to register visit the Federal Direct Access website at <http://www.fdaexpo.com/register.php?id=108> or call Donna Flemister, FDA, at 410-531-8559.

THURSDAY

OCT. 25 DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH OBSERVANCE

Team APG and the Disability Employment Program Committee will host the National Disability Awareness Month observance 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326. The guest speaker is Harford County State's Attorney Joseph Casilly, speaking on the theme: "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What can YOU do?"

The event includes morning and afternoon workshops:

9 to 10 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., Classroom 102: "Schedule A Hiring Authority – How Does It Really Work?"

Presented by Jill McClintick, Schedule-A Coordinator, CPAC (25 seats available)

9 to 10 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., Classroom 104: "Preparing Children with Disabilities to Move from School to Work"

Presented by Nancy Goucher, ACS special needs manager (25 seats available)

To register for a workshop, contact Tracy Marshall, Installation EO, by Oct. 12 at 443-861-4366 or e-mail tracy.y.marshall.mil@mail.mil.

Sign language interpreters will be available. For other disability-related accommodations, call 443-861-4355.

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

CHAPELS NEED EDUCATION COORDINATOR

An Ecumenical religious education coordinator is needed at the APG Post Chapels.

This is a part-time position, beginning tentatively in October and lasting for 12 months. The flexible work schedule consists of 50 hours a month including Sundays. If interested or for more information, contact Gerri Merkel at 410-278-2516 or e-mail caroline.j.merkel.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:

■ 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 to 9 p.m.
*HMLS 302 Introduction to Homeland Security - Tuesday 6 to 9 p.m.
*WRTG 394 Advanced Business Writing - Wednesday 6 to 9 p.m.
*HRMN 362 Labor Relations - Monday 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
*CSIA 412 Security Policy Analysis - Wednesday 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
*Online Hybrid courses are offered with approximately every other session on-site and the remaining sessions online.

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

REGISTER FOR HCC CLASSES ON APG NORTH

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

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

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

MANDATORY MOTORCYCLE TRAINING

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

APG THRIFT SHOP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Are you a retiree, empty-nester or stay-at-home-wife or hubby looking for something to do? With just two hours a week to spare, you can serve your community as a volunteer at the APG Thrift Store. Located in Bldg. 2458 behind the Main Post Chapel, the Thrift Shop offers quality, gently-used items featuring clothing for babies to adults including military uniforms, appliances, electronics, furniture, luggage, kitchenware, toys, knick knacks, books, jewelry and collectibles. And its dollars go right back into the community. So come spend an hour or a day, making new friends while helping your community.

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



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

CECOM to receive Employer Merit Award

CECOM PAO

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, will receive the 2012 Employer Merit Award from the Harford County Commission on Disabilities in recognition of its efforts to promote and facilitate the employment of individuals with disabilities.

CECOM will be recognized at the Commission's annual luncheon noon, Oct. 19 at the Maryland Golf & Country Club in Bel Air.

As an agency that prides its self on diversity, CECOM accomplished a lot over the past year to ensure current employees with disabilities are provided the necessary tools to display their abilities, as well as prepare the workforce, environment, and facilities for future employees with disabilities. This was accomplished as the

strives to become the Army's employer of choice for persons with disabilities.

THE GOAL

CECOM accomplished a lot to ensure employees with disabilities are provided the necessary tools to display their abilities, as well as prepare the workforce and environment for future employees with disabilities. This was accomplished as the organization

whereby the Disability Program Manager is included to ensure Section 508 compliance is considered.

As CECOM continues to improve its already robust program to hire and accommodate employees with disabilities, a number of goals were surpassed this year including increasing the number of handicap parking spaces by 38 percent beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements; developing a written emergency evacuation procedure for all buildings and conducting regular evacuation exercises to ensure employees requiring assistance are included in the plans; hiring 91 disabled employees; establishing a software application development and purchasing process

Nancy E. Goucher is the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Manager with APG's Army Community Service.

She coordinates EFMP assistance for military Family members with physical, emotional, developmental, behavioral, mental, or intellectual disorders that require ongoing special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling.

"What I enjoy most about my job is working with people, and networking with the community to help locate resources for EFMP Families," Goucher said.

Goucher is located in the Bldg. 2503 on Highpoint Road and can be reached Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 410-278-2420 or nancy.e.goucher.civ@mail.mil.



Nancy E. Goucher
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Manager

UXO project to benefit local wildlife

Continued from Page 1

ly qualified to conduct these operations.

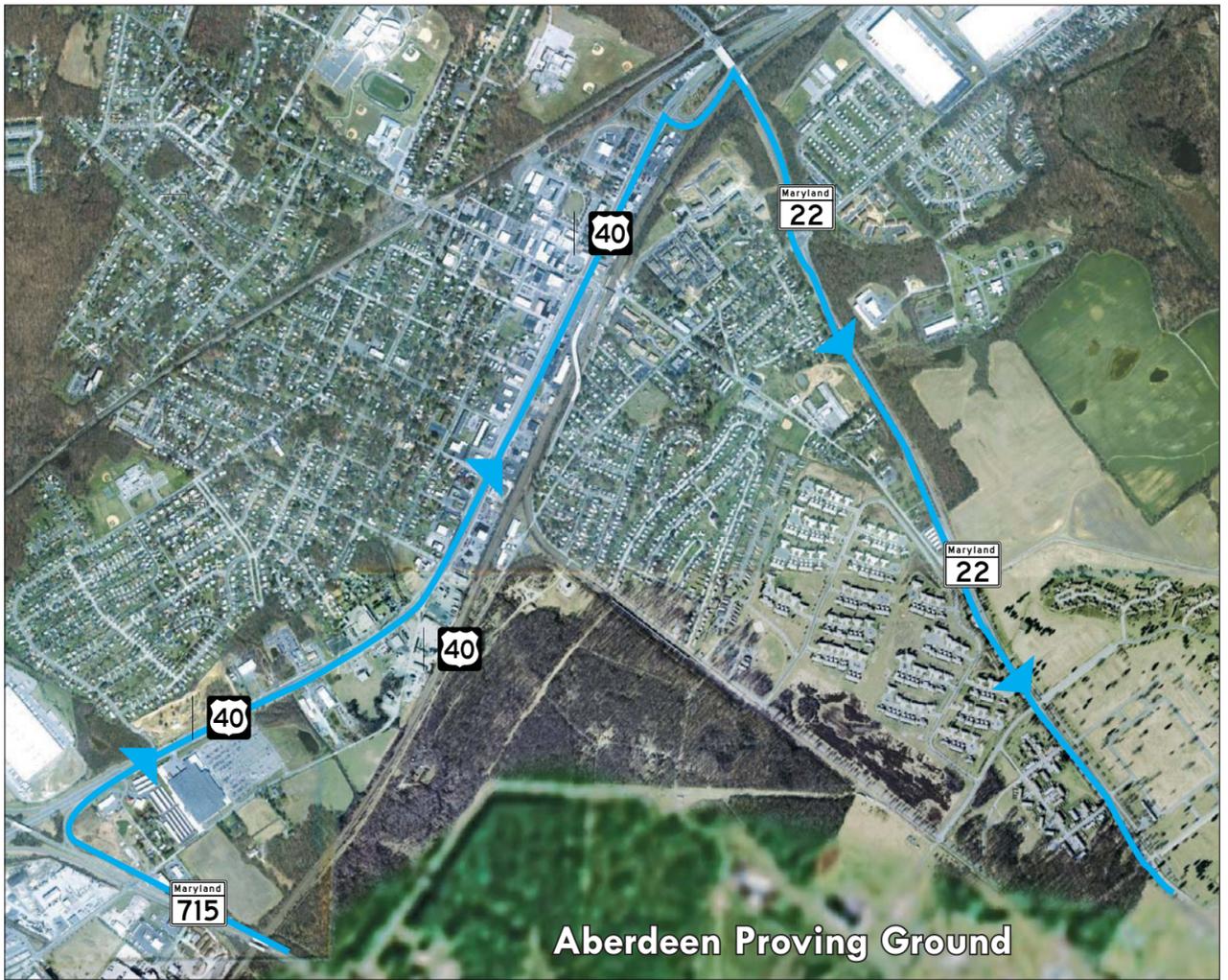
“Safety is the top priority,” he said. “Community members can be assured that Aberdeen Proving Ground houses the Army’s top talent in Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), testing and hazardous material disposal. In all cases, we will side with caution and work closely with our military’s top EOD experts.”

Loder said the initial estimated time for completion is approximately eight weekends, ending Nov. 18, weather permitting.

“We realize that this operation may cause some inconvenience as drivers are rerouted from the 715 gate to the 22 gate during these times, but clear signage will be posted to make it as seamless as possible,” said Loder. “We will be communicating with our residents, personnel, visitors and local community through a variety of outlets, including the newspaper, media releases and online.”

Updates will continue to be posted in the APG and the installation’s social media sites: [facebook.com/APGmd](https://www.facebook.com/APGmd); [apg.army.mil](https://www.apg.army.mil); [apg.army.live](https://www.apg.army.live); [dodlive.mil](https://www.dodlive.mil); twitter.com/USAGAPG; and [apgnews.apg.army.mil](https://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil).

For more information, call Loder at 410-278-6755.



This map displays the route drivers can use to get from the MD 715 (Maryland) gate to the Route 22 (Harford) gate during the weekend gate closures (Friday-Sunday) of the MD 715 gate set to begin Oct. 5.

Smith gains second star, thanks Family

Continued from Page 1

the role of the 20th Spt. Cmd. (CBRNE) in the world, calling the command an “incredible organization.”

“This command has global reach and is on the frontlines of defense,” he said. “There is nowhere you can go where this command is not wanted and not needed.”

As he concluded his remarks, Rodriguez said Smith sets a great example and is a positive influence on Soldiers.

“This ceremony isn’t just about what’s done, but what he can do,” Rodriguez said.

During the official promotion portion of the ceremony, Smith’s wife and daughters, as well as Rodriguez, pinned Smith’s new rank to his uniform. Rodriguez then administered the oath of office and presented Smith with the major general flag. The narrator, Maj. Lucas Towne, 20th Spt. Cmd. (CBRNE) sec-

“My mother stressed that hard work, perseverance and education pays off. There is no doubt in my mind that I would not be standing here without the support of my Family.”

Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith

20th Support Command (CBRNE) commander

retary to the general staff, explained the significance of the general’s flag, which he said “symbolizes leadership on the field.” Each general officer keeps the flag in his or her office and is presented with a new flag if promoted, Towne said.

During his remarks, Smith quoted Martin Luther King, Jr., saying, “A man

who won’t die for something is not fit to live,” and he dedicated the ceremony to fallen Soldiers and the Families of those Soldiers.

Smith also recognized leaders that have influenced him along the way, noting they contributed to his leadership style. With a number of friends in attendance Smith placed special emphasis on

the role of friends, saying, “next to family, friends sustain you.”

Before presenting the women in his family with flowers, Smith noted the important role family played in not only his career but in his development, specifically recognizing his mother.

“My mother always stressed that hard work, perseverance and education pays off,” Smith said. “There is no doubt in my mind that I would not be standing here without the support of my Family.”

In closing, Smith said that as he wears his new stars, he will constantly be reminded of all the people that helped him get to this point in his career, and he hopes to continue to be a role model to the Soldiers around him.

“We are placed here to help direct the paths of the people around us,” he said.

DOD rules prohibit cell phone use while driving

Continued from Page 1

banned from texting in several states.

Government restrictions

Statistics show that distracted driving is the cause of more and more accidents, Ferris said.

“Anything that takes your attention from the road, whether it’s your kids arguing your spilled coffee, is a distraction that could cause anything from a

fender-bender to an accident with serious injuries or even a fatality,” Ferris said. “Statistics don’t lie. That’s why these laws are in place.”

Cell Phone use while driving Army Regulation 385-10

Vehicle operators on a DOD installation and operators of government-owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless

the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device. The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices (except for hands-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles

and human speech. DOD Component safety guidance should note the potential for driver distractions such as eating and drinking, operating radios, CD players, global positioning equipment, etc. Whenever possible this should only be done when the vehicle is safely parked. Violators will be issued a CVB that carries a fine of \$45 plus court costs.

Send newspaper submissions to new email address

Community members are asked to send all submissions for the APG News to patricia.g.beachamp.civ@mail.mil address. Type APG NEWS SUBMISSION in the Subject Line. You should receive a response within three business days letting you know that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a response, please call 410-278-7274 to inquire.

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/>.



Photos by Rachel Ponder

COMMISSARY GETS A FACELIFT

(From left) Devon Mena and Riley Clugston of Coleman's Custom Floor Service break up floor tiles in the APG Commissary. The commissary is undergoing a \$7.5 million renovation project, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. Read more about the renovation in the Oct. 4 APG News.



FIGHT FOR THE TROOPS

Anthony Chase, 11, participates in the Fight for the Troops Martial Arts Championship held at John Carroll School in Bel Air Sept. 22. Nine children from the APG Child, Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited tae kwon do program participated in the competition. SKIES Unlimited provided trophies for the participants. Funds were raised to support the Wounded Warrior Project.



ASAP, DES HOST TAKE-BACK EVENTS

Tiffany Weaver Grimes, from the C4ISR Wellness Committee (center) and Cindy Scott, from the Army Substance Abuse Program (left) look on as Stephanie Glutz, a CACI employee, drops off unneeded medication at the Myer Auditorium Sept. 25. ASAP and the Directorate of Emergency Services teamed together to collect expired, unused and unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medicines at various locations on post through Sept. 28. These medications will be properly disposed of as part of the APG Prescription/Over-the-Counter Take-Back Campaign. A drop-off site will be available Sept. 27 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Oktoberfest site on Shine Sports Field. For more information, call Scott at 410-278-3609.



THE CAMPAIGN BEGINS

From left, Sue Ann Peters, a CERDEC employee, talks to Kathy Case, a representative from a local organization committed to help end domestic violence, during the annual Combined Federal Campaign Charity Fair. The event featured a kickoff celebration and training session at the APG post theater Sept. 25. This year's campaign goal for APG is \$650,000.

THE GIFT OF LIFE

From left, James Parks, of the Directorate of Public Works, gets his blood drawn by Kimi Campbell during an Armed Services Blood Drive hosted by the C4ISR Wellness Committee at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Sept. 10. Victoria Fernette, a public affairs specialist with the Armed Services Blood Bank Center, said that of the 60 community members who volunteered to give blood, a total of 43 usable units were collected. The Armed Services Blood Program ships donated blood products to Soldiers, retirees and Family members deployed and at home, in peace and war, anywhere in the world. Donated blood can be transported from a blood drive site to within theater in three days. For information about hosting a blood drive, contact Fernette at 301-295-2109.

