

# APG NEWS



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## SECDEF Hagel announces civilian furloughs start July 8, to last up to 11 weeks

As you are fully aware, the Department of Defense is facing a historic shortfall in our budget for the current fiscal year. This is the result of current law that went into effect



Hagel

March 1. It imposes deep across-the-board cuts on DoD and other federal agencies. Combined with higher than expected wartime operating costs, we are now short more than \$30 billion in our operation and maintenance (O&M) accounts – which are the funds that we use to pay most civilian employees, maintain our military readiness, and respond to global contingencies.

The Department has been doing everything possible to reduce this shortfall while ensuring we can defend the nation, sustain wartime operations, and preserve DoD's most critical asset – our world-class civilian and military personnel. To that end, we have cut back sharply on facilities maintenance, worked to shift funds from investment to O&M accounts, and reduced many oth-

er important but non-essential programs. Still, these steps have not been enough to close the shortfall. Each of the military services has begun to significantly reduce training and maintenance of non-deployed operating forces – steps that will adversely impact military readiness. And even these reductions are not

See **CIVILIAN**, page 10



Shortly before being named the APG Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Sgt. 1st Class Kishann T. Smith, far right, of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Army Evaluation Center fields questions from selection board members who include (from left) RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert Beharie and Command Sgt. Maj. David Puig of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) as his sponsor, 1st Sgt. Linwood Parker listens in, during selection board proceedings April 26. Smith and APG Soldier of the Year Spc. Adedeji A. Adeniji of the 20th Spt. Cmd., will be hailed today during the Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee's Military Appreciation Week Luncheon.

## AEC, 20th SUPCOM Warriors named APG NCO, Soldier of Year

Story and photos by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Eight "outstanding" candidates put their best boots forward while vying for the honor to be named Aberdeen Proving Ground Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year for the next 12 months during an April 26 selection board. At the end of the day, Sgt. 1st Class Kishann T. Smith was selected as the APG NCO of the Year while Spc. Adedeji A. Adeniji was named the APG Soldier of the Year. Smith is assigned to the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Army Eval-



Smith



Adeniji

See **APG NCO**, page 10

## Save a Life Tour highlights dangers of drinking and driving

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

Members of the APG community learned about the dangers of drinking and driving when the Save a Life Tour visited the 22D Chemical Battalion on APG South May 13 and the Malle Mission Training Facility on APG North May 14.

The event, sponsored by APG Army Substance Abuse Program, features a state-of-the-art driving simulator with a split second delay in its monitors to replicate drunk driving. The simulator includes difficult driving situations including aggressive drivers, to replicate actual driving situations. A casket set aside for the next DUI victim and videos depicting real-life tragedies help drive home the message.

"This is something different than the usual power point presentation," said ASAP Prevention Coordinator Cindy Scott "It lets people experience a dangerous situation in a safe environment. The new-found awareness can be a great gift to give someone."

Scott added that because they are exposed to stressful situations like deployments, some Soldiers could be at high risk for drunk driving.

"Soldiers work in a high-risk zone," she said. "They work hard and sometimes they play too hard."

Save a Life Tour Manager Andrew Tipton said the tour

See **SAVE**, page 10

## Army to focus on motorcycle safety in May

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Safety Center

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, and while the nationwide campaign sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration urges drivers to "share the road" with motorcyclists, Army officials are placing greater emphasis on personal responsibility while riding.

In general, motorcycle accidents within the Army do not follow national trends, according to Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Edens, director of Army Safety and commanding general, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center.

"Historically, most fatal motorcycle accidents involving Soldiers are single vehicle," Edens said, explaining that nationally, many riders are killed

See **MOTORCYCLE**, page 10



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Riders depart APG after a rally celebrating the 2012 motorcycle safety season at the MWR's Outdoor Recreation.

### WEATHER

Thurs.



80° | 59°

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## STREET TALK

### What is your favorite meal to cook and why?

I am a bachelor so I like to make healthy meals that can be made in 20 or 30 minutes. Usually for dinner I make chicken or Tilapia with Old Bay and horseradish with a side salad or steamed vegetables.



**Dean Piccoli**  
MWR volunteer

I like to make meat-loaf because it is my husband's favorite, and it is easy to make. I have made it here (at the Bowling Center) and got compliments from customers.



**Lora Owens**  
APG Bowling Center manager

I like to make cheese-burgers on the grill. I grill during the summer when the weather is nice and I am having fun with friends. It is a social activity.



**Jennifer Suchowski**  
ATEC

I like to cook lasagna and egg-plant parmesan. Most people like this meal, it is something that can please everyone. My husband's family is Italian and they love this meal.



**Fran D'Antonio**  
APG Thrift Store

# OPINION

## Leadership not defined by shapes, sizes

Short in stature at 5 feet 4 inches, not particularly handsome, a bookworm and not exactly the life of the party, our fourth U.S. president, James Madison, does not fit some perceptions of a leader.

In today's world, he probably would have been perceived as a nerd. But, his brilliant mind and leadership skills now have historians re-embracing Madison's presidency and his leadership.

Madison is best known as "The Father of the Constitution." He was a delegate, unequalled in his writing abilities, who kept written documentation at every secret Constitutional Convention's meeting. Later, his Virginia Plan became the basis for our Constitution. What most people do not remember is Madison's equally successful presidency, when he led an infant nation against the greatest naval power in the world and won.

The War of 1812 remains "The Forgotten War." Many do not realize it was through President Madison's leadership the U.S. escaped becoming, once again, subjects of Great Britain.

So what personal attributes made this man an unlikely leader, and what can you take from the story of Madison and apply to today's world to make you a leader?

First, always believe in yourself and never doubt your abilities. This is probably the hardest perception to embrace. Each day when Madison went to the

Constitutional Convention meetings, he stood up and rallied for a democratic government with election of congressmen directly by the people. He wrote the Federalist Papers with John Jay and Alexander Hamilton; documents considered the best interpretation of American government, even in present times. He truly embraced his ideals, and this spurred him to speak and write what was in his heart. His conviction to his ideals gave us the great nation we have today. At work, strive to be the best you can be. Work from your heart. If you give already 100 percent, strive to give 110 percent.

Secondly, stay true to yourself and stand by your convictions. After Madison asked Congress to declare war on Great Britain on June 1, 1812, riots began because of the decision. Talk of succession in New England ran rampant.

But, Madison stayed true to his belief in freedom for America. And, despite opposition to the war, he stood his ground. He said, "If we lose, we lose independence." People will perceive you as a leader if you stick to your beliefs and do not go back and forth on your ideals. Even those who do not agree with you will respect you for your steadfast loyalty and convictions.

Lastly, know when to stay and know when to run. Even the best leaders must give up the fight at some point for the sake of their people. On August

24, 1814, Madison and Congress fled Washington on horseback as the British advanced on the city. While it may have been perceived as cowardly to run, fleeing the city was the only choice Madison had.

If he had chosen to stay and ordered Congress to stay, they would have been captured or killed. Merely three days after fleeing, Madison returned to Washington, rallied the citizens, and connected with the people like he never had before. Madison rallied Congress and met in a post office, the only building left standing. He began the work of the government from scratch and turned the tide of war. Think carefully about your decisions and of the consequences down the road. Is the fight worth it?

Not all of us will become president, but each in our own way, can be a successful leader. Every day we make decisions that affect our Families, our military forces and service members, and our country. Many of these decisions are simple, and many can be life-altering. If we embrace the lessons of our forefathers, we are sure to become successful Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen or Marines and leaders in our own right.

### Air Force Col. Jerry Wizda

*Air Force News Service*

*(Editor's note: Wizda is the commander of the Air Force's 39th Medical Group at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.)*

## The importance of employment for military spouses

America will need the strength of its military families more than ever in the coming months and years. As we approach the second anniversary of a massive campaign to help veterans find jobs, Hiring our Heroes has been a godsend to those who care about our country's future. But helping military spouses plan careers is equally important to our country and our military in the long run.

More than one million service members will leave the military in the next five years. With this drawdown, and ongoing budget cut discussion, it's fair to say that our military families are in a state of high uncertainty, even for our community. Decisions are currently being made that will not only affect the size and scope of our military, but the health and readiness of those who stay.

The "it takes a village" culture permeates our military community in extensive ways. Military spouses volunteer on and off installations at more than three times the national average. Drive down any street on any installation in the U.S. and you will find families covering child care and moving furniture for neighbors, providing both a helping hand and a shoulder to lean on.

This attitude carries over to every aspect of a military spouse's life to include their workplace. Military spouses

are flexible and independent, loyal and hard working. Employers who "take a chance" on a military spouse soon find that they want to hire more. They quickly discover that hiring military spouses isn't charity -- it's smart for business.

And for spouses, getting a job and maintaining a career is beneficial to their own families and communities in the long run. Research has shown over and over that steady employment leads to more confidence and life satisfaction. Dual-income families are the norm in America now, and military families are no different. A second income helps cover expenses that families must bear when they move or travel. And some military families, particularly junior-ranking families who fall among the more than 60 percent who live off of installations, need a second income to make ends meet.

Steadily employed spouses will help the country transition its young heroes to the civilian workforce. Post 9-11 veterans and particularly those under age 24 suffer from unemployment rates at double the national average.

Fewer would suffer financial crises if their spouses were gainfully employed, and particularly so if they were able to save and invest that second income over the course of their service.

For those families that stay in the military, an employed spouse with some amount of upward mobility will be more likely to support her service member's career, meaning a larger and more diverse pool of potential future leaders in a military that will need them.

The Department of Defense has an excellent full-service program to help spouses prepare themselves for the job search and connect with employers who recognize their value. As demonstrated by the successful efforts of Hiring Our Heroes' Military Spouse Program working with the Department of Defense Military Spouse Employment Partnership, this effort requires true public-private partnership. Employers need to understand the value of military spouses in their workforce, and how they can commit to supporting military spouses with a successful career path throughout their mobile military lifecycle.

Spouses need to network with each other and with people in the business community to learn how to communicate their strengths. Together, we can help strengthen our military families, our military and our economy.

### Deanie Dempsey,

*wife of Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff*

## APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



80°|59°

Fri



77°|59°

Sat



72°|58°

Sun



68°|61°

Mon



71°|64°

Tue



81°|65°

Wed



80°|64°

## APG NEWS

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# SHARP cast enlightens audience on sexual assault

Story and photo by  
**SANDY GIBSON**  
ARC

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command offered its workforce a more hands-on approach to identifying, preventing and reporting sexual harassment and assault in an effort to expand its annual SHARP training at the Hollis Building here April 23 and 24.

The 13 ATEC and Army Evaluation Center employees who served as cast members of the ATEC SHARP production team performed skits designed to encourage interaction from the audience.

SHARP training is a mandatory annual training requirement for all Department of the Army Soldiers and civilians. But after three years of the same training materials, Jody Jackson, equal employment opportunity manager and one of the SHARP production producers, felt it was time to start training differently.

“We wanted to bring real scenarios to life and use a different method of training,” said Jackson. Audience interaction became the method of choice, according to Jackson.

The live performances consisted of six skits designed to instill the importance of recognizing and preventing sexual harassment from occurring in the Army, said Jackson. Some of the scenarios depicted were instances of same-sex harassment; supervisors sexually harassing their subordinates; and the fear of reprisals felt by contractors being sexually harassed by civilian workers.

“The skits looked at the critical dos and don’ts in preventing sexual harassment and sexual assault in the workplace,” said Jackson. “Also, the scenarios demonstrated the importance of zero tolerance, handling a situation, and reporting it in a timely manner.”

Performing the skits was also a way to make the annual SHARP training more interesting and receptive to audiences, said Sgt. 1st Class Shaniqua Davis, a military evaluator for AEC and one of the SHARP production producers.

“The goal of the SHARP production was to bring awareness and education to our workforce,” said Davis. Using ATEC



Talita Sanders, G8 budget analyst, and Sgt. 1st Class Milvia Kendrick, military evaluator, Army Evaluation Center, act in a skit performed by SHARP production team cast members at the ATEC Headquarters on Aberdeen Proving Ground April 23-24.

personnel helped the audience visualize what harassment and assault could look like if it happens here, she added. Davis hoped the skits would be beneficial to anyone who found themselves in a situation where they were being sexually harassed.

“I would like for people to realize the things that transpired in the skits are real, and it could happen to them when they least expect it,” said Davis.

Although the skits’ messages were serious in nature, they were delivered in a humorous and entertaining fashion. Both the audience and actors enjoyed watching the plays being performed by people they work with every day. Because the skits were presented in the form of a live play, it kept the audience engaged.

“When certain comments or actions were made from the skits, the audience

gasped or laughed at the obvious inappropriate remarks, expressions and gestures,” said Talita Sanders, a G8 budget analyst who played the role of a gay female who misinterprets the relationship she has with a female friend.

The skits were performed in the atrium area of the Hollis Building, which is a much smaller setting than the post theater where annual face-to-face SHARP training is normally held. Sanders felt the location and the smaller crowd provided a more relaxed venue for the questions Jackson asked at the conclusion of each skit and helped improve audience participation.

Members of the audience said they felt the skits were a great training aid that really brought the training to life in ways not possible with the face-to-face and online training.

“The skits kept everyone’s attention,” said Sharon King, staff action control officer in ATEC’s command group. “I believe we were all more alert and informed and although the skits were teaching, we really learned and understood more clearly.”

The skits were well received and ATEC EEO Director Dr. Victoria Dixon voiced her appreciation of the performance, the cast members, and the hard work that went into making the production a reality and a success.

“To participate in such a meaningful event shows the seriousness of the entire ATEC family when it comes to the execution of this vital program,” said Dixon.

Plans to incorporate the skits into the annual ATEC SHARP training are underway for Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April 2014.

## Commentary: Protect eyes for a lifetime of vision

By **MICHAEL D. PATTISON**  
USAPHC

Everyone knows how important the eyes are for quality of life. Still, it is estimated that millions of people in the United States have undetected vision problems, eye diseases and conditions that affect their ability to see clearly and effectively or that can result in eventual permanent damage to the eyes. The National Eye Institute has designated May as Healthy Vision Month to help promote early diagnosis and treatment of visual and ocular conditions.

What are the keys?

Getting a comprehensive dilated eye exam is probably one of the best things you can do to maintain healthy vision. More than just an eyeglass check up, during this procedure an eye care professional examines the eyes more thoroughly to look for common vision problems and eye diseases, many of which have no signs or symptoms until the condition has progressed. This comprehensive examination enables the early detection of eye conditions and diseases and can often prevent subsequent loss of vision.

The question of how often a comprehensive eye exam is needed can be determined by your eye doctor and depends on your age, overall health and family history. As you grow older you should have exams more frequently, and some medical conditions such as diabetes make annual exams a must.

Everyone has heard about the benefits of eating carrots and living healthier. This is true for the eyes as well. Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables (especially leafy greens like spinach) is important for eye health. Recent research shows how eating fish high in omega-3 fatty acids such as salmon and tuna benefits the eyes. In addition, maintaining a healthy weight helps prevent the development of high blood pressure and diabetes, which can also affect the eyes and lead to blindness. In short, eating right helps protect eyesight. And, research has linked smoking with the risk of developing age-related macular degeneration, cataracts and optic nerve damage. So, if you smoke, quit. And if you don’t smoke, don’t start.



Also, remember to give your eyes a break. Long hours on a computer can cause the eyes to dry out and become fatigued so try to remember to rest your eyes every so often. To remember, try the 20-20-20 rule: every 20 minutes or so, look up and away from your computer at something at least 20 feet away for 20 seconds. This can help reduce the effects of eyestrain.

Finally, protect your eyes. It is you and your employers’ responsibility to protect your eyes at work and yet, it is estimated that 90 percent of all eye injuries [on the job] would not have occurred if eye protection was used. Make it a habit to wear the appropriate type of eye protection at all times and encourage your coworkers to do the same. And, when eye injuries do occur, report it to your supervisor. Not only does this create a record of the event that may protect you, it can result in lessons learned that will prevent similar injuries from happening in the future.

Wearing protective eyewear should not stop when you leave at the end of the workday. It’s just as important to wear protective eyewear when playing sports or during potentially dangerous activities around the house.

And, don’t forget to wear proper sunglasses that block ultraviolet light when you spend time in the sun. As always, a little prevention goes a long way.

May is designated as Healthy Vision Month as a way to help you remember things that should be done year round. Remember, your eyes are a precious gift and you only have two of them. Give them the care and consideration they deserve so that they last a lifetime.



# Army engineers enhance EOD Soldiers' safety with 'batwings'

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
RDECOM

U.S. Army engineers in Afghanistan recently designed and fabricated a tool to help Soldiers investigate possible improvised explosive devices from a safer distance.

Capt. Chad M. Juhlin, commander of the 53rd Ordnance Company (EOD), said his Soldiers needed an attachment for use with the iRobot 310-SUGV when searching for IEDs. The iRobot's explosive ordnance disposal capabilities were limited, requiring Soldiers to operate close to the potential hazards.

The forward deployed engineering cell from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, took on the challenge.

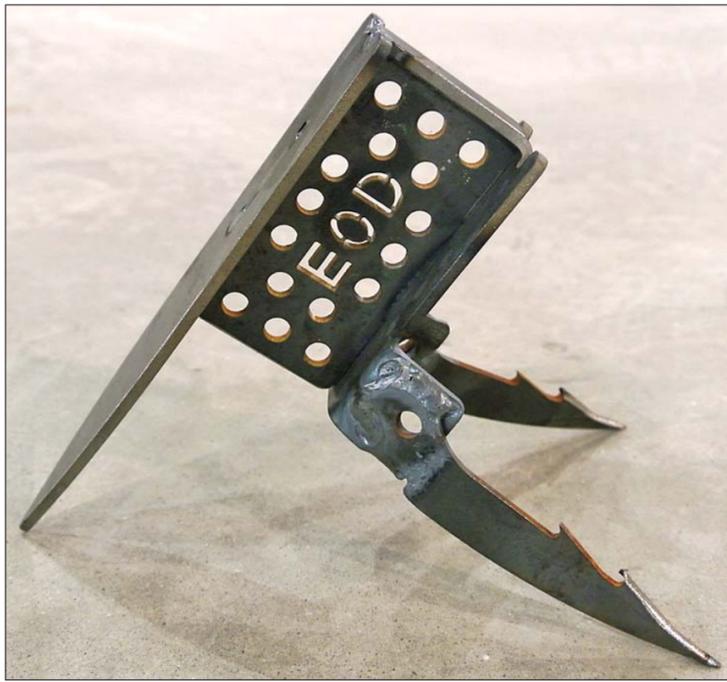
The RDECOM Field Assistance in Science and Technology-Center developed the first iteration of the "batwing" in January for Combined Joint Task Force Paladin. It is a collapsible hook that attaches to a telescoping pole for interrogating a site believed to contain explosives.

The same tools needed to be modified for attachment to robot arms.

Two engineers and two technicians adapted the RFAST-C's existing "batwing" command wire detection hook so it could be used with the EOD team's iRobot arm, and they delivered the products in two weeks.

"RFAST-C provides a great opportunity for Soldiers on the ground to submit a requirement on the battlefield that will eventually turn into a product," Juhlin said. "Having these capabilities in theater not only decreases the lead time to obtain the product but allows for easy manipulation to the item if needed."

The RFAST-C's modified "batwing" design provides multiple tools for remote IED operations, including a hook for grabbing or cutting command wire, a rake for breaking up soil, and a spade for moving and digging up items, said Mark Woolley, who led the project for RFAST-C. He is an electrical engineer with RDECOM's Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center.



U.S. Army photo

**The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Field Assistance in Science and Technology Center's modified "batwing" design provides multiple tools for remote counter-improvised explosive device operations, including a hook for grabbing or cutting command wire, a rake for breaking up soil, and a spade for moving and digging up items.**

RFAST-C Director Mike Anthony said both the first-generation "batwing" for telescoping poles and the subsequent modification for robots have received positive feedback from Soldiers in the field.

The Joint IED Defeat Organization requested 670 original "batwings" for Special Operations Forces and EOD units worldwide. CJTF Paladin requested 50 iRobot "batwings," in addition to the 10 already delivered to the 53rd Ordnance Company.

Anthony said the partnership between the 53rd Ordnance Company and RFAST-C was made possible by Scott Heim, a mechanical engineer with RDECOM's Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center who is assigned to the Science and Technology Assistance Team at the

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan at Bagram Airfield.

Heim said one of his major duties is to help Soldiers with a technological need connect with the RFAST-C.

"This example is just one of many projects that have been successful with FAST entities collaborating with users and developing requirements in a collective environment," Heim said. "Working with the RFAST-C, we can provide rapid prototyping designs to facilitate an evaluation as to whether it meets the user's needs or if a couple of modifications are needed before production is started."

After analyzing the iRobot's capabilities, RFAST-C personnel cut, bent and welded a proof of concept in minutes to conduct a real-time test, Heim

**"This is one of many projects that have been successful with FAST entities collaborating with users and developing requirements in a collective environment. Working with RFAST-C, we can provide rapid prototyping designs to facilitate an evaluation as to whether it meets the user's needs or if a couple of modifications are needed before production is started."**

**Scott Heim**

Mechanical engineer, RDECOM's Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center

said. The prototype functioned well, but it also revealed some weaknesses and potential optimization features. The team made changes for a second version, which was then successfully manufactured.

Nick Merrill, a mechanical engineer with RDECOM's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, assisted in the design of the iRobot "batwing." He said the collaboration with the Soldiers helped the team quickly develop a prototype.

"This project was unique in how we came up with the original prototype. Most projects, we sit down and brainstorm. For this one, they brought the robot in, we looked at it and how it grasps objects," Merrill said. "Within 20 minutes of them being on-site, we had a quick, very rough prototype. Not very often does something get off the ground that quick."

# Q&A Ken Gesch the new ASAP Suicide Prevention Program Manager

Story and photo by  
**RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

Ken Gesch assumed the role of Suicide Prevention Program Manager for the Army Substance Abuse Program April 1. This is a new position for APG ASAP. Gesch shared his thoughts in a recent interview with *APG News*.

## What are your duties as the Suicide Prevention Program Manager?

My job is to administer the APG Suicide Prevention Program for both military and civilian members with a goal to reduce suicidal behavior. In addition to ensuring Army standards are met in providing and tracking suicide prevention training, my goal is to work with other members of the Community Health Promotion Council (CHPC) in providing opportunities that promote individual and relational resilience. I will also be involved in community outreach during post events. Although my job does not involve counseling, if an individual is struggling with suicidal thoughts, I can direct the person to resources that can help them.

## Where have you worked previously?

I retired from active duty as an Army chaplain December 2012. I had a total of 34 years of combined active duty and Reserve service. I first enlisted in order to become a Warrant Officer Aviator, and I flew for eight years on active duty, and one year in the Reserves. I left active duty to attend seminary, and transferred to the Army Chaplain Candidate program. In 1996, I returned to active duty as a chaplain, and had assignments to Fort Lewis, Korea, Fort Bragg, Fort Irwin, Germany, Fort Hood and Fort Riley.



ASAP Suicide Prevention Program Manager Ken Gesch

## What degree/ training do you have?

I received a Master of Arts degree in counseling from Mary Harden-Baylor (in Texas) while training to become Family Life Chaplain. As part of this program, I worked 20 hours a week providing supervised counseling to Soldiers, Family members, retirees and DA civilians at the Family Life Chaplain Training Center at Fort Hood, Texas. Additionally, I received special training in counseling Soldiers with combat stress and PTSD. Over the years, I attended basic and advanced suicide prevention training from the Menninger Clinic and the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills (ASIST) T4T training.

## What drew you to this line of work?

Over the years I've worked with a lot

of good people—Soldiers, Family members and DA civilians who have struggled with thoughts of suicide. Often, with just a little assistance, these people were able to work through their issues and move on in life in a very positive way. I was the Family Life Chaplain at NTC/ Fort Irwin when the Community Health Promotion Council and the updated Army Suicide Prevention Program were being implemented. I enjoyed working with the other community service providers (like ACS, ASAP, Behavioral Health, chaplains) and began to think I would like to continue working in this field after leaving active duty. The position of Suicide Prevention Program Manager gives me that opportunity.

## Why is this position critical?

Early in my Army career when I was

flying helicopters, I was very aware of how important good maintenance was to keep the aircraft flying. When the aircraft was worked hard or flown in adverse conditions it would need extra maintenance. The Army mission demands a lot from its people—whether Soldiers, Family members, or civilian employees. They get worked hard, and like the helicopters I used to fly, people need maintenance to keep going strong. Usually that maintenance is operator level, and the Army's Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness program addresses the need for people to build strong spiritual, social, emotional, Family, and physical resilience. Over time, even the best maintained equipment can need maintenance at a higher level. The same is true for people. That is why we have professionals to help us. Chaplains, social workers, medical personnel and others all contribute to good fitness and resilience. I've seen the Army come a long way in reducing the stigma associated with people getting the upper level "maintenance" they sometimes need, but it still has a way to go. I'm hoping I can contribute to people having the awareness and resources required to maintain resilience and ensure they get whatever level of assistance they need.

## What do you enjoy most about your job?

So far, what I have enjoyed most is working with the ASAP staff and getting out into the APG community to meet people at the many events that take place. I am looking forward to working with others providing quality opportunities that contribute to a strong, resilient APG community.

The Suicide Prevention Program is located in the ASAP building, Bldg. 2477, near the PX. To contact Gesch, call 410-278-7779 or e-mail Kenneth.a.gesch.civ@mail.mil. Gesch is available Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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."

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## THURSDAY

### MAY 16 SAVINGS AND CHECKING MANAGEMENT

During these times of fiscal uncertainty, choosing the right banking options has become even more essential. Managing your checking and savings account properly is also very important.

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to attend our Saving and Checking Management Information Session presented by the APG Federal Credit Union where Claudia Holman, Business Development Director, will discuss these topics, as well as give tips on other banking tools that can be used to improve your daily life. Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000 noon to 1:00 pm.

## SAME LUNCHEON

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post will meet 11:30 a.m. at the Wetlands Golf Course clubhouse, 740 Gilbert Road, in Aberdeen. The featured speaker, Dr. Patrick Baker, Director, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Weapons and Materials Research Directorate, will present a "U.S. Army Research Laboratory Overview."

Register online at <http://www.same-chesapeake.org> or call 410-638-9699 for more information.

## SATURDAY

### MAY 18 VA MARYLAND HEALTH CARE OPEN HOUSE

The VA Maryland Health Care System will host an Open House & Information Fair 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fort Howard VA Outpatient Clinic located at 9600 North Point Road, Fort Howard, Md. Anyone who served in the armed forces and received an honorable discharge may qualify for health care benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. During the fair, VA staff will be available to answer questions and help veterans complete health care applications and veterans and their family members can visit information displays to learn more about VA compensation benefits and available health care services.

To apply for VA health care during the Open House & Information Fair bring a copy of your discharge paperwork, DD Form 214, a photo ID and financial information from the previous calendar year. Expedite the process by accessing the application for health benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ) on the VA Maryland Health Care System website at [www.maryland.va.gov](http://www.maryland.va.gov).

For more information call the VAMHCS Community Outreach Office at 1-800-949-1003, EXT 6071 or e-mail [VAMHCSPublicRelations@va.gov](mailto:VAMHCSPublicRelations@va.gov).

## MONDAY

### MAY 20 ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE OBSERVANCE

Team APG presents the Annual Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Observance starting 10:30 a.m. at the Myer Auditorium Bldg. 6000.

The guest speaker is Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology.

The 2013 theme is "Building Leadership: Embracing cultural values and inclusion. Events will include educational and informational displays and exhibits, entertainment and a food sampling. For more information, contact the following:

Tracy Marshall, Installation EOA, 410-861-4366; Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Cole, 20th Spt. Cmd., 410-436-0320; Sgt. 1st Class Howard Norcross, ATEC, 443-861-9251; David Xin, CERDEC, 443-395-8123; Sheryl Coleman, ARL, 410-278-5964; Shauna Mintz, ARL, 410-278-9020; or Linda Patrick, USAPHC, 410-436-1023.

## THURSDAY

### MAY 21 STRESS AND NUTRITION

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to attend our Stress and Nutrition Informational Session where Dr. Jen Kordonski, Optimal Spine Chiropractic, will discuss the "secrets" to stress management as well as how stress and poor nutrition affect your overall health.

Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000 at noon to 1 pm.

## DAU-SSCF GRADUATION

The Defense Acquisition University - Senior Service College Fellowship (SSCF) announces the graduation ceremony for the 2012-2013 class. The ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. in the

Mallette Hall Auditorium, Bldg. 6008. The graduation ceremony marks the culmination of 10 months of full-time, rigorous study focused on developing acquisition and leadership attributes. Each of the graduates completed additional academic studies and will be receiving a Master's Degree in Management and Leadership from Webster University. The Webster University work was undertaken and completed in concert with their SSCF curricular requirements. A short reception will follow. Please RSVP to James Oman at [James.Oman@dau.mil](mailto:James.Oman@dau.mil) or 410-272-9470.

## THURSDAY

### MAY 23 WOMEN AND INVESTING

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to attend our Women and Investing Informational Session.

In this session, Michelle Rackey, ChFEBC, Executive Director, GEBA, will discuss the unique financial challenges that women face when trying to manage their finances. It can be difficult to establish your retirement plan in this type of economy. Getting the facts and education to make informed decisions is imperative to maximize your finances.

Location: Myer Auditorium, Building 6000, from noon to 1:00 pm.

## THURSDAY

### MAY 23 RESIDENT APPRECIATION CELEBRATION AND BIKE RODEO

To let every resident know just how much Corvias Military Living cares and values them, Corvias will host the annual Resident Appreciation Celebration at 2727 Chesapeake Blvd. from 4-7 p.m. Join Corvias Military Living for exciting activities for the whole family to include a petting zoo, a caricature artist, face painting, complimentary food and more!

The Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) will also host its annual Bike Rodeo in coordination with the picnic. Children need to bring their own bikes and helmets in order to participate in this year's Rodeo.

The event is completely free to all residents living on post. Please call the Neighborhood Office, 410-305-1076, for more information about this exciting event.

### FREE ASTHMA/ALLERGY SCREENINGS AND INFORMATION BOOTH

May is National Asthma & Allergy Month. The aim of this month is to raise awareness, care and support for those affected by asthma. Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs which causes breathing problems. More than 18 million adults and 7 million children across the nation are affected and over 500,000 Marylanders are living with the disease. It's the leading cause of health-related missed school & work days.

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to participate in our Free Asthma/Allergy Screenings and Informational Booth, sponsored by the Asthma Foundation. (Women and Investing Informational Session starts at noon in the Auditorium)

Location: Myer Auditorium Lobby, Building 6000, from 11:00 -12:30 pm.

### MOTORCYCLE SAFETY BIKE SHOW SET

Bring your ride and show your pride! May is National Motorcycle Safety Month and to celebrate, the Installation Safety Office will host a Motorcycle Safety Bike Show 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Motorcycle Range on Darlington Street, behind the Post Office. Events include competitions, door prizes, free safety (T-CLOCS) inspections and information for new or potential riders. For more information, contact H. Mike Allen, ISO, at 410-306-1081 or e-mail [horace.m.allen.civ@mail.mil](mailto:horace.m.allen.civ@mail.mil)

## SUNDAY

### MAY 26 MCVET 10K RACE

The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training will host the 18th Annual 5/10K races Memorial Day weekend, 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. starting from the War Memorial Building near City Hall in Baltimore. Award ceremony includes trophy and cash awards by age group. All registered runners receive a T-shirt; refreshments will be provided. Race entry fee is \$25; \$30 the day of the race. Register through Charm City Run event coordinator Kelly Dees at 410-308-1870 or [www.charmcityrun.com](http://www.charmcityrun.com) or through MCVET at [www.mcvet.org](http://www.mcvet.org) or on Face-

book at [www.facebook.com/MCVET](http://www.facebook.com/MCVET). Baltimore.

## WEDNESDAY

### MAY 29 LOUD NOISE ALERT

APG South (Edgewood) and surrounding areas may experience loud booms or vibrations resulting from cannon fire May 29 between 10 and 11 a.m. A cannon volley salute will be performed in honor of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE)'s outgoing commanding general, Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith during his change of command ceremony with Brig. Gen. J.B. Burton. For any questions, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 410-436-6455.

## THURSDAY

### MAY 30 RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

The next RAB meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center in Edgewood. The topics will be Canal Creek and the New O Field.

## READING FOOD LABELS

(LIMITED SEATING-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED)

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to attend our Reading Food Labels Informational Session. Gale Sauer.

ATEC Health & Wellness Coordinator, will discuss the importance of reading food labels, explain what each section of the label means in relation to health and nutrition, as well as provide tips on how to make better food choices by reading labels.

Location: APG, MD-Location TBA with registration, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## FREE VISION SCREENINGS

The CECOM Wellness Program invites you to attend our Free Vision Screenings and Eye Health and Wellness Education Booth, sponsored UnitedHealthcare Vision.

The vision screening consists of 3 painless tests that will assess your color perception, visual acuity, and peripheral vision.

Participants will receive an Amsler Grid and instructions on how to test your vision at home. The Amsler Grid is a useful tool to detect certain visual disorders such as macular degeneration and glaucoma.

Additional Eye Health and Wellness information offered will include:

- At Risk Assessment Evaluation - Are you at Risk for Eye Disease?
- Simple Tips for Healthy Eyes
- Computer Vision Syndrome
- Heart Disease and Eyes
- Diabetes and Eyes
- Glaucoma
- UV Radiation and Your Eyes

Please Note: These vision screening procedures are NOT a complete professional examination and should not be taken as such. Only a comprehensive eye and vision examination can evaluate your overall eye health and vision status. The American Optometric Association recommends a dilated eye exam every two years for adults under 60 years of age; adults 61 and older, every year.

Location: MTF Auditorium Lobby, Building 6008, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### MAY & JUNE LISS GRANT WORKSHOPS

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Exceptional Family Member Program will hold LISS Grant Application Assistance Workshops in May and June. The workshops will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140, May 21 and June 18. Additional workshops will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 104 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, May 29 and June 26.

Participants will be provided LISS applications and assistance in completing the forms and should bring evidence of Maryland residency (bills), and documentation of disability (medical or educational) with them.

Registration is required for participation. To reserve seating, contact Nancy Goucher of the Army Community Service EFMP, at 410 278-2420 or e-mail [nancy.e.goucher.civ@mail.mil](mailto:nancy.e.goucher.civ@mail.mil). All military and civilians with special needs Family members are encouraged to attend.

## TUESDAY

### JUNE 11 GARRISON TOWN HALL

The next Garrison Town Hall will be held June 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Post Theater and in room 101 of Bldg. E2800. More details will be released as they become available.

## MONDAY

### JUNE 17 WID GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Women In Defense will host the annual Aberdeen Proving Ground Golf Tournament at the Maryland Golf and Country Club with registration starting 8 a.m. and a 9 a.m. Shotgun start. The tournament, which benefits STEM Education Scholarships, includes breakfast, a 4-person best ball, a cocktail hour, dinner and desert. Awards will be presented at 3 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.widmidatlantic.org](http://www.widmidatlantic.org).

### JULY 8-12 SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

Challenger Sports is partnering with British Soccer Camps, the largest and most popular soccer camp program in the United States and Canada. Challenger coaches study the game at all levels and have identified the key techniques and skills players need to master to reach their true potential. Each day of the camp includes individual foot skills, technical drills, tactical practices, small-sided games, coached scrimmages, and a daily World Cup tournament.

The camp will be held July 8 -12 at the APG soccer fields. For more information or to sign up, contact Gary Hodgson at [ghodgson@challengersports.com](mailto:ghodgson@challengersports.com) or call 443-552-0509.

## ONGOING

### 10 MINUTES WITH CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

If you want to increase your earning power, enhance your job performance and take advantage of an exceptional educational opportunity at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Central Michigan University is here for you.

The Master of Science in Administration (MSA) degree offered by CMU gives you a solid core of management skills and a choice of four concentrations: Human Resources, General Administration, Public Administration or Information Resource Management. Also available as graduate certificates.

Meet with CMU representatives on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Janet Barr Building, Bldg. 4305, Room 209.

Take advantage of our \$50 application fee waiver through May 30, 2013. Classes start Fall 2013.

Contact Barbara Jenkins at 410-272-1532 or by e-mail at [aberdeen.center@cmich.edu](mailto:aberdeen.center@cmich.edu) for more information

### THRIFT SHOP 5-CENT SALE IN JUNE

The Post Thrift Shop will host a \$.05 sale in the clearance room next month starting June 5 and lasting until everything is sold. The Thrift Shop is located in Bldg. 2458. Hours are Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 410-272-8572.

### 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION SEARCHING FOR MEMBERS

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who ever served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the national association and the annual reunion in Columbus, Ga. Sept. 17 - 21, contact secretary-treasurer, Bob Haynes, at [2idahq@comcast.net](mailto:2idahq@comcast.net) or 224-225-1202.

## PICNIC RESERVATIONS

Reserve your picnic dates now! The three APG Picnic Areas (Shore Park, Woodpecker Point in Aberdeen, and Skippers Point in Edgewood) may be reserved for outings by all ID cardholders. Prime dates are going fast, so make your reservations now. For more information call 278-5789/4124.



**MORE  
ONLINE**

More events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar).

# MRICD opens new lactation rooms for nursing mothers

By **CINDY KRONMAN**  
MRICD

On May 7, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense officially opened newly renovated space to provide an appropriate area for MRICD employees who are nursing mothers.

The creation of the Wellness Center for Nursing Mothers was driven by concerns expressed during a January sensing session between the commander and the institute's female staff members. The question of lactation rooms was initially raised concerning the replacement facility under construction, but quickly led to a discussion on the inadequacy of the designated room in the current facilities and how more than one room was needed.

"It became clear," said Col. Bruce Schoneboom, MRICD's commander, "that the space we had was not appropriate, nor did it really meet the intention of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA)."

The ACA revises the Fair Labor Standards Act, requiring employers to provide a suitable location and break period in which nursing mothers can express breast milk.

Efforts began immediately to locate and renovate appropriate space. Facilities manager Denise Hott, from MRICD's Logistics Office, was instrumental in identifying the rooms and getting the renovations completed quickly. Schoneboom presented Hott with an institute coin at the Wellness Center ribbon cutting in appreciation of her efforts.

The new space is located in Bldg.



Photo by DARRELL JESONIS  
**Col. Bruce Schoneboom, commander, MRICD, with mother-to-be, biologist Cristin Rothwell, discusses the renovations undertaken to create two lactation rooms for nursing mothers.**

E3100, the MRICD's headquarters building. The Logistics Office enclosed two small rooms in an area adjoining one of the women's restrooms, thereby providing an available source of water for washing breast shields, bottles, and other items. New faucets were installed on the sinks to better accommodate the washing of these items, as were new shelves above the sinks. The two lactation rooms were each fitted with new lighting, an electrical outlet, a countertop and a chair. Doors on the rooms lock to give the occupant privacy.

Many professional health care associations, Schoneboom noted, support breast feeding infants for up to 12 months if possible, but at least for the first six months, because it's been shown to improve the babies' health. One of the barriers preventing mothers from breast feeding for as long as is recommended is the lack of facilities in the workplace.

"Babies are healthier, families are healthier, and our nation is healthier, as a result," said Schoneboom of being supportive of a mother's choice to breast feed her baby. "Providing this space is

the right thing to do and makes sure that we follow through with the intent of the law."

While none of the institute's employees are currently nursing mothers, that's about to change in the next few months, with one new mother currently on maternity leave and several other employees expecting. The soon-to-be mothers are excited about the new lactation rooms.

"The rooms are really nice," said biologist Cristin Rothwell, who is expecting her first child at the end of June. "We're very appreciative of what the institute has done. It's one less thing to worry about when your maternity leave is over and you're back at work."

Research biologist Dr. Heidi Hoard-Fruchey, who got the whole discussion started at the sensing session, was appreciative of how quickly the commander and his logistics staff addressed the issue. Hoard-Fruchey has had two children, now 7 and 4, during her tenure at the MRICD and remembers the awkwardness of having to find a private place to express milk when she came back to work while still breast feeding each of them.

"They've done really well here. The set up is great," she remarked on viewing the renovated space.

To coincide with the opening of these new lactation rooms, the MRICD also published a policy on providing a "reasonable break time and space for expressing breast milk at work." The policy defines responsibilities and procedures, and also designates the building custodian as the individual who oversees scheduling of the lactation rooms.

## AMSAA gets new director in APG alum

By **ELOISE LUNDGREN**  
ATEC

This summer, a long-time Aberdeen Proving Ground employee will return to his roots here after spending the past four years at Fort Hood, Texas.



Amato

James Amato, U.S. Army Operational Test Command executive director, was selected as the new director of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity. USAOTC is a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command also located at APG.

A Baltimore native, Amato began his federal service career in 1987 with AMSAA. During the first 18 years of his career he served with AMSAA, including five years as the chief of the Field Studies Branch, Logistics Analysis Division. In 2005, he joined the ATEC team working as the director of the Integrated Logistics Support Evaluation Directorate, U.S. Army Evaluation Center. Finally, in September 2008 he was selected to Senior Executive Service and was assigned to USAOTC as its executive director.

"I am honored to have been chosen for this once in a lifetime opportunity," Amato said. "My family and

I are looking forward to getting back to our Maryland roots, but at the same time, leaving Central Texas will be bittersweet."

A graduate of Loyola College in Maryland, Amato holds a bachelor's degree in engineering science, and also has master's degrees in electrical engineering, from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and national security strategy, from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa. He has also completed the Defense Leadership and Management Program and received level III certification from the Army Acquisition Corps.

"I am extremely proud to have been associated with OTC these last four years," Amato said. "I have learned so much from the exceptional work force that I will take with me as I continue in the service of the men and women who defend our great nation."

AMSAA is a U.S. Army Materiel Command organization that conducts a variety of critical analyses to provide state-of-the-art analytical solutions to senior level Army and Department of Defense officials. With more than 600 analysts, engineers, mathematicians and scientists, AMSAA supports the equipping and sustaining of weapons and materiel for Soldiers in the field and for the future force.

## Don't be a victim of identity theft

By **SANDRA SCHILLER**,  
APG Directorate of Human Resources

May is the IMCOM Privacy Act Campaign month. During this month, we want you to be aware of your Personally Identifiable Information. Identity theft is quickly becoming a very hot issue. Identity theft occurs when someone uses another person's personally identifying information, like their name, identifying number, or credit card number, without their permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. If you have already been involved and had your identity stolen, you know how invasive this is. The victim of identity theft can suffer adverse consequences if they are held accountable for the perpetrator's actions. Hackers are using malicious software and will go to any method to get to your PII.

Here are seven tips to protect your PII online:

1. Create a separate "public" e-mail address for posting in chat rooms, mailing lists and newsgroups --- where others can collect email addresses --- and keep your main address for personal mail.
2. Keep personal information to yourself in chat rooms, social networks and dating sites.
3. Use a credit card, not a debit card, to make online purchases so that you can see charges before you pay them. Be sure that the site is secure before using a cred-



it card. You can tell if a site is secure by checking in the web address bar at the top of the web page. If the address begins with **https://**, the site is secure.

4. Read carefully the privacy policy of any site with which you plan to do business.

5. Guard your "cookies," those little pieces of information stored on your computer that allow you to log into sites without retyping information.

6. Avoid downloading toolbars that often accompany free software; these can collect information on Web-surfing habits. Delete "phishing" emails that appear to be from your bank or other businesses if they ask you to update your password or account number.

7. Beware of spyware that tags along with games and other applications that you install on your computer.

The Garrison Privacy Act Officer is Sandra Schiller. She can be reached at 410-436-3580 or [sandra.l.schiller.civ@mail.mil](mailto:sandra.l.schiller.civ@mail.mil).



## Bill Kegley, Youth sports director for Child, Youth and School Services

Meet **Bill Kegley**, youth sports director for Child, Youth and School Services. Kegley supports the mission of Soldiers and government civilians by providing their children with quality sports and fitness programs to develop their interactive skills with a fun environment that promotes physical fitness.

The sports programs cover the entire year, from football, to softball, soccer, tennis, golf, baseball, basketball and even cheerleading. Kegley said he'd like to be able to do even more.

"I'd like to increase the individual sports choices to include bowling and

racquetball."

He said the best part about his job is watching as the children and youth learn and grow athletically and interacting with "all the great volunteer coaches."

The CYSS youth sports program operates Monday through Saturday with practices and games on week-ends and week nights. Kegley's office, as well as Central Registration, is in Bldg. 2503, Highpoint Road. For more information call 410-306-2297; e-mail him at [william.m.kegley3.naf@mail.mil](mailto:william.m.kegley3.naf@mail.mil) or access the MWR website at [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).



File Photo

**Bill Kegley, CYSS youth sports director, has led volunteer activities for special needs children enrolled in League of Dreams baseball for the past three years.**



U.S. Navy photo

The X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System (UCAS) demonstrator lands at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., after completing the first launch of an unmanned aerial vehicle from an aircraft carrier.

# A 'Watershed Event'

## X-47B system launch pivotal milestone in Naval Aviation

On May 14, the X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System demonstrator (UCAS-D) completed its first ever carrier-based catapult launch from the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) off the coast of Virginia.

"Today we saw a small, but significant pixel in the future picture of our Navy as we begin integration of unmanned systems into arguably the most complex warfighting environment that exists today: the flight deck of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier," said Vice Adm. David Buss, commander, Naval Air Forces, the Navy's "Air Boss".

The unmanned aircraft launched from the deck of George H.W. Bush at 11:18 a.m. It executed several planned low approaches to the carrier and safely transited across the Chesapeake Bay to land at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., after a 65-minute flight.

Buss called the launch a "watershed event" in naval aviation and said he

**This event is a testament to the teamwork, professionalism and expertise of everyone involved with X-47B program.**

**Rear Adm. Mat Winter**

Program executive officer for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons

expects that decades from now, a future "Air Boss" will have a picture of the X-47B launching from Bush behind his or her desk just as he has a picture of aviation pioneer Eugene Ely's first-ever landing on the deck of a ship in 1911 behind his desk today.

Completing another important first for the UCAS-D program, the team demonstrated the ability to precisely navigate the X-47B within the controlled airspace around an aircraft carrier at sea and seamlessly pass control of the air vehicle from a "mission opera-

tor" aboard the carrier to one located in the Mission Test Control Center at NAS Patuxent River for landing.

"The flight today demonstrated that the X-47B is capable of operation from a carrier, hand-off from one mission control station to another, flight through the national airspace, and recovery at another location without degradation in safety or precision," said Matt Funk, lead test engineer for the Navy UCAS program.

Prior to the catapult launch on Tuesday, the UCAS test team also conducted deck-handling and ship-integration test-

ing to demonstrate the capability to safely operate the X-47B in the dynamic, unforgiving environment of an aircraft carrier flight deck.

"This event is a testament to the teamwork, professionalism and expertise of everyone involved with X-47B program," said Rear Adm. Mat Winter, program executive officer for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons. "Their work will positively impact future unmanned aviation development for years to come."

Over the next few weeks, the X-47B aircraft will fly approaches to the ship multiple times and eventually land on the pitching flight deck, said Navy UCAS Program Manager Capt. Jaime Engdahl.

The UCAS team will conduct additional shore-based testing with the X-47B at NAS Patuxent River in the coming months before its final carrier-based arrested landing demonstration later this summer.

# Army Under Secretary: Fiscal challenges threaten readiness

By **LT. COL. ROBERT MANNING,**  
*Under SecArmy Public Affairs*

Under Secretary of the Army Dr. Joseph W. Westphal, recently discussed the impacts of the Army's current fiscal situation and highlighted the importance of support from the American public during the state of Washington's annual 9th Congressional District Day at the U.S. Capitol.

The annual event, in its twelfth year, is hosted by U.S. Representative Adam Smith, ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, and brings together Washington state constituents and government leaders in Washington, D.C. The objective of the forum is to inform constituents from the district on issues ranging from technology and foreign policy to the domestic priorities and the current year's congressional agenda.

"This variety of topics and speakers [this year] will provide my constituents with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of how our government works," said Smith.

During his remarks, Westphal outlined the Army's global commitments and the need to rebalance the Army's priorities to the Asia-Pacific region. Moreover, he detailed the Army's contributions to the Joint Force, and the Army's economic impact within the state of Washington's 9th Congressional District.

"The Army's work providing security

**We don't ever want the President of the United States to ask your Army to support a requirement and be forced to tell him that our Soldiers aren't trained to accomplish that mission, and that our force is not equipped, trained and ready to deploy at a moment's notice. That's the readiness challenge we potentially face.**

**Under Secretary of the Army Dr. Joseph W. Westphal**

in the Pacific directly enables increased trade across the globe, directly impacting the 9th [Congressional] District's commercial enterprises in shipping, telecommunication, construction, and other areas," he said.

Westphal spoke at length to the audience about the impacts of sequestration and how these deep budget cuts jeopardize the Army's ability to train, equip and sustain Soldiers and be ready for future requirements and meet the demands of the nation.

"We don't ever want the President of the United States to ask your Army to support a requirement and be forced to tell him that our Soldiers aren't trained

to accomplish that mission, and that our force is not equipped, trained and ready to deploy at a moment's notice. That's the readiness challenge we potentially face," Westphal said.

Despite budget cuts, Westphal reassured the members of the 9th Congressional District that Army leadership is focused on working with congress and navigating through the current challenges. He reinforced the Army's continued commitment to defending the nation, in spite of fiscal constraints.

"Army leadership remains determined to finding the correct strategic balance to meet national defense priorities," he said. "Support from local com-

munities is essential to our Soldiers... and the 9th [Congressional] District is a critical enabler in the Army's ability to be a globally responsive and regionally engaged force."

In addition to Under Secretary Westphal, other speakers at the event included:

- Buck McKeon, Chairman, House Armed Services Committee (Calif.)
- Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader (Calif.)
- Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senator (Wash)
- Patty Murray, U.S. Senator (Wash)
- David Gregory, Moderator, NBC's Meet the Press

- John Hamre, Ph.D., president and CEO of CSIS

- Winnie Satchelberg, executive vice president for External Affairs, CAP

- Ellen McClain, deputy assistant secretary for Trans-border Affairs, DHS

U.S. Representative Smith has represented the state of Washington's 9th Congressional District since 1997. The district is located in the central Puget Sound region and includes parts of King and Pierce Counties. It includes the Port of Tacoma, which is one of the 50 largest cargo ports in the world and a vital link for trade in the Pacific Rim.

How are we doing? E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at [patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil](mailto:patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil)

# Special Ops wounded warriors thrive on competitiveness

By **DAVID VERGUN**  
ARNEWS

Extremely tough mental and physical training and experience give the Special Operations team's Wounded Warriors a competitive edge, said their cycling coach.

The athletes' background in Special Ops prepared them well for the 2013 Warrior Games, said Coach Jeth Fogg, prior to the upright- and hand-cycling races at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., May 12. Special Ops won two gold medals, one silver medal, and one bronze medal in the cycling races.

However, Fogg said even though the team has an advantage, a win is never guaranteed. "We're always the underdog because we're smaller than the other services and don't field as many folks."

The Special Ops team has athletes from the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps, some active, some medically retired, some old and some young.

It makes sense to have a Special Ops team for the games, Fogg said, because Special Ops is a unique part of the military where members operate as a team, often in arduous conditions. They know each other very well and develop close-knit bonds.

Fogg himself is not a wounded warrior, nor was he ever in Special Operations, but he said during the course of his Air Force career he worked alongside Special Ops members numerous times and understands their mindset.

He is familiar with Special Ops Wounded Warriors



Coach Jeth Fogg displays his own bike, which he calls "the clinker."

because this is his third year at Warrior Games coaching them. The Warrior Games started in 2010, but Special Ops didn't field a team until 2011, the year after Fogg retired from the Air Force.

The Warrior Games are for wounded, ill or injured service members and veterans and teams represent each of the services and the United Kingdom, in addition to Special Ops.

## Levels of experience

There are basically two levels of competition here, he said, "complete and compete."

The first goal for the athletes, he said, is just completing the course -- going the distance. That's the initial standard.

After that, they need to show a real desire to go further "and actually make it to the podium," he said.

Here, just completing the course is a "huge deal" and the competitive aspect is at the high end, he added.

He provided an example of an athlete last year who could barely move about but made substantial progress and made the team; another lost 48 pounds in a year to compete.

Then there is the ultimate goal for some, he said: leaving the team.

"Some guys eventually get in such good shape that they pass the Veterans Affairs disability standard and can no longer compete," he explained. Once that happens, they can join the Paralympic team and try out for the 2016 Olympics.

The team has lost a number of athletes because they have become that good, he said.

For some, however, they enjoy the Warrior Games so much, they return year after year, he added. "For them, they've made that higher level already."

# APG NCO, Soldier of the Year announced

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uation Center while Adeniji serves with the 20th Support Command (CBRNE). During the next year, both will serve as APG ambassadors during various post and community events.

Selection Board president, Command Sgt. Maj. Alan Fritzsching of ATEC, said the competition was the closest he's seen.

"They represented the very best of NCOs and Soldiers on APG," he said. "This is just an indication of how highly professional and trained today's Soldiers are. All of them were sharp and the scores were extremely close. Any one of them could have won."

Board members included Command Sgts. Maj. James Ervin, APG Garrison; Command Sgt. Maj. Montonya Boozier, 22D Chemical Battalion (Tech Escort); Command Sgt. Maj. David Puig, 20th Spt. Cmd.; Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert Beharie, RDECOM; Command Sgt. Maj. Carlton Handy, AEC; and Sgt. Maj. William Griffith, USAPHC. The board recorder was HHC Garrison 1st Sgt. Paula Adams.

The candidates for NCO of the Year included Sgt. Myeshia Boston, 22D Chemical Battalion; Staff Sgt. Randolph Miguel, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic; and Sgt. Joshua Boudreaux, USAPHC. Vying for Soldier of the Year were Spc. Casey Jackson, 22D Chem.; Spc. Ryan Baptiste, KUSAHC; and Spc. Eric

Jimenez, USAPHC.

"I'm very happy," Adeniji said after his selection. "I owe it all to Sgt. 1st Class [George] Cummings. He helped me out a lot."

Cummings, who served as Adeniji's sponsor, called his Soldier "highly professional" and expressed confidence in his winning selection prior to his appearance before the board.

"He absorbs knowledge quickly. He asks questions and he understands responsibility. I expect him to win this board," Cummings said.

Smith's sponsor, AEC 1st Sgt. Linwood Parker, expressed similar confidence.

"He's a fantastic NCO and a very responsible leader who sets the example for all our Soldiers," he said. "He's very well prepared and I foresee him coming away a winner today."

Smith thanked Parker and his command for their support during his preparation, noting that he'd studied for hours a day during the past 45 days.

"I want to thank everyone who supported me and had confidence in me," he said. "It gave me confidence and I look forward to representing APG and ATEC over the next year."

**Sgt. 1st Class Kishann T. Smith**  
**APG NCO of the Year**

Smith currently serves in the Fires Evaluation Directorate of the U.S. Army

Evaluation Command's Army Evaluation Center. A native of Orange, N.J., Smith enlisted in the Army in 1991 after graduating from Vacaville High School in Vacaville, Calif. He attended Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Bliss, Texas where he was awarded the MOS of 14T, PATRIOT Crew Member and Maintainer. His previous assignments include Bitburg, Germany; Fort Lewis, Wash.; Fort Bliss, Texas; Kuwait; Stuttgart, Germany; South Korea; Okinawa, Japan; and Qatar, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His military education includes the Senior Leaders Course; Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course; Primary Leadership Development Course; PATRIOT Master Gunner Course; Unit Movement Officers Course; NBC Defense Course; Hazardous Material Transporter Course and Master Drivers Course. He holds 32 hours toward a bachelor's degree in Management.

Smith's awards and citations include the Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, Joint Service Achievement, Army Achievement, Good Conduct and National Defense and Korean Defense Service medals; as well as the Armed Forces Expeditionary, Southwest Asia, Global War on Terrorism, Armed Forces Service, Kuwaiti Liberation and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service medals.

Smith's goals include obtaining the rank of First Sergeant and earning his bachelor's degree while stationed at APG. He is married with four children.

**Spc. Adedeji A. Adeniji**  
**APG Soldier of the Year**

Adeniji was born in Lagos, Nigeria. He graduated from Ikoyi High School in Logos in 1988 and attended college at Ladoke Akintola University of Technology in Oyo State, Nigeria.

Adeniji enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2010, completed Basic and AIT at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and was awarded the MOS 74D, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Specialist.

He previously served at Fort Sill, Okla., before being assigned to APG as a CBRN Specialist with the 20th Support Command (CBRNE). Adeniji also is his command's Soldier of the Quarter, First Quarter, 2013.

His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation, Army Achievement and Army Good Conduct medals as well as the Army Service and Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development ribbons.

Adeniji's goals include earning Technical Escort Certification, becoming an NCO and competing for selection into the Sgt. Audie Murphy club. He also hopes to complete his master's degree in Information Systems Management.

# Motorcycle Safety Bike Show set May 23

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when other drivers do not allow them room to maneuver in time to prevent a collision. "Even when we've lost Soldiers in multi-vehicle accidents, it's often been the direct result of indiscipline on the Soldier's part: alcohol use, excessive speed or lack of personal protective equipment."

Army accident data show that speeding and other forms of reckless riding, neglecting to wear PPE, and failure to complete required training are among the most common indiscipline-based errors Soldier riders make. Alarming-ly, leaders and Soldiers over the age of 25 have comprised the majority of rider

fatalities during the past several fiscal years.

Although motorcycle fatalities have fallen markedly in 2013 - current statistics indicate a 59 percent decrease as compared to this time last year - officials expect numbers to rise through the end of summer.

At Aberdeen Proving Ground, safety will be the focus of the Motorcycle Safety Bike Show to be held 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 23 at the Motorcycle Range on Darlington Street. Events will include competitions and door prizes, free safety inspections (T-CLOCS), and plenty of safety information for everyone from

new and potential riders to veterans of the road.

Allen said that while the information will be new for some and a refresher for others it is no less valuable because it has the potential to save lives.

"Eagerness to get back out there after a long winter can make some rush into hasty activities without thinking things out," he said. "That's why we want to remind drivers to stay informed, wear their PPE, and think safety. The Motorcycle Safety Bike Show will help reinforce that."

"It's incumbent upon leaders to ensure their riders know about [safety],

get the proper training and ride responsibly," said Command Sgt. Maj. Richard D. Stidley, USACR/Safety Center. "We now have an entire month dedicated to motorcycle safety, so there's no excuse for not getting a head start on summer."

He added that leaders should also remember that their Soldiers are watching.

"Discipline and responsibility are not a function of rank," he said. "Leaders are just as accountable to the standard as their Soldiers, and they should be setting the example."

For more information on motorcycle safety, visit <https://safety.army.mil>.

# Civilian furloughs explained

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enough. Since deeper cuts to training and maintenance could leave our nation and our military exposed in the event of an unforeseen crisis, we have been forced to consider placing the majority of our civilian employees on administrative furlough.

After extensive review of all options with the DoD's senior military and civilian leadership on how we address this budget crisis, today I am announcing that I have decided to direct furloughs of up to 11 days for most of the Department's civilian personnel. I have made this decision very reluctantly, because I know that the furloughs will disrupt lives and impact DoD operations. I recognize the significant hardship this places on you and your families.

After required notifications, we will begin the furlough period on July 8 at the rate of one furlough day per week for most

personnel. We plan to continue these furloughs through the end of the current fiscal year. If our budgetary situation permits us to end furloughs early, I would strongly prefer to do so. That is a decision I will make later in the year.

Furloughs for 11 days represent about half of the number we had originally planned, reflecting the Department's vigorous efforts to meet our budgetary shortfalls through actions other than furlough. There will be exceptions driven by law and by the need to minimize harm to the execution of our core missions. For example, all employees deployed or temporarily assigned to a combat zone will be excepted from furloughs.

Your managers have been given authority to develop specific furlough procedures to minimize adverse mission effects and also limit the harm to morale and produc-

tivity. They will be in touch with you to provide guidance and answers.

The President and I are deeply appreciative of your patience, your hard work, and your dedication and contributions to the critical mission of helping protect America's national security. I am counting on all of you to stay focused on this vital mission in the days ahead. As I said the day I assumed the responsibilities of Secretary of Defense, I'm proud to be part of your team and I'm proud to serve with you.

*"For our APG Team Members, we understand there will be further questions regarding furlough implementation. Please direct requests for additional information to your respective organization's chain of command and Human Resources personnel."*

# Save a Life

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travels to military installations all over the world and high schools and colleges in the United States.

"When people drive the simulator and see that they have a reduced sense of power and control over the car, that makes it real to them," Tipton said.

Tipton added that it is estimated that one person is killed every 32 minutes in an impaired driving crash, and one person is injured every 26 seconds. The direct costs of alcohol related crashes are estimated to be \$46 million yearly.

For more information on the Save a Life Tour, visit [www.savealifetour.com](http://www.savealifetour.com).

# 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/>.



## PATRIOT PROGRAM

Sgt. 1st Class Sean Burke from the 203rd MI Battalion (Technical Intelligence) talks to Havre de Grace Elementary School students after the school's annual Patriot Program May 7. Soldiers from U.S. MRICD also assisted in the day's festivities by providing a color guard.

Photos by Rachel Ponder



## GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION

Kaley McColligan decorates a stone for the APG South (Edgewood) youth center garden May 2. The center's garden is an ongoing 4-H project that began last year. CYSS youth plant and tend vegetables and flowers with the supervision of Facility Director Renee Main.



## SHOWING APPRECIATION

(From left) Military spouse Ulrike Ducan receives coupons from Nancy Goucher of ACS while military spouse Brenda Fernandez looks on. ACS handed out coupon packets and other giveaways in honor of National Military Spouse Appreciation Day May 10.

## MWR EXPO

(From left) Kris Williams, ARL, looks at informational hand-outs from Kyle Lacey, CYSS Sports, and Nick Ford, Challenger Sports British Soccer Camps, during the MWR Expo May 8. For more information about the upcoming APG MWR events, visit [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com). For information about CYSS Sports call 410-306-2297.



## WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK

(From right) Emily Kunchinsky from MedStar talks to Gerilina Adams from CECOM LRC C3T after a presentation on women's health hosted by the Community Health Promotion Council in the Myer Auditorium May 9, in honor of Women's National Health Week, May 12-18. The next event hosted by CHPC is Savings and Checking Management on May 16 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Myer Auditorium. For more information call 443-861-7910.