



STEM Summit highlights best practices

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

More than 100 regional educators, industry leaders and government employees gathered at the Battelle Eastern Science & Technology Center in Aberdeen Nov. 8 for STEM Summit IX. The meeting's theme was "Methods and Metrics."

"STEM education as a movement is about ten years old. We are at the point where we are asking ourselves what works, and how are we doing," said Joan Michel, the event's facilitator and a STEM consultant.

The guest speaker, Dr. Natalie Nielsen, the Senior Program Officer for the National Research Council, talked about her recently published report, "Monitoring Progress Toward Successful K-12 STEM Education: A Nation Advancing?" At the NRC Nielsen has directed studies on K-12 and undergraduate science education, includ-

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Photo by Rachel Ponder

Veterans Day event honors Gold Star mothers

Gold Star Mother Elsheba Khan accepts an ID tag honoring her son, Cpl. Kareem Khan, from Master Sgt. Keyana Washington, president of the APG Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, during the APG Veterans Day ceremony at the Main Post Chapel Nov. 12. The event hailed America's veterans and paid tribute to Survivors of fallen service members.

APG officer leads Aberdeen tribute to local veterans

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

Every Veterans Day in the City of Aberdeen, as well as in communities around the country, members of Veterans Service Organizations and local citizens come together at to tribute veterans of all generations, living and dead.

The familiar scene repeated itself on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, at the eleventh hour – as the Bernard L. Tobin American

See VETERANS, page 8

Colonel Debra D. Daniels, Military Deputy of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, talks about the sacred trust to honor all veterans during the Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in Aberdeen Nov. 11.



Veterans Day tribute highlights 150th United States Colored Troops anniversary

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

It doesn't take much effort to step back in time when visiting the Hosanna School Museum in Darlington, Md. The plain, two-story building, which dates back to 1867, housed the first public school for African Americans in Harford County and contains an array of 19th century schoolhouse artifacts that upon entering, helps propel visitors to that bygone era.

The school's Veterans Day program, held Nov. 9, paid homage to the Soldiers of the United States Colored Troops in the form of a Living History Presentation by history interpreter Willis Phelps Jr. as Pvt. James H. Elbert of the USCT.

After the U.S. War Department established a Bureau of Colored Troops in 1863, more than 178,000 free blacks and former slaves served in the Union Army during the last two years of the war.

Dressed in full Civil War-era uniform, complete with ruck and rifle, Pvt. Elbert marched into the school's second floor meeting room singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic. He greeted the room full of listeners with tales of his early days in the USCT regiment; of how he and other former slave rallied to the fight for freedom but despite helping win the war for the Union, still were treated as second-class citizens. With a



Interpreter Willis Phelps Jr. delivers a living history presentation of a and 1863 United States Colored Troops Soldier during a Veterans Day ceremony at the Hosanna School Museum in Darlington Nov. 9.

mixture of humor, often calling members of the audience up to help make his point, Phelps, as Elbert, brought the era back to life with vivid tales of hunting small game for meals, enduring seemingly endless marches to the next battle field, and descriptions of the sweltering stench emanating from the medical tents where discarded limbs often lay in piles; the result of hurried Civil War field physicians who would later be called "sawbones."

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ChalleNGe program offers teens fresh start

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

Many teens come to Freestate ChalleNGe Academy, located on APG South (Edgewood), hoping for a fresh start and a second chance at an education. These teens, ages 16-18, are residents of Maryland and Washington, D.C. who have dropped out of high school. This is the story of two cadets currently enrolled in Class 41.

Cadet Alexis Roscoe

Cadet Alexis Roscoe, 17, came to Freestate because she wanted a change in environment. She said she fell in with the "wrong" crowd at her previous school.

"I had to convince myself, at first I was scared and nervous," she said. "It took me a while to come to the realization that I needed this program. I wanted to do better."

Roscoe, from Prince George's County, said the first few weeks, or the "acclimation phase," is the hardest. This is when the cadets have



Roscoe



Thomas

to adjust to a new strict schedule and rules, and decide if the program is right for them. During the residential phase, cadets voluntarily live in the academy's residential program, a structured, disciplined military-style environment. Every minute is accounted for and cadets are not allowed outside distractions like social media, internet or cell phones.

"At first I was a bit standoffish. I found it difficult living with so many females," she said, referring to the academy's barracks-style living quarters. "But I got used to it. Now I am friendly and outgoing. I figured no matter what you do, you are always going to need someone."

Roscoe said the disciplined environment allows her to focus on what is most important, getting a second chance at an education. She feels the program sets her apart from other teens her age, due to her leadership experience. She served as a platoon sergeant for two weeks and

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WEATHER

Thurs.



54° | 34°

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STREET TALK

Do you have any Veterans Day traditions?

Every year I observe Veterans Day with my husband (a retired Soldier) and other military families. We take turns hosting a big dinner, it's almost like Thanksgiving. We always have a great time together, sharing our military experiences. I look forward to this tradition every year.



Susana Cruz
Family member

Every year I attend my church's Veterans Day ceremony. This is a time to honor our veterans and reflect on their sacrifices.



Robin Stokes-Smith
Community Outreach Assistant

Every year I talk to my son, Jordon, about the meaning of Veterans Day. I want to teach him military values.



Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Conway
AEC

I relax and reminisce about my military days. I especially like to remember the camaraderie I had with my fellow Soldiers.



Curtis Thompson
Retired Military

This year I assisted with the APG Veterans Day ceremony. I believe Soldiers should show appreciation to veterans throughout the year. Without their sacrifice, we wouldn't be here today.



Master Sgt. Keyana Washington
KUSAHC

APG Exchange keeping the 'Thanks' in Thanksgiving

With a quarter of its work force comprised of military family members, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is a true example of Family serving Family. As such, the focus on Thanksgiving Day will be on Family and shopping will have to wait until Friday.

Customers will not have to wait long to start their holiday shopping as the APG Exchange. Doors open 4 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving.

"As a part of the military community, the Exchange understands that time with family, for

both customers and associates, is a priority," said the APG Exchange General Manager Jonathan Bright. "An early opening at the APG Exchange on 'Black Friday' will allow shoppers to give thanks with loved ones and still partake in the savings."

Authorized shoppers can get a head start on special promotions, updated throughout the holiday season, by visiting the Exchange's "Sale Flyers" page at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ExchangeStores/SalesFlyer.aspx>.



Take a smoke break for the smokeout

By **1ST LT. JOANNA MOORE**
KUSAHC

November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month and the Aberdeen Proving Ground Community Health Promotion Council, in conjunction with Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) will team up Wednesday, Nov. 20 to offer the Smoke Break, a Great American Smokeout event for the APG community.

The Smoke Break, a 45-minute workout led by a fitness instructor, will be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center, Bldg. 3300, from noon to 12:45 p.m. While the event targets individuals who are looking for information about smoking cessation, everyone is welcome to participate. Participants will receive free giveaways, including bowling passes to the APG Bowling Center, and will be entered to win the grand prize of a free bowling party for their office.

Lung cancer is the growth of abnormal (cancer) cells within the lung tissue. It is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, causing nearly 160,000 deaths in 2012 alone, which is more than the next three most common cancers combined (colon, breast and prostate). More than half the people diagnosed with lung cancer will die within one year of diagnosis.

Smoking is the number one cause of lung cancer, which is one of the only cancers that can primarily be attributed to personal choice. This means that up to 87 percent of lung cancers can be prevented by making the decision to quit smoking.



File photo

To help raise awareness about smoking cessation, the American Cancer Society initiated The Great American Smokeout to encourage smokers to quit for a day in hopes that some will quit for a lifetime. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) also encourages veterans to observe the Great American Smokeout. Many resources are available to assist people with smoking cessation right here on APG.

November also is Diabetes Awareness Month and during the Smoke Break, information will be available about diabetes prevention and healthy eating choices.

For more information about the Smoke Break, diabetes, or smoking cessation, contact Sunaina Singh or Ann Laughton, KUSAHC public health nurses, at 410-278-1771/1774.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau now accepting payday loan complaints

CFPB

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is now accepting complaints from borrowers encountering problems with payday loans. Also known as "cash advances" or "check loans," payday loans, are often short-term, small-dollar loans, generally for \$500 or less.

Richard Cordray, CFPB director, said that before the bureau took this action, consumers who had trouble with payday lending products had few places to turn.

"By accepting consumer complaints about payday loans, we will be giving people a greater voice in this market," he said.

Payday loans are often described as a way for consumers to bridge cash flow shortages between paychecks or before the receipt of other income. The loans can offer quick access to cash, especially for consumers who may not qualify for other credit, but can come at a high cost. Many payday loans are for small-dollar amounts that must be repaid in full in a short period of time. Payment is generally due at the borrower's next pay period -- meaning the loan may require repayment in only a few weeks. Many lenders require that borrowers grant them advance access to checking accounts to repay the loans.

Payday lenders have sprung up across the country over the past 20 years, beginning in storefront locations. Many payday loans are also offered through the Internet. The CFPB has authority to oversee the payday loan market and it began its supervision of payday lenders in January 2012. The CFPB

has taken a number of steps to learn more about the marketplace for payday loans, and released a report on payday loans at http://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201304_cfpb_payday-dap-whitepaper.pdf earlier this year. That report found that payday products can lead to a cycle of indebtedness for many consumers.

Consumers can submit payday loan complaints to the bureau regarding unexpected fees or interest; unauthorized or incorrect charges to their bank account; payments not being credited to their loan; problems contacting the lender; receiving a loan they did not apply for; or not receiving money after they applied for a loan.

The CFPB began taking consumer credit card complaints in 2011, and now accepts complaints about mortgages, bank accounts and services, private student loans, consumer loans, credit reporting, debt collection, and money transfers. The bureau requests that companies respond to complaints within 15 days and describe the steps they have taken or plan to take. The CFPB expects companies to close all but the most complicated complaints within 60 days. Consumers are given a tracking number after submitting a complaint and can check the status of their complaint by logging onto the CFPB website.

Consumers can submit complaints online at www.consumerfinance.gov/Complaint; call toll-free at 1-855-411-CFPB (2372) or TTY/TDD 1-855-729-CFPB (2372); FAX 1-855-237-2392; or write to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, P.O. Box 4503, Iowa City, Iowa 52244.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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Native American service to Army, nation recognized

By **DAVID VERGUN**
ARNEWS

Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, recently tri-signed a “National American Indian Heritage Month” letter for the November observance of Native American Heritage Month.

The APG 2013 Native American Heritage Month Celebration is set for 10:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater, Nov. 20. The guest speaker is Mark “Wild Turkey” Tayak. The event includes music, entertainment and a traditional Native American food sampling. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Howard Norcross, ATEC equal opportunity advisor, at 443-861-9251 or Tracy Marshall, CECOM/Installation EOA at 443-861-4366.

The Department of the Army letter states in part that throughout the Army’s 238-year history, American Indians have served valiantly and with distinction in times of peace and war, while also fighting for the right to be an equal part of the nation.

American Indians served in the Army in every war in America’s history, as well as in peacetime. Additionally, 25 American Indians have received the nation’s highest award for valor -- the Medal of Honor.

“This legacy continues today with the brave Soldiers who have served and continue to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. We are proud of their service and honored by their sacrifices,” they said.

During last year’s Native American celebrations at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Maj. Gen. Gregg Potter former commander of the U.S. Army Intelligence

Center of Excellence reminded Soldiers and guests that while Native Americans have contributed much to the Army and the nation, America’s relationship with them has not always been amicable.

“We didn’t treat the first inhabitants of our country very well and there are others in our history that we have done the same to. I think the more we can learn from each other, the better off we can be,” Potter said.

“Native American heritage and other celebrations are very, very important because we learn about other cultures that we didn’t understand.”

Within the Army ranks

In 2012, 8,138 Native Americans served in the Army, according to Dr. Betty D. Maxfield, chief, Office of Army Demographics. Of these, 3,705 were active-duty enlisted, 92 were warrant officers and 405 were officers. The Army National Guard had 2,483 enlisted, 56 warrant officers and 159 officers. The Army Reserve had 1,055 enlisted, 22 warrant officers and 161 officers.

According to Maxfield, 10 years earlier in 2002, 8,598 Native Americans served in the Army. Of these, 3,665 were active-duty enlisted, 80 were warrant officers and 376 were officers. The Army National Guard had 2,680 enlisted, 39 warrant officers and 139 officers. The Army Reserve had 1,344 enlisted, 14 warrant officers and 261 officers.

Throughout the month of November, installations Army-wide will honor Native Americans with special events such as tribal dances, art exhibits, and food and historical displays.

“We encourage our Army family to commemorate (Native Americans’) contributions that help make our Army what it is today -- Army Strong,” said Army leaders in their letter.



Spc. Lori Piestewa of the 507th Maintenance Company, Fort Bliss, Texas, was killed in Iraq in 2003. Piestewa Peak, Ariz., near Phoenix is named in her honor.
Department of the Army photo



Toni (Evans) Probst Supervisory Traffic Management Specialist

Toni Probst serves Aberdeen Proving Ground as a supervisory traffic management specialist and personal property manager in the Transportation Division, Logistics Readiness Center. The operation comes under the 406th Army Field Support Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C. With 24 years in transportation, and nine transportation assistants working under her, Probst oversees household goods movements and coordinates cargo shipments and flights.

While the documents for service members shipping household goods are processed here at APG, the booking and shipment portion is completed at Fort Belvoir, Va., Probst said.

The office offers mass counseling sessions detailing important shipping information for service members, civilians and

Family members every Tuesday, 2 p.m. and Thursday, 3 p.m. In addition, tenant organizations can request shipping arrangements by truck, ocean or military air. Walk-ins are welcome.

“We ship worldwide,” Probst said, adding that the best part of her job is customer service.

“I just enjoy working with, assisting and interacting with customers. No two are alike. We’re here to assist and help solve any problems,” she said.

The Traffic Management office is located in Bldg. 4305, second floor, room 201. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday. For more information, call 410-306-2072 or email toni.a.evans.civ@mail.mil.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to
www.militarysaves.org, about 43 percent of
American Families spend more than they
earn each year.

Personal bankruptcies
have doubled in the past decade.

APG waterways benefit from clean water act

By **JOHN WROBEL**
DPW Environmental

People don't realize what a difference the Clean Water Act has made in their lives. The fact that they can boat, swim and fish in waterways that previously were considered threats to public health is a direct result of this critical legislation.

A little over forty years ago, the Cuyahoga River in Ohio was so filled with oily waste and industrial pollution that the river actually caught fire and burned for days. In the same year, waste from industries along Florida's Lake Thonotosassa killed 26 million fish. People along the banks of the Merrimack River in Massachusetts recall seeing the river turn red, yellow, and green depending on the waste dyes that the mills along the river would flush into it. Parents would warn their children not to play too close to the river, not for fear of drowning but for fear of coming in contact with the chemicals in the river. This situation began to change after the passage of the Clean Water Act 41 years ago.

The Act directed the EPA to establish national standards that the states were to enforce to make sure chemicals and unhealthy discharges did not enter waterways. The Act also provid-



File photo

ed grants to local communities to construct sewage conveyance lines and wastewater treatment plants to treat wastewaters to a clean standard before discharging into rivers and streams.

It is hard to imagine a time when untreated sewage and industrial waste was allowed to be dumped directly and untreated, into rivers and streams. That was the case before the Clean Water Act.

During the 1970s, the Duck Island wastewater plant along the Merrimack was constructed. It would capture and treat the waste dyes and sewage. Since its completion in the late 1970s, the Merrimack River's health has improved to the point that the only red, yellow, and green seen now are the fall colors reflected from the trees along its banks.

The Clean Water Act at APG sim-

ilarly provided for improvement in the quality of the Bush and Gunpowder Rivers. Recently, Department of Public Works engineers installed enhanced nutrient removal of nitrogen and phosphorous in the Aberdeen Area wastewater treatment plant. DPW plans to upgrade the Edgewood Area wastewater treatment plant to remove the nitrogen and phosphorous as well. Construction should start soon for that effort.

Throughout the late 1970's through 2010, much of the efforts to make APG compliant with the Clean Water Act were led by Ken Stachiw, the environmental chief through much of that time. Stachiw's efforts included identification of industrial discharges that discharged directly into the surrounding streams and rivers, capping of the lines and making connection to wastewater plants. He also developed regulations on what materials could be discharged into sewer lines and developed contracting mechanisms, and the first of its kind contract to properly dispose of hazardous wastes that could not be safely discharged into the sewers. During that time the environmental staff increased in size due to his recruitment efforts to improve the overall environmental posture.



ATEC hosts health fair

(From left) Lauren Lynch, Army Wellness Center, shows Olivia McMillian, Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), the difference between a pound of muscle and a pound of fat during the ATEC Health Fair Nov. 7. The event featured 31 local vendors and Zumba, belly dancing and boot camp demonstrations. Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic also provided flu shots for Soldiers and civilians.

"The purpose of the event was to promote readiness, resilience, health and wellness," said ATEC Health & Wellness Coordinator Gale Sauer.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

Baltimore Ravens bring NFL Play 60 to APG

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**

APG News

Take 150 excited youth, throw in a field of football-themed activities, add a sprinkling of professional National Football League players and you wind up with a fun-filled evening like the one that was had when the Baltimore Ravens brought the NFL Play 60 youth combine to Aberdeen Proving Ground Nov. 5.

The NFL Play 60 is a national youth health and fitness campaign focused on increasing the wellness of young fans by encouraging them to be active for at least 60 minutes a day.

In conjunction with the NFL's military appreciation Salute to Service and Play 60 campaign efforts, the Baltimore Ravens provided the event to communicate the importance of physical activity to military youth.

Approximately 150 youth ages 7 to 14 attended the event which focused on the fundamentals of football. Baltimore Ravens players in attendance included wide receivers Torrey Smith, Marlon Brown and Denote Thompson; linebackers Arthur Brown, Jameel McClain and John Simon; safeties Matt Elam and Jeromy Miles; and defensive tackle Brandon Williams. The Raven's official mascot Poe and several Ravens cheerleaders also were in attendance.

Hosted by APG's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the Play 60 event was held on the Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) sports field. Play 60 coaches, led by Tom LaNeve or "Coach Tom" divided the purple t-shirt-clad children into groups and ran them through stations focused on passing, catching, agility and other skills.

"The Baltimore Ravens organization is totally committed to the community," LaNeve said, "and we're honored to be able to come to a military community. My idea is that if you keep the mind moving the body will follow and we're excited and eager to have some fun. It's all about the kids."

Excitement built before the activities began when the Baltimore Ravens players arrived by bus to delighted screams as they ran through two rows of children lining the field, delivering high-fives along the way. Leading the way onto the field was APG Senior Leader Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell and Poe, the



Photo by Molly Blossie

(From right) Baltimore Ravens offensive linebacker John Simon chats with 7-year-old Ja' Zae Jones during the NFL Play 60 youth combine at Aberdeen Proving Ground hosted by DFMWR and CYSS Nov. 6.

Raven's mascot.

The opening ceremony preceding the activities included the presentation of colors by Soldiers of the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion (TECHINT) led by Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Grimshaw and the singing of the national anthem by 15-year-old Taylor Brown, the daughter of George Brown, a CECOM civilian. Twelve Soldiers from various APG units served as volunteers and player assistants.

Bill Kegley, CYSS youth sports director said the CYSS youth had never been more excited. He thanked the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and

Security, the Army Test and Evaluation Command's Aberdeen Test Center and other organizations that supported the FMWR/CYSS function.

"This was a great event for our kids, one they'll remember a long time," Kegley said.

He added that youth center members regularly attend Ravens training camp sessions and that planning for the event was initiated in August.

Parents said they were just as excited as their children.

"This was a lot more elaborate than I thought, I didn't realize it would be this big a deal," said CERDEC Electronics

Technician Nathan Grogan, who said he learned about the event from his wife, RDECOM civilian Karen Grogan. Their 7-year-old son Zach had a great time, Grogan said.

"I was expecting a meet-and-greet but this was much better."

Kevin Vickers, a sergeant first class with the 430th Transportation Company out of Fort Meade, Md., said his daughters Tiarah, 9 and Mia, 7, and his wife, Shellyann "had a ball."

"They couldn't wait to get here," he said, "and they don't know a thing about football but they did real well. They'll sleep good tonight."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14

MOAA SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER MEETS

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Susquehanna chapter will meet 6 p.m. at the Bellissimo Seafood and Grill restaurant in Bel Air. A brief social will be followed by a buffet dinner starting at 7 p.m. The guest speaker, MOAA Chief Financial Planner and Benefits Expert, retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom, will provide insight into estate and investment planning, as well as MOAA planning tools. Dinner costs \$28 per person. For reservations, contact Brian Lantz at 410-939-0648 or email brianlantz6@comcast.net. The MOAA is open to commissioned officers of all branches. All are welcome to attend the dinner meeting to see what MOAA is all about. More information on MOAA Susquehanna Chapter can be found at www.susquehannamoaa.org.

PROMOTING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS SEMINAR

The APG Sexual Harassment/Assault, Response and Prevention (SHARP) program, Army Community Service (ACS), and Harford County Safety, Awareness, Resources Change (SARC) will host a 90-minute session on promoting healthy relationships and eliminating sexual violence, 6 to 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the Main Post Chapel, Bldg. 2485. Along with promoting healthy relationships, the session will focus on available services and resources for victims of sexual assault.

To register in advance, call 410-278-2180. Child care is available for children registered with Child, Youth and School Services.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15 THROUGH 18

FRIENDS OF THE ABERDEEN LIBRARY FALL BOOK SALE

The annual fall book sale at the Aberdeen branch of the Harford County Public Library will be held Friday through Monday, Nov. 15 through 18. Hundreds of books, DVDs and CDs will be on sold for fantastic prices. Included are items excessed by the library and donated items. The sale will be held during regular library hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 1 to 5 p.m. and Mon. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 18

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

The APG Education Center will host a one day event Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Army Education Center, Bldg. 4305, 2nd floor, Susquehanna Ave, APG North (Aberdeen). Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Tressie Stout at 410-306-2042.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19

CFC KICKOFF IN APG NORTH & SOUTH

The entire APG community is invited to attend the 2013 CFC Kickoff celebration which takes place simultaneously, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater and at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140.

More than two dozen vendor displays, door prizes and refreshments will greet guests at both locations according to Kristine Augustyniak, campaign chairperson. Everyone is invited to come out and learn about local organizations and maybe win a door prize too, Augustyniak said.

For information about contributing to the Combined Federal Campaign, see your organization key personnel or contact Augustyniak at 410-278-2830 or email kristine.s.augustyniak.civ@mail.mil.

To donate to CFC visit the Chesapeake Bay Area CFC Nexus website at https://www.cfcnexux.org/_chesapeake/.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 20

APG SOUTH (EDGEWOOD) FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING

The APG Fire Department Fire Prevention Branch will conduct Fire Marshal Training from 9 a.m. to noon at the Conference Center, Bldg. E4810. The training will review what is required of fire marshals to ensure fire safety in on-post buildings and include conducting adequate monthly building and extinguisher inspections. Members of the APG Fire and Emergency Services division will explain how to conduct

detailed extinguisher inspections and the requirements per NFPA 10 that are applicable to their needs.

For more information, or to pre-register for the event, contact William Bond at william.j.bond1.civ@mail.mil

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Team APG will present the 2013 Native American Heritage Month Celebration 10:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater. The event will include entertainment and a traditional Native American food sampling. The program theme is "Guiding Our Destiny with Heritage and Traditions." The guest speaker is Mark "Wild Turkey" Tayac.

For more Information, contact; Sgt. 1st Class Howard Norcross, ATEC equal opportunity advisor, at 443-861-9251 or Tracy Marshall, CECOM Installation EOA, at 443-861-4366

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20 & 21

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host a Holiday Bazaar 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. This festive holiday event supports the upcoming gift-giving season with dozens of local vendors displaying crafts, jewelry, toys, home décor, gourmet gifts, artwork, ornaments, and much more for purchase. The event includes live music and door prizes. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or email usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21

FOOD AND FACTS AT TOP OF THE BAY

Join the staff from CMU's Global Campus at APG for a delicious lunch and information about the Master of Science degree in Administration at Top of the Bay, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. RSVP by Nov. 18 to Barbara Jenkins at 410-272-1532.

WOA MONTHLY MEETING

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association's Aberdeen-Edgewood "Silver" Chapter will hold its monthly meeting at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, room 102. Lunch will be served 11:30 a.m. and the meeting will be held from noon to 12:45 p.m. There will also be an officer professional development briefing on Employment Benefits for Veterans.

For additional information or questions, email retired CW4 Owen McNiff at omcniff@yahoo.com or call 571-243-6561.

THANKSGIVING WEEK

SPECIAL COMMISSARY HOURS

The APG Commissary will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25 to allow extra time for Thanksgiving shopping and preparations. They will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately following, Nov. 28 and 29, so their employees may enjoy time with their Families.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 25

SGT AUDIE MURPHY CLUB INDUCTION

The APG Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will host an induction ceremony of new members along with the presentation of the Dr. Mary E. Walker Award 1:30 p.m. at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000, in the C4ISR complex. The Dr. Mary E. Walker Award is presented to an outstanding military spouse for demonstrating dedicated and exemplary volunteerism that improved the quality of life for Soldiers and their families. Walker is the only woman in U.S. history to receive the Medal of Honor.

This event is open to APG service members, civilians, contractors and Family members. For more information, contact SAMC President Master Sgt. Keyana Washington at 410-278-1726 or email keyana.t.washington.mil@mail.mil.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28 AND 29

SPECIAL EXCHANGE HOURS

The Exchange will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, and reopen on Friday at 4 a.m. so customers can begin their holiday shopping early.

Authorized shoppers can get a head start on special promotions, updated throughout the holiday season, by visiting the Exchange's "Sale Flyers" page

at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/ExchangeStores/SalesFlyer.aspx>.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY DECEMBER 4-5

AFAP CONFERENCE SET FOR DECEMBER

Army Community Service will host the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) conference, a forum in which community members identify quality of life concerns to Army leadership, starting 8 a.m., at the Mallette Training Facility, Bldg. 6008. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Army-wide event. Issues raised are reviewed and prioritized for resolution at APG or forwarded to the next level. For more information, contact ACS at 410-278-7572 or email usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-acslend@mail.mil.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11

ARMY VS. NAVY BLOOD DRIVE CHALLENGE

You can help the Army defeat the Navy during the annual Army vs. Navy Blood Drive Challenge to be held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

To schedule an appointment go to www.militarydonor.com and use the sponsor code: APGMD.

Walk-ins are welcome.

This event is sponsored by the Armed Services Blood Program. For more information, go to www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

ONGOING THROUGH NOVEMBER 14

AAFES: GOOD FAMILY PICS PAY IN LATEST EXCHANGE SWEEPSTAKES

If diamonds truly are a girl's best friend then military moms will definitely want to enter the latest contest of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES).

The "Mom and Baby Photo Sweepstakes" will award a 14K diamond Juno Lucina pendant in white gold (retail value \$329) to the top ten best photos of mother and baby.

"Every new parent likes to show off pictures of their baby," said Exchange Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Tony Pearson. "Beyond memories, those photos could now be worth a diamond pendant."

From Nov. 1-14, authorized shoppers 18 years and older can enter by submitting a photo of mom and baby to patriotfamily@aafes.com with "Mom and Baby Photo Sweepstakes" in the subject line.

For more information, go to www.shopmyexchange.com/patriotfamily Sweepstakes winners will be announced on or about Nov. 15.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

THRIFT SHOP \$3 BAG SALE

The APG Thrift Shop, located in Bldg. 2458, behind the Main Post Chapel, will host a \$3 bag sale starting Nov. 1 and lasting the entire month. Patrons will be charged only \$3 for everything they can stuff in one bag. This applies only to items in the clearance area. For more information, contact the Thrift Shop Manager Fran Diantonio at 410-272-8572. Thrift Shop hours of operation are: Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignment hours are Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

ARMY DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The 2013 Army Digital Photography Contest will accept submissions between Oct. 15 and Nov. 30. Those eligible to participate in the Army-wide contest include active duty personnel and their Family members, DA civilians, and retirees. The categories are Animals, Design Elements, Digital Darkroom, Military Life, Nature/Landscapes, People, and Still Life. Participants should complete the entry form and submit their photos online at <https://apps.imcom.army.mil/appracmain>. For more information or to register contact the APG Leisure Travel Office in Bldg. 3326 at 410-278-4011/4907.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

COAT, CLOTHES & SHOE DRIVE

The APG Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is currently collecting coats, clothes and shoes for the Perry Point VA Medical Center in Perryville, Md. and a local charity for needy families. The drive will run through Nov. 30. Donors can drop off gently-used or new items to the various units sup-

porting the drive. They include Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic; the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command; the U.S. Army Public Health Command; the 1st Area Medical Laboratory; the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) and the 20th CBRNE Command.

For more information, contact SAMC President Master Sgt. Keyana Washington at 410-278-1726 or email keyana.washington@us.army.mil.

CORVIAS 2014 GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Corvias Foundation has announced that applications for the 2014 Our Future Scholarships and the 2014 Our Family Educational Grants are now available.

Applications for Our Future Scholarships must be submitted by Feb. 13, 2014, and will be awarded to high school seniors with plans of attending a four-year university or college in the amount of up to \$50,000 each. Applications for the 2014 Our Family Educational Grants must be submitted by May 8, 2014. Grants are given in the amount of up to \$5,000 to spouses of active-duty service members at the installations listed above. Applicants may be in any stage of the educational process. Recipients will be notified by July 10.

Families do not have to reside in on-post housing to qualify. Eligible service members stationed at these installations can serve in any branch of the military.

To apply, go to <http://corviasfoundation.org>. For more information, call 401-228-2836 or email info@corviasfoundation.org

CATHOLIC MASS AND

LITURGY SCHEDULE

MONDAY: 11:45 a.m., Mass at APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, 12:15 p.m., Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

TUESDAY: 11:45 a.m., Mass at APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel

WEDNESDAY: 11:30 a.m., Confessions at APG South (Edgewood) Chapel, Noon, Mass at APG South (Edgewood) Chapel

THURSDAY: 11:45 a.m., Mass at APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel

FRIDAY: Noon, Mass at APG South (Edgewood) Chapel

SUNDAY: 8:45 a.m., Mass at APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, 10:45 a.m., Mass at APG South (Edgewood) Chapel

APG BARBER SHOP REOPENS

The new APG Barber Shop, located in the Exchange mall, is open and under new management. Operating hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday –Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 410-272-7886.

CPR, AED CLASSES SCHEDULED

The APG Fire and Emergency Services Division of the Directorate of Emergency Services has released its schedule for CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) classes for 2014. Two classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the same location.

Jan. 15, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Feb. 19, Edgewood Conference Center
March 19, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
April 16, Edgewood Conference Center
May 21, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
June 18, Edgewood Conference Center
July 16, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Aug. 20, Edgewood Conference Center
Sept. 17, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Oct. 15, Edgewood Conference Center
Nov. 19, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Dec. 17, Edgewood Conference Center

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.

UFOOD GRILLS CLOSED

Until further notice, the APG Ufood Grill restaurants, located in the Exchange lobby and inside Bldg. 6010, are closed. No further information is available at this time.

THRIFT SHOP DISBURSING FUNDS

The APG Thrift Shop is disbursing funds to eligible charities through October.

To apply contact Thrift Shop Manager Fran Diantonio at 410-272-8572 or visit the shop, in Bldg. 2458 behind the Main Post Chapel, during business hours: Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



MORE ONLINE

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



Making it official

(From left) Army Community Service Director Janice Downey, ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager Marilyn Howard, and APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton watch as Michael Garrity of the Small Business Technology and Development Center Network signs a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the groundwork for maintaining working relationships between the SBTDC Network and the ACS Employment Readiness Program during a signing ceremony at ACS Nov. 6. Garrity provides quarterly Small Business classes to the ERP program at no cost to the government or ACS. Classes, which are open to APG Soldiers, civilians, retirees and Family members, offer legal and financial information affecting small businesses as well as local and national resources in place to assist small business owners. In 2014, classes will be held Feb. 19, May 21, Aug. 13 and Nov. 5. For more information, contact Howard at 410-278-9669 or email marilyn.e.howard.civ@mail.mil.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

New AER policy allows direct access to assistance for E7 and above

AER HQ

Army Emergency Relief (AER) has announced a change in policy, effective immediately, allowing sergeants first class (E7) and above direct access to assistance. This change enables senior noncommissioned officers to go directly to AER for assistance.

Previous AER policy allowed master sergeants and above direct access to AER assistance. This change expands that policy to include all senior non-commissioned officers.

“Based on feedback we received from command sergeants major and AER officers across the Army, the AER director decided that this was the right course of action,” said retired Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Durr,

AER Assistance Team Chief. “These senior NCOs are entrusted with significant levels of responsibility and demonstrate the integrity to warrant this change.”

Army Emergency Relief is a private non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to Soldiers, active and retired, and their Families. Since its incorporation in 1942, AER has provided more than \$1.5 billion to more than 3.5 million Soldiers, retirees and their families.

For more information contact APG Army Community Service at 410-278-9669; call Guy Shields, AER Headquarters at 703.325.1692 or email: guy.shields@aerhq.org.

Leave Donations

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency).

For info, contact Cathy Davis at 410-306-0152 or cathy.a.davis4.civ@mail.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Bridges, Navondi
Kennedy, Sandra
Lamar-Reevey, Kellie
Moijueh, Daniel
Sosa, Laurice
Samler, Jennifer
Urban, Brenda
Herbert, Bryant
Birch, Garfield
Bristol, Julie
Crawford, Curtis
Green-Farley, Jessica
Winne, Janeen
Deller, Patricia
Grundeil, Rachel

McClintick, Jill
Wickham, Kristen
Rodriguez, Pedro
Barrett, Patrick
Blethens, Matthew
Decker, Kathy
Lamb, Pamela
Robinson, Lisa
Stewart, Kathleen
Ingram, Debra
Nahrgang, Margaret
Jones, Deborah
Eberhardt, Joanne
Lowry, Teresa
Ludolph, Kerry

Poole, Rodney
Torrise, Carmen
France-Haff, Cheryl
Dillie, Amanda
Hoffman, William
Park, Jessica
Blethen, Lena
Cobb, Joyce
King, Beverly
Shelton, Lena
Robinson, Jennifer
Mayes, Katherine
Sumic, Angie
Griffith, Owen



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.”

Veterans honored by Aberdeen personnel

Continued from Page 1

Legion Post 128 hosted this year's ceremony assisted by members of Aberdeen Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10028, Fitzgerald-Moore Catholic War Veterans Post 1841 and Korean War Veterans Chapter 271.

The guest speaker, Col. Debra D. Daniels, military deputy of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, a part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, talked about the common qualities of sacrifice, endurance and unity among veterans.

Commissioned in 1987 as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, Daniels' has served as everything from platoon leader to project engineer in places like Korea, Germany and Fort Benning, Ga. where she deployed to Somalia to support Operation Restore Hope. Along with multiple stateside assignments, which included the Pentagon as the Executive Officer for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics and Technology, Daniels served in Iraq as Commander, Contract Operations, Joint Contracting Command, supporting Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Daniels greeted listeners on behalf of APG Senior Leader, Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell. She reviewed the history of Veterans Day from its start as Armistice Day during World War I to its continuance through presidential proclamation by then President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1954.

She said that while the proclamation directed no form of ceremony beyond display of the U.S. flag on public buildings, since then, veterans across the country have organized "fitting services and testimonials."

"Veterans guard this day with sacred vigilance and this solemn trust is ours to keep," she said.

Daniels quoted President Ronald Reagan's proclamation making 1986 The Year of the Flag, saying, "The colors of the flag signify the qualities of

the human spirit ... red for courage and readiness to sacrifice, white for pure intentions and high ideals and blue for vigilance and justice."

"Veterans honor our flag and by doing so they uphold these colors and everything for which they stand," she said.

She added that President Abraham Lincoln defined what Soldiers stood for in the carefully worded-speech known as the Gettysburg Address; calling it "the ultimate tribute to valiant warriors, living and dead and the causes for which they fight and are ultimately judged."

"One hundred and fifty years later President Lincoln's words clearly define our veterans who risk everything in the defense of liberty," she said, noting that after taking off the uniform, veterans continue to stand united for the nation as well as for fellow veterans.

"United we stand to protect and defend our nation; united we stand to preserve liberty and justice for all; united we stand pledging allegiance to the flag of the United States of America; united we stand having answered the noble calling of service; united we stand in continued service to our country; united we stand to honor each lifetime of service rendered and united we stand for all who have given the full measure of devotion and are no longer able to stand," she said.

"It is our duty," she added, "to keep this sacred trust to honor all veterans. I ask you to remember our veterans deployed around the world and the families waiting for their safe return."

Post 128 Chaplain Rev. W. Lewis Geigan, who offered the invocation and benediction, thanked Daniels for her remarks, stating, "I had tears on my cheeks."

"Please remember the pain of our Wounded Warriors," he said.

After Geigan and his wife Linda led the singing of "God Bless America" before the crowd dispersed to Post 128 for refreshments. Several remarked that they found the event "memorable."

"It was very emotional, I've never been to anything like this," said Diane Peyton of Edgewood who attended the



From left, Edward and Diane Peyton of Edgewood watch the placing of wreaths during the Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in Aberdeen Nov. 11.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson

ceremony with her Navy veteran husband Edward, their daughter Melissa Alley and granddaughter Madison, a member of the Aberdeen Middle School band.

Edward Peyton said he was surprised at Daniel's youthful appearance given her background.

"The speech was very moving and the speaker was outstanding," he said.

Richard Stone, a Directorate of Public Works civilian and a first lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol attended the ceremony with his brothers, and fellow Air National Guard members, Master Sgt. Ray Stone, Master Sgt. Bob Stone and Sr. Master Sgt. Eric Stone, a former APG police officer. With them was Air National Guard Capt. Richard Gibbons of the Albany, N.Y. police department. Eric Stone retired the same day after a 32-year career.

"I'm from Aberdeen and I chose this day to retire to honor all the men and women I served with in my 32 years of service," he said. "It's a great day to be a veteran."

Master of Ceremonies, Dave Johnson, former Post 128 commander, extended his thanks to all participants, organizers and volunteers.

"It was a great ceremony and the guest speaker was very well received," Johnson said.

The ceremony included music by the Aberdeen Middle School Band led by Sue Hopkins and remarks from Aberdeen Mayor Michael Bennett. The Post 128 honor guard fired a memorial salute and bugler Larry Coulson played "Taps."

Post 10028 Commander Sam Washington said he planned to ask Daniels to return next year when his organization hosts the event. A retired Maryland National Guard captain with 25 years of service, as well as a retired Maryland State Trooper, Washington said he and other veterans have no problem identifying with the unity Daniels cited in her speech.

"We might go our separate ways the rest of the year but we always come together for Veterans Day," he said. "It is what we are. It is what we do."

How are we doing? E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil

Program highlights USCT contributions

Continued from Page 1

After suffering an injury, Elbert was sent "home to rest" by his unit but was apprehended along the way and returned to the Army in shackles, accused of desertion. He was found guilty and sentenced to be shot or hung before the letter directing him home was produced and the judge had to concede that it did not direct him to return.

Phelps took questions from the audience at the conclusion of his presentation. He explained that he became interested in African American history after the discovery of a USCT cemetery near his Delaware home. A retired master ser-

geant with the Delaware National Guard, Phelps and his wife and daughter travel to schools and churches throughout the Mid-Atlantic region performing living history presentations on subjects from Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad to Buffalo Soldiers. He said it is what keeps him going in his retirement.

"The feedback I get from folks who say they didn't know about any of this is all the thanks I need," Phelps said. "It reminds me of what an eye-opener it was to learn these important achievements about black history that we didn't learn in school. The USCT really turned the tide for the Union Army. They left their

homes and families like everyone else but only recently have gotten the recognition they deserve.

"I'm proud to share their story."

Located on Castleton Road (MD 623) just off Darlington Road (MD 161) in Darlington, the Hosanna School Museum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was restored in 2005 and is in partnership with the historic Hays-Heighe House at Harford Community College.

Executive Director Iris Leigh Barnes said the school hosts similar programs throughout the year.

"The significance of this Veterans Day

program was that this year is the 150th anniversary of when blacks were first allowed to fight in a war legitimately as a way to freedom," she said.

Along with a fully-furnished classroom, the Hosanna School Museum contains displays, artifacts and a second-floor multi-purpose room with displays of the Berkley Historic District and changing exhibits. Docent-led tours of the Hosanna School Museum are provided for individuals and groups by appointment. To make a reservation, or for more information, call 410-457-4161 or visit the school's website at www.hosannaschool-museum.org.

APG, schools network for STEM summit

Continued from Page 1

ing the study that produced the 2011 report "Successful K-12 STEM Education: Identifying Effective Approaches in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics."

"This was an opportunity for us to get a sense of what is happening at the national level for STEM education," Michel said.

The event included a panel discussion. Dr. Sandra Young of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory participated as well as representatives from Harford County Public Schools, Cecil County Public Schools, Harford Community College and Cecil College. The forum highlighted best practices in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM,

education.

Young discussed the APG Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science, or GEMS program, funded by the Army Educational Outreach Program. GEMS is a summer extracurricular education program which enables students to experience science in a real laboratory setting. The program is free to participant in grades 5-12.

The APG GEMS program rapidly grew from 33 students in 2006 to 400 students in 2013, Young said. She attributes its success to positive word-of-mouth.

"It is critical for students to get these hands-on experiences, working with real scientists and engineers, so they can see the value of what they are learning in school," she said. "GEMS allows stu-

dents to develop their interests."

Young said students learn more about STEM through hands-on activities in areas such as science, engineering, mathematics, computational sciences, computational biology, biomedical sciences, chemistry and biology.

"GEMS is not specifically geared to students who already know they want a career in science," she said. "GEMS is designed to cultivate curiosity in students."

Young said the biggest challenge is keeping up with the demand. For the 2013 summer program, GEMS received more than 900 applications for only 396 available slots.

Thirteen APG employees attended STEM Summit IX, including the

U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command deputy to the commanding general and STEM Summit co-chair Gary P. Martin; and U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Deputy Director and APG STEM Champion Jyuji Hewitt.

"I think the panel discussion was very important and provided a lot of good ideas," said Jane Gervasoni, from the U.S. Army Public Health Command. "It showed how the community was being supported by the school system and the technical personnel."

STEM Summits are hosted by the Northeast Maryland Technology Council every 100 days. The next Summit will be held at APG's STEM Education and Outreach Center in April.

Freestate ChalleNGe Academy cadets profiled

Continued from Page 1

currently serves on the Student Government Association, and is running for class president. She also hopes to join the program's Honor Corps which represents the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy at public events.

"Freestate gives you many opportunities," she said. "When I was living at home, I didn't see myself as a leader. Now I do."

The Freestate ChalleNGe Academy's Commandant Job Stringfellow said that all cadets serve in a leadership role for at least two weeks before they graduate. Each cadet is evaluated by the cadre on their strengths and weaknesses as leaders.

Cadets are also evaluated on how well they follow other leaders. Other core components are: Academic Excellence, Life Coping Skills, Job Skills, Health and Hygiene, Service to the Community and Physical Fitness. These components are designed to educate and produce youth who will become productive members of their community.

"I like that community service is emphasized here," Roscoe said "If you take from the community you should also give back to the community."

Job shadowing is also an important aspect of the program. Roscoe has been given the opportunity to job shadow Dr. Victoria Dixon, the director of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Human Relations Equal Employment



Photo by Rachel Ponder

(From right) Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Cadet and Company Commander, Cedrick Thomas and fellow cadets study for the GED test.

Opportunity/Equal Opportunity program. Roscoe said she feels confident that she is now well prepared for any challenges that come her way.

Stringfellow said a major component of Freestate ChalleNGe Academy is the post-residential phase. Cadets work closely with their mentors in their community. The cadets are placed into jobs, continue their education or enter the military.

Roscoe's mother, A'Jeenah Hill, said she is proud of her daughter's determination to succeed.

"Sending Alexis to Freestate was the

best decision we ever made," Hill said. "It is a challenging program that prepares teens for the real world."

After graduation Roscoe plans to join the military and wants to work in either the medical or communications field. She also aspires to be an actor and an author.

"I am pursuing my dreams and making myself and my mom proud," she said.

Cadet Cedrick Thomas

Cadet Cedrick Thomas, 17, is the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy's Company Commander for Class #41. This is the highest rank a cadet can obtain

while at Freestate. Thomas, from Harford County, is responsible for waking up the company at 4:50 a.m. for mandatory physical training. He is also responsible for conducting room inspections. Above all, he must be a positive role model, at all times.

"I feel like I am good leader, the cadets feel like they can talk to me," he said.

Stringfellow said Thomas was elected to this position by the cadre because he exhibited strong leadership skills and maturity. Thomas has to be a good example to his fellow cadets to keep his position as the company commander.

"He is determined, he wants to do something with his life," Stringfellow said.

Stringfellow, who has worked at the academy since 1993, said each class has its own personality and not every class has a company commander.

"A company commander has to stand out," Stringfellow said. "They have to earn the position. They do not always do what is popular, they do what is right."

"Sometimes it's lonely at the top," Thomas agreed.

Thomas said he isn't worried about popularity or similar things that distracted him in the past. He said that while he was living at home, he would frequently get into trouble but after months of urging from family members he agreed to enter the academy for a fresh start. Now, he is focusing on the "bigger picture," graduating from Freestate.

In addition to preparing for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, and the GED Thomas said he has learned valuable life skills such as money management, anger management, resume writing and interviewing skills. He is frequently chosen by staff members to represent Freestate and speak at public events.

"This program opens you up to new things," he said.

He also has learned the value of setting goals. After graduation he plans to attend college to study business management. He has his sights set on playing football at a National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 1 level and after graduation he hopes to play professional football or own a franchised restaurant. He is also considering joining the military.

"I want to make my family proud," he said. "The program makes you appreciate what you have on the outside. I am happy for everything now. My sister is so happy for me. She can't wait for me to graduate from Freestate to see what else I can do."

Freestate ChalleNGe Academy is a 17-month program operated by the Maryland National Guard. Currently, 127 cadets are enrolled in Class #41. To learn more about the program, contact Bill Anderson or Marissa Richards. Anderson can be reached at 410-436-3220 or email andersonw@mdmildep.org. Richards can be reached at 410-436-3255 or e-mail at richardsm@mdmildep.org.

Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Activity	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Nov. 31
Fitness				
APG North Athletic Center Bldg. 3300	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Health & Fitness Center, Bldg 320	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
APG South Hoyle Gym/Fitness Ctr	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Food & Beverage				
Top of the Bay	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bowling's Strike Force Cafe	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Exton Cafe	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
North Side Grill/ISGT BBQ (closed Nov. 27)	CLOSED	11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
South Side Grill	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Donna's Pit Beef (Closed 2-6 Dec for APBI)	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Recreation				
APG North Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Bowling	CLOSED	5 p.m.-10 p.m.	3 p.m.-8 p.m.	1 p.m.-6 p.m.
Ruggles	CLOSED	8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
APG South Recreation Center, Bldg. E4140	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Exton	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Self Service				
Auto Crafts Center, Bldg. 2379	CLOSED	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
ODR & Equipment Center, Bldg. 2184	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Library, Bldg. 3326	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
MWR Leisure Travel, Bldg. 3326	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Child Care/Community Service				
Child & Youth Service* Bldg. 2503	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Army Community SVC, Bldg. 2503	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

*Cyss Facilities are: Child Development Centers, Youth Centers/School-Age Services Programs and Family Child Care Homes.

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/>.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

BEWITCHING LOVE STORY DEBUTS AT APG

(From left) Charlie Burgos-Lopez as “Nicky Holroyd,” and Dawn Valdiva as “Aunt Queenie Holroyd” watch as Rebecca Nuce as the beautiful witch “Gillian Holroyd” casts a spell during the APG Theater Group production of *Bell, Book & Candle* at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Nov. 7. The plot centered on the free-spirited witch Gillian Holroyd, played by Nuce, who falls for her handsome, human neighbor and risks losing her magical powers.



VTF COSTUME CONTEST

The Veterinary Treatment Facility hosted a Halloween costume contest during October. Pet owners were challenged with coming up with creative costumes for their furry Family members. At the end of the month, photos were judged by external parties.

(Clockwise Top left) In first place, “Pirate” Shiloe, owned by Don and Donna Green, won Most Favorite Costume; “Fairy Pixie” owned by Ronald & Jasmine McFarland, came in second; and third place went to the proud owners of “Super Dane” Jake, Kenneth & Melissa Harlan.

Courtesy photos



Photo by Rachel Ponder

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

(From left) Credit Union Business Development Specialist Sue Manning, chats with Staff Sgt. Roman Pilkington, of ATEC's Aberdeen Test Center, his daughter A'Mya and wife Cassandra, during the Newcomer's Orientation at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Nov. 6. The quarterly event gives newcomers the opportunity to become better acquainted with APG and the surrounding community. The Newcomer's Orientation is mandatory for newly assigned Soldiers and civilians. Contractors, Family members and retirees also are welcome to attend.

Check us out on teamapg.com

APG Motorcycle Ride salutes veterans

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground motorcycle riders strapped on their gear to enjoy a day of camaraderie while saluting those who served the nation during the Veterans Day Motorcycle Ride hosted by the Garrison Safety Office Nov. 7.

Garrison Motorcycle Safety Officer H. Mike Allen and Sgt. 1st Class James Davis, Battalion Motorcycle Mentor of the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) led the event which was devised to reinforce safe driving habits and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as well as promote a network of information sharing and camaraderie among APG riders.

Riders assembled at the motorcycle course on Darlington Street where they received raffle tickets for prizes and give-aways. Trophies were awarded to the best bikes in three categories.

In addition, Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens blessed the event and Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton thanked all for their support of Soldiers and encouraged all to be safe.

“This Veterans Day, remember all of our military serving in harms’ way,” he added.

The 50-mile ride circling Harford

County concluded at the Golden Corral restaurant in Aberdeen.

Before departing, Allen, Davis and Safety Officer Terry Guest delivered safety briefings. They discussed one-man group and staggered formations, weather, hand signals and responding to emergencies and then took questions.

“Bikers have a bad name with some people but we’re going to squash that today and have a safe and smooth ride,” said Davis.

Riders said they came for one reason – the love of riding.

“I came out to ride with veterans,” said Army veteran and CECOM civilian Al Sneed. “Also I just enjoy riding. When you’re on a bike, it’s a different world.”

J.W. Johnson, a 22d Chemical Battalion sergeant, agreed.

“I’ve been on APG rides before and the best part is securing relationships with other drivers,” Johnson said.

Marvel Bakke, a CECOM software contractor, said he felt a “very positive vibe” from beginning to end” and that while he never served he was riding for his father and grandfather who were veterans.

“I come from a big family of vets,” he said, “and I’m very thankful and proud of my father, grandfather and



Photo by Molly Blossie

Sgt. 1st Class James Davis, Motorcycle Mentor for the 22d Chemical Battalion (TE) reviews safety topics with fellow riders before moving out on the 50-mile APG Veterans Day Motorcycle Ride Nov. 7.

other family members who served and fought for our freedoms.”

Trophy winners included Master Sgt. Douglas Nelson, 68th Chemical Company, Best Sport Bike; Sgt. J.W. Johnson, 22d Chemical Battalion, Best

Custom Bike, and Al Sneed, CECOM, Best Cruiser.

For more information about Motorcycle Safety on APG, contact Allen at 410-306-1081 or email horace.m.allen.civ@mail.mil.