

APG NEWS



www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

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Military Families honored in November

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Military Family Appreciation Month is observed every November to recognize and honor Army families for their contributions and sacrifices. The Army recognizes

MORE ONLINE

visit the Army MWR website at <http://www.armymwr.com/5-ways-to-show-thanks.aspx> for more information

that the selfless dedication and commitment of Army families directly contributes to the readiness of Soldiers and that Families are the force behind the force.

“National Military Family Appreciation Month (NMFAM) provides an opportunity for Army leaders and the community to raise awareness about the vital importance and sacrifices of our Military Families,” said Janice Downey, Director of the APG Army Community Service.

Downey said that during November, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) will honor Military Families with the following specials:

- Free range balls at the Ruggles Golf Course driving range,
- Two free games with shoes at the APG Bowling Center. (Call 410-278-4041 to check availability of lanes to avoid league times).
- Half price on rentals at Outdoor Recreation Equipment Rental.
- Free dessert with lunch purchase at Top of the Bay.

“These are just some of the things we can do to show our appreciation for our Soldiers and their Families,” Downey said.

She suggests that anyone who'd like to show their appreciation to Military Families do one of the following:

Drop by. Sometimes, Military Families feel separated from the civilian families around them. Just stopping by to chat and to listen to what they are going through can help.

Help them out. When a Soldier gets deployed, his Family has to make do without him. Dropping off dinner, having your teenager bag their leaves, or helping with a leaky

See **HONOR**, page 11



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Perfecting the task of protecting the force

(From left) Directorate of Emergency Services firefighter Chris Boyd, Capt. Doug Schmidt and firefighter John Frank evacuate an “injured” office worker, played by a Freestate Challenge Academy cadet, to safety during a Force Protection Exercise conducted on the installation Nov. 14. APG police officers, K9 handlers and Special Reaction Team members; fire fighters and emergency medical technicians; as well as public affairs officers, emergency operations specialists, and safety evaluators participated in the drill that included the evacuation of an entire office building during an active shooter scenario.

AFAP celebrates 30 years voicing community concerns

By **JANICE DOWNEY**
ACS Director

Aberdeen Proving Ground will celebrate 28 years of making a difference in the community when it hosts the Army Family Action Plan conference Dec. 4-5 at Top of the Bay.

This year, AFAP celebrates 30 years of dedication and commitment in addressing quality of life issues that affect Soldiers, retirees, National Guard, Family members and civilians. Many suggestions resulting from AFAP symposiums have gone all the

way up to higher headquarters and Congress for resolution.

Army Community Service encourages all those who work and live in this great military community to take an active part in affecting positive change by stepping up to serve as delegates or facilitators during the conference. You can also participate by submitting issues, ideas or suggestions that could affect quality of life Army wide. Ideas can be submitted via the APG Garrison website at http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/services/ACS/AFAP_

[issue1.cfm](mailto:usarmy.APG.imcom.apgr-usag-acslend@mail.mil); email: usarmy.APG.imcom.apgr-usag-acslend@mail.mil; FAX: 410-278-9685; or drop a suggestion in one of the AFAP drop boxes at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center, Bldg. 3300; the APG South (Edgewood) Hoyle Gym, Bldg. E4630; the Commissary; the Bowling Center, Bldg. 2342; the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326; or the APG North or South Express stores (shopettes).

For more information, contact ACS at 410-278-7572.

Letters to Santa returns to APG

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

The Letters to Santa service connecting children to that jolly old toymaker returns to Aberdeen Proving Ground Nov. 25 to Dec. 20. Letters can be dropped in the specially-marked mail box



Santa checks the Letters to Santa mailbox next to the Directorate of Emergency Services, Bldg. 2200 Frankford Street, for holiday wishes from Aberdeen Proving Ground children. APG firefighters will collect Letters to Santa through Dec. 20.

File photo

on the Frankford Street side of the Directorate of Emergency Services Bldg. 2200.

Letters will be collected every day by DES firefighters and every letter will be answered, according to Fire Inspector T.C. Glassman.

“To guarantee a response, letters should include the child’s name, age, gender, mailing address and name a specific item they’d like to have,” Glassman said.

Letters should be dropped off no later than Dec. 20.

For more information, contact Glassman at 410-306-0600 or email arthur.j.glassman2.civ@mail.mil.

Tis the Holiday Angel Tree season

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

For members of Team APG who would like to make a difference to Soldiers and their Families this holiday season, Army Community Service, in partnership with the APG Garrison’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company, is presenting the 2013 Angel Tree Program.

Unit leaders have identified troops who may need assistance during the holiday season and paper tree angels listing requested gift items have been placed on trees in locations throughout APG. Angel Tree locations include the APG

North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Main Post Chapel, Bowling Center, Post Exchange and Athletic Center and at the Hoyle Gym in APG South (Edgewood).

Those willing to help can collect an angel off the tree, purchase a gift or two and place the unwrapped gift in one of the barrels at any Angel Tree location.

The gifts will be collected through Dec. 11 and delivered to Soldiers and their families Dec. 18. See the list below for Angel Tree gift ideas. For more information, contact ACS at 410-278-7572.

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Jana Penniston, a recreation aide with Morale, Welfare and Recreation, arranges paper angels on an Angel Tree in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, one of several Angel Tree locations on the installation.

WEATHER

Thurs.



52° | 42°

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



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STREET TALK

How do you feel about stores opening on Thanksgiving?

I prefer to shop locally and support small businesses. I would rather shop on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 30.



Dennis Hibert
Veteran

I am disappointed that stores are opening on Thanksgiving. These days, it's all about the bottom line. People should spend Thanksgiving with their Families and reflect on their blessings.



Jeri Smith
APG CPAC

It's a choice you have to make yourself. If you don't believe stores should be open on Thanksgiving, vote with your dollars and stay home. I personally do not want to shop on Thanksgiving, but I do get up early to shop on Friday. It's a Family tradition.



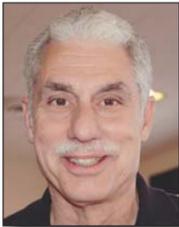
Debi Bentzel
Military spouse

My Family does shop on Thanksgiving, after our dinner. We strategically plan the whole shopping trip, it is very exciting.



Olivia McMillan
ATEC

From an economic standpoint, opening on Thanksgiving makes sense. Because Thanksgiving comes later this year, the holiday shopping season is shorter. Businesses typically make sixty to seventy percent of their annual revenue during the Christmas season, so I can empathize with businesses that decide to open on Thanksgiving. Personally, I try to avoid the malls and the madness at all costs.



John Meagley
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

DPW observes America Recycles Day

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Because the federal governments recognizes recycling as an essential part of reducing the amount of waste the nation generates, the Army has embraced the practice as an important part of its core mission. With that in mind, the APG Garrison's Directorate of Public Works observed America Recycles Day on Nov. 15 by reigniting interest and participation with a new face on the installation-wide recycling program in the form of a newly-designed recycling slogan and logo.

Vickie Venzen, qualified recycling program manager of the DPW Environmental Division, led a group of Freestate Challenge Academy cadets who spent America Recycles Day distributing hundreds of new receptacles – white cardboard boxes bearing the new logo; green for cans and glass, blue for plastics – in offices and work areas around the installation.

Venzen said the cadets, who were job-shadowing with the Installation Safety Office, were a great help.

"Today we placed boxes in the three RDECOM buildings and in Bldgs. 4304, 4305 and 305," she said, adding that 3,000 receptacles are available to office personnel who can coordinate with building coordinators and facility managers to complete the process.

The white boxes are about 32 inches high and bear the distinct blue and white logos along with instructions for their use. The boxes are lined with plastic bags for easy removal of recyclables.

Venzen said the effort gives the installation recycling program the same face "across the board."

"There were a lot of different types of containers being used; this standardizes the program," she said. "And the cool thing is all the receptacles now have the installation slogan and logo."

At this time, the new receptacles can be distributed only to buildings with current service (removal) contracts, she added.

The project's success was due to sup-



Photo by Molly Blossie
(From Left) Mark Pollard and Vanessa Marroquin from the Freestate Challenge Academy assemble recycling receptacles bearing the installation's new Recycling Program slogan and logo in the Garrison Headquarters Bldg. 305 Nov. 15 in conjunction with the Directorate of Public Works environmental division's America Recycles Day observance.

port from Col. Gregory McClinton, Garrison commander, who signed the Qualified Recycling Program Slogan and Logo memorandum Oct. 21, Venzen said.

"Thankfully, the command recognizes that the success of an installation-wide recycling program is directly related to the level of participation throughout the Garrison and the successful advertisement of the program's message and goals," she said.

For more information about the Installation Recycling, contact Venzen at 410-306-2260 or email vickie.a.venzen.civ@mail.mil.



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.

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

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

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 can improve, or provide kudos for great service, via the Interactive Customer Evaluation system at <http://ice.disa.mil/>. Click "Army" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground." Or check us out on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/HzQlow>.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



52° | 42°

Fri



56° | 47°

Sat



49° | 28°

Sun



36° | 24°

Mon



40° | 33°

Tue



44° | 36°

Wed



42° | 27°

APG NEWS



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

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Mail early to ensure packages reach loved ones

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

With the holidays coming up fast, now is the time to consider mailing early, especially to loved ones overseas, said Peter Graeve, a retired Soldier who now is with the Military Postal Service Agency.

Graeve said that despite the popularity of sending cards via the Internet and chatting on social media, Soldiers like to receive something they can put in their hands.

"It's one of those traditions that's still with us. They still appreciate getting letters and packages."

He said the volume of letters and packages increases this time of year due to gifts being sent by spouses, significant others, Family members and friends. In addition to that, care packages seem to be especially popular.

Care packages include things like chocolates, soap and toothbrushes.

"Even though they have it over there, the Soldiers really seem to appreciate receiving these items anyway," he said.

Although there are fewer Soldiers in remote areas of Afghanistan and other countries, there are still some in outposts that don't have Internet access, he said. These Soldiers especially look forward to mail call.

Getting it there on time

To get mail to a Soldier by Christmas at APO/FPO/DPO AE 090-092, 094-098, 340, or 962-966, the latest a package can be sent to arrive on time is Dec. 17 -- that means senders have to pay for Express mail. To send them earlier -- and pay less -- senders can put them in the mail by Dec. 10, and pay for either First-Class or Priority mail.

Priority mail to APO/FPO/DPO AE 093 must be sent by Dec. 3.

The deadline for Parcel Post to all locations mentioned was Nov. 12.

The deadline for SAM parcels for all locations mentioned is Nov. 26. SAM parcels are paid at the Parcel Post postage rate with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff VanWey
Soldiers at Forward Operating Base Gamberi, Afghanistan process holiday mail in December 2012.

air on a space-available basis.

The deadline for PAL for all locations mentioned is Dec. 3. PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage.

All classes of mail addressed to FPO/APO addresses must use the nine-digit ZIP code to ensure delivery. Mail not addressed correctly will be returned to the sender as undeliverable.

It is recommended that customers

check with their local civilian or military post office for information on size restrictions and the possible need for customs declaration forms.

Restrictions

Customers are advised that certain mail restrictions apply and some items cannot be mailed. Examples include switchblade knives, pornography, controlled substances, and explosive or incendiary devices. If in doubt as to what can or cannot be sent through the mail, contact your local civilian or military post office.

Some other tips include choosing a box with enough room for cushioning

material around the contents, and ensuring that old labels and markings on used boxes are covered.

Senders should also be sure to use adequate tape to seal their packages, and reinforce the seams with two-inch wide tape. Use clear or brown packaging tape, reinforced packing tape or paper tape.

As a final note, customers are cautioned that packages must not be mailed in boxes that have markings related to any type of hazardous material, such as bleach, alcohol, or cleaning fluids. Parcels found by the U.S. Postal Service with such markings or labels on the outside of the box will not be processed.

Tell them you saw it in the APG News

SMART Girls group builds self-esteem

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Every Friday, girls from the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center learn about healthy attitudes and lifestyles through the SMART Girls program.

SMART Girls is an extension of the SMART Moves program; part of the Boys & Girls Club of America curriculum. SMART stands for Skills, Mastery, and Resistance Training, and is all about teaching girls, ages 8 to 17, how to make positive choices.

Middle School Lead Becky Schwartz said her goal is to create a safe environment for girls to talk about whatever is bothering them. Boys, bullying, body image and peer pressure are frequent topics of discussion for the group members who range in age from 11 to 13-year-olds. Schwartz said the girls often work out how to face potential challenges through role playing.

“Girls in middle school deal with so many changes,” she said. “This is a place where these girls can talk about these issues free from judgment.”

Schwartz added that SMART Girls also teaches attendees the importance of being positive role models. For instance, the group is currently planning to conduct community service projects at the APG North (Aberdeen) Child Development Center.

Program Assistants Lucinda McDowell and Monica Boyd lead girls in the 8 to 11 year-old age group. McDowell said her goal is to serve as a mentor, teaching the girls how to become responsible, productive young adults. During the classes the girls learn the importance of manners, hygiene, eating right, staying physically fit, getting good health care, developing positive relationships and more. McDowell said the girls learn about building their self-confidence through public speaking and skits.

Girls today encounter many negative influences through the media, especially through sexualization and the setting of unrealistic physical standards, McDowell said. She added that the group teaches girls how to accept and respect their bodies and how to say “no” to drugs, sexual harassment, bullying and more.



Genessa McGill-Moore, 9, shares what she learned in SMART Girls at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center Nov. 15. SMART, which stands for Skills, Mastery, and Resistance Training, is all about teaching girls, ages 8 to 17, about make positive choices. During the program, girls learn the importance of eating right, staying physically fit, resisting drugs, developing healthy relationships and more.

“We teach them that they do have a choice,” she said.

Above all, the girls have fun while learning, she added, noting that future excursions include a field trip to a local restaurant to learn proper table etiquette.

Several group members remarked that they enjoy participating in SMART Girls.

“In SMART Girls we learn about how

different choices can affect you in the future,” said Morgan Tabbert, 13.

“SMART Girls helped me learn how to control my feelings and deal with situations positively,” said Cassandra Williams, 11.

“I joined SMART Girls because I want to end bullying and help the world become a better place,” said Kiersten Scott, 8.



Robert Townsend

Patient Advocate/PAO

Meet Robert Townsend, the patient advocate/public affairs officer for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Townsend has been a member of the KUSAHC family for five years; first as a budget officer and then with the TRICARE service center, which he said gave him a “great experience helping patients.”

Townsend said in his new role he gets to help patients navigate online systems like TRICARE Online and Relay Health, and overcome other “speed bumps” and hurdles that get in the way of having a positive experience at KUSAHC.

Patients can expect that I will do my very best to resolve their issues,” Townsend said. “When they come to me they will meet someone with a smile who is devot-

ed to keeping their best interests in mind.”

Townsend added that KUSAHC is pushing the Performance Triad – Physical Activity, Nutrition and Fitness – to active duty, retirees and civilians to instill good nutrition and health choices. In addition, changes to TRICARE Plus means that patients older than 65 can continue to use KUSAHC services, he said. More information is available on the KUSAHC Face book page at <https://facebook.com/KUSAHC#!/KUSAHC> and at the KUSAHC home page at <http://kusahc.nrmc.amedd.army.mil/>

Located on the first floor of the clinic, Townsend’s office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. For more information, call 410-278-1724.

APG event thanks veterans, Survivors

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Team APG hosted an event honoring service and sacrifice during the Veterans Day and Survivor Outreach Services ceremony at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel Nov. 12.

The State of Maryland Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander H. Steve Mason served as the event's guest speaker.

Mason asked the audience to always remember the significance of Veterans Day and to never forget Soldiers currently deployed around the world and their Family members.

"Life today would be vastly different without their courage and sacrifice," he said. "Our veterans deserve to be honored for their service. Americans have always fought for and defended our freedom. Only with great sacrifice has freedom prevailed."

He said it is America's responsibility to take care of veterans and that this requires a team effort by government, business and local community leaders.

"When any defender of our nation comes home we must ensure that they receive timely and adequate health-care," he said. "We have earned the right to be treated with dignity and respect."

Mason entered the Army in 1959 as an Infantry Soldier. He held various leadership positions from battalion to group command sergeant major. As a retiree, he has held offices within Veterans of Foreign Wars organizations, including district commander, state youth activities chairman for Maryland, assistant state extension chairman and national deputy chief of staff.

After Mason's remarks, Survivors participated in a tribute to Maryland Fallen Soldiers, followed by a moment of silence.

APG Senior Leader Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell thanked Mason for his steadfast support of veteran's rights. Ferrell said that Team APG is committed to improving resources for veterans and Survivors.

"We have to constantly work at this daily," Ferrell said. "We will continue to make a difference in the lives of our vets."

Other highlights from the event included a video montage tribute to veterans and a Thanksgiving prayer for the nation by the Installation Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens, a retreat ceremony by Sgt. 1st Class Lamont Timmons, and a Thanksgiving meal. Soldiers from the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club assisted with the event.

Gold Star Mother Michelle Murphy, called the ceremony "beautiful" and said she is grateful for the support she receives at APG as a Gold Star Family member. She especially appreciates the identification cards APG issues to Gold Star Family members. The cards allow members direct access to the installation. "I am always treated like Family here," Murphy said. "The leadership goes out of their way to make us feel welcome."

This year, APG has implemented a quarterly luncheon for Survivors. The luncheon provides attendees with information from Survivor Outreach Services and other services on post. For more information about the SOS program, contact SOS Coordinator Annette Sanders, from Army Community Service, at 410-278-2861.



Tonya Armstead places an ID tag on the Maryland Fallen Soldiers memorial in honor of her husband Sgt. 1st Class Moses Armstead, during the Veterans Day and Survivor Outreach Services event honoring veterans and Survivors at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel Nov. 12. SOS provides assistance to all Survivors. spouses, children, parents, siblings and friends who are grieving the loss of a Soldier are eligible to receive services, regardless of how the Soldier died.



MORE ONLINE



To view more photos of events going on at and around the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, visit the garrison Flickr site <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or scan the QR code.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TODAY NOVEMBER 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

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 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 open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25 to allow extra time for Thanksgiving shopping and preparations. The store will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately following, Nov. 29, so employees can 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@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>.

MONDAY – FRIDAY DECEMBER 2 - 6 ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND ADVANCE PLANNING BRIEFING FOR INDUSTRY

Team Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) will host its second annual, installation-wide Advance Planning Briefing for Industry (APBI) for interested parties. Team APG will provide networking opportunities and inform industry of potential contracting opportunities for the following mission areas:

- Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR)
- Research and Development/Testing and Evaluation (RDT&E)
- Chemical/Biological Defense (CBD)
- Corps of Engineers/APG Garrison Dates and Times:

Day 1, Dec. 6, 1 to 5 p.m.: APG Day/Corps of Engineers (travel morning), Evening Network Reception

Day 2, Dec. 7, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: C4ISR Day, Evening Network Reception

Day 3, Dec 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: RDTE Day, Evening Network Reception

Day 4 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.): CBRNE Day 1, Evening Network Reception

Day 5 (8 a.m.-12 p.m.): CBRNE Day 2 (travel afternoon)

Note: Registration will be on a per day basis. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure registration for each day participating.

Place: APG North (Aberdeen) post theater, Bldg. 3245. The APBI will be unclassified and open to all interested contractors, large and small businesses, and academia as well as other government stakeholders. The website link for event details including the agenda, directions, and registration will be provided by amendment to this notice.

All attendees must meet the requirements for admission to APG, to include: proper identification (i.e. driver's license and/or common access card), car registration, or a car rental agreement, and proof of insurance.

Registration is available at <http://www.missiontix.com>.

Questions about the APBI should be directed to Robert DiMichele, robert.e.dimichele.civ@mail.mil, 443-861-6757

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 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 supporting 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.

THROUGH JANUARY 20 ESGR ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR FREEDOM AWARD

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense office, is accepting nominations for the 2014 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The Freedom Award is DOD's highest honor to civilian employers for exceptional support of their National Guard and Reserve employees.

ESGR Guardsmen, Reservists or Family members are encouraged to submit nominations at www.FreedomAward.mil by Jan. 20, 2014. Up to 15 awardees will be recognized during a Washington, D.C. ceremony on a date to be announced.

For more information, contact Beth Sherman, ESGR Public Affairs, at 571-372-0705 or email OSD.ESGR-PA@mail.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.

CYSS PARTNERS WITH HOMESCHOOLERS

APG Child, Youth and School Services is trying to establish a partnership with authorized users who homeschool their children in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas. CYSS is willing to open its facilities during the week so homeschooled children can have access to classrooms, the computer lab and gym on a scheduled basis. For more information, call 410-278-7571/7479.

FRIDAY NIGHT OPEN RECREATION FOR TEENS

The APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg 2522, invites all high school students out to its free Friday Night Open Recreation for Teens, every Friday from 6 p.m. to midnight. Teens are invited out to meet new friends, shoot some hoops or just play some pool. Bring up to two non-DoD friends to join in the fun. For more information, call 410-278-4995.

YOUTH CENTER OPENINGS

The Aberdeen and Edgewood programs currently have immediate openings for the 2013-2014 school year at their School Age & Youth Services facilities. Openings are available in both locations for eligible users. For more information, call 410-278-7571/7479.

KEYSTONE CLUB

This free class for high school students meets every other Friday, 7 to 9 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg 2522. This unique leadership development experience provides opportunities for young people ages 14 - 18. Youth participate in activities, both in and out of the club, in three focus areas: academic success, career preparation and community service. With the guidance of an adult advisor, Keystone Club aims to have a positive impact on members, the club and community. Participants may bring up to two non-DoD friends. For more information, call 410-278-4995.

INSIDE APG

APG commanders and subject matter experts will discuss topics of interest to the local community every Saturday and Wednesday at 7:50 a.m. during "Inside APG: Creating One Community Without a Gate," a monthly radio series on 970 WAMD. For more information about the series, to schedule or request an interview, call the Garrison Public Affairs Office at 410-278-1150.

For previous interviews, follow these links: <http://youtu.be/a8vuMdx-mG50>; <http://youtu.be/se7hTkwnbO8>

PIANO & GUITAR LESSONS

Each class is a one-on-one, 30-minute session for seven or eight weeks, once a week. Parents choose a time between 3 and 9 p.m. when they register their children. Open to all DOD ID cardholders. To register, visit Central Registration or call 410-278-7479/7571. For information, email lauren.e.kateley.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-4589.

REPORT POWER OUTAGES TO CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING

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

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

APG: 1-866-958-5412

Patriot Village: 1-866-871-6257

NH Office: 410-305-1076

READY & RESILIENT SURVEY

How can the Army become more Ready and Resilient? If you are an AKO user, log on now to take this survey to provide valuable feedback to the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs on how the Army communicates about Readiness and Resiliency. Visit <http://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/667030>



MORE ONLINE

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

IMCOM welcomes new deputy commanding general

By **JADE FULCE**

U.S. Army Installation Management Command

The U.S. Army Installation Management Command welcomed Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols to the team as the new Deputy Commanding General for Operations and Chief of Staff in a ceremony at Fort Sam Houston Theater.

More than 200 Army senior leaders, civilians, friends and guests gathered to recognize Nichols' accomplishments and to welcome her to the Installation Management Community and San Antonio.

"She was handpicked for this position and we are blessed to have her," said Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, IMCOM commanding general. "She knows the business of taking care of people. She's knows the business of transforming."

In her previous assignments, Nichols was the U.S. Army Contracting Command's first commanding general and served as program executive officer, Program Executive Office Soldier, at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Nichols has more than 25 years expe-

rience in Department of Defense acquisition. She also served in various engineer jobs earlier in her career as an engineer officer in tactical engineering units. Nichols has a unique distinction as a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic women's handball team, serving as manager and assistant coach.

"Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your team," said Nichols. "I look forward to meeting and spending time with all of you."

Nichols enlisted in the Army in 1975 in her home town of Niagara Falls, N.Y. In 1981, she was commissioned as an engineer officer upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

After Nichols' welcoming ceremony, IMCOM held its monthly town hall, which focused on employee appreciation and wellness.

Paul Smith, the new IMCOM wellness program coordinator, said wellness is not just physical, it's a lifestyle.

"I wasn't eating properly," said Smith, a transitioned Soldier. "I was used to running four to five times a week. However,



The U.S. Army Installation Management Command recently welcomed Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols to the team as the new Deputy Commanding General for Operations and Chief of Staff. IMCOM courtesy photo

er, I started a sedentary job, working 8, 10, 12 hours a day and the pounds started building up."

Smith shared his story about how he changed his diet and started walking 45 minutes during his lunch period, resulting in a 20-pound weight loss in two-and-a-half months. He cautioned that wellness means different things to every-

one, so it's up to the individual to make changes in his or her life.

"This is your program - success depends on you," said Smith.

The town hall ended with IMCOM command team thanking employees for their dedication and service. "We have the best team in the DoD," said IMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice.

Operation Liberty focus unites U.S. and Korean Armies

20th CBRNE Command Public Affairs

Thirteen officers from the Republic of Korea's Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Defense Command (CBRDC) traveled to Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood) to take part in Liberty Focus, a combined table top exercise (TTX), held Nov. 4-7 with their counterparts in the 20th CBRNE Command.

The two-day TTX was designed to allow both units to continue improving upon existing capabilities.

"This was a fantastic opportunity for us and our fellow ROK partners to come together and jointly strengthen the understanding of our shared missions and partnership," said Lt. Col. Maria "Ria" Bochat, 20th CBRNE Command Chief of Plans Officer.

The TTX mission was to comprehensively explore previously identified issues and fix any training gaps remaining from the last combined mission exercise in August, when the 20th CBRNE Command visited the ROK. Upon the completion the exercise, both

commands conducted an after action review (AAR) in which both sides identified specific areas where their roles and responsibilities could be better defined to help increase the mission's overall efficiency.

"These past two days, working with our ROK partners, was truly time well spent," said Bochat. "This exercise, and others like it, serve to provide us and our ROK partners with a greater, better defined role on who does what and who is responsible for what, when or if the time comes when we are forced to actually execute."

The exercise concluded with an understanding of continued mission-related partnership between the two commands, led by 20th CBRNE Commander Brig. Gen. JB Burton, and Brig. Gen. Goh Woon, ROK CBRDC commander. The ceremonial declaration was made with the spirit of continued cooperation that began in 2007 when the two units were introduced.

Burton noted that while the agreement focuses solely on the mission-

related partnership, the two units have also strengthened their friendship through their shared experiences.

"The U.S.-ROK alliance has existed as a partnership between our two countries for over 60 years," Burton said, "and we are ready to test this partnership on the field of battle, if necessary. The friendship that we share has developed out of the trust and respect that has been earned over many hardships endured in training."

The 20th CBRNE Command capped off the visit by hosting the CBRDC in an action-packed game of dodge ball, exemplifying the two commands' tradition of friendly combined competition and solidifying their spirit of cooperation.

The game ended with all players signing their names to two ceremonial dodge balls, which were then presented to the headquarters of each unit. A formal dinner followed, showcasing a friendly exchange of gifts between the units, as well as the recognition of outstanding Soldiers by both commanders.

Environmental staff to conduct indoor air sampling

By **LAURA SCHROEDER**
DPW

This winter, APG's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) team will continue their studies of legacy subsurface chemicals and their potential impacts. This is part of the Army's ongoing effort to protect the health and safety of Soldiers and the Department of Defense civilian and contractor workforce. It was also prompted by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) interest in evaluation of possible vapor intrusion as part of these kinds of studies.

Beginning in December, IRP team members and contractors will begin indoor air sampling at select buildings on APG. This is the first step of an investigation into whether chemicals present in the groundwater underlying certain buildings are migrating into the indoor air in those buildings.

A chemical is considered to be volatile if it can easily evaporate. When volatile chemicals are present in groundwater and they are able to form gases that could possibly migrate

through the soil to the ground surface. If these chemicals are present under buildings there is a possibility that they could move into indoor air through cracks or holes in a building's foundation. This process is referred to as vapor intrusion (VI).

APG conducted limited VI sampling in the past, with a focus on those buildings with higher potential for VI and found no immediate risk to personnel occupying those buildings. However, following new EPA and Army guidance, APG is expanding its original study to include all buildings that are over, or in close proximity to, an existing groundwater plume to ensure the Army is protective of public health. It is important to note that no groundwater plumes are near residential housing and are therefore not part of the VI studies.

Volatile chemicals are present in the groundwater in some areas of APG as a result of historic production and disposal practices. These activities require APG to follow the CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental

Response, Compensation and Liability Act) process, along with the APG's Federal Facility Agreement with EPA. The Army's VI Guidance also supports the study, and any needed remediation associated with VI into the breathing space within occupied buildings. Remedial action methods could include sealing of cracks, joints, and other openings through which chemicals may enter the building; improving ventilation; and/or installing an activated carbon-filtration system in the occupied space.

The Army, APG, and EPA are also working in cooperation with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on this study. These entities have worked together to determine which buildings on APG's Aberdeen Area would require sampling. Buildings were chosen based on their proximity to volatile subsurface chemicals in groundwater. The selection process was designed to be conservative in order to ensure that any occupied building with potential VI risks will be sampled. It is important to ensure that

no one on APG is being exposed to unacceptable risks caused by environmental contaminants, including those that can result from VI. This determination is ongoing at this time for the Edgewood Area study.

This first round of sampling will begin in the Aberdeen Area in December, and will begin in the Edgewood Area in January. APG's IRP and its contractors have already begun visiting buildings to provide occupants with more in depth information about the sampling process and any potential risks associated with vapor intrusion.

The APG IRP team managing and coordinating this effort recently won both the U.S. Army and Department of Defense's Team Environmental Restoration Awards. See APG News articles on Feb. 14 and June 6, 2013 for more information.

For more information, contact Jeff Aichroth APG North(Aberdeen), 410-306-1735, jeffrey.t.aichroth.civ@mail.mil; or Allison O'Brien APG South (Edgewood), 410-278-5446, allison.c.obrien.civ@mail.mil.

APG SNAPSHOT

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



USAPHC thanks veterans for their service

(From right) Lt. Col. Christine Moser of the U.S. Army Public Health Command presents a Veterans Day pin to Bill Herr, a former Army sergeant, during a Veterans Day celebration at the Margaret Kelleher Adult Day Care Center in Bel Air Nov. 8. A World War II veteran who was wounded at the Battle of the Bulge, Herr went on to serve in France, Italy and Germany. More than 40 clients, family members and staff members attended the event. Moser distributed pins and flags to attendees and thanked the veterans for their service.

Photo by Graham Snodgrass, U.S. Army Public Health Command



DUTIFUL YOUTH

Ethan Michaels, 8, of Cub Scout Pack 820, places a flag next to a headstone in the Aberdeen Proving Ground North Cemetery during the pack's community service/cemetery clean-up project in honor of Veterans Day, Nov. 9. Pack members, parents and volunteers spent three hours raking leaves, clearing brush and placing flags. The cub scouts earned the Community Service Patch for their efforts. Cub Scout Pack 820 meets Tuesday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall on Rodgers Street in Aberdeen.

Photo by Doug Michaels

ANSWERING THE CALL

Aberdeen Proving Ground civilians and local vendors interact during the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) kickoff at the APG North (Aberdeen) theater Nov. 19. More than 20 charitable organization displays, door prizes and motivational messages welcomed guests to simultaneous events at the theater and at the Edgewood Conference Center. Guest speakers included Deputy to the CECOM Commander Gary Martin; Deputy Garrison Commander Glenn Wait; Col. Jeremy Martin, Fort Meade CFC Leadership Chair and Commandant of the Defense Information School; Rose Logan-Lee, Chesapeake Bay Area CFC loaned executive; and CBAC Director Donna Talbert. Kristine Augustyniak, APG CFC Chair, hosted the event. For information about CFC contact your organization key personnel; call Augustyniak at 410-278-2830; email kristine.s.augusyniak.civ@mail.mil or visit the CBAC CFC website at <http://cbacfc.org>.

Photo by Yvonne Johnson



Honor Military Families through November

Continued from Page 1

faucet helps the family bridge the gap until their loved one comes home.

Involve your kids. It can be tough being the child of a Soldier. Given that Military Families move around a lot, their children are always the "new kids" in class. Simply encouraging your child to become their friend makes a big difference. Plus, military kids are pretty cool.

Volunteer. Many military and military-related organizations need help sorting thank you letters, putting packages together or just reading books to children.

Say "thank you." Sometimes, a simple

thank you is all a Military Family needs to make it through a difficult day.

For more information, visit the Army MWR website at <http://www.armymwr.com/5-ways-to-show-thanks.aspx>

NMFAM

National Military Family Appreciation Month was established in 1993 by the Armed Services YMCA. The U.S. Government has recognized the occasion every year since. Throughout November, community leaders, businesses and garrisons team up to recognize Army families through a variety of activities such as family fun nights, fun runs, discounts at Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)

facilities, sporting events and special recognitions during community activities. And, active, Guard, and Reserve leaders are joined by Department of Defense organizations such as the Army Air Force Exchange Service and the Defense Commissary Agency to conduct activities and events to express their appreciation and thanks to military families.

Families are a vital part of the Army's ability to remain strong. With thousands of Soldiers deployed, families have never wavered in their support and patriotism, despite the many challenges they have faced.

Military Family Appreciation Month

complements the Ready and Resilient campaign which supports the efforts of programs that strengthen the resilience and readiness of Army families. The Army is fully committed to helping families remain Army strong by offering a variety of programs and services through the garrison MWR programs, Army Community Services and Child Youth and School Services. These programs keep the Army's commitment to provide Soldiers and their families a quality of life commensurate with their service resulting in families feeling important, supported and connected to the Army and the nation.

Brighten a child's holiday with an Angel Tree gift

Continued from Page 1

Holiday Angel Tree gift ideas

Nerf toys
Gift cards
Monster High dolls
Action figures
Trains/trucks
Star Wars
Roller blades
iTunes/Game Stop gift cards
Games (all ages)
Aladdin movie
My Little Pony
Sponge Bob Square Pants

Toy animals
Super hero figurines
Assassins Creed game
Harry Potter books
Lego games
Mickey Mouse Club DVD/games
Toy Story
Handy Manny DVD/games
Crayola Play-n-Fold
Books (all ages)
Angry Birds games
Girl crafts
Infant musical toys
Building blocks
Activity learning games

Jenga
Barbie items
Beyblades
Basketball/soccer/football/baseball
Baseball bat/glove
Puzzles (all ages)
Iron Man figurines
Doc McStuffin toys
Ninja Turtle
Dinosaur figurines
Hello Kitty
Baby dolls (all races)
Nintendo DS/Wii games
Dora the Explorer doll & games
Spider Man action figure/games

Bubble Guppies DVD
Leapfrog cartridges
Power Rangers
Baby rattles (for newborns)
Art supplies
Tea set
Pet pillows
Junie B Jones books
Skylander toys
Transformers
Captain America
Marvel figurines
Movies (all ages)
Fisher Price medical kit
Fisher Price Laugh and Learn CD & player

Check us out on flickr www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg