

APG NEWS



www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

October 3, 2013 Vol. 57, No. 39

Free flu vaccine available for patrons

by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and the Edgewood Health Clinic are providing the influenza vaccination to all active duty service members on a walk-in basis, and on scheduled dates for larger units.

Receiving a flu shot is mandatory for all active duty military, to ensure readiness.

KUSAHC also offers the vaccine free of charge to TRICARE beneficiaries, military retirees, and family members. Both clinics will offer the influenza shot to DoD civilians, on a first come, first serve basis beginning Oct. 15 until the supply is exhausted.

KUSAHC Public Health Chief 1st Lt. Joanna Moore said it is important Soldiers receive their shots by Oct. 11, due to supply limitations.

"Our goal is to vaccinate at least 85 percent of the APG military population by Oct. 11, so we can use the remaining

See **VACCINE**, page 10

MWR services affected by shutdown

APG MWR

All MWR programs are operational as normal with the following exceptions:

The post library inside the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, is closed until further notice. Materials can be placed in the Return Box outside the recreation center front door.

Intramural sports and bowling leagues are under review and MWR will communicate schedule changes directly to team coaches.

Fitness centers will operate regular hours and fitness classes will continue until further notice.

Hunting operations are under review and all permitted hunters will be notified via e-mail of any changes to the program.

Army Community Service will have limited services. Call 410-278-7572 for more information. To reach the Domestic Violence Hotline call 410-652-6048.

Programs and services are subject to change in operational days/hours based on utilization.

For more information, visit the MWR website at www.apgmwr.com.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Commissary closed during shutdown

Rosalind Brown, a retired AAFES civilian and military retiree spouse, surveys a near-empty shelf in the APG commissary meat section Oct. 1. She was one of many patrons who visited the store Tuesday to stock up after it was announced that the commissary would be closed until further notice due to the government shutdown. According to the Defense Commissary Agency, stateside commissaries, including Alaska and Hawaii, remained open for business Oct. 1 to reduce the amount of perishables on-hand before beginning a systematic closure process. Customers are encouraged to stay tuned for updates by visiting the DECA website <http://www.commissaries.com> and Department of Defense website <http://www.defense.gov>. The APG community is encouraged to call the 410-278-SNOW (7669) line, read the APG News and visit the APG homepage and social media sites for updates on the shutdown.

APG knows it's 'Got Talent'

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

From old school to new school, glowing new faces walked away with prizes in this year's "So You Think You've Got Talent" competition at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Sept. 26.

Added to the top awards - First Place Military; First Place Civilian and the People's Choice Award - was the newly-created Most Talented Unit Streamer award, which goes to the military unit with the most participants in the show.

The big win of the night went to Pfc. Stacy Dobson, of the 20th CBRNE Command. The young songstress' strong performance of Beyonce's "Halo" charmed the audience enough to win both First Place - Military and the People's Choice Award.

The First Place-Civilian winner was Willie Stevenson, a Directorate of Public Works employee who presented listeners with a smooth rendition of The Temptation's "My Girl."

Other winners included

Second Place Military: Sgt. 1st Class Ricky Hines & Evaniz Pacheco
Second Place Civilian: Rachel Bauer



Pfc. Stacy Dobson of the 20th CBRNE Command sings her way to the First Place Military and People's Choice Award with the song "Halo" by Beyonce during the "So You Think You've Got Talent" contest at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Sept. 26.

Third Place Military: Spc. Brandon Versteegh

Third Place Civilian: Tiffany Evans

APG leaders presented the show's awards. Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton thanked attendees for supporting APG Soldiers and Families on behalf of APG Senior

Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell. He commended the show's host, Tricia Devine, MWR programmer Earlene Allen and Sgt. Eric Jimenez, president of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS), which part-

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New Maryland cell phone, seat belt laws



By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

A new Maryland cell phone law prohibits drivers from using handheld cell phones while their motor vehicle is in motion. This law is now a primary offense, which means law enforcement officers can stop a driver solely for using a cell phone; no other offense is needed.

Drivers will receive a fine of up to \$75 for the first offense, \$125 for the second offense and \$175 for third and subsequent offenses.

According to the Maryland Motor Vehicles Association, nationally 80 percent of vehicle crashes involve some sort of driver

inattention. On average, more than 30,000 motorists in Maryland are injured annually as a result of distracted driver crashes.

Capt. Nick Stamos of the Directorate of Emergency Services said it is illegal to use a hand-held cell phone while driving on DoD installations and in 10 states, including Maryland. A hands-free device, like a Bluetooth headset must be used. By law, both ears may not be covered by ear plugs, a headset or earphones while driving, and drivers under 18 are prohibited from using any cell phone while driving.

Maryland also bans texting while driving. This law prohibits an individual from writ-

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WEATHER

Thurs.



74° | 56°

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ONLINE

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STREET TALK

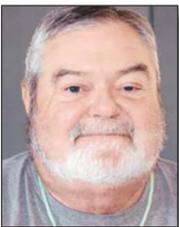
How can you make your community a better place?

Get to know your neighbors, especially the elderly who might not have family in the area. Ask them if they need help with anything. Many people need help but they don't want to ask for it. Volunteer at a local soup kitchen; there are several in the area.



Ebony Sexton
Family member

Get active in your community. Volunteer with your family and share the experience together. Volunteer as much as your schedule allows. I worked for the Army for 34 years, had a good career, now it is time for me to give back.



Jerry Nook
Civilian retiree

Provide opportunities for social interaction. Host a block party on your street. Get to know your neighbors, help form a welcoming committee. Be tolerant and respect your neighbors. The Army is so diverse; we come from different backgrounds and cultures. We need to respect those differences.



Capt. Ryan Butler
46th Chemical Company

Raising children is a community effort. Our children are our future. Get involved in programs that will benefit them. This will also bring adults together, working together for a good cause. The result is a stronger community.



Aurora Collins
Military Spouse

OPINION



File photo

The Enzian Volkstanze Gruppe, a Bavarian folk dancing group out of Newark, Del., entertains the audience in the Festhalle tent during last year's Oktoberfest celebration. This year's three-day event runs Friday, Oct. 11, through Sunday, Oct. 12, and includes German foods, beverages, music, costume contests, a Volksmarch, a car show, Kid Zone rides and attractions, a Teen Zone, fireworks, a community market place, live Jazz, rock, blues and more. For information visit www.apgmwr.com.

APG to honor local community

A two-century old German tradition is coming once again to Aberdeen Proving Ground as we get ready to celebrate our second annual Oktoberfest Oct. 11-13 at Shine Sport's Field.

Last year's inaugural Oktoberfest was a tremendous success and we're looking to make this event a wonderful and lasting 'Team APG' tradition.

At APG, Oktoberfest is not only a time for us to tap the customary keg and enjoy other great German customs like a Volksmarch and Festhalle with live entertainment. It is also an opportunity to thank and recognize the surrounding communities we rely on to support our installation's mission.

APG is fortunate to be located in one of the finest military communities in the world and we can take pride in the collaborative and mutually beneficial relationship we have with the leaders and residents of this region.

Although APG does have a gate, it is only a gate. It is not a barrier to building a close bond across the community we all share.

To show our appreciation, the APG Oktoberfest will be free and open to the public. In addition, we will honor our neighbors by specially recognizing different neighboring communities on each day of the festival. On Oct. 11, we'll honor the

cities of Havre de Grace and Bel Air. We'll then pay honor to Aberdeen and Edgewood Oct. 12, and on Oct. 13, to the folks of Cecil County.

Each day will be filled with music, German food, beverages and fun activities for children, teens and adults. Activities include rides, a visit from the Baltimore Ravens Cheerleaders, a car show and fireworks on Saturday, and a community marketplace on both Saturday and Sunday.

Whether you're part of Team APG, live in the area, or are visiting from out of town, I encourage everyone to come and enjoy this year's Oktoberfest – All are Willkommen!

For more information about the 2nd annual APG Oktoberfest, check the APG News, the APG website at www.apg.army.mil/, the APG MWR website at www.apgmwr.com or APG social media sites: www.facebook.com/APGmd; or <https://twitter.com/USAGAPG>.

Thanks again for all you do. Army Strong! And I hope to see you at Oktoberfest!

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell

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

Leave Donations Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

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.

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Kennedy, Sandra
Lamar-Reeve, Kellie
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Samler, Jennifer
Parker, Inger
Bristol, Julie
Crawford, Curtis
Winne, Janeen
Evans, Doretha
Grunde, Rachel
McClintick, Jill

Smith, Deborah A.
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Blethens, Matthew
Decker, Kathy
Rodriguez, Alex
Nahrgang, Margaret
Crawford, Iris
Jones, Deborah
Eberhardt, Joanne
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Tims, Samuel

France-Haff, Cheryl
Dillie, Amanda
Hoffman, William
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Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



74° | 56°

Fri



72° | 55°

Sat



72° | 54°

Sun



72° | 56°

Mon



74° | 57°

Tue



74° | 55°

Wed



76° | 56°

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

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Town hall eyes budget, career development

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

APG Garrison leadership addressed the workforce during the quarterly town hall meeting at the post theater Sept. 24.

APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton said he recently attended a Maryland Military Installation Council and met with congressional leaders.

McClinton said while the budget for fiscal year 2014 remains unclear, it is the expectation that the garrison will not receive any more funding than it did in FY13, and it might receive less.

“As of today, we at IMCOM (Installation Management Command) do not have any guidance regarding furloughs and the additional impacts of sequestration,” he said.

McClinton told attendees they need to complete the Command Climate Survey, if they haven’t already. He asked for honest feedback as the information will help identify the garrison’s strengths and weaknesses and help leadership find ways to improve. He also asked supervisors to block off time for their employees to conduct the survey, if necessary.

McClinton said the garrison is in the process of funding a significant amount of training within a number of directorates.

“We will only get better if you are given the opportunity to improve as a professional,” McClinton said.

He advised employees to sit down with their supervisors to discuss career paths and training opportunities.

Teresa Pipkin-Schmied, from the Resource Management Office, said the RMO has not received the budget for FY14. The guidance is to expect at least a 10 percent decrement from FY 13. FY14 will remain under sequestration. This means the government will be restricted to only executing life, health, safety and mission-critical items.

The hiring freeze will also remain in effect. VERA/VISP will be used as a tool to meet authorized end strength. During FY14, the garrison must restrict comp time and overtime to mission-critical requirements that would fail if additional hours were not worked.

Pipkin-Schmied said IMCOM is looking at the possibility of realigning maintenance dollars into base operation support.

“The Army’s top priority is to fund the war effort,” she said.

Pipkin-Schmied said it is too soon to know if furloughs will occur in FY14. IMCOM is not planning a forced Reduction in Force (RIF) in FY14.

Commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Lt. Col. David Zinnante encouraged attendees to register with KUSAHC, if they are eligible. Eligible members include Soldiers, retirees and their Family members.

“Your enrollment at Kirk helps us increase our services,” he said.

Zinnante said the Army now focuses on the Performance Triad--sleep, activity and nutrition--to build and sustain health. He encouraged attendees to make an appointment with the Army Wellness Center (AWC), located on the third floor of KUSAHC.



Courtesy photo
(From left) Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) members Staff. Sgt. Kevin Mixon, Sgt. David Clark, Sgt. Adam McKittrick, Spc. Stephen Murray and Pfc. Michael Murphy receive garrison certificates of appreciation for exceptional performance while supporting the U.S. Army Soldier Show during the garrison town hall meeting at the post theater Sept. 24.

The AWC can help with tobacco cessation, weight loss, stress management, nutrition and physical activity. The AWC provides free services to Army Soldiers, retirees, Family members and DA civilians.

During the question and answer session, an attendee asked if there were

plans to extend the Civilian Wellness Program. APG Garrison Director of Human Resources Janet Dettwiler said she has not received any guidance from IMCOM on whether this program will be extended. Results from the six-month Civilian Wellness Program pilot study were submitted to IMCOM earlier this year.

See Something

Cut along dotted lines and fold in middle for use as wallet reference Card.

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

Do: Observe and Report

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.
- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information.
- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the Installation.
- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
- Unusual contacts on or off post.
- Unusual aerial activity near or around the Installation.
- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.

Do Not

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss FP measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police.

APG North 410-306-2222

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Off post in Md. call 1-800-492-TIPS or 911

Your call may save lives!

Submit letters to the editor to usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil

2013 CFC kicking off Oct. 8

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign starts Tuesday, Oct. 8, with combined kickoff/training sessions set for noon to 2:30 p.m. at the post theater.

About 20 vendors will be on hand to answer questions about their organizations and there will be door prizes and giveaways for attendees.

All APG Soldiers and civilians are invited to the event, which will be held in conjunction with training sessions for CFC key personnel.

According to 2013 CFC Chair, Kristine Augustyniak, the campaign goal

remains the same as last year at \$650,000. Augustyniak said she is excited to lead the 2013 campaign.

"It's very personal to me, because my son used to go to the Aberdeen area youth center which also partners with a national youth organization that promotes the development of youth while giving them a safe place to grow and learn," she said.

Having "served those in need" as a volunteer, Augustyniak said she has witnessed the anguish of those in need of food for their families and their relief when that help is received.

"That gave me a better outlook on

what is really important," she said. "A lot of that can't be accomplished without the help of CFC and the organizations that receive funding through CFC. I hope to encourage everyone to donate this year, even if it is only a small donation. Every bit helps."

She said the installation campaign will seek 100 percent participation and encouraged everyone to attend the CFC kickoff/training event to learn more about what donations can mean.

"Without CFC donations, those devastated by last year's Hurricane Sandy would not have received aid from inter-

national nonprofit organizations that support victims of natural disasters," she said. "Whether your interests are on organizations that support Soldiers or veterans, animal rights or religious organizations, there is something for everyone. Through local, national or international organizations, you can help make a difference."

Augustyniak and CFC vice-chair Jeff Campagnone of CECOM will be on hand to greet visitors and key personnel. For more information about the Oct. 8 CFC Kickoff/Training sessions contact Augustyniak at 410-278-2830.

Flu shot or nasal spray vaccine, which is better?

By **SGT. TERENCE ELLIS** and **ZACHARY MCCORMIC**

U.S. Army Public Health Command

Each year, the influenza or 'flu' virus makes millions of people ill worldwide.

Children, the elderly, pregnant women and those with weakened immune systems are at highest risk of developing flu-related complications that can lead to hospitalization or even death. The best way to prevent the flu is by receiving an annual influenza vaccination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends everyone over the age of six months get vaccinated against influenza.

There are two primary types of influenza vaccine: the flu shot and the nasal spray. The flu shot comes in several different forms that target a variety of age groups from six months and older. All forms of the flu shot contain inactivated or killed virus and are administered as an injection in the upper arm or in the thigh for infants. Your healthcare provider will determine which form is

Healthy Living

www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/local/ click on Well Being

Healthy Living is a recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses health topics that matter most to our readers. To view more health topics and the Community Health Promotion Council calendar of events, visit the APG homepage <http://www.apg.army.mil/> and click on the Community Health icon at the bottom right, or scan the QR code (at right) with your smart phone or enabled device. To suggest health-related topics for the Health Living series, email patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil or call 410-278-7274.



right for you based on age, allergies and health conditions.

The nasal spray vaccine, or the live, attenuated influenza vaccine, is commonly known by its trade name, FluMist™ and offers protection to healthy

adults from 2 to 49-years-old who are not pregnant. FluMist™ contains a live but weakened flu virus that cannot cause flu illness.

Studies comparing the flu shot to the nasal vaccine have shown the shot

or inactivated vaccine to be more effective in protecting against influenza A in healthy adults. Both vaccinations were more effective in preventing influenza than those receiving no vaccine. However, studies conducted in children have found the nasal spray or attenuated vaccine more effective in preventing influenza than the shot.

The influenza vaccination for the 2013-2014 influenza season protects against the strains of the virus influenza experts believe are most likely to circulate during this season.

Before any influenza cases develop, get the flu vaccine. It may take up to two weeks to develop complete protection against influenza after vaccination. Vaccination of people at high-risk for serious flu-related health complications and their close contacts is especially important. Talk to your healthcare provider to see if you fit this high-risk category or if you have any questions regarding which flu vaccine options are best for you and your family.

Stay up to date on the government shutdown. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/APGMd>



MOREONLINE

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.

Visit APG News online at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

PHC testing air quality in high places

By **JANE GERVASONI**

Army Public Health Command Public Affairs

"It's a dirty job and it isn't glamorous," explained Tim Hilyard, "but we are the only ones in DoD who can do it."

Hilyard, a physical scientist with the U.S. Army Public Health Command Air Quality Surveillance Program, has spent all of his time in the last 12 years checking the air quality produced by Army incinerators. These special incinerators are designed to destroy "off-spec and out-of-date" small-caliber munitions.

"Small-caliber rounds and small explosive devices such as grenades that do not meet the military's exacting standards could be dangerous for Soldiers to use," said Hilyard. "But disposing of them produces other challenges."

The Army has specially-designed incinerators to dispose of these materials, elim-

inating the explosive hazard and allowing the remaining metal parts, including brass, to be recycled.

"The USAPHC has tested the effluent from smokestacks at Army incinerators for more than 30 years," according to Brian Jones, AQS Program manager, who started his career as an Army environmental science officer at the then-Army Environmental Hygiene Agency, the predecessor of the USAPHC.

Sampling methods have not changed a lot, but the equipment required to test the samples has evolved.

"Each stack has ports or openings where we insert probes attached to our air-monitoring equipment, and samples of the effluent are sucked out of the stack," said Hilyard. "We use these air samples to determine if the emissions meet Environmental Protection Agency and local state

standards."

Ensuring that appropriate emissions standards are met minimizes the impact on the local environment and helps protect the health of humans and wildlife.

"Some of the samples we take are sent back to the USAPHC laboratory to check for metals and volatile organic compounds. Other samples can be examined by a technician in one of our mobile labs onsite," Hilyard explained. "Quick evaluations allow our customers to monitor their operations and help them improve operations."

Protecting the environment is important, but so is the safety of those scientists who do the sampling.

"We wear hard hats, steel-toed shoes, and both chemical and/or heat resistant gloves when sampling," said Hilyard. "We are 10 feet or more up the stack and usually protected by metal safety rails and

shielding."

Unexpected safety issues still occur.

"Once when we were sampling in the Utah desert, the heat from the stack had attracted a rattlesnake that we almost stepped on," laughed Adam McCann, who serves as a technician for the program. "In another location, a siren sounded, and everyone left the incinerator building. We found out later that the siren was a warning about a tornado that touched down close to us."

Even with all the challenges, complete surveys are required every two and one-half years, and changes in the incinerator functions may require more frequent testing.

"This testing is never routine," said Hilyard, "but our work helps the Army meet environmental standards and protects human health."

STEM event draws more than 450 Scouts

Story and photo by **RACHEL PONDER**

APG News

More than 450 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers from surrounding states gathered at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Shore Park Sept. 28 for the third annual STEM in Scouting Day.

Volunteers from Team APG and the Baltimore Area Council of Boy Scouts of America organized the event. In addition to earning merit badges in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics, (STEM) subject, Scouts were given the opportunity to earn NOVA Awards. These awards were created by the Boy Scouts of America two years ago to help them develop critical skills in a competitive world market while increasing an interest in STEM.

During this event, 22 of the 38 STEM-oriented merit badges were offered. These included: aviation, chemistry, composite materials, computers, electronics, engineering, nuclear science, radio, railroading, robotics, space exploration, veterinary medicine and weather.

During the opening ceremony, volunteer Col. Bill Montgomery said this was a record-breaking event due to the amount of scouts in attendance and the oppor-

tunities provided. He challenged the scouts to use this opportunity to network and learn about STEM careers. He said the event helps the scouts get an "edge on life."

"You have made one of the smartest decisions of your life to be in scouting," said Harford County Sheriff Jesse Bane, a former Boy Scout. "You are building the skills you will need for the rest of your life."

Baltimore Area Council Board Chairman David Gibbons said Boy Scouts of America is dedicated to providing STEM educational opportunities, and the Baltimore Area Council leads this effort by providing events like STEM in Scouting.

"The programs are focused on learning through fun," he said.

The ceremony also included the posting of the colors by scouts in Troop 973 from Bel Air and remarks from Baltimore Area Council Scout Executive Brian Steger and Maryland State Senator Barry Glassman.

"This event teaches children things that they will not learn in school. It shows children why they need to learn about math and science," said Maj. Edward Hubner, from the 121st Engi-



Cub Scouts Aiden Schoeffler and Sareth Schoeffler, of Pack 307, watch as Maj. James Fray, from the Maryland Defense Force Signal Company, shows them a Vietnam War era radio during the STEM in Scouting event at Shore Park Sept. 28.

near Regiment of the Maryland Defense Force and Boy Scout volunteer. "Scouting allows children to try new interests, makes them well-rounded individuals."

Boy Scout Jarod Lai, from Troop 810, from Abingdon, said he learned engineering concepts while earning a NOVA award that day, by designing a catapult that can launch a marshmallow four feet.

In the future, Lai wants to work at APG as an engineer.

To assist with this event, 25 U.S. Naval Academy Midshipmen who are members of the National Eagle Scout Association served as merit badge counselors and mentors. Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scout program.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 3 25TH ANNUAL HARFORD COUNTY JOB FAIR

Free and open to the public, the job fair will be held at the Richlin Ballroom at 1700 Van Bibber Road in Edgewood from 2 to 6 p.m. For more information, call 410-939-4240.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 5 NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

Plumb Point Loop neighborhood yard sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in APG North (Aberdeen). For more information, contact Ayesha Varnadore at mmaadq6@yahoo.com

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 8 CFC KICKOFF

The 2013 Chesapeake Bay Area Combined Federal Campaign season at Aberdeen Proving Ground kicks off with a CFC Kickoff/Training event from noon to 2:30 p.m. at the Post Theater. The entire APG community is welcome to come out, learn more about CFC, meet vendors and win door prizes. Hosting will be APG CFC Chair Kristine Augustyniak and Vice Chair Jeff Campagnone. For more information, contact Augustyniak at 410-278-2830 or e-mail kristine.s.augustyniak.civ@mail.mil.

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 9 NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH OBSERVANCE

Team APG will host a National Disability Employment Awareness Month Observance Oct. 9 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Mallette Training Facility, Bldg. 6008. The guest speaker will be Lisa Kornberg, the director of the Maryland Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Kornberg, who is deaf, will share her experiences working with a disability. She was appointed to this position by Maryland Governor Martin O' Malley in 2008. For more information call 443-861-4633, or 410-436-0320. The 2013 National Disability Employment Awareness Month theme is "Because we are EQUAL to the task."

This event includes morning and afternoon workshops, which will run from 9 to 10:15 a.m. and from 1:15 to 2:30 p.m. in the same building. The workshops include "A Brief Overview of Disability Retirement," presented by Jill McClintick from the APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, "Understanding Reasonable Accommodation," presented by Frank Roig from APG CPAC, and "Re-visiting Your VA Disability," presented by Cindy Smith from the U.S. Army Public Health Com-

mand. Registration is required. To register, e-mail Natalie Clybourn at dep.apg@gmail.com. For questions concerning training classes, contact Clybourn at 410-436-3118. Sign language interpreters will be available. For other disability related accommodations please call 410-436-1023.

FRIDAY – SUNDAY

OCTOBER 11 - 13 OKTOBERFEST

Save the dates for the 2nd Annual APG Oktoberfest celebration to be held at Shine Field Friday afternoon through Sunday. For more details, go to <http://apgmwr.com/SpecialPages/2013Oktoberfest.html>

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 17 HALLOWEEN BLOOD DRIVE

Give the treat of live this Halloween. Follow the blood drop signs to the ASBP Blood Drive at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Armed Services Blood Program can provide blood and blood products to injured service members, a child undergoing cancer treatments or a Family member in need of heart surgery. There always is a need for this priceless gift. Donors can register online at <http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil/Donors/> or walk-in 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Sgt. Eric Jimenez, U.S. Army Public Health Command, at eric.jimenez3@us.army.mil or call 410-417-0149.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 19 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

The APG Retiree Council will host the annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day 8 a.m. to noon, at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326. The event includes exhibitors who provide goods and services to the retiree population and panel discussion with Kirk U.S. Health Clinic, TRICARE, Commissary, Army & Air Force Exchange Service, Family and Morale, Welfare & Recreation, Veterans Affairs Staff Judge Advocate, Corvias Housing and Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. The guest speaker is Maryland State Senator Nancy Jacobs. KUSAHC staff will provide Blood Pressure checks and Seasonal Flu Shots and all attendees are invited to dine on-site at the First Sergeant's Grill at a cost of \$2 per person starting at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Betty Willard, Retirement Service Officer/Retiree Council, 410-306-2322, email betty.a.willard.ctr@mail.mil.

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 20 ARMY TEN MILER SUP-

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The APG community is encouraged to stay informed about the government shutdown and services affected by the shutdown by visiting the APG homepage (www.apg.army.mil) and installation Facebook page (www.facebook.com/APGMd), and by calling the 410-278-SNOW (7669). Up-to-date information will be posted as it becomes available.

The following links include resource available for financial and stress counseling, and may be of use for military personnel and civilian employees impacted by the shutdown.

MILITARY

Military One Source is available at 1-800-342-9647, or their crisis line is 1-800-273-TALK. They are available online at <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/army>.

CIVILIANS:

For stress, counseling:

Employee Assistance Program -- EAP

EAP (FOH4you) is a free, 24-hour confidential counseling and referral service that can help you and your family successfully deal with life's challenges. They are available via phone at 1-800-222-0364, or online at www.foh4you.com.

Federal Occupational Health's Work/Life program is offered to you and your dependents at no cost and you can use the services as often as you like.

Call or log in today at 1-877-WL4-NOAA (1-877-954-6622), (TTY 800-873-1322), or online www.WorkLife4You.com.

OTHER RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

OPM: Furlough guidance

<http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/furlough-guidance?url=Shutdown-Furlough>

Civilian Personnel Office: Guidance for the 2014 lapse in appropriations <http://cpol.army.mil/library/general/2013sequestration/FY14Lapse.html>

DOD: Financial planning during civilian furlough

<http://www.whs.mil/HRD/Furlough/FinancialPlanning.cfm>

Army Emergency Relief

<http://www.aerhq.org/dnn563/>

SecArmy McHugh letter to force about government shutdown

<http://usarmy.vo.llnwd.net/e2/c/downloads/314625.pdf>

PORTS TEAM APG

Are you participating in the Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C.? If so APG MWR wants to support your efforts. Provide your registration information to receive:

- TEAM APG T-shirt
- Information about race packet pick up support
- TEAM APG Hooah Tent information
- Other support as determined

Send registration information to marni.allison@us.army.mil. For more information, contact Byron Reasin at 410-436-3375 or e-mail byron.a.reasin.naf@mail.mil.

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 23 FALL TECHNOLOGY EXPO

ECBC/CIO and Federal Direct Access Expositions (FDAE) will present the 2013 APG Fall Information Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street.

Vendors will display the latest in state-of-the-art technologies covering everything from cyber security to office supplies. Attendance is free and open to active duty, government civilians and contractor personnel with access to Aberdeen Proving Ground. Refreshments will be served. Register online at <http://www.fdaexpo.com/register.php?id=130>

For more information, contact Mary McCully, ECBC/CIO Acquisition Team, at 410-436-2625, e-mail mary.p.mccully.civ@mail.mil; or call FDAE toll free at 877-332-3976.

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 25 3RD ANNUAL HALLOWEEN SCHOLARSHIP GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Lt. Gen. Alfred J. Mallette Chapter and AFCEA Aberdeen Chapter present the 3rd Annual Halloween Scholarship Golf Scramble at Ruggles Golf Course. (Costumes Encouraged!) Three Club Limit, putters will be provided.

Shotgun Start at 9 a.m. Followed by Pig Roast Dinner at Ruggles and Final Fridays

Cost: Active Duty Officers- \$35, Enlisted Soldiers - \$15, All others - \$100; includes golf cart, green fees, BBQ

Sponsorships available. For more information or application, contact Kit Roache, P.O. 7376, Shrewsbury, N.J. 07702; call 732-778-4005 or e-mail kitroache@verizon.net

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 15 – 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/apptracmain>. For more information or to register contact the APG Leisure Travel Office in Bldg. 3326 at 410-278-4011/4907.

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 13 APG RESOURCE SHOWCASE DAY

APG has something for everyone. Join us 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center to view programs at APG and in the local community that are available to service members, veterans, and Family members. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

ONGOING

NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 31

VTF HALLOWEEN COSTUME EXTRAVAGANZA

The APG Veterinary Treatment Facility invites pet owners to show off their pet's Halloween costume. This is a chance for owners to show their pride in their pet and their creativity. Owners can bring their pet to the VTF in costume and a staff member will take a photo, or owners can provide a picture of their pet to the facility. The pictures will be posted on the facility's community bulletin board throughout the month of October for all to see. At the end of the month, Oct. 31, the photos will be judged by disinterested parties. The top three participants with the most votes will have their photos published in the following week's issue of the APG News. This contest is open to everyone. The clinic is located on APG North across the street from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic at Bldg. 2479 on Oakington Street. For more information call 410-278-4604.

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.



At your service

1st Lt. Joanna Moore

Public Health Chief

As the Public Health Chief for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, 1st Lt. Joanna Moore oversees three programs: Environmental Health, Public Health Nursing and Industrial Hygiene. For Moore, this usually means no two days are alike.

"One day we might be running a flu clinic, the next day a health fair or other community outreach event, or conducting inspections like water testing, investigative mold issues or outbreak investigations," Moore said.

She supervises 18 personnel in APG North (Aberdeen) and South (Edgewood) including industrial hygiene and food inspectors tasked with ensuring all foods sold on the installation meet state and federal health standards. This means constant coordination with other organizations like the U.S. Army Public Health Command, the Main Exchange, the Post Commissary, the Garrison's dining facility and Child Development Centers as well as post military units and civilian organizations.

"I'm real passionate about getting out there and being a part of the com-

munity ... when I'm not in meetings," Moore said.

Noting that the flu campaign is underway, she said active duty military currently have priority for the vaccines. Availability opens to military Family members, government civilians and retirees Oct. 15.

"When done with the military units we'll start organizing visits to civilian organizations," she said.

For information about flu shot availability, call the KUSAHC Flu Line at 410-306-3558.

Moore is promoting a Breast Cancer Awareness Month event set for Oct. 23 which includes a 2-mile walk around the athletic center. Check the APG News for more information as the event nears.

Moore said she enjoys the variety of her full-time mission.

"I like the mixture. You get to experience leading Soldiers and working with civilians while learning the local area."

The Public Health office is located on the first floor of KUSACH.



MORE ONLINE

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



2nd Annual event Come for the camaraderie!

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Plans remain unchanged to celebrate the 2nd Annual APG Oktoberfest on Shine Sports Field next weekend. The local version of the famous fall festival begins 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11. The celebration continues 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 12 after a 9 a.m. Volksmarch and ends Sunday with festivities

from noon to 6 p.m.

The APG Oktoberfest is free and open to the public. Main events will include a Festhalle with live entertainment; genuine German foods by the Prost Restaurant in Port Deposit; German costume competitions and German bands and dancers.

The entertainment doesn't stop there. It includes a Teen Zone with an arcade and performances by local

teens and a Kid Zone with inflatable rides and attractions like the Wrecking Ball Ride, Lazer Tag, and the Gladiator Joust.

Other fun attractions include a Community Market Place, a Car Show and a Yard Sale. Participants must register by Oct. 10. For more information visit <http://apgmwr.com/SpecialPages/2013Oktoberfest.html>.

Come toast local communities during the Opening Ceremonies each day as APG salutes Bel Air and Havre de Grace, Friday, Oct. 11; Aberdeen and Edgewood, Saturday, Oct. 12, and Cecil County, Sunday, Oct. 13.

A fireworks display closes the festivities Saturday, 9 p.m.

For more information or updates visit the APG MWR website at www.apgmwr.com or call

APG Aberdeen/Edgewood Area Access Operations during Government Shutdown. Subject to change.

Aberdeen Area Gate Hours and Visitor Center Operations

Gate	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Federal Holiday
RT 715	24 Hrs							
RT 22	Closed	6 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed				
Aberdeen	Closed							
Visitor Control Center	6 a.m. - 6 p.m.							
Badge Office	Closed	8 a.m.- 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed				

Edgewood Area Gate Hours and Visitor Center Operations

Gate	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Federal Holiday
RT 24	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs	24 Hrs
Wise Road	Closed	6 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Closed	Closed				
Magnolia	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Visitor Control Center	Closed	6 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed				
Badge Office	Closed	8 a.m.- 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed			

APG NCO brings home Armed Forces gold

BY YVONNE JOHNSON

APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground non-commissioned officer made a triumphant return to the installation last week, after helping the All-Army Softball team to a first place win over the All-Air Force team during the gold medal round of the 2013 Armed Forces Softball Championship held at Fort Sill, Okla., Sept. 19.

Second baseman Sgt. 1st Class Vernon Walton of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Army Evaluation Center is credited with hitting the game-winning home run Sept. 17. That play capped the team's rally from a 21-10 deficit to a 24-21 win and propelled the team to the gold medal round.

It was the All-Army Team's second consecutive Armed Forces victory as well as Walton's second gold medal. He won his first with the 2007 team.

A military evaluator and a native of Abbeville, S.C., Walton has been in the Army 15 years. His prowess on the softball diamond is matched by his agility with school books, as he holds a bachelor's degree in English, a master's and a doctorate in education.

Walton said he grew up playing baseball through high school and college and then into the military at Fort Stewart, Ga., where he transitioned to softball.

While stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., Walton said mentors who recognized his talent pushed him to compete at the next level.

"I didn't know [softball] was that big a deal then," he said, "but they pushed me in the right direction and I was accepted the first year I applied."

He said that multiple deployments since 2007 prevented him from trying out for the team. He was excited to make the team for the second time this year and help it to back-to-back titles.

"There were a lot of new faces and some who return every year," he said, adding that he's made friends with players on the All-Air Force, Navy and Marine teams.

Typically, players are invited back to try out but it's not a guarantee to make the team, he noted, adding that only 25 players from active duty, National Guard and Reserve, out of more than 200 applicants are selected for the team after three weeks of tryouts.

The Armed Forces Championship came down to the Air Force (6-3) and Army (8-1) and Army triumphed 23-8 after only five innings via the 15-run rule.

"It always comes down to Air Force and Army due to the level of experience," Walton said. "They're as good as we are. I think this year we were just a little more dedicated and focused. You expect the veterans to show up and help the younger Soldiers who've never dealt with that level of intensity. And that's what happened.

"This year, I was one of the older guys. When I was younger I had no idea, I just wanted to play."

He said he loves playing at the All Army level and he encouraged Soldiers to test their skills at the next level.

"Get exposed to softball; it's a lot slower than baseball," he advised. "Seasoned softball players can recognize your talents and steer you in the right direction. I'm glad to have the opportunity to be a part this program. If you don't push



Sgt. 1st Class Vernon Walton at bat during the 2013 Armed Forces Softball Championship at Fort Sill, Okla., Sept. 19 -21. Vernon, who is assigned to ATEC's Army Evaluation Center, helped power the All Army team to a first place win over the All Air Force team, winning 23-8 in five innings. U.S. Army photo

the positive aspects, the program will disappear."

A professional leader who takes leading Soldiers seriously, Walton said he believes in training just as hard for life as for combat.

"We sometimes forget there's life after the military and we have to prepare them for that as well," he said. "I love to pass on that anything you desire in life is possible with hard work."

He credits his father who taught him humility and his wife, Judy, who has stood by him "through everything" for his success.

"Without her it wouldn't mean anything," he said.

Walton also thanked the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation athletic center staff where he works out to keep in shape for regional play, including on the Harford Community College team.

He said All Army "expects you to be

in playing shape from day one," so he frequents the athletic center focusing on cardio workouts and spinning.

"Exercise is important but the best training for softball is to play softball," he said.

"They have 100,000 things to do," he said of the athletic center staff, "but they take the time out to help me when I need it so I'm grateful to APG as well as to Army MWR for allowing me to return."

On the first day of practice, All-Army Softball team coach Victor Rivera told team members about Walton's doctorate degree while challenging them to aspire to greater heights. Walton said he was gratified by the player's reactions.

"I just wanted to be seen as a softball player," he said. "I might not have a lot to say but I do when something needs to be said. I try to be mature, humble, reliable and counted on to do well."

ECBC researching 'human organs' on microchips

ECBC Communications

There was a time when the thought of manufacturing organs in the laboratory was science fiction, but now that science is a reality.

Scientists at the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) and academia collaborators have been conducting research of "organs" on microchips. ECBC is one of a few laboratories in the world conducting this research effort, but what sets ECBC apart is that its research will directly impact the Warfighter.

The center houses the only laboratories in the United States that the Chemical Weapons Convention permits to produce chemical warfare agent for testing purposes. ECBC will test the human-on-a-chip against chemical warfare agent to learn more about how the body will respond to agent exposure and explore various treatment options for exposures. While the Center will be collaborating with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Wake Forest, Harvard and the University of Michigan on the design of the chip, the testing will take place at ECBC.

The five-year research project is being funded by the Defense Threat Reduction

Agency, and will focus on a platform of in vitro human organ constructs in communication with each other. This platform will assess effectiveness and toxicity of drugs in a way that is relevant to humans and their ability to process these drugs.

ECBC scientists were already undergoing research on four organs – the heart, liver, lung and the nervous system – when DTRA solicited a call for proposals. Then once the proposal was awarded, the Center began working specifically on the heart, liver, lung and the circulatory system. Harry Salem, Ph.D., ECBC's chief scientist for Life Sciences, leads ECBC's in vitro research team working with stem cells.

"Stem cells are a relatively new field of research," Salem said. "The stem cells that ECBC uses ... are made from adult skin cells called induced pluripotent stem cells."

Each organ-on-a-chip is about the size of a thumb drive and is an organoid, or a small swatch of human tissue, designed to mimic the properties of an actual human organ. They are made up of multiple layers of cells growing on a membrane and are connected to each other by microfluidics, tiny micro channels that copy the function of blood vessels. Their primary purpose is to take the place of animal

research.

"Today, the use of stem cells in our research program is moving us toward that goal," Salem said. "Here at ECBC, the screening models will be used to assess the efficacy and safety of medical mitigation procedures and counter measures for the soldier and the nation as a whole."

According to Salem, compounds quite often behave differently in people than they do in animals. For that reason human estimate studies are used, but do not always accurately reflect the human response. Due to the species-specific differences by which compounds are metabolized, a drug tested on a laboratory rat doesn't always translate well to a human. In some cases, no animal testing can mimic the human response. Asthma, for example, is a uniquely human disease. Since human-on-a-chip is made from human cells, it is the next best thing. Human tissue reacts like human tissue.

It is anticipated that new predictive models of toxicity will result from the more accurate human-on-a-chip testing. This will save both time and money. Pharmaceuticals tested on animals fail to work on humans 90 percent of the time. This technology will result in fewer test failures. Scientists will be able to narrow their

research efforts by identifying which therapeutics will be effective or fail early on in the testing process.

"The human-on-a-chip promises to accelerate the pace of research and consequently scientific breakthroughs," Russell Dorsey, Ph.D., a research microbiologist and one of the members performing the in vitro testing at ECBC, said. "For the military, our human-on-a-chip research will save actual warfighters' lives."

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.

ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our national defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/> or call (410) 436-7118.

New cell phone, seat belt law in effect

Continued from Page 1

ing or sending a text message while operating a motor vehicle that is in motion or in the travel portion of the highway. If convicted of violating this law a person may be assessed a fine not exceeding \$500. This law does not apply to texting 9-1-1 or using a global positioning system.

Distracted driving is a serious problem in the United States. According to the Maryland Department of Transportation, distracted driving is a factor in 1 out of 4

crashes nationally. Research shows drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves.

New seat belt laws

Effective Oct. 1, Maryland has a primary seat belt law for front seat occupants and a secondary seat belt law for back seat occupants. Tickets can be issued to drivers and front seat passengers even if no other violation is observed. Each person that is not buckled up (driver and passenger) may receive a ticket of up to \$50 for

not wearing a seat belt.

In the case where any passenger under the age of 16 years of age is not buckled up, the driver will receive a ticket for each offense. For instance, if a driver is stopped and not wearing a seat belt, and a passenger under the age of 16 is also not restrained, the driver will receive a \$50 adult seat belt ticket for himself and a \$50 ticket for the passenger.

The new seat belt law requires rear seat vehicle passengers age 16 or older to wear a seat belt. Previously, only passengers

under age 16 had to wear a seat belt when riding in the back seat of a vehicle. Also, the number of passengers in a vehicle may not exceed the number of seat belts in that vehicle. It is against the law to secure more than one passenger in a seat belt.

Stamos said DES personnel enforce all Maryland Driving Laws.

“DES is prepared to ticket anyone that is not buckled up,” he said.

For more information about Maryland Driving Laws visit <http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/>.

Vaccine protects against four flu strands

Continued from Page 1

vaccine supply to protect our civilian population,” Moore said.

KUSAHC Public Health Nurse Sue Singh said the flu shot helps “protect you and those around you from getting sick.”

“This year’s shot protects recipients against four different strands of flu that have greatly afflicted the U.S. population in previous years,” Singh said.

Vaccines are now offered at KUSAHC and at the Edgewood Health Clinic, on Austin Road, Bldg. E4110, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Soldiers.

The KUSAHC’s Immunization Clinic offers flu shots for Soldiers,

Retirees, and Family members from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Starting Oct. 15, DoD civilians will have the opportunity to get their flu shots at the Edgewood Health Clinic or KUSAHC Immunization clinic from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Any military units that have not scheduled a date for their flu shots with the KUSAHC Preventive Medicine department should call 410-278-1773 to set up an appointment. Patrons will need to show proper ID to show eligibility. For more information visit <http://kusahc.nrmc.amedd.army.mil/default.aspx>, or call 1st Lt. Moore at 410-278-1773.



(From right) APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell receives a flu shot from Spc. Ryan Baptiste of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Flu vaccines are currently available to active duty personnel, military retirees and Family members. Availability opens to government civilians Oct. 15. For more information call the KUSAHC Flu Line at 410-306-3588.

Photo by Marissa Anderson, CECOM

Local talent on display during competition

Continued from Page 1

nered with MWR to provide refreshments. McClinton encouraged everyone to continue supporting APG events by visiting the installation’s 2nd Annual Oktoberfest celebration to be held Friday, Oct. 11 through Sunday Oct. 13 on Shine Field.

“We’ll have events for everyone from kids to teens to adults and we’d like to see all of you there as we kick off our second celebration of this traditional Bavarian fall festival,” McClinton said.

For more information, visit the Oktoberfest site at www.apgmwr.com/oktoberfest.html.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin also recognized the BOSS Soldiers who prepared and sold meals for guests during the show. He thanked Allen and MWR’s Byron Reasin, the group’s civilian advisor.

“BOSS Soldiers are the Army’s future,” Ervin said. “This was their idea and they learned a lot about project management.”

“You guys were awesome,” added Installation and CECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent, to the show’s participants. Our thanks go out to you for what you do every day and to this great audience for supporting this event.”

The winners

Willie Stevenson, DPW

Stevenson said he couldn’t believe it when his name was called as the first-place winner.

“I was very surprised and speechless,” he said.

Stevenson has been member of the DPW roads and grounds crew since 1997; he was with the laundry logistics division for eight years before that. He also plays drums for the John Wesley United Methodist Church choir.

A contestant in previous shows, Stevenson, said that although he’s been singing all his life, he thought he didn’t have a chance due to the wide variety of acts in this year’s show.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

Willie Stevenson, sings The Temptation’s “My Girl” to win the First Place-Civilian award of the “So You Think You’ve Got Talent” contest. Stevenson is a civilian with the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works.

“I thought there was a lot more talent in this show and I felt like there was no way I’d win,” he said. “God is good.”

Pfc. Stacy Dobson

Surprised by her first-place win, Dobson appeared taken aback when her name was announced as the People’s Choice winner as well.

“Words can’t describe how I felt,” the First Place – Military and People’s Choice winner said. “I was very shocked and happy.”

Dobson said she developed a love for singing from her mother, who was in attendance, and her grandmother. A “military brat,” Dobson has been singing in front of audiences since she was 5-years-old in church, at concerts, in plays and other productions. She said she also sang a song for consideration by Grammy Award-winning recording artist Rihanna.

A human resources specialist with the 20th CBRNE, Dobson said her goal is to attend OCS to become a human resources officer.

“I just want to accomplish as much as I can in the military and see where my singing takes me,” she said.

The show’s judges were:

Diana Ciccotelli, a music teacher with Baltimore County Schools; Bonnie O’Brien of Music 4 Vets; Carolyn Harrison, a singer and vocal coach and Morgan State University graduate; William Clark, an independent entertainment promoter, and Charlie Burgos-Lopez, Army Research Laboratory civilian and member of the APG Theater Group.

Audience members said they enjoyed the show from start to finish.

“I really enjoyed it,” said civilian spouse

Lynn Knox, the wife of ASAP chief Timothy Knox. “I really liked the girl who sang “Halo” [Dobson] and the lead act [Charrissa Stancell] is a friend of ours. Overall, it was a lot of fun.”

“We were just happy to be a part of a great show,” said Wayne Cornish, whose three friends, Brandon Hooper, Kellan J. and Demetri Sims joined him onstage for an upbeat, combination hip-hop-step dance that brought the audience to its feet. The courtesy performance by these and other local teenagers continues in the Teen Zone during the APG Oktoberfest.

“It’s not choreography, Cornish said. “It’s bringing music to life.”

Other contestants:

Charrissa Stancell sang Whitney Houston’s “The Greatest Love of All”

Stephen Perno (CECOM) sang Frank Sinatra’s “You Make Me Feel So Young”

Kashmira (Sandy Sanders, Tee Kay, Devon Rust and Corinne Rao) performed a belly dance to “Amell Antan”

Rachel Acevedo (CHRA) sang her original song, “Through It All”

Christina Biederman, delivered original spoken word, “My Music Room”

Rachel Bauer sang Sugarland’s “Stay”

Michael “Kyle” Champion sang STYS’s “Mr. Roboto”

Sgt. 1st Class Ricky Hines and Evaniz Pacheco danced salsa to “Homanje a Los Baila Dores”

Gabriella Hiltibidal and Michael “Kyle” Champion performed “Moulin Rouge” theme, “Elephant Medley”

Tiffany Evan’s of RDECOM sang Lauryn Hill and the Fugees’ “Killing Me Softly”

Jorge Perez danced to “Love Stoned”

Spc. Brandon Versteegh, Public Health Command, played guitar and sang his original, “When the Children Cry”

Renesha Robinson of CECOM sang and performed Bruno Mars’ “Grenade”

Missing the paper?

APG News

If your organization is moving and would like to receive the paper at your new location, or if your organization would like to begin receiving the newspaper, send an e-mail to: usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil with the following information:

- The organization name and building number where papers should be delivered
- Approximately how many people work at or visit the facility
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Requests for delivery do not guarantee approval. Each request will be screened and a decision will be made by the APG News, based on circulation numbers and unit need. Delivery at approved locations will again be assessed at a later date to determine if delivery will continue at that location.

Include “APG News Delivery Request” in the subject line.



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 Yvonne Johnson

APG leaders congratulate the top winners in the 2013 So You Think You've Got Talent contest. From left, Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin, BOSS president Sgt. Eric Jimenez, CECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent, Rachel Bauer, Willie Stevenson, Pfc. Stacy Dobson, Sgt. 1st Class Ricky Hines, Evaniz Pacheco, Tiffany Evans, Spc. Brandon Versteegh and Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton.



APG TALENT

APG talent was on full display and could not have shined brighter for the So You Think You've Got Talent contest at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. "There was really no loser," said panel judge and independent entertainment promoter William Clark.

From left, counterclockwise

(From left) Evaniz Pacheco and Sgt. 1st Class Ricky Hines perform a spicy salsa dance to "Homanje a Los Baila Dores."

From left, Kellan J. Pringle, 16, Demetri Sims, 16, and Brandon Hooper, 17, and Wayne Cornish, 18, (not shown) entertain the audience with an original hip-hop styled step dance.

CECOM civilian Michael "Kyle" Champion goes full costume and in character to deliver the STYX classic, "Mr. Roboto."

(From left) Kashmir dancers Tee Kay, Sandy Sanders, Corinne Rao and Devon Rust strike a pose after a lively belly dance that was well-received by the audience.

APG Family member Gabriella Hiltibidal pairs with Michael "Kyle" Champion in a presentation of Moulin Rouge theme, "Elephant Medley."

Photos by Yvonne Johnson

