



APG NEWS

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168 Eagles strong on APG



By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

A total of 168 bald eagles were counted on APG during the 2014 Mid-Winter Bald Eagle Survey that was conducted by helicopter Jan. 12.

An additional 37 bald eagles were counted along the Susquehanna River. The total number, 205, was only slightly higher than the average count of 197 for the last five surveys. Environmental Protection Specialist Lynda Hartzell from the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division, Natural Resources Branch, said bald eagles, which were once on the nation's threatened and endangered species list, thrive at APG, due to miles of undisturbed shoreline and an abundance of mature shoreline trees.

APG conducts this annual survey in early January as a cooperative effort with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. APG's database, from 1986 to the present, is one of only two historic collections of mid-win-

Photo by Joe Ondek

An eagle takes off from the ground on APG North

See **EAGLE**, page 14

RECENT COUNTS

- 2013:** 203 bald eagles
- 2012:** 157 bald eagles
- 2011:** 163 bald eagles
- 2010:** 239 bald eagles
- 2009:** survey not held due to helicopter shortage
- 2008:** 159 bald eagles



DoT program provides subsidy for mass transit users

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Army civilians and Soldiers can receive up to \$130 to offset mass transit expenses with the Mass Transportation Benefit Program (MTBP) funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DoT). These transportation options include vanpools, buses and trains.

Carpools and Department of Defense contractors are not eligible for this subsidy.

This program was created by DoT in 2000 as a way to reduce federal employees' contribution to traffic congestion and air pollution, and to expand their commuting alternatives.

APG Commuter Transportation Coordinator Syreeta Gross said that the number of individuals who receive this subsidy at APG has risen by 117 from last year, from 342 in March 2013 to currently 459.

On Jan. 1, the maximum amount individuals can receive from MTBP dropped from \$245 to \$130, due to the expiration of The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. The Internal Revenue Service issued Revenue Procedure 2013-35, which sets the maximum amount for tax year 2014 at \$130 per month.

"Despite the subsidy amount dropping, I think the number of people who use this program at APG will continue to grow as the cost of commuting continues to rise. By not driving to work alone, commuters cut their costs in half

See **COMMUTING**, page 14

Congressional staffers visit APG

By **ALAN H. FEILER**
APG News

For a quartet of Maryland congressional staffers, the overview briefings and tour of APG on Monday, Feb. 3, offered a unique glimpse into the inner workings of the installation, as well as insight into why APG is a crucial component of the local economy and landscape. They saw how APG contributes greatly to the Army's defense of the nation and helps pave the way for scientific and technological research and innovation in the private sector.

The intrepid staffers who came to APG for the snowy morning and afternoon sessions were Jennifer Riggs Driban, district director for Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-2nd); Justin Hayes, deputy projects director for Sen. Barbara A. Mikluskuski (D-Md.); Deborah J. Haynie, senior legislative assistant for Ruppersberger; and Mary O'Keefe, constituent liaison for Rep. Andy Harris (R-1st).

Among the APG leadership in attendance were Acting APG Senior Commander Col. Charles "Chuck" Gibson; Gary Martin, acting director of Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM); APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton; Army Alliance Inc. President Jill McClune; Jyuji D. Hewitt, deputy director of Research, Development & Engineering Command (RDEC); Carmen J. Spencer of the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense (JPEO-CBD); Dr. Richard Wittstruck, deputy director of the Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors (PEO IEW&S); Bryon J. Young, director of the Army Contracting Command-APG (ACC-APG); Joseph D. Wienand, director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC); CECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis J. Dent; and Mary Woods, deputy director of the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T).

Martin welcomed the guests and spoke about APG's concentration on three particular areas of economic growth: workforce development, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education and training, and ongoing research and development work at APG South (Edgewood). Leading the way in APG's sustained growth, he said, will be its "communities of excellence," namely,



Photo by Sean Kief

Congressional staffers Jennifer Riggs Driban and Justin Hayes share a laugh after take a ride at the ATC Testing Track during their visit to APG Feb. 3.

C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance), research and development, public health and medical research, testing and evaluation, and CBRNE (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosives).

Alluding to the APG STEM Education and Outreach Center, Martin said the installation's STEM efforts impact approximately 30,000 students and 2,000 teachers. He said many schools and hundreds of volunteers are involved in mentoring programs and scientific competitions provided by APG, with the focus on chemistry, computer science and robotics.

McClinton offered an overview of APG as the third largest employer in Maryland, with upwards of 22,000 employees and 96 supported organizations. He also noted that the installation is home to two airfields and a large Maryland National Guard presence.

In addition, McClinton spoke about the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS), on which APG and local community officials are discussing environmental matters, noise reduction and other issues of mutual concern.

Thomas P. Kuchar, director of the APG Garrison Directorate of Public Works, spoke of the need for demolishing or repurposing about 44 buildings at APG. Because of the chemical and biological nature of some of these facilities, he said APG is looking into the "legislative language" of this mission to obtain \$90 million to decommission

those buildings (about 500,000 square feet). Some of the buildings are vacant while others are still occupied, Kuchar said.

"There's a lot of old stuff that needs to be going down," said Martin. Spencer spoke of APG's crucial role in the United Nations' mission to destroy Syria's 1,300 tons of chemical weapons. A team of 64 civilians and contractors from APG South (Edgewood) is on a ship and headed to an undisclosed location in the Mediterranean Sea to destroy the chemical warfare stockpile surrendered by the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Spencer said the technology to destroy the weapons is the same already in use here at APG, but now is simply being utilized in a mobile fashion. The historic mission could in effect serve as a model to dispose of the world's weapons of mass destruction. "It's been interesting," Spencer said. "And it wouldn't have happened without [APG South]. This is a good thing for the nation and the world."

The congressional staffers and other attendees were then taken on a tour of the Army Research Laboratory Super Computing Center and on demonstration rides around the Aberdeen Test Center's (ATC) Test Track. After a tour of the Prototype Integration Facility (PIF) from Joseph Ryan, supervisory general engineer at the Communications-Electronics Research,

See **CONGRESSIONAL**, page 14

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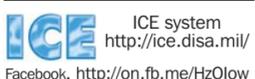


More inside

- RDECOM deputy director visits ARL **PAGE 5**
- ARL team lead honored **PAGE 6**
- This week in APG News history **PAGE 11**
- AAA celebrates a successful move **PAGE 12**

INDEX

- Pg 2 **Street Talk**
- Pg 8 **Mark Your Calendar**
- Pg 8 **At your service**
- Pg 10 **Crossword**



IN THIS ISSUE



Historic Bldg 310 remains symbol for APG

Page 3



APG welcomes scientists from 'down under'

Page 7

WEATHER

Thursday

Partly cloudy
chance of rain 0%



32° | 22°

OPINION

STREET TALK

What sports do you plan to follow during the Winter Olympics?

I want to try to catch all of them. I like seeing the dedication, teamwork and camaraderie of the athletes. These qualities are also valued in the Army.



Col. Warline Richardson
AEC

I watch the figure skating and ice dancing. I like seeing their different routines and pretty costumes. You never know what will happen next.



Angela Collins
Exchange employee

I watch the downhill skating. I compare that sport to skydiving. I admire their courage and how much training they have to do to compete in that sport.



Aaron Culver
AEC

If I have time, I will watch the snowboarding competition. I have always wanted to try snowboarding, but I haven't yet.



Pvt. Kyle Hale
22nd Chemical Battalion

I will watch any sport during the Olympics. I especially like to watch skiing because anything can happen.



Ken Starnes
CHRA Northeast Regional Office

Stuff happens...frequently



By **PAT BEAUCHAMP**
Editor, APG News

As promised, I weighed in last Wednesday and was disappointed to see the scale remain the same, so my weight loss for three weeks is four pounds. That's below my goal of two pounds per week, but it's still a loss.

I'm not going to make any excuses. I wasn't perfect. My calorie tracking was poor. My exer-

cise was nearly non-existent. I ate late at night a couple of times. My water intake was lower than it should have been. All of this probably led to the fact that the numbers on the scale didn't budge. But I thought (or was hoping) I would have lost at least a little bit of weight.

I know body weight fluctuates from day to day. I know clothing can make a difference in how much a person weighs. I know scales may be inconsistent.

I WON'T beat myself up over this and I WILL continue this journey.

All I can say is.....the next weigh-in WILL be better!

Remembering a forgotten music icon

By **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

Right now as I write this, we're being bombarded with those familiar black-and-white images of four British mop-tops stepping off that plane, with bewildered expressions on their young faces, waving to ecstatic crowds. Next come those scenes from "The Ed Sullivan Show" where those same lads performed, making girls shriek with every shake of their heads and earning their eternal place in the American consciousness. They helped our country forget the pain and horror of the Kennedy assassination, if only for a few fleeting moments.

Americans love anniversaries, and the 50th anniversary of the Beatles' arrival to these shores will no doubt be relived ad nauseam. We're also a bit nostalgic these days with the recent passing of Pete Seeger, the "godfather of folk" who taught generations how to frail a banjo and protest at the same time.

But with all due respect to the Fab Four and ol' Pete, I've been thinking lately about another musical icon and a particular milestone related to him. Next Monday, Feb. 10, is the centennial of the birth of Larry Adler.

Larry who? you ask. And therein lies the problem. A native Marylander who died in 2001, Adler was arguably the greatest harmonica player who ever lived, yet few people know his name anymore. That's perhaps a reflection of our culture's low regard for his instrument, and a remnant of the McCarthy era.

As an amateur player and enthusiast of the harmonica who had the pleasure of interviewing Adler after his triumphant 1998 engagement with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, indulge me for a moment or two to tell you about him.

Adler grew up on the hard-scrabble streets of Baltimore's west side, the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants. After a short music conservatory stint, he won a harmonica contest in 1927 sponsored by the *Baltimore Evening Sun*. He soon ran away from home with seven bucks in his pocket to make it big in New York.

In the midst of the Depression, Adler broke into films and began performing with major orchestras, single-handedly elevating the harmonica's image from dime-store novelty to concert hall instrument. His recording of Ravel's *Bolero* became a top seller, and Adler emerged an international star.

During World War II, he volunteered for the USO and performed for disabled troops stateside and Soldiers throughout the European, Mediterranean and Pacific the-



Courtesy photo
During World War II, the late Baltimore-born harmonica virtuoso Larry Adler volunteered for the USO and entertained disabled troops stateside and Soldiers in the European, Pacific and Mediterranean theatres of operations. He also performed for frontline troops during the Korean War.

atres of operations, and even played Yiddish folk tunes for concentration camp survivors. But a few years later, his career fizzled when Adler refused to "name names" during the Hollywood blacklisting period. He loved his country but disillusioned, he grabbed his harmonica and moved to England. (Nonetheless, Adler performed for frontline U.S. troops during the Korean War.)

Adler got the last laugh when in 1994 he became the oldest performer ever to have an album top the charts with his George Martin-produced "The Glory of Gershwin," featuring such music luminaries as Elton John, Sting and Elvis Costello.

Larry Adler deserves to be more than a footnote in Maryland music lore. He transformed his instrument, and his prodigious talent commanded the world music stage for decades. Happy birthday, Mr. Adler!

Join and follow us <https://twitter.com/USAGAPG>

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
32° 22°	34° 24°	33° 29°	42° 24°	31° 15°	30° 20°	32° 27°

APG NEWS

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Historic Bldg. 310 remains symbol for APG

Since its 1918 construction, the U.S. Army facility has been a constant reminder of the base's history and legacy

By **DEBORAH INCE**

APG News

Ask anyone at APG which physical structure best represents the installation and they will most likely tell you Bldg. 310. Built in 1918 as the original post headquarters, the white, wood-and-brick building has served as a symbol for APG for close to a century.

But throughout the years, continual structural damages have forced multiple renovations to maintain the historic building, which is currently vacant.

APG Cultural Resources Director Mark Gallihue said a consistent lack of funding and the method by which the building was constructed have contributed to the damages sustained by Bldg. 310 over the years.

"In many ways, the building is a bunch of compromises in the way it was built," he said. "It was going to be a dramatic building, have all of these wonderful Greek columns in the front ... but there's no such thing as a steady stream of funding. ... [The Army] built parts of the building in wood because wood goes together a lot faster, but then they built parts of it in brick.

"So my theory -- and I don't have any proof of this -- is that [the Army was] rushing to get this building done before [World War I] ended and money ran out," Gallihue said. "And that's why you have this fabulous building with these Parthenon-like columns on them out front, and it's built on a foundation that I would call like a shotgun shack.



Bldg 310 is shown here, circa 1919. Built in 1918 as the original Post Headquarters, the wood-and-brick building has served as a symbol for the U.S. Army base for nearly 100 years

APG historical photo

It's a foundation for a hunting cabin."

Only a single wing remains of the original four-wing building that has endured decades of water and structural damage.

The reduction to one wing came after negotiating with the Maryland Historical Trust to demolish the back of the building in 2011 in return for being allowed to maintain the front section.

APG must comply with the National Historic Preservation Act when deciding to make renovations to a historic building like Bldg. 310. The law states that federal agencies must consider the effects of their actions on historic properties before making a decision about what to do in their projects.

Gallihue said that a lack of a sturdy foundation and the alternating use of wood and brick for construction contributed to increased moisture damage within the building.

"A lack of foundation really came back to haunt 310 because it allowed moisture to come up into the building and create humidity, which in turn created mold issues," Gallihue said. "The second part of the problem came from the fact that 310 is on the old steam plant heating system. And what happens over time with these steam systems is pipes start to leak, tree roots grow through things and create ruptures. It's incredibly inefficient.

"Wood buildings are the fastest building you can build," he continued, "but they're also the hardest to take care of because the paint is constantly wearing out and having to be replaced. 310 is also relatively close to the bay, so it gets some weather from the bay."

Multiple renovations have been completed on the building -- including pipe repairs, bathroom renovations and exterior painting touch-ups -- the most recent

being repairs on the building's pipes and sprinkler system that were recently damaged by cold weather.

Gallihue said that approximately less than 10 percent of the 2,800 buildings on APG are historic.

Bldg. 310 formerly served as the post commander's office, housing soldiers' records and cash safe boxes to pay the post's military personnel, and running operations during World War I and World War II.

Gallihue said maintaining Bldg. 310 is important for maintaining the character of APG.

"If there isn't somebody to care about it, then you can't predict what's going to happen," he said. "[Bldg. 310] symbolizes the post in a lot of ways because it is the original Post headquarters. And for all the compromises in building it, it was built to be a pretty cool building."

SHARP Pilot program zeroes in on Prevention

By **J.D. LEIPOLD**

Army News Service

The Army launched an eight-week Sexual Harassment/Assault Prevention and Response Program schoolhouse pilot program at Fort Belvoir, Va., Jan. 27, to better prepare sexual assault response coordinators, victim advocates and trainers.

The pilot program extends the training by an additional six weeks, and was directed by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno and the G-1 Lt. Gen. Howard B. Bromberg, after they brought in sexual assault response coordinators, or SARCs, and victim advocates, or VAs, from across the Army for a panel discussion during the June 10, Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, known as SHARP, program stand-down.

SHARP Director Dr. Christine Altendorf opened day one of the pilot class of 31 Soldiers and civilian students, which consists of newly hired Mobile Training Team instructors and select SARCs and VAs from across the Army. She told them when they return to their commands to teach the 80-hour SHARP certification course, “you’re going to have to get in there and say by-standing is not okay anymore.

“We have to reinforce that it’s not the victim’s fault and provide that environment of victim advocacy, and we also have to make sure we know what we’re doing when it comes to prevention -- to keep it from happening in the first place,” she said.

Subject matter experts from the Army Management Staff College, the Office of the Army Surgeon General, Army Criminal Investigation Command, and the Office of the Judge Advocate General are scheduled to address the class at different times during the course. Additionally, the Army Training Support Center will prepare trainers to facilitate small group instruction. Students will also be provided blocks of instruction on materials incorporated from the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute and the Inspector General School.

The curriculum includes training in



The Army kicked off an eight-week Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Schoolhouse Pilot program at Fort Belvoir, Va., Jan. 27 to more thoroughly prepare sexual assault Response Coordinators, victim advocates and trainers.

Photo Credit: U.S. Army

the importance of resiliency; prejudice and discrimination; how to establish a foundation for a culture of prevention as well as the investigative and legal processes, ethics, and victim healthcare management. Students will receive more situational-type training in scenarios that are typically encountered by SARCs and VAs. Blocks of instruction to help broaden skill sets will also be held in conflict resolution and in presenting and conducting training.

Graduates will then return to the field

and, in addition to teaching, the certification course at the battalion level and below, they will assist commands with executing SHARP annual unit refresher training and present SHARP senior leader briefs.

Altendorf said the Defense Department was taking a hard look at the pilot course.

“What we’re trying to do is professionalize the career,” she said. “There’s not [military occupational specialty] right now for full-time VAs and SARCs,

but we need to make sure that we all have a really good understanding, so professionalizing is where we want to go with this course.”

Altendorf said the Army had 2,149 reports of sexual assault in 2013, which was about a 50-percent increase over what was reported in 2012, but that ranges from “touch” to rape, and they are not one in the same, she emphasized.

“We intend to delve into the data and do a full analysis of the reports. This will allow us to better understand the all the varying aspects of an incident and ensure we are able to communicate the proper information as related to data,” Altendorf explained.

“A lot of the time, victims will delay reporting, it’s something that could have happened a year or two, or even five years ago and they couldn’t bring themselves to report it at the time, but now they can,” Altendorf said. “So we have to break down what occurred in this year, which is what leads us to believe that we think we’re creating an environment where victims are feeling comfortable in coming forward.”

“We have to reinforce that it’s not the victim’s fault and provide that environment of victim advocacy, and we also have to make sure we know what we’re doing when it comes to prevention -- to keep it from happening in the first place.”

Dr. Christine Altendorf
SHARP Director

See more photos from events around APG <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>

RDECOM deputy director visits ARL

Hewitt visit intended to familiarize him with research

By **JOYCE M. CONANT**
ARL

Jyuji Hewitt, deputy director for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, recently visited a number of directorates within the U.S. Army Research Laboratory to help familiarize him with the research being conducted there, which are all part of RDECOM.

Hewitt is the new deputy director for RDECOM. He first visited the Weapons and Material Directorate, followed by visits to the Human Research and Engineering Directorate (HRED), Computational and Information Sciences Directorate, Vehicle Technology Directorate (VTD) and the Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate (SLAD).

The purpose of the visit was to get an overall facility capabilities tour. In addition to Hewitt, others from RDECOM who attended the visit included, Col. Frederick Hughes, G3; Linda Longo, chief of the Command Initiatives Group; Dr. Amy Finch, executive officer to the deputy director, (who is from ARL's Sensors and Electron Devices Directorate, recently selected to be Hewitt's executive officer); and Col. Chris Oliver, chief, Programs and Engineering.

The group toured HRED's sphere room of the Environment for Auditory Research. There Dr. Angelique Scharine, auditory research team lead, showed the currently fielded advanced combat helmet.

"Our previous research for auditory spatial perception has shown that the ACH is better than previous helmets. We are currently doing research with helmets developed to provide mandible and eye protection (hidden behind the bar is a prototype helmet). Although these helmets provide ballistic protection, they also disrupt the Soldier's



Photo by John Auten, ARL

(From left) Dr. Paul Tanenbaum, director of SLAD, Dr. Mark Valco, VTD deputy director and Jyuji Hewitt, RDECOM deputy director, discuss ARL research in advanced fuel injection technologies for Army ground vehicle and unmanned air vehicle engines. The experimental hardware shown is used for characterizing fuel injector nozzles and fuel injector spray droplet dispersion.

hearing," said Scharine. "Our goal is to provide feedback about these effects and to provide models and guidance for minimizing these effects."

While at HRED, the group also visited the RAVEN system, a system developed as part of a collaboration between ARL and its academic and industry partners. The RAVEN system is used for demonstrating the utility of a brain-computer interaction for image triage within a military-relevant simulated environment.

Dr. Brent Lance, HRED, said Hewitt's visit went very well and that it helped him understand the priorities at RDECOM and how he and his team could better address those priorities.

During the stop at VTD, Hewitt visited the Combustion Research Laboratory. There they discussed ARL research in advanced fuel injection technologies for Army ground vehicle

and unmanned air vehicle engines.

At SLAD, the group discussed ARL's support to the Helmet and Electronics and Display System - Upgradeable Protection (HEaDS-UP) Phase IV program. HEaDS-UP, has been a four-year effort at Natick (program lead NSRDEC) to provide mounted and dismounted troops with a more fully integrated headgear system. Specifically discussed was SLAD's involvement in characterizing response of mandibles, visors and helmets to blunt impact as well as determining ballistic response (V50) of the mandibles and visors against fragment threats, said John Polesne, SLAD.

Polesne said the visit was "very productive" and that Hewitt was "very engaging" with all of the briefers.

"For me, it was particularly interesting how Mr. Hewitt linked our spe-

cific technical work and the need for continued exposure relating to top-level Army initiatives," said Polesne. "An example was one of the briefers discussing injury analysis capabilities - specifically addressing quality of life issues and him relating that to the Army Resilient Campaign."

Hewitt was equally impressed by the researchers at ARL.

"ARL is doing some of the most innovative research for the Army and I see that the talented Scientists and Engineers have a passion for our nation's Soldiers," said Hewitt. "The work we do is complex and on the cutting edge of technology. The Soldiers will likely not understand the research behind the technology but they can be assured that the edge we give them in technology will be the edge they need on the battlefield."

ARL team lead Polcawich honored

Polcawich selected to receive Presidential Early Career Award

By **JENNA BRADY**
ARL

Dr. Ronald Polcawich, team lead for Piezoelectric-Micro Electro-Mechanical Systems (PiezoMEMS) Tech-

nology in the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Sensors and Electron Devices Directorate, was recently selected to receive the 2012 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

This is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers.

The awards were established by President Clinton in 1996, and are coordinated by the Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President.

Awardees are selected for their pursuit of innovative research at the frontiers of science and technology and

their commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach.

"I am extremely honored to have been nominated for the PECASE. Receiving notice of the award before Christmas was extremely exciting for me and my family," said Polcawich.

"I am truly honored to be considered amongst the others selected this year as well as those previously," Polcawich added.

Polcawich's research at ARL specifically focuses on areas including materials processing of lead zirconium titanate, or PZT, thin films, MEMS fabrication, piezoelectric MEMS, radio frequency components, MEMS

actuator technologies, millimeter-scale robotics, and technology solutions for position, navigation and timing.

"ARL has provided me with great opportunities to explore innovative ideas, lead a great team of engineers, fabrication technicians and students, forge collaborations with leading researchers both internal and external to ARL, and foster interactions with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity and the Research, Development and Engineering Centers," said Polcawich.

The 102 researchers that received this prestigious honor will be presented with their awards at a Washington, D.C. ceremony in the coming year.

Squad Leaders motivate Soldiers for health

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

The Army's Performance Triad program -- which aims to increase Soldier performance through an increased emphasis on adequate sleep, physical activity, and proper nutrition -- is showing signs of success in part because responsibility for its implementation has been pushed to the lowest level of command.

"By putting the onus on squad leaders, Performance Triad has reinforced the notion of delegating responsibility to the lowest level," said Maj. Jay A. Bessey, operations officer of 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division.

Bessey's battalion, located at Fort Bliss, Texas, is one of three units undergoing a pilot test of training for the Performance Triad program. The program could be implemented Army-wide, later this year, pending review by the Army chief of staff.

The Performance Triad training consists of training by medical and fitness professionals on the importance of sleep, activity and nutrition on human performance. The training also involves implementing a program for improvement in those three areas.

As one of the main pillars of the Army's Ready and Resilient Program, Performance Triad is aimed at reducing injuries, improving battlefield performance and combating a host of illnesses and maladies such as depression, stress and obesity.

Surgeon General of the Army Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho said recently, "If we can ... show that by focusing on sleep, activity and nutrition, we can bend the cost curve of health care -- that we can increase health outcomes -- I think we could have a pilot that we could share with the nation to really look at how do we improve [the health of] young Americans."

In the Performance Triad pilots, each six months in duration, squad leaders are responsible for imparting on their Soldiers the knowledge they acquire and also encouraging them to continue making progress.

Bessey said the wisdom of making squad leaders responsible for the training is that they are the ones who interact with the more than 500 Soldiers in the battalion on a daily basis, planning, preparing and executing training and mission tasks. The Soldiers look to them for guidance and inspiration.

"Our squad leaders have stepped up to the challenge," he said. "Their ingenuity has led to the utilization of several venues



The U.S. Army's Performance Triad focuses on nutrition, sleep and activity -- all essential for improving the health, readiness and resilience of the Army family.
DoD graphic by Peggy Frierson

around the instillation that may have gone unnoticed otherwise."

The installation's "fusion" wellness center is an example of one of the venues squad leaders have used in getting health and fitness baseline measures to gauge improvements over time. The professionals at the wellness center assessed each Soldier's fitness using body fat, aerobic and anaerobic test equipment.

Bessey noted that a number of the Soldiers are getting their family members onboard with Performance Triad training and testing as well.

Squad leaders and company commanders are helping Soldiers monitor their sleep, activity and nutrition progress using wearable technology that was issued to everyone in the battalion, he said.

The wearable technology is a Soldier-proof wrist band that measures caloric intake, the number of steps taken per day -- 10,000 is what triad recommends -- and the number of hours of uninterrupted sleep. Data can be uploaded to computers and smartphones and graphed to track progress over time.

Since the beginning of the pilot, Bessey said squad leaders and company commanders have "noticed a marked improvement in the number of Soldiers that voluntarily update their data to the website. Over half of the battalion's Soldiers now monitor their progress on a weekly basis, with our Charlie and Delta companies, led by Capt. Jeff Johnson and Capt. Steve Holden, leading the battalion with rates over 80 percent."

Bessey said there is more good news. Over the four-month period since the pilot started, "the battalion's average Army Physical Fitness Test score has

increased about 10 points."

"Personally, I've used it to meet my annual New Year's resolution," Bessey said. "Over three weeks, I've lost 14 pounds of 'holiday leftovers' by monitoring my activity level -- reaching 15,000 steps per day -- and limiting my caloric intake."

Recently, Bessey said the battalion was involved in intensive and prolonged field exercises supporting Expert Infantryman Badge and Excellence in Armor training and live-fire exercises.

During that period, focus on sleep, activity and nutrition was somewhat limited, although the medical platoon leader, 1st Lt. Julio Rodriguez kept the weight control program active.

Additionally, 1st Lt. Elya Hillebrand, the division nutritionist, continued her training as well, he said. Bessey said Hillebrand will expand nutrition courses for all Soldiers as the pilot nears conclusion in February and March.

Bessey said the Performance Triad program is showing measurable success. But he also said continued success will be challenged by high-stress field exercises, possible deployments, and opportunities to make less-than-the-best dietary choices.

"Unfortunately, several factors exist around the battalion area that mitigate the positive impact of the program," he said. "'Gut trucks' persist around the company headquarters, providing Soldiers with a quick and non-nutritional, mid-morning snack or lunch.

"Even if the dining facility is a block away, that truck is just feet away, making it a simple choice on most occasions," he said. "Furthermore, the dining facility near our area is closed and Soldiers who want to

eat at a dining facility on the weekend typically need to travel more than two miles to the nearest open facility. It's easier to order delivery or go to a fast food restaurant that's nearer. More will need to be done at the installation level Army-wide to steer our Soldiers away from potential pitfalls."

Despite such roadblocks, Bessey said, "the correlation between the triad objectives and our unit's mission has benefited our Soldiers."

Bessey said he sincerely hopes to see Performance Triad change the culture and health of the Army, as well as Soldiers' family members.

The other pilots are being conducted with the 3rd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., and with the 189th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Horoho said the "next phase" of the Performance Triad includes family members and retirees. Additionally, the Army medical community is working with the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard to share what it is learning about Performance Triad, and to assist with a program that fits their needs.

Healthy Living

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 www.teamapg.com and click on the Community Health icon at the bottom right.

Army turns to social media for fitness

Platform ArmyFit launched to help Soldiers and others get in top shape

Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness

The Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness program launched a new social media platform last week called ArmyFit, for Soldiers, their Families and Army civilians.

ArmyFit is designed to offer members of the Total Army with tools and resources that will help them be more self-aware, and therefore have the ability to begin the process of self-development and self-improvement.

"Being Army fit is a state of mind in addition to having a strong physical capability," said CSF2 Director Col. Kenneth Riddle. "The ArmyFit online platform is designed to build one's comprehensive fitness across all areas of strength: social, emotional, spiritual,

Family and physical. ArmyFit will help our Army Family be Army Strong both physically and psychologically."

Understanding that self-awareness is key to self-improvement, the user begins by taking a scientifically-validated self-assessment survey, known as the Global Assessment Tool, or GAT 2.0. Once the users receive their results in the five areas of strength on the GAT 2.0, they then receive recommended tools and resources tailored to them within the ArmyFit environment.

ArmyFit is tailored to an Army audience, making the platform one-of-a-kind. Recognizing that Soldiers, their Families and Army civilians face unique challenges as part of Army life, CSF2 wants to ensure members of the Total Army have what they need to be successful throughout their careers.

"The tools and capabilities of ArmyFit enable Soldiers, their Families, and civilians to take control of their self-development in all dimensions of strength," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert Trice, CSF2 program manager at Fort Carson, Colo. "I've provided resilience training to Soldiers at my unit, and I know that ArmyFit is an excellent supplement to formal resilience and performance training."

"In addition to online tools and resources, ArmyFit also provides an

“With constant moves and deployments, it’s often hard to connect with others that understand what you may be going through. Being able to share improvements in the various areas of fitness, compete against each other in friendly competitions, and be part of this community, will help our Soldiers and their Families feel connected.”

Col. Kenneth Riddle
CSF2 Director

opportunity for our Soldiers and their Families to connect virtually," said Riddle. "With constant moves and deployments, it's often hard to connect with others that understand what you may be going through. Being able to share improvements in the various areas of fitness, compete against each other in friendly competitions, and be part of this community, will help our Soldiers and their Families feel connected."

CSF2 plans to keep adding new content and functions to ArmyFit over the coming months. These include the ability to synch a personal activity monitor's

data with the site to chart a person's daily physical activity, and use that data to compete with other users. CSF2 is developing a geo-targeting capability that will allow users to locate experts and resources in their immediate area, and to turn virtual communities into local face-to-face group activities.

"The launch of the ArmyFit online platform is just the start," said Trice. "As Soldiers, their Families and Army civilians engage more with the platform, the more ready and resilient they will be."

For more information on ArmyFit, visit <http://csf2.army.mil>.

APG welcomes scientists from 'down under'

Army and Australian leaders discuss research and development cooperation

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

Australia's chief defense scientist met with Army leaders Jan. 27 to explore opportunities for research and development partnerships.

The Army's engagement with foreign partners in fostering science and engineering is essential to ensuring that Soldiers, as well as American allies, have access to the world's best technology, said Dale A. Ormond, director of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"We are trying to expand our international outreach," Ormond said. "Seventy percent of the money spent worldwide on science and technology is outside the U.S."

"There are great scientists and engineers everywhere. [It's important to] go find out who they are and

work with them."

Dr. Alex Zelinsky, Australia's chief defense scientist, and his staff members traveled to APG to discuss current and future mutual areas of interest with RDECOM. He leads the Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation, with 2,500 employees who perform research and engineering for the country's army, air force and navy.

"We have collaborated quite closely with the U.S. Part of Australia's way of doing business with the U.S. is we always try to develop a niche capability, which we are very good at, so we have something to bring to the table as a partner," Zelinsky said.

Subject matter experts from two of RDECOM's research and engineering centers at APG -- the Army Research Laboratory and the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center -- described their efforts in areas such as intelligent autonomous systems, the role of materials in vehicle and Soldier protection, human research and engineering, and information electronic protection.

The directors of ARL and CERDEC -- Dr. Thomas Russell and Jill Smith, respectively -- presented briefings that included their organizations' collaborations with the Australian DSTO.

ARL has partnered with Australians in armor and penetration mechanics, Soldier-portable improvised explosive device detection systems, and



U.S. Army Photo

Dale A. Ormond (right), director of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, discusses his organization with Dr. Alex Zelinsky, Australia's chief defense scientist, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Jan. 27.

electronic warfare vulnerability analysis. The lab also provides research grants to Australian universities, and its employees have participated in the U.S. Army's Engineer and Scientist Exchange Program with Australia.

CERDEC's collaborations include solar solutions for Soldier nano-grids, night vision and electro optics, and counter-IED research.

The Australians continued their tour of RDECOM with a visit to CERDEC's Night Vision and Electronic

Sensors Directorate at Fort Belvoir, Va., Jan. 28.

RDECOM's Forward Element Commands in Japan, England and Chile partner with foreign universities, militaries and industry to foster science and technology solutions. Functioning under the RFECs, the International Technology Centers, including one in Australia, promote cooperation between RDECOM and international researchers to advance capabilities relevant to the U.S. Army mission.

Army helps Northern neighbor with servicing weaponry

U.S. and Canada partner to upgrade the Canadian howitzer

By **AUDRA CALLOWAY**

Army News Service

The Canadian Royal Army has enlisted the help of engineers from Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., to evaluate the lifespan of their World War II-era C3 Howitzer.

"We are looking for engineering data that, unfortunately, we're missing right now," said Canadian Army Maj. David Lebel, Equipment Management team leader for Field Artillery Systems.

The C3 Howitzer is a 1950s technology that the Canadian Army is trying to keep in service for ten or 11 more years.

"The fleet is now about 60 years old, and after it was modified to fit Canadian needs, we didn't think at that time to have the contractor provide engineering data -- to check the rail forces or validate the forces that are applied to the structure, either while it's firing or while it's being towed," Lebel said.

"Now that it's been around for 60 years, we're starting to experience a few cracks here and there, but we can't explain how these cracks are being made. We need to be able to find solutions without having to ground the fleet for a long amount of time."

The Canadian Army uses the C3 howitzers for training, although they use the 155 mm M777 in combat. The operation procedures for towed howitzers are similar, but 105 mm ammunition is cheaper than 155 mm ammunition.

"We take a lot of time to train before going into operations, so this reduces cost," Lebel said.

In addition to training purposes, the C3 is also used for avalanche control in the snow-covered Canadian mountains.

"There's a stretch of highway in the [Canadian] Rockies called Rogers Pass, which is in Glacier National Park," Lebel said. "Because of the mountains' elevation, there's about 300 inches of snow during winter, and it's very prone to avalanches. We've got a detachment from the Royal Canadian Artillery with [C3 Howitzers] ready to support Parks Canada in managing the dangers on the main road of Roger's pass. Once Parks Canada gives us the go ahead, we shoot to stabilize the area, which means sometimes we do create an avalanche so that we can shovel the snow out."



Photo by Todd Mozes

Kenneth Whitnall, Canadian Army Life Cycle material manager for 105 mm Howitzer Fleets, explains to members of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center how to conduct maintenance on the C3 Howitzer.

Picatinny's Program Executive Office Ammunition, known as PEO Ammo, employees, with help from Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, or ARDEC, engineers, is conducting an analysis of the stresses of the C3 Howitzer in order to support the howitzer's life cycle, said Luke Hesel, ARDEC's C3 Evaluation team lead.

The team will conduct a series of tests over the next year to determine potential problems that could occur throughout the system.

"We're going to do analysis to help the Canadian Army find those problems in advance," said Hesel. "It helps them better predict areas to target for inspections or to perform upgrades. Sometimes that can be a challenge when looking at a design that was done years ago, and has no support from the original contractor."

The data packages for the howitzer are from the 1940s, and they have been updated through the 1980s, but there's no subject matter expert to refer to for questions.

"It's fascinating to look at the older style of design, and to see what we can do to support them maintain their fleet for the next couple of years," said Hesel. "Some of these slick things they did back then are good to look at now. The old design can inspire us for modern work and working on this project we can discover new analysis techniques that we can use here for the M119 or M777."

A gun was recently shipped to Aber-

deen Proving Ground for mobility trials. In April, it will be transferred to Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., for firing trials.

At APG, engineers will instrument the gun with strain gauges to measure the amount the metal is being pulled while towing the gun. The gun will also be towed around a series of courses over hills and other terrain while recording data from the gauges.

"Then, using that data, we can predict virtually what the strain is throughout the whole carriage," said Hesel. "After that, we can come back and figure out where we think the other high strain areas are and perform another test to confirm our analysis."

At Yuma, engineers will do similar testing while firing the howitzers at different elevations and azimuths.

"This will give us the engineering technical argument to pursue the direction we need to," Lebel said. "Hopefully, we'll be able to find a few simple, small fixes to extend the lifecycle without having to re-engineering big assemblies on the gun."

The Canadian Army currently has almost 100 deployed across Canada, and the process for replacing the howitzers with newer models could take up to two decades.

"We can't stop every unit from training six months while we're scratching our heads trying to decide how to solve the problem. So by giving us the technical data that we're looking for, ARDEC

is really making our job that much more easy either to do preventive maintenance that's much more accurate on potential failure locations. And should there be a failure, they'll be enough engineering data to put together a solution that won't take us four or five months to get to."

"At this point, we know there are problems, but I don't think there's going to be one solution to fix them all. We're gonna have to choose the problem that's the most risky and go about it in a deliberate fashion. But there could be many conclusions," Lebel said.

"The reason Canada came to us is that we have a great working relationship," said David Wong, Foreign Military Sales manager for PEO Ammo's Project Manager Towed Artillery Systems.

"Canada purchased 37 of our M777 155mm howitzers, so they know us and the capabilities and resources we have. This project extends the good working relationship we've had for seven years," Wong said.

In addition, the Department of National Defence, especially the Director of Armament Sustainment Program Management, has benefited on several aspects of howitzer maintenance and support from both Project Manager Towed Artillery Systems expertise and Picatinny's resources, Lebel added.

Picatinny also recently updated their M119 Howitzer fleet, which required similar data collection and engineering processes.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 8
ST. BARBARA'S DAY
CELEBRATION**

The APG Chapter of the Field Artillery Association will host a St. Barbara's Day Celebration starting 6 p.m. at Top of the Bay. Tickets cost \$60 per person or \$600 for table of 10. The celebration includes prime rib and crab cake dinner, awards ceremony and dancing. All friends of artillery are welcome. Register or receive more information online at https://events.brtrc.info/ausa-aberdeen/2014_St_Barbaras_Day_Ball/.

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 12
ASBP BLOOD DRIVE**

TEAM APG is sponsoring an Armed Services Blood Drive Feb. 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. The Armed Services Blood Program ships donated blood products to Family members and Soldiers deployed and at home, in peace and war, anywhere in the world. Donors are encouraged to make an appointment to donate at www.militarydonor.com. The sponsor code is APGMD. Walk-ins will be accepted after appointments. Snacks, water and fruit juice will be provided. For more information call 301-295-2109 or email victoria.fernette@med.navy.mil.

**HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP
SEMINAR**

Find out what constitutes a healthy relationship and the things you need to keep a relationship healthy. In this session, Support with Compassion, facilitated by Donna Withrow, you will learn how to build and keep loving relationships that are healthy, happy and satisfying; proper ways of showing affection; to stay connected during stressful times; about sexual assault awareness and domestic violence prevention.

The seminar will be held at the Mallette Auditorium, Bldg. 6008, 11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m.

You are invited to bring toiletries to donate in support of the APG Sexual Assault Response Control (SARC) community initiative, helping benefit the Harford SARC, Safe House for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

For more information, contact Keosha Pointer at (443) 861-7900 or 1st. Lt. Raisa Velez at (410) 306-2813.

**WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 26
TEAM APG CELEBRATES
BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Join the Team APG celebration of Black History Month at 10:30 a.m. in the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. The theme for the event is "Civil Rights in America."

For more information contact: SFC Yvette James, EOA, RDECOM, 410-306-2425, Tracy Marshall, EOA, CECOM, 443-861-436 or Linda Patrick, EEO PHC, 410-436-1023

**SATURDAY
MARCH 1
TALENT HUNT**

The Iota Nu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity present their annual talent hunt from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Ball Conference Center, Bldg. 3074, APG North (Aberdeen). The competition is open to high school students, grades 9 through 12. Students will be able to compete in the areas of Dance, Dramatic Interpretation, Instrumental Solo, Vocal Solo and Visual Art. Cash prizes will be awarded and the first place winner will advance to the district competition. Admission to the event is free.

To enter the talent hunt, or for more information, contact Anthony Dorsey at 443-528-5122, anthony.dorsey@gmail.com or Mark Thomas at 443-752-4205, crunch-22@comcast.net.

**FRIDAY
APRIL 11
SOCIETY OF ITALIAN
AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN
FIRST ANNUAL SPRING GALA**

Don't miss this opportunity to make history and be a part of something very special and unique here in Harford County! This event will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight in the Richlin Ballroom, 1700 Van Bibber Road, Edgewood, Md. For tickets or more information, contact Elio Scaccio at 410-206-8818.

**FRIDAY – SUNDAY
MAY 2 - 4
SECOND INDIANHEAD
DIVISION ASSOCIATION
REUNION**

Attention, 2nd Infantry Division Veterans! The Penn-Jersey Branch of the Second Indianhead Division Association will have its annual reunion in Lancaster, Pa. at the Continental Inn. All veterans of the Army's 2nd Infantry Division are invited, especially those in the nearby states of Delaware, Maryland, New York, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. For more information, call Jack Woodall at (610) 274-1409 or send an email to warriorvet@verizon.net.

**ONGOING
THROUGH FEBRUARY 28
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY
CHILDREN PROGRAM**

Applications for the 2014 Scholarships for Military Children Program became available Dec. 3 at commissaries worldwide or on the Internet at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Leave Donations

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For info, contact Cathy Davis at 410-306-0152 or cathy.a.davis4.civ@mail.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Kennedy, Sandra	Smith, Deborah	Young, Trier
Lamar-Reevey, Kellie	Rodriguez, Pedro	Caron, Lois
Nunley, Dana	Blethen, Matthew	Sherrod, Irving
Solomon, Je'Neane	Robinson, Lisa	Hoffman, William
Williams, Demetria	Chang, Jennifer	Sweeney, Joseph
Urban, Brenda	Little, Angela	Park, Jessica
Cwiertnie, Victoria L	Eberhardt, Joanne	Blethen, Lena
Smith, Antoinete	Fike, Curtis	Cobb, Joyce
Jones, Michelle	Gunter, Angeline	King, Beverly
Martino, Rose	Lee, Aileen	Shelton, Lena
Birch, Garfield	Doran, Kemi	Robinson, Jennifer
Crawford, Curtis	Lowry, Teresa	Sumic, Angie
Green-Farley, Jessica	Rushworth, Robert	Small, Errol
Scott, Chandria	Torrise, Carmen	
Winne, Janeen	Williams, Jonathan	
McClintick, Jill	Wright, Sameisha	

Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 28, 2014. Packages must be hand-delivered or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods; not emailed or faxed.

This year's award amount has risen to \$2,000, and the program awards at least one scholarship at each commissary with qualified applicants.

An applicant must be a Family member, unmarried child, younger than 21 – or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university – of a service member on active duty, Reserve or National Guard, retiree or survivor of a service member who died while on active duty, or survivor of a retiree.

Applicants should ensure that they and their sponsor are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database and have a military ID card. The applicant must attend or plan to attend an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2014 or be enrolled in studies designed to transfer to a four-year program.

Fisher House Foundation, a non-profit organization that helps service members and their families, administers the program. Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship management services organization, manages and awards the scholarships. Commissary partners and the general public donate money to the program; every dollar donated goes directly to funding the scholarships.

Since inception of the program in 2001, more than \$11.3 million in scholarships have been awarded to 7,412 military Family members from more than 71,000 applicants.

For more information, students or sponsors should call Scholarship Managers at 856-616-9311 or email them at militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

**TUESDAYS
FEBRUARY 25
THROUGH MAY 20
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
CLASS**

American Sign Language basic and advanced classes begin Feb. 25 and run through May 20, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. E3330-31, Room 270, APG South (Edgewood). Bring your lunch. Class is free. Text book (encouraged, but not required) is "A B C, A Basic Course in American Sign Language". To register or for more information, call Beth Ann Cameron, 436-7175, Pat Reeves at 436-2917 or Randy Weber at 436-8546.

**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

**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.

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.

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/a8vuMdxmG50>; <http://youtu.be/se7hTkwnbO8>

**ARMY WELLNESS CENTER
OFFERING SERVICES AT APG
SOUTH CLINIC**

The Army Wellness Center (AWC) is now seeing clients at the APG South (Edgewood) Clinic, Bldg. E4110 twice a month. Clients will now have the opportunity to have their metabolism and body composition assessment done without having to drive to APG North (Aberdeen). Service members and their Family members, retirees and Army civilian employees can make an appointment at the AWC or can be referred by their unit or primary health care provider at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Clients can reach their goals by making a positive, long-lasting change in their health and well-being. For more information or to schedule your appointment with the AWC please call 410-306-1024.

**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



Syreeta Gross
Commuter Transportation Coordinator
APG-Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor
Commuter Transportation Center

As the commuter transportation coordinator for the APG-Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC) Commuter Transportation Center, Syreeta Gross informs APG employees about traveling options to and from the post, including carpooling and train and bus rides. "I enjoy working with the public and promoting programs that I believe in," Gross said. "Mass transit, ride-share and telework helps commuters to save money, help the environment and relieve some stress in their day."

Gross is nearing the end of a 13-month grant with the Commuter Center funded through the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment. She has worked as a contractor on the U.S. Army Garrison Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Implementation team, a program manager for the Army Mass Transit Benefit program and an analyst with the Directorate of Logistics. She said her bachelor of arts degree in history from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County has given her a solid foundation for researching and writing

for the positions she has held.

Gross's work includes forming new vanpools and matching people with other forms of transportation, such as mass transit or rideshare.

"Federal employees are eligible for up to \$130 monthly to ride a vanpool, train or bus to work," she said. "Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania all have Guaranteed Ride Home programs that pay or reimburse employees who don't drive alone the means to get home if they have an emergency or have to work late."

Gross said her favorite part about the job is that "I enjoy the wide variety of people I meet and I love when I can help make their commute better or solve a transportation issue."

For more information about APG transportation services, visit Aberdeen Recreation Center at APG North in Bldg. 3326 or visit <http://www.apgyourrideishere.com/>. Syreeta Gross can be reached in her office from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or via appointment from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Continued from page 8

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.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND SURVEY

Your input on the health status of the APG Community to include health concerns, adequacy of services offered, and access & utilization of services are all important to help shape the plans for 2014. What matters most to you? What are your health goals and how can our community help you achieve these goals? Please take 10-15 minutes out of your time to provide useful feedback. All feedback is welcome and appreciated.

<https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/Survey/se.ashx?s=251137456E6E1E53>

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

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.

APG THRIFT SHOP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

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

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



MORE ONLINE

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

Military embraces more gender inclusive policies

Army to open 33,000 positions to female Soldiers in April

By **C. TODD LOPEZ**
Army News Service

About 33,000 of the positions in the Army today that are closed to women are classified as such because they were in units that were designated as direct ground combat. That will change this year in units that are not under Army Special Operations.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense recently notified Congress of the Army's intent to open those 33,000 positions to women. The change is expected to take place this April, said Col. Linda Sheimo, chief of the Command Programs and Policy Division at the Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Army G-1.

Sheimo said that with recent force structure changes, the Army moved away from "focusing on units. Our plan allowed us to identify all the positions that were closed across the three components, regardless of the unit."

Those 33,000 positions do not include anything within the Special Operations community, she said.

"When we complete congressional notification in April 2014, the Army will have opened approximately 55,000 positions to women, across all three components, since May 2012." Sheimo said.

There are more than 400 military occupational specialties, known as MOSs, in the Army, of those, 14 are closed to women. The 33,000 positions that will open to women in April do not include jobs in MOSs that are closed to women. Instead, they are positions now open to women across the total force -- positions which were previously closed prior to the notification.

Sheimo said the Army still has more than 100,000 jobs closed to women. That includes those MOSs that are closed to women. Among those MOSs are the 12B combat engineer, 13B cannon crewmember, 11B infantryman, and 19K M1 armor crewman, for instance.

The Army has a plan to determine whether these MOSs should open to women, Sheimo said, and women Sol-



U.S. Army photo
Master Sgt. Renee Baldwin fires a .50-caliber machine gun during training last summer at Joint Multinational Training Command's Grafenwoehr range in Germany.

diers may have the opportunity to serve in every position, unit, and MOSs where a male Soldier can currently serve.

Before that happens, however, the Army Training and Doctrine Command is leading the effort to revalidate the physical standards required for entry into the 14 currently-closed MOSs.

Sheimo explained that when the Army is complete with its efforts, all individuals joining the Army will understand what standards must be met to be awarded a military specialty.

"Ensuring we have clear standards for all Soldiers will ensure the best Soldiers are assigned to positions, something the Army is calling the 'Soldier of 2020,'" Sheimo said. "What we are trying to do is get the best Soldiers for the future. The Army's efforts across various spectrums will ensure all Soldiers have the opportunity to serve successfully."

The first MOS to finish the revalidation will be 12B, combat engineer. When the validation is complete, TRADOC and Army G-1 will make a recommendation to the Secretary of the Army about opening the MOS to women Soldiers, or ask for an exception to keep the MOS closed to women.

The Secretary will then review that

recommendation, make his own decision, and pass his signed recommendation up to the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The OSD will complete their own review of the Army's recommendation and pass their signed recommendation on to Congress. After 30 in-session days of Congress, if lawmakers have not disagreed with the OSD's recommendation, the Army can then begin recruit-

ing female Soldiers into the previously closed-to-women MOS.

For the 12B MOS, it is expected that the Army will have made its recommendation to the OSD by the end of 2014.

The process must be completed for all 14 MOS that are currently closed to women, and Sheimo said that by Jan. 1, 2016, the Army will have passed onto the OSD decisions on each of those.

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

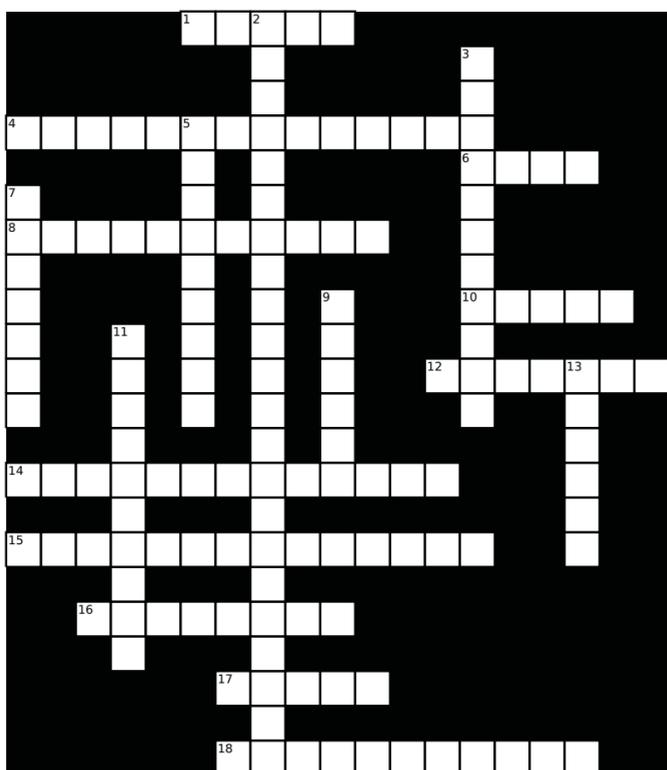
JPEO-CBD

Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense

The JPEO-CBD is the Department of Defense single focal point for research, development, acquisition, fielding and life-cycle support of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) defense equipment, medical countermeasures, installation protection systems and force protection systems. Its headquarters and four of its seven Joint Project Management Offices are located at APG South (Edgewood), resulting in a total APG presence of more than 600 people. For information, call 410-436-9600 or visit www.jpocbd.osd.mil.

The APG Crossword

This week's puzzle features prizes. See details*



Answers to this puzzle may be found in this edition of the APG News, or may be common knowledge. The completed puzzle will be published in next week's paper.

Across

1. What is the logo for Ruggles Golf course?
4. What street is Outdoor Recreation located on?
6. Exton Golf Course is a ____ hole regulation course.
8. What is the name of the weekly newsletter sent out by the MWR Marketing Staff? (three words)
10. What is the name of the fitness center and Gymnasium located in APG South?
12. Morale, _____ and Recreation
14. Top of the Bay is famous for its view of this body of water (two words).
15. HIRED! is what type of program?
16. When does registration start for the CYSS Youth Sports T-Ball program?
17. How many general bays are in the Auto Craft self-help facility?
18. SKIESUnlimited is an acronym for Schools of Knowledge, _____, Exploration and Skills.

* This week's crossword puzzle features APG's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. MWR is offering **prizes** to the first three people who correctly solve the puzzle. The prizes will consist of a mug, pen, two free games of bowling and a key chain.

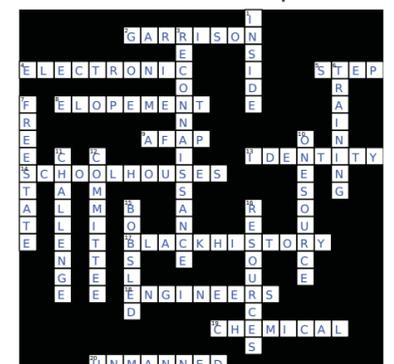
Send your completed puzzle to christina.l.lockhart2.naf@mail.mil

The names of the three winners will be listed in next week's APG News.

Down

2. MWR is in this category on Facebook (two words)
3. How many private box stalls are located at the self-care boarding facility for horses in APG South?
5. FRP is an acronym for Financial _____ program
7. What is the name of the swimming pool located in APG South (Edgewood)?
9. How many lanes are in the APG North (Aberdeen) Bowling Center?
11. What street is the APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center located on?
13. What is the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Twitter profile name?

Solution to the Jan. 30 puzzle



Accessing Higher Education Track

The Higher Education Track classes are two-day training events, eight hours per day. The purpose is to help active duty and reserve Soldiers determine career, personal and academic goals; help Soldiers contribute to the selection of a higher education institution; present information about funding factors for selection of higher education institutions; and provide facts about admissions. This class is only for Soldiers that are transitioning from the military and currently going through the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP) process.

The 2014 training dates are Feb. 19-20, April 16 – 17 and Sept. 17 – 18.

Contact the ACAP/Transition office (410) 306-2303 or Army Education Center (410) 306-2042 for assistance with class registration

APG NEWS

This Week in APG News history

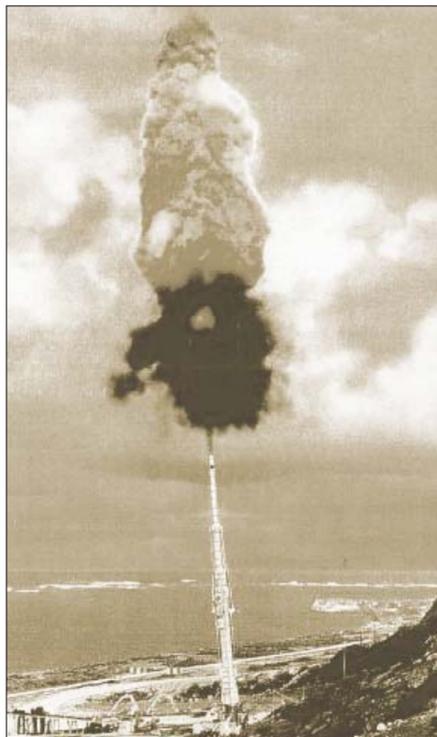
By ALAN FEILER

VALENTINE'S DANCE AT TEEN TOWN

Teen Town Club members here plan to honor Valentine's Day Saturday, February 15, with a formal dance at their club, beginning at 7 P.M.

Highlighting the event will be the crowning of a Valentine's Day Queen and the election of a new club President.

Music for the dance will be provided by the "Roadrunners," popular repeaters at Teen Town social events.



50 Years Ago (Feb. 6, 1964)

Clockwise starting top left:

Teen Town Club members at APG announced they plan to hold a formal Valentine's Day dance at their club on Feb. 15, beginning at 7 p.m. Highlighting the gala will be the crowning of a Valentine's Day Queen and the election of a new club president. Music will be provided by The Roadrunners. A splendid time is guaranteed for all. ... More than 80 military and civilian researchers met at the U.S. Army Ballistic Research Laboratories at APG to discuss gun-launched atmospheric probes. The gathering aimed to familiarize different government agencies with the status of Project HARP (High Altitude Research Project), which explores inexpensive gun-launched probes capable of exploring altitudes above those attainable by research balloons and below those of satellites. The project grew out of a 1959 Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment feasibility study to send a 3.3-inch instrumented spinning projectile up to 100,000 feet. ...A pair of APG Development and Proof Services employees, Carroll J. Sampson of Havre de Grace and Jay L. Atkins of Darlington, have returned to the installation after providing support to Air Force officials during a week-long search for an Air Force B-52 bomber and crew that crashed Jan. 13 in the mountainous and snow-covered wilderness near Cumberland, Md. "It was no picnic," said Atkins. "Debris was scattered over an area 25 miles in radius." The bomber, which crashed in a blizzard, was carrying five crew members. Only two survived.



25 Years Ago (Feb. 8, 1989)

Clockwise starting left:

Four APG Soldiers will be awarded \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce. The Sergeants Major Impact Award will be presented to Specialists Jacqueline D. Brooks of ATEC, Andrew Watkins of APG Support Activity, Juan A. Andrade of the U.S. Ordnance Center and School, Linda S. Schueck of the U.S. Army Chemical Research, Development and Engineering Center. The bonds are awarded to junior enlisted personnel for their Soldierly appearance and exceptional performance to detail. ...The government has rested its case at the end of the fourth week of the trial of William C. Dee, Robert E. Lentz and Carl E. Gepp, three employees of the U.S. Army Chemical Research, Development and Engineering Center. The engineers were indicted for a criminal felony of illegally handling, storing and disposing of hazardous wastes between 1983 and 1986, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). They were eventually convicted. ... A neighborhood legend for his help and compassion for the indigent and needy in East Baltimore, Father George A. Wichland, 88, will speak tomorrow morning at the National Prayer Breakfast in the Edgewood Area Officers' Club. Opening remarks will be delivered by Col. William R. Rutherford III, commander of APG Support Activity. Before adjourning, all in attendance will sing two choruses of "America the Beautiful."

Four APG soldiers honored by Harford County Chamber

Four Aberdeen Proving Ground soldiers have been awarded \$50 United States Savings Bonds by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce. The awards were made by the chamber as part of its annual promotion of Military Appreciation Week.

Called the Sergeants Major Impact Award, the bonds are awarded to junior enlisted personnel for their soldierly appearance and exceptional performance to detail.

The four recipients are: Specialists Jacqueline D. Brooks of the Public Affairs Office with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command; Andrew Watkins, Headquarters Support Troops, APG Support Activity; Juan A. Andrade, HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, and Linda S. Schueck of Headquarters Company, U.S.

Army Chemical Research, Development and Engineering Center.

The presentations were made during a ceremony held at each soldier's duty site. Members of the presentation committee included Neil Cullum, president of the chamber; Ed Ward, executive director of the chamber; Bernard M. Davall, chairman of the chamber's military affairs committee; and Command Sergeant Major Barry D. Decker of the APG Support Activity.

The chamber is sponsoring Military Appreciation Week during May 20-27 to coincide with APG's annual open house. Military Appreciation Week is designated to highlight the economic importance of APG and the daily efforts of its combined military/civilian work force to improve the quality of life within the communities where they reside in Harford County.



Prayer Breakfast set for EA



10 Years Ago (Feb. 5, 2004)

Clockwise starting left:

Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion took first place honors at the Intramural Bench Press Competition held at the Edgewood Area's Hoyle Gym. Coming in second were the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, and the Noncommissioned Officers Academy came in third place. More than 120 lifters attended despite a heavy snowfall the night before. "This is great for our Soldiers and great for the command," said Staff Sgt. Janice Farmer, Company B, 16th drill sergeant. ...The APG Tax Center is up and running and ready to serve active and retired military and their family members. "This keeps our service members from having to seek assistance off post," said client services officer Sue Grendahl. "That saves them so much money." At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Staff Judge Advocate Stephen Parke presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Lisa Mosley, an information systems technician with the Directorate of Information Management who voluntarily assisted in setting up the center's computerized tax program. ... The winners of the APG 2003 Youths of the Year for the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas are Wyndell R. Williams and Anastasia B. Phillips. Parents, friends and youth services personnel looked on at the Jan. 30 ceremony at the Edgewood Area Youth Center as Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, awarded the youngsters Department of the Army certificates of achievement and \$1,500 scholarships.



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG? Tell us how we are doing. Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>.

Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

AAA celebrates a successful move

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Employees from the APG Army Audit Agency Field Office celebrated relocating to Bldg. 4118 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Jan. 30.

USAAA employees and guests, including the Auditor General Randall L. Exley, celebrated in the facility's break room after the ribbon cutting.

Exley thanked the employees for their dedicated service during the move from Bldg. 2001 to Bldg. 4118.

"An organization's value is not driven by the facility that houses them," he said. "It's driven by the people and by the service that you give to Army leadership, to the Soldiers, Families, civilians, as well as to the nation, our country and our taxpayers."

Director for Energy Audits Clarence Johnson from the APG field office said his team needed a larger facility when employees from Fort Monmouth, N.J., field relocated to APG in 2011 due to the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005. Currently, 30 employees work for the APG field office.

During his remarks, Johnson thanked several employees for going the extra mile to ensure that the move was cost-effective, efficient and seamless. These employees included Brian Desvignes, Devyn Pulliam, Michael Naughton, Rhonda Surrena, Jolie Vidal, Stacey Williams, Jonathan Gardener, Patrick (Mac) McGrattan and Kimberly Craig. These employees received Auditor General coins from Exley.

Johnson said USAAA serves as the Army's internal auditors. The agency conducts audits to identify and diminish risks such as fraud and abuse. USAAA also ensures the Army's resources are protected and laws and regulations are being followed.

The APG USAAA Field Office conducts energy, environment, civil works, acquisition, maintenance and logistics



Photo by Molly Blossie
Auditor General Randall L. Exley and Clarence Johnson, director for energy audits from the APG U.S. Army Audit Agency Field Office, cut the ribbon celebrating a successful move into Bldg. 4118 on Jan. 30.

audits. USAAA has 20 field offices across the country and overseas.

Exley said USAAA was ranked third in 2013 among 300 organizations as the Best Places to Work in the Federal Government in the agency subcomponents category by The Partnership for Public Service. This is the fourth consecutive year USAAA has placed in the top three. Exley said employees appreciate the agency's flexibility, open communication and educational opportunities.

An organization's value is not driven by the facility that has them. It's driven by the people and by the service that you give to Army leadership, to the Soldiers, Families, civilians, as well as to the nation, our country and our tax payers.

Randall L. Exley
Auditor General

The Army not slowing down, busier than ever

By **J.D. LEIPOLD**
Army News Service

Contrary to what many people may think, the Army has been doing anything but slowing down and becoming stagnant, despite cash flow and end-strength issues, the Army's chief of staff recently said.

Speaking before a full house of Association of the U.S. Army members at their monthly Institute of Land Warfare breakfast in Arlington, Va., on Jan. 23, Gen. Ray Odierno said the Army "is not standing still. ... The Army is doing many, many, many things in order to shape the future environment and prevent conflicts around the world."

In his third year as the 38th chief of staff, Odierno makes trips often around the country and overseas, checking on the force and its capabilities. He said because the Army is out of Iraq and drawing down in Afghanistan, people tend to think there's not much going on in the service.

"Every one of our components is incredibly busy and continues to be," he said. "A few months ago I was out at Fort Carson [Colo.] and the 4th Infantry Division was laying out all its missions for the next three years. ... It's mind-boggling to just listen to what they're doing. You go down to Fort Bragg [N.C.], and go to the 82nd Airborne Division, [and the] 18th Airborne Corps; you go out to Fort Bliss, Texas, and the 1st Armored Division, and the missions and requirements they have worldwide outside of Afghanistan are quite significant.

"We have forces that are tailored and scaled, that are conducting operations, training, building partner capacity in many parts of the world and that's what we'll continue to do. ... And, oh, by the way, we still have about 30,000 Soldiers in Afghanistan, we still have another 20,000 in other places in the Middle East, and we have Soldiers in Turkey," Odierno said. "And we've deployed our air defense capability to Guam in response to North Korea, and what a lot of people don't know is I have a battalion commander and about 50 Soldiers at the embassy in South Sudan, and they've been there now for several weeks."

Odierno said his number-one priority and something the Army had to stay out in front of was leader development because information travels so quickly that it gets pushed down to lower and lower levels.

"We have to develop our captains faster than when I was a captain. We have to develop our lieutenant colonels faster, and we have to develop them in



Photo by J.D. Leipold
Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno addresses members of the Association of the U.S. Army during its Jan. 23 breakfast series in Arlington, Va. The chief said despite cash flow and end-strength issues, the Army has not slowed its pace and continues to move toward a more expeditionary force.

many more diverse ways to give them an understanding of the socioeconomic culture and religious environments around the world because those are the environments they will operate in," he said. "We have to have leaders who can do critical thinking under pressure and who can make tough decisions at the right time. That will always be our number-one priority and is an advantage we have today, and it's an advantage we must sustain into the future."

Addressing the non-commissioned officer corps, the chief said, "The mental agility, their understanding of the issues we have is at the highest levels I've ever seen it, so we must continue to develop that because what makes us different from everyone else is our NCO corps."

The chief said a globally responsive Army of the future must be leaner, smaller, tailorable, scalable and gets back to the expeditionary mindset -- "our command and control systems are too heavy today."

"We have to be able to deploy very quickly, get there in small packages and then potentially build on them, and we have to get there with the least amount of support necessary," he said. "We have to be able to go to remote areas anywhere in the world while building on our advantage of tactical operations strategic ability."

Remote areas include looking at the African continent on which he said Army

units have conducted between 80 and 100 missions over the last eight months. Some of them took 10 Soldiers, while other missions took 200. Their key mission, he said, was to support the AFRICOM commander's objectives across central and North Africa. He added that the Army has to build a force which understands what's going on there.

"The future is working in coalitions with multinational partners ... how we develop that," he said. "These are the kind of things we have to do when we talk about regional engagement."

Odierno also made remarks on the state of the Army's modernization program, which he said, would continue to be centered on the Soldier and squad, not just infantry squads, but logistics and artillery squads and the like.

Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, "our modernization strategy is going to be a bit delayed," he said. "We're not going to be able to do everything we wanted to do, but what we do must be affordable, versatile and tailorable."

The chief reiterated that over the next three years the Army will be relying on some mature technologies, but it will continue to modernize the Paladin howitzer and make cost-effective improvements in the Abrams tank and the Bradley Fighting Vehicle along with improvements to the M4 and M4A1 carbines.

"We're going to build new when it's absolutely essential -- the JLTV (joint light tactical vehicle) and the AMPV (armored multi-purpose vehicle) replacement for the M113 (joint armored personnel carrier)," Odierno said. "We have to have these systems. Do we need a new infantry fighting vehicle? Yes. Can we afford a new infantry vehicle? No."

In this last statement, he inferred that the Ground Combat Vehicle -- which has been under design to replace existing infantry fighting vehicles -- is on hold, at least for now.

The general says he hopes technology will continue to all the Army so that in three to four years it will be able to build an infantry fighting vehicle ... "That's absolutely necessary for us as we go forward," he said.

"We're going to continue to modernize our aviation fleet, but we cannot afford our aviation fleet today ... so we're going to have to make some difficult decisions in our modernization strategy ... reduce the number of systems that we have ... do the best we can to mitigate the risk as we move forward and make sure the systems we have are the best systems possible."

The UH-60M Black Hawk will replace all L models, while the CH-47 Chinook and AH-64 Apache fleets will also undergo modernization.

"Does that mean I'm walking away from the Scout helicopter? No," said Odierno. "I think we need a Scout helicopter, but we can't afford one right now, so we'll have to figure out what we do as we move forward."

Odierno concluded his remarks noting that the Army would continue to invest in science and technology, but be very choosy about where it invests.

"We have to be able to find leap-ahead technologies," he said.

"We want to look at vertical lift and what that means for the future. We want to look at manned/unmanned teaming, but what is that leap-ahead technology that we need that can make a real difference for our Soldiers on the ground?" he asked. "Is it materials technology that allows us to decrease the weight, so we can be more expeditionary?"

"Over the last several years what we've done is trade mobility for survivability -- we've got to get back in line," he said. "I need tactical mobility for the future, so we need to move toward mobility and figure out how do we sustain survivability while increasing mobility."

Congressional staffers get close-up view of APG

Continued from Page 1

Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC), the visiting group received briefings from Hewitt on RDECOM's mission as the "go-to organization" for emerging, state-of-the-art Army technological development.

They also heard from Wienand about 3-D printing and other types of innovative development and testing coming out of ECBC that greatly benefit today's Soldier.

"We have 25 years of experience and can apply it to things we haven't even thought of yet," Wienand said. An example he offered is when a Soldier loses an ear in battle, ECBC researchers can take a 3-D print of the Soldier's other ear and create a new one.

Hewitt thanked the staffers and the elected officials they represent for their continued support of APG and the Army. "We wouldn't be where we are without your support," he said, "so thank you."

In addition, ATC Chemist Dr. Melissa Steffen spoke about APG's groundbreaking work on developing renewable energy alternatives and hopes to partner with the

private sector to fund initial research and development of low-temperature geo-thermal projects.

Later, Gibson spoke to the group about APG's implementation of training procedures and policies to combat sexual harassment and assault on the installation.

Gibson said the Army's chief of staff last year gave the mandate and said that "we weren't doing too well with sexual assault in the Army. He said, 'We have to fix this, this is my number one priority.' It still is, and we took that guidance. But we can't just train and forget about it."

Gibson said APG has hired teams of sexual assault trainers and victim advocates to sensitize Soldiers and civilians at the installation, as well as implemented intensive leadership training. "We have the right people in the job, and that was the first step," he said. "The second step was making sure folks understood the process, for the Soldier here and on the civilian side."

In small settings and at summits, personnel and leaders have discussed the criteria that constitute sexual harassment



Standing on the ATC Test Track are (left to right) Jennifer Riggs Driban and Deborah, J. Haynie, Justin Hayes and Mary O'Keefe during a visit to APG Feb. 3. Photo by Sean Kief

and assault, Gibson said. The bottom line is that such behavior will not be tolerated at APG, he said.

"I feel a lot of more comfortable now than I did 10 or 12 months ago, with people knowing who they can go to or call for help," Gibson said. "We're getting a lot better and working very hard at it so people understand the process."

Added Martin: "It's not just the Pen-

tagon talking about how we have to stop this. It's happening at the local level and will continue - for the right reasons."

The tour and briefings concluded with presentations made by representatives of Harford County Economic Development and the Harford County/Chesapeake Science & Security Corridor about their joint efforts and initiatives with APG's leadership and the community at large.

Commuting expenses reduced with federal subsidy

Continued from Page 1

and help improve the air quality by reducing vehicle emissions," Gross said.

She can help commuters decide what option is best for their needs. She also can help link up people who are interested in starting a new vanpool or joining existing vanpools.

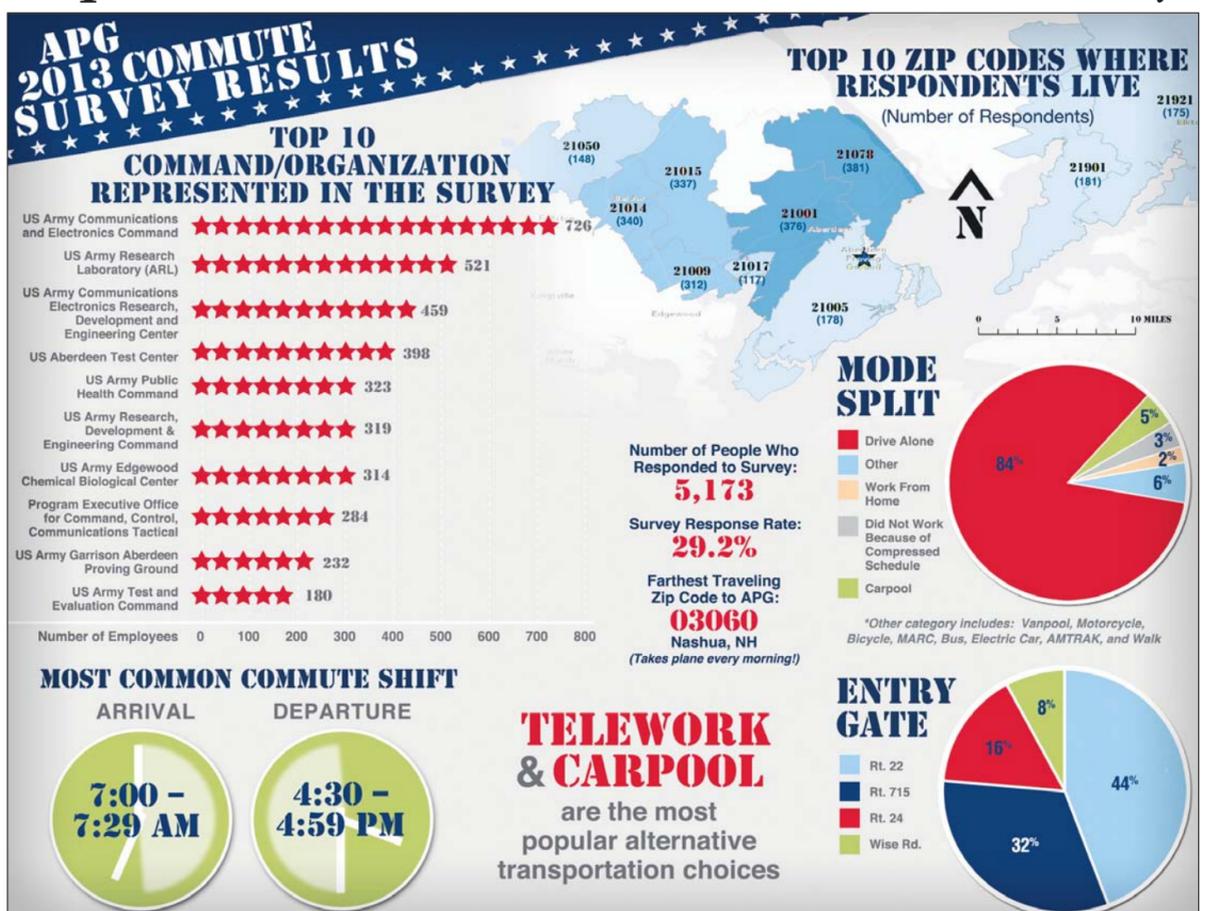
Gross is available to assist employees in the lobby of the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and in the APG North (Aberdeen) Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. She is also available by appointment. She can be reached at 410-278-5491 or sgross@harford-countymd.gov for more information.

Program Manager Sandra Schiller from the Directorate of Human Resources said the Army serves as a liaison between the customer and the Department of Transportation. Applications for the subsidy program need to be submitted to the DHR, Administrative Services Division by the 20th of each month.

Once submitted, debit cards arrive to the APG point of contact 30 to 45 days later.

The APG POC will notify participants upon arrival of the debit cards for the available date for pick up. Commuters can fill out the application by visiting <http://asafm.army.mil/offices/asa/masstrans.aspx>.

Applicants can contact Program Manager Sandra Schiller at sandra.l.schiller.civ@mail.mil, 410-436-3580, or Debra Zellman from the DHR Administrative Services Division at debra.l.zellman.civ@mail.mil, or 410-278-6430 for more information.



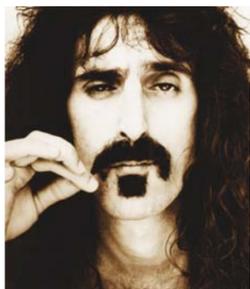
APG's transportation survey was conducted between Sept. 30 and Oct. 25, 2013. Its purpose was to better understand the commuter patterns, preferences, and impediments to the APG workforce's daily commute. The information gathered will be used to make future decisions concerning transportation. The survey prize winner is Brian Lauterbach with U.S. Army Contracting Command who won a 7", 16 GB, ASUS PC tablet.

Commuters can fill out the application by visiting <http://asafm.army.mil/offices/asa/masstrans.aspx>

DID YOU KNOW?

APG South (Edgewood) played a large role in Frank Zappa's life?

When folks think of avant-garde composer/rocker Frank Zappa, what usually comes to mind is his loud, experimental guitar work, acerbic observations, outrageous stage presence, and the cosmic sounds and song structures associated with the Baltimore-born musician, who died in Dec. 1993 at age 52. But interestingly enough, APG South (Edgewood) played a significant role in Zappa's life and music.



Who knew, right?

Turns out that Zappa's Sicilian-born dad, Francis, a chemist and mathematician who held several positions in the American defense industry during his career, worked at what was then known as Edgewood Arsenal. Zappa the younger wrote in his 1990 autobiography, "The Real Frank Zappa Book," "My Dad was employed as a meteorologist at the Edgewood Arsenal. They made poison gas there during World War II, so I guess it would have been the meteorologist's job to figure out which way the wind was blowing when it was time to shoot the stuff off." The family lived in Army housing, allegedly a mile from tanks filled with poisonous gas, and Papa Zappa kept gas masks in their humble abode because of the dwelling's proximity to the arsenal and its mustard storage. "I used to wear [a gas mask] out in the backyard all the time," Zappa recalled. "It was my space helmet." He also claimed that he tasted the pesticide DDT and played with mercury quite frequently during Zappa the elder's Edgewood stint.

Francis Zappa's work apparently had a profound impact on the psyche of his son, whose musical oeuvre is littered with references to biological and germ warfare, as well as allusions to the defense industry. In 1952 the Zappas decided to get out of Dodge because of Frank's myriad health ailments. The family wound up in California, and Frank graduated from high school in Los Angeles County in '58. "Edgewood, Maryland, was sort of out in the country," the creator of "Dancin' Fool" and "Weasels Ripped My Flesh" wrote in his memoirs. "It had a little woods and a creek with crawdads in it, just at the end of Dexter Street. I used to play down there with Leonard Allen. Even though I was sick all the time, Edgewood was sort of fun ..."

Alan Feiler, APG News

Eagle population counted, growth continues in area

Continued from Page 1

ter bald eagle population data in Maryland. The survey route includes the shoreline and tributaries of APG and the Susquehanna River north to the Exelon Peach Bottom power plant. APG provides the data to MDNR which compiles all data within the state to estimate the region-wide bald eagle population.

Hartzell said the data collected from the survey help to identify long-term population trends and distributions of eagles.

"This information is critical to effectively implementing APG's bald eagle management and compliance program," she said.

Hartzell said the annual count is a snapshot, just one tool that makes up APG's bald eagle monitoring program. The DPW Environmental Division also conducts flyovers several times each nesting season to monitor new nests and count the number of eggs and chicks per nest. Currently the division is tracking 78 nests. Last year, APG had 51 active nests which produced a total of 90 chicks.

"We have averaged 50 active nests and 89 chicks for the past 3 years," she said.

APG has documented significant growth in the installation's eagle population since the mid-1980s. "Based on these data, APG has coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to transition APG's bald eagle program from a very rigid, conservative management strategy to one that is much more

flexible and adaptive to both the military mission and the conservation of the eagles," Hartzell said.

Bald eagles are no longer endangered, but they are still protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, which prohibits the killing, wounding and trapping of animals. The Army coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Chesapeake Bay Field Office to develop a bald eagle management plan. As part of the management program, DPW Environmental developed a bald eagle awareness training course. The eagle awareness training provides guidance to working near eagle areas. The training is mandatory for the APG workforce and is available on-line from the Garrison website (under "e-Learning").

Road barricades

Hartzell reminds APG motorists to respect the road barricades that block access into some nest areas. At the start of each nesting season, Dec. 15, the DPW Environmental Division places a limited number of road barricades to restrict access into nest areas. These barricades are generally limited to small access roads that pass very close to the nest tree. Either wooden barricades with metal eagle placards or yellow caution tape are used. Motorists are asked to not drive past these barricades or cut the tape. For any questions or concerns, they should contact Hartzell at 410-436-0465.

New chaplain comes from eclectic background

Story and photo by **DEBORAH INCE**
APG News

Maj. James B. Collins was answering a lifelong calling when he decided to become a Catholic priest. It just took him a while to realize it.

From working as an investigative specialist for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to living in a seminary, to subsequently serving as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and the Army National Guard and an active-duty U.S. Army personnel member, Collins -- who is the new APG Main Post Catholic chaplain -- says his journey to serve his faith and country is an example that everything in life happens for a reason.

"If it wasn't for the FBI, I wouldn't have become a priest because the people in the FBI helped bring me back to the faith," said Collins, a native of Elizabeth, N.J. "If it wasn't for the seminary and wanting to become a priest, I wouldn't have gone into the Army."

After graduating from what was then known as Jersey City State College in Jersey City, N.J., with a bachelor of arts degree in media arts, Collins began working for the FBI in New York. He served in that capacity for seven years, living on Manhattan's Upper East Side.

"I loved the city and Central Park and all of the delis and bagels and pizza," said Collins, whose office wall is filled with New York subway signs. "It's all at your fingertips. ... I didn't think I needed God. I had my job in Manhattan. I hadn't gone to confession in eight years."

But during this time, Collins, a former altar boy who as a child used to pretend he was a Catholic priest, said he reconnected with his faith -- when a work friend invited him to attend his church -- and felt a desire to become a priest. He describes the calling as feeling "a state of grace."

"My decision [to join the seminary] wasn't immediate," he said. "I felt like God was calling me to serve, but I also had to think, 'What will my life be like?' You have to take that into account."

Collins said he attended a retreat for "discerning" the priesthood and chatted with the late New York Archbishop John Joseph O'Connor before finalizing his decision. "I said to him, 'I'm not worthy to be a priest,'" Collins recalled. "He said to me, 'No one is worthy, but Christ makes us worthy. ... If you think



Maj. James B. Collins is the new Main Post Chapel Catholic chaplain for APG, performing Mass, Confession, and other duties at both APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood).

[My goals] are to build the parish, open the doors, bring more people in to spread the message of hope, love, and peace, to spread the message of the Gospel and to serve the people I've been assigned to and to do the best I can.

Maj. James Collins
APG Main Post Chapel Chaplain

God is calling you, give it a try."

Collins then attended several chaplain discernment retreats before making the decision to enter the priesthood. He subsequently spent seven years in St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y. before being officially ordained in 2004 as a priest at New York's historic St. Patrick's Cathedral.

He served congregations in Stat-

en Island, The Bronx and the Upper West Side.

Being at the seminary led Collins to the Army Reserve. He said a friend at the seminary suggested in the summer of 1999 that they take an Army chaplaincy course in Fort Jackson, Ga. "I always wanted to wear a uniform and lose a few pounds," Collins said with a laugh. "The idea of being a priest and

being in uniform was really attractive to me. So I figured I'd stick with it and see what happens."

Collins has since served as the priest for the New York Army National Guard (assigned to the 101st Cavalry Regiment) and in Kuwait (with 27th Brigade Combat Team), and has also worked with other chaplains in Germany and South Korea. His position at APG, which he began last September, is his first as active duty assignment with the U.S. Army.

"As a priest I now know what people are going through when they come back [to the Church] from a long time," Collins said. "I want to build a community and a parish centered around God so more people can have the experience of His Holy Spirit."

He said part of his job as the post Catholic chaplain is to ensure that everyone feels welcome returning to the Church. Collins said his main function at the Main Post Chapel at APG is being a leader for the Catholic community. He said about 15 to 20 people come to daily mass and approximately 150 on Sunday mornings.

"[My goals] are to build the parish, open the doors, bring more people in to spread the message of hope, love and peace, to spread the message of the Gospel, and to serve the people I've been assigned to and to do the best I can," Collins said.

So far, he said he feels welcomed by everyone at APG. "I like it," he said. "The Catholic community and everybody is very welcoming. It's something different than what I have done before. I enjoy it."

Collins welcomes APG community members to join him for Catholic Mass and confessional at APG and APG South.

"Being a priest," he said, "we're here to serve God, country and the Church."

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: Aberdeen Chapel 8:46 a.m., Edgewood Chapel 10:45 a.m.

Monday: Aberdeen Chapel 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday: Aberdeen Chapel 11:45 a.m.

Wednesday: Edgewood Chapel noon

Thursday: Aberdeen Chapel 11:45 a.m.

Friday: Edgewood Chapel noon

Confessions:

Monday: 12:15 p.m. Aberdeen Chapel

Wednesday: 11:30 a.m. Edgewood Chapel

By appointment and following Mass

Being a Chaplain Assistant is an Act of Good Faith, But you don't have to be religious to get the job done

By **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

Spc. Billy Jack Pardue likes to tell an amusing anecdote. It's about an evening when he was having dinner with a priest and a rabbi who were sharing a timeworn joke about a priest and a rabbi having dinner.

"That really happened! The priest said, 'When are you going to eat a pork chop?' and the rabbi said, 'At your wedding!'" said Pardue, grinning from ear to ear. "They both knew the same joke and were saying it to each other."

Levity aside, ecumenical and cultural knowledge and respect are hallmarks of Pardue's job. Based at the Main Post Chapel, he is one of three APG Garrison chaplain assistants. There are also four chaplain assistants serving CECOM, RDECOM, the 20th Support Command, ATEC and the 22nd Chemical Battalion.

A native of Checotah, Okla., Pardue, who joined the Army in 2006 and has been a chaplain assistant for six years, does not discuss his own religious views. They are not pertinent to the job, he emphasized.

"You can be *anything* to do this job," Pardue said. "There are no faith requirements whatsoever. We are everything. You're just here to support all of the faiths. I appreciate anyone's journey, whatever their faith."

Chaplain assistants provide full-time religious and spiritual support to Army installations and units around the world. Nearly 105 years ago, the Army created the position by authorizing selected soldiers to function in such a capacity. "One enlisted man will be detailed on special duty, by the commanding officer of any organization to which a chaplain is assigned for duty, for the purpose of assisting the chaplain in the performance of his official duties," states War Department General No. 253.

That sums up the job, according to Pardue, who serves throughout APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South



As a chaplain assistant, Spc. Billy Jack Pardue said his job is not to serve in a pastoral fashion but to help chaplains do their job. "I've ordered Bibles, Korans, Torahs and literature for other faiths," he says. "We maintain buildings and equipment, start programs from scratch and help all kinds of people from a broad spectrum."

(Edgewood). He and his colleagues are responsible for any logistical need or directive issued by an Army chaplain. That involves the planning or execution of programming, as well as the setting up of different faith-based activities, services or ceremonies.

In other words, a chaplain assistant may one day find himself or herself setting up for a Catholic mass, the next day running to a supermarket to buy kosher food, and then another day be turning around the cross in the chapel to ensure that it is displayed in a manner conducive to a Protestant service. Maintaining the tithing practices and policies of myriad faiths is also part of the mandate.

In no way, shape or form does being a chaplain assistant mean leading or participating in services, Pardue said.

"My main concern is making sure that the chaplain is being the chaplain," he said. "If the chaplain says, 'I want to provide a program,' we make it happen. We've done prayer breakfasts all over, so that means driving over the chairs and checking on fire codes. I've ordered Bibles, Korans, Torahs and literature for other faiths. We maintain buildings and equipment, start programs from scratch and help all kinds of people from a broad spectrum."

More than 300 chaplain assistants serve in the military at 75 installations around the globe. Chaplain assistant training is provided for eight weeks in Fort Jackson, Ga.

In combat situations, chaplain assistants have the added responsibility of ensuring the 24/7 safety of chaplains, who are prohibited from carrying firearms, even

in warzones. "The running joke is that it's faith and firepower," Pardue said. "We're the security for the chaplain."

While Pardue has worked with spiritual leaders from all of the normative religious groups, he has also coordinated with some of the less mainstream outfits. "Nordic Pagans, Wiccans -- everything," he said. "If people have a need, we support them, as long as they're not violent or destructive. Criteria has to be met."

On rare occasions, life-and-death situations do crop up in his position, Pardue said. Not long ago, he and a chaplain rushed to a scene on post where a Soldier was deemed a suicide risk. While the chaplain defused the situation with spiritual instruction, Pardue dealt with first responders and handled all of the other physical logistics.

"That's our job," he said. "We always say we're here to nurture the living, care for the dying and honor the dead."

Pardue became a chaplain assistant during his first year in the Army, while serving in South Korea. His first chaplain was a rabbi; needless to say, Pardue didn't know a lot of Jews growing up in rural Oklahoma.

"I was shipped to MOS [Military Occupational Specialty] school, and the [Military Entrance Processing Station] showed us a list and said, 'You can have this or this or this,' and chaplain assistant was on the list," he said. "I've always been interested in theology, of any faith. So I took it."

Even though his military service ends in a little more than four months, Pardue, who plans to remain living near APG, said he has thoroughly enjoyed his work as a chaplain assistant.

"I like the mission, the community outreach and helping people," he said. "You learn a lot, and it's great to see how it all works here. We have chaplains from just about every group, and there are no faith disagreements. I've enjoyed it. It's always something fun and interesting."

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