



APG NEWS

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

www.teamapg.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014

Vol. 58, No. 4

OER training comes to APG

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

A mobile training team from the U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC) briefed more than 200 APG Soldiers and civilians Jan. 22 and 23 on the Officer Evaluation Report (OER), in the Mallette Hall Auditorium.

OER mobile training teams are currently visiting major Army installations throughout the continental

“This will allow the Army to easily identify the best performers and those with the greatest potential.”

Maj. Stephen Trotter
U.S. Army Human Resources Command

United States and outside the contiguous U.S. The new OER system will officially start April 1. Maj. Stephen Trotter from HRC stated this evaluation will increase accountability within the rating system. “This will really begin our transition, allowing leaders the opportunity to more easily council, coach and mentor officers,” he said. “Officers will develop an understanding of how to establish career-oriented objectives that are aligned with leader attributes and competencies, per ADP (Army Doctrine Publication) 6-22.”

Under the new system, raters and senior raters can only assign the top rating of “excels” and “most qualified” to less than 50 percent of officers that they rate or senior rate, he said. A rater profile will be created

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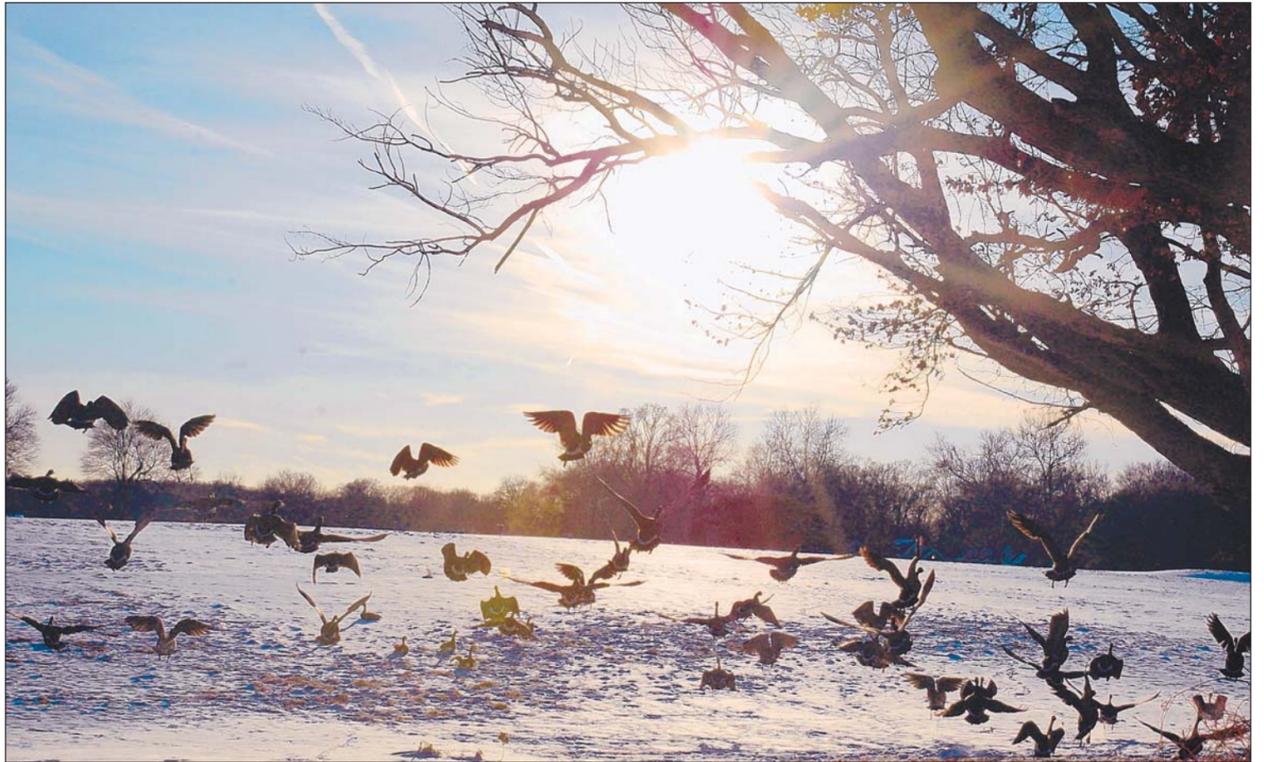


Photo by Rachel Ponder

APG and its wildlife weather another snowstorm

In the late afternoon sun, a gaggle of Canada Geese took flight Jan. 24 in a scenic open area off of Plumb Point Loop, located on APG North (Aberdeen). “We have a huge resident Canadian Geese population,” said Environmental Protection Specialist Lynda Hartzell from the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division. Hartzell said APG is home to a variety of wildlife due to the diversity of habitats on the installation, such as open waters, inland creeks, marshes, fields and forests. Besides Canada Geese, species that can be sighted regularly at APG include the bald eagle, whitetail deer, eastern wild turkey, red fox, coyotes, rabbits, ducks, and various types of hawks and song birds.

Flying High is in their Blood

Tuskegee Airmen recall their glorious, groundbreaking past

Story and photo by **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

It’s not everyday that you get an opportunity to share lunch with a pair of genuine American heroes. But that’s what happened Jan. 23 to approximately 100 people who came to Edgewood’s Richlin Ballroom for a special gathering of the Susquehanna Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) featuring appearances by William T. Fauntroy Jr. and Edward James Talbert Jr.

Fauntroy, 87, who lives in Washington, D.C., and Talbert, 91, of Suitland, Md., are documented original Tuskegee Airmen and members of the East Coast Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc. (ECCTAI).

See **TUSKEGEE**, page 14



With his fellow Tuskegee Airman William T. Fauntroy Jr. (left) listening, Edward James Talbert Jr. reminisces about his days as a base supply officer for the 332nd Fighter Wing at Lockbourne AAB in Columbus, Oh.

Freestate ChalleNge Academy inducts new cadets



(From left) Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNge Academy Cadets Myiesha Higgs, Brandy Greene and Bry’Nee Gray cheer for their friends during the Crossover Ceremony at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Jan. 27. During this ceremony, 111 cadets, ages 16-18, were inducted into the program.

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

The Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNge Academy inducted 111 cadets into Class #42 during the Crossover Ceremony at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Jan. 27.

Freestate ChalleNge Academy gives Maryland teens who have withdrawn from high school a unique opportunity, a second chance at an education. For 22 weeks, cadets ages 16-18 voluntarily live in the academy’s residential program, a structured, disciplined, military-style environment.

Before being accepted into the program, candidates go through an acclimation phase, where the teens adjust to their new environment and schedule and decide if they want to stay in the program.

During the ceremony, several Freestate ChalleNge Academy staff members encouraged the students to complete the program. Commandant Job Stringfellow said the cadets had to give up the comforts of home while in the program, like junk food, electronics, sleeping in, and seeing Family and friends on a regular basis.

Lead instructor Sara Jolly said each cadet is responsible for their own success.

“Because you made it this far, we know you can make it the rest of the way,” said Jolly. “It is not going to be easy sometimes, but you can do it.”

Freestate ChalleNge Academy Director Charlie Rose encour-

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WEATHER

Thursday

Sunny
chance of rain 0%



25° | 22°

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OPINION

Editor reports Slim Down progress

By **PAT BEAUCHAMP**
Editor, APG News



Greetings. Well, two weeks ago I told you that I was joining the Garrison Slim Down Challenge. Although the weigh-in last week was cancelled because of snow, I braved the elements and went to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company scale (just kidding – I work in the same building so I didn't have far to go) and weighed in.

I met my goal of 2 pounds per week and had lost four pounds.

That doesn't sound like much for the beginning of a diet since most people tend to lose a lot of weight their first week or two of dieting. But – let me explain a bit.

I am never NOT on a diet of some sort; normally it's either a low calorie or Weight Watchers diet so this really wasn't the start of a new diet for me.

I had several life events pop up that hindered my progress a bit, including a baby shower and a bus trip to Atlantic City.

I did learn one thing about myself, though, and that is I am a very poor judge of calories. I stopped at a convenience store before the bus trip and bought a double soft pretzel to eat as breakfast and part of it was to be a snack later in the day. I was astounded to discover that each serving was a whopping 375 calories. That means that I ingested 750 calories just by eating both halves of that pretzel. (That's nearly half of my daily calorie allowance!) It didn't hurt me too badly, however, because I ate a very light dinner and had planned ahead a bit and brought fruit to snack on instead of other high calorie and high sugar content items, as I would have in the past. I just need to read packages BEFORE I buy them instead of afterward.

I'm going to continue this journey. I've heard from several people that they've been inspired by my commentary of two weeks ago and will join the Slim Down Challenge with me. First, thank you to those folks for the very kind words. Second, I hope a lot of people join. Everyone who does join will serve as inspiration for me as well.

But, because the last weigh-in was technically cancelled, I weighed in yesterday as well along with many other participants. I'll write of that NEXT week, and every two weeks until the end of the challenge. Good luck, everyone!

STREET TALK

Do you want more snow this winter? Or are you sick of it already?

I do not want more snow. I am from Texas and I am not used to this cold weather. My pipes froze this winter.



Capt. Tracey Ho
KUSAHC

I want more snow. I am originally from Minnesota, so this isn't a lot of snow for me. I think it is quiet and peaceful when it is snowing.



Capt. Brian Knutson
ATEC

I am done with the snow. After the first snowfall, I see snow as an inconvenience.



Maj. Keith Johnson
AEC

I do not want more snow. I am from Texas, where we get a minimal amount of snow. This is a culture shock.



Tony Rose
CECOM

I want more snow. We live in a climate where we have snow in the winter. There is beauty in every season. I think having a snowy winter makes the coming of spring even more special.



Donna Daganiero
USAPHC

Tips for avoiding identity compromise

Reprinted from *Fort Knox Gold Standard*

At least 110 million consumers were affected by the hack involving Target and Neiman Marcus retailers. Whether or not millions more will have their identities manipulated and finances ruined within the coming months due to more breaches of security at other stores is anyone's guess, said identity theft recovery expert Scott Merritt.

"By necessity, I became an expert on identity theft. My information was stolen in 2006, and in repairing the damage, I learned some not-so-obvious ways we can all protect against identity theft in the first place," said Merritt, CEO of Merritt & Associates (scottamerritt.com) and author of "Identity Theft Do's and Don'ts."

Merritt's problems began quickly. While disputing financial charges and dealing with resulting business problems, in 2007 he was stopped for a traffic violation and arrested on a false outstanding felony warrant. He immediately knew why.

"I had to enlist my U.S. congressman and convince the state police, NCIC (National Crime Information Center), FBI and Secret Service that I didn't commit the felonies," said Merritt. "After legal action, however, I was able to have this corrected."

Unfortunately, the millions affected by the recent hacks may be dealing with similar repercussions in the years ahead, he said. Before you become a victim of identity theft, Merritt offers seven ways to guard against it.

- Understand how and where it happens. Identity theft is like being robbed when you are away from home; most thefts occur in places where you do business every day. Either a place of business is robbed, a bad employee acts improperly or a hacker breaches the office through the computer.

- Secure your wallet's information. Photocopy everything in your wallet: photos, credit cards (front and back), membership cards—everything. Put the copies in the order the cards are arranged in your wallet, staple the pictures and



place them in a strong box or safe.

- Make sure your information is consistent. For all of your identity and financial documents, make absolutely sure, to the smallest detail, that all of your personal information is accurate and consistent. Discrepancies such as using your middle initial on some documents, and not others, or having different addresses, can wreak havoc in proving your identity, and can compromise your credit score.

- Secure your digital habits and data. Change your passwords at least twice a year on a non-scheduled basis—don't be predictable. Have a strong firewall if you shop online and only access sites that are protected by a strong firewall and high industry standards. Access accounts of a financial nature only from your personal computer.

- Protect your banking information. While in the bank, keep account numbers and other data out of sight, and avoid stating account numbers, Social Security numbers and similar information out loud.

- Account for your interactions with vendors. Every time you speak to someone with whom you do business, write down the time, date, name and the purpose or outcome of the call. If an identity theft occurs on the vendor's end, you will be able to reference these prior conversations effectively. Be sure to note any animosity or reluctance from the vendor.

- Don't carry around your birth certificate or Social Security card. Unless it's necessary, keep those vital items in a safe, or at least a firebox. If you know someone is going to need a copy of your tax returns or your driver's license, for example, make the copies ahead of time. This avoids the need for a firm's employee to leave the room with such information.

"Of course, you can greatly reduce being a victim by using cash more often," he said. "But if you're going to use credit, use a card from a national bank or a national credit union and never a debit card, no exceptions."

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APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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298-7274; send a fax to 410-278-2570; send e-mail to Editor patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil or contact Acting Assistant editor Alan Feiler, afeilerapg@gmail.com or 410-278-1148, or Reporter Rachel Ponder, rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil or 410-278-1149.

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

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AFAP tackles community concerns

Photo and story by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The 2013 Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) symposium brought out a variety of military and civilian members of Team APG who were ready to tackle new and old issues affecting the installation.

Participants included group facilitators, work group volunteers and subject matter experts, as well as Garrison directors and designated points of contact on hand to answer inquiries.

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) and Army Community Service (ACS) hosted the event Dec. 4-5, 2013.

The AFAP is one of the Army's principal programs to ensure that standards of living in the Army keep pace with changing times. It gives Soldiers, Families, retirees and civilian employees the opportunity to influence their own standards of living at the local as well as at the Department of the Army level.

The AFAP is a year-round process. Issues can be submitted online at www.myarmyonesource.com in the "Family Programs and Services" drop-down menu section under "Army Family Action Plan Issue Management System;" on the ACS website at www.apgmwr/community/acs.html.

During the opening program, APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton welcomed attendees and thanked them for their time. "AFAP plays a critical role in the services delivered to Soldiers, Family members, civilians and retirees across the Army," he said.

McClinton said issues raised at AFAP conferences across the Army are consolidated and presented to Army leadership, which uses this information to request funding from Congress.

"Things that you will talk about today will make a difference," McClinton said "Specific issues that you come up with today may be briefed to your congressman later this year."

During the Dec. 5 closeout led by ACS Director Janice Downey, McClinton and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin were briefed by group leaders. McClinton and Ervin listen carefully, offered clarifying information when needed and occasionally interjected their own recommendations.

McClinton cautioned that many perceived shortfalls were due to lack of funding, and that "no one knows what 2014 will bring." He encouraged those new to the process to continue to work together, regardless of budget constraints, to help keep APG an exemplary place to work and live.

"This is a great opportunity for you to be heard by the Garrison staff, and we'd like for you to continue to let your voices be heard through the Community Voice Committee (CVC), which meets on a recurring basis," he said. "Find out who your representatives are because they bring a lot to the table."

Ervin thanked the participants and praised them for their efforts.

"You answered an open invitation to attend and help us tackle tough issues we're facing in a constrained environment," he said. Adding that APG's unique dynamics make it "an installation with two locations," he said Team APG members should remember that "we all are one."

"Let's continue to get together and see how we can make things better," he said. "As long as we keep that perspective, we'll remain one Family."

Stimulating Ideas

The following are the 2013 AFAP work group topics and recommendations:

Work Group: Community Services

Topic 1: KUSAHC sick call services

Topic 2: Installation access

Topic 3: Traffic signals

APG North Sick Call Services

Scope: Currently, there are no APG North sick call services available. APG South has sick call services from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. For non-emergent medical services, the APG North Soldier is advised to make a scheduled appointment. Mission and Soldier readiness is impacted because Soldiers are receiving delayed medical care and reporting to work sick or injured.

Recommendations:

Provide sick call services at APG North to Soldiers equally – 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday – regardless of their living or working at APG North and South

Authorize APG North Soldiers access to APG South sick call

Work Group Recommendation:
Resolve at APG

APG Installation Access

Scope: There is a perception of inconsistency of proper identification checks at installation access points. It is perceived the volume of traffic and task repetition contributes to inconsistency and complacency, resulting in force protection concerns for the APG community.

Recommendations:

Educate APG community members on physical security processes and procedures at installation access points.

Implement the Automated Installation Entry (AIE) system to assist officers in decreasing manual ID checks.

Increase manned installation access points to decrease concentrated traffic volume.

Work Group Recommendation:
Resolve at APG.

Traffic Signals

Scope: There is an imbalance of traffic signal timing at the following intersections: (1) Maryland and Harford boulevards and (2) Deer Creek Loop and Maryland Boulevard. Going south on Maryland Boulevard from KUSAHC, the traffic signal is significantly shorter. Traveling inbound on Harford Boulevard turning left onto Maryland Boulevard does not authorize lanes to turn. Traveling inbound on MD 715 at Maryland Boulevard and Deer Creek Loop is extremely difficult turning left at peak travel hours. It causes back up in traffic and safety concerns.

Recommendation:

Install left turn signal inbound MD 715 and Deer Creek Loop intersection

Install left turn signal inbound Maryland and Harford Boulevard intersection

Install traffic light sensors at Maryland and Harford Boulevard intersection

Conduct a traffic survey and adjust traffic signals accordingly

Work Group Recommendation:
Resolve at APG

Work Group: Force Support/Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS)

Topic 1: CONUS commissaries

Topic 2: MWR activities

Topic 3: Installation security

CONUS Commissaries

Scope: Possible closure of commissaries within the Continental United States (CONUS) will impact Soldiers' Families' and retirees' finances. Cost increases of up to 30 percent, not including travel, place financial burdens on families. Another result would be the loss of job opportunities for food inspectors, Family members and retirees. There would also be loss of revenue to other post activities due to decreased traffic. Closure of commissaries would impact on morale and welfare programs such as Holiday Gift cards for junior enlisted Soldiers.

Recommendations:

Survey patron traffic point of sales to accumulate data on high usage periods to maximize profit during peak hours of operation

Increase surcharge in order to compensate for operation costs

Work Group Recommendation:
Forward

MWR activities

Scope: There is a lack of MWR activities and services on APG South. The MWR resources on APG South are not utilized to their full potential by the MWR management. This issue affects Soldiers and their families located at APG South by lowering morale and increasing their feeling of separation.

Recommendations:

1. Add a Leisure Travel Services office/representative with sales capabilities to

APG South branch of MWR

2. Improve advertisement of MWR activities to APG military and civilians at APG North and South [using banners,



(From left) Youth Work Group members Anthony Chase and Jessica Boyington share their ideas on how to improve APG during the Army Family Action Plan symposium at the Mallette Hall Auditorium Dec. 4.

fliers, email, smart phone app, etc.]

3. Alternate events between APG North and South to increase participation and camaraderie.

Resolve at APG

Installation security

Scope: The current Standard Operation Procedure for gate access does not properly secure the installation. The current perception is that there is an increased potential for unauthorized access to the installation, which leads to a sense of vulnerability and insecurity.

Recommendations:

1. Implement Defense Biometric Identification Data System (DBIDS) and scan all IDs

2. Recommend that 20 percent physical identification check be increased

3. Increase random vehicle inspections and utilize a cordoned-off area

Resolve at APG

Work Group: Youth

Topic 1: Middle School/Teen building

Topic 2: APG maintenance

Middle School/teen building

Scope: Middle school/teens do not have a designated building with adequate space for age-appropriate activities to occur. There are only two rooms with

limited spacing and capacity at the Bldg. 2522 Youth Center available for the middle school/teens. They lack the space to be productive and social with their peers, under qualified adult supervision, in order to help promote positive behaviors.

Recommendations:

Refurbish an existing building on APG dedicated exclusively to middle school/teen usage with qualified adult supervision.

Resolve at APG

APG Maintenance

Scope: There is a lack of maintenance on APG that directly affects the safety in the housing areas. Dogs are not being contained by the fencing currently in place. There are many areas without streetlights or with non-functioning streetlights. This lack of maintenance poses both personal safety and auto accident hazards.

Recommendations:

1. Execute stricter pet control policies and install higher fences to keep pets from getting loose

2. Repair existing streetlights and install lighting between the housing area and the youth center as well as leading up to both gates.

Resolve at APG.

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

USAGAPG

U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground

The Garrison manages and operates APG, home to more than 90 Garrison-supported activities, 15 satellite activities and eight private organizations. The USAGAPG also provides readiness and mobilization preparedness support to Reserve and National Guard units and other personnel. For information, call 410-278-1147 or visit www.TEAMAPG.com

Military OneSource offers free tax services

By **NICK SIMEONE**

American Forces Press Service

If it hasn't arrived yet, your 2013 W-2 wage and tax statement likely is on its way, and with it the countdown toward the April 15 tax filing deadline.

As preparations begin for the upcoming tax season, military families are being offered a no-cost to the customer service to ensure they can meet that deadline from anywhere they may be stationed around the world.

Military OneSource, partnering with H&R Block, is offering all active duty, Guard and reserve forces help in preparing their taxes and in filing their federal and state returns, in addition to the variety of other financial planning services it already provides free of charge.

"No matter where you are, when you call 800-342-9647 or go to [the Military OneSource website], you can access the programs and services," Tony Jackson, a military community and family policy analyst for the service told American Forces Press Service.

The program is designed to address the unique tax requirements and issues affecting military personnel and their families, Jackson said.

With many still likely dealing with holiday credit card bills, the April tax deadline may seem far off. But with many military families having to file multiple state tax returns in addition to federal taxes, beginning the work now on gathering tax-related documents can prevent headaches later.

"Now is the time to prepare, to gather your documents and your questions," Jackson said, "and [you can] speak to a tax consultant at no cost at Military OneSource."

Additional paperwork at tax time for those living outside their home state who may have rental property or may be subject to taxes where they are currently deployed is a common additional burden, he noted. Military OneSource will provide help filing a federal tax return, as well as up to three state returns, at no charge.

Jackson said some 224,000 federal and state tax returns were prepared for military families last year.

The program's tax experts are able to help military families navigate changes in

tax laws that may have a particular impact on or benefit for members of the military -- as well as any tax implications related to military benefits, he added.

"They are nationally certified financial planners, so they are definitely qualified to assist families and service members," regardless of the topic, Jackson said.

Reserve component members are eligible for the free service regardless of their activation status, as are veterans within 180 days of being discharged, retired or separated.

The Defense Department established Military OneSource in 2002 to provide comprehensive information on military life at no cost to military families.

(Follow Nick Simeone on Twitter: @SimeoneAFPS)

MRICD hosts acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for chemical and biological defense

By **CINDY KRONMAN**

MRICD

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (MRICD) started the new year hosting a visit on Jan. 10 from Dr. James "Ben" Petro, acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for chemical and biological defense. Petro met with MRICD's commander, Col. Bruce Schoneboom, the deputy commander, Lt. Col. Kevin Pitzer, the executive officer, Maj. Michael Hartenstine, and the director of the Science Program Analysis and Integration Office, Dr. James Dillman. He toured the chemical surety area and received a briefing on the MRICD's program for handling such materials.

Petro was impressed not only with the existing facility, but also with the improved capabilities of the new facilities in the MRICD's replacement building.

"The demonstration of the [storage facilities] gives me high confidence that MRICD is at the pinnacle of safety and security of chemical materials," said Petro.

Petro's tour of the replacement facility also highlighted many of the unique, state-of-the-art research features incorporated into the 526,000-square-foot build-

ing. According to Petro, the "impressive scope of capabilities that will be available to support the unique competencies of the MRICD staff" as well as their "commitment to the mission" augurs well for the continuing ability of the chemical biological defense program team "to address the most difficult strategic challenges facing our Nation's security." The replacement facility is nearing completion with its official ribbon cutting currently scheduled for May 1.

In addition to the tours, Petro and MRICD's command group discussed the institute's research on new chemical threats, its participation in the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons 4th Confidence Building Exercise, and issues related to the recruitment of talented young scientists to maintain the level of scientific expertise within the organization.

Col. Bruce Schoneboom (foreground) discusses with Dr. Ben Petro some of the safety and research-capability features of the new labs in the Institute's soon-to-be-completed replacement facility

U.S. Army Photo by Darrell Jesonis



PEO C3T fields new System training concept

By **NANCY JONES-BONBREST**
PEO C3T

With the Army's newest set of tactical network systems now in the hands of Soldiers who could be among the last to deploy to Afghanistan, the service is ensuring users master the power behind their communications gear.

To do this, the Army established a new System of Systems, or SoS, training concept drawing on lessons learned from previous units fielded with the integrated communications package known as Capability Set 13, or CS 13, including two brigade combat teams, known as BCTs, of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) that are now deployed to Afghanistan. The new approach embraces instruction on integrated systems capabilities, leverages Soldier knowledge and creates an underlying familiarity with how the equipment supports operations.

Using a train-the-trainer concept, the Army is instructing a "slice" of about 125 Soldiers from the 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), in order to establish proficiency with the network communications systems known collectively as CS 13, before introducing the gear to the full brigade for collective training events.

"We're the fourth brigade to have CS 13, but the first to go through the SoS training," said Capt. Justin Zevenbergen, communications officer with 3/101. "As signal Soldiers, we're being trained first on CS 13 before the whole brigade is out there, so when we do begin our event training we can then say, 'We're going to rock-n-roll this because we know it, we've done it.'"

Led by the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical, or PEO C3T, the SoS training is based directly on user feedback and marks a key step in increasing unit proficiency and network performance. CS 13 marked the first time the Army has delivered network systems not on an individual basis, but as an integrated communications package that spans the entire BCT formation, connecting the static tactical operations center to the commander on the move to the dismounted Soldier.

"At first it's overwhelming because there are so many moving pieces, but as time goes on and we keep working with

We continue to incorporate lessons learned from Capability Set fieldings and drive those into our processes so we get better every time

Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes
Program executive officer for C3T.

the equipment, I think it will get easier and easier," said Sgt. Brandon Pieper with the 3/101, who is also taking the training. "The systems are pretty easy to use and we're moving forward from the lessons learned."

As the Army continues to incrementally modernize the network and fields the follow-on CS 14 to additional units, including BCTs from the 82nd Airborne Division, this training concept will give Soldiers more time to learn the new systems and capabilities and maximize their effect. The right mix of technology and training will continue to evolve as the Army works to simplify the network, making it easier to use, train, maintain and sustain.

"We continue to incorporate lessons learned from Capability Set fieldings and drive those into our processes so we get better every time," said Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes, program executive officer for C3T. "Now we are focusing on simplifying our communications systems for the end user while delivering a pervasive network that meets their needs."

Also included in the SoS training is an overview course so commanders understand the network as an integrated combat multiplier and not just a collection of separate signal capabilities. A weekly technical "trail boss" meeting was added to keep training on schedule and troubleshoot any issues that arise.

"The idea is to get the brigade involved as much as possible, because that leads to good outcomes with CS 13," said Tom Eberle, PEO C3T's technical "trail boss" assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. "What the training allows them to do is to identify how the system is supposed to work. We wanted to help them help themselves. So we're training the units to do that."

The SoS training also focuses on "crew drills" that cross-train a collec-

tive crew on CS 13 systems -- both mounted and dismounted -- to ensure an overall understanding of how the systems function as a group in various mission scenarios.

CS 13 systems provide mobile satellite and robust radio capability connecting all echelons of a brigade combat team down to the dismounted Soldier, while improving battlefield awareness and reducing units' reliance on fixed infrastructure. This becomes increasingly important as U.S. forces continue to draw down and carry out advise-and-assist missions with the Afghan National Security Forces, turning over many of their Forward Operating Bases and other infrastructure and gradually losing fixed network locations.

Using CS 13, the 4th and 3rd BCTs, 10th Mountain Division (4/10 and 3/10) are exchanging information while on the move in treacherous terrain and digitally tracking and communicating with small groups of dismounted Soldiers who have spread out to remote locations as they advise their Afghan partners.

As the Army's first two units to receive CS 13 over the past year, both 4/10 and 3/10 faced an accelerated timeline for training with the equipment prior to deployment. As they completed their training exercises, the units recorded their experiences to pass along to their counterparts in 3/101 and 2/101. This input directly influenced the new SoS training concept, and highlighted the need for the Army to simplify network systems for the end user.

"Our big focus with this equipment is effective management of communications," said Chief Warrant Officer II Johnathan Bradley, a network technician with the 3/101. "It's making it possible for anybody to operate the equipment that needs to operate it. The end state is to get these guys famil-

iar enough with the equipment that they know when something is wrong and can mold it where it needs to go."

The 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), will continue training on CS 13 for the next several months prior to possible deployment in 2014.

The SoS training will evolve as the Army incorporates additional lessons learned from Afghanistan and from the Network Integration Evaluations, semi-annual events that leverage the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, conducting rigorous mission scenarios in a realistic operational environment at Fort Bliss, Texas, and White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Those lessons are continuously folded into the Army's tactics, techniques and procedures, so each unit can make optimal use of the equipment they receive and innovate new methods of use.

As it continues for future units, the SoS training will empower Soldiers and leaders with the technical knowledge to ensure the right information is delivered at the right time to make crucial mission command decisions. By fielding the network in Capability Sets, the Army is providing scalable and tailorable equipment that is responsive to what the commander needs to execute current and future missions.

Photo by Sgt. Eric Provost, Task Force Patriot PAO

Spc. Joshua Provo sends up coordinates to his higher command during a recent dismounted patrol using the integrated communications package Capability Set 13 equipment. The Army's new network System of Systems training concept draws on lessons learned from previous units fielded with CS 13, including the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), which is deployed to Afghanistan in support of advise-and-assist missions with the Afghan National Security Forces.

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Military invests in unmanned platforms

By **DAVID VERGUN**

Army News Service

Unmanned robots already have proven their worth on the battlefield, neutralizing improvised explosive devices, and more capable ones are coming in the future, according to the commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

While robots and unmanned platforms will continue to provide valuable assistance to Soldiers on the battlefield, there may even come a day when they can begin replacing Soldiers, Gen. Robert W. Cone told reporters at the Association of the U.S. Army's Aviation Symposium earlier this month.

Cone's remarks sparked further discussion at a Jan. 22 media roundtable, co-hosted by the College of William & Mary and U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, known as TRADOC, held on the campus of W&M.

Discussions focused on a range of other issues as well that came out of this month's Strategic Trends Seminar, which looked at challenges and opportunities that will test the force in the coming years and decades.

The Army already has teamed Apache helicopters and unmanned aircraft in Afghanistan so "there's a potential to augment that capability and in some cases and under specific circumstances to replace manpower," said Maj. Gen. Bill Hix, deputy director, Army Capabilities Integration Center.

Dismounted ground robots are already assisting Soldiers, much in the way a bird dog provides extra eyes and ears and a keen sense of smell for a hunter, Hix said, borrowing an analogy.

"That's an additive capability that makes a Soldier that much more effective because the robot may carry additional munitions or logistics and even sensors that allow him to focus more on mission tasks and not deal with what's sometimes called dirty, dumb, dangerous and repetitive tasks," he said.

There might even be convoys that are principally unmanned in the future, he continued, with some oversight by Soldiers. Convoys in Iraq, Afghanistan and



U.S. Army photo
Unmanned ground vehicles of different capabilities are displayed during the 2013 Association of the United States Army's Aviation Symposium and Exposition in Washington, D.C. Future robots will be even smarter and more capable, possibly replacing Soldiers, future planners say.

Pakistan were often the target of attacks by insurgents using improvised explosive devices and small-arms fire.

The integration of robotics into all of the capabilities the Army brings to the table was the focus of Soldiers, scientists and academia at the Strategic Trends Seminar, said Col. Chris Cross, chief of Science and Technology, Army Capabilities Integration Center, or ARCIC.

"It's hard to conceive that we'll fight a fight in 2035 without the integration of some type of unmanned combat platform," he said, referring to the thoughts of scientists and academia at the seminar.

Cross, who has a doctorate in nuclear physics, agreed with Hix regarding convoy duty for robots, adding that this capability could be added "fairly quickly" with tethered or untethered robots. Tethered robots are controlled by a wire and

untethered are wireless controlled.

Besides performing physical tasks that are dumb and dirty, Cross said he expects that future robots will be able to assist Soldiers in the decision-making process.

The science and technology community is looking at a range of options to provide to Army leaders for future planning purposes, Cross said.

"We will fight against robotic platforms in the future that are either autonomous or semi-autonomous," he said. So it's not just how robots will be integrated into the force, it's also how the Army will deal with enemy robots.

When it comes to the autonomous decision-making capability of robots, there was a great discussion at the seminar about the levels of responsibility, said Col. Kevin Felix, chief, Future Warfare Division, ARCIC.

Army continues to shatter glass ceiling

Women leaders serve as role models, whether they realize it or not

By **C. TODD LOPEZ**

Army News Service

Lt. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho, the Army's surgeon general, said she tried not to consider the role that her gender played in her professional development as she climbed higher through the ranks of the military.

But at some point, she said, it became inevitable that somebody would point it out to her. Just in 2011, in fact, as she had been named the first female, first non-physician to be appointed as the Army surgeon general, she was approached several times about the uniqueness of her position.

"The U.K. called, when I was in Afghanistan, and said, 'Congratulations -- how does it feel to know the entire world is watching to see if you succeed or fail?'" Horoho said. "I have to tell you, I was holding the phone and I thought, 'I'm not sure if I should be happy with the call or if I just got insulted.'"

Both Horoho and Lt. Gen. Flora D. Darpino, the Army's judge advocate general, or JAG, spoke Jan. 22, before the Women Mayors' Caucus in Washington, D.C. The caucus is part of the larger United States Conference of Mayors, for mayors of cities with 30,000 or more citizens. The group held its 82nd Winter Meeting, Jan 22-24, in the nation's capital.

Horoho said more recently she was approached by the Israeli surgeon general. "He said, 'You need to know when you got selected, it was the shot that was heard around the world. Because if the United States places a female in their highest position within Army medicine, then it caused other nations to look and say why aren't we doing that? Why aren't we following suit?'"

Later, Horoho said, two positions in the Israeli military opened up for women to command. And now there are discussions about should they be general officers. "That's a huge change," she said.

She said that France has also approached the Army, following her appointment to surgeon general, to ask for help with leader development of nurses.

"They are going to move their nurs-

es from being enlisted to officers, and they have taken a general officer slot and held it for that," she said. "They did that because they said watching the [U.S.] Army make that decision, they couldn't defend why they weren't doing that."

"What I learned from that is you serve as a role model, whether you realize you are doing that or not," Horoho said. "And there are people watching what you are doing, and the impact that you have can be huge."

On a more personal level, she told the women mayors in the room, fathers have approached her and told her that by having achieved her position as the Army's first female surgeon general, she has served as proof for their own daughters that anything is possible.

She told the mayors "there are young women, and there are fathers that are looking and saying if you all can serve as the mayor, my daughter can do that one day. Those are some of the lessons learned."

Darpino, the Army's first female judge advocate general, also spoke with the women mayors.

She explained her roles as JAG within the Army, including the senior military legal advisor to the secretary of the Army, the primary and principle attorney and counselor to the chief of staff of the Army, and the head of the JAG corps. She oversees attorneys, paralegals and professionals in the legal profession within the Army, worldwide.

"We have to be highly flexible, very adaptable, willing to change, and willing to learn," Darpino said.

As a second-generation Italian American, she said her father had told her they would need to work harder to get ahead.

"He basically inculcated us with the thought that in order for us to ever be considered equal, we always had to work harder and be better," she said. "As women, that hits home a little bit more. That's a lot of times how we feel. This idea of joining the military -- I was slightly naïve I must admit -- didn't seem that intimidating to me. And then I showed up at my first course."

There, she said, of 150 people, there were about seven women.

"I thought, 'I have picked not only a male-dominated profession, the law, I have picked a male-dominated organization, the Army,'" she said. "I'm really glad I didn't know what I was doing when I started."

Darpino relayed only one example of somebody in the Army who considered her gender before her professional capabilities -- an officer at her first assignment.



Surgeon General of the Army Lt. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho (left) and Judge Advocate General of the Army Lt. Gen. Flora D. Darpino, spoke Jan. 22, before the Women Mayors' Caucus in Washington, D.C. The caucus is part of the larger United States Conference. U.S. Army photo

After that, she said, she found that in the Army she was valued for her input and achievements, and not discriminated against for her gender.

"What I ran into were a bunch of people who judged me by how well I did," she said. "And as long as I did my very best, and gave my very best in this team sport, the Army, I continued to be promoted and given positions of greater responsibility."

Both officers spoke about their upbringing in the Army as women, but also spoke about the challenges they face in their current position.

One female mayor posed a question about the challenges of sexual assault in the Army. Darpino said sexual assault is not just an Army problem, but it is a problem where the Army has a unique ability to make a difference.

"Sexual assault is a societal problem, it is the most under-reported crime there is out there," she said. "But I feel the Army is better equipped to address this issue than a lot of the rest of society. Sexual assault is under-reported for a lot of reasons. Our studies have shown that the reason sexual assault is under-reported, is that the victim doesn't want people to know. It is a personal matter."

She said that retaliation for having reported a sexual assault -- retaliation by their peers, not their leadership -- is also a problem that keeps sexual assault in the Army an under-reported crime.

This is where, she said, the Army can make some headway. The military, she said, is a team. And youth can -- in the early stages of their career, in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, in Reserve Officer Training Corps, or in the Delayed Entry Program -- be taught that being on the team means not allowing your teammates to be assaulted.

"We bring 54,000 people into the Army

The technology is already here for robots, but there needs to be more discussion and consensus on the ethics of it, he said. That discussion will have to be done at the national level.

And, he added, adversaries "won't necessarily play by the same rules that we play by."

Also, as more robotic systems are brought in, there are a host of other things to consider as well, like procurement and sustainment costs, he said.

Human enhancements -- things that allow Soldiers to lift more and augment the senses -- while not strictly robotic, are also on the horizon, Felix predicted, adding that this was discussed at the seminar.

Investing in Science

Despite the budget squeeze, the Army needs to continue to invest in science, technology, research and development so it's better prepared for the next war, Hix said.

That the Strategic Trends Seminar was held on the campus of W&M with scientists and academia present was good for the Army, he said, because they offer a unique perspective.

It's fortunate that TRADOC is located so close to the W&M campus in Williamsburg, Va., added Dr. Jim Golden, vice president, Strategic Initiatives, W&M.

There's a large area of intersection between the research being done at the college and that being done by Army planners, Golden said. W&M can offer the Army its analysis of topics like neuroscience, cultural and societal trends that might shape the environment 30 years out that the Army might want to take into consideration when planning, he said.

Hix said TRADOC is also partnering with the intelligence community to determine where opponents are investing their money in robotics, electro-magnetic and cyber warfare and other capabilities.

"It's not inevitable that we'll be over-matched by future adversaries," he said, "But we don't want to face that prospect."

a year," she said. "And they are young. The vast majority of our victims are between the ages of 18-24. That would be about 75 percent of our victims. They are the ones who have just come in. Who are the people that are sexually assaulting them? About the exact same age group. So we have an opportunity to start, which we have been doing in our JROTC programs, in our college ROTC programs, in our Delayed Entry Programs ... working with them, in the culture change. That is, as a member of the team, if you see something, you have to stop it."

Regarding youth, Horoho told mayors it is a national "strategic vulnerability" that only 25 percent of youths aged 17-24 meet the health and fitness criteria to join the Army.

"We're not getting healthier as a nation," she said. Some 1/3 of Americans will have diabetes by the 2045-2050 timeframe, she said. And 70 percent of illnesses across the nation are preventable.

Within the Army, she said, the service has rolled out its "Performance Triad" effort, focused on eating right, sleeping right, and getting the right amount of physical activity to stay healthy -- and to stay ready for combat.

"We are focusing on brain health, to really improve the health of our service members and their families," she said.

She said she hopes the Army's efforts at a fitness revolution will persuade others to follow suit.

"We provide health care across five continents," she said. "If we can take the Army and 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.]"

New technologies to create new Army

Army looks to blend cyber, electronic warfare capabilities on the battlefield

By **KRISTEN KUSHIYAMA**
CERDEC Public Affairs

As new technologies emerge and new cyber and electronic warfare threats plague Soldiers in the field, U.S. Army scientists and engineers continue to define next-generation protocols and system architectures to help develop technology capabilities to combat these threats in an integrated and expedited fashion.

As part of the Integrated Cyber and Electronic Warfare, or ICE, program, the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's communications-electronics center, known as CERDEC, researches the technologies, standards and architectures to support the use of common mechanisms used for the rapid development and integration of third-party cyber and electronic warfare, or EW, capabilities.

"Currently, within cyber and EW disciplines there are different supporting force structures and users equipped with disparate tools, capabilities and frameworks," said Paul Robb Jr., chief of CERDEC Intelligence and Information Warfare Directorate's Cyber Technology Branch.

"Under the ICE program we look to define common data contexts and software control mechanisms to allow these existing frameworks to communicate in a manner that would support the concurrent leveraging of available tactical capabilities based on which asset on the battlefield provides the best projected military outcome at a particular point in time," said Robb.

The boundaries between traditional cyber threats such as someone hacking a laptop through the Internet, and traditional EW threats such as radio-controlled improvised explosive devices that use the electromagnetic spectrum have blurred allowing EW systems to access the data stream to combat EW threats, according to Giorgio Bertoli, senior engineer of CERDEC I2WD's Cyber/Offensive Operations Division.

Additionally, significant technological advancements including a trend towards wireless in commercial applications and military systems have occurred over the last decade, said Bertoli.

"This blending of networks and systems, known as convergence, will continue and with it come significant implications as to how the Army must fight in the cyber environment of today and tomorrow," said Bertoli.

"The concept of technology conver-

gence originated as a means to describe the amalgamation of traditional wired versus wireless commercial services and applications but has recently evolved to also include global technology trends and U.S. Army operational connotations -- specifically in the context of converging cyber and EW operations," said Bertoli.

The Army finds itself in a unique position to help mitigate adverse outcomes due to this convergence trend.

"Post force deployment, the Army has the vast majority of sensors and EW assets on the tactical battlefield compared to any other service or organization posing both risks and opportunities. Our military's reliance on COTS [commercial-of-the-shelf] systems and wireless communications presents a venue for our adversaries to attack. Conversely, the proximity and high density of receivers and transmitters that we deploy can be leveraged to enable both EW and cyber operations," said Bertoli.

"The ability to leverage both cyber and EW capabilities as an integrated system, acting as a force multiplier increasing the commander's situational awareness of the cyber electromagnetic environment, will improve the commander's ability to achieve desired operational effects," said Robb.

A paradigm shift in how the Army views system and technology development will further enhance CERDEC's ability to rapidly adapt to new cyber and EW threats.

"The biggest hindrance we have right now is not a technological one, it's an operational and policy one," said Bertoli. "The Army traditionally likes to build systems for a specific purpose - build a radio to be a radio, build an EW system to be an EW system, but these hardware systems today have significantly more inherent capabilities."

To demonstrate the concepts of multi-capability systems, CERDEC chose not to solely focus its science and technology efforts on researching solutions to address specific cyber and EW threats but also to develop the architecture onto which scientists and engineers can rapidly develop and integrate new, more capable solutions.

"As an example, the World Wide Web has grown into an architecture that is so powerful your tech savvy 10-year-old can build a website --- and a pretty powerful one at that," said Bertoli. "The only reason this is possible is because there is a wealth of common tools, like web browsers and servers, and standards such as HTML or HTTP already in place for them to use."

"The ICE program is attempting to extend this model to the cyber and EW community by providing mechanisms to enable the leveraging of available tactical assets to support cyberspace operation mission sets. Early focus revolves around the development of augmented situation-awareness capabilities but will evolve to include the enabling of a multitude of cyberspace operations," said Bertoli.

ICE will provide the Army with common tools and standards for developing and integrating cyber and EW capabilities.



The U.S. Army RDECOM CERDEC Integrated Cyber and Electronic Warfare, or ICE, program looks to leverage both cyber and EW capabilities as an integrated system to increase the commander's situational awareness. CERDEC is focusing its science and technology efforts on researching solutions to address specific cyber and EW threats and developing the architecture onto which scientists and engineers can rapidly develop and integrate new more capable solutions.

"Capabilities can be developed to combat EM [electromagnetic] and cyber threats individually, but this is neither time nor cost effective and simply will not scale in the long term. The domain is just too large and will only continue to expand," said Bertoli.

"In the end, we [CERDEC] believe this is the only way the Army will be able to keep pace with the anticipated technology advancements and rate of change related to cyberspace and the systems that comprise it," said Bertoli.

The Army acquisition community has also seen changes in the relationship between cyber and EW.

"Tactical EW systems and sensors provide for significant points of presence on the battlefield and can be used for cyber situational awareness and as delivery platforms for precision cyber effects to provide a means of Electronic Counter Measures and Electronic Counter Measures for instance," said Col. Joseph Dupont, program manager for EW under Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we must provide for a more integrated approach to cyber warfare, electronic warfare and electromagnetic operations to be successful in the future conduct of unified land operations," said Dupont.

CERDEC, as the Army's research and development experts in cyber and EW, works closely with the Program Executive Offices, the Army's Training and Doctrine Command and Army Cyber Command to shape operational concepts and doctrine by providing technical expertise regarding technically achievable solutions in the context of the tactical cyberspace operations and supporting materiel capabilities for the Army.

In addition to working with the

Army's strategy and policy makers, CERDEC I2WD has tapped into its facilities and pre-existing expertise to further the ICE program.

CERDEC I2WD maintains state-of-the-art laboratories that support both closed and open air testing facilities to provide relevant environment conditions to conduct research that provides a seamless cyber-electromagnetic environment with both wired and wireless modern communication infrastructure.

"We leverage these facilities and our inherent core competencies in cyber, EW and signals intelligence to engage with the Army and the community at large, both academia and industry partners, to collaborate on developing and integrating relevant technologies to achieve domain superiority in a changing environment," said Robb.

The fully-instrumented labs include commercial information assurance products and allow for in-depth experimentation while sustaining automated rapid network re-configuration technology and virtualization technologies to support scalable testing. Additionally, I2WD expands its potential environment by maintaining remote connections with external government sites, which also enables collaborative experiments.

The combination of these assets and expertise allows CERDEC to demonstrate achievable capability improvements related to cyber and EW convergence.

"During the next three years, the biggest thing we can do within the ICE effort is show the art-of-the-possible by providing technology demonstrations on both existing and experimental Army systems to provide concrete proof of the advantages such a capability can provide," said Bertoli.

Summa cum laude student leverages PEO C3T internship for role in Air Force Reserve

By **KATHRYN BAILEY**
PEO C3T

After serving for three summers as intern in the Program Executive Office for Command, Control, Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T), Summa cum laude student Sarah Coile leveraged her experience and enlisted in the Air Force Reserve to become an aerospace medical technician.

"I have been able to do and learn many new things during these past summers, but I most enjoyed learning how a product manager office operates," Coile said. "I saw the many great things our programs continually do for our Soldiers."

Through the Army's Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP), Coile was assigned as a civilian employee of PEO C3T's Product Manger Tactical Mission Command (TMC), part of Project Manager Mission Command (PM MC). STEP enables students to gain hands-on experience and practical training to enhance their future careers.

Coile first learned about the program from her father, Lt. Col. Gregory Coile, who at the time was assigned to the PM Warfighter Information Network-Tactical, also assigned to PEO C3T. She said she would recommend a STEP internship to other young adults as an opportunity to learn the inner workings of a professional environment, observe outstanding leaders and work with exceptional people.

"My advice to anyone would be to start early, ask lots of questions, listen and learn from everyone, and be involved in as many different areas as you can," Sarah Coile said. "It gives you a great idea of what you want and don't want to do for a career."

Coile's duties as an office automation clerk expanded over the years, broadening her understanding of the inner workings of PM MC. While some of her clerical responsibilities remained the same throughout her tenure, her final year brought about new opportunities. She ran the weekly TMC Roundtable Meeting, compiled weekly activity reports, worked as a Manpower Information Retrieval and Reporting System administrator, entered data for the Logistics Operations Information System and assisted with the set up of a technical demonstration for PM MC's 30th Anniversary celebration.

"I have only known Sarah this past

summer, and was pleasantly surprised at her level of professionalism and her ability to get things done with little to no supervision," said Lisa Bellamy, deputy product manager for TMC. "Her experience here in the government as a participant in the intern program has provided her with skills that put her at a clear advantage over other young adults entering the workforce today."

Coile's duties culminated in a trip to Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., with the Research, Development and Engineering Command, allowing her to see state of the art technologies that will soon be available to Soldiers.

"This trip was the best thing that I did that summer," she said. "They showed us around their labs and I was able to see some very cool things, such as a 3-D printer, mortars and the technology that aims them, and I had hands-on experience with some new technologies like Google glass,

which is the latest heads-up display technology being reviewed for our Warfighters."

Coile graduated high school in May 2013, earning Summa cum laude honors from Redeemer Classical Christian School in Kingsville. Her graduation earned her promotion to General Schedule (GS) 2 pay scale. Coile always assumed she would go directly to college following high school, and was accepted to 10 schools during the last year. However, because of the experiences she had during her internship at PEO C3T and as an Army family member, an alternate path seemed to be calling.

"I knew I was at a turning point in my life, and I knew I wanted to do something fun with a little adventure before I went to college," Coile said. "I also wanted the privilege of serving my country, making lifelong friends and traveling overseas."

Coile enlisted with the Air Force on July 19, 2013, and attended Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Tex. She graduated in November, and now is set to attend technical school at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., to obtain the training needed to become an aerospace medical technician. She anticipates her training to be complete this April.

"I want to thank TMC and Mission Command for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the PEO C3T family for the past three summers," Coile said. "The experience I've gained as intern has been invaluable."

My advice to anyone would be to start early, ask lots of questions, listen and learn from everyone, and be involved in as many different areas as you can. It gives you a great idea of what you want and don't want to do for a career.

Sarah Coile

Summa cum laude student

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TODAY

JANUARY 30 RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

The next RAB meeting will be held on Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center in Edgewood. The topic of discussion will be an update on The Bush River Study Area.

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 4 GARRISON TOWN HALL

Garrison staff is invited to attend the Garrison Town Hall at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater at 10 a.m. APG South (Edgewood) staff may join via VTC at the EA Conference Center, Bldg. E4810.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Results of the recent climate survey
- Retirement Planning Class Overview
- Employee Assistance Program
- DFMWR Spring Trips and Programs
- Summer Camp Offerings

A Q&A session will be held during this event. To submit questions in advance, email usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil. For more information about the Garrison Town Hall, contact Lisa McClure at lisa.a.mcclure9.civ@mail.mil, (410) 278-0003.

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 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 stu-

dents, 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>.

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.

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
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Freidman, Mariann
Nunley, Dana
Solomon, Je'Neane
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Cwiernie, Victoria L
Jones, Michelle
Calahan, Jane
Martino, Rose
Birch, Garfield
Crawford, Curtis
Green-Farley, Jessica
Scott, Chandria

Walker, Cally
Winne, Janeen
McClintick, Jill
Smith, Deborah
Rodriguez, Pedro
Blethen, Matthew
Wilding, Jasmine
Robinson, Lisa
Chang, Jennifer
Alexander, Patricia
Eberhardt, Joanne
Fike, Curtis
Gunter, Angeline
Humes, Lashonda
Lee, Aileen
Lowry, Teresa
Poole, Rodney
Torrise, Carmen

Williams, Jonathan
Wright, Sameisha
Young, Trier
Caron, Lois
Corun, Charlene
Hoffman, William
Sweeney, Joseph
Park, Jessica
Blethen, Lena
Cobb, Joyce
King, Beverly
Shelton, Lena
Robinson, Jennifer
Sumic, Angie
Small, Errol
Whittingham-Fields,
Takeyce

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 nonprofit 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/se7hTkwmbO8>

CYSS PARTNERS WITH HOMESCHOOLERS

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

FRIDAY NIGHT OPEN RECREATION FOR TEENS

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

YOUTH CENTER OPENINGS

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

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>



Catherina Winn

Homework/Tech Lab Program Associate

As the Child, Youth and School Service (CYSS) homework/tech lab program associate, Catherina Winn provides homework and education assistance to children of the APG South (Edgewood) Youth Center. The daughter of a retired Army officer, Winn has 13 years of U.S. government experience, working both in Germany and at Aberdeen Proving Ground. She most recently returned to Edgewood from APG North (Aberdeen) in 2012 to work at the center and said making an impact on children's lives is what makes her job rewarding.

"The experiences are adventurous and exciting," she said. "Everything we do is so concrete to life. I feel like we have made an impact on each individual for life, which will help aid them forever. ... I have enjoyed working with children and making a difference. I really am a 'kid at heart' myself."

Winn's additional duties include accounting for the center's food inventory, planning and implementing after-school lesson plans, guiding and directing staff, and planning and coordinating summer program and accompanying field trips. She

also guides and directs staff, along with planning, coordinating and implementing summer programs.

Winn has a B.A. in elementary education from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland and two Child Development Associate Credentials (CDA) in infant, toddlers and school age children from the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Washington, D.C.

The youth center offers continuous monthly and family-oriented programs such as Family Night, 4-H, Boys and Girls Club, community service opportunities, and many others. However, Winn said the center could not run without the help of a joint staff effort. "My colleagues and I, we're like family here," Winn said. "We have a harmony. We're making the difference, putting smiles on children's faces. We're giving opportunities for children to engage in learning experiences that will help them as individuals in their futures."

To learn more about the APG South (Edgewood) Youth Center, visit http://www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_ys.html.



MORE ONLINE

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

Five Soldiers selected for U.S. Olympic team

By **TIM HIPPS**

U.S. Army Installation Management Command

Five Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program have been selected for the U.S. Olympic men's bobsled team that will compete at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Capt. Chris Fogt, Sgt. Justin Olsen, Sgt. Nick Cunningham, Sgt. Dallas Robinson and Team USA assistant coach 1st Lt. Michael Kohn will represent the U.S. Army in Russia. With the exception of Robinson, everyone in the group has previously competed in the Olympics.

They will be joined by former U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, or WCAP, bobsledder Steven Holcomb, the reigning Olympic champion driver in the four-man event. Therefore, the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program had a hand in helping produce about half of the U.S. Olympic men's bobsled squad.

Holcomb, who spent seven years in WCAP, will drive USA-1 with brakeman Fogt and civilians Curt Tomasevich and Steve Langton aboard. Holcomb also will drive USA-1 in the two-man event.

Cunningham will drive USA-2 with WCAP teammates Olsen, Robinson and civilian Johnny Quinn aboard. Olsen was a member of Holcomb's four-man squad that struck gold at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.

Cunningham and Corey Butner also will pilot U.S. sleds in the two-man event. The two-man bobsled brakemen will be selected from the pool of six push athletes named to the four-man squads.

A number of components were considered when selecting the 2014 U.S. Olympic Bobsled Team push athletes, including combine test and U.S. National Push Championship results, U.S. National Team Trials finishes, driver input, proven international experience with a history of results and team combinations working well together, trend of push times, start rank and velocity, and current season results.

Nations were allocated Olympic quotas based on rank in international points following seven competitions during the 2013-2014 season. The U.S. was one of three nations that qualified to enter the maximum of three teams in men's two-man bobsled competition, and one of only two nations to qualify the maximum of three sleds in the women's race. The U.S. was not one of the top three nations in four-man bobsled



standings and is limited to two crews.

The Olympic bobsled events are scheduled for a four-heat format over two days of racing. The men's two-man bobsled competition is slated for Feb. 16-17, followed by women's bobsled Feb. 18-19. The men's four-man bobsled competition will be one of the last events of the Olympic Games, set for Feb. 22-23.

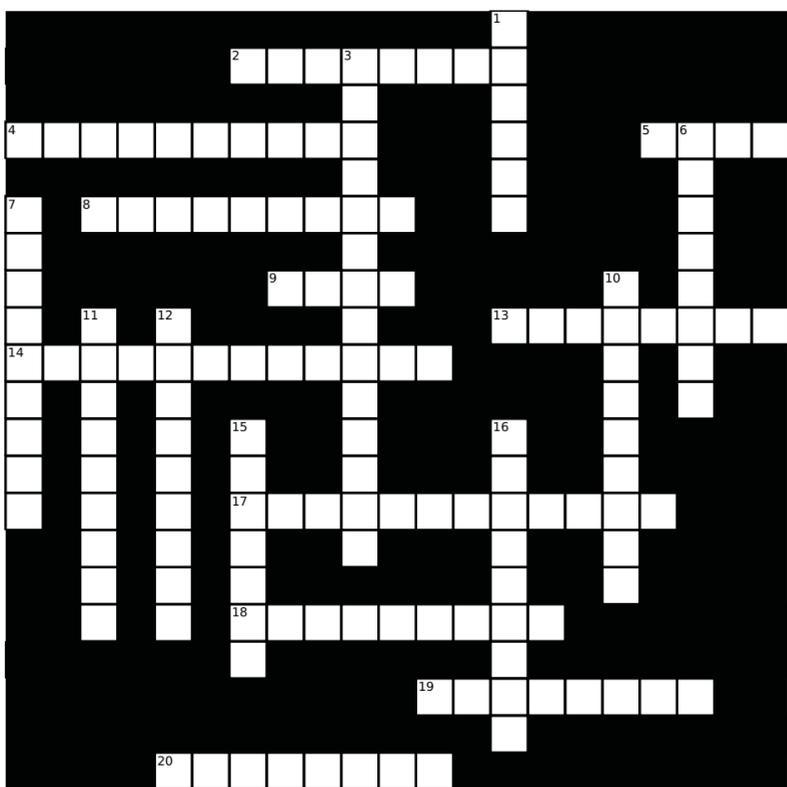
(Top) Former U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program and reigning Olympic four-man bobsled champion driver Steven Holcomb (right) and WCAP Capt. Chris Fogt start their first run en route to winning the two-man bobsled event, Dec. 6, 2013, at the 2013 World Cup.

(Below) Sgt. Nick Cunningham and Sgt. Dallas Robinson of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program speed through Turn 6 en route to a second-place finish behind Holcomb and Fogt in the two-man bobsled event.

U.S. Army Photo



The APG Crossword



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

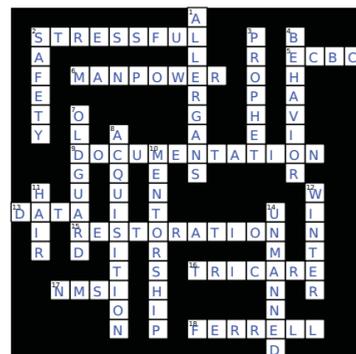
- USAGAP is an acronym for U.S. Army _____ Aberdeen Proving Ground.
- EW is an acronym for _____ warfare.
- _____ (acronym) enables students to gain hands-on experience and practical training to enhance their future careers.
- Elkton was once known as the "_____ Capital of the East Coast".
- The _____ is one of the Army's principal programs to ensure that standards of living in the Army keep pace with changing times.
- _____ theft occurs when hackers gain access to your personal information.
- DoD Dependents Schools-Europe and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Europe District are working together to revitalize dilapidated _____.
- Team APG will celebrate _____ (2 words) month on Feb. 26.
- The acronym COE abbreviates Corps of _____.
- MRICD is an acronym for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of _____ Defense.
- While robots and _____ platforms will continue to provide valuable assistance to Soldiers on the battlefield, there may come a day when they can begin replacing Soldiers.

Down

- _____ APG is a twice-weekly radio program featuring APG commanders and subject matter experts.
- Some 60 percent of Army aviation mission requests in Afghanistan are for ISR, which stands for intelligence, surveillance and _____.

- PEO C3T is fielding a new System _____ concept.
- The _____ ChalleNGe Academy inducted 111 cadets into class #42 recently.
- Military _____ (two words) is offering active duty, Guard and reserve forces help in preparing their taxes.
- USAGAP is sponsoring a Slim Down _____ to promote healthy lifestyles and weight loss.
- AMSAA's Holiday Family _____ worked throughout the year to provide for local families during the holidays.
- Five soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program have been selected for the U.S. Olympic men's _____ team in the upcoming 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.
- More than 100 APG soldiers and civilians were trained on the Officer Evaluation Report by a mobile training team from the U.S. Army Human _____ Command.

Solution to the Jan. 23 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

Smooth sailing against the tradewinds

Army aviation innovating despite budgetary obstacles

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

Fewer dollars means that for Army aviation to remain relevant and ready, it will need to better partner with industry and its sister services, become more flexible and expeditionary, and equip its squadrons with the best intelligence tools it can afford.

That was one assessment posited during a panel discussion at the Association of the United States Army's Aviation Symposium Jan. 15 in Arlington, Va.

Despite a shrinking budget, Army aviation will continue to become even more valuable to commanders and Soldiers on the ground through its investment in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or ISR, sensors and software, said panel member Lt. Gen. Mary A. Legere, deputy chief of staff, Army G-2.

Some 60 percent of Army aviation mission requests in Afghanistan are for ISR. These types of missions are becoming so critical that high-level military intelligence officers are being embedded in the combat aviation brigades, or CABs, to assist commanders and provide improved integration, Legere said.

As the unmanned aerial system transitions to the Gray Eagle, Army aviation's intel capabilities will further increase, she said, and although the cost of adding new sensors will not go down, those sensors will be smarter and add increased capability for target identification and acquisition.

Further improvements are needed, she said, in training, cultural understanding and leader development as it relates to the integration of the intelligence and aviation communities.

She illustrated the importance of intelligence on the battlefield and how aviation can assist with that, using a movie analogy. In the 2012 film "Zero Dark Thirty," which chronicled the capture of Osama Bin Laden, she said, "Ninety-nine percent of the time was spent looking for the enemy and the last one percent was dropping the bomb."

The future of Army aviation will include more sealift capability as expeditionary requirements increase, predicted panel member Lt. Gen. James O. Barclay III, deputy chief of staff, Army G-8.

He also said future programs, in order to survive, will increasingly have to have a "joint capability" aspect to them. The services will also need to operate and cooperate much more effectively, Barclay said.

Panel member Maj. Gen. William T. Crosby, program executive officer, Avia-



U.S. Army graphic
Fewer dollars means that for Army aviation to remain relevant and ready, it will need to better partner with industry and its sister services, become more flexible and expeditionary and equip its squadrons with the best intelligence tools it can afford.

tion, pointed to the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter as an example of successful joint-service cooperation. "It was one of the most successful examples of a joint program working," he said. "We should try to use that as a model."

Cooperation with industry partners is also important, Crosby said. As Army aviation acquires intellectual property, it needs to protect the research and development investments that industry has made in those properties, meaning those investments need to be incentivized.

Phillips agreed with Crosby's assessment, adding that Army aviation needs to communicate clearly its requirements so industry doesn't waste resources on things the Army won't buy.

Lean But Still Mean

Although Army aviation will have a smaller force structure, it will likely have effective capabilities if investments continue to be made in science and technology, or S&T, said panel member Lt. Gen. William N. Phillips, military deputy/director, Army Acquisition Corps, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology).

A smaller but still capable force could be tailored to be globally responsive for regionally aligned missions, he added.

"Our best program managers are linked back into the S&T community," Phillips said. "They know what's being researched, worked on, and tested, things that will enhance our capability and in some cases backfill our requirements down the road."

He used the example of research into

load bearing on old helicopter platforms, which are increasingly carrying more weight as new equipment is added.

Barclay also said operational energy will continue to be important to Army aviation, as helicopter engines become more fuel efficient -- up to 25 percent more.

He cited cost savings in fuel and a decreased logistical tail and said senior Army leaders realize the benefits. Barclay said he'd like to see Army aviation continue to lead the military in its energy-saving endeavors.

Besides leading in energy development, Barclay noted that Army aviation will continue taking a lead role in drawing down troops and equipment from Afghanistan, with the demand for aircraft increasing as troops and their gear decrease.

Barclay said there's enough in the overseas contingency operation budget to make that happen this year and what happens next depends on the level of forces that will remain, pending a security agreement with the Afghan government.

An area that concerns him, and that needs careful monitoring, is funding for reset. Barclay noted that once a piece of gear leaves Afghanistan, funding for three years is needed as that gear goes through the reset process at the depots and arsenals.

View from the Hill

Congress will delve fully into Army aviation concerns until after the current budget is passed, and then only after it sees the fiscal year 2015 budget proposals from the services, said panel member John Wason, professional staff member, House

Armed Services Committee.

So far, Army leadership "has been very engaging [with Congress] in describing what they need and the challenges facing the Army," he said, encouraging leaders to continue to be forthright.

"Bottom line, in the face of constrained resources, Congress will do what it needs to do to meet the national security strategy requirements," he said, meaning that he predicts legislators won't be fixated with which component or service gets what, but they'll be focusing instead on overall military readiness coupled with budgetary considerations.

Although the Army has gotten a budget reprieve in fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015, Wason said sequestration "is still very much alive and well and there will continue to be long-term and sometimes unforeseen effects."

The House Armed Services Committee will begin debating the fiscal year 2015 budget in June, he said. Then it will wait for the Senate's deliberations.

Wason said this year will likely be different from other years when the service chiefs and secretaries appeared before the subcommittee. He thinks this year the combatant commanders will be invited to testify first before the details of the budget are hashed out.

Members in the House and Senate will be asking a lot of questions about force structure and how Army aviation can accomplish its mission with less, he said. "It will be a process of continual engagement."

Army wants to get school facilities in SHAPE

By **VINCE LITTLE**
USACE

Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Europe District are engaged in a robust military construction program designed to revitalize dilapidated schoolhouses, some of which were built in the post-World War II era.

It's part of a multibillion-dollar effort by the Department of Defense Education Activity, or DODEA, to replace or renovate more than 130 schools worldwide based on age or failing conditions. The vision is to align 21st century instruction and learning concepts with state-of-the-art facilities that maximize energy and sustainability features while giving military children the best possible opportunities during their intellectual growth, officials say.

Units, agencies and organizations throughout the DOD face rapidly changing strategic and fiscal realities. However, the need for new schools at a time of budget uncertainty boils down to upkeep, said Jose Tovar, the Defense Dependents Schools, or DODDS-Europe facilities manager.

"Maintenance requires a lot of investment -- many of our assets date to the 1940s and '50s. The infrastructure has deteriorated, and costs are high," he said. "Broken walls, chipped paint, aging classrooms, and old heating and cooling systems are not conducive to good learning environments. It's more cost effective to replace it than fix it."

In 2008, DODEA submitted a report to Congress on the condition of its facilities worldwide. Tovar said DODEA now conducts those assessments every three years, and they serve as the basis for what's being done to refurbish old schools or build new ones.

“These communities will be getting some quality schools for minimal investment. These buildings are ideally suited for a life span of 50 years. They’re also conducive to the presidentially mandated STEM [science, technology, engineering and math] program

Lisa Bobotas

DODDS program manager for USACE-Europe District

The DODEA military construction initiative began in October 2010, and is expected to run through fiscal year 2019. Europe's portion includes more than 40 projects worth \$1.8 billion in Germany, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Turkey, according to Lisa Bobotas, the DODDS program manager for USACE-Europe District.

In November, ground was broken on a new elementary and high school complex at Panzer Local Training Area near Stuttgart, as well as a project that will expand the middle and high schools in Ansbach. Work is scheduled to begin this spring on an addition to Netzaberg Middle School in Grafenwoehr.

The centerpiece event this year will be the unveiling of three DODDS-Europe schools on the NATO base at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Belgium. The American elementary and middle schools are expected to open by the start of next school year, while the high school should be finished by sometime the following winter.

"The SHAPE schools have traditional designs," Tovar said, "but every bit of those buildings will be used for learning.

We don't have any wasted space."

All future DODDS-Europe projects are subject to shifting priorities, so funding levels could fluctuate, he added. The Office of the Secretary of Defense is set to release its European Infrastructure Consolidation, or EIC, study, in March.

Bob Purttiman, a DODDS-Europe spokesman, said the U.S. student population sat at about 40,000, in 2008. Today, that figure is down to 30,000.

"The EIC will give us some clarity," Tovar said. "It looks at where our assets can be consolidated. We'll know where the troops are going to be, and in turn, where our students need to be. We're in a tight budget environment. Our focus will remain on enduring locations that have been identified in Europe."

Other projects already funded in fiscal year 2014 include Hainerberg Elementary, Wiesbaden Middle School, Kaiserslautern Elementary and Ramstein High School in Germany, along with Lakenheath High School in England.

"These communities will be getting some quality schools for minimal investment," Bobotas said. "These buildings are ideally suited for a life span of 50

years. They're also conducive to the presidentially mandated STEM [science, technology, engineering and math] program. [But] doing this right and economically are the most important things."

DODEA's construction and renovation program will ultimately result in the replacement or overhaul of more than 70 percent of its 194 schools. Major projects normally require five years to complete as the steps encompass proposal, approval, funding, planning, design and construction.

Tovar said the organization also is moving toward a "21st Century Teaching and Learning" model that is more than just facility design. Current schools don't inhibit this transition from happening, but new facilities will significantly simplify and ease the change in focus from teacher-centered to student-centered education.

With the exception of SHAPE and the two Stuttgart facilities, all the replacement projects in Europe are being engineered around the "21st-century" concepts, he added. Planners will maximize resources and look toward the future of teaching and learning to determine how the buildings can accommodate the technology, refined curriculum and innovation that will occur in classrooms.

DODDS-Europe and USACE officials say the new schools incorporate many energy-saving and sustainability features aimed at increasing durability and reducing taxpayer expense. Among them is the use of natural lighting, solar panels, "green" roofs, rainwater harvesting, low-flow faucets and fixtures, and sophisticated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems.

"Our repair costs will go down," Tovar said. "In the long run, the energy savings should be significant."

APG NEWS

This Week in APG News history

By ALAN FEILER



Pvt. Vincenta Manalisay Of Guam Assigned To WAC Det.



Private Vincenta A. Manalisay

50 Years Ago (Jan. 30, 1964)

Clockwise from top left:
The Alley Cats of the APG Women's League set a new team series high after crushing the Bomberettes, 4-0. The Alley Cats' Carolyn Trahern leads the way for the team in high scores, followed by Verna Newton and Betty Bucchi. The Cats' victory upped their league-leading margin to seven games over the second-place Sparks team. ...Private Vincenta A. Manalisay, 19, a native of Guam, has been assigned to APG's WAC Detachment unit. Manalisay comes to APG from basic training at Fort McClellan, Ala. She is an Army-trained clerk typist assigned to the Ballistic Research Laboratory here. Vincenta - or Mona Lisa as she is known in the Detachment - says that she grew up in Guam with "an intense respect" for the United States and its military service. ... ATEC's Scientific Advisory Group prepares to hold its first annual meeting in the conference room of USATEC headquarters at APG. The group was formed as a result of the outgrowth of the recent Army reorganization to greatly reduce the size of the parent organization, the Army Scientific Panel.

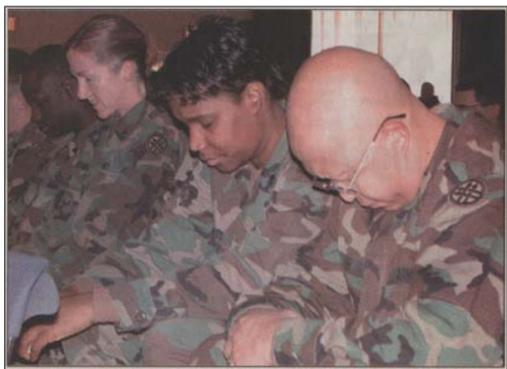
25 Years Ago (Feb. 1, 1989)

Clockwise starting from left:
... A vintage mortar round from World War I has been discovered on a construction site at APG South (Edgewood). Explosive ordnance experts from the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit responded to the scene and moved the 22-inch Livins mortar round, filled with an unidentified liquid, to J Field, an isolated section in the Edgewood Area. The round was blown up there, the area was subsequently monitored, and there were no traces of chemical agents. ... Members of APG's environmental management staffs and the U.S. Army Combat Systems Test Activity, along with a representative of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, have counted 101 adult and immature bald eagles during their annual mid-winter count of the American national bird. That figure is up from 87 the previous year. "It makes APG home for one of the largest concentrations of bald eagle in the upper Chesapeake Bay region," says Stephen Wampler, APG environmental specialist. ... Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hi.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, visits APG's Main Front for a demonstration and praises team members for a "job well done."



Main Front visitor

Senator Daniel K. Inouye, chairman, Defense Sub-Committee Senate Appropriations Committee, gives praise for a job well done following a demonstration Jan. 27 on Aberdeen Proving Ground's Main Front. Pictured from left over Col. John H. Van Zant, commander, U.S. Army Combat Systems Test Activity; Inouye; William A. Bartz Jr., senior test director; Gary A. O'Neal, MIAI gunner; and Larry K. Baker, MIAI driver.



10 Years Ago (Jan. 29, 2004)

Clockwise starting left:
In the National Division intramural basketball game at the Aberdeen Athletic Center, Company E 16th Ordnance Battalion emerges victorious over Company B 16th, 43-38, after an up and down battle. "It was a hard fought game," says Company E's coach, Allen Hughes. "I told them to keep the pressure up and pass the ball more." ... The 400th Military Police Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Fort Meade, returns to APG after participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom, marked by an awards ceremony at the Post Recreation Center. After being activated the previous March, the 400th processed through the mobilization site at APG. Its mission was to conduct and sustain interment and resettlement operations to shelter, guard, protect and account for enemy prisoners of war, civilian internees or displaced persons. "It's like Christmas, coming back to APG," says Capt. Robert Wyks, S-1 officer. ... Donna Keller of Abingdon, who lives near APG South (Edgewood), is reunited with her 7-year-old Sheltie, Daisy. Keller was alerted by the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security's Marine and Wildlife Division that Daisy was rescued on the grounds of APG after being spotted by a pair of deer hunters who originally thought the canine was a fox. After 13 days in the frigid wild and quite frail and anxious from the ordeal, Daisy still recognized her master's voice upon being reunited. "We're just so grateful for this late Christmas present," says Keller.



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."

ACS program prevents, empowers

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

APG's Army Community Service recently welcomed two new Family Advocacy Program employees. The Family Advocacy Program is a congressionally mandated program intended to prevent and reduce incidences of violence and create an environment intolerant of domestic abuse.

Social Worker Sandra Ackerman serves as the Family Advocacy Program Manager (FAPM). She is responsible for briefing Soldiers and civilians on how to recognize domestic violence, where and how to report it, and how victims can get help.

"My top priority is making sure the community is violence-free," she said.

Ackerman, an Air Force retiree, said in addition to briefings, her goal is to provide free classes to the community on bullying, anger management, parenting, relationships, and more.

Ackerman is currently working on a doctorate in psychology research and

has worked on several for ACS on several Army installations in Germany.

"Who better to work for, than for those that protect your country" she said.

Michael Farlow is the new ACS Victim Advocate Coordinator. Farlow is specially trained to handle cases of Family violence involving Soldiers and their Families. The victim advocate is available to help empower domestic violence victims to find the resources that they need. Farlow can help victims come up with a safety plan, find emergency shelter and other needed resources, and offer moral support. In some cases, the victim advocate can serve as a liaison, accompanying the victim to meetings with lawyers and to court.

"When you are a victim advocate,



Ackerman



Farlow

you are coming in contact with people going through one of their worst points in their life," he said. "All you are is the hand reaching up to lift them up, that is all we can do."

Farlow is an Army veteran and has served as a police officer at Fort Riley, Kans., and at APG, from 2000 to 2013 as a detective and a community police officer. In this position, he received the APG Police Officer of the Year award in 2006 and the Maryland D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year award in 2011.

"His knowledge of the community and how it functions is a real boon to our program," Ackerman said.

The Army provides two types of reporting options, restricted and unrestricted. Farlow can speak to victims confidentially through restricted report-

ing, which does not involve a military chain of command or law enforcement, with some exceptions. For example, if there is child abuse, or the victim is in immediate danger, then the victim advocate must report the incident.

Farlow will assist with educational briefings, classes and events.

"I think what defines me as a person is Family, Family values," Farlow said. "That is what I am all about, helping Families."

Ackerman and Farlow work in Bldg. 2503 on the lower floor. Ackerman can be reached at 410-278-7572 or Sandra.a.ackerman.civ@mail.mil, and Farlow can be reached at 410-278-2435, or Michael.b.farlow.civ@mail.mil.

APG Victim Advocates can be reached 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the Domestic Hotline at 410-652-6048, or call the DOD SAFE Helpline at 877-995-5247. The Harford County Mobile Crisis Team at 410-638-5248 provides 24/7 crisis intervention and suicide prevention.

Cemetery to serve vets for next half-century

By **JIM DRESBACH**
Pentagram Staff Writer

With the construction of the Millennium Project and the Navy Annex expansion, burials and inurnments at Arlington National Cemetery in Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va., will be available to veterans and service members for the next half century.

The Millennium Project will expand the cemetery's burial space to a parcel of undeveloped land adjacent to Fort Myer. The expansion is necessary because the cemetery could have run out of burial space within a dozen years. The land is expected to provide a final resting place for up to 30,000 military veterans and their spouses.

The Millennium Project, which was presented last March, and the proposed expansion of the cemetery to the Navy Annex site off of Columbia Pike, means Arlington could still be hosting military interments up to 2060.

Just four decades ago, the need for additional hallowed ground was of paramount importance as aging World War I and World War II veterans passed away, and the Vietnam War fallen were brought home from Southeast Asia.

From 1968 to 1975, Arlington National Cemetery, or ANC, incrementally took over Fort Myer's South Post, an area which encompassed land from Memorial Drive to today's ANC maintenance buildings. A parcel of land that once belonged to South Post is now Arlington National Cemetery's Section 60 -- eternal home to many service members and veterans who perished at the Pentagon during the 9/11 attack and in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

The first military burial at Arlington took place May 13, 1864, and the original cemetery grounds held close to just 200 acres. Each weekday, an average of 25 to 30 funerals originate from Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall's Old Post Chapel and Memorial Chapel as well as ANC's administrative building.

The 624-acre cemetery, which contains nearly six dozen sections, is observing its 150th anniversary this year. Established on the estate of the family of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's wife Mary Anna Custis Lee (a great-granddaughter of Martha Washington), ANC is located directly across the Potomac River from the Lincoln memorial. Approximately 400,000 graves are located there.



U.S. Army photo

An Arlington, Va., aerial view from the mid-1960s shows the Pentagon and Fort Myer's South Post (left). Later in the decade, until the mid 1970s, South Post buildings were leveled as Arlington National Cemetery took over the base land for burial expansion. A portion of Fort Myer's former South Post is where Section 60 is located.

ChalleNGe Class #42 begins 22 week journey



Continued from Page 1

aged the cadets to learn from their failures, to use that experience to grow, and to work together as a team.

"I encourage you to do your best, seek answers, and enjoy what is going to happen," he said. "I encourage you all to treat this like this is the first day of the rest of your life."

After the cadets were inducted and congratulated by the staff, they took the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

Lead Instructor Sara Jolly congratulates Cadet Tristian Taylor during the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Crossover Ceremony for Class #42 at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center Jan. 27.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

Honor Code. This code is meant to guide the cadet's actions while they are attending the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy. When the cadets take the honor code, they pledge to live honestly, respectfully, and be a good representation of the academy.

Cadet Vivian Sandoval said she was looking forward to successfully finishing the program. Her future aspirations include becoming an art teacher.

"It feels like I am passing to the next level, I am up for the challenge," said Sandoval. "I want to graduate the program for my child, my Family and for myself."

Cadet Luis Machado said he has his sights set on getting his GED and going to college to study criminal justice.

"It feels good to accomplish something," Machado said. "I can do this."

New Officer Evaluation Report briefed to APG raters

Continued from Page 1

and accessible within the web-based evaluation system, allowing raters to track how many officers they have rated and how those officers were rated.

"This will allow the Army to easily identify the best performers and those with the greatest potential," Trotter said.

Raters under the new system will evaluate job performance, while senior raters will determine an officer's potential for promotion and increased responsibility.

The system is all web-based, which creates the ability for data mining. Trotter said this capability will allow HRC to better manage officers' strengths and capabilities so they can match the right person with the right position at the right time.

The new OER, is comprised of four forms -- company grade commissioned and warrant officers; field-grade officers in the ranks of major; lieutenant colonels and chief warrant officers 3 through 5; and colonels and brigadier generals.

"It used to be like a one-size-fits-all evaluation," said Maj. Simone Butler, part

of the HRC mobile training team. "Now, the forms have been tailored more by grade."

Training attendee Capt. Will Viegas, from the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, said he thinks the new system will make it easier for the Army to promote the right people.

"There is always some difficulty when you transition to a new system, but I think these changes are necessary," he said. "We need to facilitate change, not resist it."

For more information about OER, visit www.hrc.army.mil/, or contact Tony Rose, Communications-Electronics Command Chief of Military Personnel Division, at tony.d.rose3.civ@mail.

(From left) Maj. Simone Butler from a U.S. Army Human Resources Command mobile training team briefs the audience on the Officer Evaluation Report while Maj. Stephen Trotter, also from HRC, looks on during a training session held in the Mallette Hall Auditorium Jan. 23.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Tuskegee Airmen share WWII experiences

Continued from Page 1

The Tuskegee Airmen were a pioneering group of African-American fighter pilots, aircraft mechanics and maintenance technicians who served between 1941 and 1949. While serving with distinction and honor, the Airmen were racially segregated and subjected to the discriminatory policies of the Jim Crow era, inside and outside of the Army.

All of the pilots were trained at Moton Field and Tuskegee Army Air Field near Tuskegee, Ala. The Airmen flew 1,267 missions and 6,381 combat sorties during World War II, and they collectively were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by President George W. Bush and the U.S. Congress in 2007.

The Airmen were the subject of the George Lucas-produced 2012 film "Red Tails," starring Cuba Gooding Jr. and Terrence Howard.

Among the APG leadership in attendance at the MOAA event were Byron J. Young, executive director of Army Contracting Command; Col. Michael J. Rogers, chief of staff of ACC-APG and a MOAA national director; Col. Gordon Graham, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis J. Dent, CECOM command sergeant major; and Bruce K. Griffin, program manager of CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Activity (CARA).

ECCTAI Heritage Member Patricia E. Talbert Smith, whose father was one of the featured guests at the event, recalled that she did not even know she was the daughter of a Tuskegee Airman until attending a gathering years ago at a Potomac school where she worked and Ed Talbert was speaking. A parent there in military uniform chatted with Talbert before the program and introduced him as a Tuskegee Airman.

When Smith later asked her father why he never spoke of his special designation, Talbert merely shrugged it off and said, "We just did what we had to do."

"That's certainly the story of the men and women who did so much to pave the way for all of us," Smith said. "My dad was one those 14,500 men and women in bases all over the world who supported those 900 pilots. It was a learning experience for me and one I'm very proud of."

The second of eight children, Fauntroy said he became interested in flying as a youngster living in Northwest Washington, D.C. "A group of us used to buy model airplanes for 10 cents and build them with a tube of rubber cement," he said. "We'd fly them off the roofs of our houses and they would crash."

On Easter Sunday in 1939, Fauntroy recalled at age 13 riding his bicycle to the Lincoln Memorial to watch African-American opera star Marian Anderson sing there after being prohibited from performing at Constitution Hall by the Daughters of the American Revolution because of her race. That watershed moment in civil rights history had a profound impact on Fauntroy.

It also got him into hot water with his mother, who had forbidden him from attending the performance for fear of possible violence. "When I came home a little late, my mother said, 'Where have you been?' I couldn't lie, so I told her.

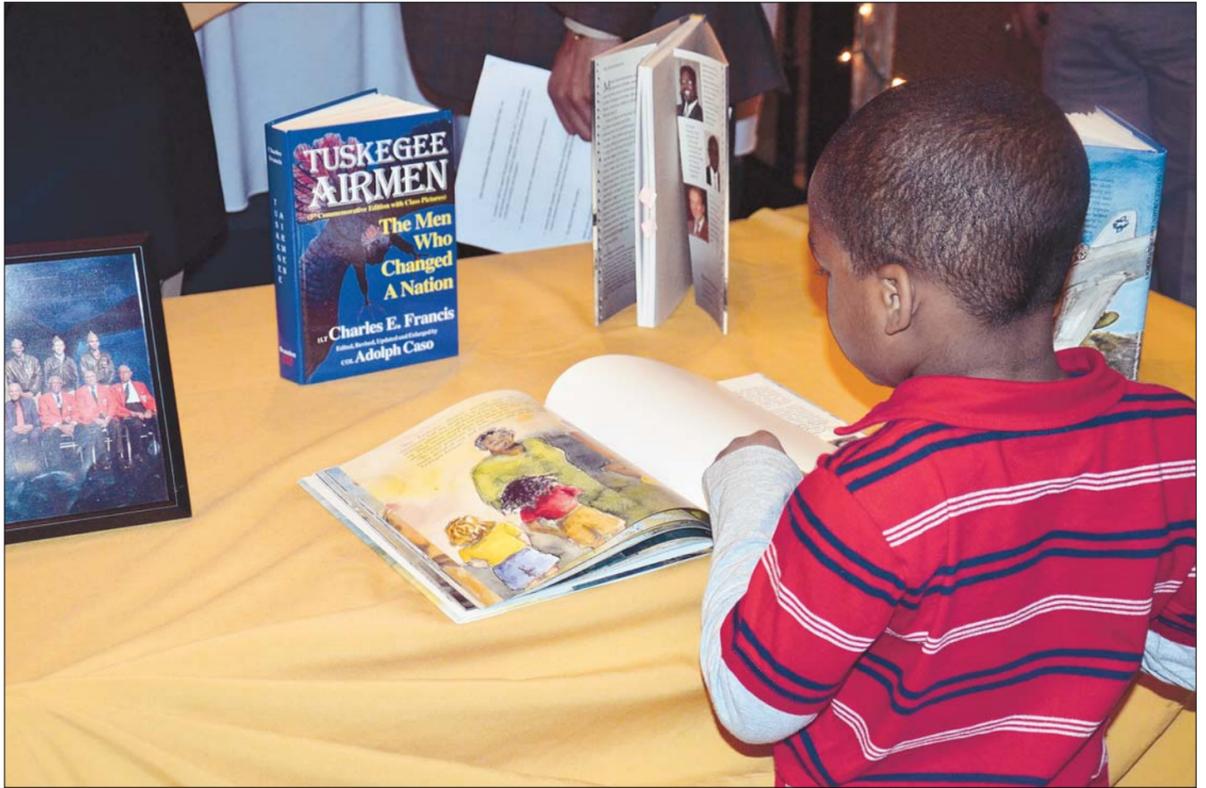


Photo by Alan Feiler

Zachary Norton takes great interest in some of the books about the Tuskegee Airmen being sold at the MOAA event Jan. 23.

She said, 'Oh, that's nice you saw Marian Anderson. Now put that bicycle in the basement and I'll tell you when you can ride it again,'" he said to gales of laughter.

At age 16, Fauntroy dropped out of school and started working for the federal government. Shortly after the war started, Fauntroy knew of a D.C. Metropolitan Police officer named Wilmet Sidat-Singh who joined the military and became a Tuskegee Airman. "Well, I had always idolized this gentleman. I wanted to be like him. Unfortunately, he died in a plane accident at Lake Huron before he went overseas," Fauntroy said. "But I wanted to be like him so when I turned 17, I started talking to my mother, 'I want to go in the service. I want to fly.' I hadn't finished high school. I was going to night school. But she reluctantly signed for me."

Fauntroy went into the Army Air Corps in May 1944, did his basic training at Keesler Field in Mississippi, and wound up at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. In May 1945, he was an aviation cadet and in basic flight training when the war ended.

"We used to say the war ended because we were in training. They heard we were coming and quit," he said to laughter. "We were fortunate to have men come back from overseas to teach us. One of my claims to fame is my first check ride was with C. Alfred Anderson, who took [Eleanor] Roosevelt up to prove that we could fly. 'Chief' Anderson taught all of the Tuskegee Airmen how to fly."

Fauntroy said he was -- and continues to be -- in awe of the Tuskegee Airmen who went overseas and fought valiantly in propeller planes, since "we didn't have jets."

"My instructor at basic [training], Leonard Jackson, came back from overseas. He had shot down three German planes, two on consecutive days. He was

a very important person to me," Fauntroy said. "These kind of people came back and gave little youngsters like me the benefit of not only their courage but their knowledge."

Now a retired civil engineer and urban planner, Fauntroy said he sees the hand of Providence in his not being deployed overseas during the war.

"I like to think that there was somebody else thinking of little Willie Fauntroy other than Ethel and Willie [his parents]," he said. "I sort of think God took care of me in all of this. He made sure I touched people all along my way in and out of the service to be a person to talk to folks like you about the experience at Tuskegee. Those men who went before me were talented enough to shoot down German jets and many other planes. I'm not bragging, I'm reporting."

Like Fauntroy, Talbert, a Philadelphia native whose father repaired radios at an airport, said he desperately wanted to fly airplanes as a young boy. "I wanted to fly so badly," he said, recalling that he and his brother used to pretend piloting airplanes. "That desire always stayed with me."

While taking classes at Howard University and undergoing ROTC training, Talbert got an opportunity to attend flight training courses in Newburgh, N.Y.

"I got the chance to fly -- for four minutes," he said. "My instructor gave me the controls and I took the plane up to the left and made a complete circle, and I was so happy I didn't know what to do. But he kept banging on his head and I just ignored him. Finally, he took over the controls and said, 'Didn't you see my signal?' I said, 'Yeah, but I was so excited about having control of that airplane, I didn't pay much attention.' When he landed that plane, he gave me up and down because I disobeyed his instructions. But that gave me the thrill of flying for four minutes!"

"And I tell that to everybody, my first comment everywhere I speak -- 'You're talking to a Tuskegee Airman who only has four minutes of flying time.' That was a thrill I'll never forget, and I cherish those moments."

After being drafted into the Army in 1943, Talbert trained at Fort Hood in Texas and Keesler Field, and he was honorably discharged in 1946. Not long afterwards, he joined the Air Force

Advanced ROTC and was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Wing and worked as the base supply officer at Lockbourne AAB in Columbus, Ohio.

"People depended on me to get things done," he said. "I tried to find solutions to the problems. They called me when problems came up and for advice. I didn't get a lot of credit, but I did get a lot of satisfaction in helping people. That made me happy."

He recalled that many citizens of Columbus, being a segregated city, were displeased that the 332nd was taking over Lockbourne and "having Negro pilots in town. So we got segregated in the city," Talbert said. In July of 1950, Talbert was the last officer on the base, turning the keys of Lockbourne over to the National Guard. He was dishonorably discharged from the Air Force two weeks later.

"After the base closed down, I began to find out life is difficult but when you get satisfaction and people respect what you do and you do it with honesty, it means a great deal," said Talbert, a retired librarian and U.S. Air Force Reserve major. "Sometimes I felt I was taken advantage of, but I got things done. ... The memories are all still there. It wasn't as exciting as I wanted it to be, because I wanted to fly so badly, but I did something I was proud of and was respected. I did my best and so be it. I did all I could do."

Staff Sgt. John D. Jeter attended the MOAA event with several of his comrades from the Edgewood-based 29th Combat Aviation Brigade of the Maryland Army National Guard. "Aviation is such a small community and only a few individuals want to go through it," he said. "So to see how it all began is exciting, and to see the changes is amazing and motivating. You feel grateful for the sacrifices others have made."

Stan Tunstall, a retired Army colonel who is now a defense contractor, drove up from Centreville, Va., to hear Fauntroy and Talbert talk about their Tuskegee Airmen days.

"The Tuskegee Airmen have a unique place in our history," Tunstall said. "So I thought it was important to be here. So many freedoms we enjoy today, it wouldn't be that way without the sacrifice of people like these men."

DID YOU KNOW?

Elkton was once known as the "Elopement Capital of the East Coast"?

The unassuming town of approximately 15,000 souls and Cecil County seat on the northeastern tip of the Chesapeake -- located about 27 miles from APG -- was once the prime destination for young lovers and others seeking quick nuptials. From the turn of the 20th century onward, Elkton produced as many as 12,000 newlyweds annually, most of them hailing from New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania, with the heyday being the 1920s and '30s. Just check out that old classic film "The Philadelphia Story" with Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn and you'll hear them talk about upsetting their parents by "eloping to Maryland."

Unlike other states on the East Coast, Maryland did not impose strict laws for obtaining marriage licenses in a pinch. The Free State, however, did require a church service to get hitched, so a cottage industry sprang up around Elkton -- the first town that one encounters when entering Maryland from the Delaware border -- to help folks hastily tie the knot. Back then, Elkton's train and bus stations were staked out by industrious taxi drivers looking for potential newlyweds and informing them about "package deals." "Marrying parsons" were officiating "one marriage every 15 minutes," reported the Baltimore News-American in 1920. About 15 private wedding chapels thrived on Main Street for matrimonial-minded visitors, among whom were such celebs as Debbie Reynolds, Joan Fontaine, Cornel Wilde, Willie Mays and even the Rev. Pat Robertson.

It all hit a betrothal brick wall in December 1938 when state elected officials, chagrined and irked by Elkton's increasingly unseemly image, passed a measure to implement a 48-hour waiting period for marriages, like other states. Still, even today, wedding chapels operate in Elkton, keeping the marriage tradition alive there. Now there's something to think about with Valentine's Day just around the corner.

Alan Feiler, APG News

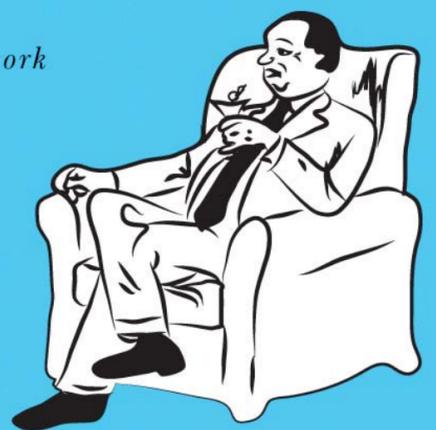


Darling, did you bring home a copy of the APG News?

Oh honey, I left it at work

Don't worry Ludwig!
You can check us out
online.

www.teamapg.com



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APG SNAPSHOT

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



ESCAPING THE BIG CHILL

Cold enough for ya? A pickup truck, presumably headed in a homeward direction, traveled along Aberdeen Avenue on Jan. 21 after APG leadership announced that the installation would close early in the day due to a heavier-than-expected downfall of snow, frigid temperatures, and increasingly treacherous and icy road conditions. Early last week, much of the Northeast came to a standstill as snow fell at a rate of about an inch an hour and blizzard-like conditions made getting home a formidable endeavor for Team APG motorists and other drivers in the region. The snow began to fall Tuesday morning and continued well into the evening. The wicked winter wallop brought a cruel, bone-chilling blast of arctic air and more than a foot of snow in some areas, and even shut down the federal government. Governors in Delaware, New Jersey and New York on Tuesday afternoon declared states of emergency as icy conditions profoundly pounded the I-95 corridor.

Photo by Molly Blossie

HUNTING FOR AUTOGRAPHS

At the Jan. 23 gathering of the Military Officers Association of America, Susquehanna Chapter, Korean War veteran Clarence Fry and his wife Carol (left) were among the attendees who waited in line to get autographs from William T. Fautroy Jr. (front right) and Edward James Talbert Jr. Fautroy and Talbert are documented original Tuskegee Airmen (DOTA) and members of the East Coast Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Between 1941 and 1949, an estimated 16,000-19,000 men and women participated in the "Tuskegee Experience" and served at Tuskegee Army Air Field or in related programs. Fewer than 600 DOTAs are believed to be alive today. The phrase "Tuskegee Airmen" came into existence in 1955 with the publication of "The Tuskegee Airmen: The Story of the Negro in the U.S. Air Force" by Charles E. Francis. The Congressional Gold Medal awarded collectively to the Tuskegee Airmen in 1987 is on display at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Photo by Alan Feiler



TICKLING THE IVORIES

At the APG South (Edgewood) youth center, Elise Braud, 5, receives a piano lesson from music instructor Kathi Workman. Braud, who is home schooled, lives at APG South with her family. Workman teaches piano and guitar at the center. A retired Harford County Public Schools faculty members who taught in the system for 31 years, Workman has worked at APG since March 2006. "I have a gift for working with the real little kids," she said. "I'm really silly with them." For information about the youth center, call 410-436-2098 or visit http://www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_services.html.

Photo by Alan Feiler

AMSAA sponsors local Families during the holidays

By **SUZANNE SINGLETON**
AMSAA

For over 15 years, the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) has sponsored local military and civilian Families in need during the holidays. The AMSAA Holiday Family Program provides food, clothing, toys, and household necessities to the Families. This was carried out in 2013 through a committee of 21 AMSAA employees who volunteered their time for this worthwhile program.

The committee conducts several fundraisers throughout the year to collect monetary donations and non-perishable household items. A Monetary Donation Competition among the AMSAA Divisions created a friendly rivalry among the workforce and raised approximately \$3,600. The committee also raised money through a Hot Dog Fundraiser and a Themed Basket Silent Auction. In addition, employees had the opportunity to provide a donation through an Angel Tree, Hat/Gloves/Scarf Tree, and Non-Perishable Collection Boxes.

In total, AMSAA collected \$4,200 and many boxes full of household items in 2013. As a result of the dona-

tions, AMSAA was able to make a direct impact on the lives of local Families. These generous donations allowed AMSAA to sponsor eight military and three civilian Families, which meant providing for five adults and 36 children. Committee members used the monetary donations collected to shop for items on the wish list provided by the sponsored Families. Clothing, toys, non-perishable household items, a holiday meal, and other food staples were provided to the Families. Boxes of household necessities were also donated to the Harford Family House in Aberdeen. Families were sponsored through several well-established local organizations, including the Army Community Services (ACS) at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The Families that were sponsored were truly in need, experiencing stressful and difficult circumstances. AMSAA looks forward to the privilege of helping more local Families during the 2014 holiday season.

For more information on how to help in next year's projects, contact Suzanne Singleton at suzanne.r.singleton.civ@mail.mil



Courtesy photo
Members of the AMSAA Holiday Family Committee worked with the AMSAA community to make the holidays better for 11 APG Families. The committee included (top row from the left) Stephanie McMonigle, Chen Lai, Nnenna Ewing, Jennifer Denicola, Judith Patishnock, Rebecca Wentz, Kendra Fisher, Holly Costanzi, Shawn Brady; (front row from the left) Elizabeth Jones, Dottie Newcomer, Suzanne Singleton, Heather McMahan-Puhalla

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