



APG NEWS

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Fourth of July events calendar

Here is a list of events Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders and Soldiers will participate in over the holiday. Be sure to get out there and wave your flags for APG.

Thursday, July 3

5 p.m., Cecil County Veterans Reception and Buffet, concert and fireworks at North East VFW and Community Park. Participants include Col. Frederick Hughes and Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Agueda from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering

Command.

Friday, July 4

10 a.m., Kingsville Volunteer Fire Department parade on Bradshaw Road. APG participants include the U.S. Army Public Health Command color guard.

6 p.m., Bel Air parade on Main Street. Participants include the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command and the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic color guard.

Saturday, July 5

2 p.m., Havre de Grace Fourth of July parade on Union Avenue. APG participants include the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

6 p.m., Edgewood/Joppatowne Fourth of July parade on Shore Drive. Participants include APG Garrison's Col. Gregory McClinton and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams and the 20th CBRNE Command.

Battalion Chief Miller retires after 27 years

By **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

Battalion Chief Gregory T. Miller loves being a firefighter. It's in his blood. But he doesn't want to overstay his welcome.



Miller

"Sometimes, you'll see these 70-year-old volunteer fire company guys still riding on the trucks," said Miller, 50. "They're too old. You've got to know when it's time to go. Firefighting is a young man's game."

Miller officially retires from his position June 30 after serving the APG Fire and Emergency Services Division for 27 years. On June 24, the division hosted a luncheon in his honor at the APG South (Edgewood) fire station where Miller is based.

"This was a promise I made to myself the day I started, that I would retire at age 50," said Miller, a Havre de Grace native who lives in Port Deposit with his wife, Ellen. "I love what I do, but I'm tired of the schedule, of working weekends, of family members accommodating my schedule. I don't want to compete anymore for a day off in my department. I want to enjoy life a bit."

Miller, who grew up in Conowingo, began his firefighting career in 1981 as a volunteer

See **MILLER**, page 14



Photo by Molly Blossie

Reaching for new heights

(From left) Pete Fasula, of Raytheon jumps for control of a volley and Catherine Subizian and Doug Rhodes of ATC ready themselves for action as teammate Dan Cook leaps to defend during the intramural volleyball championship game at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center June 19. Phil's ATC and Raytheon Alpha battled it out in the season-ending finale. Phil's ATC won the two-game showdown, 25-14 and 25-18. View more photos on the APG Snapshot page 15.

DPW driving Installation Facility Investment Strategy

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

About 30 percent of a former boiler plant, Bldg. E5330, in the APG North (Aberdeen) area of Aberdeen Proving Ground has been demolished in line with goals laid out in the Installation Facility Reduction Program. According to Nathan Osborne, Chief of the Directorate of Public Works Master Planning and Real Estate Division, the program is tied to the larger APG Facility Investment Strategy – to restore and modernize facilities, strategically construct new facilities and demolish obsolete properties.

10 Years

Garrison strategy to sustain, restore and dispose of dilapidated property facilities

"The strategy's main focus areas are to sustain, restore, and dispose of dilapidated real property facilities," Osborne said. "There is a serious Army focus to modernize existing facilities and carefully construct new facilities where there are critical facility shortfalls that are in line with mission requirements. The

See **DPW**, page 14

Baltimore FEB recognizes APG Soldiers, civilians

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers and civilians enhanced the installation's reputation as a center of excellence in technical as well as non-technical arenas during the annual Excellence in Federal Career awards presentations held in Baltimore in May.

Hosted by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board (FEB), the annual event, held during national Public Service Recognition Week, highlights extraordinary contributions made by service members and government civilians during the past year. Supervisors

“It was nice to see our hard work appreciated, but we always keep in mind the ultimate reward of knowing we directly supported servicemen and women.”

Bryan Small

Protective Under Garment Team, ATC

from federal agencies around the region submit nominations weeks in advance and a Blue Ribbon Panel of judges determine if the nominee's actions war-

rant bronze, silver or gold awards.

Of 228 total nominations, 100 APG personnel from 17 organizations brought home awards in 18 categories, garnering

54 bronze, 38 silver and 8 gold awards.

For more information about the Baltimore Federal Executive Board Excellence in Federal Career Awards, visit the Baltimore FEB website at <http://www.baltimorefeb.us/>.

FEB gold awardees

Gold awardees from APG included Andrew S. Kramer, Program Executive Office, Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (PEO IEW&S); James T. Lawson Jr., U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Army Evaluation Center (AEC); Craig B. Opper, U.S. Army

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WEATHER

Thursday

Partly Cloudy
chance of rain 10%



87° | 66°

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STREET TALK

What's on your 'Bucket List'?

"I would like to sleep in the Field Museum in Chicago. [It's] called 'Dozin' with the Dinos.' You have the opportunity to ... sleep in the exhibit with the dinosaur skeletons. I just think that would be so cool. My Family loves science. We're kind of nerdy."



Danielle Suit
Civilian spouse

"I want to swim with sharks [in an aquarium] or go skydiving. I want to do something to conquer my fears."



Joseph Herod
Civilian Family member

"I want to take horseback riding lessons next time I am on vacation. I have never ridden a horse in my life. This is something I have always wanted to do since I was a child."



Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Henry
Army Reservist

"I am currently taking online classes for a master's degree in engineering management. I am looking forward to finishing this degree. I think it will help my career."



Andrea Viegas
CERDEC

"I want to do something adventurous like go skydiving, if the opportunity presents itself."



Jessica Davignon
Military spouse

OPINION

The APG team: A team of professionals

BRIG. GEN. BRUCET CRAWFORD
APG Senior Commander

As my wife Dianne and I continue to integrate into this great community here on APG, we've had the opportunity to participate and attend some world-class events such as the U.S. Army Soldier Show, the 239th Army Birthday celebration and visits to Child Development Centers in addition to discussions with our first responders and service providers.

All of these events gave us all a chance to pause and take stock of what an honor it is to serve. And ultimately what a privilege it is to be a part of something greater than ourselves. These opportunities were a time to also reflect on the Army Profession that we are all fortunate to be a part of.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show and the 239th Army Birthday celebration were conducted by some of the most talented service members in our ranks. Dianne and I were in awe of each production and honored to personally meet and thank many of the performers from the Soldier Show and from the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, from Fort Myer, Virginia.

Not to be forgotten, I want to use this public forum to personally thank all the APG teammates (our dedicated Civilian workforce, Soldiers and Families) across this garrison who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organize, coordinate and ensure that these events were a success for our community. Besides the performers, it was also your community pride, professionalism and dedication to duty that was on full display at these events.

I never take lightly how much extra work, volunteerism,



"I never take lightly how much extra work, volunteerism, patience and determination it takes to accomplish these missions. It serves as a constant reminder that APG's continued success will rely on our ability to work as a unified team."

patience and determination it takes to accomplish these missions. It serves as a constant reminder that APG's continued success will rely on our ability to work as a unified team.

The current theme of this fiscal year's Army Profession campaign is "Honorable Service and Stewardship." As Army Professionals we are united in our "Stand Strong" identity. Your efforts over the past weeks were in keeping with our cherished values, traditions and standards. Again, thank you for your hard work and Dianne and I look forward to a bright future during our time on the APG team.

APG Strong, Army Strong!

IMCOM CG calls for deeds over words

By **AMANDA S. RODRIGUEZ**
IMCOM

During his first town hall meeting, Lt. Gen. David Halverson, assistant chief of staff for Installation Management and commanding general of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, introduced IMCOM's new mission and vision and stressed the importance of trust and teamwork.

Halverson, who took command April 8, recognized employees, shared his thoughts on leadership and discussed IMCOM's mission and vision.

Today, more than ever, IMCOM's mission is vital, Halverson reminded the audience.

"We are a nation at war," Halverson said. "Our Soldiers are in harm's way, with suffering and casualties daily. It's a tough life and not for everyone. It's a most rewarding life -- serving -- but full of challenges. We have to be mindful of that in taking care of Soldiers and their Families."

The Army faces increasingly complex challenges, such as unseen global conflict in the face of tight finances and force reduction, according to Halverson.

IMCOM is subjected to the same, said the general, and the revised mission and vision statements reflect the need for innovation and leadership at every level.

The new vision statement reads: "Innovative professionals committed to effectively delivering extraordinary services and facilities for our premier Army."

"IMCOM is 'doah,' not just hooah," Halverson told the team. It's about what we do - "not just words," he said. "I



Courtesy photo
Commanding General, Lt. Gen. David Halverson, U.S. Army Installation Management Command, talks leadership and shares his vision with the IMCOM team during his first town hall meeting.

expect every one of my people to be a leader developer himself. Leader development will be an area of emphasis. As such, education, training and broadened development are important. I want to make sure we all have time to talk, to discuss, to listen, empower and most importantly offer solutions.

"We have to have new ideas and partnerships to solve today's complex challenges and keep up with changing times," he said.

The Army is all about readiness, said Halverson, introducing the revised mission statement: IMCOM delivers and integrates base support to enable readiness for a self-reliant and globally responsive all volunteer Army.

Positive attitude and trust will help bring the team together, Halverson said, adding, leadership, innovation, partnerships and high standards of service will help IMCOM provide the right services to Soldiers today and in the years to come.

"We need to continue to build ... trust - between ourselves, Soldiers and their Families, the workers here -- and that is through actions, not just words," Halverson said.

Command Sgt. Major Jeffrey Hartless continued the teamwork theme. "Thank you for what you do," Hartless said. "We are the only command that touches every single Soldier and every Family every day."

"There's no greater honor than taking care of Soldiers," Halverson added. "That's something to believe in. We are here in service to our country and to the Army."



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APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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CSSC receives leadership award

By **KAREN HOLT**
CSSC

The Chesapeake Science & Security Corridor was recently honored with the 2014 Community/State Excellence Award from the Association of Defense Communities “for innovation and collaboration to address regional growth and ensure eight jurisdictions in three states are working strategically to support Aberdeen Proving Ground.”

The award was presented June 5 during a special Congressional Breakfast on Capitol Hill during the Defense Communities National Summit hosted by ADC, the nation’s leading association representing U.S. communities and states with a significant military presence and their partner organizations. The ceremony was attended by members of Congress and leaders from the Pentagon.

“It is often very challenging to unite a large region that spans three states, but the Chesapeake Science & Security Corridor brings these communities together to support Aberdeen Proving Ground,” said ADC president Bob Murdock. “ADC is proud to honor CSSC for this innovative, collaborative approach that can serve as a model for other regions across the country.”

CSSC was praised by Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton.

“Aberdeen Proving Ground recognizes the importance of partnerships with the communities and organizations that surround the installation,” McClinton said. “Team APG applauds the efforts and achievements of the CSSC in support of the greater Harford County area and Aberdeen Proving Ground. There is little doubt that the efforts of the CSSC have contributed to the success of our activities and enhanced the capabilities of our workforce – both service members and civilians – resulting in our position as a premier combined Center of Excellence in support of the Army, the Department of Defense and the nation. Through the CSSC’s continued support, Aberdeen Proving Ground will continue to grow and be recognized as an adaptive installation, always evolving to meet the mission requirements of the total force.”

The award was accepted by CSSC regional BRAC manager Karen Holt, who said “it’s an honor to work with



Photo by A.J. McCafferty

The Chesapeake Science & Security Corridor was recently awarded the 2014 Community Excellence Award from the Association of Defense Communities during its National Summit in Washington, D.C. (From left) Jim Richardson, director, Harford County Office of Economic Development; Daniel Glasson, project manager, Office of Economic Adjustment; Karen Holt, BRAC manager, CSSC; APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton; Steven Overbay, BRAC coordinator, CSSC; Denise Carnaggio, deputy director, Harford County Office of Economic Development; and Eva Hanley, administrative assistant, CSSC.

CSSC and have so many entities in our region not only recognize the economic importance of our installation but achieve a synergy that sustains our defense community across government, industry, academia and nonprofits.”

CSSC was nominated by James C. Richardson, director of the Harford County Office of Economic Adjustment, a member of ADC.

“The CSSC has been a national model of how multiple jurisdictions can work together so that the installation can succeed and thrive,” Richardson said. “I am very pleased with the success of the CSSC model and proud to have played a part.”

The Association of Defense Communities (www.defensecommunities.org) is the nation’s leading association representing U.S. communities and states with a significant military presence and their partner organizations. It unites the diverse interests of communities, states, the private sector and the military on issues such as protecting defense infrastructure, community-military partnerships, defense real estate, mission growth, base redevelopment, and support for military families and veterans.

Since 2005, CSSC has helped coordinate a variety of planning needs stemming from the growth experienced at Aberdeen Proving Ground following the 2005 round of base closures, including transportation, workforce and infrastructure.

The regional growth management organization for eight jurisdictions in three states outside Aberdeen Proving Ground has spearheaded multiple initiatives aimed at sustaining the post’s R&D missions and boosting economic development outside its boundaries, relying on partnerships and a commitment to the soldiers and civilian personnel working for the 90-plus tenant organizations located there.

Several of its most recent achievements address the proving ground’s transportation needs. Last year, CSSC opened a commuter center in partnership with the installation to reduce traffic congestion there by lowering workers’ reliance on single-occupant vehicles. The center’s primary goal will be to encourage military and civilian employees to consider alternative commuting options, including commuter rail, a private bus line providing service to New

Jersey, and car and vanpools.

When budget cuts forced the proving ground to eliminate a commuter shuttle connecting it to the local train station, CSSC partnered with vanpool companies to transport commuters the “last mile.” The program, funded through the federal transit subsidy, proved critical in preserving regional commuter transit as an option for the proving ground’s workforce.

Another CSSC effort intended to fight traffic outside the installation was completed earlier this year. A telework study reviewed existing policies of tenant organizations, surveyed commuters at the post, examined the best practices at federal installations and analyzed potential traffic impacts of policy changes.

The group also is coordinating participation among three counties, two municipalities and a consulting team on a joint land use study for the proving ground. The study is intended to alleviate potential conflicts between the installation’s operational missions and surrounding communities at the same time the surrounding region experiences population growth and economic development.

Gunpowder club offers communication skills

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

Stephen G. Fine recently stood up before a gathering of individuals in a conference room in the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility at APG South (Edgewood), explaining what he called the “grammarians position.”

“Ladies and gentlemen, fellow Toastmasters and welcomed guests,” he began, “I will be looking for proper grammatical use, that is, the manner by which you express the English idiomatic language. I will look for not only proper grammar but particular use of your vocabulary and synonyms. [There’s a] very important difference between a synonym and stopping at a rest stop and eating a cinnamon,” he added after a pause. Across the table, a mildly amused Vincent Minichiello quietly mouthed the sound of a punch line drum roll.

Welcome to Gunpowder Toastmasters, the longest-operating Toastmasters club at APG. While Gunpowder Toastmasters – founded in 1957 – is the only group of its kind at Edgewood, the Fort Monmouth and Susquehanna Toastmasters clubs meet regularly at APG North (Aberdeen).

A retired Army project manager/chemical engineer and licensed practical nurse, Fine has been a Gunpowder member since 1984. The club’s president and longest-serving member, Fine said he feels the group exemplifies the philosophy of Ralph C. Smedley, who in 1903 founded Toastmasters International in a YMCA in Bloomington, Ill. Today, the non-profit educational and public speaking organization boasts more than 290,000 members and 14,000 clubs in 122 countries.

“I’m an example of a person who has benefitted greatly from Toastmasters,” said Fine, who as a young person suffered from dyslexia. “I had a lot of problems with organizational speeches and presentation skills. But all these things have been enhanced by Toastmasters.”

During a typical Gunpowder Toastmasters gathering, participants offer opening remarks, discuss organizational and



Gina R. Smith of White Marsh recently delivered her tenth speech since joining the Gunpowder Toastmasters club last August. She says joining the group has greatly helped her “in being less nervous in speaking publicly. It’s taught me to be more comfortable up there.”

procedural matters, introduce and listen to speakers (with a designated timer on hand), evaluate presentations, conduct a “Table Topics” session promoting impromptu speaking skills, and present awards to selected individuals.

Gunpowder Toastmasters meets the first and third Monday of the month from 11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. at the CDTF, Building E-4516. Currently, the club has a roster of 10 members.

At a recent Gunpowder Toastmasters meeting, consultant Gina R. Smith delivered her tenth speech since joining the club nearly a year ago. Appearing self-assured, Smith spoke about growing up in small town North Carolina, becoming an electrical engineer and moving to Maryland, and her plans to return to the Tar Heel State in the near future to pursue a doctorate.

Besides praising Smith for her poise, breath control, speech patterns, eye contact and hand gesturing, Minichiello, Gunpowder Toastmaster’s educational vice president, lauded her rapid transformation from a skittish public speaker to a confident, engaging communicator.

“Gina, you’re what this club and Toastmasters are all about,” he said.

Smith said receiving feedback from fellow Toastmasters “has helped me a lot in being less nervous in speaking publicly. It’s taught me to be more comfortable up there.”

Michelle Williams-Gibson, a U.S. Army Public Health Command secretary attending her first Toastmasters meeting, said she thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

“I was impressed with the speakers and how the organization goes about its business and the feedback they provide,” she said. “I look forward to absorbing more of their expertise.”

Fine admitted that Gunpowder Toastmasters has changed significantly since he joined. About 20 participants attended meetings regularly in the mid-1980s, he said, as opposed to approximately 5-6 these days.

“Back then, a lot of members walked to where the meetings were held,” he said. “A lot of APG employees attended, and we even had bosses here who participated and encouraged employees to come.”

But over the past two decades, Fine

said Gunpowder’s ranks dwindled with funding and staffing changes at APG.

“Eventually, we got to a point where more of our participants were from the outside than the inside, and less bosses at APG were even aware of Toastmasters,” he said.

Furthermore, Fine said participants over the years have tended to frequent meetings but discontinued their association with the club once they acquired the skills they originally wished to obtain. That flies in the face of the Toastmasters ethos, he said.

“We believe in community service and payback,” Fine said. “We are a self-supporting group helping people help themselves and others. You can’t really help people if you just want to get something out of it yourself and then you leave.”

“Toastmasters is an important organization because it promotes effective communication and interpersonal skills in a collegial and friendly environment,” he added. “That’s particularly essential for young people today.”

“It’s all about personal communication, to speak and make yourself understood,” Fine said. “You want people to hear what you have to say. Toastmasters is a reinforcing environment, not a critical one. We try our best to make recommendations to help you improve.”

Because of anxiety and other issues, Fine said some individuals initially seem beyond Toastmasters’ help.

“But if people stay long enough, they usually see the benefits of coming,” he said. “The people who stay eventually learn what it takes to improve. I really think we can help anyone.”

Three decades after joining, Fine said he still enjoys Gunpowder Toastmasters.

“I’m still honing my skills and polishing my presentations,” he said. “Toastmasters helps me as a human being. It helps me in my human interactions and presentation, just making me a better person.”

For information about Gunpowder Toastmasters, call 410-937-9659. For information about Fort Monmouth Toastmasters, call 443-395-1970 or 410-306-0827. For information about Susquehanna Toastmasters, call 443-861-0092.

Museum program provides free admission to military families

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The fifth season of Blue Star Museums has begun, with more than 2,000 museums across America providing free admission to military personnel and Family members until Labor Day.

The national educational program gives military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve, and up to five immediate Family members the chance to visit, children's, fine art, history, and science museums and nature centers free of charge. This program is made possible through collaborations between the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families and the Department of Defense. So far, more than 2,000 museums in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa are taking part in the initiative, including 48 museums in Maryland.

"Blue Star Museums has grown into a nationally recognized program that service members and their Families look forward to each year," said Blue Star Families CEO Kathy Roth-Douquet. "It helps bring our local military and civilian communities together, and offers Families fun and enriching activities in their home towns.

We are thrilled with the continued growth of the program and the unparalleled opportunities it offers."

Rod Cofield, executive director of Historic London Town and Gardens in Anne Arundel County, said that Blue Star Museums gives military Families the opportunity to relax, have fun, and learn together. Created in 1683 by the Maryland Legislature, London Town was once an important tobacco port and colonial trans-Atlantic trade network. The prominence of the town faded when trading decreased during the American Revolutionary War. Today, the park consists of one-quarter of the original 100-acre town. The 23-acre museum and park features Maryland history, archaeology, and horticulture.

"On July 13, we have a living history day called Revolutionary London Town," Cofield said. "On this day we have militia drills, hearth cooking, and other activities that are Family-friendly. That day is always a success and should appeal to military Families. Also, throughout the year we

offer Family programs at least one Saturday per month between April and November."

The College Park Aviation Museum is a 27,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility located on the grounds of the world's oldest continuously operating airport in College Park, Maryland. Jane Welsh, an education and volunteer coordinator with the museum, the facility is Family-friendly with several hands-on, interactive exhibits. Its display includes unique aircrafts and artifacts, and the oldest intact helicopter in the world, the 1924 Berliner

helicopter No. 5.

Welsh said the Blue Star Museum program is a way to give back to military Families.

"We owe it to our military," she said. "We should do more for Soldiers and their Families."

Dottie Freeman, manager of the Carroll County Farm Museum, said a visit there is like "stepping back in time." The museum focus is on farming in the 1700s and 1800s. Visitors can view skills such as

broom making, tinsmithing, blacksmithing, quilting, spinning, weaving, basket making, and hearth cooking. They can take in a historical artifacts display, take a walk on the nature trail or enjoy a relaxing picnic on the museum's 140-acre grounds.

The National Electronics Museum in Linthicum, known as the NEM and the Blue Star Museum program are a "natural fit," according to museum spokesperson Michael Simons.

"We feature the history of defense electronics and there are a lot of military members in the area," he said. "We trace the history of radar, radio, electronic warfare, to name a few and there are lots of hands on demos and experiments for kids."

The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention Common Access Card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card, or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card. For a complete list of participating museums, visit <http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>.

All summer, Blue Star Museums will share stories through social media. Follow Blue Star Museums on Twitter, Facebook, and read the Blue Star Blog, <http://bluestarblog.arts.gov/>, for profiles of participating museums, stories about military Families, and tips on getting the most out of a visit.



arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums

Army Wellness Center Stars arrive

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

Army Wellness Centers promote, enhance, and sustain healthy lifestyles to improve the overall well being of Soldiers, Family members, and DOD civilians and contractors through integrated and standardized programs and services. AWC staff members take into account all of an individual's physical, psychological and social circumstances when providing services. A holistic approach is needed to fully assess the whole person. The AWC Core Program includes a Health Assessment Review, Physical Fitness, Healthy Nutrition, Stress Management, General Wellness Education and Tobacco Education.

This is the first of a series about members of Team APG who have reached their weight and fitness goals through the APG Army Wellness Center.

APG Star reaches her limits

Lita Singh expected to drop a lot of weight when she returned to work and the gym after the birth of her daughter. But for some reason, the stubborn pounds wouldn't budge. Singh is an administrative clerk with the Directorate of Emergency Services. A former information technology specialist with Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, she also is the daughter of Sue Singh,

KUSAHC public health nurse.

With a naturally small build, Singh wasn't used to dealing with weight issues.

She returned to work weighting about 145 pounds, up from about 122 pounds before her pregnancy.

"I lost a little down to around 140 pounds but that was it," she said.

"As soon as I got back to work I started hitting the gym; pretty much doing my own thing or what I thought other people did to lose weight. After not seeing the results I wanted, my mom recommended the Army Wellness Center."

She said the treatment and advice she



Lita Singh is all smiles because she "arrived" at her weight and fitness goals with help from the APG Army Wellness Center. Singh says setting goals and tracking results strengthened her resolve to get fit.

received at the AWC got her on track.

"The staff is so knowledgeable and nice. There are no stupid questions," she said. "They made it clear they are not there to criticize but to be helpful. I felt very comfortable. If not for their help I probably would not have the results I have today."

She added that the AWC approach, which considers the whole person, gives a personal touch to the assessment.

"Setting goals and seeing your bring things into focus," she said. "It also strengthens your resolve. I still work out but the

main thing I do different is watch what I eat. I eat more proteins and vegetables, limit breads and pastas, and stay away from fast foods."

Singh works out daily, Monday through Friday. She participates in the Boot Camp fitness classes offered through MWR and makes it a point to do cardio exercises at least 25 minutes per day.

"It's really hard to motivate yourself," she added, "but AWC works with you and helps you stay focused."

Today Singh is a healthy 119 pounds.

"I tell everyone about the Army Wellness Center," she said, "because they know that when you look good and feel good, you're a happier person."

The APG North (Aberdeen) AWC is located in Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. To schedule an appointment, call 410-306-1024. The APG South (Edgewood) AWC, located in Bldg. E4110, accepts clients three days per month. The center will open July 11, 23 and 29 and Aug. 5, 14 and 27. To schedule an appointment, call 410-306-1024 or visit the AWC on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ArmyWellnessCenter>.

The AWC Program is a U.S. Army Medical Command Program overseen by the U.S. Army Public Health Command.



Brad Pratt Electronics Engineer

As the lead electronics engineer for the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison, Brad Pratt is involved with programming on post ranging from training ceremonies and entertainment productions to field shows and talks by visiting dignitaries.

"We're responsible for every and all audio-visual requests by any of the tenants of the Garrison," he said. "I'm the guy who builds the systems – lighting, video, computer networking. I put it all together. I'm a design engineer." Pratt, who has a bachelor's degree

in mass communication from Towson University, previously worked in the hotel industry and as a bodyguard. Years ago, he entered his current field after noticing a help wanted advertisement for an audio-visual technician at a Baltimore hotel and applied for the position. "I've always been technical and analytical," he said.

Since coming to APG four years ago, Pratt said the best part of his job is working with his team. "That's a sappy thing to say," he said. "But work environment is the most important thing to me. The best part of my job is the guys I work with."

Whether it's video-teleconferencing or camera work, Pratt and his team cover every building at APG North (Aberdeen) and South (Edgewood),

and they take great pride in their work. "It's a huge amount of work for just three people," he said. "But we're always ready. We dance when we have to dance. Every day is something new. We have a schedule, but most days we're taking care of something we didn't know was coming. But we're happy to help."

At various gatherings around post, Pratt said most people would be surprised at the amount of work and preparation that goes into his job. "It's a specific skills set, and you have to think on your feet and solve any problem then and there," he said. "We're the first to show and the last to go. But we only get one shot to get it right. There's no drawing board for us."

MRICD officer accepted into Army Acquisition Corps

By **CINDY KRONMAN**
MRICD

Lt. Col. Nizamettin Gul, chief of the Analytical Toxicology Division at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, was recently accepted into the Army Acquisition Corps.



Gul

According to Gul, who is also pursuing a master of science degree in

Weapons of Mass Destruction Studies through the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Graduate Fellowship Program, "a striking array of new challenges is reshaping the course of defense acquisition and technology."

"I think that civilian investments in research and development will continue to dwarf government expenditures as the national security community and defense industry seek to develop and acquire a new generation of weapons and equipment that can be adapted to fight major wars, quell insurgencies and respond to natural disasters," he said.

"Becoming a professional in the

acquisition area will help me to better understand the new technology and contracting mechanism with the industry to select the best product for the government," Gul said.

A biochemist in the Medical Service Corps, Gul qualified for acceptance into the Acquisition Corps based on several criteria: he holds an acquisition slot; has 24 semester hours from an accredited institution of higher education in his career field; has 12 semester credit hours in accounting and statistics course work; and has at least four years of experience in an acquisition position in the Department of Defense.

Additionally, Gul is Level II certified in Program Management and Level III certified in Science and Technology Management.

Gul has a Ph.D. in inorganic/organometallic chemistry from the University of Nevada. He joined the military in 2001 as a direct commissioned officer, and during his military career has specialized in drug discovery and advanced development for medical countermeasures against chemical, biological, and radiological and nuclear threats, to include research and development, Food and Drug Administration approval, production, fielding and life-cycle support.

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



APG SUMMER SAFETY

Think safety first when grilling

ISO

Outdoor grilling is probably one of America's greatest pastimes but it can have its own set of hazards. Plan ahead and use common sense before the first burger hits the grill.

Use the following tips to stay safe while grilling this summer:

Read the owner's manual. Always read the owner's manual and follow specific usage, assembly, and safety procedures.

Grills are for outside use only. Never barbecue in a trailer, tent, house, garage, or any enclosed area. Doing so can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning – and deadly consequences.

Remove combustible materials. Set the grill in an open area at least 10 feet away from buildings, overhead combustible surfaces, dry leaves, or brush. Be sure to avoid high traffic areas and never leave a lighted grill unattended.

Keep the grill stable. Be sure that all parts of the unit are firmly in place and that the grill base is stable and cannot be tipped over.

Follow electrical codes. If electrically-operated accessories like rotisseries are used be sure they are properly grounded in accordance with local codes. Electrical cords should be placed away from walkways or anywhere people can trip over them.

Wear safe clothing

Wear clothing that does not have hanging shirt tails, frills, or apron strings that can catch fire, and use flame-retardant mitts when adjusting hot vents.

Use a grill pad or splatter mat. These naturally heat resistant pads are usually made of lightweight composite cement or plastic and protect a deck or patio from any

grease that misses the drip pan.

Using gas or petroleum grills. Since the gas is flammable, always check the gas tank and lines for dents rust or leaks before use. Check for leaks with soapy water in a spray bottle (look for bubbles once sprayed). Never use a match to check for gas leaks.

If your grill does not light the first time, ventilate for a few minutes before trying again. If you detect a gas leak, turn off the gas, vacate the area, and seek help or call the APG Fire Department at 410-306-0572.

New safety features. Grills manufactured after 1995 are required to have three additional safety features: a device to limit gas flow in the event of a hose rupture; a shut off mechanism; and a feature to prevent gas flow if the connection between the tank and the grill is not leak proof. Remember to use fitting caps for disconnected hose-end fittings and burner intakes for protection when not in use.

Keep fire under control. To put out flare-ups, raise the metal grid that the food is on, spread the coals evenly, or adjust the controls to lower the temperature. If necessary to control the flames, douse them lightly with water. Be prepared to extinguish the flames with a fire extinguisher, a bucket of sand, or a garden hose.

Stay away from hot grills

Don't allow anyone, especially children, to conduct activity near the grill or try to move it immediately after use. The grill body remains hot up to an hour after being used.

Utensils. Use barbecue utensils with long handles (forks, tongs, etc.) to avoid burns and splatters.

Food Preparation



The hazards of outdoor grilling are not limited to burns. Careless food preparation and contamination can also lead to food poisoning. When cooking outdoors, it's more important than ever to keep food preparation areas clean and sanitary.

Here are some helpful tips to avoid food poisoning:

Avoid cross-contamination. Cross-contamination occurs when bacteria from one food item are transferred to another food item, often by way of unwashed cutting boards or countertops, as well as knives and other kitchen utensils, or unwashed hands. Never place cooked food on a plate that held uncooked meat, poultry, or seafood.

Clean and disinfect everything. Wash cutting boards, knives, utensils and counter tops with hot soapy water and remove grease buildup from the grill. Wash hands before preparing or

serving food and after handling raw meat, poultry, and seafood.

Cook food thoroughly. Food is properly cooked when it has been heated a long enough time and at a high enough temperature to kill the bacteria that cause food borne illnesses. Using a meat thermometer is one way to measure the internal temperature of cooked meat and poultry to make sure it is cooked thoroughly. If a meat thermometer isn't available, cook until juices run clear (no blood). Avoid eating ground beef that is pink inside.

Keep foods cold. Cold temps of 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below can slow down the growth of micro-organisms and reduce the risk of food borne illnesses.

For more information, contact the Installation Safety Office at 410-306-1095 or visit the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/ Safety Center website at <https://safety.army.mil/>.

USAPHC civilian excels in DoD program

By **CHANEL WEAVER**
USAPHC

After completing a year of a physically and mentally demanding Department of Defense leadership program, Jessica Brockmeyer, executive officer for the U.S. Army Public Health Command's Laboratory Sciences Portfolio, has emerged as a stronger leader.

Brockmeyer is one of only 63 civilians from across the Department of Defense to complete the prestigious Executive Leadership Development Program, or ELDP, this year. The program provides participants with a joint and interagency training and leader development experience.

The 10-month program was filled with activity. Participants spent 7-12 days-a-month training with various governmental agencies, testing their mettle by firing weapons, jumping from towers, and completing obstacle courses with U.S. military personnel. They travelled to various bases, some overseas. They also wrote papers, participated in group collaboration projects and read several books.

"One of the hardest parts of the program was juggling your regular job with the deployments," said Brockmeyer. "We all have responsibilities at our home stations, so, to be successful, we quickly learned to find a balance between the program requirements and our daily duties."

In addition to the academic requirements, ELDP participants met stringent physical requirements.

Despite the long days and strenuous activity, Brockmeyer said she is grateful to be part of this year's graduating class and that she values her time spent in the field



Courtesy photo
Jessica Brockmeyer, an executive officer with the U.S. Army Public Health Command, fires a weapon under the watchful eyes of an instructor while training in the Executive Leadership Development Program; a part of the Army Civilian Training and Leadership Development program. In addition to the academic curriculum, ELDP participants must meet stringent physical requirements.

training with DoD military units.

"This training was compelling because it caused you to think about why you are serving," said Brockmeyer. "Doing some of the same things that the troops do was an eye-opening experience for me, and served as a reminder that we DoD professionals are here to support our troops."

To further mark her achievement, Brockmeyer was selected to serve as a commencement speaker during the ELDP graduation June 11. Although she was thrilled to represent the USAPHC during the commencement program, she said she wanted to do a good job.

"Being selected as a commencement speaker was an honor and privilege, but also a little intimidating" said Brockmeyer. "I wanted to be sure that I not only represented the Public Health Command well, but that I also represented my fellow classmates well by successfully communicating what we learned."

Employees at the USAPHC expressed no surprise that Brockmeyer performed well in the program. They said she demonstrates great dedication and commitment.

"I've been fortunate to work with Jessie now for many years, and she has always demonstrated an eagerness to learn and a

willingness to take on new, challenging assignments," said Gerri Miles, chief of the Laboratory Operations Division in the USAPHC Laboratory Sciences Portfolio. "Jess is passionate and an optimist about the future. I see Jessie as courageous and inspiring; she is willing to do what has not been done."

Several people across the USAPHC said that encouraging employees to grow themselves professionally is a key objective in shaping the workforce.

"The Public Health Command places great emphasis on education, training and development of employees," said Karen Lunas, USAPHC training officer.

Although ELDP may not be for everyone, Lunas said she hopes more USAPHC personnel will apply and be accepted into the prestigious program.

"Civilian leadership development and career planning is the process of systematically matching an individual's aspirations with opportunities for achieving them," said Lunas. "The ELDP is just one of the many avenues available to achieve this goal."

The ELDP is open to full-time Army civilians in the GS-12 through GS-14 or equivalent pay grades, with a minimum of three years of service as a permanent Army civilian. Participants must also possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, pass a physical exam and meet certain security requirements.

For more information, visit the Army Civilian Training and Leadership Development website at <http://www.civiliantraining.army.mil/leader/Pages/ELDP.aspx>.

Commission seeks compensation preferences

American Forces Press Service

The commission tasked by President Barack Obama and Congress to modernize military compensation and benefits programs is seeking input about preferences from service members.

Alphonso Maldon Jr., chairman of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, said understanding service members' compensation preferences is central to the commission's effort to craft modernization recommendations.

"Our primary goal is to ensure the uniformed services can maintain the most professional all-volunteer force, provide for a high quality of life for the members of the uniformed services and their families, and ensure that compensation and

retirement systems are financially sustainable," he said. "Our fundamental objective is to craft an integrated compensation and personnel system that will continue to be valued by service members, provide flexibility for the uniformed services, and be cost effective."

To obtain these preferences, the commission will survey a number of active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve service members during the next few months, with plans to survey retired service members as well. The survey will ask participants to value individual elements of

their compensation package in relation to each other, Maldon said.

"If you receive this survey, please take it," he added. "However, the survey is not the only way to let us know your preferences."

People can provide input on the commission's public website, <http://www.mcrmc.gov>, and written comments may be mailed to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, P.O. Box 13170, Arlington, VA 22209.

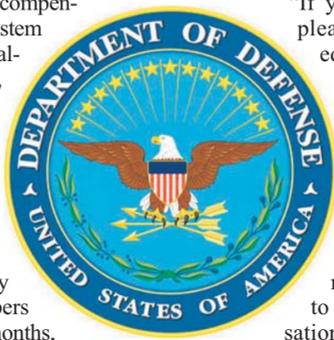
"These tools are powerful ways to

ensure we are aware of your preferences and concerns," Maldon said.

Over the past year, he noted, the commission has benefitted from meetings with service members, veterans, retirees and their Family members.

"Additionally," he said, "representatives of the uniformed services, military and veteran service organizations, and other subject-matter experts have greatly added to our understanding of the breadth of current military compensation and benefit systems. These engagements have reinforced what we've always known: Our people are the strength of our uniformed services."

"We honor your service and ask for your continued input and support as we move forward with this important endeavor."



Program offers partially paid break from Army

By **DAVID VERGUN**
ARNEWS

Need some time off to care for a sick or elderly parent or young child? Want to finish that degree by going full-time? Been dreaming of climbing the Alps, but need an extended vacation?

The Career Intermission Pilot Program, or CIPP, may be a Soldier's best opportunity to do those or any number of other things, said Albert S. Eggerton, deputy chief, Officer Division, G-1.

The pilot program gives Soldiers a chance "to take a step back from the Army without having to go through the normal, very complex procedures of separating from the service," he said.

CIPP is targeted for only the "best performers," he said, "people we've invested money in who've shown they have an affinity for service and who will be performers in the future."

These are Soldiers who "have challenges or desires in their lives that can't be met within the rigid framework of the Army" and the Army wants to keep them, he said, meaning that CIPP could become a useful retention tool.

Up to a total of 20 officers and 20 enlisted per year in the regular Army, Army Reserve and Active Guard/Reserve will be able to take up to three years in the Individual Ready Reserve, with the stipulation that they return when their sabbatical or extended sabbatical ends.

It's not a full-pay sabbatical, however. Soldiers will get paid "two times 1/30th"



Photo illustration by David Vergun

The Career Intermission Pilot Program will provide some Soldiers an opportunity to take a sabbatical-type break from the Army to pursue other interests.

of their base pay, according to Military Personnel Message 14-143, which describes CIPP in detail.

Although Soldiers will not receive most of their salary and will not be eligible for Service Members Group Life Insurance and Tuition Assistance during that period, Eggerton said they'll still be able to use TRICARE and certain privileges like shopping at the commissary and Exchange.

CIPP also comes with a service extension obligation of two months for every month spent in the pilot.

There are a number of disqualifi-

ers listed in MILPER message 14-143, including the stipulation that Soldiers must have completed their initial active-duty obligation and not have been identified for deployment or in receipt of permanent change-of-station orders.

Application packages must arrive at Human Resources Command by Sept. 1, 2014. The start day for the program is June 1, 2015. As with any program, Eggerton advised doing the paperwork sooner, rather than later.

Eggerton said the Human Resources Command has so far only received

one package, although there have been a number of inquiries, so he expects interest to pick up over the summer and as word spreads.

Authority for CIPP comes from the 2009 Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act. Eggerton said the authority lasts only until Dec. 31, 2015, but he thinks the act could be extended a few more years due to bipartisan interest in helping service members.

Eggerton said some of the inquiries received from the Navy's similar program have been for mounting an Alpine climbing expedition, he noted.

Exchange offers prizes for Homeward Bound Campaign

AAFES

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service's Homeward Bound campaign is sizzling in June with a variety of giveaways to celebrate the homecoming of America's Warfighters and honor those who serve.

Shoppers who visit the Exchange Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AAFES. BX.PX have a chance to win various prizes throughout the month, including:

- An MWR Vacations trip for two valued at \$999 or a 65-inch LG SMART television valued at \$1,699, June 27-July 10.

"The Homeward Bound giveaways are really heating up for June," said Exchange Chief of Staff Col. Tom Ockenfels. "Several military shoppers will have the chance to walk away winners."

To enter the Homeward Bound contests and for more information about upcoming promotions, visit www.shopmyexchange.com/homewardbound.

Exchange to give away two Smart cars

Exchange

Summer is about to get sweeter as the Army & Air Force Exchange Service teams up with Welch's/Sour Jacks to offer two military shoppers a chance to drive home a brand-new Smart cars.

Through July 31, shoppers can enter the Promotion in Motion Smart Car Giveaway at Exchange locations worldwide for the chance to win one of two Smart cars, each valued at \$15,000.

"It's smart to enter this sweepstakes for a chance at a brand-new car," said Exchange Chief of Staff Col. Tom Ockenfels. "Military shoppers can stop by their nearest Exchange to fill out an entry form. It's that easy."

Authorized shoppers 18 years and older can enter the Promotion in Motion Smart Car Giveaway. No purchase is necessary, and the drawing will take place on or about Aug. 29.

For more information, visit the Exchange website at www.shopmyexchange.com/ExchangeStores.



Courtesy photo

After touring the White House during a June 5 Staff Ride, Soldiers from the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense at Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Center for Environmental Health Research at Fort Detrick, Maryland, pose in front of the East Wing with Bo and Sunny, the First Family's pet dogs.

MRICD, CEHR staff ride features White House tour

MRICD

Soldiers from the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense and from its subordinate command, the U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research (CEHR), Ft. Detrick, Maryland, participated in a staff ride to Washington, D.C., June 5 to tour the White House. MRICD Commander Col. Bruce Schoneboom saw the venue as the perfect professional and leadership development opportunity to understand how the military supports the presidency and the role that

the White House has played in military history over the last 200 years. Additionally, an escorted tour of the White House public rooms—and a photo opportunity with White House residents Bo and Sunny — promoted the unit's camaraderie and *Espirit-de-corps*.

U.S. Army Maj. James Jones of the White House Medical Unit hosted the 33 MRICD and CEHR Soldiers on their tour of the White House's Vermeil Room, Library, East Room, Green Room, Blue Room, Red Room, State Dining Room, and Cross Halls. Jones

provided some historical information about the White House, the rooms viewed on the tour, and how the military supports the presidency. He was also responsible for coordinating the group's photo with the First Family's dogs in front of the White House East Wing entrance.

U.S. Secret Service agents were available in each room as well to provide additional details about the room and to answer any specific questions the Soldiers had. The day included a stop at the White House gift shop.

Retirement income should be the outcome

By KISHA A. TAYLOR

Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board

When you think about retirement, what picture comes to mind? Is it a vision of you cruising the Pacific coast in your convertible? Or do you see yourself driving to the office because you can't afford to leave the workforce? A fact: Many workers are not saving enough to maintain their lifestyle in retirement, and many more may find themselves surprised when their money starts to run out. To create the retirement you envision, look at your TSP account balance as a source of retirement income — your retirement paycheck— instead of simply a dollar amount. Here's why:

You want to stop working one day

If you don't want to work forever, you are going to have to think about how much income you will need to live. Don't assume that your expenses will go down when you leave the workforce because that may not be the case. And, while you may think you'll be able to continue to work if you can't make ends meet, you could find yourself in a situation that prevents you from working. Check out the Retirement Income Calculator in the Planning & Tools section of the TSP website. It can estimate a monthly retirement amount based on your current savings strategy. You'll see right away if you are on track to have sufficient TSP income in retirement. If the amount is lower than you expected, you may have to look at ways to step up your savings during your working years so that you can enjoy the retirement you envision.

Think: Work because you want to,



File Photo

not because you have to.

You want a comfortable retirement

Retirement isn't free. Travel, hobbies, living expenses, healthcare costs, and unforeseen emergencies such as home repairs, can chip away at your retirement savings. The widely accepted industry guideline is that you'll need 80% of your pre-retirement savings to live comfortably. In 2013, the TSP conducted a participant survey and discovered that 70% of respondents do not have a specific retirement savings goal in mind. Do you? Having an idea of what you want your retirement lifestyle to be allows you to plan how you will be able to afford comfortable living.

Think: Preparation equals comfort.

People live longer than they used to

The possibility of outliving retirement

savings is probably the biggest risk retirees face. More and more people are living into their 80s—even 90s! If you retire at the average age of 65, you could spend the next 20 years or more without a paycheck. There are several strategies to follow that help you make your money last longer:

- Work longer if you can, even if it's part-time, to help boost your savings.
- Don't invest your money too conservatively in your early saving years.
- Use the TSP's calculators to help you figure out if you're on the right track.
- Don't just wing it; consult a financial planner if necessary. Think: Don't run out of money before you run out of life.

Take a look at the "Will you be ready for retirement?" section of your annual statement. There, you'll find an estimate of your monthly income if you were to retire with your statement account balance. It will let you know how close you are to bringing your retirement picture to life.

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; OPM 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 information, contact Joan Campbell at 410-278-5668 or joan.s.campbell.civ@mail.mil.

Adams, Dwayne
Armstead, Richard
Beall, Dawn
Birch, Garfield
Blethen, Lena
Blethen, Matthew
Bruner, Stephen
Cannon, Marcy
Clark, Lyra
Cobb, Joyce
Crawford, Curtis
Cwiernie, Victoria L
Deans, Theresa
Donahue, Karen
Donlon, Jacqueline
Doran, Kemi
Eberhardt, Joanne
Evans, Doretha
Fike, Curtis
Gaddis, Lonnie

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Green-Farley, Jessica
Gregory, Lisa
Grimsley, Sylvia
Hynes, Erin
Hoffman, William
James-Stewart, Sonya
Kennedy, Sandra
Kondu-Jammar, Tyshon
Lamar-Reeve, Kellie
Little, Angela
Lowry, Teresa
Malczewski, Stephen
Martino, Rose
Mason, Tonya
McCauley, Adrienne
McClintick, Jill
Nunley, Dana
Parks, Denise
Powell, Laura
Robinson, Jennifer

Robinson, Lisa
Rodriguez, Pedro
Rodgers, Christopher
Rushworth, Robert
Sheckelford, Angela
Sherrod, Irving
Small, Errol
Solomon, Je'Neane
Stewart, Kathleen
Sumic, Angie
Sweeney, Joseph
Taylor, Audrey
Teigue, Sarah
Terrin, Danielle
Trulli, Wayne
Urban, Brenda
Williams, Demetria
Winne, Janceen

Eight awarded FEB gold for excellence

Continued from Page 1

Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (MRICD); The Protective Under Garment/Protective Outer Garment Blast Test Team, ATEC's Aberdeen Test Center (ATC); Claudia J. Coleman, U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL); Kelly F. Keck, ATEC; Gary Gilde, ARL; and Dr. Juliana Ivancik, ATC.



Category 1A-Outstanding Supervisor GS13 and above Andrew S. Kramer PEO IEW&S

As a supervisor, Kramer leads a cross-functional team of program/budget/cost analysts, acquisition management and operations specialists, security specialists, and human resource administrators to support a project management electronic warfare capability portfolio that spans across five product manager offices and executed a budget in excess of \$150 million.

Kramer took the lead in quarterly reviews with higher headquarters and continuously synthesized budgetary data from the product offices in order to tell the cohesive story which allowed leadership insight into success and program challenges so that the right focus could be applied where necessary. He worked with headquarters staff and his team to identify a replacement process for an unmanageable organizational-wide contract action spreadsheet tracking system and identified a simple solution utilizing a database program that allows multiple organizations simultaneous access to meet the reporting needs of all interested stakeholders and the higher leadership chain. Kramer said he is honored to receive this award. He thanked his team for their dedication and efficiency.

"They are the very best team that any supervisor could ever desire," he said.

Kramer added that job satisfaction derives from knowing that he is helping to keep Soldiers safe.

"I feel my most important work is supporting the Army acquisition process [by] building and fielding Army

electronic warfare and cyber weapon systems that are used by the outstanding men and women serving our Army, keeping our great nation free," he said.

Category 2A-Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support James T. Lawson, Jr., AEC

Lawson is an electrical engineer from AEC, responsible for the evaluation of Army mission command and intelligence materiel throughout the acquisition process, including rapid initiative programs.

He expertly delivered the complex and challenging Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Electronic Warfare and Cyber Security Evaluations and worked closely with the program manager to ensure that a mitigation plan was developed for remaining vulnerabilities, and that follow-up testing was scheduled to test the effectiveness of the mitigations and to ensure new vulnerabilities were not introduced to the system. His commendable efforts with AEC's System Team and Integrated Product Team stakeholders has improved the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical capabilities.

(Lawson was unavailable for comment)



Category 3A Outstanding Paraprofessional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support Craig B. Oppel, MRICD

Oppel is a biological science laboratory technician for MRICD. Oppel's contributions have been remarkable in part due to his skill as a research technician, and have been distinguished beyond his equivalent-grade peers by his level of effort and commitment. He provided his team with innovative ideas which have transformed the way certain experiments are performed, and allowed higher quality data in conjunction with saving thousands of research dollars.

Oppel said he was very surprised and honored to receive a Gold FEB Award. He said there are several people he would like to thank.

"I have the privilege and honor to work with an extremely talented and dedicated group of fine individuals," Oppel said. "First, I need to thank Dr. John McDonough and Dr. Stephanie Miller-Smith for the opportunity to work on their team. Captain Jeffery Havens has worked long and hard to make people on our team receive the recognition

they deserve. Mr. Joe McMonagle has my utmost respect for his behind the scene efforts, without which none of us would be able to conduct the business of science."

Oppel also thanked laboratory technicians Emily McFarland, Katelyn Black, Wafae Driwech, Kristen Winter and Jordan Lakin.



Category 3B-Outstanding Paraprofessional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific, and Program Support-Team Protective Under Garment Team, ATC

The ATC Protective Under Garment/Protective Outer Garment Blast Test Team conducts blast overpressure and shock wave testing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to provide the Army with critical information to assure Soldiers are protected from harm. In addition to free field blast testing, the team conducts simulated blast waves through use of a shock tube. The shock tube provides one way to simulate blast waves in a more controlled and consistent environment. Blast overpressure is a significant concern for Army leaders as it is thought to be a contributor to Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI). The six members of the PUG/POG blast team include Kathryn Francia, Mark McCormick, Daniel Cook, Brandon Hepner, George Zahn and Bryan Small.

Small said the team was honored to be recognized for their work.

"It was nice to see our hard work appreciated, but we always keep in mind the ultimate reward of knowing we directly supported servicemen and women," he said.

"All of the team members are highly motivated and driven individuals [and] everyone's dedication to teamwork and mission success has helped us accomplish difficult tasks in stringent timelines."



Category 4A-Outstanding Administrative Assistance/Management Assistant Claudia J. Coleman, ARL

As an administrative officer for ARL's Weapons and Materials Research Directorate (WMRD), Coleman has demonstrated a high level of competence, mastering division administrative and operations functions that require interfacing across the organization.

Coleman readily accepted additional responsibilities associated with laboratory facilities and administrative space encompassing over 400,000 feet, performed organizational outreach, and fostered a cohesive administrative work team. She has distinguished herself as one of WMRD's "go-to" administrative officers for a myriad of administrative related issues and is often relied on by scientists and engineers because of her "can do" attitude and perseverance on tasks.

Coleman has a demonstrated history of successful office management, while providing innovative and efficient administrative solutions, customer service, and leadership to a team of administrative assistants and administrative support specialists. Coleman said she was surprised to receive the award.

"There were many outstanding nominees for this award and I was humbled to

have been selected from among them," she said.

She thanked her division management team for their continued support. "[They provide] an environment that allows me to make forward prog-

ress to achieve my long term goals within the organization," she said.



Category 6-Workforce Diversity/Equal Employment Opportunity Service Kelly F. Keck, ATEC

Kelly F. Keck, an Equal Employment Opportunity specialist from ATEC, received the FEB Gold Award posthumously.

Keck passed away March 13. His wife Oxana and father, Jack Keck accepted the award on his behalf.

Keck was the first Wounded Warrior intern to serve as an Equal Employment Opportunity specialist for ATEC. Originally hired under a provisional appointment in June 2010, he was later converted to career conditional in July 2010.

Keck was the victim advocate for Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) reporting throughout ATEC, successfully handling both informal and formal complaints.

ATEC EEO Director Dr. Victoria Dixon, who nominated Keck, said he always thought about others. She noted that he consistently went the extra mile by carefully reviewing complaints and providing people with expert advice and guidance.

"His efforts in this area saved the command countless resources since he strived to obtain resolution at the lowest possible level," Dixon said.

She added that Keck excelled in his profession because he cared about others.

"He never failed me when it came to helping others," Dixon said.

Category 9-Distinguished Public Service Career Gary Gilde, ARL

Gilde served as a premier ceramic process engineer in the Army for over two decades. During his career at ARL, Gilde spearheaded efforts to improve and scale up the synthesis and processing of spinel-based ceramic powder and resulting ceramic armor components. He is recognized for his exceptional management skills as demonstrated by his key programmatic leadership of an Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Industrial Base Innovation Fund (IBIF) manufacturing development program to economically polish very large curved transparent spinel ceramics for armor windows.

Throughout his career, Gilde worked tirelessly to mentor numerous students from multiple universities and colleges. His dedication and thirst for knowledge always exceeded the normal job expectations.

(Gilde was unavailable for comment)

Category 10B-Rookie Employee of the Year Technical Scientific and Program Support Dr. Juliana Ivancik, ATC

Ivancik is a materials engineer at ATEC's Aberdeen Test Center. Since starting at ATC in January 2013, Ivancik has performed ballistic testing and evaluation of different types of Soldier body armor to include helmets, hard armor plates and soft armor. Her current research emphasis is to perform a comprehensive assessment of the Roma Plastilina #1 clay currently being used to simulate the human body for ballistic testing purposes and to develop alternative simulant clay for future body armor testing.

"The best thing about my job is knowing that my efforts will help ensure that only the finest body armor are available to our Soldiers in the field," Ivancik said.

She thanked coworkers Gerhard Grimm, Dan Terek, Richard Delgado and Louise Spangler for their support.



MORE ONLINE



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

2014 Excellence in Federal Career Awards

Category 1A - Outstanding Supervisor, GS13 and above

Gold
Andrew S. Kramer, PEO IEW&S

Silver
Clara M. Leonetti, ATEC
Brendon Webb, AEC

Bronze
Ernest S.C. Chin, ARL
Katherine B. DeWeese, PEO Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives
Kevin W. Dodson, Materiel Systems Analysis Activity
Bret J. Eddinger, Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center
Christopher Ferris, U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground
Charlie R. Gonzalez, CECOM
Bruce Griffin, 20th CBRNE Command
Kelly Hacker, ATC
Crystal A. Legaluppi, Chemical Materials Activity
Mary Martinez, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center
Sherwin Sapasap, MRICD

Category 1B - Outstanding Supervisor, GS 12 and Below

Silver
Capt. Carl D. Smith, MRICD
Dr. James T. Swindell, AMSAA

Bronze
Elizabeth R. Wooten, USAGAPG

Category 1C - Outstanding Supervisor, Trades & Crafts

Silver
James J. Gyolai ARL

Category 2A - Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisor) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

Gold
James T. Lawson, Jr., AEC

Silver
Jason J. Adamek, ECBC
Frank Fresconi, ARL
Christopher Hurley, U.S. Army Research, Development & Engineering Command
Dr. Lucille A. Lange, MRICD
Christopher B. Monahan, ATC
Paula Steven, Public Health Command

Bronze

Jason A. Brightwell, ATEC
Todd M. Henry, AMSAA
Willie C. Jackson, PEO IEW & S
Lance McKay, 20th CBRNE Command
Jon A. Ware, PEO ACWA

Category 2B-Outstanding Professional (Administrative Management and Specialist)

Silver
Rebecca F. Clark, ARL
Kevin Hamilton, 20th CBRNE Command
Mardel Wojchiechowski, PEO IEW&S

Bronze
Cheryl Renee Bitner, ATEC
Patricia A. Craten, ATC
Alfreda A. Dunn, MRICD
Linda A. Faison, PEO ACWA
John Haker, AMSAA
Betty Ann Shorter, USAPHC
Ronnie Ward, ECBC

Category 3A-Outstanding Paraprofessional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support

Gold
Craig B. Oppel, MRICD

Silver
Sunny J. Blackiston, 20th CBRNE
Thomas C. Rossi, CECOM LRC

Bronze
Lonny F. Andersen, ATC
Laticia C. Fortune, ATEC
Chantal B. Marus, AMSAA
Gregg Pisani, PEO IEW& S
James K. Raymond, ARL

Category 3B-Outstanding Paraprofessional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific & Program Support-Team

Gold
Protective Under Garment/Protective Outer Garment Blast Test Team, ATC

Silver
Lethal Mechanisms Branch (LMB) Team, ARL
Molecular Neurotoxicology Team, MRICD

Bronze
Business Management Team, PEO IEW&S
Reorganization Team, ATEC

Category 3C Outstanding Paraprofessional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative Management Analyst, GS8 & Above

Silver
Dana L. Fritts, ATEC
Cheryl Skibicki, ARL
Dianne Swauger, ATC

Bronze
Lori A. Clark, AMSAA
Mary Gatto, PEO ACWA
Robyn B. Lee, MRICD
Laura A. Stephenson, PEO IEW & S
Leticia L. Williams, CECOM LRC
Laura Wittig, CMA

Category 4A - Outstanding Administrative Assistance/Management Assistant

Gold
Claudia J. Coleman, ARL

Silver
Debra L. Davis, AMSAA
Peggy Furlong, AEC

Bronze
Sharon K. Chapman, 20th CBRNE Command
Danielle Enders, ATEC
Patricia San Agustin, PEO IEW& S
Rachel L. Whisman, MRICD
Stella M. Woosley, ATC

Category 4B-Outstanding Administrative Work Group or Team

Silver
Acquisitions Program Specialist Team, AEC
Management Support Team, ATC
Commander's Furlough Overtime Policy Team, ATEC

Bronze
Collective Bargaining Agreement S-1 Support Team, MRICD

Category 5-Outstanding Trades and Crafts (Non-Supervisory)

Silver
Terrence Taylor, ARL

Bronze
William Cain, MRICD
Arthur E. Gaddis, ATC

Category 6-Workforce Diversity/Equal Employment Opportunity Service

Gold

Kelly F. Keck, ATEC

Silver
Dr. Sandra K. Young, ARL

Bronze
Alicia J. Thomas, ATC
Workforce Diversity Integrated Product Team, AMSAA

Category 7A - Heroism-Individual Heroic Act

Silver
Curtis Diering, USAGAPG

Category 8A - Volunteer Service-Individual Award

Silver
Lawrence Burton, ARL
Rachel Koslowski, AMSAA
Andree M. Mountain, ATEC

Bronze
Janice M. Burke, RDECOM
Peter Leon-Guerrero, 20th CBRNE Command
Spc. Cassandra L Rousayne, MRICD
Cindy Smith, PHC

Category 8B - Volunteer Service-Group Award

Silver
US For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology (USFIRST) Robotics Competition Team, ARL

Category 9-Distinguished Public Service Career

Gold
Gary Gilde, ARL

Silver
Donald M. Maxwell, MRICD
James A. Richmond, PEO ACWA
Brad J. Roberts, USAPHC

Bronze
Regina Kistner, AMSAA
Dal M. Nett, ATEC

Category 10A-Rookie Employee of the Year Administrative/Management Analyst

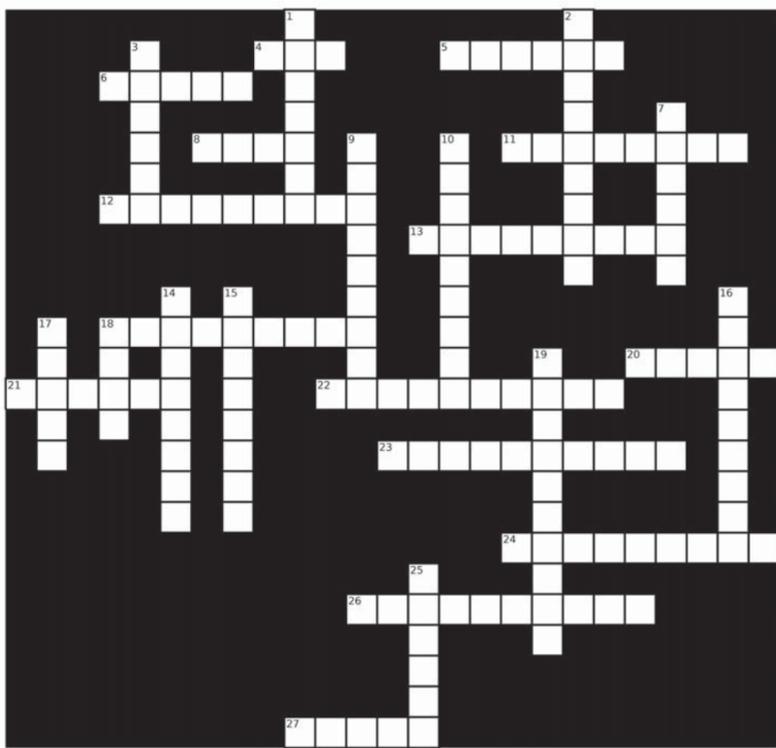
Bronze
Catherine S. Beckwith, MRICD

Category 10B-Rookie Employee of the Year Technical Scientific and Program Support

Gold
Dr. Juliana Ivancik, ATC

Silver
Dr. Kelly A. Basl, MRICD
Brian P. Reen, ARL

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

- Lita Singh's mom at KUSAHC
- Joseph Herod would like to swim with the _____
- Bites from these critters can transmit disease
- Joined Edgewood's Toastmasters group in '84
- College Park museum's focus
- Served lunch to visitors at Office Eagle open house in 2004
- Garrison commander to attend Edgewood/Joppa Fourth of July parade
- IMCOM's commanding general
- 313th _____ Movement Control Battalion
- Remember: For Outside Use Only
- Sport enjoyed by civilian contractor Pete Fasual
- Lt. Col. _____ Gul
- Onetime job of APG electronics engineer Brad Pratt
- Jessica is a straight shooter
- Incoming Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey _____

Down

- Surname of President Garfield's assassin
- Activity on Jessica Davignon's Bucket List
- Van _____ Road in Edgewood is

home of Ramada

- First name of General Bruce T. Crawford's wife
- Cecil County town where Battalion Chief Gregory T. Miller grew up
- Baltimore Federal _____ Board (FEB)
- Annual hydrant _____ at APG
- Army hero invoked in upcoming U.S. Army Band performance
- Oldest Toastmasters club at APG
- Adjective used by Danielle Suit to describe her family
- CSSC's regional BRAC manager
- Responsible for coordinating photo with the First Family's dogs
- APG bistro closing for a week in July

Solution to the June 19 puzzle



WORD OF THE WEEK

Tractable

Pronounced: trak-tuh-buh l

Part of Speech: Adjective

Definition:

- Easily managed or controlled; docile; yielding: a tractable child; a tractable disposition.
- Easily worked, shaped, or otherwise handled; malleable.

Uses

- What is really remarkable about these animals is how gentle they are, how tractable.
- You'll find the energetic toddlers tougher to manage than the more tractable infants.
- There are serious attempts to make semantic grammar computer tractable.
- The narrowing of focus allowed concentration on problems that were more tractable and applicable.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

JIC

Joint Intelligence Center

A Joint Intelligence Center (JIC) is a focal point for military intelligence gathered by different intelligence agencies and administered by the Defense Intelligence Agency. The JIC is responsible for providing and producing the intelligence required to support the joint force commander and staff, components, task forces and elements, and the national intelligence community.

There are Joint Intelligence Centers in the United States Central Command at Tampa, Fla., (CENTJIC - USCENCOM), the United States Pacific Command in Hawaii (Joint Intelligence Center Pacific, JICPAC) and in Europe. The Joint Analysis Center serves as a JIC for the United States European Command.



Check us out on flickr
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TODAY

JUNE 26

CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY CEREMONY

The APG Garrison invites the community to witness the transition from Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin to incoming Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams from Fort Carson, Colo., during a 1 p.m. change of responsibility ceremony at the post theater. For more information, call 410-278-1147.

RAB MEETING

The next RAB meeting will be held 7 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center, 1700 Van Bibber Road, in Edgewood. The topics of discussion will be an update on Other Edgewood Areas and Lauderick Creek Cluster 13. For more information, contact Karen Jobses at 410-278-6755 or email karen.w.jobses.civ@mail.mil.

SATURDAY

JUNE 28

FEW SEMINAR

The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women will host the seminar, "How to Turn Your Work Experience into College Credits," 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Hilton Garden Inn, Aberdeen. The featured speaker is Andrew Coston, director of Career Services, Cecil College. Cost is \$30. For more information, contact Tracy Marshall at 443-861-4366 or Valery Calm-Coleman at 410-920-7849.

MONDAY

JUNE 30

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY DEADLINE

In recognition of women winning the right to vote, Women's Equality Day will be observed with a guest speaker and awards ceremony in August. The event is sponsored by the U.S. Army Public Health Command and the APG Federal Women's Program committee.

The Outstanding Woman of the Year, Outstanding Supervisor/Manager of the Year and Activity Most Supportive of FWP Goals award will be awarded at this time.

Submit nominations to Elizabeth Young, elizabeth.h.young.civ@mail.mil or Tiffany Williams, tiffany.n.williams.civ@mail.mil not later than Jun 30.

For nomination forms and samples, contact Teresa Rudd at 410-436-5501, teresa.d.rudd.civ@mail.mil.

MONDAY

JULY 7

DONNA'S PIT BEEF CLOSING ONE WEEK

Donna's Pit Beef restaurant, located in the post theater, will close the week of Monday, July 7 through Friday, July 11 due to planned construction on the parking lot.

Donna's will resume normal business hours Monday, July 14.

For more information, call 410-272-7730.

WEDNESDAY

JULY 9

FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING

Training for building Fire Marshalls will be held 1 to 3 p.m. at the APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810.

Training will be conducted by the APG Fire Department Fire Prevention Branch and will review what the post requires of tenants to assure fire safety in the buildings they occupy and for which they are responsible. It will include monthly inspection requirements fire extinguisher inspections.

For additional information, contact William J. Bond, fire protection inspector, at 410-306-0093 or email william.j.bond1.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY

JULY 17

C4ISR HEALTH EXPO

The APG Community Health Promotion Council will host a Health EXPO 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mallette Mission Training Facility, Bldg. 6008. This event will include health screenings for vision, blood pressure, spinal scans and fat analysis and offer seated massage and advice on nutrition and tobacco cessation. Topics will focus on stress and weight management, financial wellness, sleep disorders, organizational skills, life insurance, physical fitness, dental care and more.

Guests can chat with representatives and view displays from the APG Army Wellness Center (AWC), Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), Family & Morale Welfare and Recreation (FMWR), and various health care provid-

ers. Door prizes and promotional giveaways will be featured.

For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or email tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

ONGOING

FEW SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE JULY 1

The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) is accepting applications for the Dottie Dorman Working Woman's Scholarship. The \$500 award is to offset college expenses incurred while in pursuit of continuing education.

Applicants must:

Be a female government employee (civilian or military) and employed in a federal job working in Baltimore, Cecil or Harford County.

Currently enrolled and pursuing college level studies at an accredited college or university.

Provide proof of enrollment for current semester.

Submit an essay explaining why they should be awarded the Dottie Dorman Working Woman's Scholarship.

All submissions should be typed and not exceed two pages.

Submit applications to: Maryland Tri-County Chapter of FEW, P.O. Box 1613, Bel Air, MD 21014

Criteria:

- You are currently in a position limited in promotion potential.
- There is lack of government funding.

- You are currently or recently involved in reduction-in-force (provide dates).

- All applications must be submitted by July 1.

For more information, contact Karen Jobses at 410-436-4299 or email karen.w.jobses.civ@mail.mil.

HYDRANT FLUSHING THROUGH AUG. 4

The annual hydrant flushing at APG runs through Aug. 4. Flushing will be completed 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday of each week. The schedule below is tentative and will be followed as closely as possible. The points of contact for this effort are Dennis Overbay, APG Directorate of Public Works, at 443-306-8910, dennis.a.overbay.civ@mail.mil, or City of Aberdeen representative, Roger Hall at 410-272-1449.

THROUGH AUGUST 19 EDUCATION CENTER SUMMER SEMESTER

The Army Education Center on post college schedule for the summer semester is as follows:

- Florida Institute of Technology, Through - July 25

- University of Maryland, Through Aug. 10

- Harford Community College, June 30 - Aug. 1

- Central Michigan University, July 9 - Aug. 19

For more information, contact the Army Education Center at 410-306-2042/2037.

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 93rd annual reunion in Omaha, Ne. from Sept. 16 - 20, contact secretary-treasurer, Bob Haynes, at Zidahq@comcast.net or 224-225-1202.

AIRBORNE HAZARDS & OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY

VA encourages all Gulf War Veterans - anyone who served in the Persian Gulf area from August 1990 to present - to sign up for the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry which is established by Public Law 112-260. The registry provides an opportunity for veterans to receive information updates and to help VA improve its understanding of deployment-related health effects. During deployment, Gulf War veterans may have been exposed to smoke from burn pits, oil-well fires, and air pollution. Veterans must complete an online health questionnaire to participate in the registry. For more information, visit www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/.

INSIDE APG

APG commanders and subject matter experts will discuss topics of interest to the local community every Saturday and Wednesday at 7:50 a.m. during

"Inside APG: Creating One Community Without a Gate," a monthly radio series on 970 WAMD. For more information about the series, to schedule or request an interview, call the Garrison Public Affairs Office at 410-278-1150. For previous interviews, follow these links: <http://youtu.be/a8vuMdxmG50>; <http://youtu.be/se7hTkwnbO8>

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.

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.

ARMY WELLNESS CENTER OFFERING SERVICES AT APG SOUTH CLINIC

The Army Wellness Center is seeing clients at the APG South (Edgewood) Clinic, Bldg. E4110 twice a month. Clients can have metabolism and body composition assessments and other services without having to drive to APG North (Aberdeen). Service members and their Family members, retirees and Army civilians can make an appointment through the APG North AWC, or be referred by their unit or primary health care provider at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Upcoming APG South AWC dates are:

June 5, 11 and 25; July 11, 23 and 29; and Aug. 5, 14 and 27.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment call 410-306-1024.

REPORT POWER OUTAGES TO CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING

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

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

APG: 1-866-958-5412

Patriot Village: 1-866-871-6257

NH Office: 410-305-1076

SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS BONUS

South Dakota is paying a bonus to members of the armed forces who were legal residents of the state for no less than six months immediately preceding their period of active duty and who served on active duty during one or more of the following periods.

1. Aug. 2, 1990 to March 3, 1991 - All

active service counts for payment.

2. March 4, 1991 to Dec. 31, 1992 - Only service in a hostile area qualifying for the Southwest Asia

Service Medal counts for payment.

3. Jan. 1, 1993 to Sept. 10, 2001 - Only service in a hostile area qualifying for any United States

campaign or service medal awarded for combat operations against hostile forces counts for payment.

4. Sept. 11, 2001 to a date to be determined - All active service counts for payment.

Veterans with qualifying service before Dec 31, 1992 [Desert Storm] and after Jan 1, 1993 [Operation Iraqi Freedom] may receive two separate bonuses of up to \$500.00 each.

Applicants living outside of South Dakota may obtain an application by email at john.fette@state.sd.us. Include your branch of the military and dates of service. Those without email can send for an application and instructions from: SD Veterans Bonus, 425 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or call 605-773-7251.

Applicants living in South Dakota may apply through the nearest county or Tribal Veterans Service Officer.

KEYSTONE CLUB

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

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.

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.

PIANO & GUITAR LESSONS

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

MORE ONLINE

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

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

300 Block Traffic Pattern Change

Traffic patterns will be disrupted July through September in the 300 block starting the first week in July to conduct steam line replacement work. This work will repair steam leaks emanating from steam vaults. Temporary fencing will define the staging area for pipes and equipment. Phase 1 fencing will go up starting June 30 through Sept. 24. Phase 2 fencing will go up Sept. 25 through Oct. 15. Work will begin July 7. For more information, contact the Directorate of Public Works' Jeff Presgraves at 410-306-1848, jeffery.a.presgraves.civ@mail.mil; or Devon Rust at 410-306-1125, devon.a.rust.civ@mail.mil.

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

Boothby Hill Road Partial Closing

Through July 11, Boothby Hill Ave between Bel Air Street and Aberdeen Boulevard will be closed to all traffic for repaving. The intersections at Bel Air, Frankford, Darlington and Combat will remain open.

There will be no through traffic at Havre de Grace, Susquehanna and Raritan. Motorists are cautioned to allow additional time for their commutes and to familiarize themselves with alternate routes. Those with destinations in the 5000 block will be able to access Havre De Grace Street from the Combat Drive / Convoy Road end. Havre de Grace Street traffic will not be able to cross Boothby Hill in either direction

CONSTRUCTION ALERT

APG NEWS

This Week in APG News history

By YVONNE JOHNSON, APG News



50 Years Ago: June 25, 1964

Clockwise from left:
Christia Jellison, left, at the controls of an APG Flying Club PA-18 Super Cub, talks about radio technique with Ben Stokes, flying instructor.

(From left) Maj. Gen. James Sutherland Jr., commander, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, pins a silver eagle rank on newly-promoted Col. Walter Wojcik, assisted by Mrs. Wojcik during a promotion ceremony at ATEC headquarters.



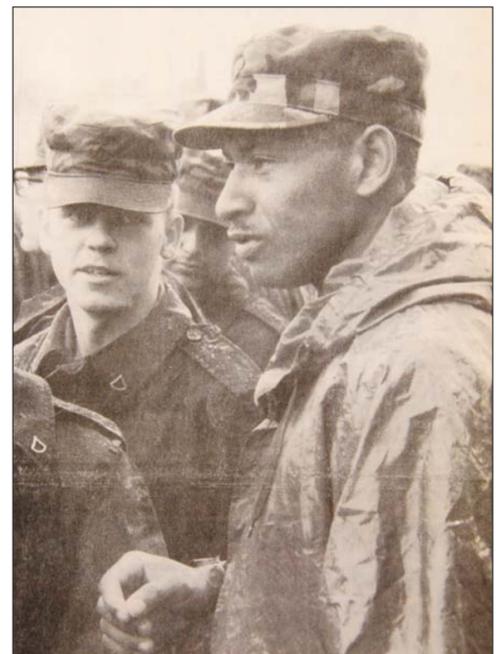
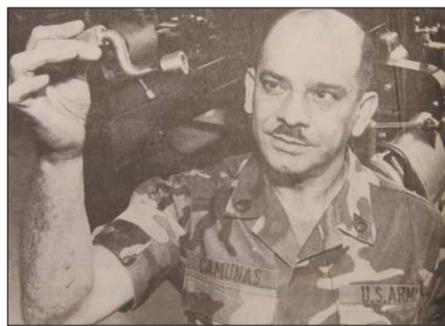
(From right) Col. Lowell Steele, commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, chats with Spc. 5 Wanda Baker and Spc. Maria Rael after presenting them with certificates of appreciation. Baker is a military personnel records clerk and Rael is a receptionist and medical assistant.

25 Years Ago: June 28, 1989

Clockwise from top left:
Staff Sgt. Carlos Camunas-Garcia looks at one of two hand cranks he developed to improve safety. The annex chief of the Ordnance Center and School Metalworking Department was recognized by the Federal Safety and Health Council of Central Maryland.

(From right) Spc. Frank Gordon and Pfc. Kendall Chaney instruct members of Company B, 601st Ordnance Battalion before forming up to march through a rain storm.

Sgt. Terrence Barnes moves cables while clearing an area for scheduled upgrades in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas. Barnes is assigned to the 16th Signal Company, 40th Signal Battalion at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



10 Years Ago: June 24, 2004

Clockwise from left:
(From left) A Soldier of the Year candidate salutes President of the Board Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Moten as board members Sgt. Maj. David Oberg, Master Sgt. Arthur Band and Sgt. 1st Class William Hardman look on during selection board proceedings in June 2004.

Spc. Kevin Shewmaker disassembles and M16 during common task testing of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Soldier of the Year competition.

(From left) Freda Dunn serves lunch to visitors of the Office Eagle customer appreciation open house at Bldg. 320 May 24, 2004.



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

USAPHC mentors prepare next generation of leaders

By **CHANEL S. WEAVER**
USAPHC

When Alison Sansone applied for a summer position with the U.S. Army, she thought she'd be doing something a bit risky, like riding in armored vehicles, or navigating through heavily forested areas to practice her skills of evading the enemy with a camouflage army combat uniform.

One year later, Sansone can say that she got what she hoped for—although her heavy armor consisted of a white suit to protect her from tick bites, and her exposure to the forest included gathering insects for research purposes.

Under the watchful eye of U.S. Army Public Health Command entomologist Ellen Stromdahl, the Aberdeen High School senior worked on a year-long project that examined tick populations in Harford County.

"Ticks can transmit disease, and a single bite can cause harm to a Soldier if the tick is not removed promptly," said Stromdahl. "Alison's project can help local Harford County Soldiers see which areas to avoid during peak tick activity."

Sansone is a recent graduate of the Science and Mathematics Academy, a school-within-a-school magnet program in which academically talented students engage in challenging coursework that integrates science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM, and emphasizes research and real world application.

Last summer, Sansone accompanied Stromdahl to 17 locations in Harford County to search for ticks.

The next phase of her project consisted of developing a map of the tick distributions in Harford County, as well as incorporating a predictive aspect of the map that highlighted the likelihood of encountering ticks throughout the county.

One of the highlights of Sansone's experience with the USAPHC was the opportunity to be a presenter at the Third Annual Mid-Atlantic Tick Summit, which was held at the U.S. Geological Service Patuxent Wildlife Research



Courtesy photo
Alison Sansone examines ticks in a U.S. Army Public Health Command laboratory during the school-year long mentoring project with entomologist Ellen Stromdahl.

Center in Bowie, Md., in January. During the conference, Sansone gave a speech before an audience of more than 100 tick experts that highlighted the findings of her research and increased public knowledge of ticks and tick-borne disease.

Although some mentors or organizations may not have permitted a young student to speak to an audience of experts, Stromdahl said the experience allowed Sansone to develop skills that would benefit her in the workplace.

"She performed with poise, professionalism and grace," said Stromdahl. "And, most importantly, she learned a valuable skill of public speaking."

Her audience was equally impressed with her presentation skills.

"People kept inquiring about what university I attended," said Sansone. "I took that as a big compliment, as I was just a high school student."

Sansone was not the only student to be mentored by USAPHC scientists. Selena Snyder, an Aberdeen High School senior who also is a member of the Science and Mathematics Academy, spent a portion of her school year with experts in the USAPHC Environmental Medicine Program.

Dr. Coleen Baird, USAPHC Environmental Medicine program manager,

and Jessica Sharkey, USAPHC epidemiologist, worked on a project to study the issue of respiratory symptoms in military personnel who were exposed to the Al-Mishraq Sulfur Plant in Iraq after it caught fire and burned for 30 days during the summer of 2003. Snyder's project assessed the value of respiratory testing after exposure to airborne hazards.

Both Baird and Sharkey said they enjoyed serving as mentors and giving back to the local community.

"We chose to mentor a student this year because we are interested in supporting young people preparing for a career in science," said Baird.

The opportunity to work with two scientists at the USAPHC proved beneficial to Snyder.

"With one mentor close to the start of her career at the Public Health Command, and the other near the end, we provided differing perspectives on public health in practice to complement the rigorous, hard science training at the Science and Mathematics Academy," said Sharkey.

Both Sansone and Snyder presented their findings at a seminar in late May. Their mentors were also in attendance.

Officials at Aberdeen High School said the mentorship experience really benefits the students.

"This rigorous program teaches students the skills needed to be leaders in the area of research," said Sarah Voskuhl, program specialist with the Aberdeen Science and Mathematics Academy. "It would not be possible to provide the students with this experience without the dedicated mentorship of STEM professionals serving as mentors."

Although these students had a busy senior year, they said they are grateful for the opportunity to work on projects that benefit Soldiers and that they won't forget the valuable experiences they gained working with a worldwide public health organization like the USAPHC.

"I am very grateful for this experience and could not have wished for better mentors," said Snyder.

Army announces positions now available to women

By **DAVID VERGUN**
ARNEWS

Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh signed a directive authorizing more opportunities for women to serve in a wider range of roles within the Army.

This authorization results in the opening of about 33,000 positions in units that were once closed to women, said Col. Linda Sheimo, chief of the Command Programs and Policy Division at the Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Army G-1.

The 30-day congressional notification required by law before implanting this change in policy was completed April 7, 2014.

"Soon, our formations down to company level, will begin having female Soldiers arrive for duty to serve in positions once closed to women, said Lt. Gen. Howard B. Bromberg, deputy chief of staff, Army G-1.

"However, this will not happen overnight; we will continue to incrementally fill these positions with Soldiers who have the ability, are qualified, and have the proven performance to complete the mission," he said.

As a part of the incremental strategy, the directive states "female leaders will be assigned first to provide a support network for junior female Soldiers and to offer advice to the unit's male leadership."

"The decision to open these positions to female Soldiers was made after the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command completed extensive validation studies, including physical fitness requirements," Sheimo said.

"Nevertheless, women as well as men who do not meet the standards will not be allowed into these MOSs (military occupational specialties)," she emphasized, explaining that the standards are fair and transparent.

"This initiative further aids Army



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Josh Edson
Soldiers of the 501st Special Troops Battalion go on a ruck march at Camp Carroll, South Korea, June 19, 2014.

leaders to select the best qualified Soldiers for each position within the Army profession," Sheimo said. "The Army's efforts across various spectrums will also ensure all Soldiers have the opportunity to serve successfully."

The deputy chief of staff, Army G-1 will issue additional personnel assignment guidance and unit training requirements in follow-on military personnel messages, according to the directive.

This change in policy means there are no more units in the Army that are closed

to women. A closed unit was one that was expected to see combat. Because of this, women could not serve in those units -- even if they served in MOSs that were open to women.

With the change, women can serve anywhere in the Army -- even in combat units -- within an MOS that is open to women.

The new directive does not include changes to closed occupations in the Army -- the 14 MOSs in the Army that are currently closed to women.

Those MOSs are: engineer (12B enlisted), field artillery (13B/D/F), infantry (11A/B/C/Z), and armor (19A/B/C/D/K/Z). Additionally, the new Army directive does not affect the special operations community.

More MOSs could be open for women in the future, Sheimo said. By Jan. 1, 2016, the Army will have completed validation studies for all 14 MOSs that are currently closed to women and will pass its recommendations on to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for review.



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DPW charged with implementing APG vision

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greater intent is to transform APG into a premier modern research and development campus.”

He said the Garrison commander’s strategy, a 10-year plan, is being carefully managed by DPW Director Tom Kuchar, and that the overall goal is in keeping with the Army facility investment strategy; directly correlated with Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel’s restructuring of services and decreasing of manpower to pre-World War II levels.

“It’s part of that vision of a reshaped Army,” Osborne said, adding that spreading the plan out over 10 years is necessary.

“It takes time to accomplish a plan this complex. There are a lot of organizations involved; a lot of logistics. It’s almost like a strategic game of chess.”

He said each operation follows strict guidelines that start with program studies and funding requests.

“We’re currently undertaking and requesting funding through IMCOM [the U.S. Army Installation Management Command] for demolition and other construction program requirements,” he said. “We have a great team, it’s all a team effort. Our Garrison Commander establishes the Installation vision, and Public Works is charged with the implementation of that vision - Master Planning weighs in heavily along with environmental and engineering to make it happen.”

External team members include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District and Huntsville Center in Alabama, he said.

“A lot of work goes into executing these projects,” he added, noting construction contracts are processed through the Army Contracting Command or other servicing Corp Districts, and commonly include environmental studies, engineering assessments, comprehensive land-use



Courtesy photo

Building 5330, in the APG North (Aberdeen) area of Aberdeen Proving Ground is shown here in the early stages of demolition. The dismantling of this and other dilapidated structures is in keeping with the larger APG Installation Facility Investment Strategy to modernize and restore facilities, strategically construct new facilities and demolish obsolete properties.

compatibility studies, and more.

“This is necessary to fully understand the scope of the project and to determine the best course of action to execute the project,” he said.

With the Bldg. E5330 demolition project, workers are using high reach excavators to demolish the building from the top down, due to the height of the facility and safety concerns.

“They’re taking it down piece by piece,” Osborne said, adding that asbestos was removed from the boilers in

2010 and the remaining parts will be cut into pieces, crushed and recycled.

Temporary fencing around the structure maintains perimeter security and addresses safety concerns, he said.

“With Bldg. E5330, we’re not just removing a dilapidated building, but executing the strategy.”

Post demolition sites generally will be turned into open space with an opportunity for reforestation or redevelopment, depending on the site, he added.

Another example of our Facility

Investment Strategy is the renovation of buildings for new organizations. The 4500 block in the APG North (Aberdeen) area of APG is currently being reviewed for this strategy.

“Overall, this is part of an ongoing effort to sustain existing real property facilities and bring facilities back up to standards.

“The Army won’t be spending a lot of money on new facilities in the near future so we have to focus on taking care of what we have.”

Miller moving on so others can move up

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for the Water Witch Fire Company in Port Deposit.

“My oldest brother, Kenny, got me interested,” said Miller, who has remained with Water Witch ever since and serves as its fire chief. “I filled out an application and just fell in love with firefighting.”

Five years later, his brother suggested Miller apply for a position with the APG Fire Department, where he worked. Miller had previously worked as a welder, but was looking for other professional opportunities. His first day on the job at APG was Nov. 26, 1986.

“I will miss the camaraderie and atmosphere. But I will stay in touch [with colleagues]. You can’t just walk away. We’ve been through too much together.”

Gregory T. Miller
Battalion Chief

“It’s the first and only professional [fire] company I’ve ever worked for,” he said.

To become a firefighter, Miller admits you have to be somewhat of an “adrenaline junkie. ... There’s nothing bet-

ter than a hot fire when it whips you. It gives you a work-over, and then you subdue it. Boy, you can’t beat that. But you have to really like it to do it.”

Still, he said there’s more to the firefighter breed than getting a rush.

“You don’t fall in love with firefighting as much as you do with helping people,” Miller said. “I consider myself a people person. It feels good to help people.”

The APG Fire Department conducts 1,300-1,500 runs annually and is responsible for such activities as hazmat responses, storm search rescues, alarm checks, and munitions and chemical missions. More than 60 firefighters and 11 paramedics are based at the Edgewood station.

Over the years, Miller has been involved in countless departmental operations, from firefighting exercises and mutual aid runs with neighboring professional and volunteer companies to building code reviews and child care inspections. He has also traveled out of state to help fight fires, including a major ship blaze in Wilmington, Del.

Among the professional experiences that stand out in Miller’s mind is the 1990 explosion of Building 699.

“That was just a mess,” he recalled. “That was an explosives/munitions building, and a couple of people were killed in it.”

Miller also recalled saving a man who was experiencing a cardiac episode with

electro-shock paddles.

“The patient said, ‘Wow, thank you. I feel much better now,’” Miller said. “In some ways, that’s more rewarding than fighting fires because people come back to you later and thank you. It makes you feel like you know what you’re doing.”

Over the years, Miller moved steadily up the ranks, from an officer to lieutenant to captain to battalion chief.

“Right now, my attention and focus is different than when I was a company officer,” he said. “Your mindset changes from the adrenaline of a 20-year-old. Now, I’d rather be leading the orchestra and directing activities. As a supervisor, you get very close to your people and go through ups and downs with them.”

Miller said he has received offers from other professional firefighting companies over the years, but he remained with APG.

“APG is close to home and it’s a good place to work,” Miller said. “I still liked it here. I still love the place.”

The idea of retiring is bittersweet, said Miller, an avid fisherman who plans to continue as a part-time truck driver for Maryland Portable Concrete, a job he has held for 11 years.

“It makes you smile when you think about [retiring], but then you frown,” he said. “Retirement is the second part of life and not typically as long as the first part. If I told you I wasn’t scared or nervous, I’d be lying. I will miss the camaraderie and atmosphere. But I will stay in touch [with colleagues]. You can’t just walk away. We’ve been through too much together.”

“But I have to give the younger guys a chance to train and move up. It would be selfish for me to stay around,” Miller said. “Of course, it’ll be weird not to come in here. Twenty-seven years is a long time, and it went fast. It’s just time for me to do something else in life.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know June 30, 2014 is the 132nd anniversary of the execution of Charles J. Guiteau for the assassination of President James A. Garfield?



Garfield was the nation’s 20th president, serving just over six months, March 4, 1881 to Sept. 19, 1881. The trial of Garfield’s assassin, Charles J. Guiteau (pictured at right), grabbed more headlines than any other issue of the day as one of the first high-profile cases in the United States in which the insanity defense was considered.

Here’s a little more trivia about the nation’s second presidential assassination:

Guiteau joined the Utopian religious sect known as the Oneida Community in upstate New York but was twice rejected from the community and nicknamed “Charles Gitout.”

Guiteau was an unsuccessful writer, lawyer and theologian before his interests turned to politics.

Guiteau believed he was responsible for Garfield’s election and due for a political appointment because of a little-known speech he wrote supporting Garfield’s candidacy.

Guiteau was banned from the White House for his aggressive manner in seeking a political appointment. He stalked Garfield for four weeks and shot him twice from behind in the Baltimore & Potomac Railroad passenger terminal, July 2, 1881.

Garfield lingered in pain and suffering from severe infections until he died from a massive heart attack Sept. 19, 1881.

Guiteau was indicted and charged with the assassination of the president of the United States. After a sensational trial, bolstered by Guiteau’s unpredictable antics, he was found guilty Jan. 25, 1882 and executed by hanging June 30, 1882 in Washington, D.C.

Guiteau reportedly danced and waved to the crowd on the way to the gallows and recited his original poem, “I Am Going to the Lordy.”

Part of Guiteau’s brain is on display at the Mütter Museum in Philadelphia, Pa. and at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Silver Spring, Md.

Yvonne Johnson, APG News

APG NEWS

How are we doing?

E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to

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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/>.



Photos by Molly Blossie



ATC 2014 INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS

Phil's ATC and Raytheon Alpha fought for the gold during the intramural volleyball championship June 19. Phil's ATC took the win 25-14 and 25-18. Gold and silver-colored medals and award trophies were given to the teams during an awards ceremony after the game.

Clockwise from top:
 (From left) Chris Via and Cody Felch of Raytheon, watch as a quick behind-the-back save for Pete Fasula continues the volley over the net while Dan Cook, of ATC leaps for contact; Phil's ATC team members rally for team spirit before the game; (From left, kneeling) Raytheon teammates Chris Via and Doug To and (from left, standing) Chad Davis, Pete Fasula, Cody Felch and Mike Shaffer, a civilian contractor with ARL, pose with the runner-up trophy after the intramural volleyball post championship; (From left) Scott Ritz, Catherine Subrizi, and Athena Chestnut, of Phil's ATC, are all smiles after receiving their gold medals; Jenny Kress, of Phil's ATC poses for a celebratory photo with her son Wesley, 18-months-old; (From left) Phil's ATC players Ian Swisher, Doug Rhodes, Terrell Corder, Dan Cook, Catherine Subrizi, Jennifer Kress, Athena Chestnut, and Scott Ritz, strike a first-place pose after winning the intramural volleyball post championship June 19.