



APG NEWS

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Gathering offers chance to pray for the nation, says chaplain

By **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

No matter how hard he tries, Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim can't keep from smiling. His laugh is frequent, hearty and infectious. Sometimes, it seems like he's so moved by the spirit he's going to bounce off the walls.



Kim

Kim, who is CECOM's command chaplain, attributes his sanguine attitude and boundless energy to the power of prayer. It's something he wants to share with everyone, and that's why he's so excited about the APG National Prayer Luncheon, which will be held Wednesday, March 19, at 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay.

"Prayer is very important for our nation," said Kim, a Presbyterian minister. "Every day in life, we have to communicate to the Lord. We need his wisdom and encouragement, especially in these days. We can have real hope and peace with God, because he is our source for strength and hope."

"We have more than 20,000 people here [at APG], and we need to come together to pray for the nation and its leadership, even if we're of

See ARMY, page 15



Photo by Rachel Ponder

ECBC, JPEO-CBD directors interviewed for Inside APG

(From left) KHZ Network station manager and radio personality Tracy Hart interviews ECBC Director Joseph Wienand and JPEO-CBD Director Carmen Spencer (not pictured) March 7 about the field deployable hydrolysis system, which is being used as part of a U.N. mission to destroy bulk chemical weapons from Syria. The interview is part of the "Inside APG" radio series, airing Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays at 7:50 a.m. Tune in to 970 WAMD, 810 WYRE, 1330 WJSS, 1460 WKHZ, or 950 WCTN to listen. Interviews are also posted to YouTube, the radio websites and APG social media sites. Call 410-278-1150 for information. Listen to the interview at <http://youtu.be/ZzzHCTbpBJo>

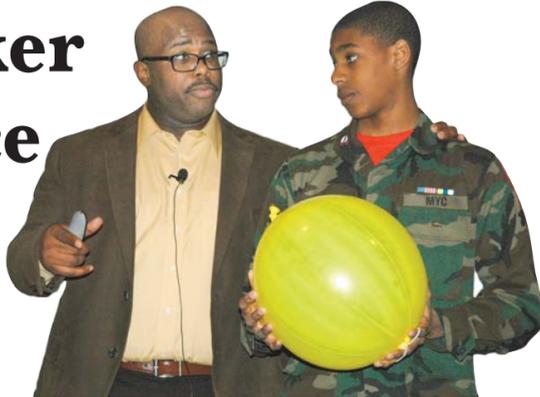
Motivational speaker encourages audience

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

Ty Howard, a motivational speaker, author, life coach, habits consultant and military veteran, presented "Tying Into a Better You" to the APG community during "Take Control of Your Life 2014," a free event March 6 at the Myer Auditorium. The event was sponsored by the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Army Substance Abuse Program, the Community Health Promotion Council and the Office of the Post Chaplain.

Howard, who grew up in Baltimore's Cherry Hill neighborhood,

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(From left) Motivational speaker and life coach Ty Howard talks to Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Cadet Thomas Ventura about goal setting during "Take Control of Your Life 2014" in the Myer Auditorium March 6.

Army researcher goes to Maryland's State House



By **JOYCE M. CONANT**
ARL

Samantha Wallace from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Human Research and Engineering Directorate presented her dissertation research to students, faculty, staff and alumni

Kweisi Mfume, former member of U.S. Congress and chairman of the Morgan State University Board of Regents, stopped by the display of Samantha Wallace, HRED, as she showcased ARL's research efforts with the university at their Innovation Day in Annapolis, Md., Feb. 20. Here she explains the computer model used to analyze the focus constraints of night-vision devices.

from Morgan State University at the University's 4th annual 'Innovation Day' celebration that was held at the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis, Md., Feb. 20.

The annual showcase of faculty and student research and industrial development offers an interactive opportunity for lawmakers and citizens to learn more about Morgan's strategic plans for commercializing science and technological innovation for Maryland's emerging STEM industries.

"Morgan is an international partner in a wide range of research fields and industries," said

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Fire prevention training offered for APG community

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

Remembering the acronyms "R.A.C.E." and "P.A.S.S." can save lives and property, according to Fire Protection Inspector William Bond from the APG Fire & Emergency Services.

During fire extinguisher training at the APG South conference center March 5, Bond said during a fire, people should remember the R.A.C.E. procedure, which stands for Rescue, Alarm, Confine and Extinguish.

During the "Rescue" stage, Bond said people should rescue others only if it is safe to do so. "It sounds selfish, but if you don't rescue yourself first, who can call for help?" he said.

During the "Alarm" stage, alert others to evacuate by yelling, "Fire," activate the building's fire alarm, and call 911. To prepare for an emergency, Bond recommends that people always take note of their surroundings, including the location's emergency exists and fire extinguishers.

During the "Confine" stage, close all doors and

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(From left) During fire extinguisher training, Fire Protection Inspector William Bond from APG Fire & Emergency Services teaches Catrina McCrory, from the U.S. Army Health Facilities Planning Agency, the proper way to use a fire extinguisher during a simulation exercise at the APG South conference center March 5.



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ICE system
<http://ice.disa.mil/>
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WEATHER

Thursday

Partly Cloudy/Windy
chance of rain 0%



33° | 21°

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Foundation keeps alive memory of late wife **PAGE 10**

OPINION

STREET TALK

Spring officially starts next week (March 21). What are you looking forward to most?

I am looking forward to getting out of the house and going on trips with my Family. We are new to the area and we want to visit Washington, D.C. and New York. My children (ages 11 and 13) are enrolled in several STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs this spring and summer. They really enjoy learning about STEM, and I am excited that they will have these opportunities.



Master Sgt. Patrick Drakes
KUSAHC

Spring means I am one step closer to achieving my goals. I graduate from Freestate ChalleNGe Academy in June.



Cadet Janice Pena
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

Warmer weather means I get to play outdoor sports like football, baseball and wrestling.



Cadet James Hernandez
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

It snowed so much this winter, so I am looking forward to warmer weather. I want to go hiking and kayaking. Spending time outdoors, in the sunshine, is therapeutic.



Jody Owens
ASAP

I want to get outside and enjoy picnics and outdoor concerts with my Family. Warm weather puts me in a good mood.



Felix Cruz
CECOM LRC

Suicide prevention means offering a helping hand instead of judging

By **ALAN FEILER**
APG News

The young man got up early on a late December morning. Getting dressed in the darkness, he most likely looked over at his wife, who was seven months pregnant, while she slept blissfully, completely unaware of how painfully and dramatically her life was about to be transformed.

He got into his 2007 Honda and sped away from his Northwest Baltimore apartment, drove about 40 miles northward on I-95, parked his car in the right lane of the Millard E. Tydings Memorial Bridge near Port Deposit, and jumped into the frigid, unforgiving waters of the Susquehanna.

Not long afterwards, Harford County firefighters and marine units of the Maryland State Police and Department of Natural Resources recovered his body. He was only 24, and all of his grieving family members and friends said they had no idea what possessed this young man, with so much life ahead and so much to appreciate, to take such a drastic action.

More than five years later, I still can't drive over the Tydings Bridge without thinking of this fellow, whom I never met but wrote about for another publication.

About a week after the suicide, I was chatting about it with a friend, who became agitated and called the young man a name I cannot repeat in print. "To do that to your family, to the people who love you, and throw away your life is a stupid, selfish thing to do," growled my buddy.

A few days later, when interviewing a spiritual leader for an article on suicide and telling him of my friend's visceral reaction, he responded with his own tirade. "Your friend is an idiot," the spiritual leader said. "He doesn't know what this person was going through or what he'd been through. Who is he to judge someone else's pain? Our job is not to judge but help these people overcome what they're going through and heal themselves."

Understandably, suicide is a topic that brings out these kinds of strong emotions from people. Life, of course, is a gift to be cherished and appreciated. Every faith system – except for some of the whacked-out, cultish sects out there – embraces the sanctity of life and vehemently condemns suicide. It's a sin of the highest order and even a barrier to entering the afterlife, say some of our priests, imams, ministers and rabbis, albeit there's some wiggle room in certain cases where mental illness may be present.

I've been lucky. I've never lost anyone close to me as a result of suicide, although I have had a few friends who died due to self-destructive behavior. I'm fairly certain that everyone at low points in their lives has entertained a passing thought about doing themselves in, and thankfully most people let the moment pass and realize their folly.

But life is complex and hard, brutally hard sometimes, and we all get caught up in our sorrows, demons and frustrations. I once knew someone who described being clinically depressed as like being in a room without a doorway – you keep searching frantically for an exit, but it seems there's no way out.

Sometimes, if someone who is suicidal would just be able to step back, they might find a way to push through their pain and look at things from a healthier, more balanced perspective and find the exit. The rock star Bono of U2 wrote a great song a few years ago, a reaction to a friend's suicide, called "Stuck In

“If you have a problem, a mental health issue or anxiety or depression, it's curable! For me, that's the key. Not only can you recover, you can build on it. In my mind, people who get help can be stronger and better afterwards.”

Gen. Raymond T. Odierno
Army Chief of Staff

A Moment You Can't Get Out Of." The chorus goes, "You've got to get yourself together/you've got stuck in a moment/and you can't get out of it."

Someone I interviewed years ago for my suicide article, whose boyfriend had committed suicide, said she believes that, in certain cases, preventing someone from killing themselves is impossible. That, unfortunately, may be true due to the depth and prevalence of such problems as depression, mental illness, and abuse (self-inflicted or otherwise), but I also believe that some people do get stuck in a moment and they can't get out of it. Those, in particular, are the ones we have to reach, before they let themselves take things too far and slip into oblivion.

In recent years, the media has shone a spotlight on the military and the volume of Soldiers committing suicide. It's an alarming problem, one that the Army is addressing in a strong, meaningful fashion.

A study by the National Institute of Mental Health released last week by the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that suicide rates among Soldiers who went to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as those stationed stateside, have soared past the civilian rates since 2008.

In an interview with the *Huffington Post* a few months ago, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno said the Army has its eyes wide open about suicide prevention. "If you have a problem, a mental health issue or anxiety or depression, it's curable! For me, that's the key," he said. "Not only can you recover, you can build on it. In my mind, people who get help can be stronger and better afterwards. So we have to change the culture at the lowest level."

Yesterday at APG, the program "Ask, Care, Escort – Suicide Intervention" helped train Soldiers and civilians to become certified suicide prevention trainers. On March 26-27, APG ASAP will present a series of training courses on substance abuse and suicide prevention. (Check out Mark Your Calendar for information.)

These are important steps in which Team APG is demonstrating that the Army is taking suicide prevention quite seriously and reaching out to those in need. Those defending our freedoms and shores – and those helping them achieve these goals – deserve nothing less.

Leave Donations

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

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APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

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Social media antics can ruin careers

By **AMY PERRY**
Army News Service

Social media is very pervasive these days. As a new generation of Soldiers -- all well-versed in the various aspects of Facebook, Instagram and Twitter -- join the ranks, senior leaders across the installation are taking steps to ensure these troops realize the impact of their online chatter.

Col. Mary Beth Taylor, 23rd Quartermaster Brigade commander, and Col. Thomas Rivard, 59th Ordnance Brigade commander, both oversee organizations that are responsible for training and preparing thousands of Soldiers each year to move on to their first duty stations. Teaching the new troops about using social media responsibly is among their top priorities.

During the welcome brief at the Ordnance Campus, Rivard said his command team covers top issues with about 250 new Soldiers each week.

"I routinely discuss the use of social media and how their identity translates beyond just themselves to the entire U.S. Army," said Rivard. "This includes making videos while in uniform, naming videos after Army units or installations, etc. I make the distinction that we lack total freedom of speech while we wear our uniform."

"My guidance to them is that if they are identifying themselves as a Soldier -- regardless of on/off duty -- their post must not rise to PG-13, and never can be as bad or worse than a Miley Cyrus video/posting," he continued. "They fully understand this example, and most find it funny."

During Taylor's in-brief with new quartermasters, she said her command team talks about the lifelong impacts social media can have.

"At the brigade level, we emphasize that in this profession you need to be 'all in,'" said Taylor. "This is not a part-time job, even if you're a guard or reserve component Soldier. Once you don the uniform, you represent the U.S. Army ... always."

"Anything you do to disgrace or discredit yourself has the same negative impact for the Army," she said. "We explain to our newly arrived Soldiers that they are ambassadors for the Army and our unit. Those of us in the military are bound by standards of conduct. We must maintain those standards once we raise our right hand and commit to service in support of our nation as a Soldier or member of the armed forces."

As smartphones with quick access to various social media sites become more prolific, it is much more common for new Soldiers to bring those devices with them to advanced individual training, unlike 10 years ago when flip phones were the norm. The ease of access makes it important for commanders to teach their troops how posting can have negative consequences, said Rivard.



U.S. Army Illustration
"There are no split personalities in social media" headline runs atop a poster that is part of the Army's effort to educate Soldiers on the use of social media.

"I tell the Soldiers that I don't look for their social media postings because all of America does this for me," he said. "If they post something offensive, someone will send it to a senior military leader, along with a description of why they are upset."

"The Wisconsin National Guard Sol-

diers who were recently suspended for posing with an empty casket [posted on Instagram by Spc. Terry Harrison, Instagram, 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment], and Pfc. Tariqqa Sheffey [a quartermaster Soldier at Fort Carson, Col.] who is being investigated following her post bragging about hid-

... We emphasize that in this profession you need to be 'all in.' This is not a part-time job, even if you're a guard or reserve component Soldier. Once you don the uniform, you represent the U.S. Army ... always.

Col. Mary Beth Taylor

23rd Quartermaster Brigade commander

ing in her car rather than saluting the flag are great examples of the possible consequences for a Soldier's career if their unprofessional social media posts come to the attention of their military supervisor," said Rivard. "Once we are aware of a problem, we locate the Soldier to have them remove the posting. We've used the Criminal Investigation Division to track down Soldiers who have moved on to their next duty station. If appropriate, we will subject the Soldier to Uniform Code of Military Justice punishment and possible administrative action. Although we haven't yet eliminated a Soldier from the Army for misuse of social media, it remains an option if the situation warrants this."

Remaining professional while on and off duty -- both online and off -- are important to maintaining Army standards, Taylor said.

"Because we always represent the Army, and we want our actions to always reflect the goodness of the Army and our profession," she said. "Any breakdown in self-discipline reflects the same of our Army. Once the public sees the breakdown, they wonder how wide-spread that particular act is throughout the Army, post or unit being represented. They also wonder where else we are breaking down."

"We all make mistakes," she continued. "I think it is important for leaders to do whatever they can to prevent the mistakes from happening by educating our Soldiers on the impact and consequences of actions."

It can be hard for new Soldiers to understand why their misuse of social media interests the Army at all, said Rivard.

"The fact is that it reflects poorly on their professionalism, and erodes the public's trust in the armed forces," he said. "Nobody would expect to see their doctor, attorney, politician or a police officer acting like a clown publicly. Whether our Soldiers realize it or not, that is the high regard the public holds of our profession. It wasn't always so, and a lot of Soldiers have worked for decades to build the public trust we currently enjoy."

"Some of the things our young Soldiers do on the Internet undermines that trust, and it's our obligation to make sure they understand that and modify their public behavior accordingly, both on social media as well as out in the community while not on duty," he continued. "Wearing the uniform is a privilege, one that was earned by millions of men and women who served over the last 238 years. None of us has the right to wear the uniform and then degrade the Armed Forces with an offensive video or statement in a public domain. I tell the Soldiers that it's OK to be young and have fun on the social media venues, but if you represent the U.S. Army, you have limits in regard to the content."

D.C. National Guard celebrates first black female pilot

By **LT. COL. KEVIN MCANDREWS**
Army News Service

The District of Columbia National Guard celebrated the graduation of its first African-American female pilot.



Elosiebo

First Lt. Dina Elosiebo earned her Army aviator wings last month after completing Initial Entry Rotary Wing Flight School at Fort Rucker, Ala.

"This is an extraordinary, historical event for us," said Maj. Gen. Errol R. Schwartz, commanding general of the D.C. National Guard. "We're extremely proud of Lt. Elosiebo. She's a fine officer, and now an Army aviator."

Schwartz said every pilot who graduates from Fort Rucker's rigorous aviator training course -- male or female, regardless of their race or ethnicity -- has accomplished something special.

He added that the military has moved well past the days when such accomplishments were unusual.

"The diversity of our armed forces is what makes us strong," Schwartz said.

While completing the course is no cake walk, Elosiebo had a leg up on most other students at Fort Rucker. In her civilian career, she previously earned her FAA commercial pilots license and

became a certified flight instructor.

Elosiebo follows in the path of the famous Tuskegee Airmen, the first African-American fighter pilots. Before World War II, black pilots were barred from earning their wings in the Army Air Corps. The Pentagon's rationale was that African-Americans could not be taught to fly. But after being forced to go through pilot training three times before being sent to the fight, they became the best of the best. In the bomber escort missions they flew in Europe, they never lost a bomber.

Elosiebo has a strong connection to the Tuskegee Airmen. She received one of her many scholarships from one of their association chapters, and they supported her when she began pursuing her private pilot's license at age 19. In addition, she has worked with, and been mentored by these living legends, including Herbert Jones, who formed the first African-American-owned airline in the U.S.

Women pilots during WWII -- the Women's Air Force Service Pilots, or WASPs -- also inspired Elosiebo. More than 1,000 WASPs flew during the war. Their primary mission was to ferry military aircraft from factories to bases around the country.

"When I think about the trailblazers who went before me and the adversity they continuously faced, be it gender, ethnicity, or simply doing what had not been done, it makes me realize I wouldn't have a story if it wasn't for



Photos by Staff Sgt. Monette Wesolek
Army 1st Lt. Demetria Elosiebo inspects a UH-60 Black Hawk tail rotor during a pre-flight check. Elosiebo became the first African-American female aviator in the District of Columbia Army National Guard.

them," Elosiebo said.

Elosiebo learned to be a go-getter early on in life. As the oldest child, she soon realized that whatever calamity might occur when she was left in charge of her younger siblings, she was going to have to answer for it. So she took charge, and she took responsibility. She's never looked back. She

served as class leader during UH-60 qualification and again during Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape training.

Elosiebo is now assigned as a platoon leader with D Company, (Air Ambulance) 1-224th Aviation (Security and Support), at Davison Army Airfield, Va.



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Navy assists in search for missing Malaysian jet

By **CHERYL PELLERIN**

American Forces Press Service

The U.S. Navy is contributing to the international search effort for a Malaysia Airlines jet that dropped off the radar of Subang, Indonesia, traffic controllers last Saturday morning, March 8, while over the South China Sea, according to a statement from the U.S. Seventh Fleet public affairs office.

Flight MH370, a Boeing 777-200 aircraft, departed Kuala Lumpur at 12:41 a.m. Saturday local time and was scheduled to land at Beijing International Airport at 6:30 a.m. Beijing time. The flight had 227 passengers from 14 nations, mainly China, and 12 crewmembers. According to the Malaysia Airlines website, three Americans, including one infant, were also aboard.

Flight MH370 disappeared from radar screens in the early hours of Saturday, about an hour into its flight from Kuala Lumpur, after climbing to a cruising altitude of 35,000 ft.

No distress signal was sent from the plane, which according to some experts suggests a sudden catastrophic failure or explosion. Malaysia's air force chief said radar tracking showed it may have turned back from its scheduled route before it disappeared.

Last Saturday, the USS Pinckney, an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer home-ported in San Diego, was dispatched to the southern coast of Vietnam to join teams from Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam in search and



A U.S. Navy MH-60R Seahawk helicopter lands aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Pinckney during a crew swap before returning to search for the missing Malaysian Airlines flight in the Gulf of Thailand, March 9. The flight, which dropped off the radar of Subang, Indonesia, traffic controllers early Saturday morning while over the South China Sea, had 227 passengers from 14 nations and 12 crew members. The Seahawk is from the Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 78.

rescue efforts already underway, according to the Malaysia Airlines website.

Dozens of ships and aircraft from 10 countries patrolled the seas around Malaysia and south of Vietnam.

Pinckney was conducting training and maritime security operations in international waters of the South China Sea.

The ship could be in vicinity of the missing jet within 24 hours and carries two MH-60R helicopters that can be equipped for search and rescue.

The Seventh Fleet PAO said a P-3C Orion aircraft also will depart shortly from Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan, bringing long-range search, radar and commu-

nications capabilities to the efforts.

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of those affected by this tragic event,” PAO officials said in the statement, which also requested that all questions about the event be directed to the Navy Office of Information, or CHINFO, duty officer.



Roland Scheffer German Liaison Officer

As a German liaison officer accredited to U.S. Army Communication-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC) at the APG Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) campus, Roland Scheffer facilitates cooperation

between the German government and the U.S., especially in the C4ISR field. He also assists in the development and execution of agreements between organizations and the identification of mutual topics of interest among parties.

“For the daily work, this involves activities such as finding information

that is requested by either side, identifying common interests, helping to establish contacts between German and U.S. experts, supporting and attending conferences and meetings, assisting visitors from and to Germany, and more or less everything else that helps to establish a beneficial collaboration between Germany and the USA,” he said.

Scheffer said he enjoys the experience of working in the U.S. “Having this job means to work and to live in a foreign country with a different culture and lifestyle,” he said. “This is a chance as well as a challenge to broaden the professional and personal horizon, which not too many people get that I enjoy very much.”

Scheffer has held his post as German liaison for APG CERDEC since September 2011, having previously worked as

an engineer for one of Germany's Armed Forces technical centers, at the Air Force Research Laboratory, and at the Federal Armed Forces Research Institute for Underwater Sound and Geophysics. He also worked as project manager at the German Armaments Office. He graduated from the Federal Academy for Defense Administration and Technology in Mannheim Germany as an electrical engineer.

Scheffer said his interest in international cooperation fostered his interests to become a liaison. “My goal is to be the ‘usual suspect’ when someone at APG is looking for information or assistance concerning Germany, our armed forces and our armament organization,” he said.

For more information on CERDEC, visit the organization's website at <http://www.army.mil/cerdec>.

BRL-CAD system a component in ARL's mission

By **DEBORAH INCE**
APG News

The Ballistic Research Laboratory Computer-Aided Design (BRL-CAD) system is an integral part of U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) at APG.

Initiated in the early 1980s by Mike Muuss and an assembly of BRL software developers, the BRL-CAD system was conceived after the military recognized a need to analyze and conceptualize military vehicles on computers.

A software used to represent physical objects on the computer, CAD is used by the military to analyze and conceptualize military vehicles and other equipment containing vulnerability and lethality characteristics. In other words, BRL-CAD works to make military assets more survivable in combat situations.

The Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate associated with BRL-CAD analyzes major Army vehicles and military weapons systems, determining weapons' effects on target vehicles in combat environments, taking into account a vehicle's geometry, mass, and other components.

BRL-CAD software developer C. Sean Morrison has worked on BRL-CAD for more than 10 years. Beginning his work

with the system as a summer student in 1998, Morrison thoroughly understands the software and said it is important that people know about the functions the system performs under ARL.

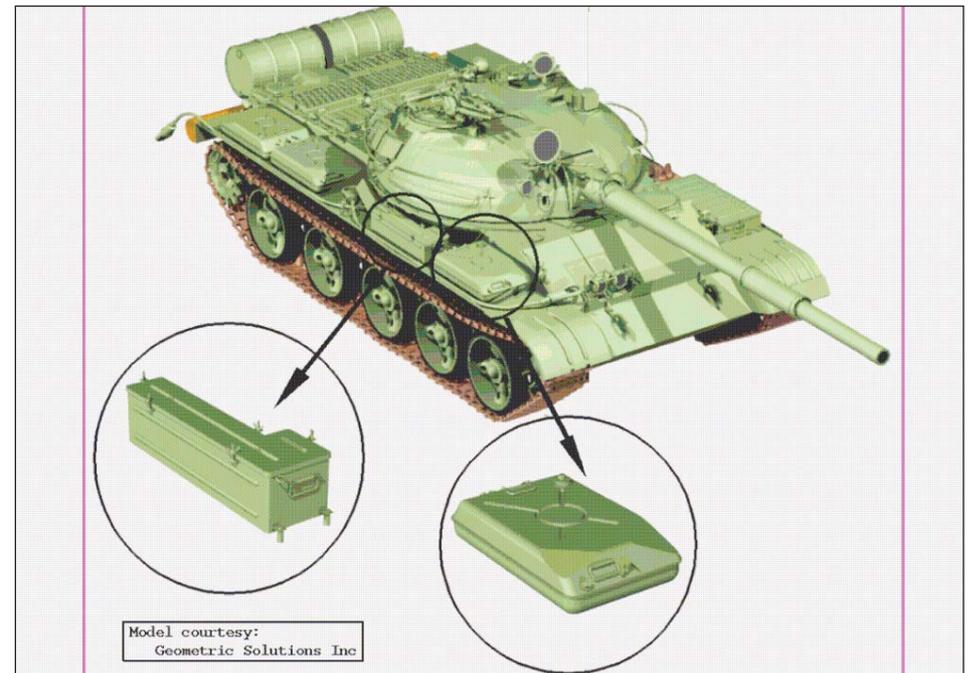
"It's important people know this 30-year success story exists," he said. "ARL continues to invest in development, which primarily happens here at APG."

In 2004, BRL-CAD was converted into a free open source software system. This means a team of volunteers and professionals around the world are working to improve BRL-CAD. Currently, BRL-CAD's developers are making the system be more interoperable, implementing advanced 3D modeling capabilities, building its open source community and increasing project participation.

The first public release of the software was in 1984.

"It really is an amazing piece of software," Morrison said. "It's just hooked into so many things. DoD, NASA, academia, commercial industry--the research continues to be developed. You can use it to model a toaster or help save lives. There is so much potential that directly helps in so many ways and has for so many years."

BRL-CAD supports multiple systems, including Windows, Mac OS X,



Linux, Solaris, BSD and many others, and can be used for both military and non-military purposes.

For example, for a military-themed simulation, using analysis codes, BRL-CAD determines the effects of an incoming threat on a military vehicle and allows developers to view and assess potential outcomes in combat situations. Research-

ers can then take the data collected from the simulation and use it to amend or improve a military vehicle or weapon.

BRL-CAD is also involved in several STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities and is working with Google on additional programs.

For more information, visit the BRL-CAD website at www.BRLCAD.org.

MDANG celebrates new 175th Wing headquarters building

By **TECH. SGT. DAVID SPEICHER**
175th Wing Public Affairs

The Maryland Air National Guard held a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new 175th Wing headquarters building, March 8, at Warfield Air National Guard Base. The new \$14 million, 33,700 square foot facility was completed in early 2014.

"The 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard, has critical function for the security of our country and to those of us in Maryland. They need to have adequate facilities," said Sen. Ben Cardin from Maryland. "We show our support by making the facilities that they need."

The building will be the new home of wing leadership, the Mission Support Group, Medical Group and other wing support functions. Some of the airmen are moving from a 1960s era Operations and Training building.

"It gives us operable space that we have



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Schepers

(From left) Barbara Nemcheck, Project Manager for Burns & McDonnell, U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Allyson Solomon, Assistant Adjutant General-Air, Sen. Benjamin Cardin, Maryland, U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing Commander and U.S. Army Maj. Gen. James Adkins, Adjutant General Maryland National Guard, come together during a ribbon cutting ceremony March 8.

needed for quite a few years," said Brig. Gen. Scott Kelly, 175th Wing commander.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, the Adjutant General for Maryland, hosted the ceremony attended by military members and political representation from the federal, state and local levels.

"Any kind of new development or new improvements that happen on the base shows that you are vested here in this area," Baltimore County Councilwoman Cathy Bevins said. "It is huge to eastern Baltimore County."

The facility was built to achieve LEED Silver Certified standards including multiple energy saving materials and systems to include sustainable green roofs.

This new building improves space allocations, has state of the art environmental control systems and meets all force protection requirements, creating a modern, functional and eco-friendly work environment.

Slim-Down Challenge reaches halfway point

By **LT. JOANNA T. MOORE**
Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic

In January, eight different organizations and more than 250 participants on APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood) formed teams in order to participate in the 12-week Installation Slim-down Challenge.

Part of the Army Performance Triad initiative, the competition will award the team with the highest percentage of weight loss as a unit, as well as the individual with the highest percentage over all.

Six weeks into the challenge, covertly named leaders have emerged from various organizations across the installation.

“Snowman” from RDECOM is in the lead, having lost 17 pounds and 9.97 percent total weight loss.

“CT” from ATEC is not far behind, shedding 24.4 pounds and 9.59 per-

cent. Rounding up the top three is “Chuck” from Garrison, with 17 pounds and 9.05 percent weight loss.

Garrison is in the lead for the team competition with a group total percentage weight loss of 4.65 percent.

There are still four weeks remaining in the Challenge, which will end in mid-April with an awards ceremony and celebration for APG’s “biggest losers.”

Stay tuned for the final results, which will be posted in the APG News. The Installation Slim-down Challenge is sponsored by the Community Health Promotion Council, HHC U.S. Army Garrison, and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

“Biggest Losers” rankings as of week 6 (Feb. 28.)

Graph by Molly Blossie

Ranking	Unit	Weight loss (lbs) and (%)
1	Snowman RDECOM	17.0lbs 9.97%
2	CT ATEC	24.4lbs 9.95%
3	Chuck Garrison	17.1lbs 9.05%
4	Rat KUSAHC	22.4lbs 8.83%
5	Yogi Garrison	12.8lbs 8.07%
6	Odie KUSAHC	17.0lbs 7.62%
7	Denial River KUSAHC	12.6lbs 7.49%
8	Lizard Garrison	12.0lbs 6.94%
9	Weeble HUSAHC	16.2lbs 6.36%
10	CPT M Garrison	13.0lbs 5.91%

Talking about bath salts — what’s in a name?

By **KIRSTEN ANKE**
Public Health Command

Bath salts -- not the Epsom salts for bath water, but the synthetic stimulant street drug -- have many names, including “Bloom,” “Blue Silk,” “Cloud Nine,” “Hurricane Charlie,” “Ivory Wave,” “Lunar Wave,” “Scarface,” “Vanilla Sky,” “White Lightning,” “Zoom” and others.

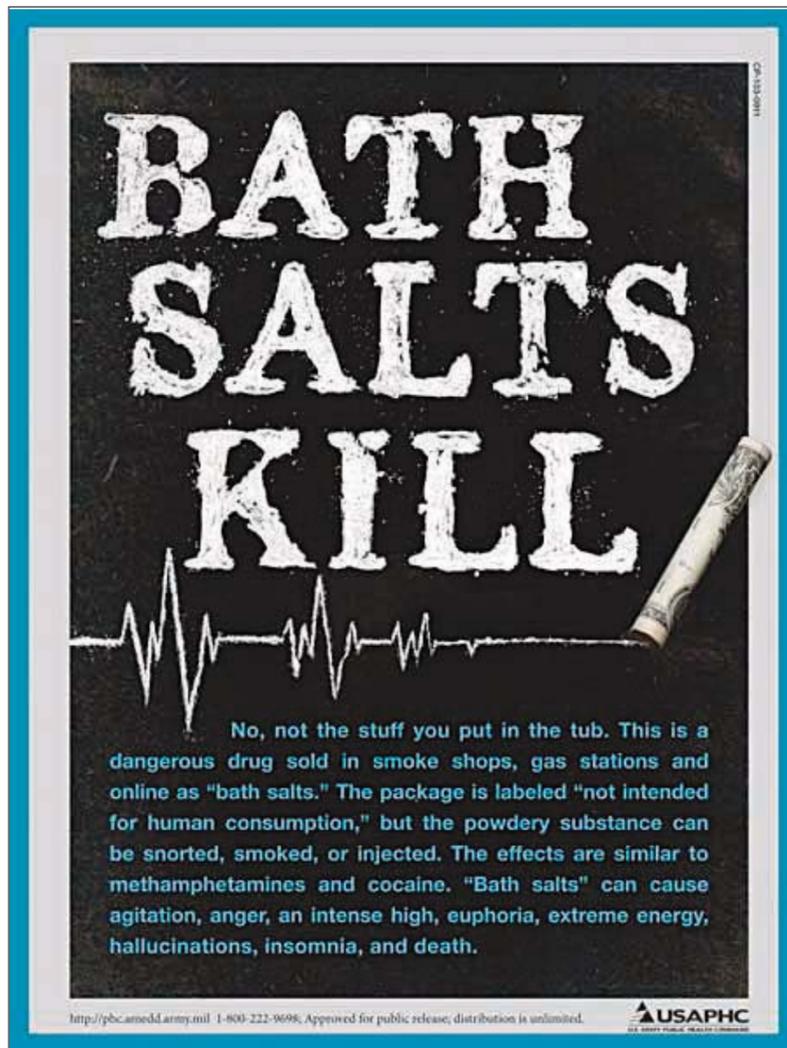
What is in a name? The catchy names for this dangerous product create an illusion that using it will lead to relaxation or an exhilarating high. But the reality is that the use of bath salts comes with unpredictable reactions and dangerous consequences.

What is in the drug? Bath salts are unregulated street drugs. The crystals or powder may include combinations of one or more man-made chemicals related to drugs like amphetamines, cocaine and Ecstasy. Chemical mixtures are created to avoid being identified as an illegal substance. The types and amounts of chemicals vary in each packet or jar.

What is in it for you? Nothing good results from swallowing, inhaling or injecting the white, yellow or brown crystals or powder that are sold in packages labeled “not for human consumption.” Because you do not know what is in this dangerous product, you do not know how it will affect you.

What happens? Bath salts are toxic chemicals, not helpful medicines. They increase levels of brain chemicals (serotonin, dopamine or norepinephrine), which may result in feelings of euphoria or increased alertness. However, the short-lived intoxication comes with potentially life-threatening mental/emotional, behavioral and physical reactions.

Your mind: Mental/emotional reactions may include anger, agitation, paranoia, hallucinations, panic attacks,



The U.S. Army Public Health Command poster is available through the USAPHC e-Catalog to military units.

insomnia, and psychotic or combative behavior. Paranoid behaviors and delusions may last for days after the high is over. Impulsive and violent behavior may

result in hurting someone else or self-inflicted injury, which may lead to death.

Your body: The physical effects to your body can be dangerous and dead-

ly. Bath salts may cause a fast heart rate, increase in body temperature, high blood pressure, chest pain, dehydration, breakdown of skeletal muscle tissue, seizures, kidney failure and death.

Your future: Bath salts may be addictive. The body may develop a tolerance to and dependence on the chemicals. Once you start to use the drugs, you may crave them, and find it difficult to stop using them.

What is the law? The Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 was signed into law to ban the possession, use or distribution of chemicals used to make man-made drugs like bath salts.

What is the Army’s policy? In accordance with Army Directive 2012-14, Prohibited Substances - Controlled Substance Analogues, “Army personnel are prohibited from using, possessing, manufacturing, selling, distributing, importing into or exporting from the United States any controlled substance analogue,” such as bath salts. Violations of the policy may result in punishment.

What’s the bottom line? Bath salts, the so-called designer street drugs, have many sexy names, but no matter what you call them, they are illicit drugs that can destroy your mind and body.

For help: If you or someone you know needs help with drug addiction, please call: 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Healthy Living

Healthy Living is a recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses health topics that matter most to our readers. To view more health topics and the Community Health Promotion Council calendar of events, visit the APG homepage www.teamapg.com and click on the Community Health icon at the bottom right.

Army upgrades MC4 electronic medical record system

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

The Army is fielding a major software upgrade to its electronic medical record system to ensure Soldiers wounded on the battlefield will have detailed permanent accounts of the scenario and treatment received.

A new suite of the Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care, commonly known as the MC4 system, is being fielded through April.

“What’s important for Soldiers to know about the upgrade is that they will continue to receive improved documentation of their care,” said Lt. Col. Keith Harley, assistant product manager for MC4, during a bloggers roundtable, Feb. 26, 2014. “And, that gives reassurance to them when they leave the Army and are filing a claim with the Veterans Administration that their care has been documented.”

The most significant change MC4 customers will notice is an upgraded operating system.

EMR 2.2.0.0. Under the upgraded system, each MC4 standalone system and server will require Public Key Infrastructure -- Equipment, or PKI-E certificates. The PKI-E certificates will enhance security and assure the integrity of information transmitted through networks, officials said.

The MC4 update also includes an improvement to patient safety as it relates to allergies and medication history.

“When that laptop is connected to the Internet, the documentation becomes available to any provider in the world with access to the system,” Harley said. “In theater, we capture data in a repository known as the theater medical data



Courtesy photo U.S. Army MC4 Col. Rebecca Douglas, chief nurse of the 115th Combat Support Hospital, and Spc. Bryan Draeger, a signal officer, verify that notional patient information is flowing through the Army’s MC4 electronic medical record system during a mass casualty exercise in Louisiana.

store. That allows all information to be available to providers anywhere in the treatment of that Soldier from the time of point-of-injury all the way to the time he’s evacuated to places like Walter Reed or San Antonio.”

Harley said eventually all medical information moves to a clinical data repository which contains all medical care from the time a Soldier enters the service until discharged from the Army.

Mark Gregory, who serves as MC4 technical management division director, said there weren’t a lot of functional changes with the system because

it was running Windows XP before upgrading to the Windows 7 platform and moving from Windows Server 2003 to Windows Server 2008.

“That was the major change from an engineering standpoint, making sure we had a secure system that meets information assurance requirements out on the battlefield,” Gregory said. “Again it goes back to an engineering issue because when you change operating systems, there’s a lot of work that has to be done. The most significant upgrade outside of the MC4 operating system was the GUI (graphic user interface).”

Beyond the technical changes that we made, there’s also a certain amount of functional changes that happen within the software, whether it’s the inpatient module, outpatient module, the medical supply ordering,” said technical advisor Jeannie Winchester, MC4 information assurance manager. “The user wants to see changes, new functions, new features... maybe something is outdated and needs to go away... so there are always those types of changes as well.”

The new MC4 software was tested by Army medical personnel last year.

MC4 has become the most widely used, comprehensive information management medical system on the battlefield, Harley said. He said the system has enabled the capture of nearly 22 million electronic patient encounters since it was first established by presidential and congressional mandate for all the services in 2003.

More than 500 active, National Guard and Army Reserve deployable medical units use the MC4 system in 16 countries. Combat medics or physician assistants record the scenario under which a Soldier was injured along with the treatment and patient care via a hand-held device which encrypts all information.

“After the patient is stabilized, the Soldier and medic move to the next level, such as combat support hospitals,” Harley said. “The entire record is uploaded to an encrypted MC4 laptop to maintain privacy.”

Once in a medical treatment facility, providers can use the MC4 system to its fullest potential, to document inpatient or outpatient care, facilitate laboratory and radiology services and even pharmacy orders or medical supplies.”

Corvias Partners With Army Wife Network

Sponsorship will bring Field Exercise™: Battle Buddies seminar series to three Corvias installations

Corvias Military Living

Corvias Military Living, an affiliate of Corvias Group, is proud to announce its partnership with Army Wife Network, LLC (AWN), a multi-media resource site for Army spouses, to bring the Field Exercises™: Battle Buddies program to three Corvias installations in 2014.

The first Corvias-sponsored 2014 Field Exercises™: Battle Buddies seminar will be held at Fort Bragg, N.C., April 3-4. Corvias and AWN will host additional events at Fort Meade, Md., in September and Fort Sill, Okla., in November.

Field Exercise™ is an energetic, four-hour seminar series designed to empower and rejuvenate military spouses by providing them a time to connect, share support, obtain resources and enjoy camaraderie. Spouses attending the events experience networking

opportunities, dinners and interactive discussions related to challenges and opportunities faced by military spouses. AWN began holding the events in 2007, and has organized the Field Exercise™ series (FE™: Priceless Packages and FE™: Love Military Life) at 15 Army posts across the country.

In addition to sponsoring these events, Corvias Military Living is embarking on a year-long campaign themed “Heart Your Home.” Beginning in February, Corvias will regularly contribute to the AWN site under the Relocation/PCS column. These articles will provide useful advice and first hand insight about communities on or near the installations served by Corvias. Topics will include moving, family, relationships and ways to “Heart Your Home.”

The campaign is aligned with AWN’s mission is to empower Army families with comprehensive information, programs and opportunities. The partnership with Corvias Military Living will continue that mission with Army families everywhere, including Corvias residents.

“We are excited to support the AWN

mission,” said Amanda Filipowski, Communications Director, Corvias Military Living. “Much like our mission, AWN is committed to providing resources and support to our military families. Taking care of families is what we do.”

Corvias actively manages 13 U.S. government partnerships and additional private partnerships. In the past 12 years, the company has raised the capital needed for the construction and redevelopment of more than 12,000 acres in communities serving more than 24,000 families. Corvias is also currently responsible for implementing more than \$11 billion in maintenance and infrastructure repairs, and will reinvest \$4.4 billion into its current public sector partnerships for continuous maintenance, upgrades and redevelopment during a 50-year span.

Corvias Foundation, the private, charitable foundation of Corvias Group CEO John Picerne, has awarded more than \$4.5 million in scholarships and educational grants since its founding in 2006.

To keep up-to-date with the partnership, visit corviasmilitaryliving.com and follow @CorviasGroup on Twitter.

“... AWN is committed to providing resources and support to our military families. Taking care of families is what we do.”

Amanda Filipowski

Communications Director, Corvias Military Living

Free career programs benefit veterans, spouses

By LISA FERDINANDO

Army News Service

The Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University is currently enrolling eligible veterans and their spouses in an online program to enhance their career skills and job marketability.

The goal of the Veterans Career Transition Program, or VCTP, is to address the problem of unemployment faced by veterans and military spouses, and support those who are transitioning out of the military, said Dan Cohen, VCTP program manager.

The online courses enable post-9/11 veterans, transitioning military members, and their spouses to obtain the skills and professional certifications needed to be competitive in the civilian world, he said.

Cohen, a former Army captain, knows the importance of helping veterans.

“No one was doing this when I got out of the Army. I’m real happy to be a part of fighting that battle today,” said Cohen, who served two tours in Iraq during his five-and-a-half years in the service.

He left active duty in 2005 after four years, and then was in the Individual Ready Reserve for a year and a half.

“Finding that first job was incredibly challenging,” he said. “It wasn’t until I had an ex-captain have a look at my resume and help me pull some things together and help me figure out how to do some effective networking, that I found that first job.”

Participants in the VCTP program pick a track of study in professional skills, technology or human resources. An advisor is assigned to students to assist them in developing interviewing and networking skills, help them create a cover letter and resume, and guide them in achieving the milestones in the program.

There are about 30 certification pathways available to participants, said Cohen.

At the completion of the VCTP program, Cohen said, students will have training, a certificate of completion from

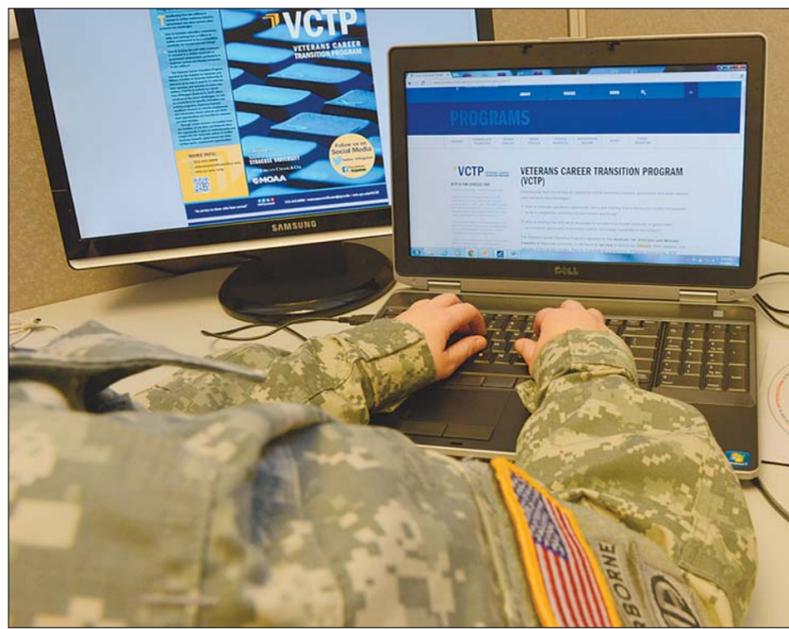


Photo by JD Leipold

Post 9/11 veterans, transitioning military members, and their spouses can enroll in free, online career training at Syracuse University to enhance their skills and marketability.

Syracuse University, and, when applicable, industry-recognized certifications that will make them competitive in the civilian job market.

Veterans and spouses who are already employed and who need to achieve industry certifications to advance or maintain their employment can enroll in the independent study track. There is no deadline to apply for the independent study course. Courses in the independent study track begin as soon as the student enrolls.

In the professional skills track, students are able to gain skills in creating resumes and cover letters, and preparing for and executing job searches, Cohen said. Enrollees can take courses in Microsoft Office, Word,

Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.

The tech track prepares students for a career in operations or IT. The program will pay for associated exam fees for industry certification.

The human resources curriculum is tailored to provide training for a newcomer to the HR field, and prepare existing HR professionals for the Professional in Human Resources and Senior PHR certification exams, depending on their experience level. The training is certified by the Human Resources Certification Institute, the certification arm of the Society for Human Resource Management.

The VCTP program, funded by JP Morgan Chase & Co, is offered at no cost to

You will find more information about AWN at www.armywifetwork.com.

About Corvias Group

Corvias is a privately-owned, vertically-integrated real estate solutions group dedicated to building strong communities through partnerships that deliver the highest quality development, construction and management solutions to a range of clients, including the military and higher education. Applying our success as pioneers of real estate development and management for the military, our family of companies, Corvias Military Living and Corvias Campus Living, deliver customer service that exceeds client expectations, and an innovative, comprehensive approach to facility financing, management and construction. We have the ability to forge partnerships that consistently put the interests of our clients first and the flexibility to pursue creative, sustainable long-term solutions to their most difficult challenges. www.corvias.com

About Army Wife Network

Army Wife Network is a core team of new and seasoned Army wives and military community members on a mission to empower the journeys of those who follow. AWN boasts the original internet talk radio show designed specifically for military spouses – Army Wife Talk Radio – in its ninth year of broadcasting, over 72,000 Facebook fans, and one of the longest running military spouse blogs, Loving A Soldier.

eligible veterans and their spouses, said Cohen. A partnership between Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies and JP Morgan Chase & Co initiated the program in 2011, and the school’s faculty remain engaged in developing curriculum and industry collaboration.

To be eligible, veterans must have served at least one day of active duty since Sept. 11, 2001. Active-duty members are eligible if they are transitioning out of the military in the next 18 months. Spouses of eligible veterans and all active-duty members, regardless of whether they are transitioning, are invited to apply.

Army Reserve and National Guard members are eligible as well, said Cohen, as long as they have served at least one day of active duty post-9/11, not including their annual active-duty training.

All five branches of the military have been represented in the program from the lowest-ranking enlisted member to high-ranking officers, at all education levels and backgrounds, said Cohen.

Spouses were recently included in the program.

“We’ve gradually been expanding the eligibility for the program but there was this gap,” said Cohen. “The challenges that military spouses face, regardless of whether the veteran is transitioning, are unique in the job market.”

Those challenges for spouses include employment gaps, finding an easily transferable career field because of the frequent moves, and job seekers being able to successfully market themselves to an employer, he said.

In addition to the VCTP program, the Institute for Veterans and Military Families offers other programs free of charge for veterans, Guard and Reserve members, military families, and disabled veterans. Cohen noted that all the information is available on the institute’s website at www.vets.syr.edu



Twins enjoy hiking and being together

Over the past month, to prepare himself physically for hiking a portion of the American Discovery Trail with a group of friends, Tom Colegrove (left) has taken a three-mile walk everyday around lunchtime wearing backpack gear around APG’s Plumb Point Loop. Tom, who lives in Havre de Grace, is always joined by his twin brother, Steve, who is four minutes older and resides in Felton, Pa. Steve, who is not participating in the hike, joins Tom in the daily walks for exercise and as a demonstration of moral support. The Colegroves, who grew up in Bryansville, Pa., both work as operations research analysts for the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, or AMSAA. In his fully-loaded, 45-pound backpack, Tom keeps a sleeping bag, tent, rain gear, food and utensils. The American Discovery Trail stretches from Cape Henlopen State Park in Sussex County, Del., to Limantour Beach, Cal. Tom will walk on the trail from the Delaware Shore to Annapolis.

Photo by Alan Feiler

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY MARCH 19 APG HEALTH FAIR

Come to the APG Health Fair on March 19 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center from

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Event will feature health screenings, seated massages and information on asthma, diabetes, stress management, nutrition, immunizations, tobacco cessation and more.

This event is sponsored by the APG Community Health Promotion Council, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and U.S. Army Public Health Command. For more information call 410-278-1771.

APG NATIONAL PRAYER LUNCHEON

Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Donald L. Rutherford, U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains, will deliver the keynote address at the C4ISR Prayer Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay, 30 Plumb Point Loop. Amy Kwon, soprano for the Washington, D.C. National Choir will sing the National Anthem. Special music will be performed by the APG Praise Band. For information, call Joyce Wood at 278-4333.

THURSDAY MARCH 20 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS MARCH MEETING

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post March 2014 meeting will be at the Wetlands Golf Club, Aberdeen, MD at 11:30 a.m. March 20. The featured speaker is Rick Ayers, Emergency Manager and Deputy Director, Department of Emergency Services, Harford County Government, whose presentation is titled, "Harford County Emergency Response Plan."

For more information call 410-638-9699 or see www.same.org/chesapeake

For reservations, e-mail rsvp@fredward.com Walk-ins welcome.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26 JOB FAIR & EXPO

All job seekers, active duty, retired, former service, Reserve/National Guard service members and spouses are invited to attend this job fair 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the APG Recreation Center. For more information call Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program manager at 410-278-9669/7572.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY MARCH 26-27 SUICIDE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TRAINING

APG ASAP will present "Skip" Johnson, HQ AMC, G-1 Wellness, Substance Abuse/Suicide Prevention program manager at the Redstone Arsenal, who will give 2-hour combined training classes (one hour on substance abuse and one hour on suicide prevention). The training sessions will be held at CECOM/Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000,, on March 26 from 9-11 a.m. and at 1-3 p.m. at APG Post Theater, Bldg. 3245; and on March 27 at APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810. from, 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. For information, call Cindy Scott at 410-278-4013, Ken Gesch at 410-278-7779, or the ASAP Main Number at 410-278-DRUG/3784.

MONDAY MARCH 31 POWERFUL WOMEN SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Join ACS and other partners at this conference at Top of the Bay's Chesapeake Room from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Topics to be discussed include five drivers formula to starting a small business, contracting with the federal government, exporting your business, and networking with other agencies.

Event is open to all Veterans, retirees, active duty, Reserve/National Guard, civilians and spouses.

For more information, contact Employment Readiness Program at 410-278-9669/7572.

FWP WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program will be hosting its 24th annual Training Workshop during Women's History Month March 31. This year's theme is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment." The workshop will be held at building 6008, Mallette Auditorium, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Some of the topics to be covered will be "Time Management and Organization Skills," "Effective Presentation Tech-

niques," and "Understanding Sharepoint: Making It Work for You." There will also be several educational vendors and food vendors. For information, contact Teresa Rudd, FWP Chairperson, 410-436-5501, and Elizabeth Young, FWP Vice Chairperson, 410-278-1392.

HERB CONTAINER GARDEN CLASS

Herb Container Garden Class (course number 25773) will be offered at Harford Community College, Havre de Grace Hall, room 206, Monday March 31 6 to 9 p.m. (6:00-9:00 PM).

Want fresh herbs? Grow them yourself! Learn how to grow a variety of different herbs in containers as well as in garden beds, and when and how to harvest your crop. The class will cover multiple uses of different herbs. Gain hands-on experience planting herb seeds, and leave the class with a planting. This Harford Community College class will be taught by Master Gardener volunteers from the University of Maryland Extension, Harford County.

Registration is required. Cost is \$19.00 per person. Register online at www.harford.edu. For more information call 443-412-2376. Walk-in registration is available at Harford Community College, Edgewood Hall, Entrance 3.

TUESDAY APRIL 8 DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY TRAINING SYMPOSIUM

The Defense Acquisition University (DAU) will host an all-day Acquisition Training Symposium Tuesday, April 8 at its Fort Belvoir campus

(Scott Hall). The theme is "Achieving Better Acquisition Outcomes in Austere Times - Improved Processes, Reduced Overhead". The event offers training sessions tied to the Better Buying Power 2.0 initiatives. In a period of fiscal challenges and technological opportunities, the training will focus on learning hard skills - training in the latest USD(AT&L) policy, practices and techniques that attendees can take back to the workplace and apply. The training symposium also will be available via VTC at many DAU regional campuses. The forum provides four Continuous Learning Points (CLP) for continued DoD acquisition certification.

For more information and to register, go to www.dauaa.org and click on "Training Events."

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

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

FRIDAY APRIL 25 STUDENT EARTH & ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

APG will host their 'Student Earth & Arbor Day Celebration' with the theme of "The Wonders of Water" on Friday April 25. This event will take place at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center, Bldg. 2522 on Bayside Drive.

The event will feature interactive displays and hands-on Earth Day science activities provided by the event sponsors and the Maryland Master Gardeners (with worm composting), LEAP: Science is FUN! (Harford County Public Library), the American Rescue Dog Association, the Anita C. Leight Estuary, and Scales & Tails (afternoon only). This event is sponsored by Team APG STEM, APG Garrison, Corvias Military Housing, the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society, the National Defense Education Program, and the Senior Science Society. Arbor Day is officially celebrated on the last Friday in April nationwide, but on the first Wednesday in April in Maryland. Earth Day is officially celebrated on April 22 nationwide.

The event will be open to school groups, civilian and contractors working on post and the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The afternoon activities are restricted to Child, Youth and School Services and APG housing residents from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

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

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

ONGOING BEGINNING MARCH 3 FINRA FOUNDATION MILITARY SPOUSE FELLOWSHIP FOR THE ACCREDITED FINANCIAL COUNSELOR® PROGRAM

The Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education® (AFCPE®), in partnership with the National Military Family Association and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, is pleased to announce the FINRA Foundation Military Spouse Fellowship for the Accredited Financial Counselor® Program application period. This program provides up to 50 military spouses with the education necessary to enter the financial counseling career field. Visit www.Military-Family.org for more information. Looking for Job search information, contact the ACS Employment program 410-278-9669/7572.

THROUGH APRIL 2 COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center is currently accepting applications for the 2014-15 SSCF program through April 2, 2014. The SSCF Program is a 10-month educational opportunity conducted under the auspices of the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) at Huntsville, Ala, Warren, Mich, and APG.

The SSCF program prepares government civilians at the GS-14/15 levels or equivalent for senior leadership roles by provides training in leadership and acquisition. Program components include completion of DAU's Program Management Course (PMT 401), courses in leadership, applications of acquisition to national defense issues, research in acquisition topics, mentoring, and a distinguished speaker program.

For complete program information and application requirements, visit: <http://asc.army.mil/web/career-development/programs/defense-acquisition-university-senior-service-college/announcement/>.

For APG specific program information, please visit: <http://www.dau.mil/sscf/Pages/apg.aspx>

For more information about the program, please contact Jim Oman at james.oman@dau.mil or 410-272-9470.

THROUGH APRIL 23 TOILETRIES DRIVE

CECOM, RDECOM, PHC, ACC Garrison APG, JPEO-CBD, 29th CBRNE Command, ATEC, MRICD, Kirk and CMA are collecting toiletries to benefit Harford County's Sexual Assault and Spouse Abuse Resource Center (SARC), a non-profit agency that provides 24/7 shelter to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse and stalking. Items requested include toothpaste, toothbrushes, body/hand soap (bar or liquid), lotion, toilet paper, tissues, deodorant, antibacterial, shaving cream, shaving razors, towels and washcloths, loofas. For more information or donation locations, contact your unit's SHARP SARC or VA for information.

TUESDAYS THROUGH MAY 20 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS

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

CORVIAS 2014 GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Corvias Foundation has announced that applications for the 2014 Our Future Scholarships and the 2014 Our Family Educational Grants are now available.

Applications for the 2014 Our Family Educational Grants must be submitted by May 8, 2014. Grants are given in

the amount of up to \$5,000 to spouses of active-duty service members at the installations listed above. Applicants may be in any stage of the educational process. Recipients will be notified by July 10.

Families do not have to reside in on-post housing to qualify. Eligible service members stationed at these installations can serve in any branch of the military.

To apply, go to <http://corviasfoundation.org>. For more information, call 401-228-2836 or email info@corviasfoundation.org

CPR, AED CLASSES SCHEDULED

The APG Fire and Emergency Services Division of the Directorate of Emergency Services has released its schedule for CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) classes for 2014. Two classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the same location.

March 19, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
April 16, Edgewood Conference Center
May 21, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
June 18, Edgewood Conference Center
July 16, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Aug. 20, Edgewood Conference Center
Sept. 17, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Oct. 15, Edgewood Conference Center
Nov. 19, APG North (Aberdeen) chapel
Dec. 17, Edgewood Conference Center

Class size is limited to 30 participants. For more information or to register, contact Mike Slayman, assistant chief of EMS, at 410-306-0566 or e-mail michael.p.slayman.civ@mail.mil.

INSIDE APG

APG commanders and subject matter experts will discuss topics of interest to the local community every Saturday and Wednesday at 7:50 a.m. during "Inside APG: Creating One Community Without a Gate," a monthly radio series on 970 WAMD. For more information about the series, to schedule or request an interview, call the Garrison Public Affairs Office at 410-278-1150. For previous interviews, follow these links: <http://youtu.be/a8vuMdxmG50>; <http://youtu.be/se7hTkwnbO8>

ARMY WELLNESS CENTER OFFERING SERVICES AT APG SOUTH CLINIC

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

CYSS PARTNERS WITH HOMESCHOOLERS

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

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND SURVEY

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

<https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/Survey/se.ashx?s=2511374566E1E53>

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.

MORE ONLINE

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

Tenacity and technology lead dog home

By **JANE GERVASONI**

PAO, U.S. Army Public Health Command

Due to the kindness of a stranger and some smart sleuthing by a U.S. Army Public Health Command veterinarian, Bear, a black Australian shepherd dog, is back home with an Army veteran and his family.

After business hours on Feb. 25, the staff duty officer at the U.S. Army Public Health Command received a call from concerned animal lover Andrea Bonner about a dog found in Matthews, N.C. The dog had followed

her son home from his bus stop.

Bonner took the dog to a local emergency veterinarian to ensure it was healthy and to determine if she could find the owner. The dog's rabies tag indicated he had been vaccinated at the Vilseck (Germany) veterinary treatment facility.

Although the dog had an implanted radio-frequency identification microchip, the owner had not completed the registration information. It looked like there was no way to locate the owner.

But Bonner didn't give up.

Since the rabies tag came from overseas, she began an intensive Internet search. She called two local county animal control offices, posted the dog on Facebook and other Web sites. She also searched for the codes on the rabies tag, which led her to the veterinary facility in Germany, but it was closed for the week.

"After a lot of detective work, I called the Army Public Health Command and spoke with Capt. Ryan Lindell, who took all my information and promised to call me back," Bonner said. "Thursday morning, Col. Robert Vogelsang from the Public Health Command called me with the contact information for Bear's owner."

Vogelsang, himself a veterinarian, called the veterinary treatment facility in Germany to get the owner's name from Bear's medical records. He then located a phone number using the Army Knowledge Online Web site.

"While Bear was with us, he was a sweet dog, but he had some anxiety issues," Bonner explained. "After talk-

ing with his owners, I found out that Bear was rescued from abuse in Germany and travelled to Fort Bragg, and then to Matthews, so I could understand his issues."

After his visit with the Bonner family, Bear was returned to his owners who live only one mile away. He was lucky that Bonner and the USAPHC were able to find them.

Without his microchip, though, he might never have made it home.

"Most installations make micro-chipping a requirement so if you do live on post it isn't an option. If you live on a post in a foreign country, the Public Health Command veterinary treatment facility usually provides the service," said Vogelsang, "but if the owners don't register their pets with the microchip company, then the microchip does not usually help in finding the animal."

Happy ending aside, Bear's story emphasizes the need for pet owners to have their pets micro-chipped and to complete the chip registration process.

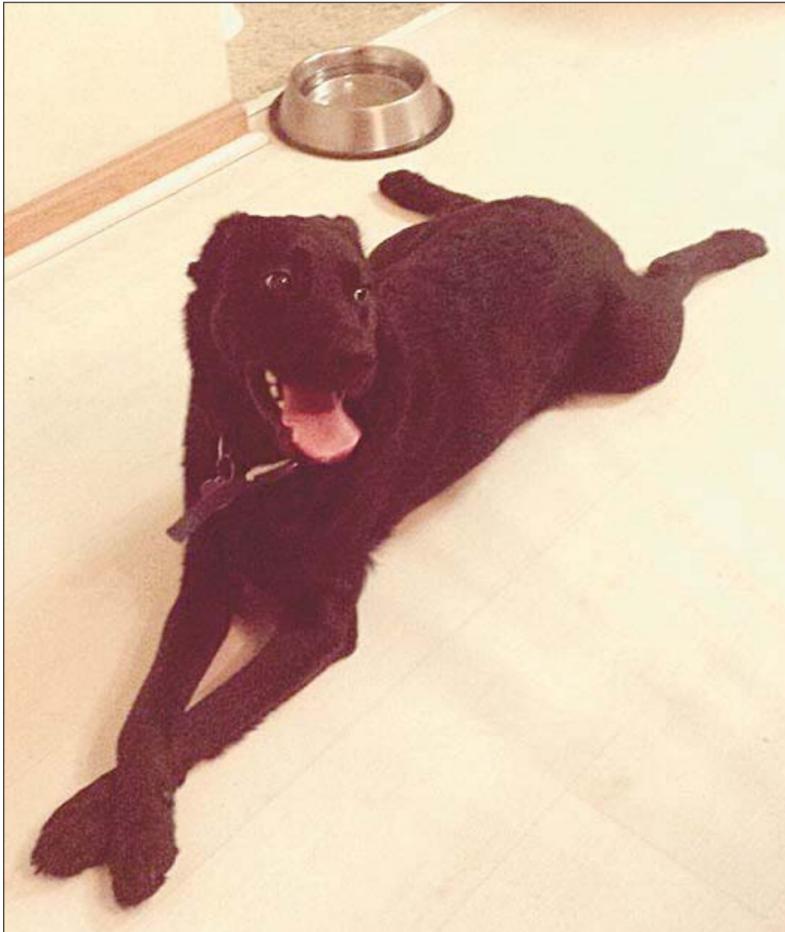


Photo courtesy Andrea Bonner

Bear, an Australian shepherd found in Matthews, N.C., makes himself at home as he waits to go back to his family.

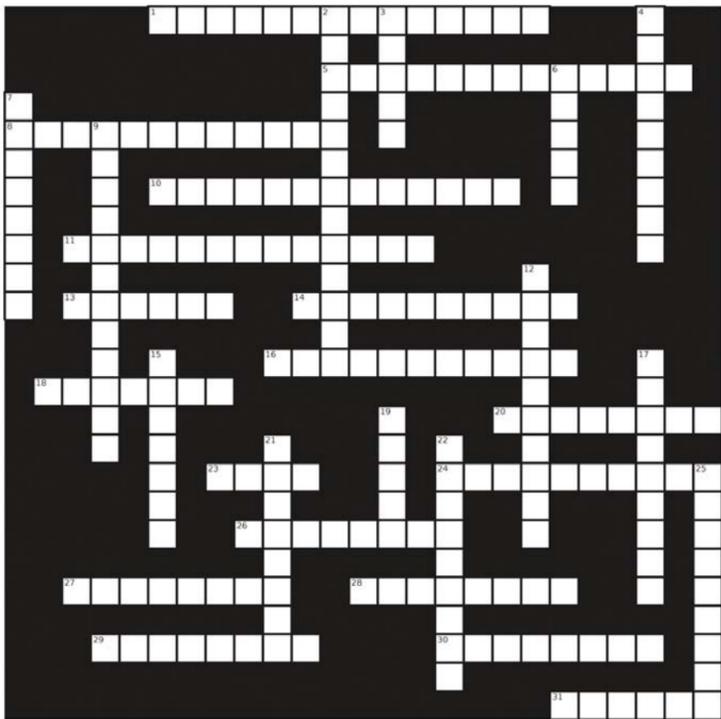
ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

HQ, ADMRU

Headquarters, Aviation Depot Maintenance Roundout Unit

An Army Reserve National Guard aviation logistics headquarters based in APG South (Edgewood), HQ, ADMRU is responsible for coordinating logistics support between four ARNG Aviation Classification Report Depots located in California, Connecticut, Mississippi and Missouri, as well as the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. For information, call 410-612-4184

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

- This 5K/Walk held March 7 was sponsored by BOSS.
- Most installations make _____ (of animals) a requirement if you live on post.
- Motivational speaker Ty Howard recommends using proven stress-alleviating techniques such as deep breathing and _____, among others.
- Soldier. Civilian. Self. There are no split _____ in social media.
- Corvias Military Living is partner-

- ing with Army Wife Network to bring the Field Exercise™: _____ (2 words) program to three installations this year.
- ACAP abbreviates Army Career and _____ Program.
- VCTP is the acronym for Veterans Career _____ Program.
- The Concord Point Lighthouse in Havre de Grace is at the confluence of the _____ River and the Chesapeake Bay
- A recent study by the National

Institute of Mental Health found that _____ rates for Soldiers who went to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as those stationed stateside, have soared past the civilian rates since 2008.

20. The Army is upgrading its electronic medical record system. A new suite of the medical Communications for Combat _____ Care, MC4, is being fielded through April.

23. Ten members of a delegation from _____ visited APG and learned of the capabilities and equipment of the joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense, the Army's 20th CBRNE Command and the Army's Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense.

24. R.A.C.E. is an acronym for Rescue, Alarm, Confine and _____.

26. The Maryland Air National Guard recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony at _____ Air National Guard Base.

27. VCTP is available free of charge to eligible _____ and their spouses.

28. HQ, ADMRU is the acronym for Headquarters, Aviation Depot maintenance _____ Unit and is based in APG South (Edgewood).

29. CAD (computer-aided design) software is used to represent _____ objects on a computer.

30. Bear, an Australian _____, was found in North Carolina and is being returned home thanks to technology.

31. APG presents twice weekly radio shows entitled "_____ APG: Creating One Community Without a Gate."

Down

- The commander of the 23rd Quartermaster Brigade says "Remaining professional while on and off duty - both online and off - are important to maintaining _____ (2 words)."
- Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim is the command chaplain for this organization. (Acronym)
- An ARL engineer presented her

dissertation at the Miller Senate Office Building in this city.

6. The D.C. National Guard celebrated the graduation of its first African-American female _____.

7. Social media outlets include _____, Instagram and Twitter.

9. In January, eight organizations formed teams to participate in the 12-week _____ Slim-Down Challenge.

12. A former Army and Air Force officer established the Dale Talley Branch _____ in his wife's memory to help "anyone in need."

15. FedEx founder Fred Smith served two tours in _____ with the Marine Corps in the 1960s.

17. BRL is the acronym for _____ Research Laboratory.

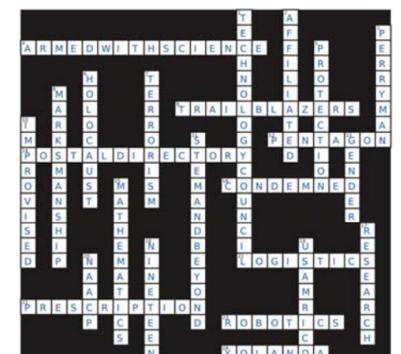
19. Numerous activities are collecting toiletries to benefit Harford County's Sexual Assault and Spouse _____ Resource Center through April 23.

21. The U.S. Navy is assisting in the search for a missing jet from this Airline.

22. Army Community Service Employment _____ Program is sponsoring a Job Fair & Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center on March 26.

25. Bath Salts are known by many street names including "_____ Charlie."

Solution to the March 6 puzzle



Accessing Higher Education Track

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

The 2014 training dates are April 16 – 17 and Sept. 17 – 18.

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



Foundation keeps alive memory of late wife

By **DEBORAH INCE**
APG News

When asked to describe his late wife, Dale, retired non-commissioned Army and Air Force officer Greg Branch paused, reflecting for a moment before smiling and leaning forward in the seat he'd taken in the coffee shop in Abingdon, Md.



Branch

"She was beautiful," he said. "She was vivacious, she was full of life, she was an avid softball player, so we had the whole baseball thing in common. She was all about family. Her family values were very high. And the best thing about her was she loved me."

After she passed away from colon cancer on Oct. 12, 2006, Branch, a native of Baltimore City and a 28-year military veteran formerly stationed at APG, established the Dale Talley Branch Foundation (DTBF) to give back to his community and keep his wife's memory alive.

"Once Dale had passed, to help me mourn, it was about doing something for her," Branch said, "so that's when I created Dale Talley Branch Foundation. The Dale Talley Branch Foundation is all about helping people. ... It's basically to help anyone in need."

DTBF aims to help disadvantaged children and families in the Baltimore metropolitan area by providing college scholarships to local high school seniors, holding fundraisers and hosting annual Christmas dinners in the city. The foundation sponsors youth baseball teams and maintains a youth mentoring program at Dr. Rayner Browne Elementary Middle School in Baltimore, attempting to engage children in activities in which they otherwise would be unable to participate and counsel them on making healthy life choices.

"People in the mentoring program, I teach them how to be positive and how to dream, that everything starts with a dream," Branch said.

DTBF partners include Baltimore-based organizations A Circle of Positive Black Men, B'moreFree Programs Inc., Baltimore City Health Department Safe Streets Program and the Bea Gaddy Family Center, all of which work together on fundraising and other events.

As part of the organization's mission to help those in need, DTBF awards two college scholarships to graduating high school seniors of Baltimore's Paul Laurence Dunbar High School — the alma mater of both Branch and his wife — each May. Branch makes scholarship recipient selections based on letters he receives from individuals in the Baltimore metropolitan area. Each award is given to help defray tuition costs.

DTBF's annual Christmas dinner, a growing success, also fed more than 4,000 people within the Baltimore region in 2013.

Because Branch considers this organization a tribute to his wife, DTBF scholarships and dinners are funded strictly by way of Branch's personal money and his Talley-Ho DRB Sportswear company.

"Honestly, this whole foundation is to keep her alive to me," Branch said. "When I see somebody come and get the Dale Talley Branch Foundation Award or there's a report on Dale Talley Branch Foundation, to my children and me, that keeps her alive. That's important."

Greg and Dale's life together is cer-

tainly a love story for the ages. Having met at age 13, they eloped in high school and spent 30 years of marriage together. In terms of age, the two were also only a month and a day apart.

"It was fate," Branch said. "I was at practice playing baseball and she was with her cousin. Someone introduced me, and the first time I looked at her, I said that day I was gonna marry her. I looked into her eyes and said, 'I'm gonna marry you,' and she was like, 'Pshh, get outta my face.' But I looked into her eyes and said, 'I'm gonna marry you,' and that was it."

Branch said no one knew of the couple's secret marriage, but from the time they said, "I do," everything in their lives was about being together.

After graduating from high school, Branch joined the Army in 1977. While preparing to retire, Branch was stationed at APG for a year as he prepared to leave the Army. He subsequently joined the Army Reserve and then the Air Force before fully retiring from the military in 2005.

During his 28-year military career, Branch served in countries such as Germany, England, South Korea and Turkey, and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2002 for six months as a member of the U.S. Air Force Accident Investigation Board.

As a member of the Army Reserve, Branch also worked as a Major League Baseball scout for the Florida Marlins,

the Baltimore Orioles, the New York Mets and the Kansas City Royals and is a former team member of the Minnesota Twins. He remains an active member of the Mid Atlantic Scouts Association, a baseball group containing both former and current Major League Baseball scouts, and is a former baseball coach of Dunbar High School and a former coach and teacher of Baltimore City Community College.

Branch, however, said he wouldn't have been able to do so much in his life without the military.

"Everything I've done started with the military," Branch said. "The military put me in to play a little baseball, to coach at the college level and to teach at the college level. The reason I went into the Reserves is to do all these things. At the same time, I'm STILL military. I'm military all the way. Matter of fact, when I go in and talk to children, I tell a lot of kids today that's basically the route, if you don't know what to do, you should try to go into the military."

Along with maintaining DTBF, Branch also travels around Baltimore and speaks to youth at local schools about growing into people they will one day be proud of.

The Branches had three daughters together — Latavia, Shaquanda and Qiana — and Branch said he plans to remain living in Harford County.

Branch said he would never have been able to accomplish what he has without the support of his wife standing beside him.

"She did everything for me," he said. "[The foundation] put my wife's name in lights. It's good trying to honor somebody and doing the right thing. ... If she hadn't passed, I don't know if I would be doing this. It helps me cope. This is what keeps me from going crazy. People ask me, 'Greg, how do you mourn? Are you still mourning?' I'll mourn the rest of my life. But it's about keeping her alive."

DTBF will be hosting an Over-40 basketball game in August at Madison Square Recreation Center in Baltimore. For more information about upcoming DTBF events or about how to get involved, visit the foundation's website at www.daletalleybranch.org.

Vietnam experience inspires veteran to build a company

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

Fred Smith served two tours in Vietnam with the Marine Corps, earning the Silver Star, Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

During his wartime service, Smith said he was impressed with the effectiveness of wartime logistics and Marine Corps leadership values. He thought he might be able to use some of that experience to build a successful business in the civilian sector.

Smith spoke about his wartime experiences during a Feb. 28 event at the Pentagon called "Battlefield to Boardroom." The presentation was part of the ongoing, nationwide "Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War." The event was hosted by Army Lt. Gen. Raymond Mason, G-4, who represents the Army as one of the many partners involved in officially recognizing and commemorating the war.

Before an audience in the Pentagon auditorium, Smith explained that after his Vietnam experience, he went on to found the shipping company Federal Express. Today he serves as chairman, president and CEO of that Fortune 100 company.

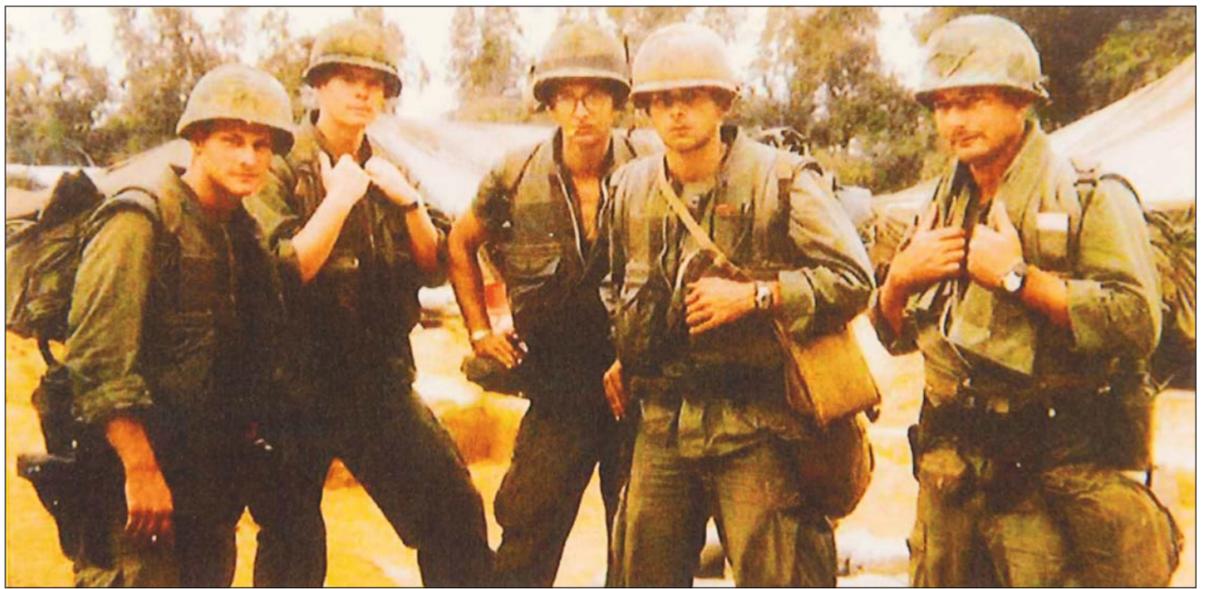
"Everything that went into FedEx that made the business that it is today relates to what I learned in the Marine Corps and I've always been grateful for that education and for those I've served with," he said.

In 1966, Smith became a platoon leader with the 1st Marine Division in Chu Lai, South Vietnam. He said there was a shortage of officers so pretty quickly he became company commander of Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. His rifle company participated in the epic battle for Hue City.

He said that commanding those men was the proudest moment of his life.

Of his Marines, he said, "They were the finest group of young men you could ever have, courageous beyond belief, and the memory of that is with me every day of my life."

During his second tour in Vietnam, Smith was a forward air controller with Marine Observation Squadron 2 at Marble Mountain.



1st Lt. Fred Smith (second from right) poses with fellow Soldiers from Kilo Company in the Tam Ky area of South Vietnam in the fall of 1967. Two of the Marines pictures were later killed in action..

Those wartime experiences, he said, gave him a deep appreciation for not only the leadership qualities of Marines but of their organizational structure.

"Our close-air support with Marine Corps A-4s and F-4s (aircraft) was spectacular, unbelievable, bringing precision and coordination to the battle," he said.

When Smith started Federal Express in 1971, one of the first innovations he said he brought was integrating air-ground operations and ensuring everything was well coordinated, from the pickup and delivery folks to the pilots.

"Lessons learned during Vietnam played over and over in my mind when we developed the business plan," he said.

Part of that plan development, he said, was getting a fitting motto and a mission statement, he said, recalling the famous Marine motto, *semper fidelis*, or "always faithful."

While not in Latin, the FedEx motto is short enough to remember, he said, and fits the mission: "I will make every FedEx

experience outstanding."

While the Marine colors are scarlet and gold, Smith said the primary FedEx color is purple. Thus, the FedEx motto is known as the "Purple Promise."

Another lesson Smith said he learned from the Marines was ensuring that each operating company of FedEx is managed collaboratively and is capable of operating independently. He said that was his take-away lesson from observing the military services working together and small-unit leaders being capable of operating independently when the situation called for it.

The process at FedEx for selecting leaders is "rigorous," he said, adding that the company usually promotes from within. "The vast majority of FedEx leaders today started out as pickup or delivery people, or washing airplanes," he added.

Not everyone is leader material, he noted, and they don't necessarily have to be. If they have good technical skills, there's a career path for them at FedEx. With a workforce of some 350,000 worldwide, not everyone can be a leader, he said.

As in every organization, people at FedEx sometimes get into trouble.

The process for handling disciplinary problems dates back to lessons Smith learned from the Marines. Employees can request "mast" up the chain of command, all the way to the unit CEO, he said.

There's also a review board and, he said, sometimes the board will hand over proceedings to a peer review board, made up of those who work with the individual. The peer review board has the power to

overturn management's decision.

Smith summed up his business philosophy, "if you take care of the folks, treat them right, put good leaders in front of them, communicate with them, set the example, make sure they understand what's in this for them, make sure they understand the importance of what they're doing, they'll provide that service. Keeping that Purple Promise, and profit, will take care of itself."

FedEx was recently named No. 8 on the list of the most admired companies, as published by Fortune magazine, Smith said. "The reason that happened had nothing to do with me. It had to do with those 350,000 folks."

Sometimes when Smith is asked to give lectures at business schools, he's asked about the success of his company and why people like to work there. He said they're surprised when he tells them that his greatest learning experiences came from being with the Marines.

Of the Marines and service members from all of the services today, he said "I'm in awe of the quality of the troops and young officers I've had the opportunity to come in contact with."

But Smith's experiences with his Marines during Vietnam have left an indelible mark on him, including those who were not as fortunate to return.

"There's not a day that goes by that I don't think about the names of those on the Vietnam Wall," he said. Noting that he served with some of them.

APG NEWS

This Week in APG News history

By ALAN FEILER, APG News



50 Years Ago (March 12, 1964)

Clockwise from top left:
Seventeen Aberdeen High School senior commercial students, all girls, visited the Comptroller Office at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The Army Ballistic Research Laboratories provide the youngsters with a glimpse of sophisticated electronic technology when they were shown BRL's giant computer, BRLESC. The students examined the computer's control console, studded with switches, buttons and platoons of lights. ... He helped put down the Mau Mau Rebellion in Kenya, and Maj. Gen. Roger E. T. St. John, commander of the British Army Staff in Washington, D.C., recently visited APG for a series of briefings. The general began his military service with the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers in 1931, and his career highlights include assignments in Palestine, Hong Kong and Greece. ... Five members of the APG Intramural Basketball League were recently selected as All-Stars by APG News. They include guard Dave Zimmerman of the U.S. Army Garrison, guard Ken Burback of the 523rd M.P. Company, forward Roland Card of the 3rd ETC, center Jim Pinkerton of the USAG, and forward Bob Herrin of the 3rd ETC

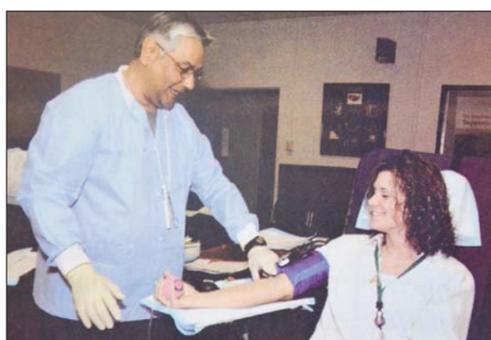
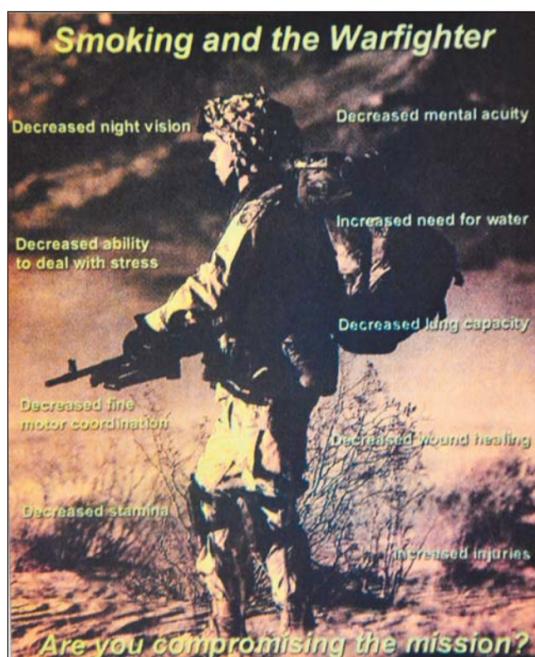


25 Years Ago (March 15, 1989)

Clockwise from top left:
Flower and balloon sales are up this year from 1988, according to Ursula Kerr, manager at the Universal Florist Inc. Exchange Flower Shop at APG. In fact, sales have increased 2.5 percent. "Happy Birthday," "Get Well," "It's A Boy," "It's A Girl," "You're So Special" and "P.S. I Love You" are the most popular sellers of the mylar balloons. Roses and carnations are the most popular flowers sold at the shop, Kerr said. ... A final winter blast hit APG earlier this week. Among those who went out for a sled ride or a stroll through the snowy areas was 7-year-old Suzanne Costello, who walked along the hills around Dipper Creek near Plumb Point Golf Course, getting ready for another downhill slide. ... Non-commissioned Soldiers who attend Bradley Fighting Vehicle courses at the Combat Vehicle Repair Branch, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, will now experience a system that installs "faults" into the vehicles' electrical systems that make troubleshooting training more challenging and realistic. "It had to mirror the field problems, challenge the students to utilize their troubleshooting methods, and be camouflaged within the system," said Chief Warrant Officer Rodrigo H. Yopez, chief of the Bradley Section at OC&S.



10 Years Ago (March 11, 2004)



Clockwise from left:
The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion's (CHPPM) poster "US Army Toolkit for the Great American Smokeout 2003" recently won top honors at the Healthcare Innovation Poster Competition Readiness category at the TRICARE National Conference in Washington, D.C. "[The toolkit] was necessary because we want Soldiers and their families to achieve maximum health status," said Brad Taft, health promotion outcomes researcher, who collaborated on the poster with Capt. Justin Curry and Joyce Kopatch. ... Pilots and flight crewmembers belonging to the Maryland Army National Guard Detachment 1, 1159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) recently underwent ground and flight training in the usage of high-tech night vision devices. The goggles will enable them to safely conduct their missions of aerial medical evacuation in near total darkness. The goggles collect and magnify ambient light from the moon, stars and artificial sources. The new technology will help make complex flight operations possible and improve the chances of safely completing a mission. The detachment is based at APG South (Edgewood) and operates the Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. ... The CHPPM recently held a blood drive at the request of the national Capital Area Armed Services Blood Bank Center. More than 45 CHPPM personnel signed up for the drive. "I'm just happy to help," said Amy Ewing of CHPPM's Information Management Directorate, who donated blood.



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

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

Iraqi delegation visits Team CBRNE

Delegation visits Edgewood team CBRNE to view capabilities and equipment of the JPEO-CBD

By **DEBORAH INCE**
APG News

Ten members of an Iraqi delegation visited APG Feb. 25 to view and obtain information on the capabilities and equipment of the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense (JPEO-CBD), the Army's 20th CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives) Command, and the Army's Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense.

The Edgewood Team CBRNE organizations partnered with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) to provide senior Iraqi leaders an opportunity to learn of various aspects of CBRNE's countermeasure capabilities.

As the official combat support agency for the Department of Defense, DTRA addresses all CBRNE threats to counter weapons of mass destruction. The organization completes science research and development, lends operational support to Soldiers fighting on the frontlines, and cooperates with military services, the U.S. government and countries across the globe on counter-proliferation, non-proliferation and WMD reduction.

CENTCOM is one of nine unified commands in the American military that aims to promote regional security by combatting crises, deterring aggression and supporting development and reconstruction. CENTCOM's area of responsibility consists of countries Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab

Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

The in-depth tour provided tools and information helpful to delegation members as they work to improve Iraq's military operations.

"It's a tour to show them our capabilities and what we have to offer, if they so choose to [act upon it]," said Lt. Col. James E. Brownlee Jr., public affairs officer for the 20th CBRNE Command. "They're trying to see what we can do to help them better contain their threats there at home. It's so they can get the feeling that they can rely on us to either set something up for them to come over here and train or get this equipment to train or send people over."

Held at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility at APG South (Edgewood) under JPEO-CBD, the tour included equipment displays by the JPEO-CBD, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense, and the 20th CBRNE Command's Nuclear Disablement Team, CBRNE Response Team, CBRNE Coordination Element, Explosive Ordinance Disposal, CBRNE Analytical Remediation Activity and Area Medical Laboratory.

JPEO-CBD conducts research and development into creating chemical and biological defense equipment and medical countermeasures, including, but not limited to, fielding chemical and biological detection systems, decontamination systems, medical devices, drugs and vaccines, and force protection systems. The organization continues to provide leading chemical and biological defense technology, equipment and medical countermeasures.

Maj. Gen. Azeez Noor Swadi Al-Bukhturee, senior military representative of the visiting delegation, said the CBRNE tour will help Iraq rebuild its army.

"I think this is a very beneficial thing," he said. "This is very helpful to us. This is a chance to get to know and be introduced to CBRNE equipment."

Edgewood's Team CBRNE is comprised of organizations with interrelated missions that span the spectrum of basic and applied research, chemical recovery and elimination, medical surveillance, acquisition, emergency response, and consequence management. Team

“From my perspective, it’s enabling partners and security relationships across the globe. By having a common framework in the event that we are asked to assist them, we increase our operability with those partners. ... There’s a lot of technology associated with the CBRNE environment, and so being able to share with the Iraqis some of our equipment expose them to how we employ that equipment think will generate ideas inside their own framework.”

Brig. Gen. JB Burton

commander of the 20th CBRNE Command

CBRNE has the life cycle responsibility for the safety and defense of our warfighters, civilians and nation against CBRNE threats.

While in the U.S., the Iraqi delegation also spent time visiting the Pentagon and FBI chemical, biological and forensic laboratories in Washington, D.C.

Upon returning to Iraq, delegation members and other officials will discuss the types of U.S. military training and equipment they would like to incorporate into their military.

"They would like us to come and observe their exercises once they get some training," Col. Richard A. Schueneman, chief of staff of the 20th CBRNE Command, said of the Iraqi military. "They want to get invites to training we provide. ... They're trying to see how we operate and see if they do take what we have, how will that help them solve their problems."

Schueneman added that Iraq is looking to upgrade its equipment and rebuild its military as the country is still working to recover from the Iran-Iraq War, which ended in 1988, and ongoing conflicts within the country.

As for what the Iraqi delegation's APG visit means for the future, Brig. Gen. JB Burton, commander of the 20th CBRNE Command, said it opens the doors for cooperative success.

"From my perspective, it's enabling partners and security relationships across the globe," he said. "By having a common framework in the event that we are asked to assist them, we increase our operability with those partners. ... There's a lot of technology associated with the CBRNE environment, and so being able to share with the Iraqis some of our equipment expose them to how we employ that equipment think will generate ideas inside their own framework."

"They come from a long history of being expert in chemical warfare," Burton said. "You look at their history they have a very proud history of that. And General Azeez is leading that country's efforts now as they attempt to reestablish their own local, regional and countrywide CBRNE response capabilities."

CBRNE officers agree that cooperation with Iraqi military officials will aid Iraqis in their situational understanding in combat and shape the type of responses and protective requirements needed to be successful on the battlefield.

"Anytime that you can provide help and support to a nation that's asking for it and then give them that support, train them up on that support, what have you created?" Brownlee said. "You've just created a country that can fend for themselves."

President lauds Army technological innovations

AMC Public Affairs

When President Barack Obama spoke to the nation Feb. 25 about the next two Department of Defense-led manufacturing institutes, Army Materiel Command leaders were there.

Gen. Dennis L. Via, AMC Commander, as well as RDECOM Director Dale Ormond, and AMC Chief Technology Officer Dr. Grace Bochenek, were among the Department of Defense and industry invitees. Also included were Frank Kendall, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; Dr. Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy, and Office of Science and Technology Policy Director John P. Holdren.

The two institutes, the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute, and the Lightweight and Modern Metals Manufacturing Innovation were lauded during Obama's remarks.

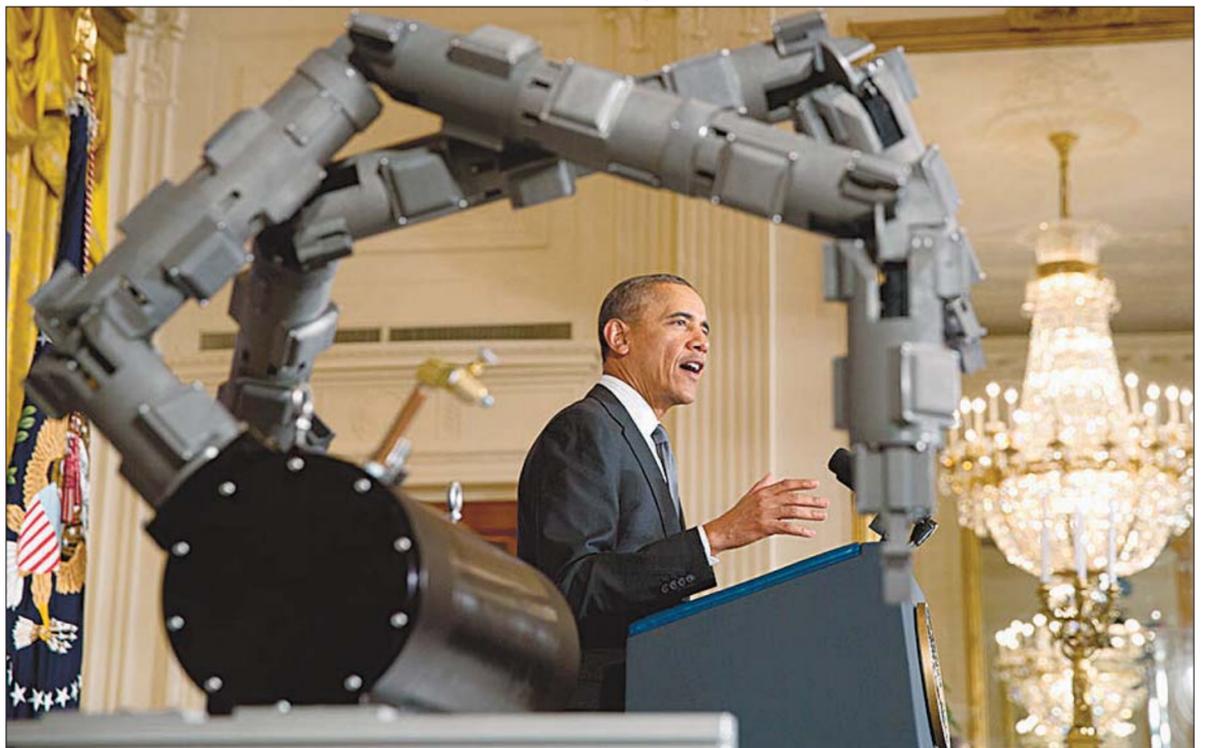
"America stands on a new manufacturing frontier, where hi-tech products are designed and tested within a virtual environment. The DMDI will get us there," said President Obama.

AMRDEC, located at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., will lead the DMDI. The event served as an announcement of a five-year cooperative agreement for the consortium, to be led by UI Labs in Chicago.

While the Lightweight and Modern Metals Manufacturing Innovation is led by the Navy, it has strong linkage with TARDEC and the Department of Energy. University of Michigan is the lead for that consortium.

“... New initiatives bring academia, all levels of industry and the Army together in a unique, collaborative way ... We clearly are on the ground floor and driving the nation’s next generation of technologies and our ability to manufacture them in the United States is key.”

Dr. Grace Bochenek
AMC Chief Technology Officer



Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson

President Barack Obama delivers remarks announcing two new public-private Manufacturing Innovation Institutes, and launches the first of four new Manufacturing Innovation Institute Competitions, in the East Room of the White House, Feb. 25.

about the importance of technological innovation, global competitiveness, and the power of manufacturing. He highlighted the nation's ability to innovate and build, which he called "a key to the U.S.'s future, and a key to our economy."

The newly-announced consortiums are comprised of 40 large and small

industry and more than 30 academia, government and community partners. Each partner is focused on reducing the time and cost associated with the development of manufactured products.

"The Army is shaping the future through these new institutes and new approaches to drive innovation," Bochenek said. "These new initiatives bring academia, all levels of industry and the Army together in a unique, collaborative way -- it will be through this synergy that new technical advancements will be made and delivered. We clearly are on the ground floor and driving the nation's next generation of technologies and our ability to manufacture them in the United States is key."

Recently-published Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Army goals emphasize the critical nature of science and technology and research and development.

"As we look into the future towards

2025 and beyond, our Army must maintain its technological advantage, it must maintain its engineering and scientist competencies, and it must strengthen our ability to change technological innovation into Army products and systems," Bochenek said. "AMC is the Army's agent to accomplish this goal. We are turning the crank, building the technical people, the new technologies and new industries."

"Today demonstrates the Army and AMC's commitment and contribution to building our future ... a future that enables innovation, a future that drives technological advancements, ensuring that our country and our Army maintain technological superiority," she said. "It's our nation's ability to drive American prosperity through technological innovation. It's our ability to take these innovations and turn them into solutions."

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ARL employee presents research in Annapolis

Continued from Page 1

Dr. David Wilson, president, Morgan State University. “Morgan Innovation Day is a chance for our elected officials and neighbors to see research and development in action and to see first-hand what investment in Morgan achieves for the good of the state and the nation.”

Wallace, who is an electronics engineer (optics) in HRED’s Perceptual Sciences Branch, has worked at ARL for nearly six years. She was nominated by her advisors at Morgan State University to present her dissertation research at the event.

“I was asked to present my material, because it’s novel and interdisciplinary,” said Wallace. “My research constructing a computer model to analyze the focus constraints of night-vision devices was a collaboration between the electrical engineering and psycho-

Samantha’s research has the potential to improve the usability of night-vision goggles. It’s always rewarding to see ARL’s educational opportunities benefit both the researcher and our Soldiers.

Bruce Amrein

Chief of ARL HRED’s Perceptual Sciences Branch

metrics programs.”

Wallace showcased ARL’s research efforts with Morgan State University.

“I created a texture and edge-based computational model to determine the saliency of a region of interest (ROI) in imagery at various focus distances,” said Wallace. “In other words, my model is used to evaluate imagery to determine if a ROI stands out from

its background or is camouflaged by its background. This is important to improve the way night-vision devices are focused by the user to accurately identify threats.”

Wallace was thrilled to share her research with those attending the event.

“I was excited to be able to present my research to Dr. David Wilson, the president of Morgan State University

and to Kweisi Mfume, the Chairman of the Board of Regents,” said Wallace. “Maryland State Senators and Delegates were also present at the event.”

Her supervisor, Bruce Amrein couldn’t be more proud.

“Samantha’s research has the potential to improve the usability of night-vision goggles. It’s always rewarding to see ARL’s educational opportunities benefit both the researcher and our Soldiers,” said Amrein.

Founded in 1867, Morgan State University is a Carnegie classified Doctoral Research Institution offering more than 70 academic programs leading to bachelor’s degrees as well as programs at the master’s and doctoral levels. Morgan serves a multi-ethnic and multi-racial student body and seeks to ensure that the doors of higher education are opened as wide as possible to as many as possible.

Fire extinguisher training helps prepare for emergencies

Continued from Page 1

windows as you exit the building, if it is safe to do so. During the “Extinguish” stage, people should assess if the situation is safe to use a fire extinguisher.

Bond said fighting a fire should only be attempted after all R.A.C.E principles have been accomplished and it is safe to do so.

“Do not ever put yourself in harm’s way by thinking you have to put a fire out,” he said. “When in doubt, let the responding firefighters extinguish the fire.”

Bond said fire extinguishers should be used to put out small fires only. When using a fire extinguisher remember the four step P.A.S.S. procedure. P.A.S.S. stands for “Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Sweep.”

During the “Pull” phase, users must pull the safety pin out of the extinguisher before it can be used. The safety pin ensures that the extinguisher is not accidentally discharged. “A fire extinguisher will not work if the safety pin is broken inside the device,” he said.

The user should then crouch low and aim the extinguisher nozzle toward the base of the fire, while maintaining a

Types of Fire Extinguishers

(from www.usfa.fema.gov/)

- Class A extinguishers put out fires in ordinary combustible materials such as cloth, wood, rubber, paper, and many plastics.
- Class B extinguishers are used on fires involving flammable liquids, such as grease, gasoline, oil, and oil-based paints.
- Class C extinguishers are suitable for use on fires involving appliances, tools, or other equipment that is electrically energized or plugged in.
- Class D extinguishers are designed for use on flammable metals and are often specific for the type of metal in question. These are typically found only in factories working with these metals.
- Class K fire extinguishers are intended for use on fires that involve vegetable oils, animal oils, or fats in cooking appliances. These extinguishers are generally found in commercial kitchens, such as those found in restaurants, cafeterias, and caterers.

safe distance and squeeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.

“This is comparable to pulling the trigger on a water gun,” Bond said.

During the “Sweep” phase, users should sweep the nozzle in a controlled motion so that most of the extinguishing agent goes onto the fire until the flames appear to be out. When the fire appears to be out back away from the fire.

“Never turn your back to a fire,” he said. “Even if you think it is extinguished.”

Bond said there are different classes of fire extinguishers for the different types of fires. The most common fire extinguisher is classified as ABC. ABC extinguishers are multi-purpose dry chemical extinguishers sold in stores for home use. Bond recommends users carefully read the device’s instruction

manual before an incident occurs.

He also recommends placing several extinguishers at each level of a home, in plain sight, and no more than five feet above the floor. In addition to putting an extinguisher in the kitchen, garage and on each floor, Bond recommends placing one near the clothing dryer which can catch on fire when people do not clean the lint traps.

Because fire extinguishers can lose air pressure over time, Bond recommends visually inspecting fire extinguishers every month. If the gauge is indicating low air pressure, discard the extinguishers as directed by local waste management facilities. Buy new at any local home store.

The APG Fire & Emergency Services hosts fire prevention training the first Wednesday of every month at the APG South Conference Center, Bldg. E4810. APG Fire & Emergency Services can also provide training for employees on site. For more information call 410-306-0093, or e-mail William.j.bond1.civ@mail.mil. For more information on fire extinguishers visit https://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/home_fire_prev/extinguishers.shtml.

DID YOU KNOW?

Havre de Grace was almost our nation’s capital?

The Concord Point Lighthouse. Being smack dab at the confluence of the Susquehanna and the Chesapeake. The historic district brimming with bistros, antique shops (translation: tchotchkes!) and Victorian mansions. The skipjacks and paddle steamers on the water, and the Decoy Museum. The promenade, marinas and waterparks. And most recently, for being the stand-in for Gaffney, S.C., on the hit TV series “House of Cards.”

These are all things that scenic, quaint and sleepy HdG (as it’s called by some locals) is known for. But did you know that the self-styled “City by the Bay,” located only a few miles from APG, was very nearly our nation’s capital? Didn’t think so.

Here’s the deal. Back in 1789, HdG – which was afforded its lyrical French name of “Harbor of Grace” by Gen. Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, on his way to a Philadelphia powwow with Gen. George Washington in 1782, and was incorporated three years later – was a thriving hamlet when the fathers of this young nation considered the burg as the permanent location as the nation’s capital.

After all, it had location, accessibility, natural charm, a friendly populace, transportation and commerce all going for it, as well as proximity to the growing cities of Philly, Baltimore and New York. Alas, it was never meant to be. The measure for the nation’s capital went before the House of Representatives. The vote was deadlocked – how typical! – and the deciding ballot went to Speaker of the House Frederick Muhlenberg, who voted in favor of supporters for the creation of a capital on the Potomac River, eventually to be called Washington, D.C.

Comparing D.C. and HdG today, you’ve got to wonder who got the wrong end of the stick on that one in the long run. After all, D.C. is known for its congestion, gridlock and a high crime rate, while HdG is hailed for its scenic and historic ambience and laid-back atmosphere. Guess it’s all in the eye of the beholder.

In honor of almost being designated the most powerful city in the whole universe, HdG has named many of its streets and thoroughfares after the Colonial past – Washington, Revolution, Union and Lafayette, just to name a few.

By the way, HdG and D.C. have another thing in common. Both were badly sacked and burned by the Brits during the War of 1812. In HdG, the Brits attacked from a flotilla of 15 barges and leveled the place to the ground.

First the politicians and then the Tories – these towns just couldn’t catch a break.

Alan Feiler, APG News



Adopt positive, healthy attitudes for an “A-Day”

Continued from Page 1

spoke about the “knots” or challenges that hold people back from living a happier and more successful life. These knots include fear, stress, toxic habits, negative attitudes and difficult relationships. Howard recommends that every 30 days, people should reflect on and evaluate different areas of their life. These areas include eating habits, exercise, sleep, spirituality, time spent in solitude, time spent with family, finances and personal growth.

“You can always make your best better,” he said.

Howard said many people do not get the results they want out of life because they get set in their ways and become caught up in procrastination and excuse making. He encouraged audience members to adopt an “A-Day” mindset, which is when you choose to adopt positive, progressive and healthy attitudes.

“The reality is, not every day will be an ‘A-Day.’ However, if you approach each day with the expectation for it to be an ‘A-Day,’ you will find yourself stringing together more ‘A-Days’ than any other days,” Howard said. “In turn, you’ll find yourself empowered and creating greatness.”

Howard said successful people are able to reach their goals despite obstacles and stress. Howard recommends relieving stress by using proven stress-alleviating techniques including deep breathing, affirmations, guided imagery, walking and talking to positive people.

“With less stress, you will be able to bounce back more quickly, and be the

best you that you can be,” he said.

In addition to self-evaluations, Howard recommends giving yourself ongoing “relationships tune-ups.” These include evaluating how healthy a relationship is, listing your contributions, and finding ways you can improve the relationship. He said healthy, vibrant relationships are never stuck in the past.

“The past is a place of reference, not a place of residence,” he said. “Elevate and accentuate what is healthy, respectful, reciprocal and renewed.”

Howard concluded his message by encouraging everyone to enjoy their life, have fun and be happy.

“When life is fun and you’re happy, it feels good and you look forward to living and enjoying more of it,” he said.

Freestate ChalleNge Academy Cadet Thomas Ventura, from Aberdeen, said he benefited from learning how to adopt an “A-Day” mindset.

“I learned that if I start off my day with a good attitude, it will affect the rest of my day,” he said.

The event also included representatives from ASAP, KUSAHC and the Office of the Chaplain, and a behavioral psychology expert from the Kennedy Krieger Institute. The vendors handed out information on stress, divorce, anger management, dating, parenting, substance abuse, suicide prevention and more.

For more information about Ty Howard visit www.tyhoward.com/. For more information on upcoming free Community Health Promotion Council events click the CHPC link on the APG website, www.apg.army.mil/.

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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/>.



Photo by Deborah Ince

RUNNERS, WALKERS HIT THE STREETS FOR A BOSS CAUSE

Runners and walkers braved the cold and wind to participate in the Four Leaf Clover 5K Run/Walk held in front of Hoyle Gym on APG South (Edgewood) March 7. The event was hosted by Team APG Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS), which aims to improve and promote the quality of life for single Soldiers, including planning recreational activities such as the Four Leaf Clover 5K Run/Walk. All participants enjoyed fruit and water upon completion of the race.



Photos by Ray Coats

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE IN TALENT SHOW

(Left photo) Ian McDaniel, from Patterson Mills High School in Bel Air, plays the saxophone during the Talent Hunt competition March 1 hosted by the Iota Nu chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at the Ball Conference Center. McDaniel received second place in the performing arts category. (Right photo) Daniel Woods from Edgewood High School plays the keyboard during the Talent Hunt competition. Woods received first place and will advance to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's district competition April 26 held in Baltimore. Tariq Oliver from Bel Air High School (not pictured) will also compete in the visual arts category in the district competition. The purpose of the Talent Hunt competition is to provide exposure, encouragement and financial assistance to talented young people. Participants have a chance to win scholarships.

Army chief of chaplains to speak at prayer luncheon

Continued from Page 1

different religions," he said. "We need to be one nation and one community."

Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Donald L. Rutherford, the Army's chief of chaplains, will serve as keynote speaker at the luncheon. Performing at the gathering will be the APG Praise Band and Renesha Robinson of CECOM, LRC.

Besides Kim, CECOM Acting Director Gary Martin and Garrison Commander Col. Gregory R. McClinton, speakers will include Chaplain (Maj.) James Collins, representing the Catholic community at APG, Col. Jonas Vogelhut, representing the Jewish faith, and Chaplain (Col.) William Sean Lee of the Maryland National Guard State Command, who will recite a prayer for the nation.

A native of Seoul, South Korea, Kim grew up in a family of committed Christians. At age 16, while attending a youth Bible meeting, he said, "The holy spirit touched my heart and gave me the calling to become a minister. I'm so happy -- I love what I do!"

In early 1980, Kim relocated to the U.S. to study at the San Jose Christian College in California. Subsequently, he earned his master of divinity degree and doctorate of ministry from the Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Miss., as well as a master's of theology from Faith Theological Seminary, then in Philadelphia.

After serving as the pastor at a pair of congregations around the country, Kim said he received the calling to join the Army and become a chaplain during a devotional time

in Louisville, Ky., in January 1995. "It just came out of the blue," he said. "I couldn't refuse. It was God's calling."

Kim said his biggest obstacle to joining the military was the rheumatoid arthritis afflicting his knees. "I couldn't even run a mile," he said. "But I just touched my knees and said, 'Lord, if it's your will, take this pain away.'" While taking the test at the military entrance processing command in Louisville, he said he found the pain was gone and that he was ready for the physical rigors of Army life.

"It was a miracle," Kim said. "I still don't have any pain now and I run two miles a day -- piece of cake. That's why I have no doubts and share my experience with people."

Kim graduated from the last class of the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School in Fort Monmouth, N.J., and became an active duty Army chaplain in 1997. During his Army tenure, he served for four years in South Korea and a seven-month tour of duty in Iraq with the

1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, as the 1st BCT chaplain. "I love being in the Army chaplaincy," he said. "I love this ministry very much."

Kim, who has served as CECOM's chaplain for the past 14 months, held the position of APG deputy Garrison chaplain from January 2007 to March 2010. He subsequently served as a chaplain recruiter based at Fort Meade before returning to APG in his current role.

"People are so nice here at APG," he said. "I attend the Main Post Chapel service every Sunday at 10 and we always have a good time."

Because of the American missionaries and other Westerners who brought Christianity to the Korean Peninsula, Kim said he feels

his Army career is his way of paying back his adopted homeland. "Many missionaries [in Korea] were killed," he said. "Because of their sacrifices and shedding of blood, 25 percent of the people there received the Gospel. That's why I'm here.

I'm a living flower and I want to pay back the Gospel to this country."

Kim, who lives in White Marsh with his wife, Susie, and their 22-year-old son, Emmanuel, said he also feels a debt to the American Soldiers who fought and died during the Korean War. "Without their sacrifice and help, there would be no Korean freedom," Kim said. "So I want to pay back something to this country."

Kim, who is one of nine chaplains on post, encourages people to attend the National Prayer Luncheon next week to become "more spiritually resilient."

"We have a broken society," he said. "A lot of people don't trust each other, and that affects faith. We're weak vessels. We're frail and fragile. But God loves us and encourages us every day to be strong and not be scared."

"God told Joshua, 'Don't be scared and have faith,'" Kim said. "We see that over and over in the Bible. King David showed us to be brave and humble, even if you fail. We still have to have hope in the Lord. He will cleanse us and recreate our souls and life. Psalm 86:7 says, 'In the day of my trouble, I will call upon You, for You will answer me.' And Daniel 9:3 says, 'I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications.'"

The National Prayer Luncheon, said Kim, "is always a big highlight for all of us. The strength of a nation is the character of its people. That's what it's all about, and it's going to be wonderful."

For information about the National Prayer Luncheon, call 410-278-4333.

“We have more than 20,000 people here [at APG], and we need to come together to pray for the nation and its leadership, even if we’re of different religions. We need to be one nation and one community.”

Chaplain (Maj.) Young D. Kim
CECOM command chaplain