



APG NEWS

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www.TeamAPG.com

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Groundbreaking celebrates Net Zero water project

(From left) Directorate of Public Works Canal Creek Treatment Plant Project Manager Jeff Aichroth, DPW Installation Energy Manager Devon Rust, APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton, DPW Natural Resources Branch Acting Chief John Wrobel and Johnson Controls contractors Dennis Wiseman, Vincent Cowger, Heather Everly, James Hewes and Barry Fahr break ground on a new Net Zero water conservation project near the Canal Creek Aquifer Groundwater Treatment Facility on APG South (Edgewood) Sept. 29.

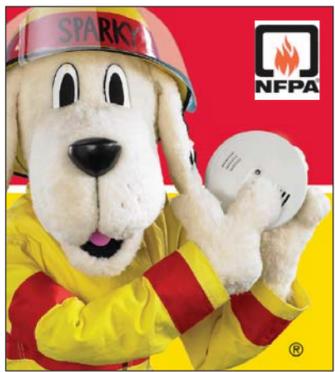
Story and photos by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Members of the APG community gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking of a Net Zero water conservation project near the Canal Creek Aquifer Groundwater Treatment Facility (GWTF) on APG South (Edgewood) Sept. 29.

At this site, APG will begin recycling treated groundwater for steam at the Central Boiler Facility, which heats buildings on APG South. Currently, potable – or drinkable – water is used at the boiler facility. By using groundwater, the Net Zero conservation project will save potable water and reduce operational costs. The project is scheduled for completion in February 2015.

“This means we do not have to buy water from outside the post, we are supplying our own alternative water source” said Devon Rust, Directorate of Public Works installation energy manager. Rust said APG has an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) with Johnson Controls for 23 years.

See **NET ZERO**, page 14



APG Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11

APG Fire & Emergency Services

APG Fire & Emergency Services invites all members of the APG community to participate in Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11.

This year's theme, “Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month,” highlights the importance of testing the smoke alarms in your home on a regular basis.

APG Fire & Emergency Services will host various events at APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood) to promote fire safety during Fire Prevention Week. The main event will be a fire depart-

See **FIRE**, page 14

Drivers, deer season is here

By **RON KRAVITZ**
Installation Safety Division

Most people don't pay much attention to deer crossing warning signs on the side of the road but statistics say they should.

Vehicle collisions involving deer take huge tolls in lives, money and time. Each year, animals are listed as the first harmful event in a multitude of fatal vehicle crashes.

An estimated 600,000 deer-vehicle collisions occur annually resulting in more than 110 deaths and thousands of injuries. Escalating insurance premiums and increasing deceased animal removal and accident investigation costs have an impact on all of us.

The installation's large deer population becomes more active in early October, as bucks succumb to the call of the mating season. As bucks chase does, drivers need to be more cautious of deer on the move when traveling

See **DEER**, page 6



Photo by Alan Feiler

APG drivers are urged to slow down and use caution as the large deer population on post becomes more active. White-tailed deer mating season lasts from late September through February, and during this time deer are more likely to run across roadways and cause accidents.



Slow down, use caution on Rt. 22

Team APG motorists are reminded not to exceed the speed limit when entering and exiting the installation through the construction zone on Route 22. The narrowed lanes, two and a half yards wide, require drivers to be especially cautious. While speed cameras are not installed along the route, Maryland State Highway officials noted that drivers can be ticketed by the Aberdeen Police for violations. Continue to read the APG News and monitor the APG Facebook page for construction updates.

Photo by Molly Blossie

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INDEX

Pg 2 **Street Talk**
Pg 6.....**Crossword**
Pg 8 **At Your Service**
Pg 10.....**APG News History**
Pg 11**Mark Your Calendar**
Pg 14.....**Did You Know?**
ICE system
http://ice.disa.mil/
Facebook, http://on.fb.me/HzQIow

IN THIS ISSUE



Via, Shyu return to APG to discuss Army materiel enterprise

Page 3



22 Days until
APG Oktoberfest
Oct. 24-25

WEATHER

Thursday

Mostly Sunny
chance of rain 0%



75° | 58°

More inside

Memories of 'Nam series **PAGE 5**

Program aims to increase diversity in STEM fields **PAGE 7**

Before radios, Army pigeon program took flight **PAGE 9**

Army bolsters nanomaterials research **PAGE 12**

STREET TALK

What food do you crave on cold days?

"I like to eat soup when it's cold, especially my homemade chili."



Joyce Booth
CPAC

"I eat pasta e fagioli [pasta and bean] soup. My wife and I enjoy cooking together."



Tom Serino
Retired military

"I like to eat beef goulash and Tuscan chicken stew, made by my mom and grandmother. I love dipping my bread in the soup."



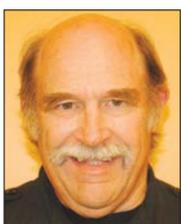
Mikayla Sorrells
Family member

"When it's fall I like to eat pumpkin-flavored food, especially pumpkin bread and pumpkin cupcakes."



Jordan Dodson
Family member

"I eat apple dumplings made by my wife, daughter and granddaughter."



Tom Haney
Retired military

Commander's Corner

National Hispanic Heritage

Celebrated September 15 – October 15, 2014

MAJ. GEN. BRUCET CRAWFORD
APG Senior Commander

During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we recognize Hispanic Americans for their many contributions in helping to shape our national character and strengthen our communities.

Hispanic Americans have enriched our nation through contributions in many professions and fields, including education, law, government, business, science, sports and the arts. Today, Hispanic Americans continue to answer the call to duty in our armed forces and preserve a proud legacy as they stand watch on the front lines of freedom.

Since the founding of this great nation, Hispanic Americans have served bravely in the U.S. Armed Forces, earning more than three dozen Medals of Honor and numerous distinguished military decorations for their leadership, courage and patriotism. Hispanic Americans have sacrificed in defense of our nation's freedom, serving proudly in every major American conflict.

As the U.S. Army continues to protect our nation and advance freedom abroad, we are grateful to all of the brave men and women who serve our nation and to their Families who support their efforts.

America's greatest asset is its people and its diversity of thought and deed. The U.S. Army is a mosaic of the world's many cultures and we must take the time to honor and respect the rich heritage and outstanding contributions



"Since the founding of this great nation, Hispanic Americans have served bravely in the U.S. Armed Forces, earning more than three dozen Medals of Honor and numerous distinguished military decorations for their leadership, courage and patriotism."

that help make our nation great.

As we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month we recognize the vibrant Hispanic influences in so much of our nation's culture and overall way of life. Please join me in honoring the service and sacrifices of Hispanic Americans by celebrating the recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

APG Strong, Army Strong!

Working smoke alarms save lives

By **SCOTT M. DELAY**
Fire Chief, Directorate of Emergency Services

When was the last time you tested the smoke alarms in your home? Was it last week? Last month? A year ago?

If you're like many people, you may not even remember. Smoke alarms have become such a common feature of U.S. households that they're often taken for granted and aren't tested and maintained as they should.

However, working smoke alarms are a critical fire safety tool that can mean the difference between life and death in a home fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), smoke alarms can cut the chance of dying in a home fire in half. Meanwhile, NFPA data shows that home fires killed more than 2,300 people in 2012. Many of these deaths could have been prevented with the proper smoke alarm protection.

As the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11, NFPA is promoting "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!" to better educate the public about the true value of working smoke alarms. In support of these efforts, APG Fire & Emergency Services will be hosting local campaign activities throughout the week.



My sincere hope is that all members of the APG community participate in one or more of our Fire Prevention Week activities, and make sure there are working smoke alarms installed throughout their homes. These simple steps can help make a life-saving difference, and prevent the potentially life-threatening impact of fire.

Here are additional smoke alarm tips to follow:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test alarms each month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound and understands what to do when they hear the smoke alarm.

To learn more about the "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!" campaign; visit NFPA's Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org. For updates about Fire Prevention Week at APG, visit www.teamapg.com.

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); or OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Please contact Sue Campbell at 410-306-0266 or sue.a.campbell.civ@mail.mil.

Adams, Dwayne
Alba, Audrey
Barnes, Jennifer
Basi, Kelly
Blethen, Lena
Blethen, Matthew
Lasley, Bonnie
Cannon, Marcy
Cropps, Elizabeth
Doran, Kemi
Dunston, Samuel
Eberhardt, Joanne
Ferrell, Patricia

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Gaddis, Lonnie
Goetze, Nicole
Grimsley, Sylvia
Hacker, Kelly
James-Stewart, Sonya
Kennedy, Sandra
Keshishian, Gale
Lloyd-Simpson, Tygar
Martino, Rose
McCauley, Adrienne
McClintick, Jill
McDonald, Scheree
McIntire, Melinda

Rapp, Debra
Robinson, Jennifer
Rodgers, Christopher
Rodriguez, Pedro
Sadler, Steven B.
Schaible, William C.
Silva, Christopher
Smith, Sonia
Snodgrass, Deanne
Steininger, Joyce
Williams, Demetria
Woolfolk, Shawnda
Wyatt, Darlene

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs



66° | 55°

Fri



75° | 57°

Sat



80° | 55°

Sun



81° | 57°

Mon



79° | 61°

Tue



78° | 57°

Wed



75° | 59°

APG NEWS

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

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Senior leaders return to APG, discuss Army materiel enterprise

By **GREG MAHALL**
CECOM and CMA Public Affairs

Two senior leaders from the Army's materiel enterprise completed their second joint town hall meeting at the APG North (Aberdeen) Myer Auditorium Sept. 26.

Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, and the Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, spoke to a crowd of nearly 700 APG personnel.

The meeting, including a question-and-answer session, followed the completion of the Army's ongoing Joint Acquisition and Sustainment Review (JASR) for the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) materiel enterprise, as well as the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) materiel enterprise.

The JASR brings together all of the organizations involved in providing materiel solutions for Soldiers and incorporates all materiel life cycle functions to include research, development, acquisition, testing, distribution, supply, maintenance, industrial base operations and disposal.

The focus of the JASR is to address joint acquisition issues and challenges of C4ISR/CBRNE systems, including transitioning them from production to sustainment.

Shyu said the JASR provides a great opportunity to understand the challeng-

es faced by the AMC and ASA(ALT) workforces.

"The life cycle of a product requires an integrated system that demands critical cooperation across domains both internal and external to the Army," she explained. "We have a responsibility to design and deliver the best product possible for our warfighters. Open and transparent communications at all levels aids in that process."

Via described the JASR as the continuation of an "impressive process."

"We have built trust and transparency into a materiel enterprise that is in a challenging position not seen 12, or six or even three months into the recent past," he said. "Where we are going, in the immediate future or further down the road is also uncharted waters, but no matter where the future takes us, our troops will demand and deserve our continued, dedicated and unwavering support."

The spirited, hour-long question-and-answer session raised many discussion points including: life cycle maintenance, Army-wide decision-making processes, end strength of the future Army, the global materiel enterprise, logistics, reorganizations, interaction with industry, and the challenge of the federal acquisition process.

Via and Shyu addressed cyber defense investments, enduring challenges, emerging threats, technology proliferation, affordability challenges and sequestration.

They both closed with comments about how involved each and every

...no matter where the future takes us, our troops will demand and deserve our continued, dedicated and unwavering support.

Gen. Dennis L. Via
Commander of the U.S. Army
Materiel Command



U.S. Army photo

(From left) The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Gen. Dennis L. Via, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, conducted a town hall meeting at APG Sept. 26. The meeting, including a question-and-answer session, followed the completion of the Army's ongoing Joint Acquisition and Sustainment Review for two major Army materiel enterprises based at APG.

member of the workforce is.

"The best Army in the world is in this room," said Shyu, citing not only the closing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, but the enduring efforts demonstrated by the accomplishments of the CBRNE work of destroying Syrian chemical munitions on the MV Cape Ray, the ongoing fight against Ebola in western Africa, the expanding work in Eastern Europe with Ukraine, and the threat of ISIS in the Middle East.

Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, CECOM commanding general and senior commander of APG, ended the town hall, thanking the participants and acknowledging that their presence on APG and hosting the town hall, "shows the entire Army community that they [Via and Shyu] set the example and avail themselves to the workforce --- reinforcing your commitment

to us and to our Army."

The town hall audience from the C4ISR community included staff from the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command; the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; the Program Executive Office for Command, Control, and Communications-Tactical; the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems; and the Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Surveillance.

Audience members from Team CBRNE included staff from the Joint Program Executive Office - Chemical and Biological Defense; the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; the Program Executive Office for Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives; and the U. S. Army Chemical Materials Activity.

Visit us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/APGMd>

Advanced Bod Pod comes to AWC

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

The APG Army Wellness Center (AWC) has a new piece of equipment which delivers highly precise body composition assessments for clients.

The state-of-the-art, egg-shaped Bod Pod measures an individual's body fat and fat-free mass, which includes muscles, bones and tendons.

Research studies have shown the Bod Pod to be very precise, with average test-retest variation within two percent body fat. The Bod Pod is routinely used by professional athletic teams, universities, the Mayo Clinic, the National Institute of Health and now the Army.

The Bod Pod assessment, which takes about five minutes to complete, uses air displacement plethysmography to determine a client's body composition. Before the Bod Pod, the most accepted method was underwater weighing.

During an assessment, clients wear a bathing suit and a swim cap and sit still as the Bod Pod measures their body composition.

After a client takes the Bod Pod assessment they immediately get a print out of their results. Health educators work with the clients to set realistic weight management, muscle development and overall wellness goals. Clients are recommended to take the assessment every 30 days, to get an accurate account of their progress.

"We compare results from month to month to see if the clients are meeting their goals, or if their goals need to be adjusted," said APG AWC Director Chris Sorrells.

Sorrells said it is important for individuals to be aware of their body composition, because excess body fat is associated with hypertension, metabolic syndrome, diabetes, cancer and other diseases, while muscles play an important role in burning calories and maintaining strength and energy. Body fat for healthy males ranges from 10 to 22 percent, and 20 to 32 percent for females.



Pfc. Jeffrey Augustin, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, sits inside the Bod Pod for a body composition assessment as Health Educator Erin Flaherty monitors the results at the APG Army Wellness Center Sept. 24.

AWC Health Technician Brandon Allen said he received positive feedback from clients who have used the Bod Pod, because it is very accurate and user-friendly.

"So far a lot of the clients seem to like it," Allen said. "They have been telling their friends to get the assessment."

After his initial assessment, Pfc. Jeffrey Augustin, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, said he looks forward to charting his progress with the Bod Pod.

"It's cool, it kind of looks like it belongs in the space age," Augustin said.

"I want to lose weight. Erin [AWC health educator] gave me some good tips."

Sorrells said there are currently 23 wellness centers across the Army that use the Bod Pod.

"The goal is to standardize each center so all Soldiers receive similar care," she said.

AWCs have six core programs: health assessment review, healthy nutrition, physical fitness, stress management, general wellness education and tobacco education. From private sources, these testing services would cost about \$3,000.

Programs at AWCs are individualized

to meet patients' needs and motivational and confidence levels.

"Ultimately, the AWC will save the Army money in health care costs because the center's programs are designed to help reduce the number of preventable diseases," Sorrells said.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 410- 306-1024 or e-mail usarmy.apg.med-com-kirk.mbx.kirkwellnesscenter@mail.mil. The AWC is also now seeing clients four times a month for metabolism and body composition assessments at the APG South Health Clinic.



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."



Memories of 'Nam



Veteran finds dignity in service

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

During the Vietnam War, the U.S. Air Force (USAF) operated 10 major air bases in South Vietnam.

Throughout the war, subordinate USAF commands there operated under the jurisdiction of U.S. Pacific Air Forces in Hawaii.

This is the story of a former Airman, APG civilian and Harford County native who served two tours in the region during the later years of the war.

John Gostomski was a wide-eyed 19-year-old when he first set foot on South Vietnam's Tan Son Nhut Air Base. Though he knew the country was at war, he hadn't paid much attention to the headlines. He just knew the military was hiring and offering all kinds of benefits.

Gostomski joined the Air Force in 1968 and attended aircraft mechanic training before heading to Vietnam in 1969. He ultimately served two tours - 1969 to 1970 and 1971 to 1972 - at the same air base.

An aircraft mechanic just out of school, Gostomski was assigned to the 460th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (TRW) within the 377th Air Base Wing.

The period was approaching the height of the national outcry against the unpopular war but Gostomski said he had no qualms about enlisting, though his family had concerns.

"My dad was in the battle of the Philippines so he kind of understood but mom didn't take it well; especially during my second tour," he said.

Just seven months after entering aircraft mechanic school, Gostomski deployed overseas.

"The first thing I remember is getting off that plane in that hot, humid air," he



Gostomski

said. "It was pretty warm."

He said Tan Son Nhut was a large base, and most of his days were spent maintaining the base's many aircraft and repairing hydraulics and other components.

Occasionally, mechanics were required to venture "up country" to help retrieve downed aircraft or conduct on-site repairs of planes damaged by gunfire, he said.

"We stayed really, really busy," he said. "There was always a lot of activity, a lot of repairs needed, especially with the fighter-bombers."

"They had so many different kinds of planes back then," he added. "Whenever one had something like a leaky brake line or if something wasn't working with the hydraulics we'd take care of it. It was a very big base and there was always something to do."

The loading and unloading of aircraft was a typical activity on the busy airfield and Gostomski said he saw all kinds of cargo - including troops - coming and going. Most loads were unremarkable, but those containing coffins always gave one pause, he said.

"As far as actually being in combat itself, I didn't see any action," he said. "It was our job to support the guys in the air and the guys on the ground."

During off-duty time, Airmen usually wound down in local clubs in nearby Saigon. Force protection and security wasn't the issue it is today, he said.

"Our security was pretty good; plus we had the Vietnamese military police too."

"During my first tour I was homesick, but as time went by, I got more into my job and my friends," he said. "It seems like in a war zone you get closer to people who share the same experience."

Among his keepsake photos is a shot of him in front of a C-102 transport plane, considered the "workhorse" for short-distance travel.

Gostomski left the service after his



Courtesy photo

U.S. Air Force mechanic John Gostomski poses in front of a C-102 transport plane at South Vietnam's Tan Son Nhut Air Base.

second tour, having served just under four years. It was then that he witnessed "a lot of negativity" that wasn't there during his first tour. He arrived back in the U.S. to anything but a hero's welcome.

"We flew back in uniform and saw demonstrators at Travis Air Force Base," he said. "In the airport, someone had painted a baby doll red and they flipped it at us inside the terminal."

He went into construction and eventually used his GI Bill to obtain a basic automotive mechanics certification. Eleven years after he left the service he became a government civilian as a carpenter with the APG Directorate of Public Works.

Gostomski married four years later and had four children, who are now in their 20s and 30s. He retired from the DPW in 2013 after a 30-year career.

Today, he volunteers with American Legion Post 39 in Bel Air where members recently helped wash the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington,

D.C. and placed carnations on the 9-11 Memorial at the Pentagon.

Gostomski said he doesn't mind being called "patriotic" one bit.

"I love this country. It's a good country. It still touches me when they raise the flag and play the national anthem," he said. "But I don't think the military gets all the recognition it deserves. I'd like to see more support for them. We want to make sure it never goes back to the way it was after Nam."

He added that he likes to think his father would be proud of him and his two brothers.

"My father was infantry and he always talked about his service. He was drafted right after Pearl Harbor," he said. "I wasn't drafted. I signed up my senior year. Serving in the military taught me the meaning of patriotism and I'm proud of my service."

"Like my father, I just tried to be a good role model for my kids."

Make sure your vote counts

By **JANET L. DETTWILER**
Installation Voting Assistance Officer

Voting is a great privilege that we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. The APG Voting Assistance Office, located in Bldg. 4305, Rm. 151, is available to assist you with your voting needs.

In support of Absentee Voters Week, Sept. 29 – Oct. 6, as well as throughout the year, we have voter registration forms and information available regarding registration and voting procedures for all states.

It only takes a few quick steps to make sure your vote is counted no matter where you are in the world.

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) can be easily completed by using the FPCA online assistant, filling out the PDF or picking up a hardcopy version from your unit voting assistance officer.

- Complete and sign the FPCA using your state's instructions. Find your state's instructions at <http://www.fvap.gov/military-voter/registration-ballots>
- Fold and seal your FPCA. If using



the online FPCA, print, sign and put it in an envelope. By using the approved envelope template, you qualify for free postage. The envelope template can be found at <http://www.fvap.gov/eo/overview/materials/forms>

- Address and mail the FPCA to your local election official. Be sure to include your return address, and affix postage if using a foreign postal service.
- Your ballot should arrive at least 30

days prior to the election.

▪ Fill out the ballot and send it in.
For more information, contact the Installation Voting Assistance Office at usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.vote-apg@mail.mil, call 410-306-2302 or DSN 458-2302, or visit the office in person.

For additional information on the Federal Voting Assistance Program or assistance with the absentee voting process, visit www.FVAP.gov. For live chat assistance, call FVAP at 1-800-438-VOTE or DSN 425-1584 (CONUS)/312-425-1584 (OCONUS), or email vote@fvap.gov.

Remember, you also can contact your organization or unit voting assistance officer for assistance during any step of the process.

Know the rules of fundraising at APG

By **DARLENE DORMAN WOODS**
APG FMWR

Did you know that government-wide fundraising regulations prohibit fundraising in the federal workplace?

The "workplace" is that area within federal property that employees use for the performance of normal mission functions.

However, occasional local fundraising conducted in lobbies, parking lots, picnic areas and break rooms—with prior approval from the Installation Solicitation Officer—may be authorized at

APG. Common fundraisers include bake sales, pizza sales, chili cook-offs, and pancake breakfasts

No matter how small or large the fundraising effort, there are policies that must be followed to host a fundraiser at APG.

Key points outlined by the garrison commander include:

- All Department of Defense organizations, private organizations, informal funds and other activities operating on APG must obtain a permit from the Installation Solicitation Officer before

hosting a fundraiser.

▪ Fundraising permits must be requested in writing at least 21 day prior to the commencement of a fundraising event.

▪ Fundraising must not compete or interfere with the CFC or AER drive, nor duplicate or compete with services provided by MWR or AAFES.

▪ Employees will not solicit subordinates, nor will supervisors coerce or require employees to participate.

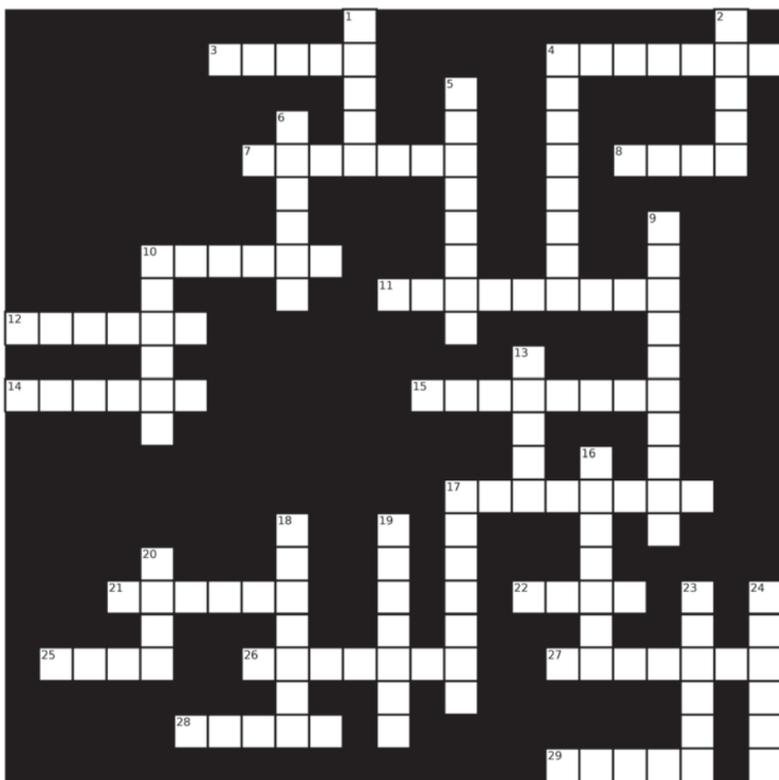
▪ Permits will be denied where the fundraiser includes the cooperation of

and benefit to an off-post business. This precludes agreements with vendors for a percentage of sales for any service or product.

Many groups at APG enjoy hosting fundraisers to earn money to help pay for their organizational days, battalion festivals, holiday parties, formal dinners, uncasing ceremonies and other events that help boost morale and build group cohesion.

If you would like to obtain a fundraising permit, or if you have any questions regarding fundraising at APG, please call Darlene Woods at 410-306-4519.

The APG Crossword



Test your knowledge about famous Hispanic Americans.

Across

3. First female Hispanic astronaut
4. Received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1968

7. First Hispanic American awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor
8. Won Pulitzer Prize for Drama, for "Anna in the Tropics" in

2003

10. "Livin' la Vida Loca" singer
11. First Hispanic American U.S. Supreme Court Justice
12. First Hispanic American to become a four-star admiral
14. His song "La Bamba" became a hit in 1958
15. "Turn the Beat Around" singer
17. First Hispanic American U.S. Secretary of Housing and Development
21. Broadcaster of the Year in 1971
22. American folk singer and political activist
25. Heavyweight boxing champ; defeated Evander Holyfield in 2001.
26. First Hispanic American Secretary of the Navy
27. World famous Mexican American guitarist
28. Cuban star of I Love Lucy
29. "Jenny From the Block" singer

Down

1. Received an Oscar nomination for "Frida"
2. Hispanic American actress; current cohost of The View
4. Won Best New Artist honors at 1999 Grammy Awards
5. Popular World War II era pinup
6. Grateful Dead lead singer and guitarist
9. Known as the first Latina supermodel
10. Won an Oscar for Best

Supporting Actress for her role in "West Side Story"

13. First Hispanic American NFL head coach
16. Won 2007 Emmy Award for "Ugly Betty"
17. U.S. Army's first Hispanic American four-star general
18. "Hips Don't Lie" singer
19. First Hispanic U.S. Surgeon General
20. Played opposite of Jim Carey on "The Mask"
23. Co-founder of National Farm Workers Association
24. Won an Oscar for Best Director for "Gravity" in 2014

Solution to the September 25 puzzle



Deer more likely to cross roads Sept. - Feb.

Continued from Page 1

throughout the post.

APG is an ideal territory for deer due to the spaciousness of the installation. Drivers must drive more slowly and cautiously throughout the post during the height of the deer season.

The rut, or the white-tail deer's breeding season, occurs in the fall, from late September through February, with a peak in November. A driver must give themselves more time to react to deer, which may dart across the road.

Drivers need to be aware that fifty percent of deer-vehicle accidents happen the two hours before and two hours after sunrise and sunset.

The upcoming season will be no different than the past. Already, dur-

ing the third week of September, a deer was hit on APG on Harford Rd.

To avoid a deer car collision, follow these tips:

▪ **Heed the warning signs** – The signs are there for a reason – they indicate that deer like to cross in that area.

▪ **If you see one deer, anticipate more to follow** – Deer move in groups. If you see one cross the road, there are likely more in the vicinity.

▪ **Drive at a safe speed** – Follow

50
percent of deer-vehicle accidents happen the two hours before and two hours after sunrise and sunset.

the posted speed limit so you'll be able to stop in time if a deer enters the roadway.

▪ **Drive defensively** – Be prepared to stop.

▪ **Observe your surroundings** – Actively scan the sides of the roads as you drive for any signs of wildlife.

▪ **Drive carefully at night** – Use your high beams when possible. They

will give you better visibility and more time to react.

▪ **Be especially wary at sunset and sunrise** – This is when deer are most active

and most deer-related accidents occur.

▪ **Slow down when other cars are behaving differently** – They are slowing down for a reason and potentially avoiding something – follow their lead.

▪ **Be alert, even when you're approaching a town or a city** – Deer populations are not isolated to rural areas. They will explore developed areas, and may even come into town.

▪ **Do not swerve** – Brake firmly. Do not swerve and leave your lane.

▪ **Don't rely on deer whistles** – Whistles, reflectors and other deer deterrents haven't been proven reliable.

If you are involved in deer-related accident on or off post, call 911. Police may need to direct traffic, depending on the extent of the accident. The driver will also need a police report for insurance purposes.

Send newspaper submissions to the APG News

Community members are asked to send all submissions for the APG News to usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil, and CC amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil. Type APG NEWS SUBMISSION in the Subject Line. You should receive a response within three business days letting you know that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a response, please call 410-278-7274 to inquire.



Courtesy photo

(Left to right) Debra Abbruzzese, Army Contracting Command (ACC); Ruby Mixon, ACC; Adam Seiple, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC); Joseph Corriveau, ECBC; Steven Bryant, ACC; Jan McNutt, ACC; Michael Hester United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation; Lamont Hames, Partnership Manager MSI STEM, Research & Development Consortium; and Rose Edmonds, ACC, have worked together for more than two years to create a cooperative agreement that will allow ECBC to draft joint proposals with Minority Serving Institutions.

Program aims to increase diversity in STEM fields

ECBC Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center has kicked off a brand new cooperative agreement with the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSP) that will stimulate research and technology development at minority serving organizations of higher education (MSI).

The cooperative agreement allows UNCFSP to create and manage a Consortium of MSIs whose purpose is to support and stimulate research and technology development at those educational institutions.

Adam Seiple, Associate Director of Strategic Planning for ECBC's Research and Technology Directorate is serving as the program manager and cooperative agreement manager for this effort.

"This agreement is a win-win-win situation for ECBC, the MSIs and the nation," said Joseph Corriveau, Ph.D., Director of ECBC R&T, where the agreement was conceptualized.

"This partnership allows ECBC to expand its network of partnerships with academic institutions and tap into the latest research coming from universities.

"It gives the participating institutions the opportunity to grow their research programs and do good science with a public purpose through serving the U.S. government. Finally, this partnership allows the U.S. to grow the next generation of scientists and engineers that our country needs to remain competitive in the global market," said Corriveau.

This agreement also allows ECBC to take a critical first step in engaging minority groups who are historically underrepresented in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) field. According to the U.S. Census Report in 2011, African-Americans and Hispanics combined account for just 13 percent of STEM jobs. Native Ameri-

cans and Alaskan Natives are less than two percent.

The development of this agreement was made in accordance with Section 252 of the FY10 National Defense Authorization Act codified in 10 USC 2362, "Research and Education Programs and Activities: historically black colleges and universities and minority serving institutions of higher education."

Minority serving institutions are defined as higher education institutions eligible for federal funding under

feet wet with science that will benefit the Department of Defense and national security," said Michael Hester, CEO of UNCFSP. "We are extremely excited to get started on this project, and are looking forward to jumping in."

So far, a cooperative agreement has been put in place to start the program. UNCFSP is now in the process of creating the consortium of institutions, named the Minority Serving Institutions STEM R&D Consortium.

Next, UNCFSP and ECBC will establish a technical committee to be

made up of MSI faculty, designated ECBC personnel and representatives from private industry. The technology committee will establish technology objectives to which MSI members of the UNCFSP will respond with white papers that will ultimately

become the bases of specific proposals for research and technology development work.

Thirty-one minority serving institutions — including HBCUs, Hispanic Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges — have already notified UNCFSP of their intent to join the consortium. Over time, UNCFSP plans to expand the consortium's membership from MSIs that already have a mature STEM infrastructure to schools that are still in the process of developing one. UNCFSP will have an administrative office located in the Washington, DC area.

According to Hester, "The top 20 major research universities in the United States receive, on average, \$506 million in government research funding annually. However, the average for all HBCUs combined is \$8.1 million, or less than 2 percent of this. The new R&D consortium for MSIs will be a game-changer and will increase the number of HBCUs and MSIs who receive research funding."

This partnership allows ECBC to expand its network of partnerships with academic institutions and tap into the latest research coming from universities.

Joseph Corriveau

Director, ECBC Research and Technology Directorate

Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965. These include Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and institutions where minority students account for a certain percentage of the student population.

According to the agreement, the goal is to "increase the potential for innovative technology and commercialization opportunities while fulfilling the statutes of the law and its requirement to improve minority institutions' understanding of their importance in providing cutting edge solutions to defense requirements."

ECBC began efforts to create a program like this two years ago under the leadership of Jay Valdes, Ph.D., who was then Senior Technologist for Biotechnology. After his retirement, Seiple took the lead and worked with the UNCFSP and the Army Contracting Command to complete the agreement and officially kick off the partnership.

"We see this as a true game changer for HBCUs and MSIs to get their

Briefings required before travel outside US

DPTMS Intelligence and Security Division

Travel abroad brings with it many challenges, including those posed by foreign intelligence services, terrorists and criminals.

The DPTMS Intelligence and Security Division provides foreign travel briefings to individuals traveling outside of the U.S. to prepare them for these challenges. Whether you travel for official or personnel reasons, if you are employed by the Army you must receive a country-specific briefing before any foreign travel.

All DOD personnel must also complete anti-terrorism level one training online on an annual basis. This training can be accessed at: <https://jkodirect.jten.mil/Atlas2/faces/page/login/Login.seam>.

In addition to the online training and country-specific briefing, individuals who hold a security clearance must report foreign travel to their security manager, prior to traveling. Those who hold a clearance at the TS/SCI level must notify their FSO. Each separate trip needs to be reported.

Country specific briefings are required for every trip, even



if they are to the same location.

The Division offers briefings to spouses and dependents 14 years or older, as well.

Country clearances are required for individuals traveling to countries that are considered high-risk and may take 30 to 60 days to obtain. With the exception of rare extenuating circumstances country clearances are not granted for unofficial or tourist travel to these countries.

If your organization elects to utilize this service, please contact the Security and Intelligence Division at least two weeks in advance of planned travel. Although we can accommodate last minute requests, these should be due to short

fuse suspensions — not a failure on the individual's part to properly plan ahead. To achieve economy of scale, we try to schedule groups rather than individuals, and we can only do this with adequate advanced notice.

For more information, call the DPTMS Security and Intelligence Division at (410) 278-3187.



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

APG EFMP highlights importance of individual education programs

By **NANCY GOUCHER**
APG Army Community Service

The APG Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) services military and civilian Families within the APG Community with any physical, emotional, developmental, behavioral, mental, or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling on an on-going basis.

Grades are important and they can be very upsetting when a student with disabilities consistently brings home low grades, especially when they are putting forth their best effort. Parents and students may feel that low grades don't reflect the huge amount of effort the student puts into school work.

Many schools use a grading system that measures students' performance through assessments that correspond to a state's grade-level learning standards. This may lead to issues of grading fairness and equity for students with special needs. The impact of low grades may affect the student's motivation, self-esteem, and attitude toward school. This is especially true when students are not permitted to participate in extracurricular activities due to poor grades.

Individual education programs

The Individual Education Program (IEP) describes the educational program designed and adapted to meet one student's unique individual needs when receiving special education and related services. It describes what a student needs to make progress in the general education curriculum.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. Section 300.320(a) of IDEA 2004 requires each student's IEP includes annual goals; a statement of the special education and related services; and supplementary aids and services to permit the student to progress in the general education curriculum.

To meet the requirements for Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), the school must make sure that the student with a disability makes adequate progress in academics and functional



Exceptional Families Exceptional Service

performance, and on IEP goals. If the student's academic and functional performances are not matching the student's progress on IEP goals, the student's IEP should be revised. IEPs can be adjusted or IEP meetings can be scheduled at any time during the year.

Steps should be taken by the regular or special education teacher before assigning a student a failing grade. A conference should be scheduled in a reasonable time that would allow the student to make progress in the general education curriculum and on IEP goals. Committee members of the conference should view documentation of student work samples for instructional modifications, supplemental aids, and supports implemented from the student's IEP. Discussions regarding low grades should address whether accommodations provided in the IEP are appropriate. A review of the student's IEP may determine additional modifications are needed and the IEP needs to be amended.

A student may benefit from grading

modifications but can only do so legally if written in the students' IEP. If the IEP does not have grading modifications, the assumption by the Office for Civil Rights is that the student will be graded according to the school's general grading standards.

If the student continues to fail after additional modifications have been implemented, a formal meeting should be scheduled to discuss if additional changes should be made to the IEP.

EFMP at APG

The APG Exceptional Family Member Program provides services to both military and civilian Families within the APG Community. All EFMP Families and any special needs family members are provided information on community resources, Special Needs Accommodation Process (SNAP) assistance for children in Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS), housing advocacy, special education consult, and resource materials and a lending library.

For additional information and resources visit Army Community Service, Exceptional Family Member Program at 2503 Highpoint Road, APG. The EFMP has a DVD lending library, books and resources for active-duty Families, retirees and DOD civilians.



Tony Hale

DPW Operations and Maintenance Division site manager

As the site manager for the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Operations and Maintenance Division at APG South (Edgewood), Tony Hale is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of buildings, roadways, land and infrastructure, as well as operations at the water and wastewater plant.

Hale manages 80 employees working under three branches: building and structures, utilities, and roads and grounds. Together, they handle all interior and

exterior maintenance and repairs, as well as emergency service calls. Hale is currently working on implementing a full preventive maintenance team.

"We send a four-man team into a building and they do a top-to-bottom evaluation and preventive maintenance on anything from door knobs to light bulbs to ceiling tile," Hale said.

The goal of the team is to stop a crisis before it starts, saving the Army time and money.

"We had gotten away from that [preventive maintenance] for a number of years and now, with a new initiative from IMCOM headquarters ... the emphasis is on preventive maintenance rather than reactive maintenance," Hale said.

Hale is also focused on another initiative to reduce energy usage within his division and throughout the installation.

"We're very conscious of our energy state and how much energy we use.... We're looking at some of the bigger areas that we can target to start using more LED lighting," Hale said.

The lifespan and electrical efficiency of LED lighting is several times better than incandescent or fluorescent lighting. As part of a test-run for the initiative, Hale and his team replaced all of the exterior lighting at the Edgewood Youth and Child Care Center, as well as the interior lighting inside the main boiler plant.

"If you're doing preventive maintenance you have less breakdowns, which means less big money spent. You can also

watch your lifecycle cost on equipment and make sure that you're planning out those replacements, and not waiting until it's an emergency," Hale said.

A Harford County native, Hale has worked at APG for more than 22 years. He began his career at DPW in 1989 as a service order clerk, worked his way up through 'the shops' as a trades helper and pipe fitter, and has worked in his current position for the last five years. His past experience includes a position in Washington D.C. at the Washington Aqueduct for the Army Corps of Engineers.

"I'm a results-driven person. I like being able to see the end result. We are confronted with a problem, and as a team we come up with a resolution and get the issue taken care of. The end result is something that helps the organization's mission. We're all here to help the warfighter in one way or another," he said.

For more information, contact Hale at 410-436-3102, or anthony.r.hale12.civ@mail.mil.

BY THE NUMB#RS

Celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month

51,927,000+

Number of Hispanic Americans currently living in the United States, according to the Pew Research Hispanic Trends Project.

97

Years since President Woodrow Wilson signed the Jones-Shafroth Act, granting Puerto Ricans U.S. citizenship on March 2, 1917.

44

Number of Hispanic Americans who have received the Medal of Honor, the highest award that can be given to any military personnel.

31

Years since Richard E. Cavazos became the Army's first Hispanic four-star general in 1982.

26

Years since National Hispanic Heritage Month, observed Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, was enacted into law by President Ronald Regan in 1988.

5

Number of Latin American countries that celebrate their independence from Spain on Sept. 15: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. They all declared independence in 1821.

By **RACHEL PONDER**, APG News
Sources: www.pewresearch.org
www.nps.gov
www.pbs.org
www.army.mil

Healthy Living

www.teamapg.com click on Community Health icon

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 To suggest health-related topics for the Health Living series, email amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil

Enterovirus case confirmed in Md.

By **AMANDA ROMINIECKI**
APG News

On Friday, Sept. 24 the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) confirmed the presence of enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) in Maryland.

The virus, which has made headlines across the country for causing severe respiratory infections in children, was identified in a specimen collected from a hospitalized child in suburban Maryland and was sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for confirmation.

According to the CDC, there are more than 100 types of enteroviruses that affect humans, and they commonly circulate in summer and fall. EV-D68 appears to be the predominant type of enterovirus this year.

Most people with enteroviruses have no symptoms or only mild symptoms, but some infections can be serious. All but one of the confirmed cases of EV-D68 infection this year have been among children. Many of the children had asthma or a history of wheezing.

"It is important to know that in the entire United States, there have only been 277 confirmed cases of enterovirus [EV-D68], only one of which was in Maryland, which means this is still a rare illness compared to similar viruses like influen-

za. There is definitely no cause for immediate concern or panic," said Capt. Joanna Moore, chief of preventive medicine at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

The best way to prevent the spread of EV-D68 is the same for any other infection disease, Moore said.

"Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, avoid close contact with people who are exhibiting symptoms, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces," she said.

Symptoms of EV-D68 include fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough, and body and muscle aches. Severe symptoms may include wheezing and difficulty breathing.

"If you or your children are experiencing flu-like symptoms, which do not seem to improve with over the counter medication, please see your local clinician, especially if your symptoms are accompanied by respiratory distress, wheezing, or difficulty breathing," said Sue Singh, KUSAHC public health nurse. "People with asthma are at highest risk for severe respiratory illnesses associated with enterovirus."

For more information about EV-D68 and updates about the virus, visit the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov.

ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Local trail once a hub of Maryland commerce



By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Mosey through Maryland's lush, wooded Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail, better known to locals as the Northern Central Railroad (NCR) trail, and it's easy to see how the very spot you're standing on once held the eponymous railroad's 'whistle and chug' of 19th century travel.

The rail tracks are gone, smoothed over with a stone, dust surface, but the charm of the railway's shady seclusion and small-town feel remain.

Today, the popular trail covers nearly 20 miles in Maryland, stretching from Ashland Road in Hunt Valley to the Mason-Dixon Line, and continuing into Pennsylvania. The trail has been a year-round destination for residents and tourists since its inception 30 years ago.

The trail's flat grade makes it an ideal spot for hiking, jogging, bicycle riding, dog-walking and horseback riding. Boating and fishing access to the Gunpowder River and Loch Raven watershed also makes the trail a popular destination. On summer weekends, visitors will see the adventurous carrying yellow inner tubes along river access points.

The trail is home to a wide variety of native trees, including many beautiful oaks, maples, beech, tulip poplars, and



Courtesy photo

A biker cycles down the stony trail that was once home to Maryland's Northern Central Railroad. The NCR trail is now a popular destination for locals and tourists who enjoy outdoor adventuring.

dogwood. Wildlife is abundant on the trail, and visitors may see red foxes, groundhogs and black rat snakes, especially during early morning hours.

Amenities along the route include picnic and park benches, drinking fountains for travelers and their pets, and portable restrooms.

Just off the trail, visitors can enjoy several small eateries, shops and galleries. Hotels and motels can be found within a mile of the trail, and there is a nearby shop that rents and repairs bikes.

Once an active section of a railroad owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Line, the NCR carried passengers and freight from 1832 to the early 1960's.

According to Elk Neck state park ranger Robert Bailey, the NCR was the I-83 of its time, one of three railroads that connected Baltimore with the rest of the Union during the Civil War.

The railway carried its most famous passenger, President Abraham Lincoln, part of the way to Gettysburg to deliver the Gettysburg Address in 1863. It also

hosted Lincoln's funeral trail following his assassination in 1865.

The railroad was a hub of Maryland commerce and industry. For nearly a century, the railroad brought isolated Baltimore County communities together.

Local farms, factories and towns were dependent on the railroad to import and export products to and from Baltimore and beyond. These products included flour, paper, milk and farm products, coal, and later the U.S. Mail.

Entire towns, such as Bentley Springs, Phoenix and Ashland Furnace, were intentionally built near the railroad and were able to prosper because of the railroad's connections. The railroad, along with many mills, attracted thousands of new people to northern Baltimore County.

Increasing truck and automobile transportation marked the decline of the railroad, and in 1972 Hurricane Agnes washed out bridges and made the line impassable. In 1984, the railroad was converted into a multi-use trail.

The Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail is managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources as part of the Gunpowder Falls State Park. For location and hours of operation, visit <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/central/tcb.aspx>.

Before radios, Army pigeon program took flight

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Before the Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM), based at APG, became a leader in Army communications-electronics systems and operations, it was a portion of the Signal Corps, an organization that made a name for itself in avian war-fighting techniques by establishing and maintaining the Army's successful pigeon carrier program.

"We [CECOM] are a direct outgrowth of everything that happened at Fort Monmouth which was known as 'the home of the Signal Corps,'" said Susan Thompson, CECOM command historian. "Even though the Signal Corps school moved to Fort Gordon in the 1970's, everything we do relates to Signal activities."

Pigeon program takes flight

The Signal Corps was officially established in 1860 by Maj. Albert James Myer, a medical doctor who developed a system of 'one flag' signaling called 'wig-wag.' Some 2,000 Signal Corps members served during the Civil War, placing the organization at the helm of Army communications operations.

During that era, wartime long-distance communication was still reliant on unsophisticated devices, like lanterns and flags, and eventually the telegraph.

A few years prior to the Civil War, the Signal Corps attempted to use homing pigeons to send messages in western parts of the U.S. without much success because the pigeons were attacked by their natural predator, hawks, which were abundant in the region.

World War I: Army pigeons soar to new heights

Then during WWI, Maj. Gen. John Pershing noticed the success the British and French had using carrier pigeons, so he requested that the Signal Corps develop a pigeon program for the U.S. Army.

Maj. Gen. George Owen Squier became the Chief Signal Officer in 1917 and the pigeon program began in February 1918 in France. The pigeon program was assigned to Camp Alfred Vail, New Jersey, which would become Fort Monmouth in 1925. The U.S. Army pigeon program officially

began in the U.S. in October 1919 and was headquartered at the Home of the Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth.

"If you think about communications during WWI, a lot of time the Signal Corps was on the front lines because they were the ones running the [wire] lines out there," said Floyd Hertweck, CECOM's staff historian.

"So as troops battled, enemies would sabotage by cutting them [wires]. What becomes the most reliable way of getting your message across? Pigeons," he said.

During WWI, all sides were communicating across the same wires and airways. Fighters could easily overhear another side's telephone conversation, but carrier pigeons provided more secrecy. The Army could even place coded messages inside the pigeons' capsules so the opposing side could not decipher the message if it was intercepted.

Pigeon carriers were also called upon for their speed and endurance.

"Some of the pigeons would do two or three hundred mile flights. And they would do it sometimes within a phenomenal period of time – about a mile a minute," Hertweck said.

Several hero pigeons emerged from WWI. Birds were credited with saving large numbers of Soldiers, often amidst dire circumstances.

Cher Ami was one such hero pigeon. A black check hen, he delivered 12 important messages throughout France with an average of 30 kilometers flown in 24 minutes.

On Cher Ami's last journey, he returned with one leg shot off with the message tube containing an important document hanging by a tendon. The bullet that took his leg also shot through his breast. His message helped save the famous "Lost Battalion" from inadvertent friendly fire.

Cher Ami returned to the U.S. after his last flight and was honored by Pershing. Hero pigeons who returned to the U.S. were housed in a special, well-kept section of Fort Monmouth called the Churchill loft. At Churchill loft they were retired from active-military life but were still used for breeding purposes due to their exceptional



WWI Hero pigeon Cher Ami, French for 'dear friend', delivered 12 important messages throughout France with an average of 30 kilometers flown in 24 minutes. He is on display at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.
U.S. Army photo

homing ability, speed and aptitude.

Peacetime

Between WWI and WWII, the Signal Corps began designing and implementing ever-more innovative pigeon trainings and ancillary equipment. They trained pigeons to fly in the dark and over water, neither being their natural inclination. They also trained them to home to mobile lofts.

'Homing' relates to an animal's ability to return to a place or territory after traveling a distance away from it.

Pigeons have a strong homing instinct when returning to the same roost. By training the pigeons to home to mobile lofts, the military could guarantee the birds would return to the front lines after making a delivery.

People continue to speculate about how pigeons home.

"Is it sound, smell, or the Earth's magnetic fields, or possibly a combination of all three? To this day, no one knows for sure how the pigeons do that," Thompson said.

The Signal Corps also developed special equipment, including parachutes and cages, so officers could release pigeons from airplanes.

According to Thompson, pigeons couldn't be released from an aircraft without protection because the wind at that speed would cause their feathers to blow off and leave them incapable of flying. "They had to be released in parachutes and baskets and special capsules that would time their release" Thompson said.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the Signal Corps won awards for their pigeons. Pigeons became popular for sport and entertainment; there were pigeon fanciers and pigeon races.

While these recreational races helped train pigeons for speed, that skill was not as important as the birds' homing instinct and ability to complete a mission, Thompson said.

Pigeoneers

Each unit or platoon in the Signal Corps had a 'pigeoneer' assigned to it, a kind of pigeon specialist who would maintain and care for the pigeon.

Pigeoneer training was a meticulous process, not unlike the process that Army canine handlers experience today. "Some of the technical manuals are very spe-

cific about how to put them [pigeons] in the basket, even how to hold them," said Thompson.

"The Army would recruit people who already knew how to work with pigeons, rather than trying to train raw recruits; although they did that too, but they had to have certain characteristics," Thompson said.

One of the most memorable pigeoneers was Otto Meyer, former commander of the U.S. Army pigeon service.

"He was commissioned because of his expertise. He was in charge of the pigeon technical services out of Philadelphia and he wrote some of the pigeon breeding manuals. He continued to be an ambassador of the pigeons until the program was disbanded," Hertweck said.

WWII and disbandment

G.I. Joe was a popular, distinguished WWII hero pigeon who saved the lives of at least 100 British allies.

He flew 20 miles in 20 minutes to deliver a message to the U.S. Air Support Command to stop the scheduled bombing of an Italian city the British were entering. For his efforts he was awarded the British Dickin Medal for Gallantry, the only U.S. bird to receive this high award.

During the Korean War, despite some advances in radio technology, pigeons were "very useful because the terrain was mountainous and it was hard for radios to send signals through; you had to be in the right spot," Thompson said.

However, by 1956 the Army decided that military and communications technology had advanced to the point where the benefits of keeping the pigeon program were not worth the expense of housing and training them. They discontinued using pigeons as message carriers in 1957.

Hero pigeons were donated to zoos and breeding pairs were put up for sale. A small effort to resurrect the program was made on the part of a few officers during the Vietnam War but was unsuccessful.

Today, Cher Ami is on display at the National Museum of American History in the exhibit titled "The Price of Freedom: Americans at War."

For more information about the U.S. Army's pigeon program, visit CECOM's historical office's blog at <http://cecom-historian.armylive.dodlive.mil/category/pigeons/>.



On April 17, 1919 the New York Herald highlighted hero pigeon Cher Ami and his heroic actions that helped save the Lost Battalion in the Battle of Argonne during WWI.
U.S. Army photo

THIS WEEK IN APG HISTORY



Take a look back in time as the APG News explores what made the headlines around APG during this week 10, 25 and 50 years ago. This week's APG News masthead is from 1966.

By YVONNE JOHNSON, APG News

10 Years Ago: Sept. 30, 2004



Left: (From left) Col. Michael Cates accepts the Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, now U.S. Army Public Health Command, colors from Maj. Gen. Kevin Kiley, acting commander, U.S. Army Medical Command, during a change of command ceremony at McBride Parade Field Sept. 23, 2004. Cates assumed command from acting commander Col. John Ciesla.



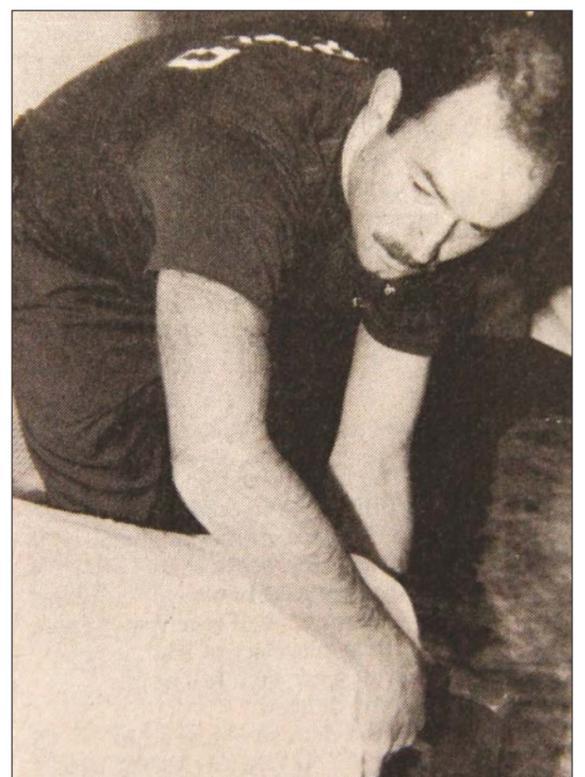
Right: (From left) Air Force Maj. Steve Pratt and Col. Francis Merritt, commander of the Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, observe a welding procedure on video screens outside two new welding demonstration booths installed for the Aircraft Technology training course.

25 Years Ago: Oct. 4, 1989

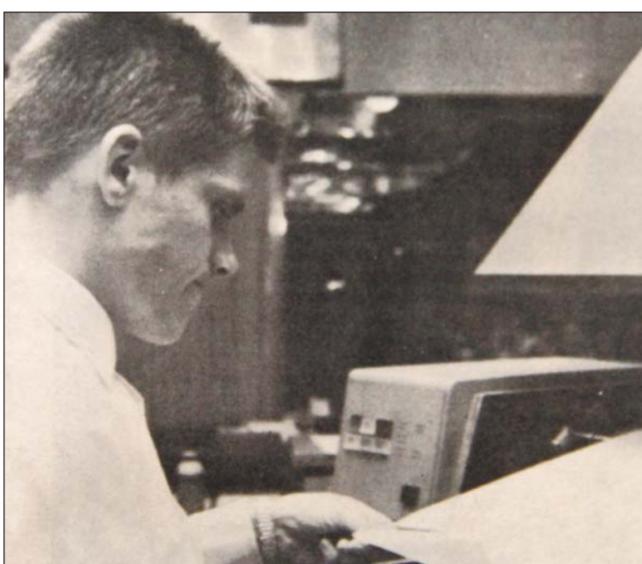


Above: Hailing on and off-duty APG firefighters during Fire Prevention Week, the APG News shows Edgewood Area Capt. John Lewis preparing a pot of spaghetti for his crew members who work 24-hour shifts.

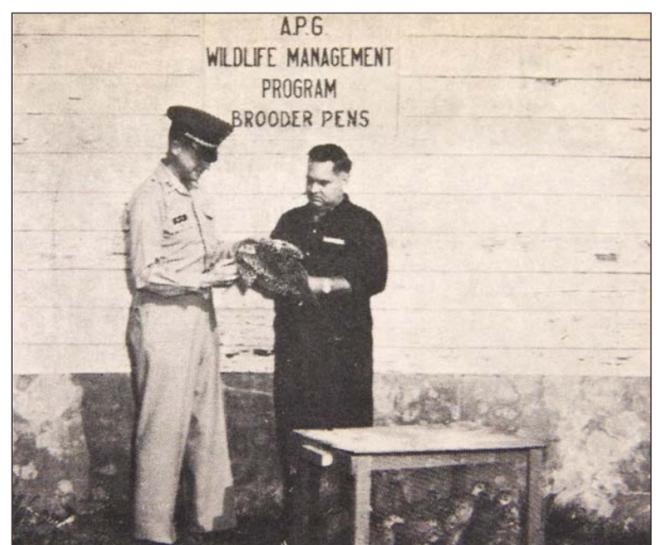
Right: Edgewood Area firefighter Harold Travers makes his bed before going on shift.



50 Years Ago: Oct. 1, 1964



Left: Craig R. Anderson, a nearly blind 22-year-old mathematician with the Ballistics Research Laboratory is among several APG full and part-time employees hired through the National Employment of the Handicapped Program.



Right: (From left) Capt. H.W. Miller II of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School presents a Chinese ringnecked pheasant to Argyll Day, president of the Chesapeake Bay Conservation Club for release in a natural environment, as part of the post's conservation program

2015

2010

2000

1990

1980

1970

1960

1950

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MONDAY

OCTOBER 6 STRIKE OUT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Team APG will host a Strike Out Against Domestic Violence bowling tournament to raise awareness about domestic violence 5:30 p.m. at the APG Bowling Center, Bldg. 2342, every Monday night in October starting at 5:30 p.m. The entry cost of \$7 per person includes three games, shoes and a chance to win prizes. Food will be available for purchase at the Strike Force Cafe. Register by Oct. 1. For more information contact Lora Owens, bowling center manager, at 410-278-4041 or email lora.l.owens2.naf@mail.mil.

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 7 CARE FIRST BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD CLAIM REP. VISIT

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative of Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield to visit APG on Tuesday, Oct. 7. The representative will be available from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, Rm. 120 to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will be available from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at APG South (Edgewood) at Bldg E2800 Rm. 103/104. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, contact Teri Wright at 410-278-4331 or Teresa.l.wright28.civ@mail.mil, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

FRIDAY & MONDAY

OCTOBER 10 & 13 KIRK TO CLOSE FOR COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY

The Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed Friday Oct. 10 and Monday, Oct. 13 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday. The clinic will reopen for normal operations Tuesday, Oct. 14.

For more information, call 410-278-5475.

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 15 DRIVING AWAY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

To raise awareness about Domestic Violence, Ruggles Golf Course will host a Driving Away Domestic Violence Purple Ball Challenge. Registration for the four-person scramble - Captain's Choice begins 3 p.m. with a 4 p.m. shotgun start. The tournament is open to men and women. The entry cost of \$30 includes golf, cart, food and prizes. For more information, or to register, call 410-278-4794.

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 16 GARRISON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The APG Garrison will host the first Garrison Professional Development Symposium 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Top of the Bay. This is the place of duty for Garrison civilians and Non-appropriated Fund (NAF) participants. Breakout sessions will include Culture of Success; USAJobs and Resume Building; Army E-Learning and more. A working lunch is included; details will be provided at registration. The keynote speaker is Vicki Brown, chief of Civilian Training, G-3 Training Directorate, Leader Development Division, from the Pentagon.

For more information, contact Celestine Beckett at 410-306-2333 or email celestine.beckett@us.army.mil.

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 18 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

Save this date for APG's Annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) to be held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. Registration begins 8 a.m. with the opening ceremony at 9 a.m. This year's guest speaker is John Radke, Chief of Army Retirement Services, Headquarters, Department of the Army. More details to follow.

MONDAY – THURSDAY

OCTOBER 20-23 SEC SECURITY AWARENESS WEEK

The CECOM Software Engineering Center (SEC) will host a Security Awareness Week Oct. 20-23 at the APG North (Aberdeen) C4ISR campus. The event will provide security awareness information, U.S. Army Cyber Command cyber security pamphlets and address security and OPSEC issues both at work and

at home.

Security representatives will be providing information at the following dates and locations: Oct. 20 at Bldg. 6002; Oct. 21 at Bldg. 6006; Oct. 22 at Bldgs. 6009/6010; and Oct. 23 at Bldg. 6007. The event is open to the entire APG community.

For more information, contact Forrest Garrett at 443-395-5069 or Tamara Scrivener at 443-695-5068.

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 22 BREAST CANCER WALK

The Army Performance Triad team will host the 2nd Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk at noon starting from Fanshaw Field. This event will partner with the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) program to host an APG Healthy Kids 2K Zombie Run Thursday, Oct. 30. The location and time for this event will be announced at a later date. For more information, contact Capt. Joanna Moore, APT action officer, at 410-278-1773 or email joanna.t.moore@mail.mil.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

OCTOBER 24-25 APG OKTOBERFEST DATES SET

The APG Oktoberfest returns Friday, Oct. 24 from 4 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center and surrounding grounds.

Attractions will include a Festhale; opening ceremony with keg tap; German inspired food, beverages and entertainment; inflatables and games; Family Zone with clowns, caricatures and balloon animals; Volksmarch, car and bike show, and a Main Street Festival with local crafts, vendors and community tables.

This event is open to the public.

More information will follow in the APG News and on the TeamAPG website www.TeamAPG.com, and Facebook page www.Facebook.com/APGMd.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 4-5 ARMY OPERATIONS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) will host the 52nd annual Army Operations Research Symposium, known as AORS, at the Mallette Hall – Mission Training Facility, Bldg. B6008, Nov. 4-5.

Started in 1962, AORS furnishes an opportunity for Operations Research Systems Analysts, also known as ORSAs, to exchange professional knowledge and experiences concerning recent and ongoing analyses from across the analytical community. John B. Nerger, Executive Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, is this year's keynote speaker.

During this forum, the Dr. Wilbur B. Payne Award for Excellence in Analysis will be presented. The annual AORS banquet will be held on the evening of Nov. 4 and will be highlighted by the ORSA Hall of Fame induction. For more information and to register, please go to <http://www.aors.army.mil/default.html>.

FRIDAY

NOVEMBER 7 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

The 5th Annual APG Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon will be held at Ruggles Golf Course, Nov. 7. All Marines (Active, Retired, Reserve, Veteran, FMF Corpsman, DoD Civilian, DoD Contractor) who work on APG, their family and supporters are invited to attend and celebrate the 239th Marine Corps Birthday. A two entrée buffet will cost \$20 per person, and the event begins at noon. Once a Marine, Always a Marine!

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Craig Reeling at 443-477-0670 or visit www.MarylandMarines.org.

ONGOING OCTOBER

2014 HALLOWEEN PET COSTUME CONTEST

During the month of October, the APG Veterinary Clinic invites you to participate in the 2014 Halloween Pet Costume Contest. Show off your pet and your creativity! The contest is open to the entire APG community. Enter the contest by either bringing your pet, in costume, to the Veterinary Clinic to have its photo taken, or dress up your pet at home and bring a hard copy, color photo to the clinic.

Pictures will be posted on the clinic's community bulletin board for everyone to enjoy. At the end of the month,

on Oct. 31, the photos will be judged by impartial individuals. The three pets who receive the most votes will have their photos featured in the APG News.

The APG Veterinary Clinic is located at 2479 Oakington Street, APG North (Aberdeen), across from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For more information, call 410-278-4604.

OCTOBER-FEBRUARY AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS

An American Sign Language Class at APG North (Aberdeen) starting up in October will run through February 2015. Classes will be held noon to 1 p.m. at the Mallette Training Facility (MTF), Bldg. 6008, room 4. Class length is 10-15 weeks, and education credit will be given to those completing 10 sessions. The class is limited to 20 personnel.

For more information, contact Mikey Graziano at michael.e.graziano.civ@mail.mil.

2014-15 ONPOST COLLEGE SCHEDULE

The following is the schedule for college classes offered on post during the 2014 Fall and 2015 Spring semesters.

2014 FALL
University of Maryland University College Hybrid Class
Session II: Oct. 20 – Dec. 14
Central Michigan University
Nov. 5 – Dec. 10
Harford Community College
Oct. 21 – Dec. 16
2015 SPRING
University of Maryland University College
2015 Spring Registration: Nov. 12
2015 Spring
Session I: Jan. 12 - March 8
Session II: March 16 - May 10, 2015
Central Michigan University
2015 Spring Registration: Oct. 20 – Jan. 5
Spring classes: Jan. 8 – Feb. 18
Florida Institute of Technology
Spring Registration: Nov. 10
Classes Begins: Jan. 12 – May 7, 2015
For more information, contact Tressie D. Stout, education services specialist, APG Army Education Center, Bldg. 4304, 410-306-2042 or email tressie.d.stout.civ@mail.mil.

AWC INCREASING SERVICES TO APG SOUTH

Due to high interest by personnel, the Army Wellness Center will increase service at the APG South (Edgewood) Clinic, Bldg. E4110 to four days a month in October. Clients can receive metabolism and body composition assessments and other services without having to drive to APG North (Aberdeen).

Service members and their Family members, government civilians and military retirees can make an appointment through the APG North AWC, or be referred by their unit or primary health care provider at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Set dates for September and October include Sept. 24 and 25 and Oct. 7, 17, 22 and 30. For more information, or to schedule an appointment call 410-306-1024.

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.

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.

HOT WORK PERMIT

The APG Fire and Emergency Services has a new phone number to request a Hot Work Permit. A permit can be obtained by calling 410-306-0001. When is a Hot Work Permit required?

A Hot Work Permit is required before performing electric and gas welding, cutting or soldering operations requiring an open flame device, and for outdoor cooking with a grill, or similar device.

Please try to give 24 hours notice prior to the work or event. Leave a message if there is no answer. The inbox is checked throughout the day.

For more information, call 410-306-0001.

AIRBORNE HAZARDS & OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY

The Department of Veteran Affairs

encourages all Gulf War Veterans – anyone who served in the Persian Gulf area from August 1990 to present – to sign up for the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry which is established by Public Law 112-260.

The registry provides an opportunity for veterans to receive information updates and to help VA improve its understanding of deployment-related health effects. During deployment, Gulf War veterans may have been exposed to smoke from burn pits, oil-well fires, and air pollution. Veterans must complete an online health questionnaire to participate in the registry. For more information, visit www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/.

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE

Firewood is available to authorized patrons at a cost of \$20 per level standard 8-foot pickup truck bed; \$15 per level standard 6-foot pickup truck bed, and \$5 per car trunk. Checks or money orders only will be accepted for payment. Permits to buy wood are good for ten days, or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Permits will be issued on a first come, first-served basis 8 to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday at Bldg. E4630 in APG South (Edgewood). For more information, contact Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789 or Scott English at 410-436-9804.

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>

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION

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

REPORT POWER OUTAGES TO CORVIAS MILITARY LIVING

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

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

APG: 1-866-958-5412
Patriot Village: 1-866-871-6257
NH Office: 410-305-1076

KEYSTONE CLUB

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

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.appg.army.mil/calendar.

CECOM civilian returns from deployment

By **ALISON CHEUNG**
CECOM

After nine months away from home, Shanea Copeland of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) returns from Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to life back at APG. She returns to CECOM with a stronger sense of motivation, patriotism and mission understanding than before her deployment.

Copeland was chosen for a temporary duty assignment as the Department of the Army civilian to support the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) in the S2, Security and Intelligence Office, in Camp Arifjan.

"I excitedly accepted the position back in October 2013 with the goal to serve my country, support the service members and experience what goes on in a theater of operation," she said.

Kuwait was Copeland's first-choice location due to the low level of perceived danger compared to other areas in the region while still supporting the service members and the U.S. in its mission.

After arriving in Camp Arifjan, Copeland tackled the challenge of adjusting to a completely different life and work style. At APG, Copeland was a CECOM program support assistant and in Camp Arifjan, she was assigned as the assistant security manager.

During her new role as the assistant security manager she witnessed "CECOM's logistics assistance representative and areas of quality assur-



U.S. Army Photo
Shanea Copeland, CECOM program support assistant, received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Global War on Terrorism Medal by former 402nd Army Field Support Brigade Commander, Col. James D. Kinkade during her deployment to Kuwait.

ance impact to the warfighter and Army in both the area of equipment, training and software applications," Copeland explained. She worked closely with

three battalions in monthly meetings, training, and liaison with other organizations such as the Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Illinois, and

other entities for daily customer support to the military, civilians, contractors and third country nationals to promote security.

She also ensured that all personnel in the 402nd AFSB were cleared through the S2 office, receiving proper security briefings, access badges, debriefs, report threats, foreign travel briefs, intelligence updates and more.

Copeland emphasized that, "a security clearance is paramount to U.S. protection. I, you, we, must be a reliable, trustworthy, loyal person to the U.S. to be an asset to it and its operations anywhere in the world."

The experience taught Copeland to never second-guess any potential security threats and recommends for everyone to report a possible security threat to his or her security office, she said.

After months of hard work, Copeland's devotion earned her the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Global War on Terrorism Medal signed by the brigade commander, and an appreciation award from the S2 office.

She recommends every Department of Defense civilian and contractor to deploy, if possible and advises all to, "respect and experience the culture while being mindful of operational and personal security."

Even though this assignment contained long work hours, extreme heat, different culture and different living habits, Copeland praises that this experience was very rewarding and looks forward to future opportunities to serve her country.

Army bolsters nanomaterials research with Singapore

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**
RDECOM Public Affairs

U.S. Army and Singaporean scientists are advancing the future of nanomaterials through an exchange program between the countries.

Dr. Govind Mallick, a U.S. Army research chemist, recently completed a two-year assignment that focused on developing cutting-edge materials with graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and professors in Singapore.

"I wanted to see how other scientists throughout the world are working and how their research is developed. You learn more through a diverse background. Singapore was a good match for my work in nanomaterials and nanotechnology," said Mallick, whose home organization is the Army Research Laboratory's Weapons and Materials Research Directorate at APG.

Through the Army's Engineer and Scientist Exchange Program, referred to as ESEP, Mallick worked in the Temasek Lab and the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Nanyang Technological University, from August 2012 to August 2014.

Singapore is among the world's leaders in nanomaterials research, despite a population of only 5.4 million people, so the assignment was a perfect fit, he said.

Mallick and his Singaporean colleagues published three technical journal papers on their research, specifically regarding two-dimensional hexagonal boron nitride. He also linked the two organizations in a collaborative research effort to jointly publish a paper.

"These materials are critical to Army-related missions as they are high strength, lightweight, flexible, multifunctional, and have high thermal stability and conduction and improved electronic proper-

ties," Mallick said.

Materials such as boron nitride could be used in the defense and commercial sectors for many applications, including protective coatings, he said. One possibility for the material is to coat combat vehicle parts because it can sustain temperatures of up to 1,000 degrees Celsius.

Scientists have been able to produce only microscopic amounts -- six microns in diameter -- of boron nitride. The next step is to produce the material in greater volume to continue the research progress.

Now back in the United States, Mallick is working to build formal collaborations between Singapore and Army Research Laboratory, one of the seven centers and laboratories that make up the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"I would strongly recommend ESEP to young scientists. It exposes you to collaboration and helps develop your skills," he said.

Mid-career level Army engineers and scientists in Career Program 16 can apply through ESEP to work with an American ally for a year, with the possibility of an extension. Applicants may arrange for an assignment from one of 16 countries, including the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, Australia, Canada, Singapore and Chile.

Participants should be in General Schedule pay grades 12 through 14 (or acquisition demo equivalent) at the time of deployment, hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree and have at least four years of technical experience in industry or military/government.

Yuriy Posherstnik, a member of RDECOM's Global Technology Integration team, works with interested ESEP



Photo by Conrad Johnson
Dr. Govind Mallick, a research chemist with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, adjusts the parameters to position the sample in the ultra high vacuum-scanning probe microscopy system at APG Sept. 15.

applicants and coordinates the packages before submitting them to the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation.

In selecting participants, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation considers how an ESEP placement in a particular country will have in strengthening trust as well as the strategic impact of the assignment to the U.S. science and technology community's mission to address the Army's enduring challenges.

Posherstnik said ESEP election is based upon the following criteria: technology area, host country of interest, candidate profile, merits of assignment/position description, quality of appli-

cation, foreign language capability (as applicable) and command endorsement.

The exchanges promote International Cooperative Research, Development and Acquisition activity between the participating countries by providing a basis for further cooperation and cementing the U.S. Army's relationship with its foreign partners, Posherstnik said.

RDECOM is currently accepting applications for ESEP Group 11, Posherstnik said. Packages are due to the RDECOM Global Technology Integration team, in December 2014, with deployments beginning in October 2015.

For more information on ESEP, visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/eseep>. For additional questions, contact Posherstnik at (410) 306-4832.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Conjecture

Pronounced: kuhn - JEK- cher

Part of Speech: noun, verb

Definition:

1. (Noun) an opinion or idea formed without proof or sufficient evidence
 - a. interpretation of omens
 - b. supposition
2. (Verb) to form an opinion or idea without proof or sufficient evidence
 - a. to arrive at or deduce by surmise or guesswork

Use:

- Your argument is being ignored because it is nothing but conjecture.
- The jury rejected the attorney's conjecture about the defendant's motive due to lack of evidence.
- Conjectures about the newcomer were many and varied.
- Some have conjectured that the distant planet could sustain life.
- We only conjecture about his motives.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source: <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

GMDSS

Global Maritime Distress and Safety System

The GMDSS is an internationally agreed-upon set of safety procedures, equipment and communication protocol to increase safety and make it easier to rescue distressed ships, boats and aircraft.

Consisting of several systems, GMDSS is designed to locate units in distress; coordinate search and rescue operations; broadcast maritime safety information; and conduct general and bridge-to-bridge communications.

The International Maritime Organization, a United Nations agency specializing in safety of shipping and preventing ships from polluting the seas, called for development of GMDSS in 1979 to provide the communication support needed to implement search and rescue plans. The system is based upon a combination of satellite and terrestrial radio services, and has changed international distress communications from being primarily ship-to-ship based to ship-to-shore based.

Source: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=GMDSS>



Net Zero program to reduce water usage, costs

Continued from Page 1

This funding mechanism allows federal agencies to obtain energy-efficient technologies without up-front capital costs. Based on the contractual agreement, the installation will pay a portion of its annual energy cost savings to Johnson Controls for the duration of the contract.

Rust estimates that this project will save the installation close to \$400,000 per year in water costs. By the end of the 23-year contract, it is estimated that \$64 million dollars of energy and water will be saved.

"This is a win-win solution," said John Wrobel, acting chief of DPW's Natural Resources Branch, during the ceremony.

Wrobel said the vision behind this project began in the mid-1980s when the state of Maryland condemned the Canal Creek Aquifer, stating that it was too contaminated to drink.

"That set the wheels in motion to develop a vision on how we can restore this aquifer so that we can reuse the water," he said.

In 1998, Wrobel's team came up with a plan for the beneficial reuse of treated groundwater. After multiple studies, a Record of Decision agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was reached in 2000. In 2004, the facility was repurposed to a GWTF. Currently, the treated water is discharged to Canal Creek.

"The (beneficial reuse) project was reinvigorated when APG was selected by the Army in 2011 to be a Net Zero Water installation," he said.

Wrobel explained that a Net Zero Water installation means returning to the environment as much water as is taken out of the environment and using less water in the first place. The goal of



APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton listens as DPW Natural Resources Branch Acting Chief John Wrobel talks about how the Canal Creek Aquifer Groundwater Treatment Facility operates during a brief tour of the building.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

the Net Zero program is to reduce the Army's water consumption by 26 percent by 2015 and 52 percent by 2020.

During the ceremony Canal Creek Treatment Plant Project Manager Jeff Aichroth, from DPW, thanked Will Patillo, Bill Smith and Kenny Sigwart, DOD

contractors from Watermark, who keep the facility running. The GWTF process 130 gallons of water per minute, and operates 24/7.

"They are passionate about what they do and the facility's success is solely a reflection of their efforts," Aichroth said.

APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton also thanked everyone involved, noting that the project will save tax payer dollars.

"You are forward thinkers," McClinton said. "It is good to see a vision come to fruition."

Fire department to host open house Oct. 9

Continued from Page 1

ment open house at both the Aberdeen Main Station and the Edgewood Fire Station on Thursday, Oct. 9.

Here is a breakdown of events during APG Fire Prevention Week:

Sunday, Oct. 5:

Firefighters will canvas APG North and APG South housing areas to distribute fire safety information and goodie bags from 12-2 p.m. and

5-7 p.m. Firefighters will be joined by Sparky the fire dog and "BIG" Firefighter Johnny.

Monday, Oct. 6:

Sparky the fire dog and "BIG" Firefighter Johnny will welcome APG personnel at the Rt. 715 gate and the Rt. 24 Gate as they arrive to work Monday morning.

APG Fire & Emergency Services will be at the Exchange from 10 a.m. to

2 p.m. handing out fire safety material and popcorn.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct fire extinguisher training at Bldg. 2200 (Aberdeen Main Station) from 1-3 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 7:

APG Fire & Emergency Services will be at the Commissary from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. handing out fire safety material and popcorn.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct fire extinguisher training at Bldg. 2200 (Aberdeen Main Station) from 1-3 p.m.

Firefighters will read to children about fire safety related topics at both the APG North and APG South Child Youth Services centers from 9-11 a.m.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct Fire Marshall Training in the conference room at Bldg. E4810 at APG South from 1-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8:

APG Fire & Emergency Services will be at the APG North Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. handing out fire safety material and popcorn.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct fire extinguisher training at Bldg. 2200 (Aberdeen Main Station) from 1-3 p.m.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct Fire Marshall Training in the conference room of Bldg. 5014 at APG North from 1-4 p.m.

Firefighters will distribute fire safety goodie bags from 5-7 p.m. in the APG North and APG South housing areas. Firefighters will be joined by Sparky the fire dog and "BIG" Firefighter Johnny.

Thursday, Oct. 9:

APG Fire & Emergency Services will host a fire station open house at

the APG North Aberdeen Main Station, Bldg. 2200, and the Edgewood Fire Station, Bldg. E5180 from 9-11 a.m.

Open house scheduled activities will include:

- Helicopter Display
- Youth Combat Challenge
- Dunk Tank
- Fire Prevention Trailer
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Prints and Princess (AA only)
- Hot Dogs
- Sprinkler System Demo (AA only)
- Propane Car Fire Demo (tentative, AA only)
- Propane Helicopter Fire Demo (tentative, AA only)
- Safety Office Information Table
- Auto Extrication Demo
- Apparatus Displays

Friday, Oct. 10:

APG Fire & Emergency Services will be at the Exchange Express (Shoppette) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. handing out fire safety material and popcorn.

Fire prevention personnel will conduct fire extinguisher training at Bldg. 2200 (Aberdeen Main Station) from 1-3 p.m.

In addition to these events, fire drills will be held at buildings across APG to practice safe evacuation and accountability procedures. Paramedics will also provide first aid and CPR training for specific APG tenants throughout the week.

For updates throughout Fire Prevention Week, visit the APG Facebook page at www.facebook.com/APGmd. Tune in to Channel 97 for fire safety educational videos.

For more information about APG Fire Prevention Week activities, call Fire Inspector Bill Bond at 410-306-0093. For fire safety tips, visit www.nfpa.org.

Did You Know?

Capt. Humbert Roque Versace was the first Soldier to be awarded the Medal of Honor for actions performed while in captivity as a POW.

Capt. Humbert Roque "Rocky" Versace was a U.S. Army officer of Puerto Rican-Italian descent who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions while a Prisoner of War (POW) during the Vietnam War.

Versace was the first Soldier to be awarded the Medal of Honor for actions performed while in captivity.

Versace was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1937, but grew up in Alexandria, Virginia. He entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after high school.

As an intelligence officer, he began his first tour of duty in Vietnam in May 1962. In May 1963, he volunteered for a six month extension. Less than two weeks before the tour ended, on Oct. 29, 1963, Versace and several companies of South Vietnamese Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) troops were ambushed in the U Minh Forest when a Viet Cong Main Force battalion overran the unit. Badly wounded, Versace still was able to provide enough covering fire for the CIDG forces to safely withdraw.

Versace was captured and taken to a prison camp deep in the jungle. Over the next two years, he tried to escape three times, but failed on each attempt.

Versace resisted indoctrination and took command of his fellow POWs, inspiring them to resist as long as they were able and arguing for their wellbeing with his captors. He was eventually separated from the group but still could be heard singing popular songs. His fellow captives said the last time they heard his voice from the isolation box he was singing "God Bless America" at the top of his lungs.

On Sept. 26, 1965, North Vietnam's "Liberation Radio" announced the execution of Capt. Humbert Versace.

Nominations to award Versace the Medal of Honor were initiated in 1969. The nomination failed and he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

Efforts in his name continued over the years and on July 8, 2002, Capt. Humbert Roque "Rocky" Versace was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by President George W. Bush. The next day, Versace was inducted into the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon.

Versace's remains have never been recovered. His headstone at Arlington National Cemetery stands above an empty grave and is located in section MG-108.

In 2003, he was inducted into the Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, and his name is engraved in on the Monument of Remembrance dedicated in front of the Capitol Building in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



Yvonne Johnson, APG News
Source: <http://www.history.army.mil/moh/>; www.defense.gov.

Changes to federal flex spending

The Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS) is implementing two significant changes effective in 2015.

(1) Health care and limited expense flexible spending accounts (FSAs) will no longer have a grace period. Instead, qualifying participants will be able to carry over up to \$500 of unused funds to the next plan year. Dependent care FSAs will still have a grace period and will not have carryover to the next plan year.

(2) The minimum annual election for all three types of FSAs will be reduced from \$250 to \$100.

Employees with questions about these changes should contact ADP, the third party administrator for FSAFEDS at 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337) or FSAFEDS@adp.com.

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/>.



Courtesy photo

EMERGING LEADERSHIP COHORT ESTABLISHED AT APG

On Sept. 8, Gary P. Martin, Deputy to the CECOM Commanding General, endorsed the newly established Emerging Leadership Cohort (ELC) by signing its Charter and Strategic Plan. The ELC was formed to foster an environment of collaboration, knowledge and encouragement by providing personnel who have completed the APG Emerging Leaders Program with resources to further career development.

The ELC intends to cultivate the skills learned in the program by providing its members with networking opportunities, training resources, and a mentorship program with senior leaders, including members of the Senior Management Association. In addition to these facets, members will support the APG community by participating in events to include Town Halls, Change of Charters and local volunteer efforts.

Pictured (left to right, standing) are board members Lauren Johnsky, ELC chair, PEO IEW&S; Janet Penaherrera, ELC mentor, CECOM; Rita Savage, ELC secretary, CECOM LRC; Genevieve Brimat, ELC vice chair, CSLA; Sandy Curley, ELC events coordinator, CECOM; and Alex O'Ree, ELC information technology coordinator, CERDEC, Information Technology Coordinator. Seated is Gary P. Martin, SES, Deputy to the CECOM Commanding General, who signed the ELC charter and strategic plan. ELC board members not pictured are ELC secretary Jamie Plakosh and ELC training coordinator Traci Flemons, ATEC.



ASAP HOSTS RX/OTC TAKE-BACK CAMPAIGN

The APG Army Substance Abuse Program hosted a prescription (RX) drug and over-the-counter (OTC) medicine take-back campaign Sept. 22-26 at locations across APG. The campaign helps ensure a drug-free workplace by encouraging personnel to drop off their expired, unused and unwanted RX and OTC medications to designated drop-off sites.

(From left) Robin Stokes, employee assistance coordinator, Larry Maines, DES police officer, and DeQuinne Guary, shipment and ordering receiver at the APG South (Edgewood) Shopette, count returned prescription bottles at an RX/OTC Take-Back station at the APG South shopette Sept. 25.

Photo by Stacy Smith

RELIGIOUS SUPPORT OFFICE RECEIVES DONATION TO BENEFIT SOLDIERS IN NEED

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association presented a \$250 check to Lt. Col. Jerry Owens, command chaplain, to benefit Operation Helping Hand at the APG Main Post Chapel Sept. 29. Through this program, the APG Religious Support Office will provide financial assistance to Soldiers, E4 and below, with children on Thanksgiving.

(Front row, from left) Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jesse Fields, Aberdeen-Edgewood Warrant Officers Association chapter secretary; Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4, Rebecca Isaac, Aberdeen-Edgewood Warrant Officers Association chapter president; Lt. Col. Jerry Owens, command chaplain; and Mark Edwards, director of religious education. (Back row, from left) Chaplain Maj. James Collins, Joyce Woods, administrator to the command chaplain and Chaplain Maj. Mark Rendon.

Photo by Stacy Smith



'LITTLE MAN' IS READY FOR THE PLAYOFFS

APG's most mysterious resident, "Little Man," is ready for the baseball play-off season! Sporting a bat, t-shirt, baseball cap and pennant, he is showing off his Baltimore Orioles pride. The Orioles, Maryland's only Major League Baseball team, enter post-season play this week with a division title for the first time since 1997.

Photo by Molly Blossie