



APG NEWS

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

www.TeamAPG.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015

Vol. 59, No. 15

Owolabi shares SHARP vision

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Theresa Owolabi hopes to use Sexual Assault Awareness Month as a springboard to keep awareness and prevention issues in the forefront year-round.

As the APG Garrison Sexual Assault Response coordinator, Owolabi is tasked as a resource for active-duty Soldiers. She said that in 2015, however, she hopes to change the civilian SHARP Refresher Training to engage in more conversations with the civilian population.

"One of my goals for the program is to have a sit-down with directors to explain that SHARP (Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention) should be a part of the in-processing for personnel who are new to the organization," Owolabi said.

"This is an important way to ensure that everyone is aware of policies and resources. And this information should trickle down from directors to supervisors to personnel."

Owolabi pointed out that the SHARP Resource

See **OWOLABI** page 18



U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno enjoys a light moment with APG Soldiers while receiving a briefing on tactical radio efforts during an April 7 tour of organizations and modernization efforts at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Cortez

Odierno visits APG labs CSA stresses modernization for expeditionary forces

By **CLAIRE HEININGER**
PEO C3T

From watching a helmet withstand a dead-on shot from a 9 mm round, to listening to cross-country satellite calls made through a platoon-level digital radio, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno observed several of the Army's signature modernization efforts and encouraged Soldiers and

civilians to "keep driving forward" during a visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground April 7.

Odierno visited the Army's hub for equipment testing and tactical network development to view test capabilities and receive updates on emerging communications technologies that will enable agile and expeditionary operations.

"We have to get to an expeditionary

mindset - that will make a huge difference," Odierno said. "We can't get complacent."

Complacency was a far cry from what he saw at APG. During a tour of the Army Test and Evaluation Command's Aberdeen Test Center, experts demonstrated state-of-the-art, data-driven testing techniques for weap-

See **CSA**, page 18

inside

FITNESS

Army Contracting Command - APG Soldier wins gold in track & field competition.

ACC-APG | 5

T&E

ATEC hosts the first DA Test Munitions Workshop at APG.

ATEC | 7

INTRAMURALS

The Edgewood Billy Goats win intramural basketball post championship.

Edgewood | 11

PTSD

Army G-1 says PTSD vets can request discharge upgrades.

Veterans | 16

online

www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

facebook.com/APGMd

twitter.com/USAGAPG

flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

ICE system
http://ice.disa.mil/
Facebook, http://on.fb.me/HzQlow

Soldiers fire foreign weapons

Story and photos by **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Approximately 150 members of the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion (Technical Intelligence) completed foreign small-arms weapon systems familiarization at Mulberry Point Range in APG North (Aberdeen) April 11-12.

Capt. Ryan O'Planick, Company C commander, said learning how foreign weapons operate is essential to the mission.

"As a technical intelligence battalion we need to be familiar with the weapons that we're going out and looking at, so firing them is the best way to learn," O'Planick said. "A lot of these Soldiers haven't seen these weapons before, so [they're] just getting familiar with them."

According to the Army's website, the goal of weapons familiarization training is "to provide timely, relevant, accurate, predictive and tailored sup-



1st Sgt. Eric Campbell of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion (Technical Intelligence) listens to a briefing by instructor Sgt. Marc Page before firing a Soviet RPK automatic machine gun during small-arms foreign weapons familiarization for TECHINT Soldiers at the Aberdeen Test Center Mulberry Point Range April 11.

See **SOLDIERS**, page 17

APG youth named Child of the Year

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

An Aberdeen Proving Ground youth has been named U.S. Military Child of the Year by Operation Homefront, a nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance for U.S. military troops, wounded service members and their families.

Thirteen-year-old Cavan McIntyre-Brewer is one of six award recipients, one from each military service and the National Guard, selected from nearly 500 nominees chosen by a committee of active-duty and retired military personnel, military spouses, veteran organization leaders, teachers and community members.

McIntyre-Brewer is the son of Capt. Steven Brewer, medical detachment commander at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. He also is

See **MILITARY**, page 17



Korean War veteran Wade Holder shakes hands with APG youth Cavan McIntyre-Brewer who has been named Army Military Child of the Year by Operation Homefront. McIntyre-Brewer is the founder of Socks for Vets, a program that collects socks and other donated items for Veterans and Wounded Warriors.

Courtesy photo

index

Mark Your Calendar | 6
Crossword | 16

All Things Maryland | 9
At Your Service | 7

MWR Events | 10
Did You Know? | 18

APG History | 13
Snapshot | 19

STREET TALK

April is Month of the Military Child. Throughout the month, APG News will query military children with special questions for undoubtedly insightful responses that can only be delivered from the minds of youth.

April 22 is Earth Day. What can you do to help the planet?

I recycle water bottles or anything else that is plastic.



Alijah Adams
Age 9

Recycle plastic bottles, glass, cardboard and paper. Recycling is important so we can have a clean Earth. Don't litter.



A.J. Chase
Age 14

It's important to clean up trash for the animals. Plastic trash on the ground can be a choking hazard for animals.



Shalia Coleman
Age 9

I recycle and pick up trash outside when I see it.



Briana Long
Age 10

At our house we have a special bin for recycling. I try to avoid using materials that aren't recyclable. When I have softball games I carpool with my friends.



Jada Maftzinger
Age 13

OPINION



Earth Day celebrates 45 years

Earth Day celebrates its middle age this year. Initially, spear headed by Wisconsin Senator Gayland Nelson on April 22, 1970, Earth Day served to promote a nation-wide awareness of environmental stewardship and protection. Since that time, and not only on Earth Day but throughout the year, APG has taken an active role in balancing environmental stewardship and protection with its military mission.

In 1978, APG undertook an evaluation of the past practices in handling and disposing of chemicals and ordnance, producing a compilation of areas that required study and possibly environmental remediation and clean-up. After several years of investigations and studies, landfills have been capped, more than a billion gallons of contaminated groundwater has been treated and there has been an overall steady improvement and reduction of risks associated with past disposal practices.

The Secretary of Defense recognized the hard work in 2013 by honoring APG with the best environmental remediation program in the Department of Defense. Similarly, APG has been taking active roles in meeting the requirements for hazardous waste management.

In the late 1980s, APG was challenged with hazardous waste practices that were not being managed properly or in accordance with environmental statutes. Again, through hard work and dedication, practices were improved, systems and procedures were put in place and facilities were brought up to safety and environmental requirements to meet environmental statutes.

Additionally, APG partnered with the City of Aberdeen to renovate the aging wastewater plant in the APG North (Aberdeen) area, to meet current discharge requirements, thereby reducing the concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus from entering the Chesapeake Bay to improve the environmental health of the bay. The APG Garrison's Directorate of Public Works and the Army Corps of Engineers are undertaking similar efforts in APG South (Edgewood) area, where construction and renovations have been on-going over the last several years to upgrade that wastewater treatment plant.

Through the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and Environmental Management System (EMS) processes, along

with the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determinations, efforts are on-going to ensure military actions taken at APG meet all federal and state environmental requirements. Since the 1980s, quarterly briefings have been provided to senior leaders through the Environmental Quality Control Committee (EQCC) to keep leadership apprised of the environmental health and compliance posture of the installation.

APG now has a 50 year forest management plan. The plan provides a blueprint for developing, sustaining and maintaining the mission landscape for not only the current generation of Army testers and Soldiers, but to ensure a forested landscape for their grandchildren. From less than 3,000 acres in the 1930s, the forestry program, through several generations of installation foresters, has increased the beneficial forests to more than 15,000 acres while simultaneously supporting mission testing requirements.

APG missions and the eagle population coincide through adaptive management. From a population of just two bald eagles in the 1970s, APG, now has one of the largest reservoirs of bald eagles in the continental United States and the Chesapeake Bay area. Thanks to the hard work of many wildlife biologists – in particular, recently retired biologists Jim Pottie and John Paul – the eagle population has reached thriving and sustainable populations.

Current challenges being embarked and embraced this Earth Day 45, include developing coastal zone resiliency programs created by sea level rise caused by climate change, as well as meeting new requirements for storm water management. These efforts pose a challenge due in part to their complexities and to the resource challenges DOD currently faces. However, the situation is not very different from what has been faced in the past.

I am quite convinced having witnessed the nadirs and high points in my more than 30-year career as an environmental professional at APG, that challenges will be faced and overcome and the viability of APG to serve both the nation's military mission and our Soldiers, while preserving and enhancing the environmental health of the Chesapeake Bay area, will be ensured.

Happy Earth Day 45!

JOHN WROBEL
Chief, DPW Natural Resource Branch

Cars are not couches on wheels—yet

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Recently, I was staring out of the passenger window of a friend's car as we drove down a busy, four-lane highway one Saturday morning. With nothing but bare trees and brush to look at, I eyeballed the driver of each car we passed along the way, hoping to catch a glimpse of unfiltered humanity- a couple in a heated dispute, or maybe a young person unabashedly singing along to their favorite pop tune.



Smith

But instead of seeing the sides of faces, I was surprised to find a number of heads with eyes downcast as their cars barreled down the road at upwards of 70 miles per hour. Either everyone I passed was having trouble with their gas pedals, or these folks were all staring at their mobile devices as they played Russian roulette with their lives and the lives of others.

I wondered, 'What message is so important that it can't wait for a safer time to be sent?' Have we grown that impatient?

Consider this: The Pony Express took ten days to deliver mail between Missouri and California.

It took Paul Revere two hours to reach Lexington and warn Adams and Hancock that the British were invading.

Even the R.M.S. Titanic had to wait five minutes for a response after sending the distress call, CQD, to the R.M.S. Carpathia.

If replies occurred a considerable amount of time after some of the most significantly historical messages ever sent, then why can't drivers wait to reply to messages that aren't near-

ly as important? Although we have endless social media options – text messaging, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram – we shouldn't feel compelled to use them at dangerous times, like driving.

Today's innovators realize we humans are prone to poor judgment when it comes to safety. To err, in fact, is to be human. That may be one reason Google is developing an electric, self-driving car that could one day eliminate driver error altogether. With no steering wheel or pedals, driving will become a passive experience, perhaps akin to traveling in a car that feels more like a couch on wheels. In addition to a better user experience, self-driving cars could save thousands of lives.

Until then though, exercising self-control while driving should remain a non-negotiable must. By the way, it's also Maryland state law. Texting while driving is prohibited, and fines for violating phone laws range from \$40 to \$100.

A 2014 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety study looking at trips made by 105 drivers during one year found the risk of a crash or near crash was 17 percent higher when the driver was interacting with a cellphone. In short, texting diverts a driver's mental and physical attention away from the road.

When I feel the urge to text while driving I instead put my phone on mute and turn on the radio. Placing it inside my glove compartment or purse also removes the temptation to test fate. Folks who can't resist texting should pull over and park first. Otherwise, their next text might as well read: "Hey, how r u? gtg @ 2 die!" which is 'textspeak' for "Hey, how you are? Got to go about to die!"

Who wants that epitaph?

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMAP-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 5,200.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by The Baltimore Sun Media Group, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising and mailing. To obtain a yearly subscription, which costs \$16, the price for weekly mailing, or for problems with incorrect mailing addresses, contact Customer Service at 139 N. Main Street, Suite 203, Bel Air, MD 21014, or call 410-838-0611. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or The Baltimore Sun Media Group of the products or services advertised. For advertising matters, call The Baltimore Sun Media Group, 410-332-6300. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, IMAP-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; send a fax to 410-278-2570; contact the Editor Amanda Rominiecki at amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil, contact Assistant Editor Yvonne Johnson, 410-278-1148

or email yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil, or contact Reporter Rachel Ponder, 410-278-1149 or email rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil.

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

Staff

APG Senior Commander ..Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford
 APG Garrison Commander .. Col. Gregory R. McClinton
 Public Affairs Officer Kelly Luster
 Editor Amanda Rominiecki
 Assistant Editor..... Yvonne Johnson
 Contract Photojournalists..... Rachel Ponder
 Stacy Smith
 Graphic Designer/Photographer Molly Blossie
 Website www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

Combat vets mold future CBRNE leaders

By **WALTER T. HAM IV**
20th CBRNE Command

Soldiers patrolled the foggy tree line, paying attention to every detail, every movement and every sound. They stayed alert, knowing that the enemy or strategically-placed booby traps could be anywhere in the damp, hilly forest.

Taking on a determined foe on his own terrain is hard enough, but these Soldiers also had the unique and dangerous mission of combating chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) threats.

During this mission, the enemy was the training cadre from the 20th CBRNE Command and the Soldiers were students in the first ever CBRNE Leaders Course.

Soldiers from the 20th CBRNE Command, the U.S. Army's only formation that combats global CBRNE threats, took on mock enemy forces and CBRNE threats during the inaugural course held March 24 through April 2.

U.S. Army Chemical Corps troops, nuclear specialists and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Soldiers from across the country converged on the Maryland National Guard Gunpowder Range to master their life-saving and mission-enabling skills.

Master Sgt. John Stricklett, the 20th CBRNE Command G-37 training non-commissioned officer in charge at the unit's headquarters on Aberdeen Proving Ground, said the inaugural course was the result of three months of planning.

"An institutional course of this magnitude would typically take 12 to 18 months to plan and execute," said Stricklett, who coordinated the first iteration of the course. "We were able to execute this in a much shorter timeframe."

Stricklett said the course included training to better enable CBRNE units to fully integrate with maneuver units.

"The training events were selected based on lessons from [Combat Training Center] rotations, as well as the 20th CBRNE Command's mission," said Stricklett, an Army EOD technician who deployed to Iraq six times.

The 20th CBRNE Command's senior enlisted leader, Command Sgt. Maj. Harold E. Dunn IV, said the course was designed to develop the leaders who most directly influence Soldiers on the battlefield.

"These leaders were chosen due to

their high level of motivation, proven tactical and technical competence and immeasurable desire to become better leaders in ensuring the accomplishment of the mission and welfare of their Soldiers," Dunn said.

He added that the course was taught by a training cadre with decades of combined combat experience, including EOD technicians, Chemical Corps troops, Army Rangers and nuclear specialists.

In addition to classroom training, the students completed a physical readiness test and obstacle course while wearing chemical suits and gas masks. A two-mile run and six-mile forced march, as well as day and night land navigation and rappelling, were also part of the curriculum.

The course wrapped up with three days of continuous training missions in which Soldiers responded to a wide variety of challenging scenarios.

Dunn said the course pushed the students to their limit and forced them to work together as a team.

"The focus of this course is to build expeditionary-minded CBRNE leaders who can shoot, move, communicate, operate, integrate and sustain CBRNE operations," Dunn said. "This course is designed to expose EOD and CBRN leaders to the common mission space and core competencies they share."

Dunn said the command plans to conduct the CBRNE Leaders Course quarterly and will eventually offer it to Soldiers in all occupational specialties, as well as joint and allied troops.

He called the inaugural training course demanding and effective.

"Our young leaders are better and know how hard and fast they can go if required to accomplish their assigned missions," Dunn said.

Noting that the Soldiers excelled during the inaugural course, 20th CBRNE Commander, Brig. Gen. JB Burton, said his one-of-a-kind command relies on trained and ready CBRNE teams to accomplish its high-stakes mission.

"This course was designed to build CBRNE teams that can move with authority in and out of contact, can operate with confidence within an operational environment complicated by CBRNE hazards and can rapidly and effectively integrate with other forces to deliver the expertise that only CBRNE warriors can deliver," Burton said.



Courtesy photo
A Soldier from the 20th CBRNE Command runs the obstacle course in a chemical suit and gas mask during the inaugural CBRNE Leaders Course at Gunpowder Range, Maryland, March 24.

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.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Adair, Jennifer | Johnson, Douglas W. | Thurman, Terry L. |
| Alba, Audrey | Jones, Desiree | Trulli, Wayne R. |
| Bailey, Vicki E. | Leonguerrero, Louise | Webb, Monica C. |
| Beach, Sarah Lynn | Mason, Jeremy L. | Zarrillo, Rebecca Lee |
| Benysek, Lee | McCauley, Adrienne | |
| Budzinski, David | Morrow, Patricia D. | |
| Calahan, Jane E. | Mughal, Mohamed R. | |
| Clark, Lyra | Palm, Natalie | |
| Decker, Kathleen M. | Pettway, Mary | |
| Dissek, Michael J. | Robinson, Jennifer | |
| Donlon, Jacqueline | Saenz, Diana | |
| Gaddis, Lonnie | Sauer, Dawn | |
| Gilley, Christopher M | Solomon, Je'Neane | |

ATEC experts awarded, commander talks T&E

Story and photos by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
ATEC

Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, congratulated three Aberdeen Test Center personnel during the International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) Francis Scott Key Chapter's annual awards luncheon at Top of the Bay April 1.

Lydia Mattern was awarded the Young Test and Evaluation Professional Award; Mark Hassler received the T&E Professional Award; and the General Powers Award went to Douglas Blankenbiller, in recognition of their achievements as test and evaluation professionals.

"The awards luncheon is an opportunity for us to recognize our colleagues who are doing outstanding work in test and evaluation," said Chris Susman, ITEA FSK Chapter president. She said that, each month, ITEA presents a technical presentation in which members of the T&E field brief the chapter on their work, latest developments or updates from around the T&E industry.

"Our luncheons provide opportunities for professional development and networking to further facilitate an open conversation between military, industry and academia as it relates to test and evaluation," she said.

Utley congratulated the three awardees for their achievements, stating that, although the future of T&E can be at times ambiguous given the uncertainty in the budget, T&E personnel, like the individuals honored at the luncheon, are vital to the future of the T&E mission.

ATEC engages industry, academia, program managers, test experts and affected Army commands through regular summits and methodology discussions to unite stakeholders and foster continued dialogue and increase understanding in a variety of areas, like cyber, reliability, availability, and maintainability.

Utley shared the value of collaboration within the test and evaluation arena.

"We have already made great strides to increase communications and share information," Utley said. "The exchange of information is always an invaluable undertaking, as it has proven thus far. Workforce shaping is critical for ATEC to meet future test and evaluation requirements. As the Force 2025 effort



(Left) Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, talks about the future T&E landscape during the International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) Francis Scott Key Chapter awards luncheon at Top of the Bay April 1.

(Below) Three Aberdeen Test Center award recipients pose with their International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) awards at Top of the Bay April 1. From left, Douglas Blankenbiller, General Powers award; Lydia Mattern Young, Test and Evaluation Professional award; and Mark Hassler, T&E Professional award.

matures, we are preparing our workforce to meet the needs of tomorrow."

He explained the impact declining resources may have on the modernization budget, but said ATEC must continue to plan for tomorrow.

"It is clearly evident the need for test and evaluation capabilities will remain today and tomorrow...into the future," Utley said.

"Even though we're seeing a downturn in our modernization accounts, this does not relieve us from looking at the future and understanding test and evaluation demands through the prism of the operational environment and published concepts."

He said that to posture ATEC to meet the needs of 2025 in this austere fiscal environment, the command must continue to shape a capable workforce, increase collaboration with stakeholders, leverage technologies as enablers, and become even more agile and efficient in ATEC's processes so the command is leaner and smarter to maximize resources.

ATEC's process improvement efforts and other efficiency efforts require the coordination of all stakeholders in the acquisition process to achieve 'unity of



effort' and approach the acquisition system holistically from a program's inception to retirement – throughout its life cycle, Utley added.

"To work smarter in test and evaluation, assessments should be included, where necessary, in all phases of a system's life cycle," Utley said. He said considering test and evaluation earlier

in the life cycle enables decision makers a greater understanding to help determine risk and reward tradeoffs as they consider the best approach for a particular system.

"Looking at ourselves and challenging the status quo is essential for ATEC to meet the future test and evaluation demands," Utley said.

ACC-APG Soldier, sprinter earns gold medals

By **BETSY KOZAK-HOWARD**
ACC-APG

An Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG) Soldier was named the first-place sprinter during the U.S.A. Track and Field Masters Indoor Championships held at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, North Carolina March 20-22.

Staff Sgt. Antoine Echols, a contract specialist with the 926th Contingency Contracting Battalion at Rock Island, Illinois, earned the gold medal in the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash in the 30-35 age group.

“The feeling was pretty awesome, but I must say that I was a little bit nervous seeing a different level of competition,” Echols said.

“This level was a lot different from what I’d seen at the regional meet. However, at the end of the day my number one goal was to leave with the title of being the best in the 60 and 200 meter dashes. I’m the type of person who loves to race under pressure; I think it makes me run faster. The amount of training that I had was not at the level that I’m used to, but I was very pleased with my results.”

Echols began running while he was a junior in high school after he moved to New Mexico to live with his older brother. He attended Alamogordo High School and was mentored by the school’s track coach who encouraged him to participate in the track and field program.

“In my junior year, I placed third overall in the state-level 100 and 200 meter dashes,” Echols recalled. “I wanted to continue and I knew I had a shot at winning. As a senior, I took first place in both races.”

Continuing his track career, Echols was recruited by Central Arizona College to run the 100 and 200-meter races and to be a member of the 4x100 meter relay team. After graduation, he attended Boise State University where he was named captain for the track and field team.

“While attending BSU on a track scholarship, life was very stressful,” said Echols. “I had to juggle both athletics and my studies, learning to put school first. Also, I became the single, young father of my daughter, born



(Above) Staff Sgt. Antoine Echols, a contract specialist with the 926th Contingency Contracting Battalion, (ACC-APF) sprints from the starting line during a warm-up for the 60-meter dash at the U.S.A. Track and Field Indoor Masters National Championship in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Echols won the race with a time of 6.86 seconds.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Antoine Echols, proudly sits on the gold medal platform with the medals he won during the U.S.A. Track and Field Indoor Masters Championship in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Echols captured top honors in his age group in the 60 meter and 200-meter dashes.

Photos by Betsy Kozak

in 2005.”

The hard work paid off for the sprinter. By the end of his senior year he captured first place in the 400-meter dash in the Western Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships in 2006. Just a few months after this win, Echols graduated with a bachelor’s degree in communication.

He moved on with his life by joining the Army in 2007 in the military occupational specialty of 63J, Quartermaster and Chemical Equipment Repairer. He later reclassified to a 35G, a Geospatial Intelligence Imagery Analyst.

In the Army, Echols’ running mainly consisted of physical training and some track and field coaching.

“While stationed in Germany, I began volunteering as an assistant coach with the sprinters at Wiesbaden High School for their 2012-2013 track and field season,” Echols said. “When I came into the program, the school had never won a championship meet. That year, the team won the Department of Defense Dependents School European Championship.”

In 2014, Echols’ military career took another turn and he transitioned to the contracting career field, graduating from the Mission Readiness Airman Contracting Apprentice Course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, as a contracting non-commissioned officer.

“Reclassifying as a 51C [MOS] was a great decision and I think I have many opportunities ahead of me,” explained Echols. “This career field will position me for the future and I will be able to use my contracting skills once I leave the military.”

The father of three put his running on the back burner as he managed the demands of family life and his military career. Recently, at the age of 32, he discovered that he still has what it takes to be an accomplished sprinter.

“I learned that there was program for my age category and that I could compete again,” he recalled. “I started training again and I plan to continue competing until I can’t run anymore.”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MORE ONLINE More events can be seen at www.TeamAPG.com

events&town halls

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22

SPRING TECHNOLOGY EXPO

ECBC/CIO and Federal Direct Access will host the Spring Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, Erie Street. More than 75 vendors will display the latest technology innovations.

In addition, three technology briefing presentations will include, IP VTC Solutions, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.; Office 2013 vs 2007 New Features in Outlook, 11 a.m. to noon; and Office 2013 vs. 2007 New Features in PowerPoint, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. This event is open to APG Soldiers, civilians and contractors. Briefings are free to attend. Seating is limited. Pre-register at <https://fdae-xpo.com/register.php?id=163> or sign in at the door.

For more information, contact Mary McCully of ECBC/CIO at 410-436-2625 or mary.p.mccully.civ@mail.mil or FDA toll free at 877-332-3976.

THURSDAY APRIL 23

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

Team APG will host the annual Days of Remembrance program, recalling the Holocaust, its victims and survivors, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the post theater. The guest speaker is Buchenwald concentration camp survivor Morris Rosen. Check the APG News or APG social media sites for more information or contact Sheryl Coleman at 410-278-5964 or sheryl.l.coleman.civ@mail.mil.

SATURDAY MAY 9

SAVE THE DATE - MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

The APG Military Retiree Appreciation Day observance will take place at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center with registration starting at 8 a.m.

The annual event provides a setting where retirees can meet other retirees, obtain health and wellness information, update military ID cards, and receive information about legislative updates, command information and other information relevant to retirees.

The guest speaker will be announced at a later date. Activities will include a question and answer session, booths and exhibits and a nominal-fee lunch. Check the APG News and APG social media sites in April for more information.

WEDNESDAY MAY 13

BIKE TO WORK DAY – APG NORTH

The APG community is invited to take part in the annual Bike to Work Day ride on APG North (Aberdeen). The Bike to Work Day Rally will be held 7 to 9 a.m. at the APG North recreation center, followed by a cyclist parade, giveaways, on-the-go refreshments, bike tune ups, vendors and chances to win prizes.

Take the bike ride to the next level by signing up for the Team Cycle Challenge. Commands on APG North are challenged to see who can get the most employees to commit to Bike to Work May 13. Teams must be registered by May 11.

Everyone who registers will be eligible to win a Trek Lync 3 bike. Visit www.harfordcountymd.gov/commuter for the registration forms and for more information, or contact Alan Doran at rideshare@harfordcountymd.gov or 1-800-924-8646.

WEDNESDAY MAY 22

BIKE TO WORK DAY – APG SOUTH

The APG community is invited to take part in the annual Bike to Work Day ride on APG South (Edgewood). The Bike to Work Day Rally will be held 7 to 9 a.m. at the FFCU parking lot, 5502 Hoadley Road, and will be followed by a cyclist parade, giveaways, on-the-go refreshments, bike tune ups, vendors and chances to win prizes.

Take the bike ride to the next level by signing up for the Team Cycle Challenge. Commands on APG South are challenged to see who can get the most employees to commit to Bike to Work May 22. Teams must be registered prior to the event.

Everyone who registers will be eligible to win a Trek Lync 3 bike. Visit www.harfordcountymd.gov/commuter for the registration forms and for more information, or contact Alan Doran at rideshare@harfordcountymd.gov or 1-800-924-8646. Visit www.harfordcountymd.gov/commuter for the registration forms and for more information, or contact Alan Doran at rideshare@harfordcountymd.gov or 1-800-924-8646.

meetings&conferences

FRIDAY APRIL 24

WOA QUARTERLY MEETING

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association Aberdeen-Edgewood "Silver" Chapter

will hold its quarterly meeting 3 p.m. in the Sutherland Grille at Ruggles Golf Course. A social hour in conjunction with the AUSA/AAAA golf event will follow the meeting.

For more information, contact retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jesse Fields at 410-278-9673/908-956-3368 or jesse.p.fields.ctr@mail.mil; or visit the APG WOA site at <http://www.apgwoa.org>.

THURSDAY MAY 7

WOMEN IN DEFENSE LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

The Women in Defense Mid-Atlantic Chapter will host the 3rd annual Real Women, Real Work, Real World 2015 Leadership Symposium at Water's Edge Event Center in Belcamp, Maryland from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The symposium will include an executive panel discussion, an interactive LeanIN workshop and a series of professional workshops.

This year's theme is "Building Success Through Education, Mentorship and Networks," and Lt. Gen. Michael E. Williamson, principal military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)) and director of acquisition career management, will serve as keynote speaker.

The symposium will bring together leaders and educators from the DOD, industry and academia. DAU continuous learning points (CLPs) may be applicable.

Seating is limited. To register, visit <http://conta.cc/1HXgo1s> or email rspwid@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.widmidatlanticchapter.org.

health&resiliency

APRIL 20-24

ASAP DRUG TAKE BACK CAMPAIGN

The APG Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) will host the 2015 Prescription (RX) and Over-the-Counter (OTC) Take-Back Campaign April 20-24.

During this week, expired, unused, and unwanted RX /OTC medicines can be turned in at the APG North (Aberdeen) police station, Bldg. 2200 any time from 7 a.m. Monday, April 20 through 5 p.m. Friday, April 24.

Expired, unused, and unwanted RX/OTC medicines can also be turned in at KIRK U.S. Army Health Clinic Pharmacy, Bldg. 2501, April 20-24 during normal operating hours.

One-time drop-off sites will be offered at the following locations and times:

Post theater, Bldg. 3245, 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 21

CECOM C4ISR campus, Bldg. 6008, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, April 21

APG South (Edgewood) Express (Shop-pette), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, April 22

ATEC Headquarters Bldg. 2202, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, April 23

For more information, contact Cindy Scott, ASAP prevention coordinator, at 410-278-4013, cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY APRIL 23

HOW TO AVOID, DEAL WITH AND ELIMINATE STRESS INFO SESSION

Learn to avoid, deal with and eliminate stress from your work and personal life during a stress informational session hosted by the C4ISR Wellness Committee at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A guest speaker will provide techniques for managing stress and emotional well-being. A mini interactive yoga demonstration to relax the mind, body and spirit is included.

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

"LISTENING – BUILDING A CONNECTION" SEMINAR

Members of Team APG are invited to attend a "Listening: Building a Connection" seminar hosted by the AMC Wellness Division at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center ballroom from noon to 1 p.m.

Roderick "Skip" Johnson, Suicide and Substance Abuse Program Manager, and Fitness and Resiliency Coordinator Valerie Francis will serve as guest speakers.

The seminar will discuss the difference between hearing and listening; communication barriers in the workplace; how gender impacts one's ability to listen; how to respond to someone when they share good news; and skills to help you build your connection with others.

Attendees are allowed to bring their lunch to the seminar.

ONGOING APRIL

APG TRICARE EVENTS

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has arranged for a TRICARE representative to provide information and answer questions at APG the following dates and locations:

- April 27 – APG ID Card Office – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 29 – APG ID Card Office – 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m.

A TRICARE Retirement Briefing will be held April 27 in the conference room of the APG Retirement Office from 10 to 11 a.m.

For more information, contact Kisha York, TRICARE education specialist, at kisha.a.york@healthnet.com

ONGOING APRIL – MAY

TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES

Kick the habit with help from the Harford County Health Department. Free tobacco cessation classes will be offered at the APG North (Aberdeen) main post chapel, every Wednesday, through May 20, from noon to 1 p.m.

Class size is limited. For more information, to register or to inquire about leave, contact Gale Sauer at gale.m.sauer.ctr@mail.mil or 443-861-9260.

THURSDAY MAY 7

BLOOD PRESSURE/STROKE INFO SESSION

The C4ISR Wellness Committee will host a High Blood Pressure/Stroke Info Session followed by a Zumba demonstration 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. This event is open to APG Soldiers, civilians, contractors and family members.

This event is VTC accessible. Contact the G1 POC, Tiffany Grimes for a VTC dial-in number and code.

For sign language interpreters and other disability-related accommodations, contact the CECOM EEO Office at 443-861-4355 by April 23.

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

SUNDAY MAY 24

MD CENTER FOR VETERANS EDUCATION AND TRAINING 20TH ANNUAL 5K/10K RACE

The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training, Inc., (MCVET) will host the 20th Annual 5K/10K Races starting 7:30 a.m. (5K) and 8:30 a.m. (10K) at the Baltimore War Memorial Plaza, 500 E Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

For the 5K, pre-registration is \$25; race day registration is \$30. For the 10 K, pre-registration is \$30; race day registration is \$35.

All proceeds benefits the MCVET mission to provide homeless veterans with comprehensive services to enable them to rejoin their communities as productive citizens.

To register, go to www.mcvet.org or www.charmcityrun.com.

For more information, contact MCVET race director Roseline Taylor at 410-576-9626, Ext. 253 or info@mcvet.org or www.facebook.com/MCVET.Baltimore

ONGOING

ARMY WELLNESS CENTER AT APG SOUTH CLINIC

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

- April 30
- May 15, 20, and 28
- June 11, 16, 26, and 30

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

THROUGH 2015

2015 CPR, AED CLASS SCHEDULE

The APG Directorate of Emergency Services has announced the CPR/AED class schedule for 2015. Classes are open to the entire APG community.

April 22 – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

May 20 – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

June 17 – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

July 15 – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Aug. 19 – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Sept. 16 – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Oct. 21 – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Nov. 18 – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Dec 16 – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Mike Slayman at 410-306-0566.

miscellaneous

ONGOING

PT ROUTE CHANGES

APG motorists should take note of changes to the Army Physical Training and Physical Fitness Test routes on both APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood).

The new PT routes went go into effect April 1, between the hours of 6 and 8 a.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

On APG North, Aberdeen Boulevard, starting near the old museum at Maryland Boulevard, west to Patriot Way will be closed to all vehicle traffic during PT hours, said 1st Sgt. Daniel Nelson, Headquarters, Headquarters Company.

Drivers attempting to cross Aberdeen Boulevard on Garden Drive and Rodman Road will not be permitted during that time, he added.

On APG South, the loop between Junkin, Austin and Jessup roads will be closed to vehicle traffic during PT hours. The loop between 11th Street and Sibert and Waehli roads will also be closed.

Soldiers will be running in formation on these routes. As always, motorists should be cautious when driving near or passing any pedestrian. All pedestrians are required to wear reflective belts.

THROUGH APRIL 17

2015-16 SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center is currently accepting applications for the 2015-16 SSCF program through April 10. The SSCF Program is a 10-month educational opportunity conducted under the auspices of the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, as well as Huntsville, Alabama and Warren, Michigan.

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

For complete program information and application requirements, please visit: <http://asc.army.mil>. For APG specific program information, please visit: <http://www.dau.mil/sscf/Pages/apg.aspx>

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

FRIDAY APRIL 17

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COMMENTS DEADLINE

Aberdeen Proving Ground is proposing to upgrade and construct new electrical utility infrastructure (e.g., wires, poles, switches, and transformers) within the APG North (Aberdeen) and South (Edgewood) areas.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to identify and evaluate potential adverse environmental effects associated with the construction and operations of the proposed electrical utility infrastructure modernization.

The Draft EA and FNSI are available to review at: <https://www.apg.army.mil/InstallationPolicies>. Scroll down to public notices.

Comments will be accepted until Friday, April 17 and can be addressed to:

USAGAPG, ATTN: Arnold O'Sullivan
4304 Susquehanna Avenue
3d Floor Suite B

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland
21005-5001

FRIDAY MAY 1

2015 VETERANS SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC APPLICATION DEADLINE

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is accepting applications from veterans interested in participating in the 2015 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic.

The 2015 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic will be held Sept. 13-18 at the VA San Diego Healthcare System in San Diego, California. The annual event is expected to attract veterans from all over the country who have sustained a variety of injuries ranging from traumatic brain injury and polytrauma, to spinal cord injury or loss of limb.

The National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic represents VA's continued commitment to offer adaptive sports and recreation therapy as an integral part of a successful rehabilitation program.

The deadline to apply for the 2015 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic is May 1. For more information or for an application, visit <http://www.summersportsclinic.va.gov>.

ATEC logistics hosts first test munitions workshop at APG

By **LINDSEY MONGER**
ATEC

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Logistics Directorate hosted the first Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans Test Munitions Management workshop in March.

The two-day workshop provided a venue for munitions test experts to identify the points-of-contact for test event ammunition requirements; discuss test event programming and execution; review and discuss the ammunition requirement process; and highlight potential changes to the Army Regulation 5-13 and review the U.S. Army Audit Agency's reports on ammunition requirements and munitions expenditures.

"The workshops (served as a) a forum to bring the primary representatives of the test ammunition requirements community together in order to review and discuss test ammunition requirement policy, standard operating procedure(s), and the many challenges associated with getting the required ammunition to the right test site in the necessary quantities to support a scheduled test," said Kevin Fila, ammunition test manager at Department of the Army Munitions Management Division.

Fila and Richard Senkbile, both from DA Munitions Management division, led the workshop, which Fila described as an opportunity to review ammunition processes from ammunition requirement submission to delivery of ammunition to the test site.

Senkbile provided an overview of AR 5-13, the Total Army Munitions Requirements and Prioritization Policy. Jennifer Bennett, ATEC logistics management specialist, who organized the workshop, explained that AR 5-13 names ATEC as the single point of contact and ammunition manager for all Army Research, Development, Test and Evaluation program requirements for standard munitions, includ-



The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Logistics Directorate hosted the first Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans Test Munitions Management workshop March 25 and 26.

Photos by Lindsey Monger

ing Army Material Command.

ATEC responsibilities in this mission area include:

- Conduct data calls with customers and receive out-of-cycle requirements for RDTE standard Army-managed ammunition and missiles;
- Manage standard ammunition requirements in the Total Ammunition Management Information System (TAMIS);
- Submit standard ammunition requirements to DCS, G-3/7/TR Munitions Management Officer for valida-

tion and resourcing;

- Manage all Army TEST authorizations at the ATEC command hierarchy level in the TAMIS;
- Represent the Army RDTE ammunition community at forums designed to support Army munitions requirements, programming, acquisition and management; and
- Establish a program to monitor ammunition stockpile management at ATEC facilities.

"This was the DA's first Test Munitions Management workshop and ATEC

hosted it," Bennett said. "This provided an excellent opportunity for stakeholders to address and resolve the issues that were identified in the audit reports."

"The workshop was very successful based on feedback from the test ammunition requirements community," Fila said. "The workshop was an opportunity for the primary POC's to meet each other, identify issues in the test ammunition requirement process, discuss potential solutions to those issues, and build better working relationships across the test community."

Plan ahead, take precautions to survive spring cleaning

Installation Safety Office

Spring is here and with its arrival comes the annual spring cleaning chores in our homes. While this can be a rewarding activity, it can also be a risky one. Falls, cuts, chemical burns and electrical shock are just some of the injuries which can occur.

To survive spring cleaning, follow these safety tips:

- Plan your work carefully – don't try to do everything at once.
- It's warm enough for heat injuries if working for extended periods outdoors. Be sure to drink plenty of water, use sunblock and wear a hat.
- Carefully inspect and repair lawn equipment and tools before use. Never leave hand tools such as rakes, hoes or shovels on the ground where they can be stepped on or tripped over.
- Wear protective clothing. Wear sturdy leather shoes, not tennis shoes, and safety glasses when operating mowers, edgers, trimmers, or other power tools. Wear vinyl or rubber gloves when using liquid cleaning products. Cloth or leather gloves can protect hands from minor injuries than can occur while dusting, moving furnishings, and handling debris.
- Beware of electrical hazards. Keep moisture away from electrical appliances and outlets. Don't spray cleaning products directly onto light



switches or fuse panels. Ordinary household vacuums should not be used on damp surfaces.

▪ Watch for overhead electrical hazards. Never touch a light fixture while on an aluminum ladder. When using an extension pole to clean ceilings or wash windows, stay away from lights and power lines.

▪ Slips, trips and falls are common household accidents that can occur easily when the house is in disarray during spring cleaning. Keep traffic areas clear of buckets, cords, boxes and oth-

er obstacles. Clean up spills promptly, and move carefully on damp surfaces. Look over your shoulder before stepping back. Many accidents happen as a result of tripping over objects or bumping into obstacles while backing up.

▪ Read directions before using cleaning products and keep work areas well ventilated. Many chemicals in household cleaning products can cause irritation to the respiratory system as well as burns to the eyes and skin. Never mix bleach and ammonia; this creates a deadly gas. Avoid using ammonia

cleaning products in the bathroom at the same time as cleaning products containing bleach. Another way this deadly mixture accidentally occurs is by pouring a bucket of ammonia cleaning product, into a toilet already containing a bleach product.

▪ Ladders are involved in many serious injuries. Inspect ladders for wear and damage and secure them while in use. Place the base of the ladder on a solid, even surface. Do not stand on the upper rungs of a ladder. Do not lean away from the ladder because as this can tip it over.

▪ Use sturdy scaffolding and common sense when working at heights while cleaning stairwell ceilings or second story windows. Consider hiring an expert for this kind of work.

▪ Use proper lifting techniques when moving bags of potting soil, fertilizer, mulch, decorative stone or paving blocks. Plan how to pick something up and where to set it down. Get help if necessary. Use the strength in your legs, not your back, to pick up a load. Bend your knees, and keep the load close to your body.

▪ Supervise children and pets and keep cleaning chemicals and tools out of their reach.

Follow these suggestions this spring and year-round to prevent accidents while house-cleaning



At your service

Eva Jones, Strong Beginnings Instructor

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Eva Jones is the Strong Beginnings instructor for the APG South (Edgewood) Child Development Center.

Jones teaches the Army Child, Youth and School Services pre-kindergarten program for 4- to 5-year-olds.

Besides teaching, Jones conducts parent-teacher conferences and is responsible for creating lesson plans for her classroom and for the 3- and 4-year-old classroom.

At the APG South CDC, Strong Beginnings classes are held in the morning and the afternoon is "center

time," which is less formal instruction. Jones said her goal in the afternoon is to incorporate fun, hands-on activities that relate to what the children are learning in the morning.

"Children that age learn through playing," Jones said.

Jones has served as a Strong Beginnings instructor since December 2014. Previously, she worked for more than 10 years in the Harford County Public School system. She holds a bachelor's degree from Towson University, and is certified to teach elementary education and special education. Prior to her career in education, she helped run a family-owned landscaping business.

"I love college, and I am proud that I went back to college at 48," she said. "At 52 I graduated and made the dean's list."

Jones said she initially decided to change career paths so she could work

in the same school her twin daughters attended.

"I fell in love with the field," she said, "when you see a child have an 'a-ha moment,' where you know you're getting through to them and they are making connections."

The Strong Beginnings program consists of math, science social studies, reading, writing, music, gym, Spanish and etiquette. The program lasts one school year and culminates with a graduation ceremony. Strong Beginnings is available at every Army garrison and has standard guidance and procedures.

To learn more about Strong Beginnings or other CYSS programs, call Parent Outreach Services at 410-278-7479/7571, or visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/child-youth-school-services/cyss-home>.

ATEC test, evaluation expert says Force 2025 requires early 'discovery learning'

Story and photo by
ANDRICKA THOMAS
ATEC

Dave Jimenez, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command deputy to the commanding general, briefed industry professionals about how ATEC plans to support a leaner, more capable force in 2025 during an Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association luncheon April 8 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The AFCEA Aberdeen, Maryland Chapter holds monthly luncheons for the purpose of engaging APG leadership and industry in the discussion of challenges of a technical, operational and/or logistical nature, said Mike Bowen, AFCEA Aberdeen, Maryland Chapter president.

"During these events, attendees have the opportunity to learn, interact and share with the ultimate goal of collaboration within the APG community," Bowen said. "This exchange of information is critical to ensuring industry and government representatives understand where we can best work together."

During his brief, Jimenez addressed ATEC's mission, focus areas, latest changes to the Department of Defense test and evaluation policies, and the strategic direction of ATEC as the command prepares to support the Army of 2025, an area in which he sees industry having a part.

"We're [military and industry] all part of the same team, that of our service members," Jimenez said. "When we evaluate systems we do it independently as required in law. These independent looks ensure Soldiers receive capabilities that are effective, suitable and survivable. Industry is a key partner in the test enterprise."

He told the group that ATEC test services are available earlier in the acquisition cycle and invited industry to consider using ATEC test ranges to incorporate testing in the development phases to ultimately save costs later in the life cycle process.

"Discovery learning saves lives," said Jimenez. "Why test a technology when it's almost ready for a decision. By testing earlier, the technology can be tested with the Army's system of systems to fix issues when they cost the least to fix."

The most recently published test and evaluation policies in Department of Defense Instruction 5000.02 reflect his assessment, as it calls for more frequent evaluation updates on future Army systems and earlier understanding of system performance.

"We recognize the need to provide technical expertise on T&E to industry and PMs (program managers) during the materiel development and maturation phases," Jimenez explained. "The former construct created ambiguity between the responsibilities of the operational test assessment folks and the lead for developmental testing."

Among many changes ATEC will make as a result of the updated policy: ATEC will provide early strategy reviews; approve test and evaluation master plans for developmental and operational evaluation frameworks; and deliver a continuous evaluation publication as a reporting mechanism.

"We've evolved our customer products so they provide more supporting data and meta-data, in addition to the T&E reports we currently deliver," Jimenez explained.

Looking forward to 2025, Jimenez said he sees test and evaluation activities as a risk reduction tool and he specifically named cybersecurity testing as a focus as ATEC plans to support the future force.

"Everyone is talking about cyber," he said. "With how rapid the cyber domain changes, it's imperative that we examine how best to test against cyber threats, just as we do other systems, to ensure new capabilities are reliable."

Just as ATEC is posturing for the cyber domain, Jimenez encouraged the audience to think about cyber defense



Dave Jimenez, executive test director of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, briefs members of the Armed Forces Communications-Electronics Association about the direction and challenges in the test and evaluation arena during a monthly AFCEA Luncheon at Top of the Bay at Aberdeen Proving Ground, April 8.

early as they develop technologies, and continuously test against it throughout the life-cycle with each update.

"We are informing better on a system's cyber-survivability. Cyber, specifically our tools and techniques will continue to evolve at a rapid pace and cyber lifecycle evaluation will be integral to any system the Army fields for 2025," Jimenez said.

Data gathering and analysis are the primary activities for ATEC's services, and Jimenez said he wants to provide customers with what he calls 'Big Data,' which is currently inaccessible to potentially improve test, evaluation, analysis

and recommendations for materiel procurement and business execution.

"We have a lot of information that is routinely archived with each T&E event," Jimenez explained. "If I were able to publish that data, the community could leverage that data to the greatest extent possible to provide content-based analytic and design insights, at the start of a test."

Jimenez and AFCEA leadership stressed the importance of events like the luncheon to share ideas, best practices and keep the communications-electronics community informed so they may be postured to meet the Army's needs.

More ground robots to serve alongside Soldiers

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

The dawning of a new age of Army ground robots will soon be here, said Scott Davis, program executive officer for Combat Support and Combat Service Support.

Davis spoke during a session of the National Defense Industrial Association, or NDIA, -sponsored Ground Robotics Capabilities Conference and Exhibition, in Washington, D.C. April 7.

"Established and emerging robotics programs of record will be fielded in the 2019 to 2024" timeframe, he said, before describing some of those possible programs.

The robotics include autonomous and semi-autonomous systems used to clear mines, provide surveillance, convoy supplies and acquire targets, among many other things.

While ground-based, semi-autonomous systems such as mine-clearing proliferated during the last decade of war, these systems are a hodgepodge of non-standard, non-interchangeable system parts, many of which have not yet made the transition into programs of record, he said. They were hurriedly built for the immediate need to save Soldiers' lives.

Today, these disparate systems have become a "sustainment burden" to the Army, since they are not built into a program of record, he said, and were acquired through overseas contingency operations funding.

Davis is responsible for executive management of development, systems integration, acquisition, testing, fielding, sustainment and improvement of some 350 diverse combat support and combat service support systems. It's his job - along with that of all the Soldiers doing the testing and other work - to help sort through which platforms will be used going forward and what will be riding on them.

Robotics Enhancement Program

Robotics technology is rapidly evolving, Davis said. The standard requirements and acquisition process is three to seven years. Under that schedule, odds are the system would become obsolete even before fielding or even before it reaches initial operational capability.

The Robotics Enhancement Program,



Photo by Sgt. Jennifer Pirante
A PackBot is shown ready for use in the Djibouti region, located on the Gulf of Tadjoura in the Horn of Africa.

or REP, should alleviate this concern, Davis said. The concept is similar to that of the Soldier Enhancement Program, which is not a full acquisition lifecycle program.

REP was unveiled last week, according to Lt. Col. Matt Dooley, chief, Lethality Branch, Army Capabilities Integration Center, who announced the news in an interview after Davis' session concluded.

Once small quantities of the robotics system are evaluated, they will be expedited for validation, prioritization and funding through the G-3/5/7, Davis said. REP is now funded to do this.

Twice a year, a council of colonels will meet to review battle lab test results to see if capabilities of new systems or components pan out, he said. If green lighted, they could become requirements.

Stuff Army wants

Since this NDIA event was primarily for industry reps, Davis provided the current Army posture on acquisition.

He ticked off stuff the Army covets: incremental hardware and software enhancements to existing systems/chassis; sensor and payload upgrades; modularity; open architecture in IOP, or, in- and out-processing software; standardization; miniaturization and light weight; and, intelligent behavior.

As for intelligent behavior, Davis said,

think bird dog - a small ground robot that can see, smell, hear and fetch. It would also have to be simple enough for a Soldier to use, as his cognitive focus would need to be on mission, not the tooling for that mission.

"This area is ripe for industry-government engagement," he told the reps.

He then opened the floor to questions. One industry rep said it would likely take the Army at least 30 years to develop a fully autonomous ground vehicle since off-road terrain can be very complex.

Davis agreed with the complexity of the problem, but was more optimistic, predicting that in possibly 10 years, there would be a rudimentary system that could recognize markings or patterns, especially in open terrain.

The roadmap to autonomous, he said, begins with semi-autonomous, including collision avoidance and lane keeping, and thereafter proceeds incrementally. It's just as much about getting the trust of the users - the Soldiers - as well as the confidence of the testing community.

Some program updates

Davis then very lightly touched on some of the robotics systems his people are evaluating.

The Man-Transportable Robotics System Mark II (explosives ordnance disposal) will use an existing platform,

controller and base software. Focus will be on developing a number of mission-specific payloads. The Mark II is bridging to a program of record, he said.

The Husky Mounted Detection System will have a deep detection system added to its current ground-penetrating radar, Davis said. A road-clearance integration system will also be added.

The Route Clearance and Interrogation System will be used at the squad level to transport gear and augment convoys in semi-autonomous mode, he said. It will also have digging capability and some other functions.

The Common Robotic System Individual is being designed to be carried by Soldiers. As such, he said, it has to be light, not to exceed 25 pounds. Notionally, 15 pounds will be for the platform itself, five for the controller and five for the payload. "He's a small guy but very versatile," Davis said.

During the last 10 years, the Army purchased more than 7,000 "nonstandard equipment," items such as Talon IV, Packbot 510 FASTAC, SUGV 310 mini-EOD, Dragon Runner and First Look. The Army is now sorting through the heap working to identify possible programs of record and "nesting bridging strategies in how we get there," he said.

This nonstandard equipment is unusual, he said, in that it does not follow a normal program of record's trail from develop, procure and provision it and then have the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command schoolhouse take on all program of instruction for operators and maintainers.

The ad hoc purchases resulted in the unusual step of nonstandard equipment being maintained and supported at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base, so these systems bypassed normal protocol, Davis said.

The Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport will be semi-autonomous and autonomously operated, Davis said. The Maneuver Center of Excellence has been interested in it for some time because it's a key enabler for lightening the dismounted infantry Soldier's load.

Different versions are expected to be delivered, a large one that can haul half a ton, a 600-pound hauler and a smaller one. One prototype resembles a small horse. It is in capability development doctrine staffing, he said.

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



ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Concord Point Lighthouse

An Upper Chesapeake landmark

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The Concord Point Lighthouse, located in Havre de Grace, is the oldest lighthouse in Maryland accessible to the public.

The 36-foot tall lighthouse was built in 1827 by John Donahoo who built several other lighthouses in the Chesapeake Bay area, including the Pooles Island Lighthouse which today is in a secure area of Aberdeen Proving Ground waters. Like Pooles Island, the Concord Point Lighthouse is constructed of Port Deposit granite and has a tongue and groove mahogany door.

The Maryland General Assembly authorized the construction of the tower lighthouse at the point where the Susquehanna River meets the tidal flow of the Chesapeake Bay in 1826. This area was originally known as Point Conquest.

Irish immigrant John O'Neill, the first keeper of the Concord Point Lighthouse, became a local hero when he defended Havre de Grace with a Potato Battery cannon when the British attacked the town May 3, 1813, during the War of 1812. A War of 1812 era cannon was restored and placed adjacent to the lighthouse to honor O'Neill's bravery.

O'Neill served as the keeper and the town commissioner until he died in 1838. Four generations of O'Neills served as lighthouse keepers and lived in the home 200 feet away from the tower. A full-time lighthouse keeper was no longer needed after the lighthouse was automated with an acetylene gas fuel lamp in 1919. When the Coast Guard decommissioned the light house in 1975, the Concord Point Lighthouse was the oldest beacon in continuous service in Maryland.

Soon after, a group of volunteers incorporated as "The Friends of Concord Point Lighthouse, Inc." to preserve and protect the lighthouse. Today, the organization has 40 active volunteers who maintain the tower and the keeper's home.

"It is Havre de Grace and Harford County's most recognized icon," said volunteer Bethany Baker, executive direc-



Photo by Molly Blossie



Photo by Rachel Ponder



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

(Clockwise from left) The Concord Point Lighthouse in Havre de Grace has a fifth-order Fresnel lens that was installed in 1891. It measures 36 inches high and 14 inches in diameter; The lighthouse has served as a beacon for sailors and boaters in the Chesapeake Bay for more than 180 years; The lighthouse keeper's dwelling was built directly across the street in 1827. It is now a museum; An exhibit displays what the lighthouse kitchen would have looked like for the first lighthouse keeper, John O'Neil, in 1827.

tor of the group. "Members have a vested interest in maintaining the property."

Volunteer Jackie Hoover said she enjoys talking with visitors from all over the world.

"Lighthouses are majestic and romantic," Hoover said. "They are from a different era, before modern technology. There are many lighthouse enthusiasts."

The Concord Point Lighthouse is located at the corner of Concord and Lafay-

ette Streets in Havre de Grace. Visitors can climb the lighthouse stairs and visit the keeper's home at no charge every Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., April through October, weather permitting. Next to the lighthouse is a half-mile promenade leading to Tydings Park.

Group tours of the lighthouse can be arranged during the week, with advanced notice, and the lighthouse grounds can be reserved for weddings and other cer-

emonies. For more information, call 410-939-3213, or visit www.concord-pointlighthouse.org.

The Concord Point Lighthouse will be included in the 10th Anniversary Maryland Lighthouse Challenge Sept. 19 and 20. Participants who visit the 10 designated lighthouses in this challenge will receive a special souvenir. For more information visit <http://cheslights.org/maryland-lighthouse-challenge/>.

BY THE NUMB#RS

Military Rock & Rollers

By The Numb#rs celebrates Rock and Roll Hall of Famers who served in the U.S. armed forces. The 30th annual induction ceremony takes place April 18 at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio.

99

Number of official albums musician Frank Zappa released during a career that spanned more than 30 years. Zappa was born in Baltimore and lived near APG South (Edgewood) while his father worked on the installation as a chemist.

56

Years that have passed since swivel-hipped Elvis Presley traded his guitar for Army fatigues and subsequently caused heartache to millions of teenage girls world-wide. Presley was discharged two years later after completing his service overseas.

27

Age at which Jimi Hendrix died of a drug overdose. The legendary guitarist, known for playing his left-handed Stratocaster with his teeth, enlisted in the Army in 1961 and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

14

Amount of #1 Country hits recorded by Johnny Cash, including "I Walk the Line," which marked his first appearance on the pop charts. Cash served a three-year tour in the U.S. Air Force as a Morse code intercept operator in Germany.

9

Number of live albums released by the "godfathers of the modern jam band world," The Grateful Dead. Lead singer Jerry Garcia was forced to enlist in the Army after stealing his mother's car as a teenager.

By **STACY SMITH** APG News

Sources: <http://www.history.army.mil/>; <https://rockhall.com>



APG CATCH-A-POACHER PROGRAM

A wide variety of wildlife call Aberdeen Proving Ground home. The APG Conservation Law Enforcement Branch is asking you to be a partner in protecting and preserving the natural resources here on post. If you see or have knowledge of poaching or illegal activity involving wildlife or natural resources, you can use the SUBMIT-A-TIP hotline to anonymously provide information to catch a poacher.

Call the SUBMIT-A-TIP "HOTLINE" at 410-306-4673.

Emergencies or violations in progress should always be reported via 911.

When reporting poaching or illegal activity involving wildlife or natural resources on APG, please take note of the information listed in the form below.

Name/Description/Address of the Poacher
Location/Days/Times & Type of Poaching
Vehicle/Vessel Description or Registration #

You can also cut out this completed SUBMIT-A-TIP form and mail it to:
2200 Aberdeen Blvd. APG, MD 21005



Like us on facebook 
www.facebook.com/APGMd

Follow us on twitter 
<https://twitter.com/USAGAPG>



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

MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE

2K COLOR FAMILY FUN RUN FESTIVAL APRIL 18

In celebration of Month of the Military Child, Team APG will host a Family Fun After-Run Festival April 18 from 9 a.m. to noon. Featuring 25 local business vendors, food, obstacle course, bounce houses, an animal show, DJ, and free Zumba class, the festival is free and open to the local community. Registration for the 2K Color Family Fun Run is closed.

For more information, contact: Stacie Umbarger at stacie.e.umbarger.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-2857.

LEISURE & TRAVEL MISSION IMPROVABLE COMEDY SHOW APRIL 23

The improvisational comedy troupe "Mission IMPROVables" will perform an improv comedy show with audience participation, similar to "Whose Line is it Anyway?" at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center April 23.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. Food will be available for purchase, along with a cash bar.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door (if available). For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/3931.

BROADWAY'S PIPPIN TICKET DEADLINE APRIL 28

Discount tickets to Broadway's "Pippin" are available for the June 25, 8 p.m. show at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore. The show features high-flying, extraordinary acrobatics, wondrous magical feats and soaring songs from the composer of "Wicked."

Adult tickets are \$38, with seats available in the right and left orchestra. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4011.

SHEN YUN PERFORMING ARTS TICKETS APRIL SHOWS

The Leisure Travel Office has tickets available to the Shen Yun Performing Arts. Shen Yun brings to life 5,000 years of Chinese civilization through classical Chinese dance and music in an exhilarating show you will never forget.

Tickets are available for performances at the Kennedy Center Opera House in Washington, D.C. on the following dates:

- April 17 - 18, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
- April 18 - 19, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.
- April 22 - 25, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
- April 25 - 26, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

Ticket prices range from \$48-230. To purchase tickets, visit the Leisure Travel Services Office at the APG North

(Aberdeen) recreation center.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES DISCOUNT TICKETS 2015 SEASON

The Leisure Travel Office is offering discount tickets to Baltimore Orioles games during the 2015 season at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore. For pricing and availability, contact Leisure Travel Services at 410-278-4011/4907. Tickets can be purchased at the Leisure Travel Services Office at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP JUNE 6

Plan your own sightseeing or shopping trip, or schedule to see a show June 6 and let MWR take care of the transportation during the next MWR Bus Trip. The cost is \$48 per seat. The bus will depart the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center at 7 a.m. and will return to APG at approximately 9 p.m., depending on traffic.

The registration deadline is May 22. To reserve a seat, visit the Leisure Travel Services at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES SAT PREPARATION CLASSES THROUGH APRIL 30

Get ready for the SATs with Sue Fasold, who works with students of all levels to prepare them for all areas of the SATs: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing. Online video chat small-group sessions offered in the Aberdeen Youth Center, Tech Lab.

Winter Session: Every Thursday, March 26 - April 30 (SAT Test Date: May 2)

The preparation class does not include the official exam. Each class is limited to five students per session.

AGES: 14-18 years
COST/FEE: \$225 (this includes the cost of the SAT Prep Book)

For more information, contact Shirelle Womack at 410-278-4589 or shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil.

SPORTS & RECREATION KAYAK CLASSES MAY-JUNE

APG Outdoor Recreation will host two-day kayak classes on the following dates:

- May 14 & 15
- May 28 & 29
- June 4 & 5
- June 11 & 12

▪ June 29 & 30

The first day of each session is instruction, the second day is an excursion. The two-day class is \$50 per person. Class begins at the APG Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 2184, at 6 p.m. and ends at dusk.

For more information, or to register, contact the Outdoor Rec. Office at 410-278-4124.

2015 SWIMMING POOL PASSES

MWR pools open Memorial Day weekend. Get ready for summer now and purchase your summer pool passes.

Pool passes are on sale now at the Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 2184, and the Leisure Travel offices at APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood) recreation centers.

Passes can also be purchased at the Bayside Pool on APG South or the Olympic Pool on APG North during operating hours, starting Saturday, May 23.

Pool pass prices:

- 30-day Individual Pass - \$35
- 30-day Family Pass - \$70
- Season Individual Pass - \$85
- Season Family Pass - \$175

Passes are valid May 23 to Sept. 7, 2015.

Active duty service members and their families swim free.

For more information, call 410-278-4124/5789 or email usag-mwr-outdoor-rec@mail.mil.

GET GOLF READY ONGOING

Take part in this five-week course to learn the game of golf for only \$99 for the entire session.

Space is limited. Call the golf shop for dates and times at 410-278-4794.

COMMUNITY RECREATION APG THEATER GROUP AUDITIONS SATURDAYS

The APG Drama Group is hosting auditions for "Farewell to Vinnie," a murder mystery theater show. All experience levels (or no experience at all) are welcome. Positions needed include: stage and prop managers, production crew, lead roles and extras.

All cast members must be able to commit to a mandatory rehearsal schedule. Performance is scheduled for May 21 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.

For more information, call 410-278-4011.

ARMY COMMUNITY

SERVICE START & REVITALIZE YOUR CAREER APRIL 22

Army Community Service will host a "Start & Revitalize Your Career" workshop April 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the ACS Building, 2503 High Point Road.

Whether you are starting a new career or need a boost in your current career, this workshop will cover the following: setting a career path that defines you; creating strategies to move your career to the next level; setting S.M.A.R.T. goals that work; and being the job applicant that stands out.

The workshop is free, but registration is required. Contact the ACS Employment Readiness program manager at 410-278-9669/7572 to register.

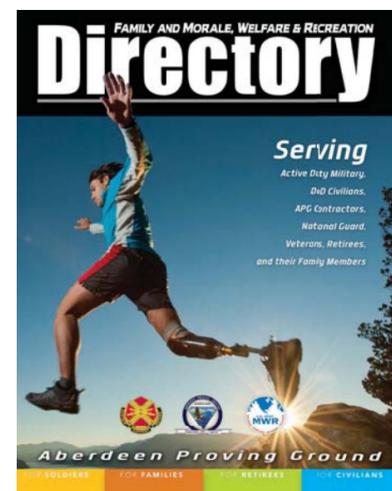
CREATING A SOLID SPENDING PLAN

Make plans to attend this free class to learn how to balance your finances. This information can help you stay disciplined and organized financially, which is the first step to knowing your overall financial health. In this easy to follow one-hour class, whether employed or unemployed, you will get the information you need to create and maintain your personal financial goals.

Class will be held on the following dates from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Bldg. 2503:

- Wednesday, June 17
- Wednesday, Sept. 9
- Wednesday, Nov. 18

Registration is required. To reserve a seat call ACS 410-278-9669/7572.



Learn more about APG MWR activities and services by going online at www.apgmwr.com and downloading the FMWR Directory.



The Edgewood Billy Goats pose with their medals and the championship trophy after winning the intramural post championship at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center April 13. The team defeated ABM Lightning 61-50. (From left) Larry Bailey, David Clark, Eric Jimenez, Coach James Mitchell, Manu Cooper, Jeff Pettway Jr., Jason Peterson, Brandon Allen and August Scott. Not shown: Antoin Wagner, Devante Moses and Stephen Murray.

Billy Goats win basketball championship

Edgewood Billy Goats triumph over ABM Lightning, 60-51

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

In any other arena the name means anything but ‘winner’ but the Edgewood Billy Goats didn’t let the unusual moniker hinder their march to the team’s first intramural basketball post championship.

The team never trailed in a 61-50 win over ABM Lightning during the championship game at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center April 13.

Evenly-matched and familiar with each other on and off the court, the Billy Goats and ABM “circled” each other warily during the low-scoring starting minutes. The Billy Goats seemed to find their comfort zone first and managed to score pull away and stay away, taking a 36-24 lead into the halftime break.

“We’ve got to box out and get back,” said ABM Coach Charles Sherer during the break.

Billy Goats Coach James Mitchell said that while the team was happy to finish the regular season in second place, they were still on a mission.

“They’re a tough team,” he said of ABM, “but so are we. I believe we can take anybody.”

He added that the goats would better their “quick, up tempo play” and “bring more defense” in the second half.

The stubborn Billy Goats continued to pull away when play resumed, courtesy of timely passing and unselfish play led by scoring leaders Jeff Pettway Jr. and Jason Peterson.

Mitchell and August Scott also chipped in on offense and defense, backed up by Larry Bailey, Manu Cooper, and David Clark. Eric Jimenez, Brandon Allen and David Clark rounded out the Billy Goats frontal assault.

The team enjoyed as much as an 11-point lead. It went up 57-46 with just over 2 minutes, 25 seconds left in the game after Peterson sank one of two free-throws at the line.

Seconds later, ABM’s Ian Artis took a hard foul and Sherer called a quick time out. When they returned, Artis sank 2-of-2 at the line to bring the lead back to single digits.

The JPs (Peterson and Pettway) kicked in one last time, taking it down court with a flurry of passes which brought a quick foul on Pettway by ABM’s Kenny Telsee.

At the line, Pettway put the goats up 59-48 and Peterson scored the team’s final points, going up 61-45 with under a minute to play.

ABM wasn’t finished. Marvin Bryan zoned in a 2 pointer, followed by Ricardo Smith with a nothing-but-net three-pointer with 20 seconds left on the clock. Telsee, whose final shot fell short of the net, was the team’s high scorer.

Noting that they won a tight game in the loser’s bracket last Thursday, and defeated the league’s toughest team, Bohica, by one point to get to the big dance, Sherer said he told his player to hold their heads high.

“That’s something we can be proud of,” Sherer said. “But they’re a quality team,” he said of the Bills Goats. Play-



ing them makes us play better.”

He added that the team lost five starters to injuries but rejected using that as an excuse.

“We’ll be back,” he said.

Telsee, a firefighter in the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, is the son of Kenneth Telsee, a management analyst with the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command. The point guard just completed his second year with the team.

“I wish we could have given it more effort, but you have to give them [the Billy Goats] credit,” he said. “We worked hard but we’ll just have to come back and do better next year.”

ABM Small Forward Marvin Bryan, a CECOM budget analyst, added that he had to sit out last season due to an injury.

“I was glad to be a part of this season,” he said. “We have a lot of talent and we communicate very well. We didn’t win the championship but we beat “the team to beat” to get here.”

“They. Played. Hard.” said Mitchell after his team hoisted the championship trophy. “I couldn’t be more proud of all of them.”

In his second year with the team, Pettway a point guard and contractor with the U.S. Army Public Health Command, said he expects more championship wins to follow.

“I think we have a lot of talent that keeps us ahead of everybody else,” he said.

The spouse of an APG civilian, Small Forward Peterson said the team is meant for greater things if the core stays intact.

“We have a great chance to do it all over again next year,” he said.

For more information about intramural sports at APG, visit www.apgmwr.com.



(Top) Players are poised for the rebound as ABM’s Kenny Telsee shoots a free throw. Players from left, Eric Jimenez, Billy Goats; Allie Watts, ABM; Jason Peterson and August Scott, Billy Goats; Ricardo Smith, ABM; and Billy Goats Coach James Mitchell. (Bottom) Billy Goats August Scott #34, challenges ABM’s Ricardo Smith, far right, for the rebound as, from left, ABM’s Ian Artis, #19; and Billy Goats Jeff Pettway Jr., #14 look on during the intramural basketball championship game at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center April 13.

Shooting victims, survivors receive Purple Heart, Defense Freedom medals

By **HEATHER GRAHAM-ASHLEY**
III Corps and Fort Hood Public Affairs

After nearly six years and a legislative wording change, shooting victims from the Nov. 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas were recognized during a Purple Heart and Defense of Freedom award ceremony April 10.

III Corps and Fort Hood Commander, Lt. Gen. Sean MacFarland, joined by Army Secretary John M. McHugh, presented Purple Hearts and Secretary of Defense Medals for the Defense of Freedom to victims and Family members during the ceremony.

Thirteen people were killed during the shooting at Fort Hood's Soldier Readiness Processing, or SRP, Center. Another 31 were wounded by gunfire. The gunman was convicted and sentenced to death in September 2013.

"We honor the memories of the 13 souls laid to eternal rest [and] pay tribute to their sacrifice," MacFarland said. "We also remember the acts of courage and selflessness by Soldiers and civilians, which prevented an even greater calamity from occurring that day."

Purple Hearts were presented to representatives of 10 of the Soldiers killed, Nov. 5, 2009, as well as to 26 of those wounded. The Defense of Freedom Medal, the civilian equivalent of the Purple Heart, was presented to the family of Michael Cahill, the lone civilian contractor killed that day, as well as to Kimberly Munley, the Department of the Army civilian police officer, who was shot when she responded to the scene.

Purple Hearts for four Soldiers wounded and the Families of two Soldiers killed, Nov. 5, 2009, will be awarded at local ceremonies throughout the nation, MacFarland said. They will not be forgotten.

"We honor them, as well," he said. The recipients hailed from 21 states and units from across Fort Hood and throughout the United States, and of those killed, seven were active duty, five were Reservists, and one was a civilian contractor.

"Hundreds of lives have been woven together by this single day of valor and loss," MacFarland said. "Although no words can resurrect those we lost or completely erase the scars, today's ceremony is an opportunity to provide a sense of closure to those who were injured or those who lost a loved one."

He applauded the bravery of the first responders who rushed into the active scene, those who worked to distract the shooter so others could escape and those who provided emergency aid to the wounded.

"Their bravery has been matched only by their resilience - the spirit of which is seen throughout the Army," said MacFarland. He noted that the 20th Engineer Battalion on Fort Hood lost four Soldiers that day and had 11 wounded; and the 467 Medical Detachment, an Army Reserve unit based in Madison, Wisconsin,



Photo by Daniel Cernero
Jeffrey and Sheryll Pearson pause at the portrait of their son, Pfc. Michael Pearson, before the start of the Fort Hood Purple Heart and Defense of Freedom Medal Ceremony at III Corps Headquarters, Fort Hood, Texas April 10.

had three Soldiers killed and four wounded in the shooting. "Despite these losses, both units deployed to Afghanistan within months," he said.

Retired Gen. Bob Cone, who was the III Corps and Fort Hood commanding general at the time of the incident, recalled the resilience and bravery in face of that adversity.

Less than two months into his command, Cone was on his way to speak at a college graduation ceremony at Howze Auditorium, which shared a parking lot with the SRP site, when he was alerted to avoid the area.

He said he remembers the tragedy and pain of that day, and the way the installation and surrounding community rallied.

"I think what struck me most was the tremendous sense of purpose and resilience of the Soldiers, civilians and first responders at the scene," Cone said. "At the moment of greatest need, these professionals were at their very best, using their combat training to respond to the crisis, to treat and evacuate the wounded, and care for each other."

He said he also was struck by the response from the Central Texas community.

"The outpouring of support for everything from blood transfusions to local hospitality for Families, to financial contributions, was simply amazing," the former commander said. "In so many ways, the community's response truly represents the remarkable bond between this installation and this community."

Heroes stepped up that day and con-

tinued to support those wounded and the Families of those killed, Cone said, adding that survivors have changed and adapted, and he has witnessed their progress.

"I have monitored many of you as you have struggled, adapted, triumphed or stumbled. While there has been much pain, there has also been great progress," he said. "That is the essence of being a survivor [and] that is the essence of being a victor over a terrible incident like this."

Cone said support and resilience illustrated the victory that marked the ceremony.

"For the recipients of today's awards, both living and deceased, today is about victory," Cone said. "Today is about fully documenting and acknowledging your sacrifice for this great nation."

Capt. Dorothy Carskadon, an Army Reservist with the 467th Combat Stress Control Unit on the day of the attack, returned to her civilian job as a social worker at a veterans' center after the incident.

She said working with combat-theater veterans and their Families aided her recovery.

"It really helped me move through the issues that I needed to move through," she said, adding that she found an outpouring of support for herself and her spouse from her community, church, family and friends.

"It is overwhelming," she said. "It has been overwhelming since day one."

Many of those wounded that Novem-

ber day said the ceremony served not only as recognition of their sacrifice and injuries, but also of the magnitude of the shooting. They thanked the legislators for their efforts to make the awards presentations possible.

Receiving the Purple Heart validates her experience, Carskadon said.

"It validates that it was a terrorist activity," she said. "It draws a line, a distinction between workplace violence and terrorism."

Kerry Cahill, daughter of the lone civilian fatality, said there is more to do as too many veterans struggle with suicide and behavioral health concerns from incidents such as the one that claimed her father. Those concerns were why her father devoted his life to helping Soldiers.

"We're not done," she said. "With these medals, with all of this, comes a great weight, because I am not doing enough is how I feel every day because I can't do what my dad did. I am not in the room with a Soldier every day, asking how they're sleeping, asking if they need help."

Retired Staff Sgt. Alonzo Lunsford, who was shot seven times Nov. 5, while working alongside his friend Michael Cahill at the SRP site, shared those worries about veteran suicides and his fellow Fort Hood survivors.

"Within our Family, the Fort Hood Family," Lunsford said, "we stay in constant communication with each other so that we do not let those demons of the night come back and haunt us."



Raytheon receives Harford County recycling award

(From left) Harford County Executive Barry Glassman presents Gary Chilcoat, a representative from Raytheon, with the 2014 Harford County Business Recycling Award in the large business category during the Harford County Arbor Day celebration at Francis Silver Park in Darlington April 3. Raytheon, at APG's Government and Technology Enterprise (GATE) Park was recognized for innovative recycling and waste reduction program.

Courtesy photo



MORE ONLINE

Come and follow us for news and events going on at and around the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, visit the garrison twitter site <http://twitter.com/USAGAPG>



See Something

Cut along dotted lines and fold in middle for use as wallet reference Card.

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

Do: Observe and Report

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.
- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information.
- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the Installation.
 - Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
 - Unusual contacts on or off post.
- Unusual aerial activity near or around the Installation.
- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.

Do Not

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss FP measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police.

APG North 410-306-2222

APG South 410-436-2222

Off post in Md. call 1-800-492-TIPS or 911

Your call may save lives!

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 1971.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

2015

10 Years Ago: April 14, 2005



(Left) From left, Edwin "Bud" Huson, John "Jack" Meyers and Orville Hughes of the American Ex-Prisoners of War admire the state memorial to Maryland former POWs after its dedication at Aberdeen Proving Ground. At the time, Meyers was the state commander and Hughes was the Maryland Veteran of the Year.

2010

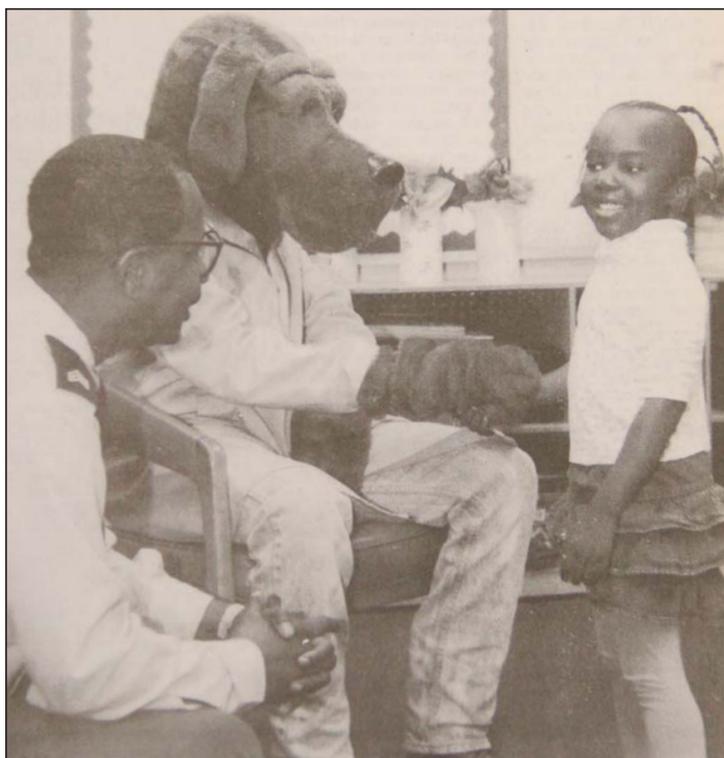


2000

(Right) DLES police officer Michael "Big Mike" Farlow, center, talks child safety with the Lyons family, from left, Jada, 13; Stephen Lyons II, 9; Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Lyons and his wife Lisa during the grand opening of the Community Police Unit McGruff House in Patriot Village.

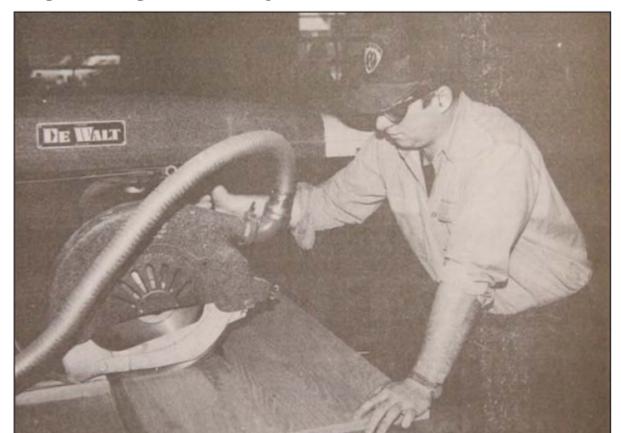
1990

25 Years Ago: April 11, 1990



(Left) Sgt. Larry Wade of the 523rd Military Police Company, left, introduces Cherkita Council, 4, to McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog at the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center during a class teaching children how to say 'no' to strangers.

1980



(Below) Wood model maker Nickey A. Keenan, a recipient of the laboratory technical support award for his ability to create realistic models for form and fit, saws a piece of wood for a model in the Human Engineering Laboratory.

1970

50 Years Ago: April 15, 1965



(Left) Col. Lowell R. Steele, commander of Kirk Army Hospital, center, gets help cutting the hospital's second anniversary cake from Pfc. Susan Jacovelli, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Paul Honda, right.

1960



(Right) With her friends looking on, Mrs. Randolph Phillips tees off the first ball of the Aberdeen Proving Ground officers wives 1965 golfing season.

1950

Revised uniform policy changes rules for tattoos, wear of combat uniform

By **LISA FERDINANDO**
ARNEWS

The Army published the revised uniform and appearance regulation, AR 670-1 and DA PAM 670-1, April 10. The new regulation lifts restrictions on the size and number of tattoos authorized for Soldiers, and changes the rules for the wear of the Army Combat Uniform during commercial travel.

The new language allows Soldiers to have as many tattoos on their arms, legs and body as they want. Additionally, there are no longer any size restrictions on those tattoos.

However, Soldiers are still prohibited from having tattoos above the T-shirt neckline – meaning anywhere on the neck, face and head. Additionally, Soldiers are limited to no more than one “ring tattoo” on each hand, below the wrist line. What has not changed in the revised policy is the ban on extremist, indecent, sexist or racist tattoos.

An Army G-1 spokesperson said the change to Army tattoo policy is not tied to what is or is not visible while wearing any particular Army uniform. Instead, the policy spells out locations on the body where tattoos are prohibited.

The same Army spokesperson said the revision of Army policies “are not taken lightly.” Such policies and regulations are under “perpetual review.” The

recent changes to AR 670-1 came after much feedback from the force and an extensive review of the September 2014 version of the regulation.

Army leadership wanted AR 670-1 to better represent the perspective of Soldiers, the spokesperson said. At the same time, revisions to the policy had to ensure that Soldiers maintain an appearance that is both professional and aligned with how the American taxpayer views their military.

The changes in tattoo policy apply also to civilians, who want to enlist in the Army. Civilians contemplating an Army career will be held to the same standards regarding tattoos as Soldiers already in the Army.

Other uniform updates

Under the new AR 670-1, Soldiers traveling commercially on official business are authorized to wear the Army Combat Uniform, or ACU.

Previously, Soldiers were directed to wear their dress uniform during commercial travel. They could wear the ACU when deploying, on rest and recuperation leave to and from the combat theater, or if their commander authorized the wear for emergency leave or casualty assistance duties.

New language in AR 670-1 also clarifies the wear of Army uniforms at off-post establishments that sell alco-



The Army published the revised uniform and appearance regulation, AR 670-1 and DA PAM 670-1, April 10. The new regulation lifts restrictions on the size and number of tattoos authorized for Soldiers, and changes the rules for the wear of the Army Combat Uniform during commercial travel.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Stephanie van Geete

hol. Soldiers wearing their uniform may enter a liquor store to purchase package liquor, for instance. They may not, however, wear their uniform while drinking in a bar.

The G-1 spokesperson said the new policy does not prevent a uniformed Soldier from having dinner with his family or lunch with his co-workers at a restaurant that also serves alcohol. But the policy does prevent that same uniformed Soldier from having a drink in an establishment whose primary business is selling alcohol.

“The intent of the policy is for Soldiers to not wear their uniform in an establishment where consumption of alcohol is the primary activity,” the spokesperson said.

The revised AR 670-1 also updates wear-guidance of shoulder-sleeve insignia for wartime service during Operation Enduring Freedom; adds wear guidance of shoulder-sleeve insignia for former wartime service during Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Freedom’s Sentinel; updates wear guidance of overseas service bars for Operation Enduring Freedom; adds wear guidance of overseas service bars for Operation Inherent Resolve; adds wear guidance of overseas service bars for Operation Freedom’s Sentinel; and clarifies approval of distinctive unit insignia.

The updated AR 670-1, DA PAM 670-1, and training package can be found online at: <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform>.

Operation Megaphone to connect military teens worldwide

By **JESSICA MARIE RYAN**
FMWRC

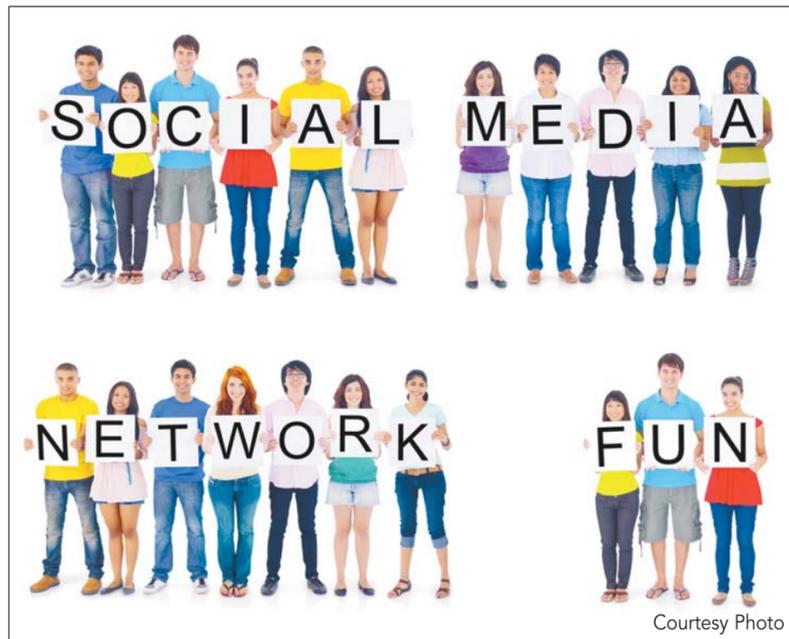
Operation Megaphone, led by the Joint Service Teen Council, will connect teens, from all military branches worldwide, for one 24-hour period, April 24-25. Teens are encouraged to discuss key issues that affect military teens, promote communication across all military services, and seek out opportunities to volunteer in their communities.

This year’s theme is “Teens Lead the Way.” The theme highlights the importance of teens in leadership roles.

“Teens should be placed in as many leadership roles as possible within youth programs,” said Bryson Alleyne, Army Teen Panel junior advisor. “Ideally, if we are trying to attract teens, Operation Megaphone needs to be youth-directed and staff supervised.”

Military garrisons will host events at the local level. Teens will be involved in service projects to benefit children of their community or region. Service projects range from tutoring children to sending letters to a local children’s hospital to collecting resources for a local youth homeless shelter.

In addition to service projects, teens will also engage in social activities. In previous years, teens participated in



Courtesy Photo

overnight lock-ins, campouts, and local conferences.

Events are planned based on the local interests and resources of each garrison.

Operation Megaphone will take place at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center Friday, April 24, 7 p.m., through Sat-

urday, April 25, 7 a.m., according to Norma Warwick, facility director.

“This year, the goal is that it’s run by the teens,” Warwick said. “Our Keystone Club members are meetings regularly to put it together.”

APG South (Edgewood) youth also

will participate at the APG North (Aberdeen) location.

For more information, contact Becky Schwartz in APG North at 410-278-9061, rebecca.a.schwartz.naf@mail.mil, or Catherina Winn in APG South at 410-436-2098, catherina.b.winn2.naf@mail.mil.

“Each Operation Megaphone event will ultimately end up being a little different,” said Chett Kline, youth specialist at the Air Force Services Activity. “This is due to each installation or garrison’s unique local resources, event participants, and the local policies that guide the implementation of special events.”

Operation Megaphone connects all participants through virtual interaction. Utilizing social media platforms and online meeting software, teens will be able to interact with teens at other locations.

“The Millennial generation has grown up in a digital world,” said Brent Edwards, programs coordinator at Navy child and youth programs. “The internet, social networking, and cell phones are powerful tools that can help today’s youth communicate, network and retrieve information.”

Since 2012, more than 9,360 youth and teens participated in 261 Operation Megaphone events located at military youth facilities worldwide.



APG youth demonstrate taekwondo skills

A.J. Chase, 14, uses a kicking technique to break a board assisted by taekwondo instructors Carlton Rucker, left, and Darryl Briggs, center, during a belt test in Bldg. 2407 March 28.

Members of the APG Child, Youth and School Services SKIES Unlimited taekwondo program, Chase, Brandon Evans, 13, and Christian Rucker, 12, received black belts after demonstrating their skills. An additional 14 youth were tested during the event and received belts based on their skill levels.

Registration is currently open for SKIES taekwondo classes. For more information contact SKIES Director Shirelle Womack at 410-278-4589, shirelle.j.womack@mail.mil.

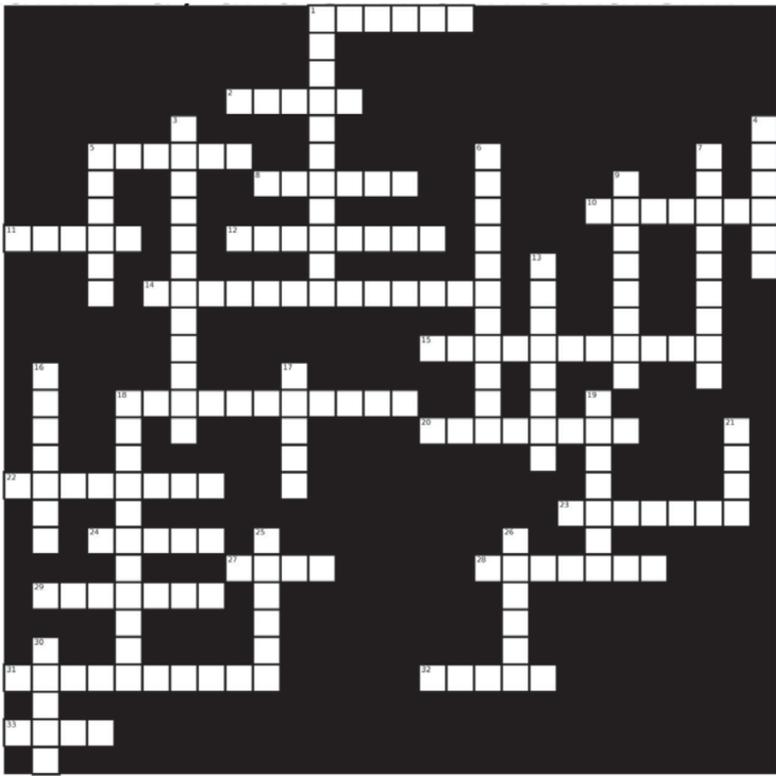
Courtesy photo



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.”

The APG Crossword



By **RACHEL PONDER**, APG News

Earth Day is celebrated April 22 in more than 190 countries. Here's a trivia puzzle to test what you know about Earth Day and environmentalism.

Across

- The current president of the Earth Day Network.
- On Earth Day 2012, more than 100,000 people in this Asian country rode their bikes to save fuel and reduce carbon dioxide emissions from vehicles.
- 2014, NASA participated in Earth Day with #GlobalSelfie event, challenging people to take self-photos outdoors to post to _____ media websites.
- In 1980, this U.S. president signed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which protected more land than any single piece of legislation ever passed by Congress.

- He was influential in the development of modern environmental ethics and in the movement for wilderness conservation.
- The _____ Air Act, established in 1963, is a U.S. federal law designed to control air pollution on a national level.
- The most famous underwater explorer of the 20th century, he pioneered marine conservation.
- The process of clearing natural forests through logging or burning.
- _____ communities are capable of maintaining their present levels of growth without damaging effects.
- _____ transporta-

- tion means modes of transportation other than private cars, such as walking, biking, transit and carpooling.
- Solar power is the conversion of _____ into electricity.
- Land (marshes or swamps) constantly saturated with water which are conducive to wide biodiversity.
- In 2006, former Vice President Al Gore starred in the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth," about global _____.
- Considered to be the "Grandmother of the conservation movement," she was instrumental in establishing the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 1960.
- The theme for Earth Day 2015 is "It's Our Turn to _____."
- A key ingredient in organic farming, this word defines organic matter that has been decomposed and recycled as a fertilizer and soil amendment.
- Crop _____ is the application of pesticides to plants by a low-flying plane.
- By the end of 1970, Congress authorized the creation of the U.S. Environmental _____ Agency.
- In 2014, DisneyNature released this documentary to coincide with Earth Day.
- In the 1990s she famously lived in a 1,500-year-old redwood tree for more than two years, to protest the clear-cut logging of redwoods.

- will be held at Aberdeen _____ Park.
- This "Titanic" actor is an outspoken environmentalist who served as the official host for Earth Day 2000, and is a member of the Earth Day Network's Global Advisory Committee.
- This singer-songwriter co-founded the Save the Manatees Club in 1981 with former U.S. Senator Bob Graham.
- In 1990, he spearheaded a campaign to make Earth Day an international celebration.
- The term for farming aquatic organisms such as fish, crustaceans, mollusks and aquatic plants.
- In 2007, this Midwestern city hosted an Earth Day celebration at the Lincoln Park Zoo, drawing more than 40,000 people, a single-day attendance record.
- A fog or haze combined with smoke and other atmospheric pollutants.
- In 1970, this U.S. senator from Wisconsin founded the first Earth Day, to raise awareness of water and air pollution. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995.
- In 2009 the United Nations renamed Earth Day to International _____ Earth Day.
- EcoFest, an annual Earth Day community celebration and outdoor festival, is held in Baltimore's _____ Hill Park.

Down

- A large, dense forest in a hot, humid region with an abundance of diverse plant and animal life.
- The variety of different types of life found on earth.
- Henry David Thoreau, a philosopher, author and naturalist, is best known for this memoir about living simple in natural surroundings which was first published in 1854.
- The area taken up by a large or expanding development or city.
- On Earth Day 2011, the Earth Day Network planted 28 million trees in this South Asia country.
- An interconnected and symbiotic grouping of animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms.
- On April 18, the 12th annual Harford County Earth Day celebration

Solution to the April 9 puzzle



Veterans with PTSD claims may apply for discharge upgrades

Army G-1

Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder who were discharged under "other than honorable" conditions may now submit requests to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records to have their discharge reconsidered for an upgrade if it was due to post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The Army launched a webpage, <http://arba.army.pentagon.mil>, for veterans to get information and ultimately enable these individuals to apply for the change in discharge status.

According to supplemental guidance from the Secretary of Defense, all Boards for Correction of Military Records are empowered to implement liberal consideration of evidence of PTSD symptoms in the service record or in a diagnosis provided by civilian providers and special consideration of Department of Veterans Affairs diagnosis of PTSD or PTSD-related conditions.

"Army veterans are Soldiers for Life.

Veterans Corner

Veterans Corner is a new, recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses the topics that matter most to the veterans in our community. For more information about local veterans affairs services, visit www.maryland.va.gov. To suggest veteran-related topics for the Veterans Corner series, email amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil.

I want to encourage our veterans out there to apply," said Col. Matthew B. Coleman, Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army at the Army Review Boards Agency.

"Discharge upgrades are very important because they are linked to benefits that these individuals could receive through the Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as being able to get medical treatment – that's probably most important with those who are suf-

fering from invisible injuries of PTSD or PTSD-related symptoms," Coleman added.

Veterans who were previously denied an upgrade can reapply. The Army Board for Correction of Military Records will consider such an application as a new case. However, the guidance only applies to veterans with "other than honorable" discharges.

"PTSD was not recognized as a diagnosis at the time of service in

past conflicts such as the Vietnam War," Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel wrote in his memorandum. "In many cases," Hagel wrote, "diagnoses were not made until decades after service was completed." The memorandum provided guidance to the military departments' Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records, as they considered the upgrades. The memorandum seeks to ease the application process for the veterans.

The Army is committed to making sure the veterans receive fair consideration of their service and the conditions that may have mitigated the misconduct that led to their discharge, according to Coleman.

"We inculcate the core values of the agency, which are justice, equity and compassion – and those are the merits by which we look at each and every case," he emphasized.

For more information visit www.soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Sanctimonious

Pronounced: sangk-tuh-MOH-nee-uh s

Part of speech: Adjective

Definition:

- Behaving with sanctimony; making a show of being morally better than others, especially hypocritically pious
- Characterized by sanctimony

Related Forms:

- Sanctimoniously - Adverb
- Sanctimoniousness - Noun

Use:

- Even though the minister had been arrested for shoplifting, he still had the nerve to act sanctimonious in front of the congregation.
- My sanctimonious aunt tends to look down upon people who do not go to church every Sunday.
- Katie is a sanctimonious woman who tries to belittle those who do not volunteer as much as she does.
- While talking with the media, the candidate had a sanctimonious attitude and seemed to dare the reporters to question his conduct.
- Yet at the very moment when they should be decoupled, sanctimonious nitwits are calling for a return to morals based on superstition.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

Source: <http://websters.yourdictionary.com>; <http://dictionary.reference.com>

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

NNSA

National Nuclear Security Administration



National Nuclear Security Administration

The United States National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) is the part of the United States Department of Energy responsible for the management and security of the nation's nuclear weapons, nuclear nonproliferation and naval reactor programs. It also responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the United States and abroad. Additionally, NNSA federal agents provide safe and secure transportation of nuclear weapons and components and special nuclear materials along with other missions supporting the national security.

NNSA has four missions with regard to national security:

- To manage the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile.
- To reduce global danger from weapons of mass destruction and to promote international nuclear safety and nonproliferation.
- To provide the United States Navy with safe, militarily effective nuclear propulsion plants and to ensure the safe and reliable operation of those plants.
- To support United States leadership in science and technology.

Retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz is the Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and NNSA Administrator.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

Source(s): <http://nnsa.energy.gov/>; www.wikipedia.org



A 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Alan Anastasiades takes aim with a Soviet RPK during foreign weapons familiarization training at Mulberry Point Range April 11.

Soldiers appreciate foreign weapons training

Continued from Page 1

port using captured enemy materiel to provide U.S. forces intelligence, information and training on foreign weapons systems.”

According to Battalion Commander Lt. Col. David Ott, the weekend-long event was an opportunity for Soldiers to familiarize themselves with weapons they could one day see during combat.

“These are all foreign weapons systems that have been acquired over the years, found in the battlefield, and they’re used for training purposes. All [these weapons] are to practice, so that when Soldiers see them on the battlefield, they know what they are and they know how they operate,” Ott said.

He added that when enemy materiel is collected, the Army uses the information to make improved counter weapons systems.

“They [TECHINT] go out there and figure out how improvised explosive devices (IED) work and from that information, they make better body armor. They make the mine-resistant ambush protected (MRAP) vehicles that protect Soldiers. Nobody knows about them on the battlefield, but what they do saves lives,” Ott said.

At the range, subject matter experts

taught Soldiers how to fire, load and service Soviet weapons that included RPK machine guns, SVD semi-automatic sniper rifles and AK-47 assault rifles. For many Soldiers, handling these weapons was a once in a lifetime experience.

“I’ve been in the Army for the last 18 years. I’ve been in the Reserves for the last 14 years of that, and this is my first time ever firing a foreign weapon on a traditional CONUS (contiguous United States) base range,” said Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Sgt. Eric Campbell.

“It’s the first time for many Soldiers shooting foreign weapons, so this is an exciting thing for them,” said HHC Commander Capt. Lindsey Bethany. “There’s not many units out there that have the opportunity to shoot foreign weapons, so to be able to be a part of this unit and have that opportunity is pretty cool.”

Staff Sgt. Shareese McPhee said she most enjoyed testing out a fully automatic Russian RPK machine gun.

“It just felt more powerful and sturdier because I was lying down,” she said.

McPhee said while it’s not likely she will shoot a machine gun again, that “every now and then [the battalion]



A weapons expert shows two 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion Soldiers the working parts of a Soviet SVD sniper rifle.

will get some experience using a foreign weapon.”

The 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion is headed under the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Readiness Command (MIRC). As the Army’s only

Technical Intelligence (TECHINT) unit, comprised of active component and reservists, the 203rd MI is charged with the collection, analysis, and categorization of enemy materiel from around the world.

Military Child of the Year wants to serve others

Continued from Page 1

the founder of ‘Socks for Vets,’ a nationwide volunteer program which collects socks and other donated items for Wounded Warriors and other veterans. He said he developed the idea after visiting inpatient veterans at the North Carolina State Veterans Home in Fayetteville.

“Our Cub Scout troop planned to sing Christmas carols to [them] and we did, but I noticed that many were lonely and without basic comfort items,” he said. “I asked them if they’d like me to come back with socks and blankets and they were excited at the idea that someone would be coming to visit.”

At the time, McIntyre-Brewer’s father was deployed, and his mother, Michelle McIntyre-Brewer was caring for his sister Lorelei, who was born missing half of her heart. McIntyre-Brewer said these early lessons gave him a perspective on life that made him want to serve others.

“I found that putting others first actually made me happier. When I spent time helping people, I was able to understand that I wasn’t the only one with problems,” he said.

Socks for Vets expanded in 2011 with the initiation of the pack goat project. McIntyre-Brewer and his family raises goats and trains them to carry hunting, hiking, fishing and camping supplies for disabled veterans so they are able to enjoy nature outings without having to carry their supplies. Each goat is named after the Wounded Warrior it serves.

Additionally, McIntyre-Brewer helps his sister, also a semi-finalist for this award, with her program, ‘Heart Hugs,’ which makes and collects child-size compression pillows for pediatric heart patients. He helps distribute the pillows at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, where his sister receives pediatric care.

When he’s not volunteering, McIntyre-Brewer enjoys computers, air rifles, wood-working and riding his all-terrain vehicle.

He has advice for other children who are considering volunteering but don’t know where or how to start.

“Try to find ways to get involved in the community that interests you. If you like sports, find a way to volunteer by running in charity runs. If you like animals, get involved with a shelter. There are needs all around you. You just have to figure out what your passion is and go from there,” he said.

McIntyre-Brewer said he’d like to be an Alaskan State Trooper when he grows up, because the job will combine his love of animals, nature and law enforcement. For now, he hopes that winning this award will provide an even larger platform for the causes that matter most to him.

“Perhaps my dream to finally have a memorial service at the Korean War memorial on Veteran’s Day, like there is at the World War II and Vietnam memorials, can finally become a reality,” he said.

McIntyre-Brewer has been recognized several times for his outstanding service to Wounded Warriors and veterans. In 2014, he received the Maryland Governor’s Volunteerism Award, and was named an official “Hero” for the “Kids are Heroes” Award.

“Veterans and Wounded Warriors aren’t ‘that guy in a wheelchair,’ or a homeless person that no one seems to care about,” he said. “They are normal people that want the same things we do. When I spend time with them, I feel like my family just gets bigger and bigger.”

Courtesy of Operation Homefront, each of the award recipients will receive \$10,000, a laptop computer and other donated gifts, and will fly with a parent or guardian to the nation’s capital for a recognition gala on April 16.

For more information about the Socks for Vets program, visit www.facebook.com/SocksforVets. For information about the Heart Hugs program, visit www.facebook.com/CHDHeartHugs.



Courtesy photo

Operation Homefront Army Military Child of the Year Cavan McIntyre-Brewer, top right, poses with Chief Warrant Officer 2 Daniel Fidler, top left; Cpl. Mark Fidler, bottom right, and Cpl. Timothy Donley, bottom left during a retirement ceremony in Washington, D.C. McIntyre-Brewer said Fidler was the inspiration behind his Vets pack goat project, which uses trained goats to carry camping, fishing and hunting supplies for Wounded Warriors.

CSA applauds APG commitment to Soldiers

Continued from Page 1

ons, vehicles and body armor.

As the test round hit the front of the helmet from close range – “the worst-case scenario” – a laser scan captured more than 300,000 data points, while two high-speed cameras recorded the impact. All of the information was quickly loaded into a database to determine whether the helmet met required safety standards and whether its performance could be improved.

“There are a lot of different ways to analyze what we have,” said Kelly Hacker, who briefed the general on how the Army thoroughly tests its latest Soldier protective equipment. “We can quickly query information from the database as customers need it.”

Outside the test center, Odierno visited several APG laboratories that host development, integration and field support functions for the Army’s tactical communications network – a top modernization priority as the service shifts to a leaner, globally responsive force.

Officials from the Army Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) and Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC) outlined key communications breakthroughs that will keep Soldiers connected during expeditionary maneuver, including robust en-route mission command capabilities for the Global Response Force, powerful data radios and small satellite dishes for dismounted Soldiers, and wireless networking for command posts.

“It’s where we absolutely need to go,” Odierno said, adding that the Army needs lightweight, mobile solutions for network connectivity so leaders can



During an April 7 visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Army Chief of Staff Gen Ray Odierno, right, listens as Lt. Col. Joel Babbit, product manager for Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Increment 1, left, briefs about expeditionary network efforts and wireless networking for command posts.

safely deploy “the smallest footprint possible,” and then grow capability over time as a theater matures.

The chief stressed an incremental approach to network modernization that will continuously introduce interim improvements to the force, while simultaneously promoting competition among

industry partners to drive to the next phase of innovation.

“Just like your smartphone gets better every year, Army communications technology will continue to become more capable, more lightweight and more user-friendly,” said Maj. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes, program executive

officer for C3T.

Throughout the trip, Odierno thanked testers and program managers – military and civilian – for their commitment to delivering the best possible technologies to Soldiers.

“This is really important,” he said. “We have to keep driving it.”

Did You Know?

The U.S. military evacuation of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, known as Operation Eagle Pull, preceding the Fall of Saigon, marked its 40th anniversary April 12.



Phnom Penh was the last remaining stronghold of the Khmer Republic, a U.S.-supported military government, but in April 1975 that government was collapsing with the advance of the Khmer Rouge, a powerful communist-based offshoot of the North Vietnamese People’s Army. As Khmer Rouge forces surrounded Phnom Penh and attacked its air and sea supply lines, U.S. forces prepared for an evacuation of U.S. Marines, embassy personnel and allied Cambodians. The plan, Operation Eagle Pull, mapped out more than two years prior, involved the activation of Amphibious Readiness Group Alpha, consisting of Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron 462 with its CH-53 helicopters, for airlifting evacuees to seven Navy ships, chief among them the USS Okinawa assault ship, positioned in the Gulf of Thailand.

Around 6 a.m. April 12, 1975, the plan went into action with the launching of 12 CH-53s from the deck of the Okinawa. Around 9:30 a.m., more than 300 Marines of HMH 462, after landing in the Landing Zone H (LZ Hotel) set up a defensive perimeter and began escorting evacuees to the helicopters. Ambassador John Gunther Dean notified Cambodian leaders that U.S. personnel were leaving the country and invited them to join but all declined except Saukham Knoy, a successor to the President of the Khmer Republic. All republic leaders who remained behind were executed by the Khmer Rouge.

At 9:45 a.m., the U.S. embassy closed. There would be no further diplomatic relationships between Cambodia and the United States until 1991. During Operation Eagle Pull, HMH-462 evacuated 84 US nationals and 205 Cambodians and third country nationals.

On April 17, 1975, the Khmer Rouge entered Phnom Penh, ending the Cambodian Civil War.

For the 2nd Battalion 4th Marines and Amphibious Ready Group Alpha, Operation Eagle Pull would serve as a rehearsal for Operation Frequent Wind 17 – the final phase of the evacuation of more than 7,000 American civilians and others from Saigon – 17 days later.

Operation Eagle Pull is depicted in the film “The Killing Fields.”

Yvonne Johnson, APG News

Source: www.history.navy.mil/; www.wikipedia.com

Owolabi envisions growth in APG SHARP programs

Continued from Page 1

Center located on the second floor of Bldg. 4305, the Janet M. Barr Soldier Center, has even more resources available to military and civilians. In addition, it’s designed to handle restricted and unrestricted cases

of sexual assault and sexual harassment.

Still, she is putting plans together for continued outreach in 2015 and is looking forward to the arrival of a new Victim Advocate who will work with her on sexual assault programs. Outreach is of primary importance,” Owolabi said. “I want to make this a program people can relate to and present it in a way they can understand.”

Upcoming programs in April include the SHARP Vignettes, a series of SHARP-focused situational skits that will be presented at the post theater April 29. This event will be hosted by the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. Check the APG News and APG social media sites for more information.

An Army retiree after 23 years of service, Owolabi started her career in SHARP as a Unit Victim Advocate at Fort Irwin, California and served at Fort Campbell, Kentucky and at the U.S. Naval Station at Annapolis prior to coming to APG.

Noting that April is Sexual Assault Awareness month, Owolabi said the issue is too important to relegate to only

one month of the year.

“One thing I like about this year is the installation commander’s vision to present a different event every month instead of cluttering everything into April,” she said. “So I am seeking new ways to remind people that this is still important and hopefully different commands will take on events year-round.”

She said that along with Tracy Marshall, the installation SHARP program manager, she also plans to increase training of SHARP victim advocates starting with an upcoming June workshop; an 80-hour SHARP Prevention Course that is mandatory for new victim advocates. The course, which will be attended by personnel from all over the Army, will be held June 15-26.

“The emphasis is on training,” she said, adding that in 2015, the program will become more recognizable through outreach at community events.

Owolabi proudly shares the fact that the program reached 98 percent of garrison personnel in 2014. Her goal, she said, is 100.

“This is all about making people feel safe and comfortable in their working environment,” she said. “I’ve done a lot but now with a victim advocate coming on board, I know I can do even more.”

Owolabi is located in the APG Garrison headquarters, Bldg. 305. She can be reached at 410-278-2572, theresa.owolabi.civ@mail.mil.

To report incidents of sexual assault/harassment, contact your unit or organization victim advocate; call the APG SHARP Hotline at 410-322-7154, or the DOD hotline at 877-995-5247. In an emergency, dial 911.



Owolabi



Like us on facebook

www.facebook.com/APGMd



Have a great idea for a story?

Know about any interesting upcoming events?

Wish you saw more of your organization in the paper?

The APG News accepts story ideas and content you think the APG community should know about.

- Story ideas or content must be geared toward the greater APG community and cannot appear to endorse any private company.
- The deadline for content to appear in an upcoming issue of the APG News is the **Thursday PRIOR** to publication. The APG News cannot guarantee submissions received after the Thursday prior to publication will appear in the next issue of the paper.
- Send story ideas or pre-written content to amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil or call 410-278-7274 for more information.
- Please note, the APG News editor reserves the right to (1) reject any content deemed inappropriate, irrelevant or against regulation, (2) delay the publication of submitted material if it is not timely and (3) edit or shorten content for space and style reasons without altering the meaning of the submission.

APG SNAPSHOT

Take 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/>.



FIREFIGHTER JOHNNY VISITS APG SOUTH CDC

(Above) From left, Leighann Dixon, Jack Demko and other 3-year-olds excitedly greet "Firefighter Johnny" at the APG South (Edgewood) Child Development Center April 13. (Above, right) Lt. Col. Ann Schiavetta smiles as she and her child greet the APG Fire Department mascot "Fireman Johnny."

APG firefighters and police officers from the Directorate of Emergency Services are visiting post centers with emergency vehicles, equipment and mascots as part of the Month of the Military Child festivities.

Photos by Stacy Smith



BLUE PINWHEELS RAISE ABUSE AWARENESS

Myka Johnson, 2, blows on a pinwheel at the APG South (Edgewood) Child Development Center April 10. During the day, parents received blue pinwheel pens and handouts and children received blue pinwheels to take home in honor of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The color blue and pinwheels symbolize child abuse prevention.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

LITTLE MAN HAS ORIOLES BASEBALL FEVER



As baseball season gets into full swing, Little Man gears up donning Maryland's major league team, the Orioles t-shirt and waving a pennant. Little Man sits atop a drain pipe on Maryland Boulevard, across the street from the commissary.



Photos by Rachel Ponder

CUTE CHARACTERS CHARM CHILDCARE CENTERS

(Above, left) Children pose in their favorite character costumes during Character Day festivities at the Bayside Child Development Center April 9. Back row, from left: Olivia Lendle and Jaden Adams, 4; Child and Youth Program Assistant Kim Bender, Ryker Hasty, Chimamanda Ohuka and Ethan Barton, 3; Front row, from left: Tristan Henke, Jade Trice, and Jackson Fink, 3; (Above, right) Jaden Adams plays with blocks in his Batman costume.