



APG NEWS

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

www.TeamAPG.com

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2015

Vol. 59, No. 29

Garrison leadership changes hands

Incoming APG Garrison Commander Col. James E. Davis accepts the garrison colors from Davis D. Tindoll Jr., director, Atlantic Region, Installation Management Command, during a change of command ceremony at the post theater July 22. The passing of the guidon symbolizes the change in leadership from Col. Gregory R. McClinton, right, who led the APG Garrison for three years, to Davis.

Photo by Sean Kief



By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Col. James E. Davis assumed command of the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground during a change of command ceremony at the APG post theater July 22. Davis succeeds Col. Gregory R. McClinton who served as the APG Garrison Commander for three years. Davis D. Tindoll Jr., director, Atlantic Region, Installation Management Command (IMCOM) served as the reviewing officer.

Tindoll led the passing of the garrison colors from McClinton to Davis, symbolizing the transfer of authority from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander. He was assisted by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey O. Adams.

Guests included Lt. Gen. Robert Ferrell, U.S. Army Chief Information Officer, G-6; Lt. Gen. Karen Dyson, Military Deputy for Budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller); APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command; Brig. Gen. William King IV, commander, 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives); Command Sgt. Maj. Harold Dunn, 20th CBRNE Command; Karen Taylor, chief of Staff, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command representing Maj. Gen. Daniel

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ICE system
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Army Community Service turns 50

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Team APG recognized the 50th anniversary of Army Community Service during a birthday celebration at the APG North (Aberdeen) bowling center July 17.

Featuring family-friendly activities and information about ACS programs and support services, the event honored the longstanding ACS motto, "real-life solutions for successful Army living."

APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford attended the celebration accompanied by his wife, Dianne. He said ACS is the "core" of Army living, and is an organization comprised of "folks that are behind the scenes who don't ask for a whole lot of glory or a whole lot of recognition for the things they do to keep the installation running."

"I just wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you," Crawford said.

He also welcomed newly-appointed ACS director Jennifer Eichler, who replaced acting director Linda Edwards July 13. Eichler worked

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From left, Army Community Service Director Jennifer Eichner; APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford and his wife, Dianne Crawford; Survivor Outreach Services Program Manager Mike Farlow; and Morale Welfare and Recreation Director Mike Lupacchino cut the cake during the ACS 50th anniversary celebration at the APG North (Aberdeen) bowling center July 17.

Photo by Molly Blossie



ACC-APG hosts change of command

926th Contracting Battalion redeploy, welcomes new commander

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

During a combined redeployment and change of command ceremony at the Mallette Auditorium, July 16, the Army Contracting Command-APG welcomed home Soldiers and civilians of the 926th Contracting Battalion and Lt. Col. Derek J. Draper relinquished command of the battalion to Lt. Col. Andrew T. Carter.

See **ACC**, page 17

Incoming commander of the 926th Contracting Battalion, Lt. Col. Andrew T. Carter, left, accepts the unit guidon from Army Contracting Command-APG Director Byron J. Young during a change of command ceremony at the Mallette Auditorium July 16.



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STREET TALK

If you won the lottery tomorrow, what would you do with the money?

"I would pay off my mortgages and my parents' mortgages. I'd probably distribute it amongst my family and make sure everybody has no more bills. And then I would buy an Audi R8."



Jonathan Cameron
RDECOM

"Retire, go to school for nursing, and raise kids."



1st Sgt. Rebekah Skobba
308th MI Battalion

"Pay off my house and probably try to invest in or start a business. But I wouldn't stop working, because work is something that we as human beings are made to do. I would try to find something productive to do, even if it was volunteer work."



Henry Pollard
PEO IEW&S

"I'd rent a humongous cruise ship, invite all my friends and go have one great cruise, and be broke when I get back."



Barbra Beaver
Family member

"I'd bank it. I'd buy a new truck, but mostly bank it."



Jim Hall
Retired military

SHARP™

SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE & PREVENTION

RESOURCE CENTER APG

Maintaining trust in our ranks

Trust is essential to building strong, cohesive, and combat-ready formations that can fight and win on the modern battlefield. In the profession of arms, trust can make the difference between victory and defeat.

We must maintain trust by ensuring that the SHARP program is understood and followed throughout our ranks. Leaders at every level must incorporate SHARP in all aspects of training and provide informed safety briefings during high-risk periods, such as holidays and deployments. By educating our Soldiers and civilians about prevention and intervention measures, we can reduce sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Through our deeds and not just words, we must make it clear that sexual assault is unacceptable and incompatible with the Army Values, Civilian Creed and Warrior Ethos. Leaders can do this by demonstrating the willingness to address incidents of sexual assault and by intervening to stop sexual harassment and sexual assault—thus why the Army's slogan "Not in my squad" must be a daily way of life in all that we do.

In addition to educating our formations, we must ensure that Soldiers feel comfortable contacting their Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or Victim Advocate (VA) if they feel they have been a victim.

SHARP training is more than annual refresher training. It is something that should be done by all leaders, all of the time. There are many intuitive ways to educate personnel to help broaden their SHARP knowledge. Coordinating training and discussions with local agencies, such as your CID Office, Special Victim Prosecutor (SVP) or Special Victim Counsel (SVC) can give your Soldiers and civilians a better understanding of what each has to offer. Training outside of the classroom with open dialogue and discussion has proven to be more effective than lectures and briefings.

Many installations, including APG, now offer a SHARP Resource Center that can assist in not only caring for victims of sexual assault, but also in providing education to commanders and leaders to better help them understand all facets of the SHARP program.

Over the past couple of years, we have seen an increase in SHARP reporting across the Army. This is not a bad thing. Over time, we want to increase reporting, specifically



King

ly unrestricted reports. This indicates that we have a culture in which victims trust their chain of command and understand that they will be treated with respect and sensitivity. In both FY13 and FY14, approximately nine percent of all reports taken were due to an assault prior to entering service. Reports from these survivors indicate they felt sufficiently confident in the response system to help them with something from their past.

According to the 2014 RAND Military Workplace Study, in FY14, there were a total of 2,525 victims who filed reports of sexual assault in the Army. This is an increase of eight percent over FY13 (2,335) levels and more than 60 percent over FY12 (1,572). Male victims comprised 27 percent of total victims filing reports compared to 18 percent in FY13.

It has been found that fewer service members experienced unwanted sexual contact in FY14 than in FY12. Rates of unwanted sexual contact decreased significantly for active-duty women in FY14 (4.6 percent), compared to rates in FY12 (7.1 percent). The rates of unwanted sexual contact for active-duty men remained relatively unchanged between FY12 (0.8 percent) and FY14 (1.2 percent).

Despite the emphasis, sexual assault is still one of the most underreported crimes, but progress is being made. In FY14, the Army received a report from an estimated 23 percent of victims, almost twice from the 14 percent reported in FY12.

Accountability of those who commit acts of sexual assault is also very important. In cases where the Army had jurisdiction over the alleged offender and the case had a disposition, commanders took action against 88 percent of subjects. In the remaining 12 percent of cases, there was insufficient evidence or a lack of cooperation from the victim. The addition of the SVC and SVP has greatly assisted in holding those accountable for their actions.

As we move forward, we will continue to see small changes to the SHARP program that will improve it.

As a commander, I encourage all Soldiers, civilians and family members to watch out for one another. By promoting a climate free of sexual harassment and sexual assault and addressing any instances immediately, we can stop these insidious crimes. The best way to eliminate these acts and to maintain the trust needed to succeed in our high-stakes profession is to live up to our Army Values each and every day.

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM E. KING IV

Commanding General, 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives)



Vanpoolers needed on APG North & South

APG Commuter Center

There are several existing vanpools looking for riders as well as individuals looking to start vanpools for the following locations:

APG North (Aberdeen) to:

- ◆ Newark, Delaware
- ◆ Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- ◆ White Marsh, Maryland
- ◆ Columbia, Maryland
- ◆ Aberdeen train station shuttle

APG South (Edgewood) to:

- ◆ Baltimore, Maryland
- ◆ Columbia, Maryland
- ◆ Newark, Delaware
- ◆ Washington, D.C.

Commuters only need to be willing to travel to the designated areas to ride the vanpool. For more information, contact the APG Commuter Center POC, Syreeta Gross, at 410-278-5491 or syreeta.a.gross.ctr@mail.mil.

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.

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

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Teaching teens financial management

“Mad Money City” teaches youth budgeting skills

Story and photos by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

APG teens got a taste of personal financial management during Mad City Money, a youth activity at Army Community Service July 15.

Hosted by the ACS Employment Readiness Program and the Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, the activity centered around 19 teens who were transported into the future where they had just graduated from college or technical school and were starting their first full-time, professional jobs.

The teens were given realistic scenarios in which they had a career, paycheck and family and were instructed to “purchase” homes, cars, food, clothing, child care and other necessities. To manage their money effectively, participants had to build a budget based on their income and existing debt.

They were challenged to budget their money to cover all expenses and to save for emergencies.

Nancy Hill and Dee Barretto, both from APGFCU, led the activity and taught participants how to record debit card purchases. Hill said Mad City Money allows teens to make financial mistakes and suffer the consequences of their decisions in a realistic, but safe, environment.

“Live below your means and within your needs,” Hill advised the teens.

Samaiya Ellison, 15, said she thought Mad City Money was a good learning experience.

“It’s stressful,” Ellison said about trying to establish and stick to a budget. “I can see why it’s important to not rack up credit card debt.”

Tyrell Lacoste, 15, said the exercise opened his eyes to living in the “real world.”

“I learned how to stick to a budget, so I don’t go overboard with luxuries,” he said.

Kristy Chau, 16, said the activity helped her appreciate the challenges that her parents deal with on a daily basis.



“It’s interesting; I did not realize how much money I need to support a family,” Chau said.

The next free financial session for teens, Job vs. Career, will be held July 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at ACS, Bldg. 2503. The session will help guide teens, ages 13 to 18, through the job and career process to achieve employment success. To register, call ACS Employment Program Manager Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

(Above) From left, Catherine Lau and Kristy Chau, 16, pick out a home to “purchase” during the Mad City Money teen budgeting activity at Army Community Service July 15.

(Right) From left, Armando Lasquete, 17, listens to financial advice from Dee Barretto, of the APG Federal Credit Union, while Brandon Lasquete, 15, records his expenses during a Mad City Money budgeting session.



Workshop ‘Powers Up’ personal brand

By **PAMELA LEIGH**
CECOM

With hands raised in unison, more than 70 participants vowed to “power up their brand” during a workshop hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) held at the Team C4ISR Mallette Training Facility (MTF) at Aberdeen Proving Ground July 15.

The first in a series of five workshops for women arranged by CECOM’s G-1/Human Resources Directorate, the theme for yesterday’s event was “PowerUp your Brand!” and was designed to inspire attendees to find their branded voice, set the tone for their brand and align their goals to the lifestyle they want to achieve.

Maria Esparraguerra, CECOM acting deputy to the commanding general, provided opening remarks to the inaugural event attended by both men and women from tenant organizations across Aberdeen Proving Ground.

“Some of the areas where we work have very few females and often we find ourselves as the only woman attending a meeting,” Esparraguera said. “This series of workshops is designed to assist all in interacting with others and achieving our goals,” she continued.

Facilitated by Melanie Spring, a speaker and branding expert, the two-hour interactive workshop challenged employees to “stop talking about what they want to do...and create real steps for achieving those plans.” In order to do that, Spring asked her audience to have an open mind, a willingness to dig deep and a readiness to look into the future.

For attendee Lindsay Newhouse, from CECOM’s Logistics and Readiness Center, Spring’s interactive presentation allowed the opportunity for her to view herself from the perspective of her fellow participants seated at her table.

“It was useful to see and observe how others view me in comparison to how I

view myself,” she said. “I have mostly worked only with men and it can sometimes be difficult to prove yourself in that environment. This workshop really made me think about both my personal and professional goals and how to achieve them.”

Debra Gizzi, CECOM G-8, concurred with Newhouse’s assessment of the morning’s activity. After recently receiving her master’s degree, one of her former professors encouraged her that in order to further progress forward you have to start “moving outside the box.” Gizzi thought the women’s workshop series would be a good way to start building that momentum.

“What I took from this experience,” she said, “is that in order to sell yourself to others, you have to let them know you’re available and you must step outside your walls, your comfort zone, in order to do that.”

Both Newhouse and Gizzi learned of the women’s workshop series from their training coordinator and both are looking forward to the next scheduled event about Financial Health on July 30 at the MTF.

The workshops are open to all APG employees, male and female, and will be offered on selected dates through the end of September. Remaining topics to be addressed are: Centering and Coping, Women in Leadership and Your Authentic Voice. Interested attendees should contact their training coordinator or CECOM’s G-1 for more information.

Branding expert Melanie Spring facilitates the first in a series of five workshops for women at the Mallette Training Facility July 15. Focused on “PowerUp your Brand!,” the two hour interactive workshop was designed to inspire attendees to find their branded voice, set the tone for their brand and align their goals to the lifestyle they want to achieve.

Photo by Greg Mahall



ICE

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Click on “ARMY” then “Aberdeen Proving Ground.”

Health expo puts focus on resiliency

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Dozens of APG civilians and Soldiers attended the C4ISR “Enhancing Resiliency – Strengthening Our Professionals” health expo at the Mallette Mission Training Facility July 16.

An array of representatives presented health and fitness-related displays and information on stress and weight management; eye health; ticks and tick-borne diseases; food label awareness; eye care; spiritual well-being; insurance; financial wellness and more. Health screenings, weight training demonstrations and seated massages also were featured.

Participating organizations included the APG Army Wellness Center; Army Substance Abuse Program; Army Community Service; Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation; the Chaplains’ Office; and several health care providers from the surrounding community.

The C4ISR Wellness Committee, led by Tiffany Grimes, CECOM G-1, hosted the event – part of an ongoing series of health-related projects in collaboration with the APG Health Promotion Council and Performance Triad, for CECOM and APG civilians, Soldiers and families.

Impacts of alcohol

At the Army Substance Abuse Program display, Cindy Scott and Staff Sgt. Lawrence Hawkins, a unit prevention leader from Fort Meade, demonstrated the effect alcohol has on the body using “drunk driving” glasses and a tabletop basketball hoop game. Scott said no one was able to toss the ball through the hoop while wearing the glasses and that the demonstration serves as a driving under the influence (DUI) deterrent.

Often “people don’t realize the effect even one mixed drink or one can of beer can have on their motor skills,” Scott said.

Informational material on the display explained that alcohol, a central nervous system depressant, is the most widely-used drug in the nation and additional materials detailed the alcohol and caloric content of popular mixed drinks.

“This is always an eye opener, especially to people who are trying to watch their weight,” Scott said.

ASAP is located in Bldg. 2477 at APG North (Aberdeen). Its programs and services include biochemical testing, clinical services, employee assistance program, and suicide and other prevention services. For more information, call 410-278-3784.

Healthy eating

A display led by nurse Anne Kelly, of Upper Chesapeake Health, addressed healthy food choices made while eating and shopping. It included guidance in reading food labels and evaluating caloric and sugar content in food as well as in popular drinks.

“There are websites to help you track calories and activities,” Kelly said. “If you have trouble you should always consult your health care provider.”

Massages & spine health

Attendees waited patiently for massage therapies as deep tissue specialist Ronnie E. Parker Jr. provided back massages. He said massages should be part of a monthly therapy for better living.

“It was wonderful,” said CECOM’s Yvette Groves, adding that she has “back and neck issues.”

“It was 10 minutes of ecstasy.”

Local chiropractors Jennifer Sims and Mark Kardonski of Optimal Spine Chiropractic offered spine alignment eval-



From left, Janet Jensen, an Edgewood Chemical Biological Center scientist shows a tick poster to Maj. Michelle Lewis and Katrina Gawlik of Army Contracting Center-APG during the C4ISR health expo at the Mallette Mission Training Facility July 16.

uations. After his consultation, Herman Chiu of CERDEC said he was impressed with the variety of information offered at the expo.

“Overall my health is good, but I found a lot of things here very interesting,” he said.

Eye health

Monica Worrell, marketing director for Advanced Eye Care, said attendees seemed most interested in dry eye issues and Lasik surgery.

“They also asked about our location and insurance,” she said, adding that she often participates in APG health events.

“We enjoy coming to APG; we get to meet new people as well as visit with our clientele,” she said.

Spiritual resiliency

The CECOM Chaplain’s Office display, led by CECOM Command Chaplain Col. Wayne Boyd, addressed spiritual fitness with a variety of handouts focused on handling stressors. The office, located in Bldg. 6001, is open to all CECOM civilians, contractors and Soldiers, according to Chaplain Assistant Sgt. James Howard.

He said just about everyone who stopped at the display took handouts for themselves as well as for family members and friends. “Everything here is uplifting and positive with encouraging words,” he said, “which is the goal of religious support services. We try to cover everything.”

Tick-borne diseases

The U.S. Army Public Health Command display detailed ticks and tick-borne diseases. With large posters of ticks and skin irritations such as the classic “bull’s eye” rashes of Lyme disease, it drew a great deal of attention. Janet Jensen an Edgewood Chemical Biological Center scientist, discussed how to identify, avoid and remove ticks, as well as the symptoms and treatment of tick-borne diseases.

A member of the Harford Lyme Advocates, a free support group, Jensen said that PHC Dr. Ellen Stromdahl leads the installation Tick Surveillance Program.

“One important message that the workforce needs to know is that anyone can bring a tick that they’ve removed to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic for evaluation,” Jensen said, adding that PHC personnel will examine all specimens and

CECOM health initiatives explained

According to CECOM Wellness Program Coordinator Tiffany Grimes, the program aims to “enhance the quality of life for our workforce, providing civilians, Soldiers and families with information on health, classes, and activities that will engage them, sustain them, and bring them together to share and celebrate life.”

“Our tag line is ‘Creating Wellness, One Step at a Time,’” she said.

The program covers a range of topics, including stress management, resiliency, nutrition, financial wellness, disease awareness (i.e. heart disease, prostate cancer, breast cancer, diabetes, etc.), Ergonomics, fitness classes for Slim Down Challenge participants, Yoga; CPR/AED training; tobacco cessation; suicide prevention; and more.

What’s more, she said, informational events are supported by activities such as walking/running events and health screenings for glucose, blood pressure, vision, body fat analysis and bone density; flu shots; and blood drives.

“CECOM actively participates in the APG Community Health Promotion Council and sub-working groups, and partners with installation and community wellness points of contact to enhance the wellness of the command,” Grimes said. “We also help plan installation activities and promote installation and other commands’ wellness activities to C4ISR.”

Grimes said the committee is composed of representatives from CECOM, the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center, the CECOM Software Engineering Center; and Communications-Electronics, Research, Development and Engineering Center, as well as the Army Contracting Command-APG; Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors; and Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical. As the program coordinator, Grimes leads efforts to create camaraderie among its partners and provide services that address the needs of the entire campus.

Providing a variety of topics to the workforce is paramount, she said.

“I want to expose the workforce and community to as many free screenings, information, services and health professionals as possible because often times we only pay attention to the routine screenings drilled into our heads and overlook other aspects of health. Many of us also do not routinely think of all the pillars of health and only focus on things like weight loss or smoking. For example, a lot of people don’t realize that an unhealthy spine can affect the whole body.”

She said attendees regularly provide positive feedback about the command’s health-related events and most praise the screenings and weight-loss challenges. Some have even tagged the information they’ve received as “life-saving.”

“It makes me feel good to know that our wellness program has a positive impact on the community. Some of our workforce comes from surrounding states, so these events give them the opportunity to meet health professionals they would not ordinarily meet.”

Grimes said future sessions are being planned and that members of Team APG should check the APG News or APG social media sites for more information. They include:

- Destress Session with Yogilates
- Boost Your Immune System/Sleep Awareness
- Domestic Violence/Self Defense Class
- Staying Healthy in the Workplace: 10000 Steps to Fitness/Nutrition/Conflict Resolution
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- Credit Score Info Session
- Holiday Health
- Holiday Spending Info Session
- Social Health & Wellness

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



Grimes

provides the findings to the patient.

For more information, visit the PHC website at www.phc.amedd.army.mil.

The C4ISR Wellness Committee continues to schedule health-related events

for Team APG. Check the APG News and APG social media sites for future events.

For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes, CECOM G-1, at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

events&town halls

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE DAY & EXPO

APG Army Community Service, in partnership with the APG Military Personnel Office/Directorate of Human Resources, the Susquehanna Workforce Network, and Department of Labor Licensing & Regulation, Local Veterans Employment Representative, will offer an Employment Resource Day & Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center open to all job seekers in the community.

Attendees should dress in business attire and bring plenty of resumes.

For more information, call the Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program at 410-278-9669/7572.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1

2ND GARRISON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SYMPOSIUM

The APG Garrison and the Directorate of Human Resources are proud to announce the garrison's 2nd Garrison Professional Development Training Symposium Sept. 1 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Top of the Bay.

More details are to follow. For more information, contact Celestine Beckett at 410-306-2333 or celestine.beckett.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY AUGUST 6

SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE

The Armed Services Blood Program and Aberdeen Proving Ground will host a summer blood drive at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

meetings&conferences

FRIDAY JULY 24

CBRNE GREEN DRAGON BALL

Celebrate the 97th year of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps during the Annual National Capitol Region 2015 Joint CBRNE Green Dragon Ball starting 6 p.m. at The Waterford, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield, Virginia 22150. This event will be hosted by Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Spoehr, director, Army Office of Business Transformation, Office of the Under Secretary of the Army. The keynote speaker is Brig. Gen. William E King IV, Deputy ACoS, G3/5/7, U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. To RSVP, register, or for more information, visit the Green Dragon Ball website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/greendragonball/> or email usarmy.APG.ecbc.mbx.green-dragonball@mail.mil.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19

31ST ANNUAL WOMENS EQUALITY DAY OBSERVANCE

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) and Team APG Federal Women's Program invite the community to attend the 31st annual APG celebration of Women's Equality Day (WED), 9:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center ballroom.

During the observance, APG's Outstanding Woman of the Year, Outstanding Supervisor/Manger of the Year, and Activity Most Supportive of FWP Goals will be recognized. Maj. Gen. Linda Singh, Maryland National Guard Adjutant General, will serve as guest speaker. This year's theme is "Women's Right to Vote"

For more information, contact Elizabeth Young, 410-278-1392, elizabeth.h.young.civ@mail.mil.

health&resiliency

JULY 23 & 28

DENTAL CLINIC CLOSURE

The APG South (Edgewood) dental clinic will be closed Thursday, July 23; and Tuesday, July 28 due to provider shortage. All patients will be routed to the APG North (Aberdeen) Dental Clinic.

For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Tasheva Pouncey, senior dental NCO, at 410-278-1795 or tasheva.l.pouncey@mail.mil.

FRIDAY JULY 31

DENTAL CLINIC CLOSURE

The APG Dental Clinic will open for sick call 7 to 8:30 a.m. and then close for the remainder of the day for Commander's Call. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Tasheva Pouncey, senior dental NCO, at 410-278-1795 or tasheva.l.pouncey@mail.mil.

TUESDAY AUG. 4

DE-STRESS INFO SESSION

The C4ISR Center of Excellence will host a De-Stress Info Session featuring Yogilates: Fitness, Health & Joy, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. This event is open to all members of Team APG. For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901, tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY AUG. 27

IMMUNE SYSTEM/SLEEP AWARENESS INFO SESSION

A Boost Your Immune System/Sleep Awareness Info Session will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the ACC Training room at Bldg. 6001, room 224 on the C4ISR Center of Excellence Campus. This event is open to APG military, civilians and contractors. Non-C4ISR attendees must pre-register by Aug. 19.

To register, or for more information, contact Tiffany Grimes, G-1, at 443-861-7901, tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

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:

- July 23, 29
- Aug 13, 25
- Sep 10, 22

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

ONGOING

WEAR BLUE: RUN TO REMEMBER HARFORD COUNTY/APG

A Harford County/APG-based Wear Blue: Run to Remember community has been established, with ongoing meets the second Saturday of every month 8:30 a.m. at the Maryland and Pennsylvania Heritage Trail in Fallston.

Wear Blue: Run to Remember communities run, jog and walk in honor of the nation's fallen, fighting and families.

Those interested in participating in the run should meet at the Annie's Playground – Pavilion at 864 Smith Lane, Fallston, Maryland. Pets are allowed, but park rules do not allow retractable leashes.

All ability levels are welcome. Participants are strongly encouraged to wear blue.

Upcoming dates include:

- August 8
- September 12
- October 10

For more information, contact Robin Bruns at 910-987-6764 or brunsr@yahoo.com.

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.

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

Sep. 16 – APG North Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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

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

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

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

family&children

SATURDAY AUGUST 15

SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

Operation Homefront and the Aberdeen VFW Post 10028 ladies auxiliary will host a free Back to School Supply Giveaway to eligible recipients 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Post 10028, 821 Old Philadelphia Road (near the Route 715 gate) in Aberdeen.

Eligible recipients include:

- Active duty military, E-1 to E-6
- National Guard and Reserves, E-1 to E-6 on Title 10 or Title 32 Orders
- Wounded or Retired of any rank

Pre-registration is required. To register, email VFWLA10028@gmail.com. A confirmation email will be sent. Print the email and bring it to the event as your receipt.

For more information, contact Martha (Martie) King at 301-943-1132.

miscellaneous

THROUGH JULY 31

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The annual hydrant flushing at APG starts June 22 and run through July 31, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The schedule is tentative and will be followed as closely as possible.

- Through 24: ARL, restricted areas
- July 27-31: ARL, restricted areas

For more information, contact government representative, Dennis Overbay at 443-206-8910 or City of Aberdeen representative, Roger Hall at 410-272-1449

ONGOING

HOT WORK PERMIT

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

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

Please give 24 hours notice prior to the work or event. Leave a message if there is no answer. For more information, call 410-306-0001.

THROUGH 2015

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSES

Training schedules have been set for the 2015 Local Hazards Course and Intermediate Driver's Course. Training will be held in Bldg. 4305 Susquehanna Avenue, room 243A. Attendees must register online at AIRS through the www.TeamAPG.com web site at <https://apps.imcom.army.mil/airs/>.

Local Hazards Course:

This is a 30-minute course is for personnel who are new to APG. It is a mandatory course for all APG service members, family members, DOD civilians, and contractors who are licensed motorcycle drivers. Those on temporary duty (TDY) at APG for more than 30 day also are required to take the course. Additional classes will be added as needed.

Course time: 7:30 to 8 a.m. and 8:15 to 8:45 a.m.

Course dates: Aug. 13; Sept. 17; Oct. 8; Nov. 12; and Dec. 10.

Intermediate Driver's Course:

This two-and-one-half hour course builds on themes introduced during the Introductory Course 1 taken during basic and advanced individual training. This course is mandatory for service members age 26 and younger and may be used to satisfy the remedial defensive driving course. Additional classes will be added as needed.

Course time:

Course time: 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Course dates: Aug. 13; Sept. 17; Oct. 8; Nov. 12 and Dec. 10

For more information, contact H. Mike Allen at the Installation Safety Office at 410-306-1081 or horace.m.allen.civ@mail.mil.

THROUGH 2015

RETIRING SOON? UNCLE SAM WANTS TO THANK YOU!

Are you an APG Soldier or civilian nearing retirement from government service? Consider participating in the monthly Installation Retirement Ceremony.

The APG Garrison hosts the event the last Thursday of each month – except November – and the first Thursday in December, at the Dickson Hall (Ball Conference Center).

All Soldiers and civilians are eligible to participate in the Installation Retirement

Ceremony regardless of unit or organization.

This is a program designed to thank retiring personnel for their loyalty and perseverance and for the sacrifices they endured while serving the nation. Retirees are encouraged to participate and to share this day with family members and friends.

For more information, contact Lisa M. Waldon, Garrison Training Operations Officer, at 410-278-4353 or email lisa.m.waldon.civ@mail.mil.

ONGOING

SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS BONUS

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

August 2, 1990 to March 3, 1991 – All active service counts for payment.

March 4, 1991 to December 31, 1992 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for the Southwest Asia Service Medal counts for payment.

January 1, 1993 to September 10, 2001 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for any United States campaign or service medal awarded for combat operations against hostile forces counts for payment.

September 11, 2001 to a date to be determined – All active service counts for payment.

Veterans with qualifying service from Aug 2, 1990 to Dec 31, 1992 [Desert Storm] may receive one bonus of up to \$500.00. Veterans with qualifying service after Jan 1, 1993 may receive another bonus of up to \$500.00. Only federal active duty is applicable for bonus purposes. Active Duty for training is not allowed for Bonus purposes.

Applicants living outside of South Dakota may obtain an application by email at john.fette@state.sd.us. Include your branch of the military and dates of service. You may request an application and instructions by writing SD Veterans Bonus, 425 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or by calling 605-773-7251.

ONGOING

ARMY DISASTER PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY & ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

All Department of the Army personnel must validate their emergency data as well as their family members in the Army Disaster Personnel Accountability & Assessment System (ADPAAS).

Visit <https://adpaas.army.mil> and follow the instructions below to validate/update your personnel data:

- Select "Soldiers, DA civilians, NAF employees, OCONUS contractors and their family button."
- Choose one of the three login methods
- Click the "My Info" tab.
- Select "Contact Information" to review, add or edit emergency contact information.
- Select "Family Member Info" to review, add or edit your family member information.

Individuals in a geographic area of natural or man-made disasters will be prompted to complete an assessment survey.

MORE ONLINE

More events can be seen at www.TeamAPG.com

If you see it, report it

Aggressive driving has no place at APG
call 410-306-0550



PEO C3T to host third acquisition lecture

By **NANCY JONES-BONBREST**
PEO C3T

Now-retired Gen. Paul Kern, who served as the key personal advisor to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Political-Military Affairs, is well known for revitalizing the way Army Materiel Command approaches research and acquisition support and for commanding the Army Experimental Force as it laid the foundation for a networked battlefield.

Now, Kern will offer his insights to the workforce when he takes the stage during the next installment of the Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series July 23 at the APG North (Aberdeen) Mallette Auditorium at 1:30 p.m.

Kern served in the Army for almost 38 years, holding several key leadership roles, including Commanding General Army Materiel Command; Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology; Commander of the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized); and

Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

In 2004, Kern was tapped by the Secretary of Defense to lead the military's internal investigation of the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

Now he will share his experiences with the acquisition workforce during the third installment of the Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series. Discussion topics include understanding the current acquisition process and how that process fits into the larger Army picture.

"The Program Executive Office community is very important to the future of our Army; we have to get acquisition right," Kern said. "We as an acquisition community are building products for other people to use; we must work as a team with the total Army, and not just in acquisition but in every aspect of our jobs."

Created by the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical, the lecture series provides an opportunity for former

Army acquisition leaders to share their expertise and engage in discussion with the workforce at APG.

During the most recent lecture in the series, held on March 24, retired Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle, who throughout his career pushed for a network-centric force, urged the audience not to forget that they work for the Soldier first, and to take risks when necessary to provide troops with the critical capabilities they need to be successful.

During the first lecture, held last year, retired Lt. Gen. William Campbell reviewed examples of acquisition success stories during a period of declining budgets; discussed the recent history of Army acquisition reform; and reminded the workforce members in attendance that although the acquisition process is often complex, it has also delivered and deployed the world's best and most technically advanced weapons systems.

The Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series, free and open to the entire APG workforce, focuses on the intersection of acquisition and the Army's



Kern

command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) technologies. The goal is to leverage lessons of the past as the APG community continues to develop capabilities of the future force.

Chapel, volunteers host Vacation Bible School

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

Nearly 100 children, in preschool through sixth grade, attended a Mount Everest-themed Vacation Bible School held at the main post chapel July 13-17.

Director of Religious Education John Mark Edwards led the event, and he said the week was about teaching children to rely on God during difficult situations.

"Life has its challenges, but with God's power in our lives, we can overcome," he said.

With the theme, "Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power," each night the program opened with "Base Camp," an energetic song service led by volunteers Anne Jachnick, Raishawn Moorhead and Jemall Pittmam. The children were taught daily memory verses and Bible points, like "God has the power to provide," "God has the power to forgive," and "God has the power to heal."

After Base Camp, they were assigned to a groups named, "Yeddy," "Pike," and "Cliff" before separating to different activities. The week featured interactive skits, crafts, videos, games and snacks that fit into the Everest theme.

Edwards said that VBS brings people together; more than 60 volunteers from the Protestant, Gospel and Catholic services and youth groups led the week-long event, which was open to all children in the community.

"Different faiths come together as one community," he said.

Volunteer Sgt. First Class Buffie Hall, a chaplain assistant with the 20th CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives) Command, said she enjoyed teaching the preschool age group.

"We do interactive activities to explain



Kindergartener Faith Mesngon anticipates getting splashed by water during an activity at the Mount Everest-themed Vacation Bible School. The APG main post chapel hosted nearly 100 children for VBS July 13-17.

what the Bible is all about," she said.

Hall, who has been a chaplain's assistant for 23 years, said she looks forward to VBS every year.

"I love telling God's story to children," she said. "So they will grow up

knowing God's story and they can carry it on and teach other people."

Xavier Erby, a fourth grade student, said he is excited to come to VBS.

"There are fun things to do," he said. "And I like learning about God."

For more information about religious education offered through the Religious Support Office, contact Edwards at 410-278-2516 or john.m.edwards3.civ@mail.mil.



Jeanne Weaver, KUSAHC registered nurse

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Jeanne Weaver has been a registered nurse for more than 40 years, the last three of which she's spent working with patients at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Weaver sees a "constant flow" of patients in the Primary Care Clinic each day.

"We evaluate them [patients], assess them and see if it's something we can help them with," Weaver said.

The nursing staff provides the physician with information about each patient after their initial examination. Weaver said that some patients may need something as simple as cold medicine, while others might be in the midst of a medical

emergency. She said she tries to get at the root of each patient's medical issue.

"When you talk to them you've got to find out what's going on," Weaver said. "You've got to ask an awful lot of questions to figure out what the real problem is."

Clinic patients include active-duty military, retirees and family members. Weaver said the most common ailments she sees are heart problems. She also sees a lot of younger patients suffering health effects from drinking too many protein drinks, which are often laden with hidden, unhealthy additives.

Weaver said she likes to provide her patients with extra health information, and she encourages them to avoid eating or drinking "anything in excess."

"You meet people from the outside and see what they have to offer and then you're able to bring that back to your

patients," Weaver said.

In addition to health classes, KUSAHC provides patients with basic services, such as physical therapy, X-ray and laboratory services. Weaver also provides patients with referrals for outside specialists as needed.

While in the Army Reserves in 1991, Weaver deployed to Operation Desert Storm, where she managed a hospital emergency room. She said she enjoys nursing because she's always learning new things.

"I started out with an associate's degree as an RN and now I've got my master's," she said.

Weaver also is the case coordinator and special needs advisor for the clinic Exceptional Family Member program.

For more information, contact Weaver at 410-278-8570, or jeanne.a.weaver.civ@mail.mil.

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

DO OBSERVE & REPORT

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



INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

DON'T

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss FP measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose information about R&D and testing.

Report suspicious activity immediately to APG Police!



APG (North & South): 410.306.2222
Off Post in Maryland call 1-800-492-TIPS or 911

Card created by APG Intel





MEMORIES OF 'NAM



Vet assembled sensors for Op. Igloo White

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

He served proudly. He was even awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross. But 50 years later, U.S. Air Force veteran John Farmer has had trouble proving he served at all.



Farmer

Born at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Farmer moved to Havre de Grace, Maryland in the third grade. He graduated from Havre de Grace High School and attended Harford Community College. He said with the current state of the war in 'Nam and the political climate, everyone was trying to get into college.

"I was trying to transfer to Towson [University] but I was a day late and a dollar short," he said. "They had no room."

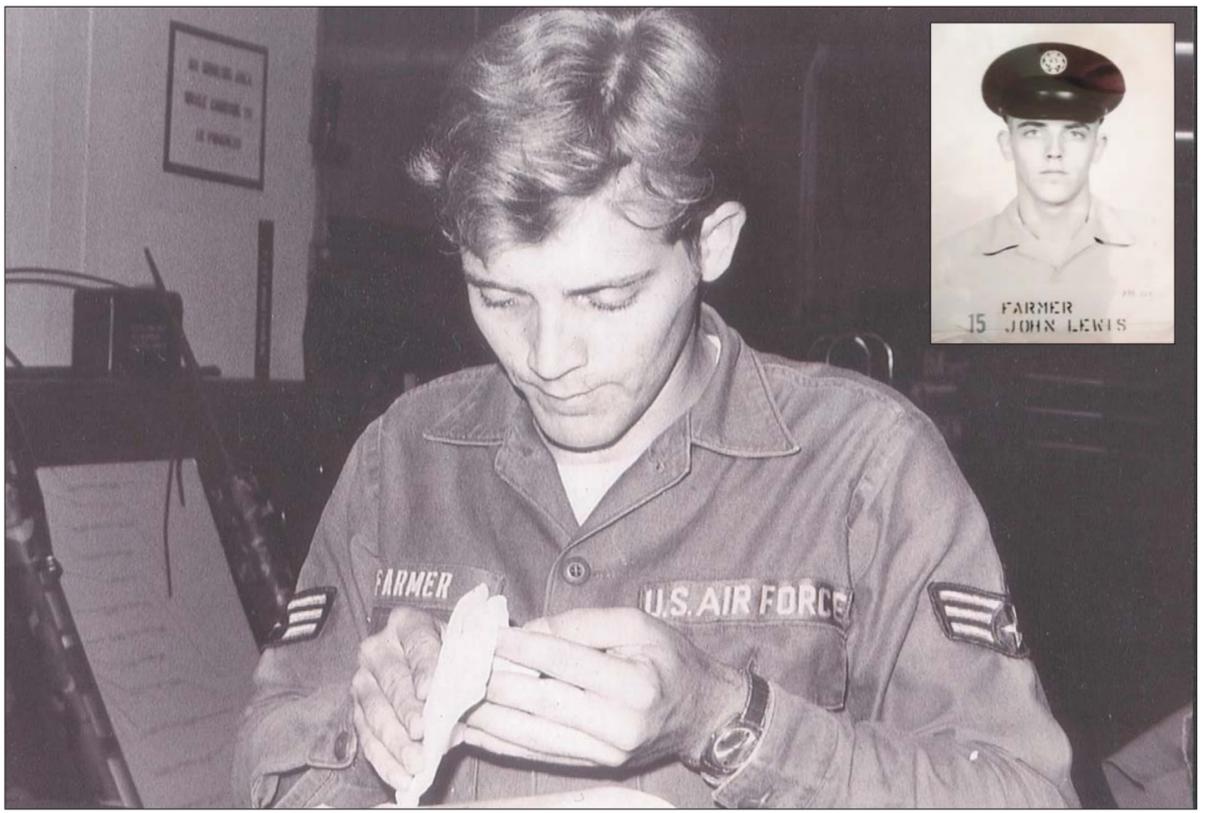
Farmer said due to his high draft status, for him, military service was inevitable.

"I was [category] 1-A so I knew I was going anyway," he said. "I tested pretty well and was offered the Air Force so I took it."

He entered the USAF Aug. 15, 1969. He attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas and arrived for training as an Aircraft Radio Technician at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi in August 1969, just after Hurricane Camille. He eventually took additional radio technical courses in 1971 at the former Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, South Carolina and at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

Farmer was sent overseas, but to Thailand in November 1971 and was assigned to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, a front-line facility of the USAF during the Vietnam War. Fighter squadrons at Ubon typically flew combat missions to North Vietnam.

Assigned to a Sensor Shop Securi-



Courtesy Photos

(Above) As a senior airman stationed at Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand, Farmer assembles a sensor used in the secret Operation Igloo White program. (Inset) A young Air Force recruit, John Farmer smiles for his basic training photos.

ty mission, Farmer said it was his job to assemble and load classified motion sensors as part of the secret Operation Igloo White program. According to Wikipedia, the operation "utilized electronic sensors, computers and communications relay aircraft in an attempt to automate intelligence collections. The system signals picked up by other strike aircraft would then assist in the direction to their targets."

At Ubon, Farmer said they "built" about 75 sensors a day.

"They'd drop them along the Ho Chi Minh Trail during the day and AC-130s would pull them up at night," he said.

The Airmen worked 12-hour shifts assembling the mechanisms, Farmer said.

Though the majority of his duty was "pretty cut and dry, it had its moments," he recalled.

The two incidents that defined his tour involved single-handedly "taking out" a Viet Cong mortar team and flying a helicopter with no formal training.

The first incident occurred during his first two months in country. While on guard duty, he and a fellow Airman sighted four Viet Cong soldiers in a truck filled with mortars along their perimeter. Farmer said they low-crawled through brush that had been leveled by Agent Orange to surprise the combatants.

"We jumped up and started shooting and my partner's gun jammed." He said. His partner was shot but Farmer said he just "kept shooting and took out all four with nine bullets."

"Thirty seconds later an APC [armored personnel carrier with reinforcements] rolled up."

He said that the base commander congratulated him after the incident and informed him that 75 other combatants were spotted on the other side of the perimeter awaiting the mortar signal to attack.

"I never shot anyone else the rest of the time I was there," he said.

Farmer earned an award normally bestowed on aviators when he had to take control of a UH-1 helicopter after the pilot was shot and killed in flight.

He said it happened during a 137 mile journey into the jungle to retrieve sensors.

"We got an Army Huey and two 77-gallon fuel pods and took off at dawn. War only happens at night but we still had F-14 and other gun support."

On the way in, Farmer said he received about four minutes of flight training from the pilot who showed him how to maneuver and keep the aircraft level. They arrived safely, retrieved the sensors and were on the return trip when he said the pilot again offered him the controls.

"He had just given me the stick when an AK-47 round came up and hit him right below the nose," Farmer said.

With the pilot dead, there was nothing to do but try to maintain control of the aircraft. Farmer said with the help of the door gunner they made it back to Ubon.

"It was real scary. We were running low on fuel. I knew to head south-southwest because we had flown north-northeast on the way up. We had to work hard to maintain control of the Huey while looking for landmarks and trying to keep from getting shot down," he said. "It seemed like it took us forever to get back."

When they "got close enough," he said, they finally spotted Ubon and "just headed for it."

"We almost took out a guard tower," he chuckled. "The rough landing was really a nine-foot drop and we ripped out a chain link fence in the process."

The crowd that gathered around the aircraft included the base commander who again commended him for "bringing the bird back."

"It was pretty exciting but sad too because the pilot was dead," he said.

Before he left Thailand, in November 1972, Farmer said he was instructed not to talk about his mission or to even explain his award. He said it was then that he realized that Sensor Shop Security officially did not exist.

"They told me 'you can talk about it when the Berlin Wall comes down,'" he said.

He said that even when his brother, who worked for the National Security Agency at the time, picked him up at Friendship Airport (now BWI) he wouldn't tell him how he got the award. Farmer spent his final six months in uniform at Loring Air Force Base in Maine.

After the military he worked in electrical manufacturing for more than 14 years and spent time in the equipment testing industry and in sales.

Farmer still has the slide projector he bought in Thailand in 1972 along with dozens of slides showing the villages and country side. From flower gardens to distinctive architecture to elephant labor, his collection completely captures the aura of everyday life in Thailand during that tumultuous period.

Fortuitously, he also maintained copies of most of his records, including awards, assignments and training materials. It was several years later, when he was seeking treatment for his exposure to Agent Orange, that he learned a significant part of his personnel files were missing.

"The only thing it shows is when I entered the Air Force and that I was honorably discharged," he said. "Nothing in between."

It took a notarized letter from a fellow former Airman he served with from Bowie, Maryland, who vouched that Farmer served in him in Thailand to secure his medical benefits from the Veterans Administration in 2013.

Farmer, who also battles post-traumatic stress disorder, said he's proud of his service, though he feels victimized and ignored by the government. He said the changes 'Nam wrought live on in him today.

"Sometimes I don't even try to get along with people and I don't take crap off of anybody," he said. "But I love my family and I love my country and that will never change."

Farmer and his wife, Carolyn, live quietly in Havre de Grace.

[Editor's Note: According to publicly released documents at www.dtic.mil, Operation Igloo White was downgraded to "secret" in 1978 and declassified by the Air Force Declassification Office and approved for public release Aug. 15, 2006.]

BY THE NUMB#RS

Parks & Recreation Month

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Parks and Recreation Month, a time to showcase the impact parks and recreation has in every community.

292,800,082

Number of visits to America's 405 national parks in 2014, an all-time record.

13,200,000

Acres that encompass Wrangell St. Elias National Park & Preserve in Alaska. The largest park in America - Switzerland, along with Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks - could fit within Wrangell's borders.

18,000

Acres that comprise Gunpowder Falls State Park. Located in Harford and Baltimore Counties, Gunpowder State Park features more than 120 miles of trails, protected state wildlands, historic sites, fishing and canoeing/kayaking streams, a swimming beach and a marina.

158

Years since Central Park initially opened in New York City. Today, Central Park is the most visited urban park in the U.S. as well as one of the most filmed locations in the world.

143

Years since Yellowstone National Park, in Wyoming, was established as America's first national park. The majority of the world's geysers are preserved here.

113

Parks listed on the Harford County Government website.

By **RACHEL PONDER** APG News

Source(s): www.nps.gov/; www.harfordcountymd.gov/parks_rec/parks.cfm; www.centralparknyc.org/; www.npsa.org/; <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/central/gunpowder.aspx>



ALL THINGS MARYLAND

The Baltimore Basilica

An early American symbol of religious freedom

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

Over the last 200 years, a National Historic Landmark and national shrine located in Baltimore has hosted dignitaries and historical figures as diverse as President Andrew Johnson, poet Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

The Baltimore Basilica, also known as the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was constructed between 1806 and 1821. With its completion, it became the first metropolitan cathedral in America and a symbol of the fledgling nation's religious freedom.

According to the Basilica's website, for more than 100 years up to the American Revolution, the Roman Catholic Church in America consisted of a persecuted but devout minority. With the adoption of the new Constitution, however, church leaders sought to build a cathedral to celebrate their newly acquired right to publicly worship.

Baltimore's historic Basilica was the center of the country's first archdiocese, from which two-thirds of U.S. Catholic dioceses can trace their heritage. The Basilica also oversaw the first order of African-American Religious, the Oblate Sisters of Providence, founded by Mother Mary Lange.

Bishop John Carroll, first bishop of the United States and later Archbishop of Baltimore, had a hand in the cathedral's design. He rejected the popular Gothic Revival style of the time, which was reminiscent of the European Dark Ages, and opted instead for the neoclassical style of the new federal buildings in Washington, D.C. He wanted the cathedral's design to be uniquely American.

When Benjamin Henry Latrobe heard of the bishop's plans, he volunteered his architectural services. Latrobe, having designed the U.S. Capitol, is considered the father of American architecture.

After its construction, the cathedral was dedicated to the Service of God by Archbishop Ambrose Maréchal under the title of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was upgraded to a minor basilica in 1937 by Pope Pius the XI.

Merriam-Webster defines a basilica as a large, Roman Catholic Church giv-



(Above) The Baltimore Basilica, constructed in 1821 and located in the city's Mount Vernon district, is the nation's first metropolitan cathedral and a symbol of religious freedom. More than 100,000 people of all faiths visit the Basilica every year.

(Left) This painting, in the West Saucer Dome, depicts the Patroness of the Cathedral, "The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven." Benjamin Henry Latrobe, considered the father of American architecture, designed the Basilica in the neoclassical style.

en special ceremonial privileges by the pope. The Baltimore Basilica has been the site of several religious councils; it was also a stop on Pope John Paul II's 1995 tour of Baltimore. More than 100,000 people visit the Basilica every year, making it one of Baltimore's popular tourist destinations.

A tour of the Basilica includes the upper church, where Mass is celebrated daily, and an undercroft, which features the Basilica's museum and crypt. The museum houses hundreds of artifacts and antiques dating back to the 17th century. Its collection includes religious vestments, altar vessels, and

letters exchanged between various presidents and archbishops.

The Baltimore Basilica is open to the public and is located at 409 Cathedral Street in the Mount Vernon cultural district. For more information, call 410-727-3565, or visit <http://baltimorebasilica.org/>.

Three women continue to second phase of Ranger course

By **LORA STRUM**
Army News Service

The three women currently enrolled in the Ranger course on Fort Benning, Georgia, moved on to the Mountain phase portion of the course, July 11, after having met the standard to move out of the Darby phase.

The three women were not alone in moving to the mountain phase of the course. A total of 161 Soldiers completed Darby phase and moved into mountain phase, including three women and 158 men. Soldiers, who end up meeting the standards of the mountain phase of the course, will move to the Florida phase of Ranger course, Aug. 1.

In April 2015, for the first time in Army history, 19 women were allowed to participate in Ranger course as part of a Ranger course assessment. The assessment is a regular Ranger course, with all the same physical requirements. The Ranger course completion standards, to include prerequisites, phase performance requirements and graduation standards, were not changed as part of the assessment.

Assessing female Soldier performance in the Ranger course is part of an ongoing Army effort called Soldier 2020. That effort is meant to allow the Army's best-qualified Soldiers an opportunity to serve in any position where they are capable of performing to standard.

The Ranger course begins with the Ranger assessment phase, also called RAP week. RAP week is followed by the Darby phase, which includes fast-paced instruction on troop-leading procedures, principles of patrolling, demolitions, field craft, and basic battle drills focused

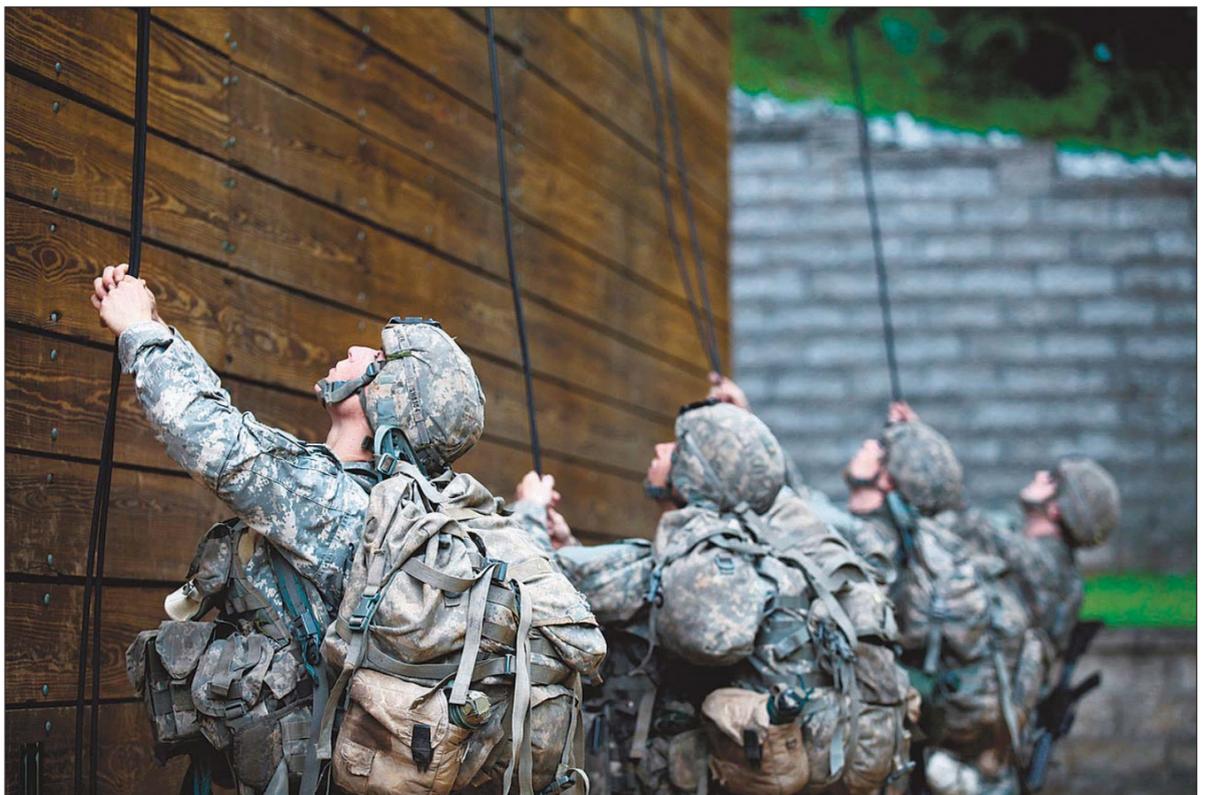


Photo by Pfc. Yvette ZabalaGarriga

Soldiers participate in rappel training during the Ranger Course on Camp Merrill in Dahlonega, Georgia July 12.

on squad ambush and reconnaissance missions.

The mountain phase consists of four days of military mountaineering training, four days of techniques training, 10 days of student-led patrols, and one administrative day, where the students are counseled on their performance.

The last phase of the Ranger course, on Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, focuses on skills needed to survive in a rain forest or swamp.

While just three female Soldiers from the initial Ranger course assessment remain, proponents of allowing women to become Rangers, including Army

Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, remain positive that the pilot program will produce results.

"I think we have had many females, who have done such a terrific job preparing," Odierno said. "I think we will continue to do that and we will just see how it goes from there."

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

MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



Upcoming Activities

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

LET'S COOK! INTERNATIONAL COOKING CLASS AUGUST 3-7

CYSS will host an international cooking class that will teach children skills to prepare food from different places around the world.

The second session will run Monday, Aug. 3 to Friday, Aug. 7. Each session will be held at the Corvias Community Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Children will learn about sanitation, kitchen safety and different recipes that require little help from parents. Each session includes a \$35 supply fee and is open to children ages 7 to 15.

For more information, email shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-4589.

LEISURE & TRAVEL

PA RENAISSANCE FAIRE AUGUST 1 - OCTOBER 25

Experience the fantasy of a marvelous trip back in time to the days of yore as the castle gates swing wide to usher in the 35th season of the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.

Featuring 35 acres of jousting knights and royal delights, the faire welcomes you with a cast of hundreds of costumed merry-makers, more than 90 shows daily, manicured gardens, scores of artisans demonstrating ancient crafts and 22 royal kitchens -- truly the faire remains a marvelous fantasy of bygone days and knights.

Tickets are \$23.25 for adults and \$10 for children ages 5-11. Registration deadline is July 9.

To purchase tickets, visit Leisure Travel Services at the recreation center, Bldg. 3326. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or email usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

MARYLAND STATE FAIR AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 7

The Leisure Travel Office is offering tickets to the Maryland State Fair at 2200 York Rd., Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$2.50 for children ages 6-11, \$19 for ride-all-rides passes, and \$11 for food vouchers. Registration deadline is Aug. 17. To purchase tickets, visit Leisure Travel Services at the recreation center, Bldg. 3326. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or email usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

The Leisure Travel Office is offering seats on a bus to New York City Sept. 26. The bus will leave the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center at 7 a.m. and return to the recreation center at 9 p.m., depending on traffic. The cost is \$48 per person. To reserve a seat, visit Leisure Travel Services at the recreation center, Bldg. 3326. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or email usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

AMUSEMENT PARK DISCOUNT TICKETS 2015 SEASON

The Leisure Travel Office is offering discount tickets to the following amusement parks on the eastern seaboard.

- Six Flags America (Maryland)
- Six Flags Great Adventure (New Jersey)
- Six Flags Hurricane Harbor (New Jersey)
- Dutch Wonderland (Pennsylvania)
- Hershey Park (Pennsylvania)
- Sesame Place (Pennsylvania)
- Carowinds (North Carolina)
- Busch Gardens (Virginia, Florida)
- Water Country USA (Virginia)
- Kings Dominion (Virginia)

Prices vary and are subject to change without notice. For ticket prices, and more information, visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation-and-sports/ticket-office or call 410-278-4011/410-436-2713.

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.

SPORTS & RECREATION ULTIMATE FRISBEE WEDNESDAYS

Ultimate Frisbee matches will be held at Shore Park on APG North (Aberdeen), Every Wednesday from 5:15 to 7 p.m.

Ultimate Frisbee is a limited-contact team field sport played with a frisbee. Points are scored by passing the disc to a teammate in the opposing end zone. Other rules imply that players must not take steps while holding the disc (but may maintain a pivot) and interceptions and incomplete passes are turnovers.

All levels of players are invited -- beginners are welcome to come out and try a new activity!

FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY @ RUGGLES JULY 16 - OCT. 30

Ruggles will offer a Friday Night Fish Fry and golf special, including nine holes of golf with cart and a beer-battered fish and chips dinner with fries and coleslaw. Cost is \$25 for military personnel, \$30 for all others. The cost of dinner only is \$15.95.

For more information, call Rik Bond at 410-278-4794 or email richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil.

KAYAK CLASSES JULY - AUGUST

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

- July 30-31
- Aug. 13-14
- Aug. 17-18

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 POOL PASSES

MWR pools are now open 7 days a week through Aug. 28.

The APG North (Aberdeen) Olympic Pool and the APG South (Edgewood) Bay-side pool are open for morning lap swim Monday-Friday, 6:30 to 8 a.m., afternoon lap swim 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and recreational swim Monday-Friday 12:30 to 7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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

For pool pass prices or more information, visit www.apgmwr.com, call 410-278-4124/5789 or email usag-mwr-outdoorrec@mail.mil.

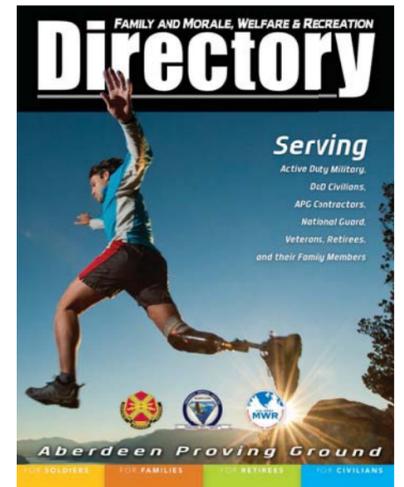
ARMY COMMUNITY

SERVICE

GETTING INSURANCE WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19

ACS will host a "Getting Insurance" workshop that provides an overview of insurance, insurance terms and getting the most for your money. It will also explore questions such as, Do I have enough? What will these terms mean to me?

The class is free but does require registration. To register, call the ACS Financial Readiness Program Manager at 410-278-7572.



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

Eligible MWR patrons and showing proof of eligibility

Army Regulation 215-1 "Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs" outlines individuals eligible to use MWR facilities, programs and services.

These eligible patrons include, among others:

- All active-duty service members & their families
- All Reservists & their families
- All National Guard service members & their families
- Retirees & their families
- Department of Defense civilian employees & their families
- DOD contract personnel

Anyone using an MWR service or facility must show proper identification as proof of eligibility.

While family members of military personnel are automatically issued dependent ID cards, the family members of civilian employees are not automatically issued an Army Civilian ID Card. In order for a Department of the Army civilian dependent to use an MWR facility or service, they must show proof of eligibility.

"Customer service is very important; patrons are required to present valid ID cards in order to meet requirements specified in the Army Regulation that governs Morale, Welfare and Recreation regarding proof of eligibility," said MWR Director Mike Lupacchino.

"The ID card indicates if the patron is eligible and if their eligibility has expired based on the date issued/expiration on the card. FMWR does not automatically receive notification when an employee/contractor is no longer eligible and their ID card becomes invalid."

APG's Memorandum of Instruction 14-55 states that DA civilian dependents may be issued a civilian ID card (DA Form 1602) for use of MWR facilities. The form can be found at <https://www.apg.army.mil/InstallationSupport/CAC>. The DA civilian, or sponsor, then must request a civilian ID for their dependent(s) through their assigned organization.

APG MWR Leisure Travel New York City Bus Trip

Sept 26, 2015

Departure: AA Recreation Center 7:00 AM
Return: AA Recreation Center 9:00 PM (time may vary depending on traffic).

Transportation to New York City, you are free to schedule your own activities-sightseeing, shopping, or taking in a show, and safe return to APG, MD.

\$48.00
Registration Deadline: Sept 12, 2015

To reserve your seat, visit MWR Leisure Travel Services at the AA Recreation Center, BLDG 3326.
For questions call 410-278-4011/4907 or email us at usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil

FIRST CHOICE

We're Stronger Together

Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities

InDemand eNewsletter
The InDemand is a weekly eNewsletter highlighting special events, classes, programs, news, trips, ticket specials, discounts, and so much more. It is hosted on our website; the link is emailed to over 12,000 people each week...and the list is growing! Several options exist to accommodate your advertising needs. Choose from a skyscraper, business card, or full page ads.

Website
Our website www.apgmwr.com is one of the top three most used resources for information according to a recent survey. With an average of 21,000 visits per month, it's a sure fire way of getting noticed. Rates vary and depend on size and length of run time. Easily the most adaptable and dynamic way of advertising your services.

Directory
The Family and MWR Directory is a regular publication featuring all of our facilities and programs with contact information, hours of operation and services provided. Distributed throughout the installation, over 15,000 copies are printed. It is one of the most useful resources if you live, work, or regularly visit Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Sponsorship opportunities available year round for MWR EVENTS (Oktoberfest and other MWR programs.)
Please ask the MWR Team at 410-278-3904/9816/7952/1364 about the packages.
For Donation Opportunities contact Alan Hickox: 410-306-4515

Preventing tick bites on you and your pets

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

While it is a good idea to take preventive measures against ticks year-round, be extra vigilant in warmer months (April-September) when ticks are most active.

Avoid direct contact with ticks by walking in the center of trails or sidewalks and avoiding wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.

Repel ticks with DEET or Permethrin. Use repellents that contain 20 to 30 percent DEET on exposed skin and clothing for protection that lasts up to several hours. Always follow product instructions. Parents should apply this product to their children, avoiding hands, eyes, and mouth.

Use products that contain Permethrin on clothing. Treat clothing and gear, such as boots, pants, socks and tents with products containing 0.5 percent Permethrin. It remains protective through several washings. Pre-treated clothing may be protective longer.

Tick removal

Find and remove ticks from your body

- Bathe or shower as soon as possible after going inside from outdoors (preferably within two hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks on your body.

- Conduct a full-body tick check using a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body upon return from tick-infested areas. Parents should check their children for ticks under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, behind the knees, between the legs, around the waist, and especially in their hair.

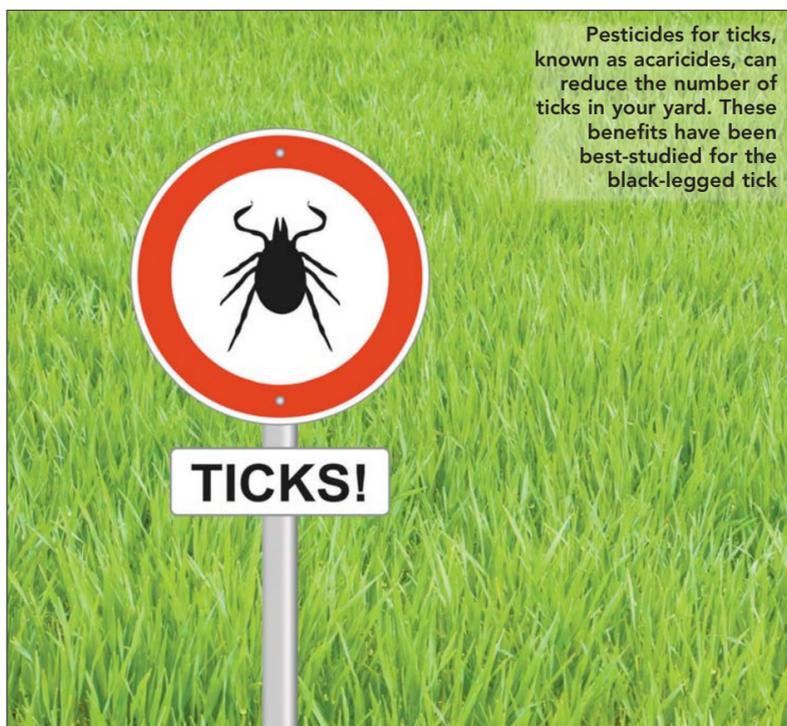
- Examine gear and pets. Ticks can ride into the home on clothing and pets, then attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats and day packs.

- Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for an hour to kill remaining ticks. Some research suggests that shorter drying times may also be effective, particularly if the clothing is not wet.

If you find a tick attached to your skin, there's no need to panic. There are several tick removal devices on the market, but a plain set of fine-tipped tweezers will remove a tick quite effectively.

How to remove a tick

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp



the tick as close to the skin as possible.

2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.

3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

4. Dispose of a live tick by submerging it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag/container, wrapping it tightly in tape, or flushing it down the toilet. Never crush a tick with your fingers.

Members of Team APG should place the tick in a Ziploc bag and take it to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. U.S. Army Public Health Command personnel will examine specimens for disease and provide results to patients.

Preventing ticks in the yard

Apply pesticides outdoors to control ticks

Pesticides for ticks, known as acar-

icides, can reduce the number of ticks in your yard.

Only small amounts of pesticides applied at the right time of year are necessary. Application should be sprayed once in May or early June. An October application may be used to control adult blacklegged ticks, however, they less commonly transmit disease.

Health concerns

If you have health concerns about applying pesticides:

- Check with local health or agricultural officials about the best time to apply one in your area.

- Identify rules and regulations related to pesticide application on residential properties (Environmental Protection Agency and your state determine the availability of pesticides).

- Consider using a professional pesticide company to apply pesticides at your home.

Create a Tick-safe Zone

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's Tick Management Handbook provides some simple landscaping techniques that can help reduce

tick populations:

- Remove leaf litter.
- Clear tall grasses and brush around homes and at the edge of lawns.
- Place a 3-foot-wide barrier of wood chips or gravel between lawns and wooded areas to restrict tick migration into recreational areas.
- Mow the lawn frequently.
- Stack wood neatly and in a dry area; this discourages rodents.
- Keep playground equipment, decks, and patios away from yard edges and trees.
- Construct fences to discourage unwelcome animals (such as deer, raccoons and stray dogs) from entering your yard.
- Remove old furniture, mattresses or trash that may give ticks a place to hide from the yard

Preventing ticks on pets

Dogs are very susceptible to tick bites and tick-borne diseases. Vaccines are not available for all the tick-borne diseases that dogs can get, and they don't keep the dogs from bringing ticks into your home. For these reasons, it's important to use a tick preventive product on your dog.

Tick bites on dogs may be hard to detect. Signs of tick-borne disease may not appear for 7-21 days or longer after a tick bite, so watch your dog closely for changes in behavior or appetite if you suspect it has been bitten by a tick.

To reduce the chances that a tick will transmit disease to you or your pets:

- Check your pets for ticks daily, especially after they spend time outdoors.

- If you find a tick on your dog, remove it right away.

- Ask your veterinarian to conduct a tick check at each exam.

- Talk to your veterinarian about tick-borne diseases in your area.

- Reduce tick habitat in your yard.

- Talk with your veterinarian about using tick preventives on your pet.

Note: Cats are extremely sensitive to a variety of chemicals. Do not apply any insect pesticides or repellents to your cats without first consulting your veterinarian.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/ticks.

Newest NASA astronauts complete training

NASA

The Army's two astronaut candidates officially joined the astronaut corps, July 7.

Maj. Anne McClain and Maj. Andrew Morgan are among the eight new astronauts, who are ready to help advance scientific research aboard the International Space Station and pave the way for the United States' new space launch capabilities and journey to Mars. The four women and four men moving from candidates to the corps were part of the 2013 astronaut class, chosen from 6,300 applications - the second largest number of applications NASA ever has received.

"These individuals have worked incredibly hard to attain this milestone," said Chris Cassidy, chief of the astronaut office at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. "For many, it is the culmination of a lifetime of dedication and perseverance to reach this goal. We are proud to have them join the NASA astronaut corps."

The group reported to Johnson in August 2013 to begin technical space system training, robotics instruction and specialized hardware and science instruction. They have successfully completed two years of intensive training and now will support mission operations and technical duties while awaiting spaceflight assignments.

"It is an honor to have these talented and skilled individuals as part of the operations organization," said Brian Kelly, director of flight operations at Johnson. "We look forward to their future contributions as we enter this new era of human space exploration."

The new astronauts are: Maj. Andrew Morgan, who considers New Castle, Pennsylvania, home. Morgan is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, and earned a doctorate in medicine from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. He has experience as an emergency physician and flight surgeon for the Army special operations community, and is completing a sports



NASA photo
The 2013 astronaut class members pose at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, July 8, 2015, after receiving their astronaut pins, symbolizing the completion of their training. From left are: Air Force Lt. Col. Tyler "Nick" Hague; Maj. Andrew Morgan; Jessica Meir; Christina Hammock; Marine Corps Maj. Nicole Mann; Maj. Anne McClain; Navy Lt. Cmdr. Josh Cassada; and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Victor Glover.

medicine fellowship.

Maj. Anne McClain hails from Spokane, Washington. She is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, and the University of Bath and University of Bristol, both in the United Kingdom. McClain is an OH-58 helicopter pilot, and a recent graduate of U.S. Naval Test Pilot School. Follow McClain on Twitter at @AstroAnimal.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Josh Cassada is originally from White Bear Lake, Minnesota. Cassada is a naval aviator, who holds an undergraduate degree from Albion College, Michigan, and advanced degrees from the University of Rochester, New York. Cassada is a physicist by training and previously served as co-founder and chief technology officer for a private technology company.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Victor Glover, hails from Pomona, California, and Prosper, Texas. He is an F/A-18 pilot and graduate of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School. Glover holds degrees from California Polytechnic State University in

San Luis Obispo, California, and the Air University and Naval Postgraduate School. He is serving as a Navy Legislative Fellow in the U.S. Congress. Follow Glover on Twitter at @VicGlover.

Air Force Lt. Col. Tyler "Nick" Hague calls Hoxie, Kansas, home. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Hague is supporting the Department of Defense as deputy chief of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

Christina Hammock, from Jacksonville, North Carolina, holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from North Carolina State University in Raleigh. She is serving as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration station chief in American Samoa.

Marine Corps Maj. Nicole Mann is originally from Penn Grove, California. She is a graduate of the U.S. Naval

Academy in Annapolis, Maryland; Stanford University, California; and the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Naval Air Station, or NAS, Patuxent River, Maryland. Mann is an F/A-18 pilot serving as an integrated product team lead at NAS Patuxent River. Follow Mann on Twitter at @AstroDuke.

Jessica Meir is from Caribou, Maine. She is a graduate of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and has an advanced degree from the International Space University in Illkirch-Graffenstaden, France. Meir earned her doctorate from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California. She is an assistant professor of anesthesia at Harvard Medical School in Boston.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, dual headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, provides support to NASA with an Army astronaut detachment assigned to the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

How retirees can tell their Army story

By **MARK E. OVERBERG**

Army Retirement Services

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno asked retired Soldiers to “tell their Army story” to friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Retired Soldiers often ask, “What does that mean?” and “How do you want me to do that?”

Why it's important to tell your story

Only one percent of Americans serve in the U.S. military. The majority of the 99% don't come into personal contact with service members. They don't know the people who defend their freedoms.

Many Americans would be surprised to learn how much responsibility a 22-year-old NCO has. They may not understand how important training and teamwork are to surviving during combat or difficult peacetime missions. They may also be surprised to learn about the personal sacrifices and separations that Soldiers and their families endure rou-

Retirees Corner

Veterans Corner is a new, recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses the topics that matter most to the retirees in our community. For more information about retiree services, visit www.soldierforlife.army.mil. To suggest retiree-related topics for the Veterans Corner series, email amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil.

tinely. This is where retired Soldiers and veterans come in.

How to tell your Army story

Few retired Soldiers and veterans are trained or experienced public speakers, but those skills are not necessary to tell your story. Some key points to follow are:

- Know your audience. What you say to children is different than what you'd

say to business leaders.

- Connect with your audience. Listen first to what is important to them. Then explain how what you did in the Army affects their lives.

- Speak about your own experiences with conviction. Personal stories are the most effective. Few civilians will understand the technical part of your Army duties, but they'll understand teamwork, helping others and successfully complet-

ing a mission.

- Remember to tell them why you served: for family, friends and neighbors, and to protect our way of life.

Topics you can talk about

- When you found strength in yourself or your unit.
- When you or your team overcame a challenge.
- When you or a fellow Soldier were saved by Army medicine.
- When you provided disaster relief at home or abroad.
- When you trained or trained with other U.S. military services or allied nations' militaries.
- How being a Soldier made you feel.
- How being part of the Army made you feel.

For more information about the Army and what it's doing now, visit www.army.mil or follow the Soldier for Life program on Facebook, Twitter, Google+, or LinkedIn.

Army asks for Soldier input on uniform changes

By **LORA STRUM**

Army News Service

Soldiers should check their emails in the coming weeks for the chance to provide input on possible revisions to aspects of the Army uniform and wear policy.

Senior Army leaders, including Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel A. Dailey and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, have authorized an online survey across all major commands to receive feedback on several uniform topics.

“The Soldiers are the ones who actually wear these uniforms. The senior leaders like to be informed by as many Soldiers in the field as possible [on uniform changes,]” said Sgt. Maj. James H. Thomson of the Institute for Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development.

Survey questions include opinions on gender-specific headgear for drill sergeants. Since 1972, female drill sergeant campaign hats have featured a raised brim and, as of 1983, a deeper green color. The survey, designed to crosscut a large section of Soldiers, will ask if there should be a single campaign hat for both male and female drill sergeants.

Consideration of a gender neutral aesthetic is not limited to drill sergeant attire. The service cap is also being considered for conversion to a gender-neutral version. Today, the male service cap features a wide bill, while its

female counterpart has a raised brim on either side. The survey asks Soldiers whether or not they see merit in continuing the distinction.

The survey additionally seeks input on prescribing the service cap as required headgear for senior noncommissioned officers and above, in lieu of the black beret, when wearing the Army Service Uniform, or ASU.

Dailey has suggested an optional “Eisenhower jacket” to be added as a more appropriate indoor alternative to the black windbreaker jacket. Named for President Dwight D. Eisenhower and designed in the late-1930s, the jacket is waist-cropped, includes additional pockets and does not require many adornments. The last modification of the shortened, British-inspired jacket was seen in 1965. The survey asks Soldiers' opinion of a version of it for all ranks.

Outside of formal dress, the survey also asks for Soldiers' thoughts on black socks with the physical training, or PT, uniform. The suggestion came up at several town hall meetings Dailey conducted, and is now being sent out across various commands for evaluation.

“We're hearing from the force, and we want to hear a little bit more,” Thomson said.

The cost environment for the latest potential uniform changes is unknown, but the fiscal impact on both the indi-



U.S. Army photo

Changes to the Army drill sergeant campaign hats include a possible switch to either the male aesthetic, left, the female aesthetic, right, or a possible redesign to be completely gender neutral.

vidual Soldier and the Army will be considered before any decisions are made. The results of the survey will provide Army senior leaders valuable information on what uniform changes should be considered.

As a joint effort of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC, and the Army Research Institute, the uniform survey will be

conducted in the coming weeks with results expected in early August 2015.

“The one thing about Soldiers is that they all have their opinions and like to share them when it comes to the uniforms,” Thomson said.

Soldiers, who are invited to participate in the survey, will get an email invitation with instructions on how to log in to the online questionnaire.

US troops conduct counter-IED training in Cameroon

By **WALTER T. HAM IV**

20th CBRNE Command

U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal, or EOD, technicians are conducting a two-month humanitarian training mission in Cameroon.

Soldiers from the 788th EOD Company are training Cameroonian troops to counter improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, in the Central African nation.

The Fort Campbell, Kentucky-based 788th EOD Company is part of 184th EOD Battalion, 52nd EOD Group, 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives, or CBRNE, Command.

Headquartered on Aberdeen Proving Ground, with Soldiers and civilians on 19 posts in 16 states, the 20th CBRNE Command is the Department of Defense's only multifunctional formation that combats chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive threats around the globe.

In addition to deploying for military operations, the 788th EOD Company handles explosive mitigation missions in Tennessee, Alabama and parts of Kentucky.

Two Army EOD techs, 1st Lt. Ben Weaver from Burnsville, Minnesota, and Staff Sgt. Ryan Zimmerman, from Georgetown, Kentucky, deployed to Cameroon.

Capt. Taylor Downs, commander of the 788th EOD Company, said Weaver and Zimmerman completed specialized training at the Humanitarian Demining Training Center in Rota, Spain, before the mission.

“This training and their experience as EOD technicians has allowed them to fully integrate with U.S. and Cameroonian partners to develop and expand the program of instruction in a short period of time and ensure success for expanded future operations,” said Downs,



Courtesy photo

U.S. and Cameroonian troops are training to counter improvised explosive devices in Limbe, Cameroon.

an Afghanistan veteran from Millis, Massachusetts.

Command Sgt. Maj. Harold E. Dunn IV, 20th CBRNE Command's senior enlisted leader, said the humanitarian

training mission was an example of the life-saving missions that 20th CBRNE Soldiers accomplish daily.

“From daily defense support to civilian authorities missions across the Unit-

ed States to military operations around the globe, our troopers save lives, protect property and enable mission success,” said Dunn, a seasoned EOD leader from Fredericksburg, Virginia.

THIS WEEK IN APG HISTORY



APG NEWS



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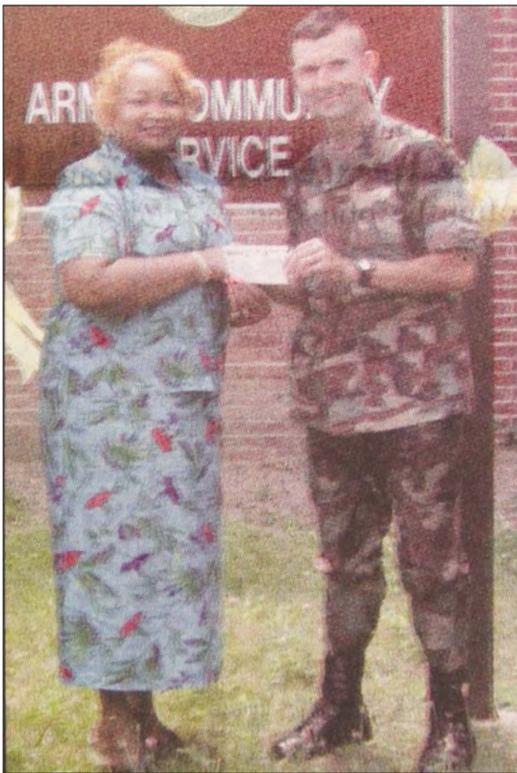
Vol. 3 No. 3
"THE HOME OF ARMY ORDNANCE"
Thursday, September 14, 1961

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 1961.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

2015

10 Years Ago: July 21, 2005



(Left) Former ACS Director Celestine Beckett accepts a \$559.23 check from Capt. Thomas Stocks of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center during a picnic celebrating the organization's 40 years of service to APG.

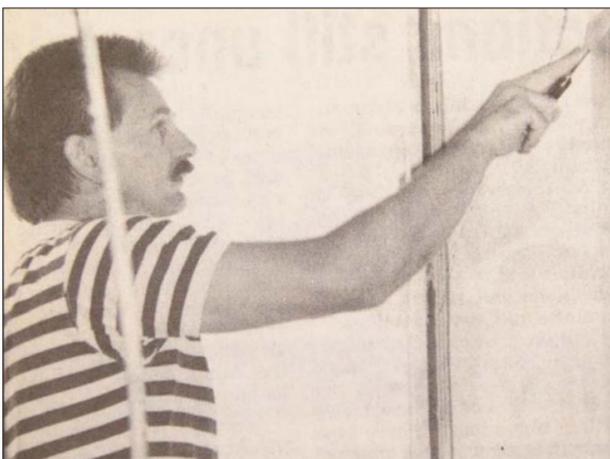


(Above) APG Soldiers wheel patients back to their dorms after a softball game and barbecue at the Perry Point VA Medical Center in Perryville.

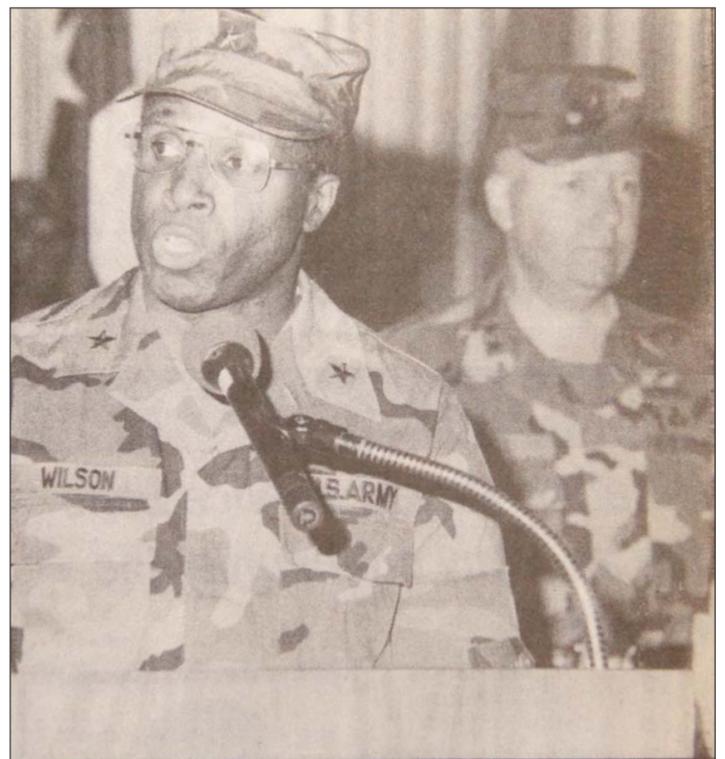
2010

2000

25 Years Ago: July 18, 1990



(Above) Jim Augustowski of the Directorate of Engineering and Logistics Operations applies joint compound to an office in a new building that will house the Staff Judge Advocate and deputy chief counsel.



(Right) New Chief of Ordnance, Brig. Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson addresses the audience as outgoing commander, Maj. Gen. James W. Ball, right, listens in during a change of command ceremony at the post recreation center.

1990

1980

50 Years Ago: July 22, 1965

(Right) From left, Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Novakoski, mess sergeant for HHC APG; Company Commander Capt. Bernard White, and Mess Officer 1st Lt. Scott Seibert, accept the best mess award for the month of June from Lt. Col. Lloyd Jensen, troop support director.



(Left) APG Provost Marshal Lt. Col. Carl Clark, left, extends "Provost Marshal for a Day" honors to World War I veteran Bert Sack, who was stationed at APG in 1917.

1970

1960

1950

Brooke Army med center performs first robot-aided pediatric surgery

By **ELAINE SANCHEZ**
Brooke Army Medical Center

A 2-year-old boy has a shot at a better quality of life, thanks to a robot and a few skilled surgeons.

Doctors at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas performed surgery on Jose Collado Jr., son of Maj. Jose Collado and his wife Alma, last month to remove a large cystic mass from behind his bladder. The procedure marks Brooke Army Medical Center's, or BAMC's, first robot-assisted pediatric surgery.

"The surgery was very successful," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas Novak, BAMC's chief of pediatric urology. "We were incredibly pleased at the outcome and at the impact we made on Jose's future quality of life."

The Collados first brought their infant son to Brooke Army Medical Center two years ago, hoping to pave a better future for Jose.

Jose had been diagnosed shortly after birth with Polymicrogyria, a rare malformation of the human brain that can cause problems with eyesight, seizures and developmental and motor delays. Along with these issues, which include legal blindness, Jose also had a cystic mass behind his bladder.

As a number of specialists addressed Jose's eyesight, seizures and development, Novak focused on his cystic mass. Due to the size, the mass was likely to cause bladder and bowel problems later in life, he explained. However, he was hesitant to perform surgery while Jose was still an infant, particularly in the absence of symptoms. The doctor advised the concerned parents to hold off on surgery until their baby had an opportunity to grow.

From the beginning, the doctor thought a robotic approach would be ideal.

Robotic technology has been a surgery staple at BAMC for several years, but until now, was reserved solely for adults. Novak had long since noted the success of robot-aided pediatric surgery in other parts of the country, particularly for urological cases, and felt it could have a place at BAMC.

"It's definitely not mainstream," he said. "But there are a handful of people who have practices focused on pediatric robotic surgery."

Robotic technology, he explained,



Photo by Robert T. Shields
Maj. (Dr.) George Kallingal showcases a robotic surgical system while Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas Novak, Brooke Army Medical Center's chief of pediatric urology, looks on at San Antonio Military Medical Center in San Antonio, July 6, 2015.

offers numerous benefits: it's minimally invasive, more agile in small spaces, offers 3D high resolution magnification for better views of the surgical site, and typically involves a quicker recovery time.

"The robot has movements analogous to a hand," he said. "You can move with complete free range of motion and obtain a much better visual as you go deeper and into tighter spaces."

In Jose's case, Novak saw the potential to move toward the deep-seated mass with better visibility. "The mass was in an area where open surgical incision would be difficult," he explained, "and risky with vital structures in the way."

Novak patiently followed Jose closely for two years. However, with a potential military move for the family looming, the Collados asked Novak to perform the surgery before they

left. Confident that Jose was ready, the doctor quickly enlisted the help of Maj. (Dr.) George Kallingal, a urologic oncologist and robot-assisted surgery expert, and Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Michelle Marino, a pediatric anesthesiologist. "We took a team approach to gain experience and comfort for everyone involved," Novak said.

Since robot-assisted pediatric surgery had never been performed at BAMC, Novak garnered support at the highest echelons of his command. "Everyone was very supportive," he said. "I felt strongly Jose was the right candidate who could greatly benefit from the surgery."

Novak and his team performed the surgery, June 30. "It was highly successful," he said. "We removed the cyst without any complications."

Jose's father noted his son's quick recovery. "We were home after two nights at the hospital and Jose was

fine," Collado said. "He's up and about like nothing ever happened."

"We are ridiculously happy with the doctors here," he added, noting special gratitude for Jose's neurologist, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Richard Hussey, and for Novak. "It's one of the reasons we wanted to come here; the pediatric care was very well-known."

Collado was so pleased with the care, he volunteered for an assignment in South Korea rather than move his family away. "I wasn't comfortable with a break in care," he said. "Jose's progress here has been unbelievable."

Novak said he couldn't be more pleased with the outcome.

"Everything came together: the right patient, right Family, right problem, right team," he said. "We hope to do more surgeries of this type in the future, but in the meantime, it's just very rewarding to have made a difference in Jose's life."

VA funds studies using Million Vet Program data

Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing four new studies that will use genetic and other data from VA's Million Veteran Program (MVP) to answer key questions on heart disease, kidney disease, and substance use—high-priority conditions affecting veterans.

MVP, which has enrolled more than 390,000 veterans so far, has already become the nation's largest database linking genetic, clinical, lifestyle and military exposure information. Part of a beta test for data access, the newly funded studies are among the first to use MVP data to delve into pressing questions on veterans' health. MVP-based studies on PTSD, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder are already underway.

"MVP is making important discoveries that will impact healthcare for Veterans and all Americans," said VA Secretary Bob McDonald. "We're grateful to our veteran partners, whose altruism has made this possible."

The new research, which will specifically include the understudied African American and Hispanic veteran populations, ties into the broader national Precision Medicine Initiative announced by President Barack Obama earlier this year.

"There's already been an impressive amount of data collected through MVP,

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.

and we're continuing to engage more veterans in the program and building its research infrastructure through studies like these," said Dr. Timothy O' Leary, VA's chief research and development officer.

The new studies, involving consortiums of VA researchers and university colleagues, will explore specific questions related to chronic illnesses common among veterans. They will also help establish new methods for securely linking MVP data with other sources of health information, including non-VA sources such as the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS).

The new studies include the following:
Cardiovascular risk factors: Drs. Farooq Amin and Peter Wilson at the Atlanta VA Medical Center, and Dr. Kelly Cho at the Boston VA Health Care

System, will lead an effort probing the genes that influence how obesity and lipid levels affect heart risk. Using MVP data, their team will also look at whether these genetic factors differ among African Americans and Hispanics. "These populations are extremely important in VA," Amin said.

Multi-substance use: Drs. Daniel Federman and Amy Justice at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, and Dr. Henry Kranzler at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, will examine the genetic risk factors for chronic use of alcohol, tobacco, and opioids—and the dangerous use of all three together. "MVP offers an unprecedented opportunity to advance this field," Federman said.

Pharmacogenomics of kidney disease: Dr. Adriana Hung at the VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System will

focus on how genes affect the risk and progression of kidney disease. One goal is to examine how patients with diabetes—who often develop kidney problems—respond differently to the drug metformin, the standard first-line treatment for diabetes, based on their genetic profile. The project will also look at the genetics of hypertension, a major risk factor for kidney disease. "Kidney disease is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Veterans and we're hoping to gain insights that will drive personalized medicine for this population," Hung said.

Metabolic conditions: Dr. Philip Tsao at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System and Dr. Kyong-Mi Chang at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, leading a team of researchers from five VA regions and two universities, will explore the role of genetics in obesity, diabetes, and abnormal lipid levels (namely, cholesterol and triglycerides), as drivers of heart disease. "This project will help us more thoroughly understand the underlying causes of cardiometabolic disease and develop new therapies that are safe, effective, and personalized," said Tsao. "This is also a great opportunity to partner with our colleagues at Stanford and the University of Pennsylvania," Chang added.

For more information about MVP and VA research in general, visit www.research.va.gov

Leave Donations Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

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.campbell8.civ@mail.mil

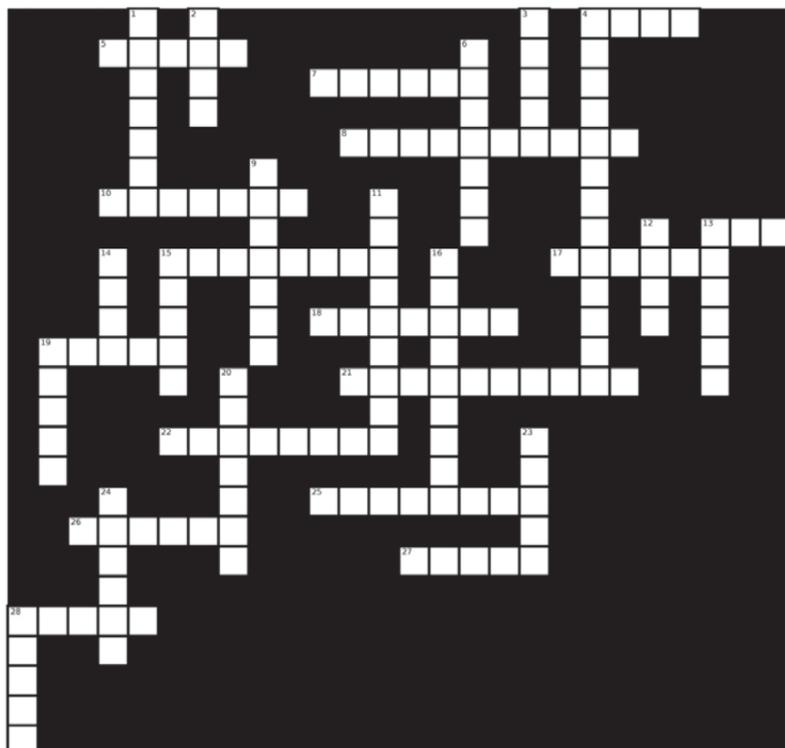
Adair, Jennifer
Alba, Audrey
Avato, Jennifer B.
Budzinski, David
Calahan, Jane E.
Clark, Lyra
Disse, Michael J.
Gaddis, Lonnie
Gardner, DeShawna

Gilley, Christopher M
Green-Farley, Jessica R.
Hamrick, Heidi R.
Hopkins, Dorene
Johnson, Douglas W.
Kang, Jeannie R
Lanham, Allison
Mason, Jeremy L.
Massabni, George

McAlpine, Maria S.
McCauley, Adrienne
Meyer, Russell D.
Morrow, Patricia D.
Mughal, Mohamed R.
Royston, James A.
Solomon, Je'Neane
Thurman, Terry L.
Tomlinson, Rachel L.

Trulli, Wayne R.
Waggy, Stephen C.

The APG Crossword



Parents' Day

By **STACY SMITH**, APG News

Parents' Day - the fourth Sunday of July - was established in 1994 when President Bill Clinton signed a Congressional Resolution into law recognizing the role of parents in the rearing of children. Complete this trivia puzzle to test your knowledge of things related to parents and children.

Across

4. 'Father' in Semitic languages; also name of Swedish pop music group.
5. So-called 'helicopter parents' are said to _____ over their children like an aircraft.
7. In many states, teenagers must have written parental consent to acquire this popular body art.
8. Parents do this to their homes to prevent household accidents or injuries.
10. European country where children are frequently left outside to get frisk luft, or fresh air, while

- parents dine and shop.
13. According to a recent _____ Research Center study, nearly half of all working dads say they spend more time with their kids than their parents spent with them.
 15. Parental _____ are features offered in digital television services, computer and video games, mobile devices and software that can limit access to age-inappropriate content.
 17. Prepared childbirth technique named after the French obstetrician who popularized it in the 1940s.

18. Increasingly common childhood problem targeted by Michelle Obama's Let's Move initiative, which encourages parents to support children's health and wellness.
19. Critically-acclaimed pop-folk singer's 1972 song lyric: "The mother and child reunion is only a motion away."
21. Significant points in child development stages.
22. The American Academy of Pediatrics discourages this common form of corporal punishment.
25. Developmental psychologist who identified three parenting styles: authoritative, authoritarian, and permissive.
26. 20th century Lebanese-American poet and author of "The Prophet" who wrote: "You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth."
27. American writer and family counselor who wrote famous child-rearing poem, "Children Learn What They Live."
28. Term coined by Amy Chua to describe a type of tough, disciplinarian mother.

- Disease Control and Prevention suggests placing babies onto when sleeping to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.
13. According to www.mayo-clinic.org, this common allergy that causes severe attacks and can be life-threatening, is on the rise in children.
 14. Synonym for 'stroller', commonly used in Britain.
 15. Country that instituted a one-child policy in 1979 to control population growth and improve economic situations.
 16. Human pregnancy can be divided roughly into three of these, each lasting approximately three months long.
 19. Pediatrician whose famous book "The Common Sense Book of Baby and Childcare," published in 1946, ushered in a gentler, instinct-based approach to parenting.
 20. Recommended parent-child activity that can improve children's verbal fluency and language skills.
 23. 'Mother' in Spanish
 24. First name of former presidential candidate's wife who helped introduce the 'parental advisory' warning label on music and other media.
 28. Jenga-style game that won a 2014 Parents' Choice Award in 2015 in the best toy category.

Down

1. In the 19th century, some parents made their children wear a shoulder brace to correct 'asymmetry', or poor _____.
2. Some researchers fear a parent's decision not to vaccinate their child endangers _____ immunity, a form of indirect protection from infectious disease.
3. Dim-witted father in long-running animated television series, 'The Simpsons'.
4. Style of parenting characterized by a child-centric approach that holds high expectations of maturity.
6. Anthropologist who said "One thing I had learned from watching chimpanzees with their infants is that having a child should be fun."
9. Nationality of the star of "Supernanny," a reality television show about parents struggling with their children's poor behavior.
11. Acting as parent and guardian for a child in place of the child's natural parents but without legally adopting the child.
12. Body part the Centers for

Think you solved last week's puzzle? Check out the solution below

Solution to the July 16 puzzle



WORD OF THE WEEK

Middling

Pronounced: MID-ling

Definition:

Adjective

1. Of middle, medium, or moderate size, degree, or quality
2. Mediocre, second-rate
3. Of, relating to, or being a middle class

Adverb

4. Moderately, fairly

Noun

5. Middlings, any of various products or commodities of intermediate quality, grade, size, etc.
6. Middlings, also called middling meat. Chiefly Midland and Southern U.S. salt pork or smoked side meat.

Use:

- Tired of the city but not particularly interested in small-town life, he moved to a suburb of middling size.
- I was disappointed in the renowned historian's latest book, which is only middling.
- I hope that my second-rate knowledge and middling talents will carry me farther than my opponent.
- My health is fair-to-middling.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source(s): www.dictionary.com; www.merriam-webster.com

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

NTAS

National Terrorism Advisory System

The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaced the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) in April, 2011. The NTAS system effectively communicates information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector.

It recognizes that all Americans share responsibility for the nation's security, that everyone should always be aware of the heightened risk of terrorist attack in the United States and understand what actions (if any) they should take.

Each alert provides information to the public about the threat, including, if available, the geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat; protective actions being taken by authorities, and steps that individuals and communities can take to protect themselves and their families, and help prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat.

Citizens should report suspicious activity to their local law enforcement authorities. The nationwide "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign encourages all citizens to be vigilant for indicators of potential terrorist activity. To learn more about the campaign, visit www.dhs.gov/ifyouseesomethingsaysomething.

For more information, visit www.dhs.gov.



By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source(s): www.dhs.gov

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

ACS renews vow to help military families thrive

Continued from Page 1

with the Fort Drum, New York ACS for eight years before coming to APG.

During the celebration, which included bounce houses, face painting and games, as well as displays and program information, members of Team APG had the opportunity to learn more about the specific services that are available to military and civilian personnel.

Eichler said ACS provides “social service programs that are focused on education and prevention.”

“We don’t want people to think that ACS is just the place you go when you have a problem,” she said. “We help families become more self-sufficient and thrive within the military community.”

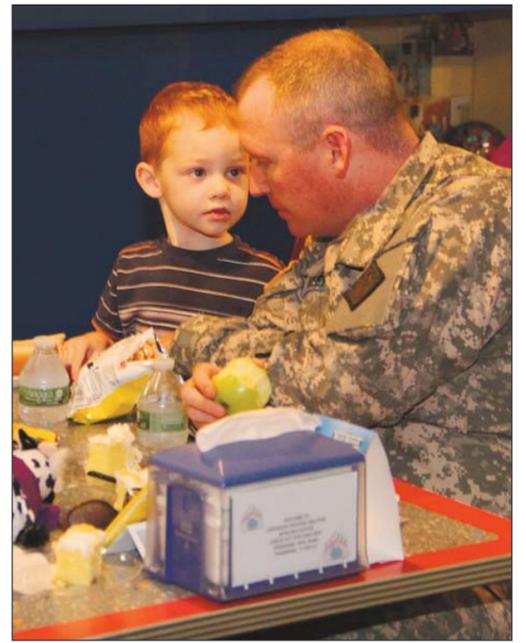
Decolua Schwab, wife of Sgt. Louis Schwab of CECOM, attended the event with her husband and two children. She said she appreciates ACS’s role in the military community.

“It brings everyone together and helps to establish a middle ground for people to go to for resources,” Schwab said, adding that in the past she attended classes through ACS, and her family used its financial services.

“It [ACS] came in handy; it was really great,” she said.

Maryland Gold Star Mother Yvonne Green said she brought her grandchildren to the celebration to show them where she spends a lot of her time. Green lost her daughter, Spc. Toccara Green, in 2005 in Iraq.

“This base, particularly Aberdeen, is so gracious and they welcome us and they really do love on us,” Green said, adding that her grandchildren enjoyed the bowl-



(From top left) Riley Morrison, 4, has a butterfly painted on her face by Liz Lawson with Lizard Arts APG North (Aberdeen) bowling alley during the ACS 50th Anniversary celebration July 17; 20th CBRNE’s Maj. Rickie Meers plays a game with his son, Tre, 3, while sitting down to lunch in the bowling alley.

ing, face painting and bounce house.

As the U.S. Armed Forces entered the Vietnam War in the 1960s, the needs of Army families were changing. As a result, ACS was founded on July 25, 1965 to provide support to the diverse needs of Soldiers and their dependents.

Over time, ACS has developed programs geared toward helping families with special needs through the Exceptional Family Member Program and ensuring a

Soldier’s financial responsibility through the Financial Readiness Program, to supporting Army families as they transition to a new duty station through the Relocation Assistance Program.

Other ACS programs include Army Emergency Relief; the Family Advocacy Program; Survivor Outreach Services and more.

“Every day we [ACS] come to work with the one mission to support Soldiers

and families, and we’re going to continue to do whatever we can to do that,” Eichler said.

APG’s Army Community Service is located in Bldg. 2503 Highpoint Road across from the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday thru Thursday; and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday. For more information call 410-278-7572/4372 or visit www.apgmwr.com.

ACC welcomes new commander after redeployment

Continued from Page 1

Thirty-nine Soldiers and 13 civilians were deployed to Kuwait for nine months as part of Operation Inherent Resolve in support of the Army Contracting Administration Mission.

As an ACC contracting center, ACC-APG provides global contracting support to a diverse customer base in support of the Soldier. The 926th Contracting Battalion was activated by the ACC-APG in 2013 to provide global contracting support to a diverse customer base in support of the Army’s mission. The battalion’s mission in Kuwait encompassed contracts worth approximately \$6 million in services and supplies.

During the redeployment ceremony, Draper led the uncasing of the unit colors. He was assisted by senior enlisted advisor Master Sgt. Johnny Eure and guidon bearer Staff Sgt. Justino Surla.

After the uncasing, Draper was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. His wife, Christy, received a two star note from Maj. Gen. Theodore C. Harrison thanking her for supporting the battalion’s Soldiers and families.

After the redeployment ceremony, ACC-APG Director Byron J. Young, assisted by Eure, led the passing of the unit colors signifying the change in leadership from Draper to Carter.

Young said he was pleased to oversee the event and celebrate Draper’s service to the battalion. He added ACC made history in 2013 by activating the first battalion in the Army contracting centers and that the 926th is the first battalion to assume the Contingency Contract Administration Services mission transferring the authority from the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) to ACC.

Young told Draper that he will always be a part of the ACC-APG family.

“We want to congratulate you for your remarkable command tenure,” he said. “You will always be a member of our community, and you can reach back to us, any time you feel the need to.”

Young welcomed Carter and his family to ACC-APG. He encouraged Carter to learn as much about ACC-APG as possible.

“We are the most diverse contracting center in the Army Contracting Command,” he said. “We are also one of the most proficient and efficient.



Lt. Col. Derek J. Draper, right, outgoing commander of the 926th Contracting Battalion, and senior enlisted advisor Master Sgt. Johnny Eure uncasing the unit colors during a combined redeployment and change of command ceremony at the Mallette Auditorium July 16.

The way we do things here are worthy of emulation in other places. Many of our policies and procedures are being sought out.”

Draper thanked the civilian workforce that trained and mentored the Soldiers, imparting the contracting knowledge that the Soldiers used while they were deployed.

He also recognized his wife and sons for their ongoing support.

“Thank you for allowing me to serve our Soldiers and our nation,” he said. “Without you, I know that none of this would be possible.”

In closing, he wished Carter and the battalion well.

“You’re getting a great battalion with great Soldiers and a team, both military and civilian, that will make you a success,” he said. “I know that under your leadership, the battalion will write new

chapters of success.”

Carter recognized Draper and the Soldiers and civilians of the battalion for their hard work and dedication.

“It takes most units decades or even centuries to establish a best-in-class reputation, and you and the 926th have done it in two years,” he said.

He expressed confidence that the unit is ready to handle upcoming challenges and noted that just like armor or artillery units, the 926th Contracting Battalion must continuously prepare for its wartime mission.

“I am honored to be a part of such a distinguished team and I look forward to serving with each and every one of you,” he said.

Draper has been assigned to the Pentagon and Carter’s most recent assignment was with Airbus in Huntsville, Alabama as a selected participant of the Army’s Training with Industry Program.

The program included the national anthem sung by Renesha Robinson of CECOM LRC and the invocation by Sgt. 1st Class Tameka Dixon, garrison chaplain assistant.

Lt. Col. Andrew T. Carter

A native of Richardson, Texas, Carter graduated from the U.S. Military Academy – West Point in 1995 and received his commission as a second lieutenant in Army Aviation.

Past assignments include Fort Rucker, Alabama; Fort Hood, Texas; Schweinfurt, Germany; and Huntsville, Alabama, as well as deployments to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Carter holds a master’s degree in business administration from the University of California. He has been an Army Acquisition Corps member since 2004 and is Level III certified in contracting and program management.

Carter’s awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, Air Assault Badge and Senior Army Aviator Badge.

He is married to the former Rebecca Pearson and has two children.



Have a great idea for a story?

Know about any interesting upcoming events?

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.

McClinton extends sincere thanks to Team APG

Continued from Page 1

Karbler, ATEC commander; and Maryland Gold Star mothers.

State and local officials in attendance included state Sens. Robert Cassilly and J.B. Jennings; Bart Kennedy representing Sen. Barbara Mikulski; Mary O'Keefe, attending for Rep. Andy Harris; retired U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Michael Hayes, director of Military and Federal Affairs, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development; Harford County Executive Barry Glassman; and members of the Harford County and Havre de Grace City councils.

A special guest of the ceremony was Vietnam veteran and Distinguished Service Cross awardee, retired Command Sgt. Maj. Morris Worley.

The ceremony included the posting of the colors by the APG Directorate of Emergency Services color guard led by Sgt. Steve Lukasik, the invocation by Garrison Chaplain Lt. Col. Jerry L. Owens and the national anthem by Courtney White of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

Janet Dettwiler, garrison director of Human Resources, served as the narrator.

Tindoll said he felt privileged to serve Soldiers and their families and equally privileged to preside over the ceremony. He thanked Crawford for his support of IMCOM and the garrison team, and McClinton and his wife Vicky for their three years as the garrison command team. He also welcomed Davis and his wife Michelle to their new command.

Calling McClinton the "consummate professional," Tindoll said he more than lived up to the expectations of garrison leadership.

"You have provided the best possible service to the APG community and have made the Soldiers, civilians and their families believe they live, work and play on the best installation in the Army," he told McClinton. "You have made a lasting impression on this community of excellence. Well done."

Noting that Davis comes to APG from the National War College, Tindoll said he is "ready to take on the challenges of running a small city."

"I am confident that with your demonstrated leadership you will build on the success of your predecessors," he said.

"The challenges are many and I am confident you will bring new energy and excellence to the garrison command and this Army Community of Excellence."

Col. Gregory R. McClinton

McClinton began by thinking his wife, Vicky, daughter Chelsea and son Greg. Jr. as well as his extended family member, senior leaders in attendance as well as past, and state and local public servants and politicians for their support.

He said that he looks back on the past three years at APG with pride.

"Not because of what I did— but rather because of the thousands of men and women working here who dedicate themselves to ensuring warfighters and those the Department of the Army and Department of Defense support — in peace and in war — are resourced to defend our nations freedom."

"Each of you epitomize the Army profession," he added. "You, as professional Soldiers and civilians of the United States Army, [are] bonded by your service to the nation in a shared identity and culture of sacrifice and service. I am truly proud to have served alongside each and every one of you."

"I can tell you, there is more collective experience on Aberdeen Proving Ground than I have seen at any other installation. Your staff are among the best with whom I have ever served. Rely on them, and they will support you as they have me, and you will surely succeed."

Col. Gregory R. McClinton
Outgoing APG Garrison Commander

Photo by Molly Blossie

McClinton expressed particular thanks to leadership.

To Mr. Tindoll and IMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Sullivan, he said, "The army owes you a debt of gratitude for your leadership of the Atlantic Region and the influence you have had on army installation management and our sister services."

McClinton expressed heartfelt appreciation to present and former senior commanders Crawford and Ferrell and their spouses for, "leading this diverse installation of professionals through the challenge of not serving under the same parent command, yet accomplishing the greater goal of ensuring support to those who support the Warfighter on the installation," as well as those in surrounding communities.

McClinton tried not to leave any facet of the garrison unrecognized. He thanked his current and former battle buddies — Adams, former deputy Glenn Wait and retired Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin — for, "driving change across the entire organization. I could not have asked for a better group of professionals to lead with," he said.

He added sincere thanks to community partners in Aberdeen, Edgewood, Havre de Grace, Be Air, and the surrounding counties of Harford, Cecil, Kent, and Baltimore, as well as supporting organizations such as the Army Alliance and the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor.

"Very few people understand the level at which you carry the APG story," he said. Be it in the halls of Congress or in business and industry, this installation would not be where it is today without you."

To commercial partners such as Saint John Properties, Corvias Military Living and defense contractors such as Johnson Controls, he said, "thank you for bringing your resources to bear in our joint effort to find solutions at the best value to the installation and the tax payer."

McClinton offered special thanks to his garrison team, who he called "a dedicated group of men and women who serve in support of those who fight and win our nation's battles," and to his directors, who he praised for their professionalism and for "carrying the heavy load that often times goes unnoticed."

He praised activities such as the chapel staff, the Exchange, the Commissary, the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, heaping special praises on his personal staff for being there for he and his wife, Vicky.

"You have made my assignment very special and you will always hold a special place in my heart," he said.

To Col. Davis, McClinton said, that the guidon he passed to him represented "the collective pride and spirit of all Soldiers and civilians — past and present — who have served under it."

"I am proud to have been one of them," he said. "And I can tell you, there is more collective experience on Aberdeen Proving Ground than I have seen at any other installation. Your staff are among the best with whom I have ever served. Rely on them, and they will support you as they have me, and you will surely succeed."

"God bless you all, our great nation, and all the men and women who serve so proudly today, and the families who support them," he added in closing.

"You all have honored me with your presence here this morning [and] I hold each and every one of you in great respect. Thank you. Army Strong."

Col. James E. Davis

As the new APG garrison commander, Davis will oversee the directorates and activities that ensure the successful operation of the installation, including: installation support offices and services as well as the garrison directorates of Emergency Services; Family & Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Logistics; Plans, Analysis and Integration; Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; Public Affairs; and Public Works.

During his remarks, Davis recognized the general officers, senior executives and other guests in attendance and offered his thanks to past mentors and noncommissioned officers for their roles in his development, as well as to his wife, Michelle, their three daughters and their extended family members for their continued support.

He called the success of APG a testament to the leadership of McClinton and Adams and said he would utilize the four pillars of success — Faith, Family, Unit and Self — to move the Garrison forward.

"I would like to thank Mr. Tindoll and

Maj. Gen. Crawford for the opportunity to serve as your garrison commander," he said.

"To the Soldiers and civilians here at APG, thank you for your efforts in putting together today's ceremony. I am honored to join an organization of this caliber [and] I look forward to being a part of the next chapter of APG's rich history with you."

"Always agile and adaptive, APG Strong"

Davis began his career as an Artillery officer in August 1990 after completing the Artillery Officer Basic Course. He transitioned to his functional area as a comptroller in 2004.

His past artillery assignments include 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky; 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill ROTC Department; and the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas.

He served as a comptroller at SHAPE Headquarters in Mons, Belgium; in Fort Eustis, Virginia; Naples, Italy; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Davis has completed multiple deployments to Operation Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Bosnia, and Iraq.

He is a graduate of Artillery Officer basic and advanced courses, Command and General Staff College, and the Naval War College. He holds a bachelor's degrees from The Citadel, and master's degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and the Naval War College.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service, Army Meritorious Service, Joint Service Commendation and Army Commendation medals; the Army Achievement, National Defense, Southwest Asia, Global War on Terrorism, and Iraqi and Afghanistan Campaign medals; as well as the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the NATO medal, and the Combat Action, Master Parachutist, and Air Assault badges.

A third generation paratrooper, and a native of North Carolina, Davis and his wife, Michelle have three daughters.

Did You Know?

The namesake of Fort McHenry was a Scots-Irish immigrant, a prisoner of war during the American Revolution, a delegate to the Continental Congress from Maryland, the Secretary of War for two presidents and a signer of the U.S. Constitution.

James McHenry was born into a Scots-Irish family in Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland in 1753. His family sent him to North America in 1771 at age 17. Less than five years after first landing in Philadelphia, McHenry, who included himself among those he called the "sons of freedom," was serving with the Continental forces surrounding Boston. From the beginning, this nationalistic outlook led him to see "absolute independency" as the goal of the true Patriot. His experiences in the Army, including service on General George Washington's personal staff, convinced him that the only obstacles to nationhood were timidity among the citizenry and "disunion" among the states.

McHenry studied medicine at the Newark Academy (later the University of Delaware), became a surgeon and served with the 5th Pennsylvania Battalion. As a regular Continental unit, the battalion reported directly to New York City. Its mission was to construct and defend Fort Mifflin, an American outpost near the northern end of Manhattan Island. Overwhelming British and Hessian forces overran the post, however and McHenry was one of five physicians and some 2,000 soldiers who were captured by the British. This defeat marked the beginning of a British campaign that would drive Washington back to the Delaware River, and to Valley Forge, the lowest ebb of the Continental Army's military fortunes during the war. When released in 1779, McHenry so impressed Washington that he was appointed aide as secretary to the commander-in-chief. In August 1780 he was transferred to the Marquis de Lafayette's staff, where he remained until he retired from the Army in 1781. He maintained a lifetime friendship with the French general.

After the war, McHenry was one of three physicians who participated in the Constitutional Convention to create the new Constitution of the United States.

He was elected by the legislature to the senate of Maryland on Sept. 17, 1781, and elected as delegate to congress by the Maryland legislature on Dec. 2, 1784. After a

controversial campaign, he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates on Oct. 10, 1788.

Two years later he retired from public life and spent a year actively engaged in mercantile business. On November 15, 1791 he accepted a second term in the Maryland senate where he served for five years.

In 1792, McHenry purchased a 95-acre tract from Ridgely's Delight and named it Fayetteville in honor of his friend Lafayette.

Washington appointed McHenry Secretary of War in 1796 and immediately assigned him the task of facilitating the transition of Western military posts from Great Britain's control to that of the United States, under the terms of the Jay Treaty.

In 1798, the possibility of war with France brought the Army to a critical period in its history, when the question of establishing a permanently organized fighting force became a topic of much debate in Congress. McHenry took the lead in defending the need to establish a 20,000-man Army to meet the immediate threat. To refuse to take adequate military measures, he warned a generally reluctant Congress, "would be to offer up the United States a certain prey to France." His arguments prevailed, and Congress eventually approved the creation of twelve new regiments of regulars.

McHenry advised the senate committee against reducing military forces and was instrumental in reorganizing the United States Army into one of four regiments of infantry, a troop of dragoons, and a battery of artillery.

He is credited with establishing the United States Department of the Navy, based on his recommendation that the "War Department should be assisted by a commissioner of marine." President John Adams also appointed McHenry as his Secretary of War in 1797. At odds with Adams over administrative issues, McHenry resigned his office in 1800.

He spent his remaining years on his farm and died there, May 3, 1816. He is buried at Westminster Hall and Burying Ground in Baltimore.

Along with the famous fort and national landmark named in his honor, McHenry is memorialized at Independence Hall and the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. McHenry, Maryland in Garrett County is also named after him.



Yvonne Johnson, APG News

Source(s) www.history.army.mil/; www.wikipedia.com

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/>.



VBS TEACHES YOUTH ABOUT FAITH

Nearly 100 children, in preschool through sixth grade, attended Vacation Bible School at the main post chapel July 13 through 17. The week-long event was open to all children in the community.

(Left) From left, volunteer Ebony Sexton helps Ethan Whittington, a first-grade student, decorate a pair of "binoculars" during a craft project.

(Below) Andra Morrison, a fourth-grade student, and other VBS attendees sing "My God is Powerful" during the Summit Celebration.

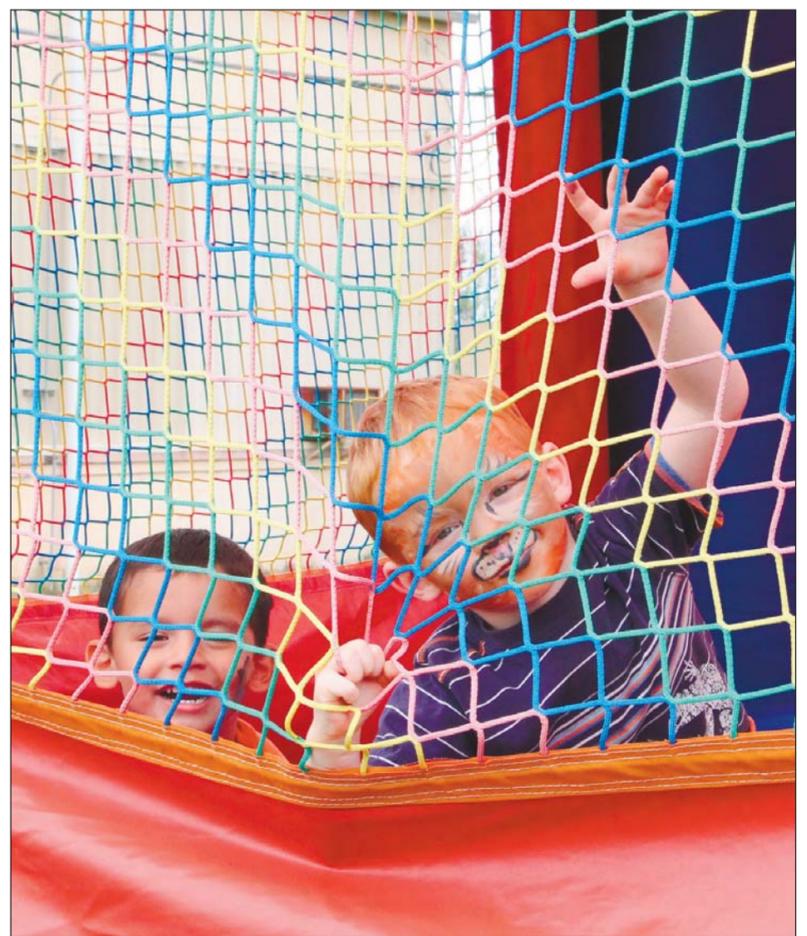
Photos by Rachel Ponder



CELEBRATING ACS SUPPORT TO APG FAMILIES

(Clockwise, from right) Military spouse Amy Callicot watches as her children, from left, Charlotte, 7, and Adam, 9, dish out some popcorn during the ACS 50th anniversary celebration at the APG North (Aberdeen) bowling alley July 17; From right, Tre Meers, 3, excitedly plays the part of a tiger in the bouncy house along with his playmate Jose Gomez, 2; Addison Meers, 5, gets her face painted like a jungle animal by Liz Lawson of Lizard Arts; Romelo Jenkins, 3, takes a shot at bowling with the help of his dinosaur bowling buddy.

Photos by Molly Blossie



POKER DELIGHTS AT TEAM CBRNE ORG DAY

APG Directorate of Emergency Services handlers Anthony Basi, left, and Sgt. Jeremy Rondone, center, introduce military working dog Poker to Peyton, Evan and Luke Dawson, children of Chemical Material Activity employee Deborah Dawson, during an Organization Day July 16, hosted by CMA; Joint Program Executive Office, Chemical and Biological Defense; Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; and Program Executive Office Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives.

Personnel from CMA, ECBC, PEO ACWA and JPEO CBD came together at Capa Field on APG South (Edgewood) for combined Organization Day festivities including a live band, snowballs, bounce houses, children's crafts and a demonstration from explosives dog Poker and his handlers.

Photo by Pamela Leigh