



APG NEWS

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

www.TeamAPG.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

Vol. 59, No. 10



Photo by Molly Blossie

Firefighters keep skills sharp

APG firefighters cut a ventilation hole into the roof of a smoke-filled home during a training exercise on post March 9. Ventilation is an important tactic of structural fire-fighting because it allows smoke and heat to escape the structure, easing conditions and allowing for safer, more productive operations. The exercise, part of Directorate of Emergency Services' annual training requirements, utilized on-post housing set for demolition to provide a realistic setting not always readily available for training.

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online

www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

facebook.com/APGMd

twitter.com/USAGAPG

flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

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

Job Fair draws nearly 500

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

Nearly 500 local job seekers attended the APG Employment Resource Day & Expo March 4 at the APG (North) recreation center. The event was open to the general public and featured 65 vendors.

The three-hour event represents a partnership between the Army Community Service Employment Readiness program, the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER), Susquehanna Workforce Network (SWN) and the APG Military Per-

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Elkton Police Officer Lt. Carolyn Allen explains career opportunities to job seeker Christopher Smith of Edgewood during the APG Employment Resource Day & Expo March 4 at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.



APG family member heading to West Point

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

The old idiom, "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" holds true for Andrew Visconti, son of retired U.S. Army colonel and current CERDEC employee Al Visconti. The younger Visconti recently received an appointment to the Class of 2019 at the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, the same institution his father graduated from in 1987.

The announcement comes as no surprise to those who know Visconti well. He became acquainted with military life at an early age and happily attended every annual Army-Navy football game with his father.

"Joining the military has always been an interest of mine, and around my freshman year of high school I began to seriously consider it as an option," Visconti said.

The nomination and application process for consideration of admission to USMA is challenging. Applicants must first be nominated by one of several individuals that includes their congressional representatives, state senators, the vice president or the president, and each source has its own requirements that include

See TEEN, page 18

Bel Air High School senior Andrew Visconti proudly displays his certificate of appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Visconti is the son of retired Army colonel and current CERDEC employee Al Visconti.

Courtesy photo



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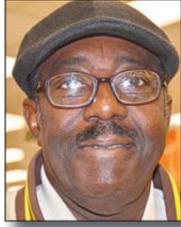
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STREET TALK

Which team will you root for during March Madness?

"I'm rooting for Maryland - girls and boys. I'm a big basketball fan."



Epraval Weeks
Retired military

"I like the Arizona Wildcats. I grew up in Arizona and I've always cheered for them. They have a really good chance this year."



Scott Kelley
CECOM

"It's exciting. I'm actually big into women's basketball. I'm from Tennessee, so UT Lady Vols, I'm pulling for them. But as far as the men, SEC all the way. So, go Kentucky!"



Tomika Fort
Family member

"I follow the Longhorns, but they've had a pretty bad season. They're on the bubble; they might make it in, so we'll see. Kentucky's probably going to win it all. They're undefeated going in. It should be fun, it always is."



Spc. John Haines,
203rd Military Intelligence Battalion

"I do love basketball; I play a lot. I haven't been following March Madness, but I am going to get on that though and see which teams are playing and who is going to be in the championship."



Spc. Terry Johnson
APG Dental Clinic

Know your role in OPSEC

By **ALAN HIXBY**
OPSEC Officer

If you've served in the Army or worked as an Army civilian or contractor for any length of time, you have probably heard the term OPSEC being used. Unfortunately, many folks use the term inappropriately or lack a true understanding of what it means.

Overall Army force protection involves several aspects, from the physical security of buildings, military installations and personnel, to the security of the network, materiel and intellectual property.

OPSEC, or operations security (more commonly referred to as operational security), is defined by AR 530-1 as the process of identifying the critical information of military plans, operations and supporting activities, the indicators that can reveal this information, and the measures to eliminate, reduce or conceal those indicators in ways that traditional security programs cannot.

"Force protection and OPSEC are the responsibility of every service member and civilian, from the individual all the way up to leadership," said APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford.

"We must remain vigilant, follow proper security protocols, be observant and report suspicious behavior, and confirm information to be released publicly has been reviewed and approved beforehand. As trusted professionals it is our duty to ensure our activities do not inadvertently put Soldiers or American citizens in harm's way."

Bottom line, OPSEC is a program designed to protect both classified and unclassified but sensitive information that could be used by an adversary, such as a terrorist or foreign intelligence collector, to target us.

The Army Criminal Investigation Command works with local and state law enforcement, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency, as appropriate, to ensure force protection standards are upheld and that any potential lapses are fully investigated.

In the past 15 years, OPSEC has evolved to keep up with the times. The use of websites, forums and social media sites has made posting information online as easy as the click of a mouse – and has made the possibility of inadvertently sharing sensitive information that much greater.

OPSEC in the workplace

Team APG has some unique challenges regarding OPSEC and protecting sensitive information.

APG is home to countless research and development, and test and evaluation organizations. The desire to publicize research breakthroughs or share ideas to further techno-

Manage your smartphone GPS location services

By default, "Allow Location Access" is in the "on" position for each listed app. Users have the option to choose: Always, While Using, or Never. If necessary, data location services can be turned off completely.

logical advancement can give rise to the possibility that sensitive information may be released unintentionally. With countless contracts allowing Team APG to collaborate with industry, academia and foreign governments, that possibility is compounded.

One of the biggest challenges is what I call the desire for 15 seconds of perceived fame that leads some folks to share information that could be used against them, their organizations or programs; information that should never be placed in the public domain.

The "bad guys" read our newspapers, websites and social media pages. By putting critical information in the public domain, like materiel weaknesses, we were helping them to target us.

One way to avoid this type of issue is to ensure any material intended for the public domain, to include information being posted to websites, undergoes a thorough review by your organization's OPSEC, security and public affairs officers before it is published.

OPSEC and personal lives

OPSEC also applies to our personal lives. We all should be careful about what we post online on social media sites like Facebook. Terrorists and criminals troll these sites to gather information to target subjects.

Some recent examples include threats to service members and their families by terrorist groups that identified their affiliation with the military or DOD, as well as numerous examples of criminals exploiting information on these sites.

In one case, a family on vacation in Disney World posted information online regarding their trip that allowed a thief to determine they were out of town. Their page included photos taken at their home with their smart phones that showed an expensive entertainment system and art work.

Although the family did not have their address listed on the site, the photos included GEO-tagging information that provided the location where the photos were taken. When the family returned home, the house was ransacked and several thousand dollars of irreplaceable items had been stolen.

So, how do you protect yourself? According to the experts, the simplest solution is to go to the privacy settings of your smartphone and choose which apps you either would or would not like to use data location services.

As for social media, you can privatize your accounts on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter so that only your friends can see your posts.

For more information about OPSEC guidelines, policies and tips for keeping information safe at work and at home, contact your unit or organization OPSEC or security officer.



Police & Fire

B L O T T E R

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>The following statistics were provided by the APG Directorate of Emergency Services, recapping the fire, medic and police responses, issued citations and arrests made during the month of February.</p> <p><i>*Mutual Aid often involves incidents off post in the local community.</i></p> | <p>Calls for Service</p> <p>FIRE: 96</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fire Alarms: 41 ▪ Mutual Aid: 20* ▪ Fire Drills: 15 <p>MEDIC: 38</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mutual Aid: 6* <p>POLICE: 362</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alarm Activation: 165 ▪ 911 Hang-ups: 23 ▪ Traffic Accidents: 9 ▪ Active Warrants: 7 | <p>Citations Issued</p> <p>TOTAL: 200</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Warning Citations: 104 ▪ Citations: 96 <p>Arrests</p> <p>TOTAL: 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Traffic Related: 8 ▪ Warrant Arrests: 2 ▪ Domestic Related: 3 ▪ DUI: 0 ▪ Drug Related: 0 |
|---|---|--|

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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Women's History Month

Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives



Leslie Lovick: For the people

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

Leslie Lovick didn't aim for the office of director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center but she accepts it as her reward for wholeheartedly embracing her chosen profession.

As CPAC director, Lovick provides oversight to more than 12,800 government and non-appropriated fund civilians at APG and at locations in Europe and the Far East. The CPAC serves 96 tenant organizations and 18 commands at APG.

A Massachusetts native and U.S. Air Force veteran, Lovick decided against college after high school and instead joined the Air Force. She served at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska and at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma as a personnel specialist before leaving the service at the end of her enlistment.

She was working in the private sector as a mortgage loan officer for the Shearson Lehman investment company in Texas when the company folded in 1994. She then obtained her first government position at Lackland Air Force Base as a GS-4 human resources assistant. She credits her rise through the ranks to her eagerness to learn her craft.

"I enjoyed working in every grade and at every level," Lovick said, adding that not shying away from the tough

jobs can have its rewards.

"I always volunteered for projects and saw it as a learning opportunity," she said. "No project is too small to learn from. I was able to learn and grow from my experience and the experience of others."

Le a r n - i n g means little, however, if the knowledge gained is not shared, Lovick added.

"You have to be willing to mentor and coach those behind you," she said.

Lovick's HR career spans more than 30 years of service. Prior to coming to APG she was assigned to the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center (CPOC) where she played an integral part in establishing the Army's first automated staffing tool/program. She served in several lead and supervisory positions before being promoted



to division chief. As staffing proponent and delegated examining proponent for the Northeast region, she was responsible for oversight of six branches for executing centralized human resources operations. She also served for eight years in Heidelberg, Germany.

Lovick said guiding with a calm demeanor while maintaining integrity is the mainstay of her leadership style.

"I understand the importance of finding the best solutions for everyone involved," she said. "I don't get excited or worried because I've often found that the solution is right around the corner when you stay calm and analyze the issues. I never forget that I'm the person responsible for keeping us on the right track."

Mindful of the changes CPAC and its

parent Civilian Human Resource Agency (CHRA) organizations have undergone since the 1980s, Lovick said she envisions a time when HR specialists become strategic advisors to their customers.

"The bigger reason is to be a partner to help them achieve their missions," she said adding that her vision is that CPAC services to customers are seen as vital parts of the customer's mission."

"Our people are really good and hard-working, and they're a valuable asset to this mission and this installation," she said.

She added that working in partnership with military leaders has been eye-opening.

"It's broadened my view of what the Army is all about," she said.

Though not currently contemplating retirement, Lovick said she would like to be remembered as a leader who was fair.

"I always did what had to be done; sometimes that meant saying no, but it was to bring excellence to the organization. My number one priority is supporting the customer.

"My time at APG – in fact my whole career – has been a positive learning experience. I consider myself fortunate to lead an organization for the Soldier. I'm honored to do that. And it's been my honor to serve."

Environmental audit coming to APG

Army Environmental Command

The Army, along with the rest of the Department of Defense, is required to conduct environmental compliance assessments at all of its installations world-wide every three years.

This program, called the Environmental Performance Assessment & Assistance System (EPAAS), is executed by the U.S. Army Environmental Command for all Installation Management Command (IMCOM) installations.

EPAAS is coming to APG this month.

An EPAAS team usually consists of six to eight AEC and Army installation subject-matter experts who spend a week visiting various locations on an installation to ensure that operations meet the requirements of laws like the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Hazardous Waste regulations (or corresponding

If I work at one of the places the EPAAS assessors are likely to inspect, what can I do to prepare?

- Contact your garrison environmental office
- Ensure appropriate records are up to date
- Review and ensure you're familiar with appropriate procedures
- Police your work area for excess materials and wastes

Final Governing Standards requirements for overseas installations) as well as DOD and Army requirements.

Locations of interest typically include vehicle maintenance shops/motor pools, any location where fuel is handled, maintenance and utility shops, hospitals and clinics, heat plants, construction sites, and more.

If the Environmental Protection

Agency or other regulatory agencies discover a non-compliant situation during one of their inspections they can apply financial and/or operational penalties to a garrison. EPAAS, as an Army program run by an Army team, does not issue fines or penalties. EPAAS takes a proactive approach of discovering and helping to address situations before they become larger problems.

EPAAS assessors also provide a fresh set of eyes, helping to identify process and procedure gaps and overlooked discrepancies. Anyone with issues should feel free to ask the assessors. They can explain the rationale for the existence of certain processes and procedures. This approach improves the Army's environmental compliance stature and greatly reduces the potential for regulatory actions.

AEC, a subordinate command of IMCOM, offers environmental program assistance before, during and after these audits. AEC provides myriad other environmental services and develops innovative solutions to enable Army readiness and sustain the Army's future.

For more information, contact Martin Roberts, Army Environmental Command EPAAS Program Management Team, at martin.e.roberts.civ@mail.mil or 210-466-1615.

Daylight Saving Time has arrived.

Did you remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms?

Visit www.usfa.fema.gov for more fire safety tips.



Forgotten female programmers

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Standing 8 feet tall, weighing 30 tons and with seemingly more knobs, lights, and levers than the starship Enterprise, the ground-breaking Electronic, Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC) might appear today as something out of a black-and-white, science fiction film.

Despite its bulk, ENIAC was a significant accomplishment, becoming “the prototype from which most other modern computers evolved. It embodied almost all of the components and concepts of later high-speed, storage and control devices,” according to former Aberdeen Proving Ground historical officer Karl Kempf in 1961.

The world’s first operational, general purpose, electronic digital computer not only heralded the age of computing, but also a new age for women’s roles within the Army workforce. Prior to World War II, early computer design, construction and implementation, like many other science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related careers, was a male-dominated field.

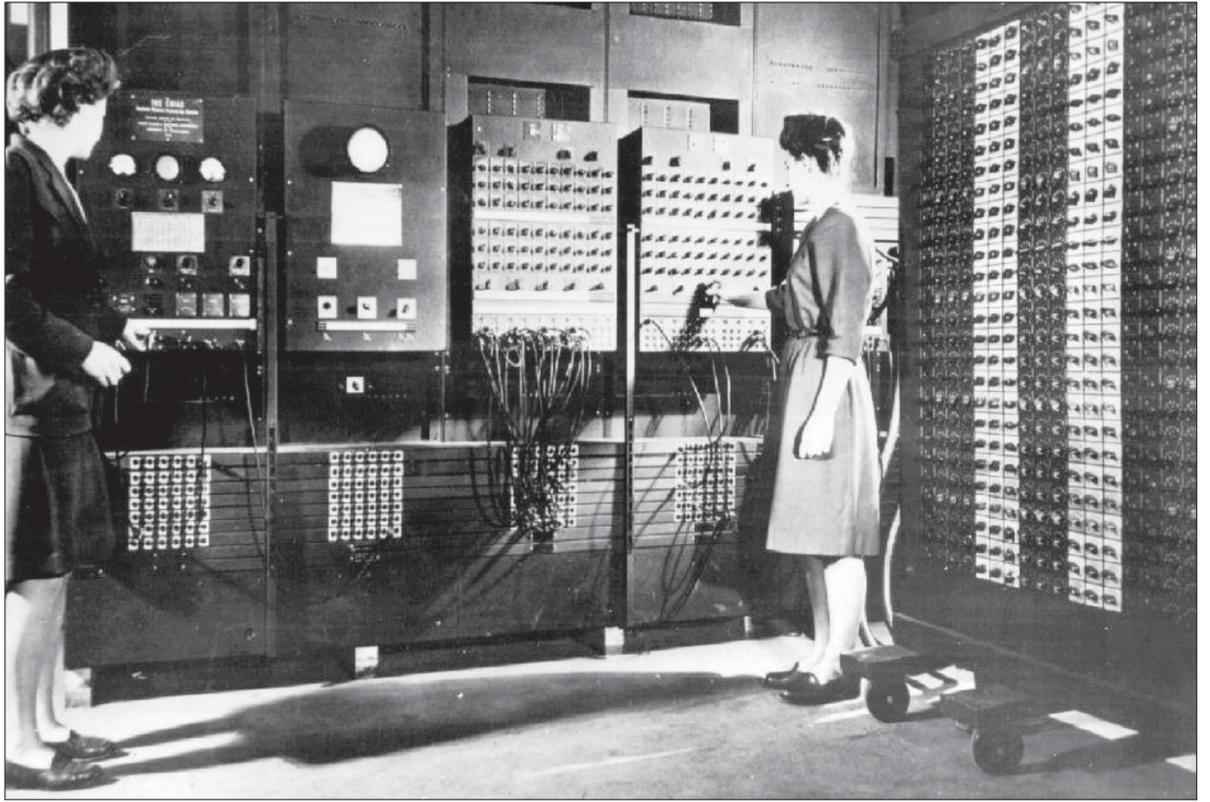
The ENIAC was assembled at the University of Pennsylvania and formally accepted by the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps at APG in July 1946. It was transferred to APG in July 1947 and was in continuous operation until October 1955.

According to the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command’s historical operations division, “the manpower demands of World War II enabled women with mathematical degrees or an ability in different types of mathematics to operate the equipment, receiving the title of ‘computers.’ Women were soon regarded as capable of computing more quickly and more accurately than men.”

Men and women who worked as computers were responsible for using numerical function tables to make and incorporate arithmetic calculations into an evolving ‘solution’ to generate specific, desired results.

The job of computer was critical to the war effort and, by 1943, essentially all computers were women, as were their direct supervisors.

Six of these female computers became the original group of ENIAC programmers: Kathleen “Kay” McNulty Mauchly Antonelli, Frances Bilas Spence, Betty



U.S. Army photo

Betty Jean Jennings Bartik and Frances Bilas Spence, two of the six original female ENIAC programmers, prepare for the unveiling of the world’s first operational, general purpose, electronic digital computer. The computer stood 8 feet tall, weighed 30 tons and covered 1800 square feet – the size of a modern two-bedroom condominium.

Jean Jennings Bartik, Frances Elizabeth “Betty” Snyder Holberton, Ruth Lichterman Teitelbaum, and Marlyn Wescoff Meltzer.

These women developed pioneering work largely in the shadows of their male counterparts. They were resourceful, working without user manuals and reconfiguring ENIAC as the program changed.

According to the Columbia University website, the women “taught themselves ENIAC’s operation from its logical and electrical block diagrams, and then figured out how to program it. They created their own flow charts, programming sheets, wrote the program and placed it on the ENIAC using a challenging physical interface, which had hundreds of wires and 3,000 switches.”

As part of the oral history project of the Computer History Museum locat-

ed in Mountain View, California, Bartik, one of the original six programmers, recalled how she got the job working on the ENIAC. At the time, she was compiling calculations on rocket and cannon trajectories by hand.

“This announcement came around that they were looking for operators of a new machine they were building called the ENIAC,” she said. “Of course I had no idea what it was, but I knew it wasn’t doing hand calculation.”

Bartik told a live audience in 2008 how the ENIAC wasn’t working the day before its scheduled first demonstration. Bartik and her team of programmers worked late into the night and got it operating.

“During the night it came to Betty what was wrong,” said Frances Snyder Holberton. “She came in the next morning and flipped one switch on the mas-

ter programmer and the problem was solved. Actually, Betty could do more logical reasoning while she was asleep than most people can do awake.”

Despite the team’s best efforts, Bartik said the job lacked prestige.

“People never recognized [us], they never acted as though we knew what we were doing,” Bartik said.

Female programmers were often featured in photographs, but media outlets didn’t name the women, so their existence and contributions went largely unknown to the public.

Recognition came for these forgotten female programmers in 2013 when ENIAC Programmer Project founder Kathy Kleiman made a documentary film – “Invisible Computers: The Story of the ENIAC Programmers” – that chronicled their groundbreaking stories.

Poison Prevention Week: March 15-21

ASAP

Because more than 90 percent of accidental poisonings occur in the home, learning prevention methods is critical to avoiding these accidents. Poisonings can happen to anyone. You can protect yourself and others by knowing how to recognize and store poisonous chemicals around your home, and what to do in a poison emergency.

Poison prevention tips

If you suspect someone has been poisoned, immediately call the Poison Help Line at 1-800-222-1222, which connects you to your local poison center.

To avoid poisoning, control access to or the use of:

- Painkillers
- Sedatives (drugs used to reduce anxiety; hypnotics; sleeping pills; and antipsychotic drugs used to treat mental illness)
- Household cleaning products

To help keep your home safe:

- Never mix household or chemical products together. Doing so can create a dangerous gas.
 - Never share prescription medicines.
- If you are taking more than one drug at a time, check with your health care provider, pharmacist, or call the toll-free Poison Help for information about possible drug interactions.
- Keep all chemicals, household cleaners, medicines and potentially poisonous substances in locked cabinets or out of the reach of children.
 - Be aware of common poisons to avoid.
 - Teach children, teenagers and seniors about basic poison prevention tips.



First aid for poisoning

Poison on the skin

- Remove contaminated clothing.
- Flood skin with water for 10 minutes, then wash gently with soap and water and rinse.
- Call the Poison Help Line 1-800-222-1222

Poison in the eye

- Flood eye with lukewarm water from sink faucet or shower for 15 minutes.
- Call 1-800-222-1222

Inhaled poison

- Get victim to fresh air.
- If possible, open doors and windows.
- Call 1-800-222-1222

Swallowed poison

- Gently wipe out mouth and give a small amount of water.
- Do not make the person vomit. Do not give ipecac syrup or try to make them throw up — doctors say this can do more harm than good.
- Call 1-800-222-1222

For more information, contact Cindy Scott, APG Army Substance Abuse Program prevention coordinator, at 410-278-4013 or cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil, or visit the Maryland Poison Center web site at <http://www.mdpoison.com/>.

BY THE NUMBERS

Lá Fhéile Pádraig

St. Patrick’s Day, celebrated March 17, has spread from Dublin, Ireland to a global tradition dating back 17 centuries.

34,000,000+

U.S. residents who claim Irish ancestry – more than seven times the population of Ireland.

1554

Years since Saint Patrick, who is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland, died in 461 AD.

253

Number of years since the first St. Patrick’s Day parade was held in New York City. This parade is considered the oldest and the largest parade in the Western Hemisphere.

40

Pounds of vegetable dye used to color a portion of the Chicago River green on St. Patrick’s Day.

16

Places in the U.S. that share the name of Ireland’s capital, Dublin. Seven more are named after the shamrock.

3

Leaves on most shamrocks. According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans.



Visit us online at

www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

By **RACHEL PONDER** APG News

Sources: <http://www.enjoyillinois.com>; www.reuters.com; www.history.com

Kirk seeks to reduce ‘no-shows’

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic

Meeting the health care demands of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community is already a challenging job. Officials at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic (KUSAHC) stated that patients who miss appointments are adding to that challenge.

One of the primary concerns with missed appointments is that they limit access to care for multiple patients.

The phrase used to emphasize this dilemma in the Defense Health System is “an appointment missed by you is an appointment missed by two.” This means that if you miss an appointment, you have also prevented another patient from seeing the provider at that time.

Ultimately, this can cause a longer wait period for scheduling appointments because the no-show patient and another patient that could be scheduled during that period of the missed appointment still need to be seen by the provider. In the past 12 months, KUSAHC has had a no-show rate of 7.85 percent, which is a significant increase from last year’s rate of

4.3 percent.

While that may not seem high, the Army’s goals for patient no-shows are a rate of less than 5 percent. The revenue lost for KUSAHC is \$80 per visit, which costs the clinic almost \$255,000 annually.

“For a facility of this size, we are talking about a substantial amount of money,” said Lt. Col. David Zinnante, KUSAHC commander.

Unlike the private sector, Military Treatment Facilities do not charge patients for no-shows.

“Our mission is to inform our beneficiaries of the monetary impact to the facility and the degradation of access for other patients when they don’t can-

cel appointments,” said Frank Cermak, KUSAHC public affairs officer. “We all know things come up, and we want our patients to be informed of the resources that are available to cancel appointments which reduce no show rates.”

Many options for cancelling appointments are simple. The Audiocare phone system is designed to call patients 72 hours before appointments with a reminder.

“It’s very easy for patients to confirm or cancel an appointment at the time of the reminder call,” said Tammie Rush, chief of KUSAHC Managed Care. “This gives us time to rebook the appointment.”

All beneficiaries of KUSAHC can book or cancel their appointments via TRICARE Online at www.tricareonline.com. Another way to cancel an appointment in a timely manner is to call 410-278-KIRK (5475).

In addition to administrative practices to reduce unnecessary loss of revenue attributed to missed appointments, community support for keeping medical costs down is a major part these efforts.

“The clinic also faces a challenge not only from this lost revenue but revenue left on the table when patients don’t complete APLSS (Army Provider Level Satisfaction Survey) surveys,” Cermak said. “I don’t think our patients know how important their feedback is to the clinic. We value all feedback; we want to know what we do well and what we need to improve on. When we do well we are rewarded with funds to improve the clinic.”

APLSS surveys are a way patients can rate their experience with their PCM Team. While 650 patients receive an APLSS survey every month, only about a 20 percent actually complete them.

\$80

Amount of lost revenue per visit due to missed appointments, costing KUSAHC

\$255,000

each year.

Installation slim-down challenge continues

By **CAPT. JOANNA MOORE**
Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic

In January, 17 different organizations and nearly 700 participants on APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood) formed teams to participate in the 12-week Installation Slim-Down Challenge.

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

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

“TrimJ11” from CECOM is in the lead, having lost 24.4 pounds and 9.6 percent total weight loss. “D. McCaskey” from ECBC is not far behind, shedding 21.4 pounds and 8.1 percent. Round-

ing up the top three is “Eagle Eye” from ECBC, with 10.6 pounds and 7.4 percent weight loss.

MRICD is in the lead for the team competition with a group total percentage weight loss of 2.06 percent and 110.4 pounds lost amongst the team of 26.

There are still six weeks remaining in the Challenge, which ends April 24, followed by an awards ceremony and celebration for APG’s “biggest losers.”

Stay tuned for the final results, which will be posted in the *APG News*.

The Installation Slim-Down Challenge is sponsored by the Community Health Promotion Council, the APG Performance Triad, and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

“Biggest Losers” rankings as of week 4 (Feb. 27)
Chart by Molly Blossie

| Rank | Code name | Unit | Weight loss (lbs) and (%) |
|------|-------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 1 | TrimJ11 | CECOM | 24.4lbs 9.6% |
| 2 | D. McCaskey | ECBC | 21.4lbs 8.1% |
| 3 | Eagle Eye | ECBC | 10.6lbs 7.4% |
| 4 | TC | ATEC | 17.2lbs 7.0% |
| 5 | JH | ATEC | 13.6lbs 6.6% |
| 6 | CAT CAN DO | KIRK | 10lbs 6.5% |
| 7 | Peacock | MRICD | 22.2lbs 5.9% |
| 8 | Amy Pohler | CHRA | 13.2lbs 5.7% |
| 9 | SWM | PHC | 10.4lbs 5.6% |
| 10 | CZAR | CECOM | 11.8lbs 5.3% |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

events&town halls

THURSDAY

MARCH 19**GARRISON TOWN HALL**

The APG Garrison will host a town hall meeting for garrison civilians, contractors and Soldiers at 1:30 p.m. at the post theater.

APG South (Edgewood) Garrison employees can join in via VTC at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810.

Subject matter experts will be available to answer career questions. The agenda includes Future Manpower Outlook, spring and summer events and wellness updates.

All questions can be submitted during the town hall or in advance to Amburr Reese at amburr.j.reese.civ@mail.mil or to Lisa McClure at lisa.a.mcclure9.civ@mail.mil.

TUESDAY

MARCH 24**EXCELLENCE IN ACQUISITION LECTURE SERIES**

The Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) will host Retired Lt. Gen. Steven W. Boutelle as part of its Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series at 1 p.m. in Mallette Hall (Building 6008) on APG North (Aberdeen).

Boutelle, a former Army CIO who led the organization now known as PEO C3T from July 1997 to June 2001, will provide his insights on the acquisition challenges we face today during the second installment of the "Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series." This is an invaluable opportunity to hear from one of Army Acquisition's great leaders and we want to encourage the widest possible participation by the APG workforce. This event qualifies for Continuous Learning Points (CLP).

For more information, email usarmy.apg.peo-c3t.mbx.pao-peoc3t@mail.mil.

ONGOING**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).

Also, awards and decorations are presented to retirees and their spouses.

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.

After all, Uncle Sam wants to thank you. Don't you think you've earned it?

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

meetings&conferences

MARCH 17-19**JUICE FINAL PLANNING WORKING GROUP**

The annual Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE) is fast approaching, with the Final Planning Working Group (FPWG) scheduled for March 17-19.

JUICE is a worldwide communications interoperability event hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) Software Engineering Center (SEC) Joint On-demand Interoperability Network (JOIN). JUICE 2015 event dates are June 16-26. The theme for this year's event is "Expeditionary Communications in a Joint Information Environment (JIE)."

Key areas for the JUICE are cyber defense of a deployed Joint Task Force, U.S. and coalition partner interoperability and continuity of government communications between federal and state agencies in support of national security and emergency preparedness.

Cyber professionals from DOD, the Department of Homeland Security,

and federal and state governments will work together in the JUICE Joint Cyber Cell to develop and validate tactics, techniques, and procedures, working together as a unified force.

Coalition partners from various locations throughout the globe will participate in JUICE to assess and validate communications interoperability in support of U.S. Mission Partner Environment (MPE) objectives.

Federal agencies will participate in Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) initiatives to leverage "Out of Band" capabilities to prepare for a national communications grid loss event. Industry partners will participate by bringing in their latest and greatest technologies focused on pre-defined communication gaps.

The FPWG will be conducted at L3 Communications, 6280 Guardian Way, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005. If interested in attending the JUICE FPWG, contact John Kahler, JOIN chief, at john.r.kahler.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY

MARCH 19**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS MEETING**

The next Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post meeting will held 11:30 a.m. at the Wetlands Golf Course in Aberdeen.

The featured speaker is Ray DiBerardo, an engineer with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. DiBerardo was a designer of the Field Deployable Hydrolysis System, which was used to destroy the chemical weapons cache in Syria in 2014.

Register and pay securely online at: <https://same-march.eventbrite.com> or call 410-688-0318.

WARRANT OFFICER ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will host its quarterly meeting noon to 12:45 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, room 102. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Owen McNiff at 571-243-6561; 443-861-1936; email omcniff@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.apgwoa.org>.

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 25**HOW TO SMART START YOUR SMALL BUSINESS**

In honor of Women's History Month, Army Community Service will host a Powerful Women in Small Business seminar from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Top of the Bay, Bldg. 30. Attendees can purchase lunch for this one-day event. Future How to Smart Start Your Small Business sessions will be held at ACS Bldg. 2503, Highpoint Road 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 13, Aug. 12 and Nov. 4.

To register, contact the ACS Employment Program manager at 410-278-9669/7552. For more information, visit the ACS website on www.TeamAPG.com.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

MAY 1 & 2**VETERANS LEGAL CAREER FAIR**

Registration is open for employers and candidates for the Veterans Legal Career Fair to be conducted over two days at the Marriott Metro Center in Washington, D.C.

The event is meant for experienced lawyers who have served in the military or are transitioning out of military service. The event includes panel presentations, a networking reception and a full day of one-on-one interviews.

Candidates should register by March 27 while employers are encouraged to register by March 13.

The goal of the Veterans Legal Career Fair is to help veterans find jobs and to help top employers gain access to a pool of first-rate candidates who have received unique training, skills and legal insights through their military service.

For more information or to register, visit www.veteranslegalcareerfair.com

health&resiliency

TUESDAY

MARCH 17**CARE FIRST BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD CLAIM REP. VISIT**

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has arranged for a claim representative of Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield to visit

APG 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 room 120, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will not be available in APG South (Edgewood) during this visit. No appointment is necessary.

For more information, contact Teri Wright at 410-278-4331 or teresa.l.wright28.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY

MARCH 26**PREVENTATIVE CARE INFO SESSION**

The C4ISR Wellness Committee will host a Preventative Care Informational Session to explore the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bldg. 6001, second floor, room 224 on the C4ISR campus.

The session is open to military service members, civilians and contractors. C4ISR Slim Down Participants should bring their wellness activity rosters to credit attendance and sign the session sign-in sheet.

For sign language interpreters or other disability-related accommodations, contact the CECOM EEO Office at 443-861-4355 by March 12.

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

ONGOING**APRIL – MAY****TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES**

Kick the habit with help from the Harford County Health Department! Free tobacco cessation classes will be offered at the APG North (Aberdeen) main post chapel, every Wednesday, April 15 to May 20, from noon to 1 p.m.

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

ONGOING**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.

- **March 18** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **April 22** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **May 20** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **June 17** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **July 15** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Aug. 19** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Sep. 16** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Oct. 21** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Nov. 18** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Dec 16** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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

miscellaneous

ONGOING**THROUGH APRIL 10****2015-16 SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

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

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

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

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

ONGOING**THROUGH APRIL 28**
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS

The basic and advanced American Sign Language Class that began Feb. 3 runs through April 28. Class is held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Bldg. E3330-31, room 270 in APG South (Edgewood). This class is free of charge and students can bring their lunch. The text book "ABC, A Basic Course in American Sign Language" is needed for the course.

To register, or for more information, contact BethAnn Cameron at 410-436-7175 or Instructors Pat Reeves and Randy Weber at 410-436-8546.

FRIDAY

MAY 1**2015 VETERANS SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC APPLICATION DEADLINE**

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

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

"I encourage every veteran who may be eligible to take advantage of this opportunity," said VA Secretary Robert McDonald. "There is rehabilitative power in leading an active lifestyle and learning new skills and activities."

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

The deadline to apply for the 2015 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic is May 1.

The 2015 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic is sponsored by VA, the Veterans Canteen Service and other community organizations.

For more information or for an application, visit <http://www.summersportsclinic.va.gov>.

ONGOING**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: March 19; April 23; May 21; June 18; July 9; 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: 9 to 11:30 a.m.
- Course dates: March 19; April 23; May 21; June 18; July 9; 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.

MORE ONLINE

More events can be seen at www.TeamAPG.com

Meet an APG STEM Professional

Suzanne Procell: Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Chemist

By **AMANDA ROMINIECKI**
APG News

JOB TITLE:
Supervisory
Chemist
DEGREE:
Chemistry, Towson University



Procell

APG News: How long have you worked for the Army?

SP: I started as a GS-2 clerk typist in 1980, at what is now called Aberdeen Test Center (ATC), typing technical reports. I went to school at night to get my associate's degree in lab science technology. Later I got a job as an engineering technician at ECBC in a surety lab, testing protective materials that Soldiers wear: masks, gloves, suits.

After several years I returned to ATC for a year and a half to work down range on live fire tests with a group called Toxic Fumes. When I went back to ECBC, I began pursuing my BS in Chemistry at Towson University (TU) and, after graduating I got a chemist position. Several years later I left the lab to work in my current job.

APG News: Did you grow up in the area?

SP: I've lived in Harford County since I was 10. I'm an Army brat and my dad retired as the APG Command Sergeant Major in 1980. My husband is also a chemist at ECBC. His dad taught up at the Ordnance School on APG. We grew

STEM in focus

STEM in focus is a recurring series in APG News highlighting Science, Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) on APG. From countless student educational outreach programs to an array of scientific, technological and engineering personnel contributing to diverse missions, STEM is abound on the installation and APG News aims to bring it all into focus.

up off base in Edgewood, went to the schools here, and then went to local colleges. The Army has always been a part of my life.

APG News: What does your job entail?

SP: My team provides high quality reference standards for chemical warfare (CW) agents. These standards are used for calibrating lab instruments and for testing materials and systems used to protect our service members.

We also certify labs that perform safety air monitoring. If you're working around chemical agents there are folks who monitor the air around you to make sure you are protected and not being exposed to toxic chemicals. Those folks use equipment that allows them to do that and we make sure that they follow the Army's protocols when doing that.

We also provide subject matter expert support on certification audits for production and shelf-life testing of CW protective equipment produced for the Soldier. During production, a certain amount is tested to ensure that the production lot is good, that it meets the standards. We audit the individuals who do that testing.

Also, if something is going to be fielded after sitting in a warehouse for some time, it is tested to make sure it's still good before it's given to a Soldier to protect themselves.

APG News: What do you like most about your job?

SP: Interacting with other scientists, working through current challenges and learning something new. I also enjoy mentoring the younger generation. It's an awesome job.

APG News: When did you become interested in chemistry?

SP: I've always been interested in science, but mostly biology. I was one of those kids who brought everything home – if it flew, crawled, swam or slithered, I brought it home in a box. You had to be careful opening shoe boxes in my house. Later, when I started working in the surety labs at ECBC I became interested in chemistry.

APG News: How are you involved with STEM educational outreach?

SP: I started the Kids in Chemistry program here at ECBC 15 years ago, and we're still doing it today. I thought it was

a great opportunity to put a human face to the scientists who work on post. It's about chemistry, and we keep our interactions at a level that the kids can understand – even if they don't get it down to the molecular interaction, which we don't really want anyway, they learn that stuff that happens in their everyday life is chemistry.

One of the activities we do is a chromatography lab, which is simply separating things out of a mixture. Chromatography is a basic concept for chemists and allows us to identify unknowns. The kids learn how color changing markers work – the ones that come with a colorless marker that changes the color of the other markers. It seems magical to them, but they learn that it's just chemistry.

Working with other volunteer scientists, I try to inspire kids, to give them a purpose, beyond just growing up, going to college and getting a job. I believe they need a goal to work towards – I tell them about some of our society's challenges and that people my age aren't going to solve them all, that we need them, the kids, to become scientists and find the solutions. And hopefully if they're inspired and have a passion, they can keep that going through school and have a mission or a purpose when they grow up.

It's a privilege to work with kids, share knowledge and inspire them.

APG News: What would you say to a student interested in pursuing a STEM career?

SP: Make good choices, take school seriously, find a mentor, learn everything you can about what you're interested in and follow your passion.

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.campbell.civ@mail.mil.

Alba, Audrey
Ashby, Patricia
Beach, Sarah Lynn
Benysek, Lee
Best, Anja S.
Blevins, Dianna
Budzinski, David
Calahan, Jane E.
Coleman-Jones Nancy

Clark, Lyra
Dissek, Michael J.
Donlon, Jacqueline
Doyle, Tesha H.
Gaddis, Lonnie
Eilerman, Edward
Henry, Randy
Hise, Anne R.
Gilley, Christopher M.

Johnson, Douglas W.
Kennedy, Sandra
Merkel, Arthur J.
McCauley, Adrienne
Nguyen, Amy
Palm, Natalie
Pusey, Nancy K.
Robinson, Jennifer
Sadler, Steven B.

Small, Patricia
Solomon, Je'Neane
Starnes, Desiree C.
Trulli, Wayne R.
Wade, Lamesa S.
Weimer, Carl R.



MEMORIES OF 'NAM



Remembering a life in uniform

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

Before he became an Aberdeen Proving Ground police officer, Joseph Davis spent 27 years policing the meaner streets of Baltimore County as a Maryland State trooper.

In many ways, he says, he was primed for the demanding rigors of public service by the years he spent in uniform, most notably, the nine months he served in Vietnam.

A native Marylander, Davis grew up in Middle River in Baltimore County. He attended Overlea High School, but left before graduating and enlisted in the Army at age 17 in 1964.

"Due to some family turmoils, I thought it best if I get in the Army and try to make something of myself," he said.

He attended basic training at Fort Gordon, Georgia, then Advanced Individual Training supply schools at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Fort Lee, Virginia. In 1966, he also attended a 19-week general automotives course with the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools at APG and later a stevedore supervisor's course at Fort Eustis, Virginia where he gained skills in the loading and unloading of cargo ships.

Davis served in France and Korea before heading to Vietnam. He said that while Vietnam was going on at the time it was "in the background."

"It was low key when I went in; things started to escalate in 1967 and 1968," he said.

He had about 10 months left in the Army when he was ordered to 'Nam.

"They sent me anyway," he said. "They were sending everybody."

Despite being armed with his new stevedore skills, Davis never got to work his MOS. When he arrived in 'Nam in November, 1968, American and allied forces were regrouping from the casualties suffered during the Tet Offensive – a series of simultaneous attacks that were launched by the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese throughout South Vietnam in three phases, lasting from January to September 1968.

From the replacement center, Davis was sent to the 1st Infantry Division headquarters in Qui Nhon. Davis insisted that he was supposed to be assigned to the Saigon docks and was returned to the personnel service center where an officer who noticed his supply MOS had him assigned to the Bien Hoa. He said work there was "pretty much around the clock."

"You maybe had down time every

seven days or so, but otherwise it was non-stop. Everything we did was geared toward supporting the guys in front. As a sergeant, I pulled my time on the perimeters as sergeant of the guard and every now and then a "zapper" [suicide bomber] would get in and we'd have to hunt then down. And we took our share of hits from air strikes."

He said word about the anti-war climate in the states wasn't a great concern to the guys with their boots on the ground.

"It was all about taking care of each other. Camaraderie was tight. It had to be. We had it easier than the guys in front but we had our moments."

Davis returned home when his time was up to a period of adjustment. He lived near a volunteer fire company and he said for a while the sirens "really bothered me." To this day, he doesn't like people "tip-toeing around while I'm sleeping," he said.

Davis joined the state police shortly after returning home and eventually was able to complete school and attend Loyola University where he majored in sociology and police science and earned a bachelor's degree.

He started his civilian law enforcement career at APG in 1996; two days after retiring from the state. Davis has led the Directorate of Emergency Services traffic division for the past several years.

He said when he remembers 'Nam, he thinks of the frustration he felt when U.S. forces "pulled out of there."

"All I could think was what was it all for. We lost a lot of kids over there," he said.

His personal feelings about the conflict notwithstanding, he concedes that "wartime service makes a different person out of you."

"I definitely came back different," he said. "It made me more appreciative of the life we have here in the states; our democracy, our standard of living; I stopped taking it for granted"

Davis retires at the end of March with a combined total of 51 years of service to the state and to the nation.

"I will miss the people I've worked with and I will look back on this as a past experience with many pleasant memories," he said.

"Like anyone in law enforcement, my main objective was to come home every night to my family," he added. "I like to think I helped a lot of people during that time. I always gave 110 percent so I think I did okay."



Courtesy photos

(Top) A young Joe Davis poses with his weapon during down time at Bien Hoa Air Base in South Vietnam in 1969; (Bottom) Davis snapped this photo of comrades moving out on patrol during the weeks following the Tet Offensive. He said tensions from the campaign lasted well past the official end date.

Roots of VA health care started 150 years ago

By **HANS PETERSEN**
Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs evolved from the first federal veterans' facility established for Civil War Soldiers and Sailors of the Union Army, known initially as the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

On March 3, 1865, a month before the Civil War ended, President Abraham Lincoln signed a law to establish a national Soldiers and Sailor's asylum. Renamed the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in 1873, it was the first government institution in the world created specifically for honorably discharged volunteer soldiers.

A "Noble Dream"

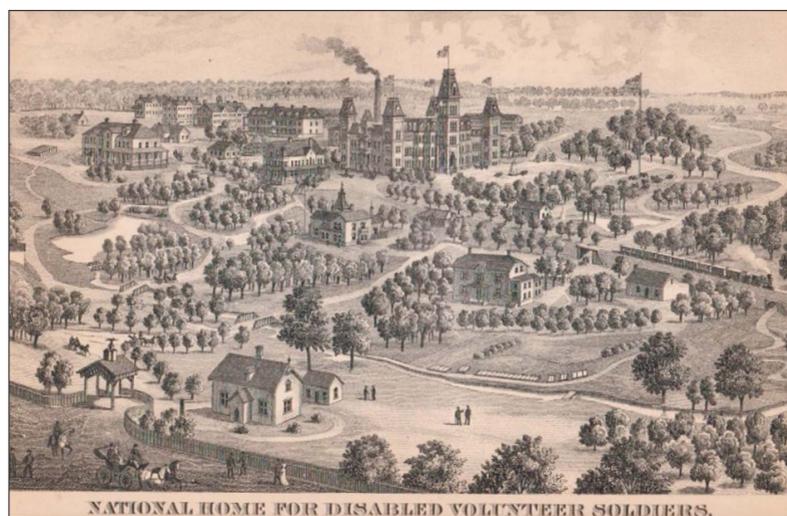
The National Homes were founded on the principles of Florence Nightingale and the U.S. Sanitary Commission. The noble dream of providing care for the nation's patriots began as a simple idea to fill a need in the midst of war in 1863. The public wanted it, veterans needed it, and the nation's leaders legally authorized it on March 3, 1865. There was no model to follow; this kind of veterans care didn't exist in the world. What they created was unprecedented.

The first National Home, known as the Eastern Branch of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, opened Nov. 1, 1866, near Augusta, Maine.

As the U.S. entered World War I in 1917, Congress established new benefits for World War I veterans that included programs for life insurance, disability compensation, prosthetics, vocational rehabilitation, and hospitalization, along with new federal agencies to administer them. Federal veterans' medical care shifted from lifelong residential care to

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.



short-term treatment in general or specialized hospitals, supplemented by job re-training or disability pensions.

Gen. Omar Bradley took the reins at VA in August 1945 and steered its transformation into a modern organization. In January 1946, Public Law 293 established the VA Department of Medicine and Surgery, along with numerous oth-

er programs like the VA Voluntary Service to provide better services to veterans. The law enabled VA to recruit and retain top medical personnel by modifying the civil service system, establishing medical research, and affiliating VA hospitals with medical schools to place veterans' medicine on par with the private sector.

1988 - VA becomes Department of Veterans Affairs

The VA was elevated to a Cabinet-level executive department by President Ronald Reagan Oct. 15, 1988. Vice President George H. W. Bush hailed the creation of the new department, saying, "There is only one place for the veterans of America, in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America."

The Veterans Administration was then renamed the Department of Veterans Affairs, but continued to be known by the general public as "the VA."

The Department of Medicine and Surgery, established in 1946, was renamed as the Veterans Health Services and Research Administration at that time. On May 7, 1991, it was changed to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

VHA today

VHA – the largest of the three administrations that comprise the Department of Veterans Affairs – continues to meet veterans' changing medical, surgical, and quality-of-life needs. New programs provide treatment for traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress, suicide prevention, women veterans' health care, and more.

The VA has opened outpatient clinics and established telemedicine and other services to accommodate a diverse veteran population, and continues to cultivate ongoing medical research and innovation to improve the lives of America's patriots.

The VA health care system has grown from 54 hospitals in 1930, to 150 hospitals, 800 community-based outpatient clinics, 126 nursing home care units and 35 domiciliaries.

For more information, or to request services, visit <http://www.va.gov/>.

ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Mariner Point Park

Waterfront park is a Joppatowne gem



By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Mariner Point Park is a small waterfront park in Joppatowne, located just five miles from APG South (Edgewood).

The 37.7-acre park is located on a peninsula between Taylors and Foster Branch creeks. The park consists of undeveloped woodland and developed areas, and amenities include a volleyball court, a playground, two pavilions, grills, bathroom facilities and fishing piers.

Managed by the Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation, Mariner Point Park is a quiet place where people can relax with family and friends after work or on weekends, observe nature or get lost in a good book.

One of the highlights of the park is a 1.05 mile shaded walking path. Many Joppatowne locals walk the path daily. Plenty of benches line the path, allowing visitors to sit and admire birds, squirrels and other creatures native to the area.

In warmer months the park is a popular site for picnicking and boating, especially on weekends. Pavilions are available on a first come, first served basis on weekdays. Reservations are required on the weekend, for a fee. Near the entrance of the park is a boat launch which is open from dawn to dusk.

For history buffs, the park is close to the location of "Gilmor's Raid," also known as "The Magnolia Station Train Raid" during the Civil War.

On July 1, 1864, under the command of Maj. Harry W. Gilmor, 135 troops in the First and Second Maryland Cavalry regiments seized two trains traveling on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad. During this raid they captured supplies, set a train on fire, cut telegraph communication lines and partially destroyed the railroad trestle bridge overlooking the Gunpowder River. This raid was part of an overall campaign against Union railroads during the Civil War.

Mariner Point Park is located at 100 Kearney Drive in Joppatowne. For more information, visit http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/parks_rec/Parks.cfm?ParkID=73.



(Clockwise from top left) A flock of geese take off near the boat launch at Mariner Point Park; a colorful sunset reflects on Taylors Creek; a squirrel scampers along a guard rail; seagulls sun themselves on launch ramp pylons.

Wildlife spotted at Mariner Point Park

Birds

- Red-winged cardinal
- Hairy woodpecker
- Bald eagle
- Barred owl

Mammals

- American beaver
- River otter
- Muskrat
- Eastern chipmunk

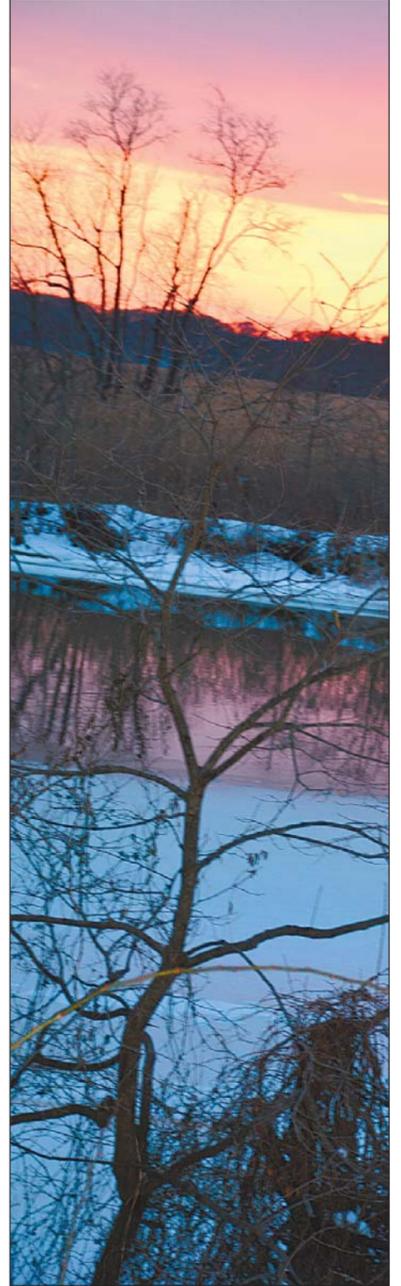
Reptiles

- Bullfrog
- Spotted salamander
- Painted turtle
- Northern water snake

Fish

- Largemouth bass
- Yellow perch
- Bluegill
- Banded killifish

Source: Harford County Parks and Recreation





MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE 2K COLOR FAMILY FUN RUN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015

Registration is open. A 2K color run is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 from 9 a.m. to noon in celebration of Month of the Military Child at the APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. The event is free. Register online at <https://eventbrite.com>.

For more information, contact: Stacie Umbarger at stacie.e.umbarger.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-2857. REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Please visit the Parent Central Office, Bldg 2503 Highpoint Road, second floor, rooms 210/211/209, or call 410-278-7571/7479 to register.

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES SKIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED THROUGH AUGUST 1

APG CYSS is looking for qualified volunteers to provide classes for children and youth ages 2-15. We are currently seeking Art and Cooking instructors for the summer. CYSS offers a free training program to instructors suitable to use for future employment. A background clearance is required.

SKIES will work with instructors to assist in days and times which are most convenient for the instructor as much as possible.

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

SAT PREPARATION CLASSES MARCH 26 – APRIL 30

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

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

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

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

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

PRE-TODDLER AGE CDC OPENINGS

Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) at Aberdeen Proving Ground

(APG) offer active duty military, and DOD civilians and contractors a comprehensive program to assist with full-day child care needs.

The APG programs currently have immediate full-time child care openings at the Aberdeen and Bayside CDCs for children aged 13 to 16-months-old. Participants must be registered with the Parent Central Office. Fees are based on the total family income.

For more information contact the Parent Central Office at 410-278-7479 or 410-278-7571.

Through Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum and TS Gold, our installation helps children work with their strengths, interests, and each other, to feel good about themselves, and to grow as individuals. Activities are offered in the areas of oral language, social/emotional, physical, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science & technology, social studies, arts and English language acquisition. Sign up your child today.

COMMUNITY RECREATIONS PAINT AND SIP CLASS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Learn to paint while enjoying your favorite beverage and snack at a Paint and Sip Class at Ruggles Club House 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person, and glassware, paint and brushes will be provided. Tickets are available in the Leisure Travel Office or on the MWR website www.apgmwr.com.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/3931.

LEISURE TRAVEL SERVICES DIRTY DANCING DISCOUNT TICKETS MAY 17

Tickets are available for the 6:30 p.m. performance of Dirty Dancing at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore on May 17. Tickets cost \$38 a seat, in the right and left side orchestra seating.

The deadline to purchase tickets is March 16. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4011.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE CREATING A SOLID SPENDING PLAN

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

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

- Wednesday, March 11
- Wednesday, June 17
- Wednesday, Sept. 9
- Wednesday, Nov. 18

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

CREDIT AND DEBT MANAGEMENT CLASS MARCH 17

A Credit and Debt Management Class will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the ACS Building, 2503 High

Point Road.

The course discusses the advantages and disadvantages of using credit. How to choose and apply for credit cards and installment loans and how to responsibly manage these accounts will be discussed. This class also teaches how to establish a credit record, protect your credit history and how to correct credit report mistakes. We will discuss options available to manage and reduce debt.

For more information, contact Leary Henry at 410-278-7572.

MORE ONLINE

More events can be seen at www.apgmwr.com

MWR ANNOUNCES SURVEY FOR CYS SERVICES PARENTS, EMPLOYEES

Child, Youth and School Services

What programs and services would you like your CYS Services to provide? Are your expectations with CYS Services being met? Are your children receiving the highest quality care? What services have been the most beneficial to your children and family?

Parents of children participating in CYS Services programs and CYS Services staff members can voice their opinions by taking a brief CYS Services Patron Satisfaction Survey, facilitated by the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate and Installation Management Command.

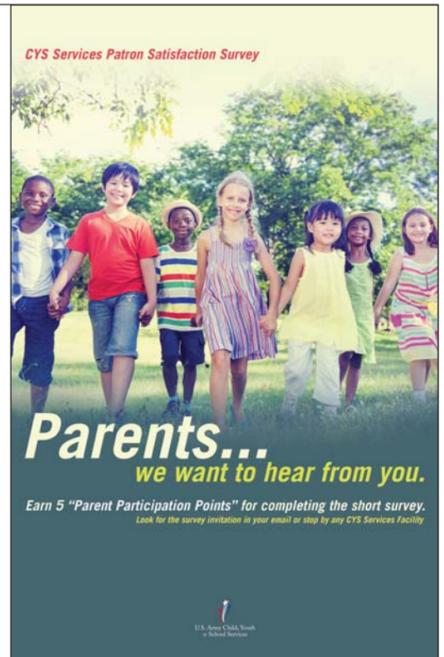
A link to the online survey will be sent to all families currently enrolled in one of the many CYS Services programs at APG and the staff members of those programs.

The confidential survey will be open for two weeks during the month of March.

The CYS Services Patron Satisfaction and Staff Climate Survey provides a unique opportunity to measure usage, helpfulness of individual CYS Services offerings and identify emerging needs related to military Families.

Parents and employees will receive a link via email to log on and complete the survey.

For more information, contact Myria Figueroa at 410-278-7479.



NOW ACCEPTING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS THROUGH MARCH 23

APG organizations/units are requested to submit up to five nominees for the opportunity to be selected as the Volunteer of the Year in each of the following categories:

- Youth (17 years of age or younger)
- Family Members
- Active Duty Military
- Retirees
- DoD Civilian Employees.

Period of performance should cover April 2014 - March 2015. Volunteers must be currently active, providing service for APG and may be provided in organizations other than those to which they are assigned. Volunteer service is characterized as contributions beyond what would be expected due to one's position in a unit or place of employment.

Nominations are due Monday, March 23 and can be submitted at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015_APG_Volunteer-of-the-Year.

Awardees will be honored at the Volunteer of the Year ceremony at Top of the Bay April 16.

APGMWR LEISURE TRAVEL OFFICE
NATIONAL Cherry Blossom FESTIVAL Bus Trip
Washington, D.C.

Saturday, April 11, 2015

\$32 (all Ages)
Special Events!
Parade
Sakura Matsuri – Japanese Street Festival

Registration Deadline: March 27, 2015
Space is limited! Reserve your seats today!

For more information contact 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

APGMWR Leisure Travel has

Dirty Dancing

Discount Tickets

Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 6:30PM
at the Hippodrome Theater (Baltimore, MD)
Cost: \$38
Right and Left Side Orchestra Seating
Deadline: March 16 410-278-4011
usarmy.APG.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil

For more information visit:
<http://baltimore.broadway.com/shows/dirty-dancing-baa/>

Basketball fever: ACC sinks Freestate, 40-21

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

With almost no bench, the Army Contracting Command pulled away early and never looked back in a much-needed win over the Freestate Challenge Academy during a March 4 intramural basketball game at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center.

Multiple turnovers were had on both sides of the court but ACC more often turned theirs into points.

Freestate coach Kelvin Chandler, noting that the team has had to forfeit three games, lamented that things were “not going well” but expressed optimism for the remainder of the season.

“We’ll play our way back into it,” he said.

Assistant coach and player Keila Evans agreed.

“They’ve been playing well, they’re just going against more experienced players,” she said. “It’s just a matter of them gaining more confidence.”

ACC coach Vinnie D’Errico, who “stepped up to coach” this season, said despite the shortage of reserves – only six players, including the coach, were on hand for the game – the season was “going pretty good.”

“We’re doing our best to get above 500 and make the playoffs,” he said. “We’re all friends and we’re all having fun.”

The score was tied 2-2 starting off the first quarter then shooting went stone cold before ACC’s Dave Greaves sank a three-pointer from mid-court. Freestate stayed in it and soon tied it up 7-7 and pulled in front, 9-7 with an easy layup by Elijah Robinson. Turnovers and fouls plagued the cadets from that point on.

ACC went up 11-9 after D’Errico sank 2-of-4 at the line courtesy of a foul followed by a technical foul on Freestate for having an undeclared player on the floor. ACC’s Byron Knight sealed the halftime lead of 18-9 with a monster 3-pointer just before the buzzer.

In the second half, despite more unified play, including spirited contributions from Robinson, Darryl Hubbard and Mario Plum, Freestate couldn’t stifle the clicking ACC offense. Greaves led ACC to a nearly uncontested victory backed up by key offensive contribu-



Freestate assistant coach Keila Evans, #14, challenges a jumper by ACC’s Byron Knight, #21, during the second half of the team’s March 4 intramural basketball game at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center. Looking on from left ACC’s Will Kwan, #32, Freestate defender Quinton Mosby, #5, ACC coach Vinny D’Errico, center, and Darryl Hubbard, #3, of Freestate, right.

Photo by Molly Blossie

tions from Knight and Phil Payne.

“It was all about communicating and composing ourselves,” D’Errico said at

the game’s end, adding that during the halftime break he told his players to “stay with the flow of the game.”

“That’s what they did,” he said. “They settled down and kept it together and we came away with the win.”

48th CBRN Brigade prepares to deploy

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

The 48th Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Brigade Headquarters will deploy to Liberia to command the remaining American forces supporting the U.S. effort to contain the worst Ebola outbreak in history.

The brigade cased its unit colors during a ceremony at the III Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood, Texas, March 9, prior to its first deployment since being activated in 2007.

As many U.S. troops return home from the Ebola mission in Liberia, the Fort Hood-based CBRN brigade will replace the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as the joint forces headquarters.

The 48th CBRN Brigade will support the U.S. Agency of International Development and provide oversight of any required follow-on capabilities. Other response functions are being transitioned to civilian personnel.

"Troops are coming home but the United States is not leaving West Africa," said Col. Sven Erichsen, the commander of the 48th CBRN Brigade.

"The civilian-led response will actually grow in size and number in the weeks ahead to continue the fight against Ebola until there are zero cases," said Erichsen.

The 48th CBRN Brigade is a part of the 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives), the U.S. Defense Department's only formation that combats global CBRNE threats.

The 20th CBRNE Command, headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, is home to more than 85 percent of the active Army's CBRNE capabilities, including two EOD groups, one chemical brigade, Nuclear Disablement teams, CBRNE coordination elements, expeditionary laboratories, and remediation and consequence management units.

Another 20th CBRNE Command formation, the 1st Area Medical Laborato-



Troops from the 48th CBRN Brigade monitor chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear equipment to detect any possible hazardous contaminants during a training exercise. Soldiers from the 48th CBRN Brigade Headquarters will deploy to Liberia to command the reminding U.S. forces supporting Operation Unified Assistance.

Photo by Sgt. Terence Ewings

ry, deployed to Liberia in October 2014. The 1st AML commanded Task Force Scientist, a joint task force that operated six Ebola testing laboratories.

Brig. Gen. JB Burton, the commanding general of the 20th CBRNE Command, said the 48th CBRN Brigade and 1st AML deployments demonstrate the flexibility of his one-of-a-kind command.

"The deployment of the 48th CBRN Brigade Headquarters into Liberia as part of the enduring U.S. commitment to

understand and contain the Ebola virus demonstrates that this command and this CBRNE enterprise must be more than Weapons of Mass Destruction focused," said Burton. "We must be capable of and comfortable with operating effectively across the full spectrum of CBRNE hazards."

In support of the U.S. Army's regional alignment efforts, the 48th CBRN Brigade serves with III Corps in Europe, Africa and the Middle East; the 71st EOD Group operates with I Corps in

the Asia Pacific region; and the 52nd EOD Group deploys with the XVIII Airborne Corps on Global Response Force missions.

"With the ever evolving CBRNE threats facing our nation, we need to fully leverage and integrate all of our capabilities to confront and defeat CBRNE hazards," Burton said.

"This deployment is another important first in the 20th CBRNE Command's history of service with distinction around the globe."



APG KICKS OFF ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF CAMPAIGN

The Army Emergency Relief (AER) Campaign at APG kicked off March 6 with a celebratory cake-cutting. AER provides emergency financial assistance to active duty and retired Soldiers and their families in times of financial distress through interest-free loans or grants.

From left, Linda Edwards, acting Army Community Service officer; Capt. Nicholas Milano, APG Garrison AER coordinator and commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company; Pfc. Joseph Freeman, garrison chaplain assistant; Glenn Wait, deputy to the garrison commander; Leary Henry, garrison finance readiness program manager; Capt. Tom Sherwood, Public Health Command quality systems and regulatory compliance officer-in-charge; and 1st Sgt. Daniel Nelson, HHC, celebrate the AER kickoff with a cake cutting.

The Team APG goal is to raise \$60,000 for Soldiers and families in need. Last year, APG Soldiers and civilians raised \$55,000. APG Soldiers and their families received more than \$250,000 in assistance from the worldwide AER fund in 2014.

A Soldier or civilian seeking to donate to AER must fill out a DA form 4908, and the contribution can be made via cash, check, or payroll deduction. Most large organizations have an AER representative, but donations can also be made by contacting Capt. Nicholas Milano at 410-278-3000 or nicholas.c.milano.mil@mail.mil.

Photo by Amanda Rominiecki

20th CBRNE participates in Key Resolve exercise

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

The U.S. Defense Department's only command that combats global chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive threats is participating in Exercise Key Resolve in South Korea.

Soldiers from the Aberdeen Proving Ground-based 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives) are training with U.S.-Republic of Korea (ROK) Alliance military forces during the Korean Peninsula-wide exercise which lasts March 2-13.

The 20th CBRNE Command is training with Eighth Army, the U.S. Army's top command in South Korea, and the 71st Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Group is serving the 2nd Infantry Division, the U.S. Army's only permanently forward deployed combat division.

The 71st EOD Group deployment supports 20th CBRNE Command's effort to regionally align its brigade-level formations.

The Fort Carson, Colorado-based 71st EOD Group serves with I Corps in the Asia Pacific region; the 48th CBRN Brigade operates with III Corps in Europe, Africa and the Middle East; and the 52nd EOD Group deploys with the XVIII Airborne Corps on Global Response Force missions.



Brig. Gen. JB Burton (right), the commanding general of the 20th CBRNE Command, speaks with Soldiers during Exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2014 in South Korea. Soldiers from the 20th CBRNE Command are participating in Exercise Key Resolve 2015.

Courtesy photo

Defensive in nature, Exercise Key Resolve is being conducted to keep alliance forces ready to maintain security on the Korean Peninsula and stability in Northeast Asia.

The first of two annual command post exercises, the exercise starts on the same days as Foal Eagle, a series of joint and combined field training exercises held in South Korea from March 2 to April 24.

American and South Korean military forces are being joined by United Nations Command troops from Australia, Canada, Denmark, France and Great Britain during Key Resolve.

Stationed on 19 posts in 16 states, American Soldiers and civilians from the 20th CBRNE Command combat global CBRNE threats ranging from improvised explosive devices to Weapons of Mass Destruction.

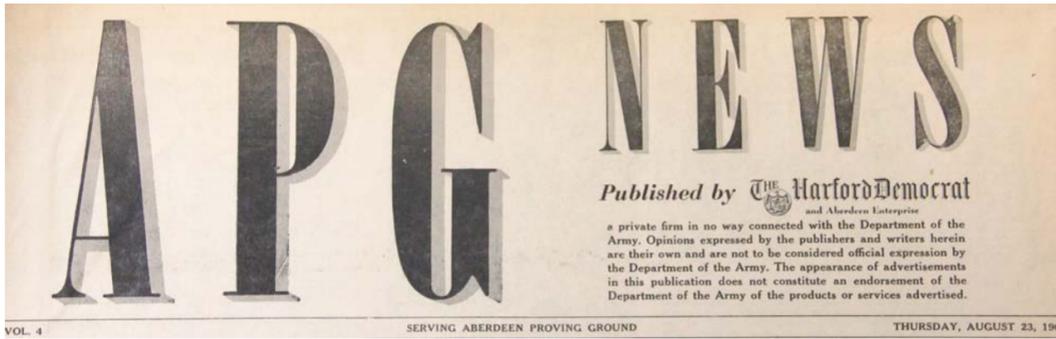
Soldiers from the 20th CBRNE Command, which serves with joint, inter-agency and allied partners around the world, have previously trained with South Korean forces on the Korean Peninsula and in the United States.

Brig. Gen. JB Burton, the commanding general of 20th CBRNE Command, said the deployment of 20th CBRNE Command Soldiers to South Korea demonstrates the U.S. commitment to U.S.-ROK Alliance.

"20th CBRNE Command troopers welcome the opportunity to train with their ROK partners again," said Burton, who previously served as the assistant division commander for maneuver with the South Korea-based 2nd Infantry Division.

"Exercises like Key Resolve demonstrate our nation's commitment to security on the Korean Peninsula and stability in the Asia Pacific region," Burton said.

THIS WEEK IN APG HISTORY

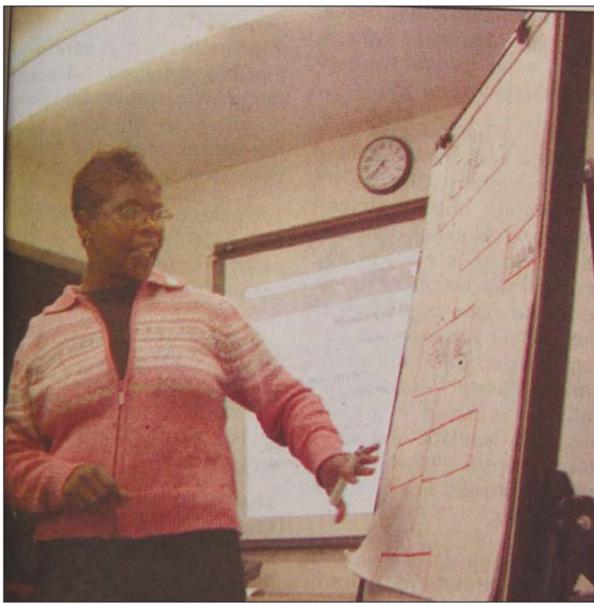


Take a look back in time as the APG News explores what made the headlines around APG during this week 10, 25 and 50 years ago. This week's APG News masthead is from 1962.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

2015

10 Years Ago: March 10, 2005



(Above) Cherrilynn Boyington, an Army Family Team Building trainer gives a presentation about Family Readiness Groups at Army Community Service.

(Below) Buckets of yellow perch illegally caught in APG waters by poachers line the deck of a commercial fishing vessel after being seized by APG Marine, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement Division officers.

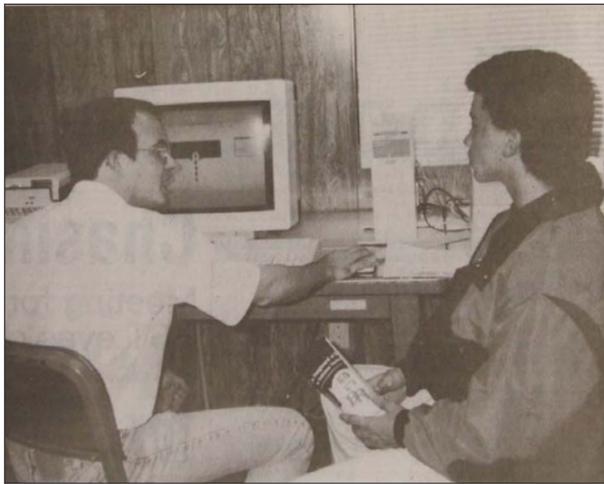


2010

2000

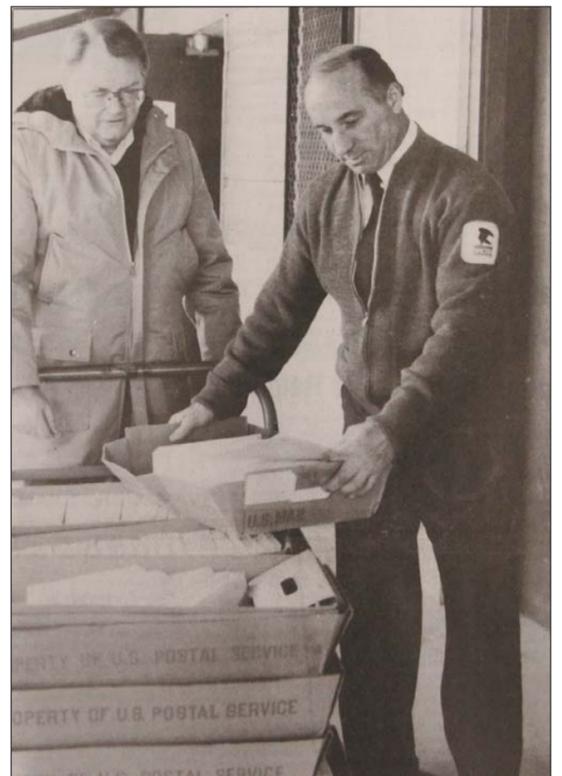
25 Years Ago: March 7, 1990

1990



(Above) Dan Scheffler, a mechanical engineer with the Ballistic Research Laboratory, left, demonstrates modeling of penetration mechanics to Northeast High School student Simon Smith during the organization's Engineer-For-A-Day program.

(Right) APG Post Office mail clerk John Schmitt, right, accepts the delivery of 3,164 letters announcing the start of the Army Emergency Relief campaign to local retirees from John Peterson, AER accounting technician.



1980

1970

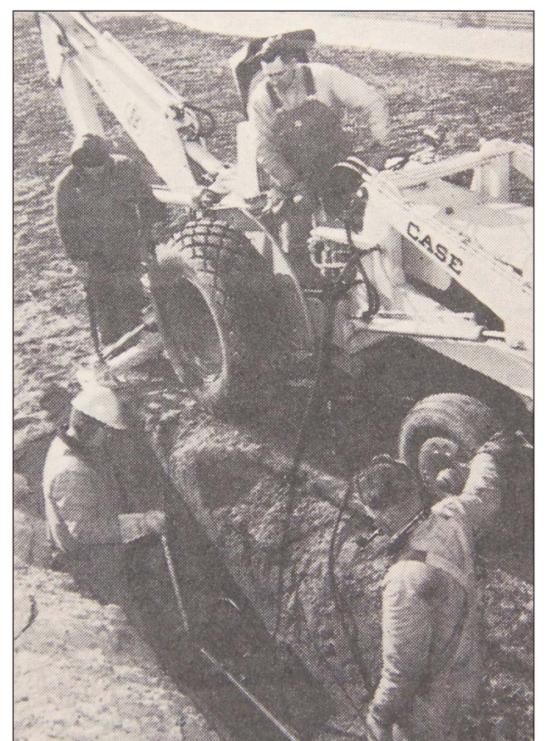
50 Years Ago: March 11, 1965

1960



(Above) (From left) Honor guard commander, Lt. Scott Siebert escorts Lt. Gen. Ulrich de Maiziere, chief of staff of the Army of the Federal Republic of Germany, during a ceremony welcoming him to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

(Right) A line crew from the Communications-Electronics Division watches a hydraulic power supply push a pipe down the line. The crew suggested the power hook-up, netting the government a savings of nearly \$5,000.



1950

Cyber force growing ‘exponentially’

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

The Army cyber mission force, or CMF, has grown “exponentially since September 2013 with 25 of 41 [planned] teams at initial operating capability,” Lt. Gen. Edward C. Cardon told lawmakers, March 4.

“We are on track to have all 41 CMF teams established and operating by the end of fiscal year 2016. However, they will not all be fully operationally capable until FY17,” he said. CMF teams are allocated to combatant commanders, where they provide defensive and offensive cyber capabilities.

Cardon, who is the commander of U.S. Army Cyber Command, or ARCYBER, and Second Army, addressed “operationalizing cyberspace” in oral and written testimony. He and his counterparts from the other services appeared before the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.

Guard, Reserve capabilities

Besides the CMF teams, Cardon said ARCYBER will create “a total, multi-component Army cyber force that includes 21 Reserve-component cyber protection teams, trained to the same standards as the active-component cyber force.”

In October 2014, one Army National Guard cyber protection team was activated and is in Title 10 status, he added, meaning those Guard Soldiers are now on active duty.

It is sometimes a bit tricky to get the proper authorities to activate Reserve-component Soldiers, he said.

Authorities are a “complex problem” and “remain a challenge,” Cardon said. “While Title 10 authorities are clear, Title 32 and state active duty require the application of varied state constitutional, legislative, and executive authorities and coordination with state agencies and officials.”

There is merit in developing a common approach in every state for authorities and capabilities to facilitate a more rapid and effective response in cyberspace operations, he added.

Reserve-component cyber experts are a tremendous resource, he said, pointing out that both Guard and Reserve Soldiers already have the acquired cyber skills that will enable them to integrate more quickly into the cyberspace force than if they had to be trained from scratch.

Guard and Reserve Soldiers routinely augment the active cyberspace force and are supporting missions both here in the United States, as well as overseas, including Afghanistan and other areas in Southwest Asia, he added.

Growing cyber force

To keep the cyber force on an “exponential” growth track, Cardon described a number of measures the Army is taking to retain and recruit the best.



Photo by Michael L. Lewis

The Cyber Operations Center on Fort Gordon, Georgia, is home to signal and military intelligence non-commissioned officers, who watch for and respond to network attacks from adversaries as varied as nation-states, terrorists and “hacktivists.” The center was sanitized of classified information for this photo.

The Army has enjoyed success with in-service recruiting from other military occupational specialties and is actively working to assess high-quality recruits through innovative marketing techniques, he said.

The Cyber Center of Excellence on Fort Gordon, Georgia, is developing an initiative to encourage cadets at both the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, or USMA, and ROTC to apply themselves in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. “We will commission the first 30 Cyber Branch officers from both USMA and ROTC programs this summer,” Cardon said.

The Army is now working to implement a Cyber Career Management Field for enlisted personnel by the end of this fiscal year, he said. That field will encompass accessions, career management, and retention.

Also, the Army recently approved special-duty assignment pay, assignment incentive pay, and bonuses for Soldiers serving in operational cyber assignments.

For Soldiers transferring from the active force to one of the Reserve components, Cardon said the Army has sweetened the deal with some of those bonuses.

Besides special pay and bonuses, he said training opportunities abound.

“We have also expanded cyber educational programs, including training with industry, fellowships, civilian graduate

education and utilization of inter-service education programs” like the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Naval Postgraduate School, he added. “We are confident these will serve as additional incentives to retain the best personnel for this highly technical field.”

The picture isn’t as rosy for civilian cyber hires, however, he reminded lawmakers.

Recruiting and retaining Army civilian cyber talent “is challenging given internal federal employment constraints regarding compensation and a comparatively slow hiring process. Current efforts to attract and retain top civilian talent include extensive marketing efforts, and leveraging existing programs and initiatives run by the National Security Agency, Office of Personnel Management, and National Science Foundation.”

Dangerous world

Cyberspace continues to grow more complex, with sophisticated threats that are capable of exploiting known and unknown vulnerabilities, threatening both national security and America’s economic interests, he warned.

Cardon pointed to the recent attacks on Sony Pictures Entertainment and Anthem health insurance, as well as the Heartbleed bug that left systems around the world vulnerable to attack, as being just the tip of the iceberg.

“Electronic devices are increasingly embedded in everything from vehicles

to guided missiles, and are often integrated into systems which are difficult and costly to update or upgrade as new threats or vulnerabilities are identified with increasing speed and widely ranging tempo,” he explained. “These factors represent malefactors impacting our warfighting systems.”

To counter these threats, Cardon said the Army and its sister services are pursuing the Joint Regional Security Stack initiative, a component of the Joint Information Environment, or JIE, which will “consolidate and improve the security of currently disparate networks.”

“We have to modernize and get to the JIE as quickly as possible for improved mission effectiveness, enhanced security, and to increase efficiency,” he continued.

Other initiatives, he said, include network mapping, cloud and virtualization, and cyber infrastructure, and platforms and tools. Also, the Army is partnering with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, on its Plan X Cyberwarfare Program that is developing platforms for the execution of cyber operations.

Finally, Cardon noted that continued funding of these and other initiatives is important for national security. He said the Army is grateful that the president’s FY16 budget included \$90 million to build a state-of-the-art cyber headquarters and operations facility on Fort Gordon, Georgia.

First woman assumes command of MDNG

By **PFC. BRIANNA KEARNEY**
29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The Maryland National Guard held a historic change of command ceremony at the 5th Regiment Armory in Baltimore Feb. 28. Maj. Gen. (MD) Linda L. Singh assumed command of the Maryland Military Department from Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins. She is the first African-American and the first female to attain this position.

The ceremony also marked a change of responsibilities for the state’s senior enlisted leaders: U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas B. Beyard replaced U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Glenn D. Hart.

Singh grew up in Frederick County and enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1981. She was commissioned as an officer after 10 years of service as an enlisted Soldier. Her career has spanned more than 30 years.

The change of command ceremony uses the passing of the unit colors (flag) to represent passing on the command of the Maryland Military Department. The

outgoing commander passes the flag to the state governor, which represents relinquishing the command. Then the governor passes the flag to the incoming commander to represent entrusting the responsibility of the role.

“When I think about the journey that we have ahead of us, it is going to be tough, and it is going to be challenging,” Singh said. “I think you can expect me to be tough and to be challenging, but I will always smile.”

The change of responsibility ceremony is very similar to the change of command ceremony, but a sabre (sword) is passed between the enlisted leaders instead of the colors.

After the ceremonies, Maryland Governor Lawrence Hogan commented on the retiring Adkins and the future command of Singh.

“Now he has [left] some pretty big shoes to fill, but I am confident that we found the right leader to fill those shoes,” Hogan said. “I could not be more proud of our appointment of Maj. Gen. Linda Singh as our new adjutant general.”



Photo by Sgt. Mararet Taylor, 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The Maryland National Guard held a historic change of command ceremony at the 5th Regiment Armory in Baltimore Feb. 28. Maj. Gen. (MD) Linda L. Singh assumed command of the Maryland Military Department. Singh is the first African American and the first female to attain this position.

See Something

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

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

Do: Observe and Report

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

Do Not

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

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police.

APG North 410-306-2222

APG South 410-436-2222

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

Your call may save lives!

Exploring APG Family Child Care

By **RHONDA SIMONS**
Family Child Care Program

Family Child Care, part of the APG Child Youth & School Services (CYSS) program, offers a small group setting in which care is provided in someone's home versus a large group setting found at the child development centers on post.

Offering both on- and off-post locations, FCC follows the same mission and vision statements as the CDCs and is governed by the same standards. Providers also go through the same background checks and training as CDC employees.

Group size is the only major difference between the CDC and an FCC home. Because all children are different, programs must be catered to meet each child where they are in their development. Some children benefit from a smaller group setting. All of CYSS programs lay the foundation to the child's building blocks of their future. The more secure the foundation the better the success rate.

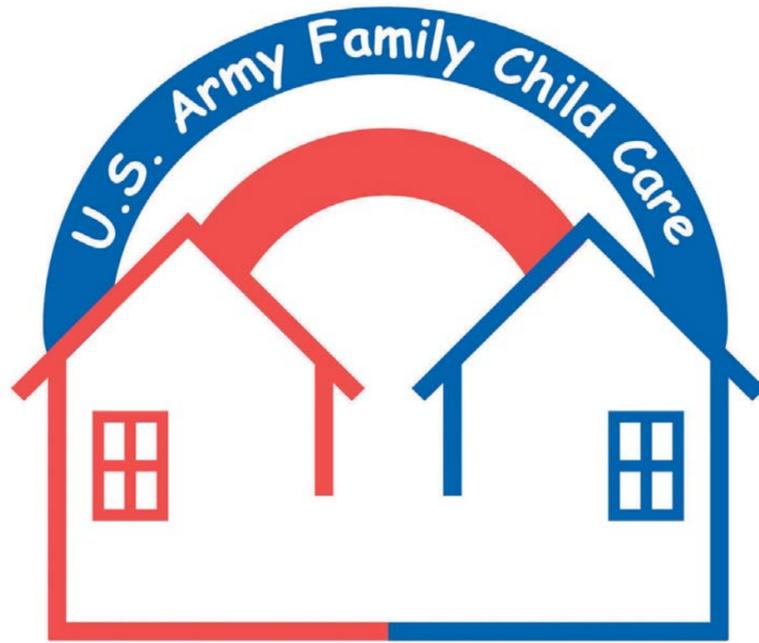
Open to service members, DOD civilians and contractors at APG, the FCC program offers the following services:

- Full time care
- Part time care (24 hours per week with a guaranteed schedule)
- Hourly care (24 hours per week on a first come, first serve basis)
- Short term extended care during the business day (for mission related events)
- Long term extended care for overnights and weekends (for mission related events)

▪ A 10 percent discount for using an FCC home as well as any other subsidy discounts the parent may be entitled to

All FCC providers operate from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FCC is open to children as young as four weeks old, up to 12-years-old. For short term and long term mission essential care, children can be older than 12.



Your child's "home away from home"

FCC providers have a multi-age group ratio, caring for no more than eight children at once: two children under 2-years-old, four children between 2 and 5-years-old, and two children in school all day.

Monitoring and inspections

APG currently has six certified FCC homes located on post in Patriot Village and Bayside housing. Three certified homes are located in the Belcamp area and one certified home is in the Edgewood area. A FCC provider off post must first be certified with the state licensing agency to join the Army's FCC program. Upon entering the FCC program, the homes are required to follow the Army's standards, which are higher than the state's.

Parents often have many questions

before placing their child in the FCC program, from monitoring the providers to inspections and medical training. Many parents wonder why FCC homes don't have cameras in them. While there are no cameras, the homes are still closely monitored, and data shows that most reportable incidences do not occur in FCC homes.

Every FCC home is inspected by safety, fire, preventive medicine personnel and undergoes higher headquarters inspections monthly, quarterly or annually. These inspections are the same inspections the CDCs undergo.

In addition to those inspections, the homes also are inspected by the FCC Director/Program Associate, visited by the Chief of CYSS and Director of FMWR, and observed by the Training

and Curriculum Specialist. This ensures FCC homes are following all Department of the Army policies and procedures. Each FCC provider is held to the highest Army standard.

Curriculum and play time

FCC providers and CDC staff members have the same goal: to help children grow and learn in their individual needs. FCC and CDC providers follow the same curriculum: the Creative Curriculum Program, sponsored by Teaching Strategies.

The providers must maintain their lesson plans and daily schedules. Many providers also teach a second language, such as Spanish and Japanese, in their homes.

FCC providers can meet with other providers for a play date twice a week for no more than two hours. Providers often meet at local community playgrounds for play time as well. Outdoor time, weather permitting, occurs twice a day for an hour at a time, once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

All meals are prepared by the FCC provider according to the USDA standards. Children are served a breakfast supplement, a morning snack, lunch and an afternoon snack.

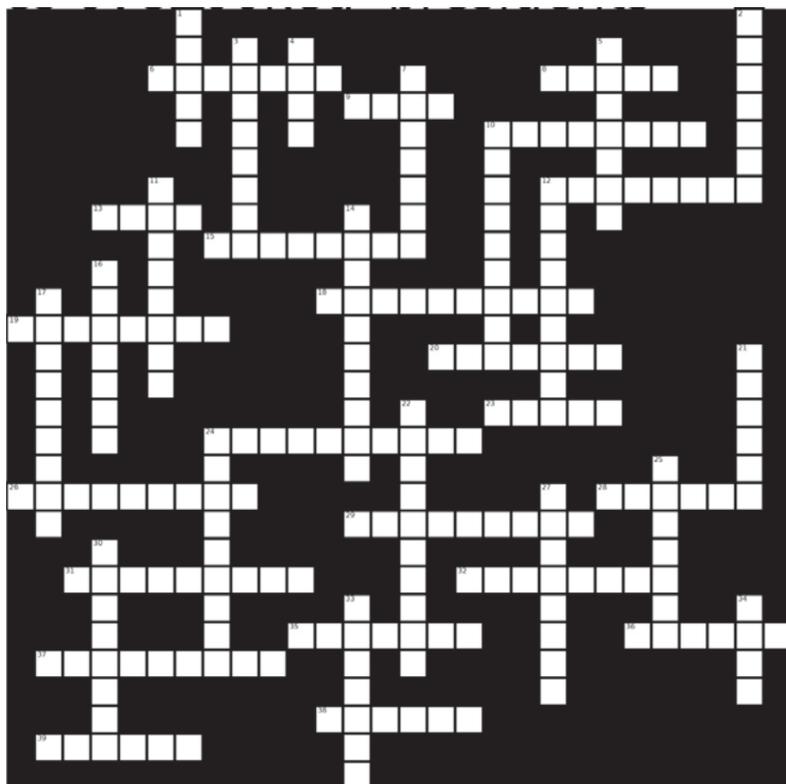
To register a child

There is no waitlist held for the FCC program, but it does operate on a first come, first serve basis. To inquire about any spaces available in FCC homes, parents should call the Parent Central office at 410-278-7479/7571 or the FCC office at 410-278-7477/7140.

Parents will be given names and phone numbers of providers who have spaces available. It is then the parent's responsibility to call and set up an interview with the provider(s). After the interview, a parent can select the provider of their choice and visit CYSS Central Registration to complete the registration process.

For more information about FCC, call 410-278-7477/7140.

The APG Crossword



By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

We celebrate George Washington and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays in February, but we could certainly use a holiday in March. Four presidents share March birthdays. In order of presidency: James Madison, March 16; Andrew Jackson, March 15; John Tyler, March 29; and Grover Cleveland (March 18). Here's a four-subject trivia puzzle about the life and times of these sometimes overlooked presidents.

Across

6. Both of his vice presidents died in office.
8. In the 1824 elections, Jackson lost to this president; he won the popular vote but lost the electoral vote.
9. This Jackson nemesis led the opposing Whig Party.
10. Fort Jackson in this South Carolina city is named after President Andrew Jackson.
12. Would-be Jackson assassin, Richard Lawrence, was found insane and confined to a hospital that would later house this failed Reagan assassin.
13. This state joined the Union as the 45th U.S state in 1896 during

Cleveland's administration.

15. During the War of 1812, Czar Alexander of Russia offered to broker a peace between Madison and Britain's King George III because he needed help fighting this invader.
18. Jackson is considered the founder of this party which stood for states' rights and minimal centralized government.
19. In keeping with the Missouri Compromise of 1820, one "slave" and one "free" state were added to the Union during Jackson's presidency: Michigan and _____.
20. This state joined the union during Madison's presidency.

23. A widower before he took office, Jackson never remarried or had children though he did adopt several youth, notably a Native American orphan from this tribe.

24. The 1839 Whig National Convention placing Tyler on the party ticket with William Henry Harrison took place in this Pennsylvania capital.

26. As secretary of state, Madison supervised the purchase of this territory.

28. Tyler is the great-great-great uncle to this 33rd President of the United States.

29. Cleveland's second vice president.

31. Old Hickory Boulevard in this southern city is named for Andrew Jackson.

32. Madison served three times as a member of the House of Delegates in this state.

35. Jackson's vice president before Martin Van Buren.

36. Tyler, Jefferson and this fifth U.S. president were educated at the College of William & Mary in Virginia.

37. Madison served as secretary of state to this president.

38. This future Missouri senator shot Jackson in the arm during a duel when both were private citizens.

39. Cleveland succeeded this 21st President of the United States in 1885.

Down

1. James Madison died June 28, 1836. This former president delivered his eulogy.
2. On Oct. 28, 1886, Cleveland presided over the dedication of this statue and U.S. monument in New York.
3. Tyler's father served as governor of this state first, 1809-1811.
4. Jackson helped this 11th President of the United States win the 1844 election.
5. While governor of New York Cleveland clashed with this influential yet corrupt political organization.
7. He was born into poverty on the Carolina frontier and orphaned at an early age.
10. He is the only president to serve two non-concurrent terms.
11. Cleveland succeeded this 23rd President of the United States in 1893.

12. A supporter of slavery, Jackson owned this famous Tennessee plantation, now a National Historic Landmark.

14. Madison, Alexander Hamilton and John Jay penned these papers articulating the original intentions of the Founding Fathers to "a more perfect union."

16. At age 21, Cleveland's wife, _____, whom he married in the Blue Room of the White House when he was 49, was the youngest First Lady in U.S. history.

17. Madison graduated from this distinguished university in 1771.

21. Tyler was skilled at playing this instrument and often performed for guests at parties.

22. Upon gaining the presidency after the death of, William Henry Harrison, Tyler was immediately confronted with this right as it was vaguely outlined in the U.S. Constitution.

24. Cleveland's first vice president.

25. Cleveland was the 28th governor of New York as well as the 34th mayor of this New York city.

27. Due to Tyler's support of the South at the outbreak of the Civil War, this group did not authorize a memorial stone for his grave until 1915; 63 years after his death.

30. Tyler was known to be a firm believer in this type of destiny.

33. After leaving politics, Madison spent much of his remaining years fighting this.

34. Cleveland's sister _____ acted as White House hostess during the first two years of his administration.

Solution to the March 5 puzzle



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

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

Realigning Army tactical network

Updates to initialization process to increase efficiency

By **NANCY JONES-BONBREST**
PEO C3T

Turn on a new computer for the first time and you are met with a few questions before the computer is registered and recognized.

In Army command posts, Soldiers must also complete this initialization step when their communications hardware is first turned on, so it can recognize and exchange critical information with other systems across the battlefield.

Only a year ago, this process required installing a disc preloaded with unit information known as data products. If something changed and revisions were needed, a new set of data products would have to be created, with units waiting up to 15 weeks for the updates.

Now, the Army is bringing increased flexibility to the way troops initialize their mission command systems by putting the power in the hands of the communications officer, or S6, to make real-time changes, on the fly.

Once data products are delivered to the unit, the S6 can make the alterations to reflect exactly what systems are on the ground, instead of sending revisions back and ordering new data products.

The S6 will now be able to integrate new equipment, modify or add roles, and have those changes take effect almost immediately compared to the old way of doing business. This capability has already been delivered to select units across the Army fielded with Capability Sets 13-15.

The Army will take that effort one step further this summer with the planned fielding of the next generation of initialization tools, which will enable Soldiers at individual workstations to initialize their own system, much like turning on a commercial computer for the first time.

Initialization tool suite

Known as the Initialization Tool Suite, or ITS, the streamlined process further reduces the burden on the signal Soldier by giving the end-user the ability to initialize their mission command systems and join the tactical network.

"Ten steps in approximately three minutes – that's the process with this new capability," said Giovanni Oddo, technical management division lead for product director initialization, or Pdd I,



Courtesy photo

Data products assign every system in a command post a unique identifier, role and Internet Protocol address, taking into account a unit's specific mission, personnel footprint and mix of networked mission command systems. This contact information enables the various systems to connect and share information.

part of the Army's Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical. "Each Soldier at a workstation in a command post will be able to do the initialization themselves. It's very simple, you just pull down the menus and the selections are limited, so it really walks you through the process."

ITS is made up of three tools: the Warfighter Initialization Tool-Manager, or WIT-M; WIT-Platform, or WIT-P; and WIT-Server, or WIT-S. Together they rapidly update units' data products or "digital phone books" to reflect what occurs in the operational area of responsibility, or AOR, including equipment or organizational changes such as receiving a new communications technology or temporarily cross-attaching another unit.

The suite can provide senior commanders a more accurate common operating picture and gives the S6 a simplified, more hands-on approach to adapting their network based on their fight.

"ITS gave us the ability to make changes after we've delivered a set of data products," Oddo said. "In the past, we had to deliver a 'set in stone' product, typically on compact discs for the unit to install on their mission command servers. Now, we preload the informa-

tion on the systems and all the Soldier has to do is turn them on and answer a few questions."

Data products are assigned to each unit in the Army before deployment or training events. They assign every system in a command post a unique identifier, role and Internet Protocol address, taking into account a unit's specific mission, personnel footprint and mix of networked mission command systems. This contact information enables the various systems to connect and share information.

Network adjustments

Data products help facilitate the process known as Unit Task Reorganization, or UTR, which is required when network adjustments are needed due to changes in mission. Simplifying and automating UTR is a top priority for the Army, given frequent feedback from Soldiers, who needed to manually execute network system changes when deployed.

"We wanted to make the process of creating data products more automated, more proficient and more repeatable," said Robert DelCuore, the Army's product director for initialization. "This will change how data products are delivered across the force."

Already being fielded is WIT-M,

which gives the unit S6 the ability to rapidly initialize communications systems for brigade size units and below.

The next capability to be rolled out as part of the ITS package is WIT-P, which gives the individual Soldier the ability to initialize at their command post workstation. Soldiers are beginning to work with WIT-P at the training and evaluation exercise known as the network integration evaluation, or NIE, 15.2, taking place this spring on Fort Bliss, Texas.

The capability will serve as part of the network baseline used by the NIE brigade in executing its missions. If WIT-P passes its interoperability certification, the tool will begin fielding this summer.

For Soldiers, the new capability brings increased efficiency in an intuitive product.

"For the Soldier, this should be transparent," DelCuore said. "We want to give them more flexibility but make it as simple as possible."

While ITS provides Soldiers the capability to dynamically initialize on the ground, it also eliminates the need for pre-defined static data products for each system in the network. This shift in technology will allow in-house production of data products by the Army by the end of FY15.



Regina Ruiz, ASAP program assistant

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

As a program assistant with the garrison's Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) Regina Ruiz is tasked with helping clients feel welcome when they enter the building.

"I guess you could consider me the face of ASAP, since I'm at the front desk," Ruiz said.

Ruiz's responsibilities include greeting clients, answering phones and tracking and transferring all client medical records as needed. She joined Team APG in early February, and she spends most days shadowing

staff members and learning her job duties.

"I used to work for Army Community Service in Fort Bliss, Texas. I have had a lot of experience working with Soldiers and family members, so it was a really good fit for me to come here," Ruiz said.

Ruiz also was the Total Army Sponsorship coordinator and trainer for Fort Bliss, Texas, and her leadership efforts were published in the Fort Bliss magazine, "Bliss Now!"

Before joining ASAP, Ruiz worked at the Defense Contracting Management Agency (DCMA) Baltimore as a procurement technician. An Army veteran, she began her military career just two days after graduating high school and was stationed as a light wheel mechanic in Germany, where she met her husband.

Currently, Ruiz is pursuing a master's

degree in psychology. Although she is unsure what her career future holds, she says she will be satisfied as long as she is at service to others.

"As long as I'm helping someone, or helping people, I'll be put to good use. That's my ultimate goal, to continue helping. But I want to be a fun helper. I love training, giving classes, and building morale," she said.

The Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) is located in Bldg. 2477 on APG North (Aberdeen). Its services include biochemical testing, clinical services, the Employee Assistance Program, prevention services and the suicide prevention program.

For more information, contact Ruiz at 410-278-5531, regina.d.ruiz.civ@mail.mil, or call 410-278-3784.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Infallible

Pronounced: in-fal-ih-bul

Part of Speech: Adjective

Definition:

1. incapable of error : unerring, such as an infallible memory
2. not liable to mislead, deceive, or disappoint : certain, such as an infallible remedy
3. incapable of error in defining doctrines touching faith or morals

Use:

- I never claimed to be infallible.
- There is no infallible remedy to these problems.
- Review teams are not infallible; they don't always spot the errors.
- Fingerprints offer an infallible means of personal identification.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source: <http://dictionary.reference.com>

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

JSOC

Joint Special Operations Command



JSOC is a component command of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and is charged to study special operations requirements and techniques to ensure interoperability and equipment standardization, plan and conduct special operations exercises and training, develop joint special operations tactics and execute special operations missions worldwide.

The command was established in 1980 on recommendation of Col. Charlie Beckwith, who led the ill-fated mission to rescue 52 American hostages in Iran in 1980. JSOC is located at Pope Field, a part of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Elements of the JSOC have served in Desert One in Iran (1980), Grenada (1983), the Mediterranean Sea during the Achille Lauro hijacking (1985), Panama (1989), in the Mideast during the Gulf War (1991), Somalia (1993), Haiti (1994), the Balkans (1996-2002), Afghanistan (2001-present), and Iraq (2003-present).

The JSOC typically has members located throughout the world at any given time. The overall commander is Gen. Joseph L. Votel, USSOCOM commander, MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source: <http://www.history.army.mil/>; www.biography.com

Fair highlights job openings, career resources

Continued from Page 1

sonnel Office (MILPO)/ Directorate of Human Resources.

ACS Employment Manager Marilyn Howard said having the event open to the public brought a larger, broader range of job seekers to the expo. Employers were looking for a variety of employees, both skilled and unskilled.

"I wanted to provide variety," Howard said. "Job seekers attending this event included family members, transitioning Soldiers, veterans and civilians contemplating a career change."

During the event, Carl Peters, an employment transition coordinator from Hero2Hired, was available to help Soldiers and veterans with resume writing assistance and job seeking tips. Peters said recently Hero2Hired, which helps veterans find jobs based on their prior military experience, transitioned its online capabilities to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Employment Center (VEC) and is now at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs>.

Officer Edward Savage, a military veteran from the Philadelphia Police Department, said there are currently

I want to learn how I can provide for myself and my family and become the person I want to be.

Cadet Jamil Hatcher
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

openings for 300 to 400 police officers.

"We are always looking for prior military because their experience and training falls in line with what we do," he said.

Melanie Vance, from the Frito Lay Aberdeen plant, said their site currently has openings for maintenance mechanics and drivers. In the summer, the plant will expand and the company plans to hire 100 employees.

During the event, job seekers remarked that they appreciated the opportunity to talk to potential employers.

Staff Sgt. Yvonne Nelson from 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) Command said she attended the event because she is planning to retire, after

serving 23 years in the military. Nelson is looking for a career in logistics and called the event "encouraging."

"I have three possible (job leads), so I am just really excited to do something new," she said. "This has brightened my day."

Nelson said to prepare for retirement, she has been attending free career workshops offered by the Susquehanna Workforce Network. At the workshops she learned how to write a resume, search for jobs and dress for success.

1st Sgt. Paul Cottrell from the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command said he is also planning to retire soon, after serving in the Army for 21 years. Cottrell said he is using this transition period to learn how to write resumes and search for jobs.

"I am interested in finding a job in law enforcement," he said.

Military spouse Victoria Ogunjinmi said she attended the event to see what jobs are available in the community. She is looking for a career in project management.

"I want to progress my career," she said.

Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Cadet Jamil Hatcher said he appreciated the opportunity to get information from the Maryland State Police and talk to representatives who work in technology-driven jobs like Lockheed Martin Corporation, SURVICE Engineering and Leidos.

"I want to learn how I can provide for myself and my family," he said. "And become the person I want to be."

The next job fair is scheduled for Aug. 5 at the APG North recreation center. Throughout the year the ACS Employment Readiness program provides free onsite workshops for job seekers. All programs are advertised on the APG MWR website, <http://www.apgmwr.com/>.

For more information about employment or resources, contact Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

Did You Know?



A nurse – turned surgeon, abolitionist, women's rights advocate, alleged spy and prisoner of war who served during the Civil War – is the only woman ever awarded the Medal of Honor.

At the start of the Civil War, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker volunteered for the Union Army as a civilian. She was only allowed to practice as a nurse, as the Army had no female surgeons.

Walker served at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), and as an unpaid field surgeon during the Battle of Fredericksburg and in Chattanooga after the Battle of Chickamauga. She was captured by Confederate forces after crossing enemy lines to treat wounded civilians and arrested as a spy. She was sent as a prisoner of war to Richmond, Virginia until released in a prisoner exchange. She also served during the Battle of Atlanta in 1864.

Walker was employed as a "Contract Acting Assistant Surgeon (civilian)" by the Army of the Cumberland in September 1863, becoming the first-ever female surgeon employed by the U.S. Army.

After the war, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and Gen. George Henry Thomas recommended Walker for the Medal of Honor and on Nov. 11, 1865, President Andrew Johnson signed a bill to present her the medal. After guidance for awarding of the medal was revised, her name, along with more than 900 others was deleted from the Army Medal of Honor Roll in 1917. It was restored by President Jimmy Carter in 1977.

Later in Walker's life, she was a vocal advocate for women's rights and dress reform. She was repeatedly arrested for wearing men's clothing and charged with impersonating a man.

Walker died of natural causes Feb. 21, 1919, at the age of 86. She is buried in Rural Cemetery Oswego, New York, her home town. She remains the only woman and one of only eight civilians awarded the Medal of Honor.

Tributes to Walker include:

- The World War II Liberty ship, the SS Mary Walker
- The U.S. Postal Service 20 cent stamp issued in her honor in 1982
- The Mary Walker Health Center medical facilities at SUNY Oswego
- The U.S. Army Reserve center named for her in Walker, Michigan.
- The Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C. is named in honor Walker and poet Walt Whitman
- The Mary Walker Clinic at the National Training Center and Fort Irwin,
- The Mary E. Walker House, a 30-bed transitional residence run by The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center for women veterans

Yvonne Johnson, APG News
Sources: <http://www.history.army.mil/>; www.biograpy.com

Teen to study mechanical engineering at West Point

Continued from Page 1

school transcripts, letters of recommendation and essays.

Visconti then completed the application process and was interviewed by a board of community members, graduates of the academy and members of the military. Each nominated applicant also undergoes a fitness test and a Department of Defense physical exam.

Visconti conceded that the process was strenuous at times, but he said he was able to rely on family members, who have always been there for him.

"They [his parents] have supported my siblings and me tirelessly, and I know they would sacrifice anything just to allow us the opportunity to succeed," he said.

Acceptance to USMA is an exceptional honor reserved for the nation's most promising students. Visconti is set to graduate from Bel Air High School in June, where he served as class president for all four years. As an Advanced Placement (AP) scholar, he was a member of the National Honor Society and served with the student government as a class senator for two years and one year as student body treasurer.

An Eagle Scout with Troop 777, he also is an accomplished athlete. He was a captain on the varsity football team, playing as an offensive lineman and earning an all-state honorable mention. He was selected to represent his high school at the Greater Baltimore Chapter of the National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete Award dinner.

Visconti also played rugby for three years with the North Bay Rugby Club, and was a member of the track and field team, in shot put and discus.

As an eighth grader he volunteered with Army Community Service and interned at what now is CERDEC's Command, Power and Integration directorate.

"I was impressed with how dedicated everyone was to improving the condi-

tions for Soldiers. I would walk through the hallways and check out all of the innovations and new technology that was displayed on poster boards," he said.

Visconti said he would happily return to APG in the future during his military career. In the meantime, he's leaning toward a major in mechanical engineering. He said he enjoys the problem solving aspect of the field.

"I have always been interested in the way things work and how I could improve them," he said, adding that he hopes to attend Ranger School and serve as a combat arms officer. He said he looks forward to taking advantage of the professional and personal opportunities that USMA provides cadets.

"The West Point experience will provide me with the opportunity to get an education, be part of a team and lead. As I started to grow older, I began to take an interest in the world around me. I decided that my goal in life is to positively impact the world, and I believe that West Point will thoroughly prepare me to reach that goal," Visconti said.

Visconti will report to West Point June 29.

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point is a four-year, co-educational, federal, liberal arts college located 50 miles north of New York City. USSMA was founded in 1802 as the nation's first college of engineering and continues today as one of the premier leader-development institutions, consistently ranked among top colleges in the country.

Its mission remains constant—to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of duty, honor, and country, and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the U.S. Army.

For more information about USMA, visit www.westpoint.edu.

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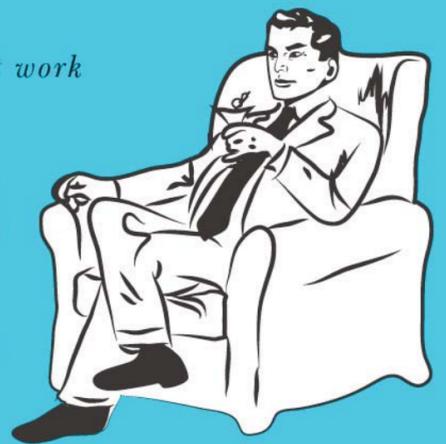


Darling, did you bring home a copy of the APG News?

Oh honey, I left it at work

Don't worry Ludwig!
You can check us out online.

www.TeamAPG.com



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

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/>.



BASKETBALL FEVER

The Army Contracting command posted a solid 41-20 win over Freestate March 4, but action was seen on both sides of the ball.

Clockwise from top:

- Freestate's Quinton Mosby, #5, rises for a jumper, ACC's Sam Crutcher, #33, defends and Darryl Hubbard, #3, backs up Mosby.
- ACC clutch player Dave Greaves, #15, shoots one of several free throws he was awarded as teammate Will Kwan, #32, looks on.
- Referee Herald Beljour watches Freestate assistant coach Keila Evans moves the ball down the court.
- Freestate's Adebij Eniate attempts to block a pass by ACC's Byron Knight as referee Herald Beljour looks on.
- Referee Andrew Smith, far left, checks the team lineups and referee Herald Beljour, far right, looks on as Freestate's Darryl Hubbard, #3, and ACC coach Vinny D'Errico shake hands prior to the game.

Photos by Molly Blossie



APG YOUTH LEARN HIP-HOP

Shyanne Surrette, left, and Alyssa Coley learn a new dance routine under the direction of Amy Ferrigno, owner of the E-Street Dance Academy, during a hip-hop dance class held at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center March 4. Dance classes are offered through the APG Child, Youth and School Services SKIESUnlimited program. To learn more about SKIESUnlimited programs visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/child-youth-school-services/skies-unlimited> or call 410-278-4589.

Photo by Rachel Ponder