



APG NEWS

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

www.TeamAPG.com

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Run celebrates Cinco de Mayo

Sandy Sanders, left, a Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center employee, and Lt. Col. David Zinnante, right, commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, lead the pack of runners at Shore Park on APG North (Aberdeen) during the "Cinco K de Mayo" run/walk hosted by the APG Performance Triad May 5. Check out the APG Performance Triad Facebook page at www.facebook.com/APGPerformanceTriad for upcoming runs and general health and wellness tips.

Photo by Amanda Rominiecki

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WELCOME

Personnel new to APG learn the ins and outs at orientation.

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Check out these safety tips before firing up the grill this season.

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Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQlow>

AFW activities set for May 9-16

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

In recognition of Armed Forces Day, Team APG will host several events May 9 - 14 to "honor those who answered the call to serve."

APG Armed Forces Week activities kick off Saturday, May 9 with the annual Retiree Appreciation Day event at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center starting at 8 a.m.

Post and local service representatives and vendors will share information and services with military retirees, including health screenings and vaccinations.

"This is a great opportunity for military retirees of all branches to get the latest information from post service providers as well as state, local and national vendors like the Veterans Administration, TRICARE, and Veteran Service Organizations," said retired Lt.

See **ARMED**, page 18

• • • APG Events • • •

Armed Forces Week

- **MAY 9** – Retiree Appreciation Day
- **MAY 11** – Golf Tournament
- **MAY 12** – All Soldiers Run
- **MAY 13** – Bike to Work Day Rally
- **MAY 13** – Armed Forces Displays, Booths
- **MAY 13** – Our Community Salutes
- **MAY 14** – Military Appreciation Luncheon

Motorcycle safety: know the rules

By **STACY SMITH**
APG News

Summer is quickly approaching and folks are itching to trade in their spring attire for sandals and tank tops. When entering the installation on a motorcycle, however, think again.

According to the Aberdeen Proving Ground Command Motorcycle Safety Program Policy, anyone operating or riding a motorcycle on military installations must wear the required personal protection equipment (PPE).

Minimum PPE consists of:

- Helmet, properly fastened under the chin
- Long-sleeved shirt and/or jacket
- Long trousers such as blue jeans or leather pants
- Full finger gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle
- Sturdy, over-the-ankle footwear, such as hiking or riding boots. Tennis shoes, and any footwear that does not cover the ankle, are not

See **MOTORCYCLE**, page 18



CONSTRUCTION ALERT



Photo by Molly Blossie

Current and upcoming construction projects on APG include:

- **Maryland Boulevard/Route 715 Gate** – Fence work began April 30 along Route 715. The contractor will be working on the side of the road in the shoulder. No traffic interference is expected. Work is expected to last up to five weeks. Drivers should obey all cones and posted speed limits.
 - **Bush River Road** – Milling and resurfacing work along Bush River Road began May 5 from Ricketts Point Road to 20th Street. There will be single lane closures and flaggers to control traffic. Work is expected to last eight to 10 days, depending on weather.
 - **Bayside Road** – Work along Bayside Road near High Point Road is scheduled to begin May 7 to extend the sidewalk and add two handicap ramps. Flaggers will direct traffic during the construction, which is expected to last two days.
 - **Phillips Army Airfield** – Milling and resurfacing work along two access roads at Phillips Army Airfield will begin May 11. During this time, signs will be posted to divert drivers. The work is expected to last two days, depending on weather.
- All drivers are urged to slow down and use caution when driving through a construction zone to ensure the safety of construction works, bicyclists and other drivers.

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STREET TALK

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10. How will you celebrate this year?

Every year I buy my mom flowers and usually a piece of jewelry, like a necklace. And we don't make her do the dishes; we clean the house for her, and all that good stuff.



Kirsten Hall
Family member

I'm just going to send her [mom] something. She's visiting me next week...I usually give her shoes, or a Kate Spade bracelet, or a watch. I might buy her a Michael Kors watch this year.



Rakhi Shah
RDECOM

By either cooking my wife dinner or taking her out to dinner with the kids, and [giving] presents. I guess fairly standard stuff.



Capt. Felix Castro
22nd Chemical Battalion

"I have been so busy I don't even know. I hope that maybe they [family] will just surprise me with a card and let me sleep in. That would be nice."



Andrea Carrillo-Juarez
Family member

With my wife and her mother and my daughters; we usually cook dinner or I take them out to dinner, buy flowers, and a get a card. Considering I just spent over \$1,000 on an anniversary gift, Mother's Day may not be as big as it would have been if I had not done that.



Willie Barber
CPAC

Protecting one of the earth's most precious resources: clean water

By **KARL FORD**
DPW Water Team

Like many of the things in life that we depend on but don't give much thought to – such as an abundance of food, good health, safe neighborhoods, and clean air – we tend to take water quality and water resources for granted.

This is interesting considering that water is essential for life itself. Due to its amazing physical properties, no living thing would exist without it.

As the warm weather of spring and summer arrives, thoughts of breezy, refreshing beaches, cool dips in the pool and boating trips inhabit our daydreams. The common denominator here is water.

Access to water is crucial for civilization and it is predicted that in the very near future water may be in short supply for an ever-increasing segment of the global population. For those of us living here in the U.S., access to clean water has most likely never been a concern. This, however, is not the norm for a great deal of the earth's population.

Water, like all matter, cannot be created or destroyed and thus goes through a continuous cycle of evaporation, precipitation and run-off. This cycle is a critical aspect of water quality management here at APG.

The Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division Water Team is tasked with reducing the amount of contaminants that enter this cycle and protecting the water supply utilized by the Team APG and the local community with whom we share this resource.

Stormwater is quite simply rainwater. When it rains the rainwater will interact with three types of surfaces found in the environment: permeable, impermeable and bodies of water.

- Permeable surfaces include natural surfaces like grassy areas, forested land, and bare soil. Increasingly, due to efforts to protect water quality, this also includes man-made permeable surfaces.

- Impermeable surfaces include buildings, parking lots made of concrete and asphalt, roads, and natural rock formations.

- Existing water bodies – natural and man-made – include rivers, lakes, creeks and streams, man-made reservoirs, and the oceans.

Water runoff

In the natural world, rainwater is controlled by the environment's features, namely plants. Plants act as a natural soil stabilizer, holding the soil in place, as well as controlling the speed and amount of the water runoff. Vegetated areas also act as natural filters.

Impermeable man-made surfaces increase how quickly and how much water enters directly into existing bodies of water. As



Courtesy photo

rainwater runs over an impermeable surface like a parking lot, it collects contaminants such as motor oil or discarded trash that didn't make it into a garbage can or recycling bin. Stormwater runoff carries these contaminants directly into the local waterways, the ultimate endpoint of which is most often the Chesapeake Bay.

Stormwater management programs exist to mitigate soil erosion and minimize the effects caused by any increase in runoff or contamination. The pub-

lic and industry can, and should, play a vital role in water quality management as it pertains to stormwater.

As we enjoy the warm weather and the associated activities that go along with the pleasures of summer, we should pay special attention to what goes into our storm drains. Only "rain in the drain" is a good phrase to keep in mind.

Stormwater management

While tending to yards and gardens this summer it's always good to note the condition of any stormwater management structures on or near your property. Stormwater management structures include: gutters, roof drains, storm drains, culverts, swales and ponds.

- Check each structure for damage, such as broken concrete walls, crushed pipes, or signs of water flowing around the structure.

- Remove any accumulated debris to ensure the structure is able to function as effectively as possible.

- Yard debris, such as grass clippings and leaves, should never be washed down storm drains, as they can accumulate and create blockages resulting in reduced flow.

- If you notice that publicly-owned structures located near your home are damaged and in need of repair, notify your local or state government agency.

- If you notice damaged stormwater structures on APG, notify the DPW Water Program at 410-436-3808.

Improper care and maintenance of stormwater structures can lead to premature flooding, excessive erosion and sedimentation and damage to property.

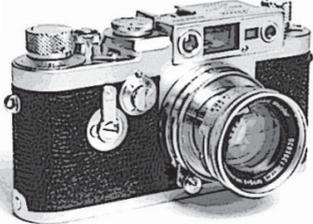
Any action you can take to ensure that stormwater structures are properly functioning will go a long way towards advance preparedness in the event of a significant storm and may save effort, money, and a big headache down the road.

Remember to make sure to limit or eliminate as best you can chemicals, petroleum products, trash and debris, and soil from entering the stormwater system.

To learn more about how you can protect the earth's precious water resources, contact your organization environmental manager, local environmental groups or call the DPW Environmental Division at 410-306-2250.

APG Military Appreciation Month

PHOTO CONTEST



In honor of Military Appreciation Month the APG News will host a month-long photo contest, asking readers to submit photos they feel celebrate their life as a member of Team APG – from deployments and TDY to family time and off-duty ventures in the local area. Whether you have years of experience in photography or snap pictures of your family and pets with a smartphone, the contest is open to all Team APG personnel, including service members, civilians, contractors, retirees and their family members. The winning photo will be chosen by garrison leadership and will be published, along with two runners-up, in the June 11 issue of the APG News and on the APG Facebook page– just in time to celebrate the Army's 240th Birthday!

To enter:

- Submissions are due no later than Saturday, May 30.
- All photos must be emailed to the APG News editor at amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil.
- All photo submissions must be accompanied by the full name of the photographer, the photographer's affiliation to or place of work at APG, and a brief description of the photo.
- Please keep in mind that any photos taken on the installation must be in common housing or recreation areas. Any photos that violate security rules and regulations will automatically be disqualified.

The winner will receive bragging rights and a prize yet to be announced.



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

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

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Newcomers get oriented with APG

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

From future Army strategies to present post policies, presenters dished out the nitty-gritty on life at Aberdeen Proving Ground during the Newcomers Orientation at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center April 29.

Hosted by Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton, and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams, the quarterly event seeks to familiarize those new to APG with the facilities and services available to APG service members, civilians, retirees, contractors and their families.

Displays from garrison, post and local organizations included health care providers like Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, the Post Education Center and the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce.

The event included a briefing by McClinton on the IMCOM 2025 strategy and beyond. He touched on the IMCOM commander's vision and installation priorities such as energy conservation, infrastructure and efficient use of space, as well as the installation commander's priorities that include Pride, Accountability (SHARP), and Quality of Life.

Regarding the Integrated Priority List, McClinton told listeners that their role is to provide feedback from Soldiers and subordinates.

"Once you begin work you may lose sight of the big picture so now is the opportunity to share the overall picture."

Adams encouraged listeners to use the ICE comments system to share the good and bad of what they experience on the installation.

He cautioned them to slow down while driving on post and to look for pedestrians, bicycles and motorcycles. Noting that SHARP is the Army's #1 priority, he encouraged all to familiarize themselves with the SHARP Resource Center located in Bldg. 4305.

Adams talked about the Soldier for Life program, the post Reveille and Retreat observances; uniform standards and motorcycle policies.

"All drivers must adhere to Department of Defense and post policies," he said, adding that an upcoming motorcycle ride that links experienced and novice drivers will be held in May on a date to be announced.



Pedro Rodriguez, of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, tells listeners about emergency preparedness, the Ready.gov website and the upcoming 2015 Hurricane Season that starts May 15 during the quarterly Newcomers Orientation at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center April 29.

Garrison services

Garrison service providers also briefed the audiences. Chaplain Assistant Sgt. 1st Class Tameka Dixon shared information about upcoming chapel events such as Vacation Bible School, and the religious service offices. Stacy Umbarger from Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) encouraged listeners to look into programs such as Family Child Care; child development and youth centers, SKIES Unlimited, teen driving, the Hired! program and more.

Contact Representative Deborah Dodsworth briefed on Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic services, appointments, important phone numbers and urgent care referrals as well as TRICARE Online. For more information, visit <http://kusahc.narmc.amedd.army.mil/default.aspx>.

Prevention specialist Cindy Scott told listeners the Army Substance Abuse Program assists APG civilians, Soldiers, retirees and family members with a range of community support and prevention education programs. In addition, a new Suicide Prevention counselor will soon be on board, Scott said. She encouraged listeners to look into the Employee Assistance Program which confronts stressors that prevent normal functions on and off the job.

For more information, call 410-278-1761/5319.

From the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Client Services Division, Attorney Tom Adams said the most sought after

services are for claims for lost or damaged goods committed by moving companies. Adams said real estate reimbursement claims are also handled and that a guide is available on the APG website. The Client Services Division is located in Bldg. 4305, third floor, room 317. Services are free to Soldiers, retirees and family members. For more information, call 410-278-1583 or visit www.teamapg.com, click on Installation Support, Support Offices and Installation Legal Office.

Preparedness

Preparedness was the focus of a briefing by Emergency Manager Pedro Rodriguez, of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. Noting that hurricane season kicks off May 15 and runs until Nov. 30, Rodriguez said now is the time to plan. He suggested visiting websites such as www.ready.army.mil or www.ready.gov to learn about preparing for emergencies.

Regarding installation closures and delays, a range of options for information during weather-related or other emergencies include the APG Weather Line at 410-278-SNOW; social media sites such as Facebook at www.facebook.com/APGMd, and Twitter at www.twitter.com/USAGAPG. In addition, the APG website at www.TeamAPG.com as well as local news and radio stations are good sources of information.

Those enrolled in the installation's

mass warning system, AtHoc, can count on being alerted through a number of ways, Rodriguez said.

"AtHoc can alert you through your work and home computers and emails, through your cellphone and house phone," he said.

Noting that employees are prompted through their work computers to sign up for AtHoc, he said the system is only as good as the information supplied, and that the office conducts outreach presentations to units and organizations. For more information, contact Rodriguez at 410-278-3182 or pedro.rodriguez2.civ@mail.mil or William Fowler at 410-278-3188 or william.h.fowler6.civ@mail.mil.

APG Police Chief Joel Holdford said the installation follows the Maryland Law Traffic Code which prohibits hand-held cellphone use or texting while driving. Additionally, motorcycles are governed by AR 385-10 which applies to all operators on Army installations.

Holdford said along with the security force controlling gate access and mandatory training for personnel such as active shooter training, DES is all about protecting the installation.

"And you are a big part of that," Holdford said. "If you see something, say something."

Attendees and participants said the event was worth their while.

"Folks were very interested in basic information such as how to change their benefits to this area," said TRICARE Education Specialist Kisha York. She added that services are available to active-duty, retiree and National Guard Soldiers and their family members. For more information, visit www.mytricare.com.

"I'm brand new here and I thought this had real good information," said civilian Jerod Bernicky with the Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity. "I appreciate an event like this; they answered a lot of questions," he said, adding the preparedness presentation stuck in his mind.

"It had all kinds of stuff you don't even think about," he said. "I'm glad I didn't miss this."

Linda Edwards, chief of the FMWR business operations division, thanked all for attending and said the next Newcomers Orientation will be held July 16. Check for more information in the APG News and on APG social media sites.

ATC hosts Director of Army Staff

Story and photo by **ANDRICKA THOMAS**
ATEC

Director of Army Staff Lt. Gen. William T. Grisoli drove full speed ahead in a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle at the Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility test track April 22 at the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Aberdeen Test Center.

During a day-long visit, Grisoli saw first-hand the intricacies of ATC's capabilities as he was briefed on survivability, armor, ammunitions and automotive test capabilities at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, ATEC commanding general, hosted the Army leader during the tour where Grisoli got a glimpse into the real-world test capabilities ATC offers in one location.

"ATC's mission area is a vital one," said Utley. "The work done here adds tremendous value to the Army as it enables our Soldiers' ability to be effective and survive harsh environments, even under fire when deployed down range."

Described by Utley as the Army's automotive testing center of excellence, ATC conducts testing on various aspects of a vehicle and the equipment used when it's operated; from its armor and how a vehicle responds to a blast, to how effective the Soldier helmets are when taking incoming fire.

"Our job is to ensure the equipment works, meets the needs of the Soldier, and increases the chance for survival when faced with a threat," said Col. Gordon Graham, ATC commander.

"We look at how a system responds in certain explosive events, similar to what the system would encounter when deployed. With that data, the PMs [program managers] have the opportunity to make modifications before a decision is made on the systems' procurement."

Graham went on to explain the complexity and value-added of ATC's mission and the breadth of one-stop-shop capabilities ATC offers its customers. ATC conducts its mission on 66,000 acres of APG's 88,000 acre installation, with plenty of space to conduct live- and indirect- fire missions each day.

"On any given day, our test experts orchestrate the firing of about 1,000 rounds on the test range," Graham said.



Director of Army Staff Lt. Gen. William T. Grisoli gives a thumbs-up before driving full speed ahead in a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle at the Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility test track April 22 at the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command's Aberdeen Test Center. During the day-long visit, Grisoli saw first-hand the intricacies of ATC's capabilities as he was briefed on survivability, armor, ammunitions and automotive test capabilities at APG.

"Body armor testing is one of our core business areas."

After a flyover tour over APG's grounds, Grisoli spoke with experts from the Survivability/Lethality Directorate, Protective Equipment Division; Armaments and Munitions Division; Small Arms System Division, Hard Armor and Special Projects Branch, Common Instrumentation and Automotive Directorate.

At the Light Armor Range Complex, Grisoli learned more about the activities of personal protective equipment ballistic testing, armor exploitation and armor plate acceptance first-hand during multiple demonstrations during the visit.

Helmets, vests, vehicle armor are all put to the test in a simulated lab environment capable of replicating real-world threat environments.

Louise Spangler, chief, Protective

Equipment Division, and Kevin Mintzer, branch chief for Live-Fire, briefed leadership on the how the team answers the question "Will this materiel stop a threat?"

ATC uses a building block approach when testing systems against specific threats. Mintzer explained that first, the material alone is tested against a threat; then that material as part of a larger piece of the system is tested. That system is then tested as an integrated piece of equipment, assembled in the same manner it would be outfitted in the field environment.

"Testing a system in an integrated environment, whether it be an MRAP, JLTV or Humvee, is vital to uncovering data that needs to be addressed before a system is fielded," Mintzer said.

Justin Dawson, lead equipment specialist on the small arms field team, said ATC is a one-of-a-kind facility, in that it

has the ability to start and finish an entire test program, from firing, maintenance, repair and inspections, something unique in the test and evaluation realm.

In addition, Dawson explained that what sets ATC apart from like organizations is its capability to test high-explosives, sub-sonic and super-sonic ammunition, and the organic capability to test ammunition components in a variety of test environments.

"Diversity," said Graham, describing ATC in a word. "We are one of the more diverse test centers. Automotive testing is our core competency, and we execute this mission holistically. We want to know, not just how the vehicle itself works, but understand how all systems on an automotive system work when integrated so we get a real picture of what Soldiers will experience when using the technology in the operational environment."

BY THE NUMB#RS

National Nurses Week

National Nurses Week begins May 6 and runs through May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday.

3,100,000+

Number of registered nurses in the U.S., representing the largest sector of all health care professions.

800,000

RN positions that are expected to go unfilled nationwide by the year 2020, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. If projections are correct, the shortage of RNs will continue to grow.

155

Years since Florence Nightingale established the first secular nursing school. Nightingale is considered the founder of modern nursing.

142

Number of years since Linda Richards became the first nurse in the U.S. to earn a nursing diploma.

68

Years that have passed since Nurse Florence Blanchfield became the first female to hold a permanent commission in the U.S. Army and was assigned as the superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps.

33

Number of years since President Ronald Regan signed a proclamation officially declaring May 6, 1982 as "National Recognition Day for Nurses." In 1990, the American Nursing Association Board of Directors first expanded the recognition of nurses to a week-long celebration.

By **RACHEL PONDER** APG News

Source(s): <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/>; <http://nursesweek.org/>; <http://www.history.army.mil/books/anc-highlights/chrono.htm>



Vignettes close out Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month

Staff Sgt. Lakisha McClendon, a human resources NCO with the 310th Military Intelligence Battalion at Fort Meade, Maryland, shares her story of sexual assault and domestic violence during the Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month Vignettes ceremony at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater April 29. The event closed the official observance of SAAPM during April. APG Senior Command Sgt. Maj. William Bruns, Communications-Electronics Command, hosted the event.

Photo by Kristopher Joseph



At your service

Glenda Weaver, CYSS Program Lead

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

As a program lead for Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center, Glenda Weaver supervises school age

children, first through fifth grade, and prepares lesson plans for before- and after-school care.

Weaver leads the youth center's school age health and nutrition program, which includes cooking and

gardening activities. To create lesson plans, Weaver uses curriculum from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), 4-H and other sources.

"Cooking enriches their math, reading and social skills," she said.

Weaver also assists with the SMART Girls program for ages 9 to 12. SMART stands for Skills, Mastery and Resistance Training and is part of the BGCA curriculum. The program teaches girls how to make healthy choices.

Weaver said her overall goal is to create fun, educational activities that will hold the interest of multiple age groups.

"I like working with kids," she said. "You can learn a lot from children, they can make you laugh and they can

be serious."

In addition to providing before- and after-school care, Weaver is gearing up for the CYSS Summer Camp program. During the summer, she assists CYSS Sports with Triple Play, a BGCA program that emphasizes nutrition, exercise and teamwork.

Weaver has more than 30 years of child care experience and has worked for APG CYSS for 19 years. She holds a Child Development Associate Credential from the Council for Professional Recognition.

For more information about APG CYSS programs visit <http://www.apgmwr.com/child-youth-school-services/cyss-home> or call 410-278-7571.

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.

Adair, Jennifer
Alba, Audrey
Bailey, Vicki E.
Beach, Sarah Lynn
Benysek, Lee
Budzinski, David
Calahan, Jane E.
Clark, Lyra

Decker, Kathleen M.
Dissek, Michael J.
Donlon, Jacqueline
Gaddis, Lonnie
Gilley, Christopher M
Johnson, Douglas W.
Jones, Desiree
Leonguerrero, Louise

Mason, Jeremy L.
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Morrow, Patricia D.
Mughal, Mohamed R.
Palm, Natalie
Pettiway, Mary
Robinson, Jennifer
Saenz, Diana

Sauer, Dawn
Solomon, Je'Neane
Thurman, Terry L.
Trulli, Wayne R.
Webb, Monica C.
Zarrillo, Rebecca Lee

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

events&town halls

FRIDAY MAY 8

MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY

To honor Team APG military spouses, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation will offer the following events:

- Army Community Service Open House – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Bldg. 2503. Stop by to meet program managers and tour the facility. Light refreshments will be served.
- Spouses Tea at Top of the Bay – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Assorted teas and lunch will be served, and the event will include presentation of the History of the Fan.
- Group Golf Lesson at Ruggles Driving Range – 2 p.m. The lesson will be provided by a Ruggles PGA Pro. No previous golf experience is required. Clubs and golf balls will be provided. Wear comfortable clothing.

Events are open to all current, retired and surviving spouses. Those wishing to participate should RSVP to Linda Edwards at linda.m.edwards.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-2500.

SATURDAY MAY 9

MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

The APG Military Retiree Appreciation Day takes place 8 a.m., Saturday, May 9, at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326 Erie Street. Maryland State Senator Robert G. (Bob) Cassilly is the guest speaker and APG Senior Leader Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford is slated to give remarks.

The event includes more than 35 vendors providing interactions with local, state and national veteran service and health organizations like the Veterans Administration; post support activities; and health screenings and vaccinations. A panel question-and-answer session will be held with representatives from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Corvias Military Housing, the Dental Clinic, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Post Commissary, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, and others.

In addition, the installation ID card office at Bldg. 4305 will be open to retirees 8:30 to 11 a.m.

The First Sergeant Grill will provide lunch for a nominal fee (cash only) after the program.

For more information, contact Tom Shumate, co-chair, APG Retiree Council at 410-306-2303, thomas.s.shumate2.civ@mail.mil; or Betty Willard, retirement services officer, at 410-306-2322, betty.a.willard.ctr@mail.mil or visit <http://apgretiree.com/>.

MAY 9-14

APG ARMED FORCES WEEK EVENTS

Several events are scheduled for Military Appreciation Month and Armed Forces Week from May 9-14.

- May 9: Military Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m., APG Recreation Center. For more information, call Tom Shumate at 410-306-2303.
- May 11: Golf Tournament, 7 a.m., Ruggles Golf Course. For more information, call Rick Bond at 410-278-4794.
- May 12: All APG Soldiers Armed Forces Run, 6:15 a.m. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Scalies at 410-861-7069.
- May 13: Gold Star Breakfast, 8 a.m., Main Post Chapel.
- May 13: Armed Forces Displays, Future Soldier Recognition, Demonstration, APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.
- May 14: Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Appreciation Luncheon, 11 a.m., Richlin Ballroom, Abingdon, MD. Registration Required. For more information, call Vanessa Milio at 410-838-2020.

WEDNESDAY MAY 13

BIKE TO WORK DAY – APG NORTH

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

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

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

THURSDAY MAY 14

JOB FAIR

The Susquehanna Workforce Network will host the Cecil County Job Fair 1 to 5 p.m. at the Singler Fire Hall, 300 Newark Avenue, Elkton MD 21921. Register online at www.swnetwork.org.

TUESDAY MAY 19

SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP GRADUATION

The Defense Acquisition University - Senior Service College Fellowship Program announces the graduation ceremony for the class of 2014-2015.

The ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. in the Mallette Hall Auditorium, Bldg. 6008. The graduation ceremony marks the culmination of ten months of full-time, rigorous study focused on developing acquisition and leadership attributes. A short reception will follow.

Please RSVP by Thursday, May 14 to Ben Metcalfe at Benjamin.Metcalfe@dau.mil or 410-272-9471.

WEDNESDAY MAY 22

BIKE TO WORK DAY – APG SOUTH

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

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

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

TUESDAY JUNE 16

2015 SOLDIER SHOW

Save the date – the 2015 U.S. Army Soldier Show Tour will stop at APG June 16 at 7 p.m.

The Soldier Show is a live Broadway-style variety performance featuring the Army's best talent. It's singing, it's dancing and it's amazing! Each year, Army Entertainment brings together a talented troupe of performers who are selected through a rigorous audition process.

This year's production, "We Serve" explores the foundational elements of what it means to serve, in and out of uniform, as well as how our country in return serves them.

meetings&conferences

TUESDAY MAY 12

CREATING A SOLID SPENDING PLAN

The C4ISR Wellness Committee will host the Creating a Solid Spending Plan informational session 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Bldg. 6001, room 224.

The instructor will provide step-by-step details on drawing a financial blueprint for action. Participants will create a personal action plan, learn how to save money, and gain a better understanding of how to track where their money goes. The session is open to DA civilians, contactors, and military.

For more information, or to request a VTC access dial-in number and code, contact Tiffany Grimes, CECOM G-1, at 443-861-7901, tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil. For sign language interpreters or other disability-related accommodations, contact the CECOM EEO Office at 443-861-4355.

SATURDAY JUNE 13

FEW SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST

The Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) will host its Annual Scholarship Breakfast 8 a.m. to noon at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1050 Beards Hill Road, in Aberdeen. Cost is \$30.

The guest speaker is Nicole S. Mason, FEW vice president for Compliance, an author, attorney and leadership coach.

For more information, contact Valery Calm-Coleman at 410-920-7849; Tracy Marshall at 813-504-7778; Karen Jobses at 410-322-1469; or Bridgette Graham at 202-285-4946.

health&resiliency

TUESDAY MAY 12

CARE FIRST BCBS CLAIM REP VISIT

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center arranged for a claim representative of Care First Blue Cross/Blue Shield visit to discuss claim problems and plan coverage 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, room 120. The claim representative will also be available 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Bldg. E2800 (JPEOCBD) rooms 103/104 on APG South (Edgewood).

No appointment is necessary.

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

TUESDAY MAY 19

MENTAL HEALTH INFO SESSION

The C4ISR Wellness Committee will host a Mental Health Awareness informational session 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 6001, room 224. The session will identify risk factors, symptoms, and warning signs of mental illness and its stages, address confronting early symptoms and removing negative stigmas.

The session is open to DA civilians, contactors, and military. For sign language interpreters or other disability-related accommodations, contact the CECOM EEO Office at 443-861-4355 by May 5.

For more information, or to request VTC access dial-in number and code, contact Tiffany Grimes, CECOM G-1, at 443-861-7901, tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil

SUNDAY MAY 24

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

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

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY MAY 27

STRONG BONDS MARRIAGE RETREAT

A one-day Strong Bonds Marriage Retreat will take place at the Vandiver Inn, 301 South Union Avenue in Havre de Grace from 8:35 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Meals and child care will be provided.

For more information, contact the APG main post chapel at 410-278-4333.

ONGOING

ARMY WELLNESS CENTER AT APG SOUTH CLINIC

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

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

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

THROUGH 2015

2015 CPR, AED CLASS SCHEDULE

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

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.

ONGOING

WEAR BLUE: RUN TO REMEMBER HARFORD COUNTY/ APG

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

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

Those interested in participating in the run should meet at the Annie's Playground – Pavilion at 864 Smith Lane, Fallston, Maryland.

Pets are allowed, but park rules do not allow retractable leashes.

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

Upcoming dates include:

- May 9
- June 13
- July 11
- August 8

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

miscellaneous

ONGOING

HCC FALL SCHEDULE

Registration is open for Harford Community College Fall 2015 classes to be held at APG. Log onto your OwlNet account and follow the registration guidelines. New students should contact the Registration Office at 443-412-2100.

Classes:

▪ Math 216: Introduction to Statistics, Tuesday/Thursday, Aug. 31 to Dec. 15, 5:30 to 7:25 p.m.

▪ English 216: Business Communications, Tuesday, Aug. 31 to Dec. 15, 5:30 to 6:50 p.m.

▪ PSY 101: Introduction to Psychology, Monday/Wednesday, 6 to 8:50 p.m., Oct. 19 to Dec. 15.

For more information, contact Tiffany Morrell at 443-412-2100, tmorrell@harford.edu or visit Bldg. 4305, Room 335.

ONGOING

CMU FALL SCHEDULE

Registration is open for Central Michigan University Fall 2015 classes to be held at APG.

Classes:

▪ MSA 601 Organizational Dynamics and Human Behavior, Aug. 21-22; Sept. 18-19; Oct. 18 (End date)

▪ CED 555 Human Relations Skills, Oct. 23-24; Nov 20-21; Dec. 6 (End date)

These are hybrid courses requiring additional online interaction.

For more information, contact Barbara Jenkins at 410-272-1532, aberndeen.center@cmich.edu or visit Bldg. 4305, room 209.

ONGOING

HOT WORK PERMIT

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

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

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

For more information, call 410-306-0001.

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](https://apps.imcom.army.mil/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: 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: 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



RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Sisters unite to face the Challenge

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Sisters Jessica and Victoria Lopez used to skip school together to hang out with friends. Those days are a distant memory as they prepare to graduate from the Maryland National Guard Freestate Challenge Academy.

The Bladensburg, Maryland sisters decided to attend FCA because they needed a fresh start. Both said they had trouble with traditional school and problems with authority figures. The last grade they attended was the eighth grade. Jessica, 17, was held back a year.

"I had problems with my teachers, I would get an attitude with them and wouldn't do my homework," said Victoria, 16.

Jessica said she considered applying to FCA last year, but decided to wait until her sister turned 16 so they could attend together.

"We have been together since we were little," said Jessica. "I go with her everywhere, she comes with me everywhere."

The FCA gives Maryland teens who have withdrawn from high school a second chance at an education. For 22 weeks, cadets ages 16-18 voluntarily live in the academy's residential program – a structured, disciplined, military-style environment. They attend classes geared toward obtaining a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, and many shadow post and local vocational positions. Nearly all who graduate the program attend college or enter the military.

There were obstacles in the beginning, Victoria said, adding that they struggled to get along with cadre and cadets living in such close proximity.

"I think I would have been kicked out of the program if it wasn't for her," Victoria said.

Over time, they adjusted to the struc-



(From left) Victoria and Jessica Lopez happily ponder what life will be like after they graduate from the Maryland National Guard Freestate Challenge Academy. The two sisters enrolled together to help each other through the program and are set to graduate in June.

tured environment, Jessica said. They had to buckle down and study to catch up with their peers. Now they are preparing to take the GED test and are on week 17 of the residential program.

"We have both calmed down a lot, Victoria said.

In addition to preparing for the GED, Jessica is enrolled in the Silver Wings program at the Martin State Airport in Middle River.

During Silver Wings, cadets visit an air traffic control tower, fly in a simulated plane, learn how to chart a course and tour the Maryland State Police Aviation Unit.

While Jessica attends Silver Wings, Victoria is participating in culinary arts vocational training at the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives (NCIA) Youth in Transition School, near Baltimore.

Jessica said job shadowing with Capt.

Nicholas Milano and 1st Sgt. Daniel Nelson from APG Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company influenced her decision to join the Army after graduating FCA. Her goal is to become a military police officer.

To prepare for her career, she is studying for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), a multiple aptitude test that measures abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military.

Victoria said she wants to be a phlebotomist and she plans to enroll in community college classes after she passes the GED.

As part of the FCA program, every cadet is assigned a mentor. During the residential and post-residential phase, mentors meet routinely with cadets to ensure they are meeting their goals. During Mentor Day on May 2, men-

tors attended a mini career fair with their mentees at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. The girls' aunt, Rosa Ponce, a dental assistant, is serving as a mentor to Jessica.

"I feel so proud of both them, in how they take care of themselves and plan for the future," Ponce said.

Angela Godwin, a community volunteer, serves as a mentor to Victoria.

"She is a good listener, she is ambitious, Godwin said. "She believes in the program now, and is looking forward to the completion of it."

The Freestate Challenge Academy commencement, similar to a high school graduation, takes place 9 a.m., Saturday, June 13 at the APG North (Aberdeen) post theater.

For more information about the FCA program, visit <http://www.mdmdildep.org/fca/>.

JLENS Soldiers support community garden

By **SGT. AARON R. MCFALL**
A 3rd ADA (JLENS)

On brisk spring day, Soldiers from Alpha Battery, 3rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment (JLENS) gave back to the local community by helping to reestablish the Oliver Community Garden in East Baltimore March 20.

JLENS Soldiers assisted the Baltimore-based nonprofit 6th Branch, an organization which aims to utilize the "leadership and organization skills of military veterans to execute aggressive community service initiatives at the local level," according to its website.

Soldiers fertilized and tilled soil, and helped clean up the surrounding area in preparation for the upcoming planting season, all in an effort to strengthen partnerships and give back to their local community.

Four air defense officers and four NCOs led from the front, grabbing shovels and digging in with their subordinates. They also provided purpose, direction and motivation.

According to David Landymore, executive director of 6th Branch, the service provided by JLENS Soldiers was greatly appreciated.

"That job last year took us two full days to accomplish, and you guys knocked it out of the park in a few hours. Thanks to you, we're now well ahead of the game in terms of preparation for the planting season," he



(Left) 1st Lt. Ethan Shafer and 1st Lt. Dillon Shaffer, mission directors with Alpha Battery, 3rd ADA Regiment, 108th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, dig into the trash as they help clean up the local area surrounding the Oliver Community Garden in East Baltimore March 20.

(Below) 1st Lt. Liam Phillips, left, a mission director with Alpha Battery, 3rd ADA Regiment, 108th ADA Brigade, takes a well-deserved break from shoveling manure during a community service project helping the 6th Branch reestablish the Oliver Community Garden in East Baltimore March 20.

Photos by Sgt. Fabian Diaz

said. The garden will provide a place for locals to plant and harvest their own crops to consume themselves or even sell at their local farmers markets.

"It really feels good to give back to the community and establish a reduced cost and open garden for the local residents," said Pvt. Justin Armstrong as he and other Soldiers spread fertilizer.

Residents of the community were not the only people who benefited that day. Many of the Soldiers remarked that they too felt a sense of accomplishment in helping with the project.

"I really feel like this is a great thing we are helping our community with," said 1st Lt. Ethan Shafer. "We will revisit this in the future."



WHY WE SERVE HONOR

individual and can transcend the individual to reflect on the collective organization. Understanding honor at the lowest levels and adopting it into your daily work ethic ensures the continuation and advancement of the same principle, values and beliefs that makes ours the most trusted profession.

"Honor is defined as high respect. In my opinion, it is someone who has an exceptional reputation. Honor is a true feeling of admiration for someone's qualities and achievements. Honoring someone doesn't necessarily mean focusing on their career, but on who they are now or how they have evolved to be as the person that they have become over the years. It encompasses their "true" experiences, wisdom and knowledge, instilled values, quality of life, self-expression, confidence and their achievements that have led up to the person they are today. Just like respect, honor is earned. It is very important to recognize individuals for their accomplishments, because it defines the person they are, and it also places a value on someone with great achievements throughout their life. Each person holds a unique pattern/set of skills to contribute to an individual's community, family, profession, organization, and group.

CORINNE REDMAN, SUPERVISORY BUDGET ANALYSIS, CECOM

Why We Serve Word of the Month

Honor (ON-er) noun: honesty, fairness, or integrity in one's beliefs and actions; a source of credit or distinction.

Why We Serve connection: Honor has many key words in its definition. Besides those above, also included are words like respect, worth, merit, esteem and privilege. All reflect positively on the

MORE ONLINE

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



Dental commander shares journey

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**

APG News

She grew up quickly. Life under a communist regime offered little time for childhood dalliance, and just into her teens she had to decide in which direction her life would go.

Tatyana Dankulich-Huryn is a U.S. Army major and the commander of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Dental Clinic. When she a 14-year-old teenager growing up in her native Ukraine, she had to choose between joining the Youth Communist Regime, as was customary, or pursuing a life outside of Ukraine.

“At 14 you really had to decide what to do with your life,” Dankulich-Huryn said. “My parents never told me what to do one way or the other. They were very smart and protective and looking back, I realize that all along they were guiding me to my eventual decision.”

She didn’t have to think long. As long as she could remember she wanted to become a dentist. She also knew that that could never happen if she remained where she was. So she told her parents she did not wish to join the regime and that she realized the only way out was to go to dental school in Prague, the Czech Republic capital.

“That was my way of saying, ‘I love you but I will not stay in this country,’” she said. “I was 17 when I left and it was not easy leaving my parents.”

In Prague, Dankulich-Huryn enrolled in the Blessed Zdislava Nursing School and eventually served as a pediatric nurse from 1990-1993. In October, 1993, she arrived in the U.S. and was reunited with her sister in Philadelphia. She said she was comfortable in the large Ukrainian community but she was still driven by the desire to become a dentist. Her sister found her work as a babysitter and she soon enrolled in college. One of her main concerns at the time was becoming more fluent in English.

She said Latin was the primary language for nursing students in Europe. “I spoke Latin better than I spoke English.”

Sensitive about her accent, she would sit in a booth and listen to English phrases and try to mimic them.

“I was frustrated because I could not lose my accent,” she said. “But as

I moved on it became less important. Today they tell me it is my trademark.”

Dankulich-Huryn obtained an associate’s degree at Bucks County Community College in 1995 and a bachelor’s degree in molecular biology from Holy Family University in 1999. She met her future husband in 1995 and they were married in 2001.

She worked as a molecular biology researcher for private companies in Valley Forge and in Philadelphia and finally attended the School of Dental Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio from 2001-2005.

“It was fascinating,” she said of her life at the time.

“I was very busy studying, getting all these prerequisites and working to pay off my loans. My future husband encouraged me. His mother was a retired doctor so he knew what I was facing, and he supported me wholeheartedly.”

She said while working as a volunteer in Cleveland’s low-income neighborhoods she became disillusioned because, “as students we would just extract teeth.”

“I thought to myself, ‘why don’t we try to save these teeth,’” she said.

She recalled that a recruiter first brought the idea of joining the Army to her husband and when she learned of the opportunities available to her as a military officer she thought it was too good to be true. But her husband worried about the commitment.

“I thought, this is a country that offers opportunities and I knew I had to take this one,” she said.

She joined the Army in 2005, was commissioned as a captain and assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. She subsequently served in Grafenwoehr and Vilseck, Ger-

many and deployed to Al Asad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. By then she had two children and her husband put his career on hold to care for them during her absence.

“He supported me throughout and he still does,” she said.

In 2010, when faced with the decision to continue or leave the service she decided to stay.

“In my heart I had already decided,” she said. “During my second deployment, I knew I was there for my Soldiers. The biggest point to me was being able to make a difference.”

Dankulich-Huryn has been the APG clinic commander since August.

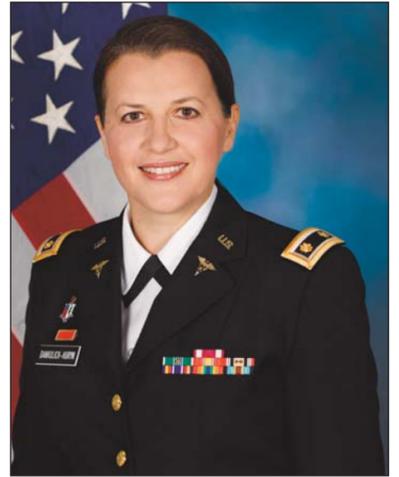
Throughout her career she has served as a general dentist, safety officer, Officer in Charge of a Soldier Service Center; Dental Clinic chief of operations; patient safety and infection control officer; and chief of clinical services.

She holds professional memberships in the Christian Medical and Dental Association and the American

Dental Association Academy of General Dentistry. She is a published author who speaks Ukrainian, English, Czech and Russian as well as Latin.

Dankulich-Huryn said that looking back, there is not much she would change.

“I would do it over and over again,” she said. “I am in a position to make a difference in the lives of my Soldiers and their families, and that means a lot to me. The camaraderie I have with subordinates, peers and superiors is indescribable. I can pick up a phone to the next level and ask for guidance and they are there for me.”



Dankulich-Huryn

“I don’t think I’m special,” she added. “The people around me who constantly encouraged me and held me up and loved me, they are the special ones. I am what I am because of my family, my friends and mentors.”

Her parents now reside in the U.S. and her children – two boys and a girl – and husband remain her inspiration, she said.

“My father is 86. He gives me a hug and a smile, and I know he supports me.”

She laughed that her mother recently asked when she would make lieutenant colonel.

“She remembers my promotion to major. It was a joyful day for her,” she said.

“I’m not perfect,” she added, “but my Soldiers know they can come to me with their problems. They know I stand up for them and that I take pride in them. I love what I do and I don’t plan to change what I do at all.”

She said her main goal regarding the clinic is to reinforce the attitude that the primary mission is to serve patients.

“By taking care of patients and taking pride in service and customer satisfaction, we build cohesion,” she said. “My personal philosophy is ‘do the right thing’ because we are all role models.”

“This is the world I chose and I have no regrets.”

Grilling up fire safety this BBQ season

By **T.C. GLASSMAN**

DES Fire Inspector

As the weather starts to warm up, many people can’t wait to pull the cover off their grill and fire it up for the first backyard barbeque of the season.

Before you start, it is important to make sure your grill is in good condition and you know how to use it properly so you are roasting hamburgers and hotdogs – not your house or yourself.

Each year there are an average of 8,800 home fires related to grilling, according to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA). The U.S. Fire Administration notes that grill fires result in nearly 3.5 times more injuries when compared to all other types of fires.

Propane or gas grills

Three out of five households in the U.S. own a gas grill, which contribute to a higher number of home fires than their charcoal counterparts.

People who use a propane grill should check the gas tank hose for leaks before using for the first time each year. The NFPA recommends the soapy bubble test to check for leaks: apply a light soap and water solution to the hose – if there is a leak, bubbles will appear.

If the grill has a leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.

If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.

If the grill’s flame goes out while you’re cooking, turn the grill and gas off. Propane is heavier than air and will not dissipate immediately. Wait at least 15 minutes before relighting it to avoid igniting any potential leaked gas.

Charcoal grills

While no longer as common at residences, charcoal grills are still quite popular at campsites and parks.

If you use starter fluid to start the charcoal, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any oth-



Courtesy photo

Three out of five households in the U.S. own a gas grill, which contribute to a higher number of home fires than their charcoal counterparts. People who use a propane grill should check the gas tank hose for leaks before using for the first time each year. The NFPA recommends the soapy bubble test to check for leaks: apply a light soap and water solution to the hose – if there is a leak, bubbles will appear.

er flammable liquid to the fire. Keep charcoal fluid away from heat sources and out of reach of children.

Never use an electric starter in the rain or when standing on wet ground. If using “instant light” briquettes, do not use lighter fluid, and do not add more instant light briquettes to the open-flame fire.

Remember to keep vents on a grill’s top open while cooking. Charcoal needs oxygen to burn.

It is important to let coals cool completely before disposing of them, and they should always be disposed in a metal container with a lid.

General grill safety tips

- Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outdoors. Never operate them inside or in your garage.
- The grill should be placed away

from your home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.

- Always clean your grill after each use, removing grease or fat build-up from the grills and in the trays below.

- Never leave the grill unattended.

- When buying a new grill, be sure to read its instruction manual and safety guide. Keep the manual in a safe location that is easily accessible.

- Use long-handled utensils to avoid burns and wear safe clothing that will not dangle over the flames.

- Be prepared to put flames out by having a garden hose – with the water turned on – nearby.

Food & grill safety

- Trim excess fat from poultry and

meat to avoid grill flare-ups. Fat can melt, catch on fire and cause a flare-up.

- Turn food frequently with long-handled tongs to avoid charring. Not only will charring cause the food to burn and potentially catch on fire, but experts recommend avoiding ingesting overly charred meat.

- Do not press, flatten or pierce meat – not only will you lose flavorful juices, but they can also cause the grill’s flames to flare-up.

- Consider lining the grill’s racks with punctured aluminum foil to protect against flare-ups; just be sure to wait for the foil to cool completely before removing and disposing of it.

For more grilling and fire safety tips, visit www.nfpa.org or www.usfa.fema.gov.



ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Marshy Point Nature Center

Wetlands of Middle River teem with wildlife

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

Tucked away near the wetlands of Middle River sits Marshy Point Nature Center, a treasure trove of local, natural wonders waiting to be discovered.

Inside the center, visitors will find more than 50 different species of live and taxidermy wildlife that are native to the area, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and all manner of creepy, crawly things. Most of these animals have been donated or are in captivity because they would not survive in the wild.

One such animal is Lucky the Duck, who was rescued by a staff member. Lucky hangs around the center as a kind of unofficial mascot, greeting delighted groups of school children and quacking for food.

Ducks are plentiful in the area and, according to the Marshy Point Nature Center website, the area around Marshy Point has a rich tradition of waterfowl hunting. President Benjamin Harrison, Babe Ruth, and Annie Oakley all hunted in the area.

The center includes interactive exhibits and sensory activities that help school-aged children better understand and appreciate the natural world. Visitors can touch and examine animal bones, match a bird to its call, or pet a herd of rabbits. The center also boasts a library nook and “touch tank,” where children can get up close and personal with creatures who can be found in the Chesapeake Bay.

The indoor nature center is surrounded by a park, which features more than



(Clockwise, from left) A cheeky, taxidermy raccoon is just one of more than 50 species of local wildlife featured in the Marshy Point Nature Center; Lucky, a rescued duck, takes a stroll to look for food and play host to visitors; A northern copperhead snake, which is highly venomous, watches visitors from inside his glass case.

three miles of hiking trails, two self-guided nature trails, a canoe launch and pier, and a wildlife observation platform. Guided canoe trips are offered to explore the coastal forests, marshes, and shallow waters of Dundee and Saltpeter Creeks. Marshy Point is in the process of doubling the size

of its trail system; staff can provide visitors with the latest map and information.

Marshy Point offers a variety of summer camps for children ages 4 to 12, and has several upcoming events, including a spring family campout May 9 - 10, a Mother’s Day bird walk and weekly pre-

school drop-in activities.

Marshy Point Nature Center is located at 7130 Marshy Point Road in Middle River and is free and open to the public daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 410-887-2817, or visit www.marshypoint.org.

Observation celebrates government employees

By **AMANDA ROMINIECKI**
APG News

For thirty years, Public Service Recognition Week has been celebrated the first week of May as a way to honor the men and women who serve the nation as federal, state, county or local government employees.

With more than two million civilians comprising the federal workforce, these individuals represent one of the largest employers in the world: the United States government.

“A Government of, by, and for the people is sustained only through the hard work and extraordinary sacrifice of millions of citizens willing to serve the country they love,” said President Barack Obama in a proclamation declaring May 3-9 Public Service Recognition Week.

“In the face of difficult challenges, public servants give new life to the values that bind our nation together. With determination and resolve, they defend our country overseas and work to widen the circle of opportunity and prosperity here at home,” Obama wrote. “And despite tough circumstances – including pay freezes, budget cuts, sequestration, and a political climate that too often does not sufficiently value their work – these exceptional leaders continue to make real the fundamental truth that people



who love their country can change it.”

Organized by the Public Employees Roundtable, the theme for this year’s observance is “Government Works.” According to the Public Service Recognition Week website, this theme aims to showcase the “accomplishments and recognize the significant challenges” public servants take on each day.”

In the Army, civilian employees have been an integral part of ensuring the readiness of American Soldiers for nearly 240 years.

In a letter signed by Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno and Secretary of the Army John McHugh, they highlight the mission-essential capabil-

ities, stability, continuity and leadership civilians provide to the Army.

“Army civilian employees serve as technical experts, functional managers and enterprise leaders throughout the force, and we want them to know that we are committed to providing opportunities for their growth today and in the Army 2025 and beyond,” the leaders said.

Government agencies and personnel are encouraged to share their stories or public service online by using the hashtag #PSRW.

Did You Know?

Check out these little-known facts about the accomplishments and contributions of public employees highlighted by the Partnership for Public Service.

- The first person to set foot on the moon, Neil Armstrong, was a public employee.

- Defense Department researchers developed the networking system that led to the creation of the Internet.

- In their search to unlock the mysteries of the universe, NASA scientists discovered the first Black Hole.

- Since 1960, nearly 200,000 people have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 139 countries.

- U.S. Department of Agriculture employees pioneered the bar code scanner that automatically computes the cost of your purchases at the store.

- The Department of Defense developed GPS technology.

- Government employees developed instrument landing systems used by all commercial and military aircraft, as well as the basic design of most aircraft.

- Half of all U.S. medical doctors in practice today received training by government employees working for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

- NASA space technology launched tens of thousands of products, including cordless construction tools, heat cradles for premature infants, smoke detectors, low-cost waste water treatment, radiology, and an underwater device used to locate the “black box” from airplane crashes.

Corvias requests participation in RCI survey

Corvias Military Living

Aberdeen Proving Ground residents are asked to participate in the 2015 Headquarters Department of the Army Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) Resident Survey.

Residents should expect to receive an electronic survey via email May 7 and have until June 7 to complete the survey.

This survey gives residents the opportunity to provide feedback to the Army, RCI and Corvias Military Living on how their housing needs are being met.

“The results of this survey are very important to us,” said Chuck Parker, division president of Corvias Military



Living. “They play a big role in how we assess our performance and the level of care we’re providing for our residents.

“Delivering the highest quality of service to our service members and their families remains a top priority and these results will help us determine what we do well and what we can improve on to provide an even greater living experience.”

All residents who complete the survey have the opportunity to be entered to win one grand prize of \$1,500.

The survey takes less than 20 minutes to complete and will ask questions on topics such as residents’ evaluation of their present home, community amenities, resident activities, the community maintenance team and property manage-

ment team, among others.

All survey answers are strictly confidential and residents are urged to offer honest responses. Personal data is not tabulated and the survey does not identify the resident in any way.

The feedback provides the Army and Corvias with vital information to evaluate the current state of the partnership and guide future improvements to the housing facilities and residential services.

Residents who do not receive a survey or who have questions should email ARMYHousingsurvey@celassociates.com.



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www.facebook.com/APGMd



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



Upcoming Activities

LEISURE & TRAVEL BALTIMORE ORIOLES DISCOUNT TICKETS 2015 SEASON

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

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES SUMMER JOBS AT APG YOUTH CENTERS APPLY NOW

Summer Camp positions are available at the APG North (Aberdeen) and APG South (Edgewood) youth centers. The APG Youth Services Program is looking for child and youth program assistants to work with children during summer camp programs.

Applicants must be available to start training June 1. Hours of work include days, evenings, nights, weekends and some holidays. Work schedules may vary depending on the program offered. Salary is \$12.15 to \$14.89 per hour.

To apply, visit www.USAJOB.gov or stop by the Non-appropriated Fund Human Resources Office to complete an application. For more information, or directions, call 410-278-5126/0133/8992/8994.

SMART START BASEBALL REGISTRATION THROUGH MAY 8

Registration for the Aberdeen and Edgewood youth centers Start Smart Baseball is open through May 8. Get your child ready for baseball by enrolling them into this Parent/Child Program, and teach the basics to your child through skill stations that will progress each week.

The six-week program at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center will be held every Monday, starting May 18. The six-week program at the APG South (Edgewood) youth center will be held every Wednesday, starting May 20. Both programs will run from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on their respective days of the week.

The program is open to boys and girls, ages 3 to 5-years-old. The cost is \$20 per child. For more information, contact william.m.kegley3.naf@mail.mil or call 410-306-2297.

BABYSITTING COURSE JUNE 29 – JULY 1 JULY 21 – 23

APG Child, Youth and School Services,

in partnership with 4-H, will offer a class to familiarize participants with all the responsibilities of babysitting as well as becoming certified in CPR/First Aid. Students will receive a certificate of completion of the course as well as their CPR/First Aid cards.

The course is two days in length, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. It will be held at Bldg. 2503, Highpoint Road, in the second floor conference room. This free course is open to youth ages 13 to 18. Registration is required.

For more information, or to register, contact Shirelle Womack at 410-278-4589.

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.

SPORTS & RECREATION LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 12

Registration for the 2015 Summer Learn to Swim Program, with classes for youth levels 1-5, parents and toddlers, and adults, will open May 12. Classes will be offered starting in June at the APG North (Aberdeen) Olympic Pool and at the APG South (Edgewood) Bayside Pool.

Class size is limited to 20 people, and classes fill quickly. For more information and to register, contact Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124/5789 or usag-mwr.outdoorrec@mail.mil.

HOME RUN DERBY MAY 13

Earn bragging rights as the best Slugger on APG at a Home Run Derby held at Shine Sports Field May 13 at 5 p.m. Each contestant must pay a \$5 participation fee. For more information, call 410-278-7933 or 410-436-3375.

MILES FOR MAY FITNESS MONTH THROUGH END OF MAY

Open to all eligible MWR patrons, staff and participants will track the miles they walk during May. At the end of the competition certificates and medals will be

awarded to the top three men and top three women. Call the Athletic Center at 410-278-7933/7934, Hoyle Gym at 410-436-3375, or the Fitness Center at 410-278-9725 for more information.

APG BOWLING CENTER SINGLES TOURNAMENT MAY 16

The APG Bowling Center will host a Singles Tournament May 16. All bowlers must supply a current USBC league average upon arrival.

For more information, contact Richard Burdette at 410-278-4041 or richard.g.burdette2.naf@mail.mil.

KAYAK CLASSES MAY-JUNE

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

- May 14 & 15
- May 28 & 29
- June 4 & 5
- June 11 & 12
- June 29 & 30

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

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

2015 SWIMMING POOL PASSES

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

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

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

Pool pass prices:

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

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

Active duty service members and their families swim free.

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

EQUIPMENT RENTALS ONGOING

The MWR Outdoor Recreation Office offers countless items for rent to make a summer barbecue or party complete, including barbecue grills, bounce houses, canopies, coolers, kayaks, yard games and

camping gear. Visit www.apgmwr.com for price list. Call 410-278-4124/5789 for more information.

GET GOLF READY ONGOING

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

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

SPRING GOLF PRO SHOP SALE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

All 2014 items at the Ruggles Golf Course Pro Shop will be sold at cost. Take advantage of this sale with huge savings on balls, gloves and sportswear. Ruggles is open 7 a.m. to dusk, seven days a week.

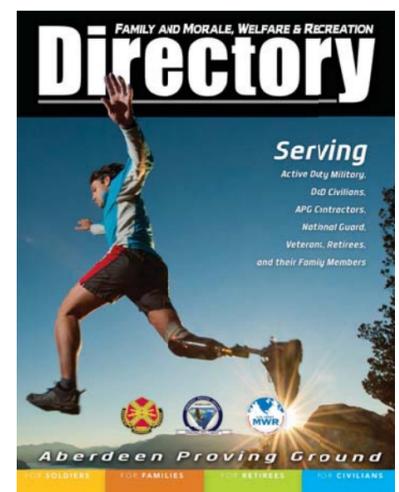
ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE CREATING A SOLID SPENDING PLAN

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

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

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



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

Home Run Derby

MAY 13

Entry Fee: \$5 per person
Fees are due prior to the start of event.

Aberdeen North **5PM**
SHINE SPORTS FIELD

Fees can be paid at the Leisure Travel Office in both APG North and South.

For more information please contact:
APG ATHLETIC CENTER
at 410-278-7933
410-436-3375 / 7934
or email us at
Usarmy.APG.imcom-fmwrc.list.usag-mwr-sports@mail.mil

APGMWR
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AND SAT, MAY 16, 10AM-3PM.

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Alan Hickox at 410-306-4515
alan.j.hickox.naf@mail.mil

Researchers create virtual humans

By **ORLI BELMAN**
USC Institute for Creative Technologies

New research aims to get robots and humans to speak the same language to improve communication in fast-moving and unpredictable situations.

Scientists from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory and the University of Southern California Institute for Creative Technologies are exploring the potential of developing a flexible multi-modal human-robot dialogue that includes natural language, along with text, images and video processing.

“Research and technology are essential for providing the best capabilities to our warfighters,” said Dr. Laurel Allender, director of the ARL Human Research and Engineering Directorate. “This is especially so for the immersive and live-training environments we are developing to achieve squad overmatch and to optimize Soldier performance, both mentally and physically.”

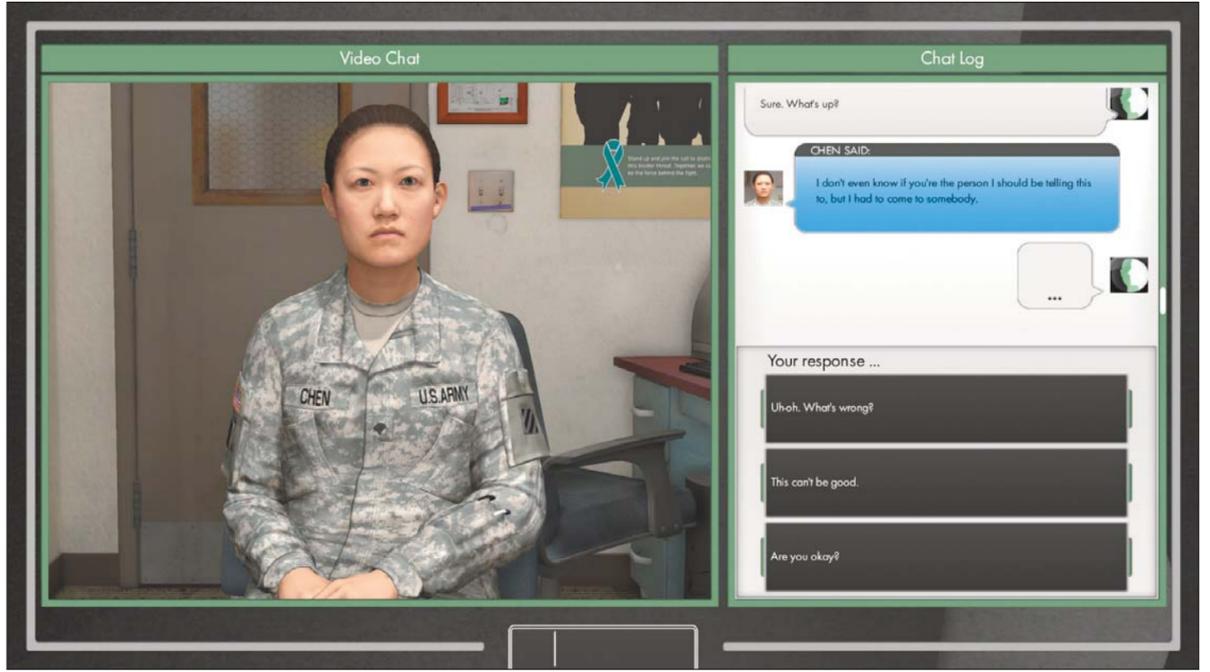
The collaboration between the Army and ICT addresses the needs of current and future Soldiers by enhancing the effectiveness of the immersive training environment through the use of realistic avatars, virtual humans and intelligent agent technologies, she said.

For ICT, an Army-sponsored university affiliated research center, the study builds on a body of research in creating virtual humans and related technologies that are focused on expanding the ways Soldiers can interact with computers, optimizing performance in the human dimension, and providing low-overhead, easily accessible and higher-fidelity training.

The mission of the Los Angeles-based institute is to conduct basic and applied research and create advanced immersive experiences that leverage research technologies and the art of entertainment and storytelling to simulate the human experience to benefit learning, education, health, human performance and knowledge.

Toward that goal, much effort focuses on how to build computers – virtual humans and also robots – that can interact with people in meaningful ways.

“Our scientists are leaders in the fields of artificial intelligence, graphics, virtual reality and computer and story-based learning and what is unique about our institute is that they bring their disparate expertise together to find new ways to solve problems,” said Ran-



In the Army's Emergent Leader Immersive Training Environment, or ELITE, Soldiers hone their basic counseling skills through practice with virtual humans like virtual Staff Sgt. Jessica Chen.

dall W. Hill Jr., ICT executive director. “Being managed by ARL also provides great opportunities for collaboration and for aligning our research priorities with Army needs.”

Virtual humans

“By developing tools and technologies for man and machine to converse with and understand one another, ICT researchers, in collaboration with the Army Research Lab and many groups throughout the Army and DOD, are providing ways to better communicate.”

John Hart
ICT Program Manager

ICT’s interactive virtual humans serve as mentors, role players, screeners and more. Some of these autonomous intelligent agents are designed to help develop leadership skills or to help prevent suicide, sexual assault and harassment.

Researchers are advancing techniques and technologies for allowing them to speak, understand, move, appear and act in ever more believable ways. Their work in these areas has led to virtual human research efforts that inform fields beyond virtual humans, including robotics.

Studies of emotion and rapport are leading to computational systems that communicate more effectively. Ellie, one of ICT’s most advanced virtual humans, can read and react to human emotion by sensing smiles, frowns, gaze shifts and other non-verbal behaviors, as well as analyz-

ing the content of the speech. She can engage in dialogue, deciding when to prompt for more information, or give empathic feedback to a user response. Ellie has interviewed more than 600 people as part of ICT’s SimSensei project, a DARPA-funded effort to help identify people with depression and PTSD.

It turns out Ellie is good at her job. A recent study suggests people who spoke to Ellie were willing to reveal more to her than to a real person.

“Our group has been working since 2000 on studying human dialogue, developing computational models of dialogue, building dialogue systems to interact with people and building dialogue components of integrated virtual humans,” said David Traum, director of the ICT Natural Language and Dialogue Group. “Our goal is to create computational models of purposeful communication between individuals, and it is gratifying that our basic research has led to a variety of Army applications.”

Real savings

ICT virtual characters and supporting architecture contributed to the Army’s Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Tactical Proficiency Trainer. Within the Program Executive Office Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation, known as PEO STRI, a Project Manager Constructive Simulation value engineering proposal estimated that the project saved the Army close to \$35 million by incorporating ICT-based natural language capabilities.

Other applications include the virtual Sgt Star, who answers questions about Army careers for the Army Accessions Command and Radiobots, dialogue systems that could function as radio operators for constructive simulations. This frees up operators from routine communications and data entry.

Current applied projects using ICT natural language research include the

Virtual Standard Patient, or VSP, and Emergent Leader Immersive Training Environment. VSP allows educators to create virtual role players for medical students to engage to practice interview and diagnostic skills.

Interactions

Natural language understanding, or NLU, and dialogue management technology developed at ICT allows the virtual role players to respond appropriately to student queries. An NLU component also enables Soldiers Army-wide to practice interpersonal communication skills with the virtual staff sergeants in ELITE. The trainer can be downloaded from the Mil.Gaming portal and is in use at the U.S. Military Academy, ROTC, the Basic Officers’ Leader Course and the Warrior Leader Course.

In their collaboration looking into developing a possible human-robot dialogue, ICT researchers, along with their ARL collaborators, are exploring more than whether they can enable robots to function better in uncertain conditions, they are expanding the ways Soldiers will interact with robotic team members, autonomous vehicles, training and simulations.

“By developing tools and technologies for man and machine to converse with and understand one another, ICT researchers, in collaboration with the Army Research Lab and many groups throughout the Army and DOD, are providing ways to better communicate, be it personal information that can lead to mental health support, or planning information for better situational awareness,” said John Hart, ICT program manager at ARL-HRED’s Simulation and Training Technology Center.

“Their work in human-computer interaction is also paving the way for what will be possible in the future.” Now that is something to talk about.

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

SUMMER JOBS AT THE APG YOUTH CENTERS

SPEND THE SUMMER WORKING WITH CHILDREN!



Summer Camp positions are available at the APG Youth Centers (Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of APG). The APG Youth Services Program is looking for Child and Youth Program Assistants to work with children at the Summer Camp programs. You will need to be available for training starting June 1, 2015. Hours of work include days, evenings, nights, weekends and some holidays - work schedules may vary due to the program offered. Salary is \$12.15 to \$14.89 per hour.

To apply for these positions, please visit <https://www.USAJOBSS.gov> or stop by the Non-Appropriated Fund Human Resource Office (NAF-HRO) to complete an application packet. For information and directions, please contact us at 410-278-5126/0133/8992/8994.

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Army looks at credentialing Soldiers for jobs

Story and photo by
LISA FERDINANDO
Army News Service

While the Army does a great job of training Soldiers for the battlefield, it needs to do a better job of getting members credentialed for the civilian marketplace, Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spitler said.

There are "great opportunities" for the Army in this area, said Spitler, deputy chief of staff, Army Training and Doctrine Command, also known as TRADOC.

Spitler, a keynote speaker at the American Legion National Credentialing Summit in Washington, D.C., April 28, said it is a large-scale effort for his command since 500,000 people go through TRADOC schools each year.

The Army trains its members to engage in the complex world, where the next battle is "unknown and unknowable," he said. "We're not quite sure what we're going to see when we go into that next battle."

Under such circumstances, the Army requires a highly-trained force and depends on Soldiers to be able to think innovatively and be able to survive and thrive in chaos, Spitler said.

"That means in all of the training that the young Soldier receives when he comes in at the beginning of that pipeline, until he gets pushed out at retirement or anytime in between there, he is learning how to operate in chaos," he said.

That benefits Soldiers far beyond the battlefield, he said.

"We're training them how to survive and win in any environment that they're engaged in, which also includes the civilian marketplace," he said.

Soldier for Life

The Army needs to make sure Soldiers have the best skills that benefit the Army, he said. But it is also important that Soldiers can get credentialed and transfer those skills to the civilian marketplace once they leave the force, he added.

"Even after 35 years of being in the military, if this is my last year, which I hope it's not, I have to get another job," Spitler said, adding, "people are living and working a lot longer."

Soldiers embody the values taught to them in the military, he said, making them great employees in the civilian world.

The Army's Soldier for Life pro-

Maj. Gen. Rex A. Spitler, deputy chief of staff, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, speaks during the American Legion's National Credentialing Summit on the importance of getting Soldiers credentialed in skills for the civilian workforce in Washington, D.C., April 28.



gram is an excellent example of showcasing how Soldiers serve their whole lives - from when they enter the Army, through when they re-enter the civilian world and are productive members of their community.

"The work that we are doing here is not just limited to that 18-year-old, who is joining the military looking for a skill - that is also applicable to the 50-year-old, who is transitioning out of the military," he said.

It is important for the Army to make sure the message of credentialing, education and opportunities gets out in an understandable fashion, he said. "We have some work to do, especially associated with credentialing," he said.

Helping readiness

Credentialing and readiness go hand-in-hand, said Col. Reed Hudgins, TRADOC's director of credentialing, certification and licensing.

That hand-in-hand walk begins when Soldiers enter the Army, and it continues their entire career, Hudgins told a panel discussion.

"It's a lifelong process - a life-long process that speaks to readiness for us

inside the military," he said.

Credentialing saves money since the training or certification could be low or no-cost to the Army, maintains a professionalized force with industry's best practices, and keeps members interested and challenged, he said.

Since industry's best practices make up credentialing, the skills are in demand, fresh, and viable, he noted.

Credentialing is not just for the active Army, he said. "It's applicable to the total force; without the National Guard, without the Reserve, we can't do what it is we do," he said.

American Legion conference

The American Legion conference brought together veterans, government officials and members of all the services for a two-day event that began April 28.

The conference highlighted the importance of creating a skilled workforce that not only strengthens the military in these challenging times, but also helps the military member, said Steve Gonzalez, assistant director, veterans employment and education division at the American Legion.

The two-day meeting aimed to reas-

sess what is needed to be the "21st-century military force we need," while also considering the military drawdown and transition of those who served the nation, Gonzalez said.

Those in the military and their Families should find out now what opportunities for credentialing are available to them, so they can make the greatest use of the education, training, and opportunities, to benefit them now and down the road, he said.

Getting the message out

One of the challenges, Spitler said, is to ensure a discussion occurs not only at the individual level through word of mouth, but also from an institutional standpoint so Soldiers are aware of the opportunities the day they join.

He used an example from his experience at flight school in 1981. He said not much has changed since then when he heard through word of mouth and paid out of his own pocket to be credentialed through the Federal Aviation Administration.

"I think we have an opportunity here to change that," he said.

Army Training Network no longer requires CAC

Story and photo by **MIKE CASEY**
Combined Arms Center - Training

Soldiers can now use smart phones and computer tablets to access the Army's primary website for training information.

Previously, they needed a computer with a Common Access Card, or CAC, to find resources on the Army Training Network, or ATN. The Army recently began allowing users to access ATN with a username and password.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno directed the implementation of username/password access to the Army's single point of entry for all things training - the Army Training Network - to ensure widest access to authoritative training information.

"This is a big step forward for the Army. As we create more apps and websites for training and training management, we must include the Soldier and unit-level training managers at the operational point of need," said Col. Thomas

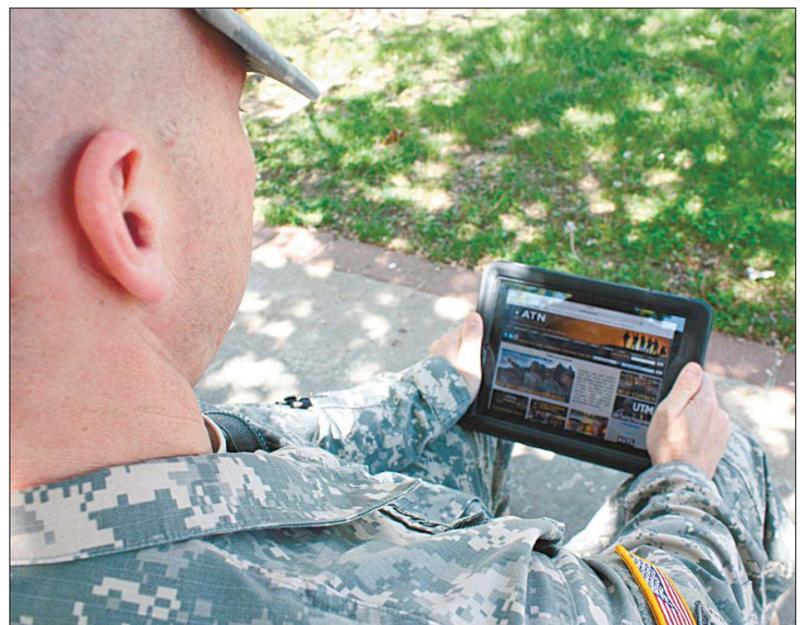
J. Trossen, director of the Training Management Directorate, or TMD. TMD is leading the change at ATN.

All users of ATN with a CAC have the option from the ATN landing page to sign up for a username and password through the Defense Manpower Data Center. With their username and password, they can log on to ATN with any device that has an Internet connection.

Charlie Ostrand, technical branch chief for the Army Training Management System, said that users originally needed a CAC card for security reasons even though the information on ATN is unclassified.

Nevertheless, TMD teams needed to make some changes to ATN. They segregated information that is For Official Use Only, or FOUO, which is only available to CAC card users, Ostrand said.

"Some 93 percent of the information on ATN will be accessible with an Internet connection, username and



Maj. David Vodarick peruses the Army Training Network on his computer tablet. Now Soldiers can use smart phones and computer tablets to access the network, the Army's primary website for training information. Vodarick is assigned to the Training Management Directorate on Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

password," he said. "Units in the field can have online access, and commanders will not have to carry stacks of training documents."

ATN provides access to a number of training resources such as Unit Training Management, NCO Corner, Combined Arms Training Strategies, the Digital Training Management System (CAC users only) and leader development materials.

In addition, the site has links to videos to help with conducting training meetings, event rehearsals, after-action reviews and other topics. ATN's search feature allows commanders to find the information they need to develop versatile units and innovative leaders.

TMD is a subordinate organization of the Combined Arms Center-Training. CAC-T manages Army training support and training development programs.

Some 93 percent of the information on ATN will be accessible with an Internet connection, user name and password. Units in the field can have online access, and commanders will not have to carry stacks of training documents.

Col. Thomas J. Trossen
Director of the Training Management Directorate

See Something

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

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

Installation Watch Card

Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.

Do: Observe and Report

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

Do Not

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

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police.

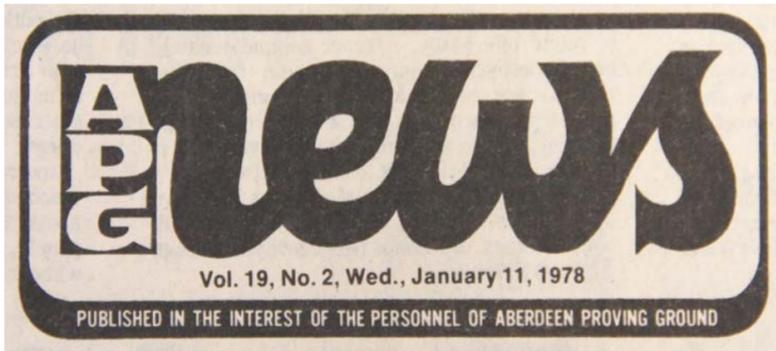
APG North 410-306-2222

APG South 410-436-2222

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

Your call may save lives!

THIS WEEK IN APG HISTORY

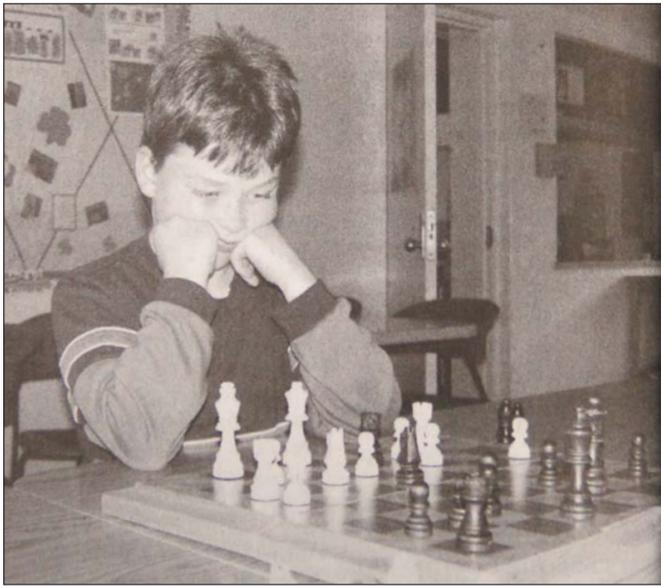


Take a look back in time as the APG News explores what made the headlines around APG during this week 10, 25 and 50 years ago. This week's APG News masthead is from 1978.

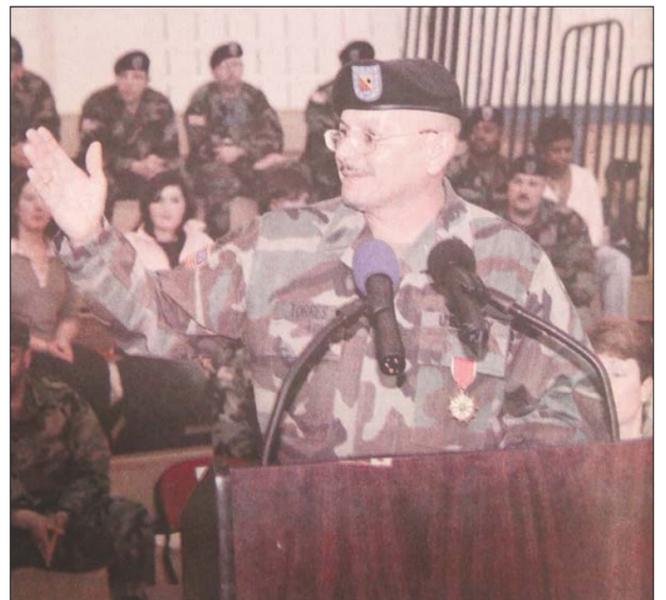
By YVONNE JOHNSON, APG News

2015
2010
2000
1990
1980
1970
1960
1950

10 Years Ago: May 5, 2005



(Left) Alex White, 9, thinks his way through a match during an APG Child and Youth Services chess tournament.

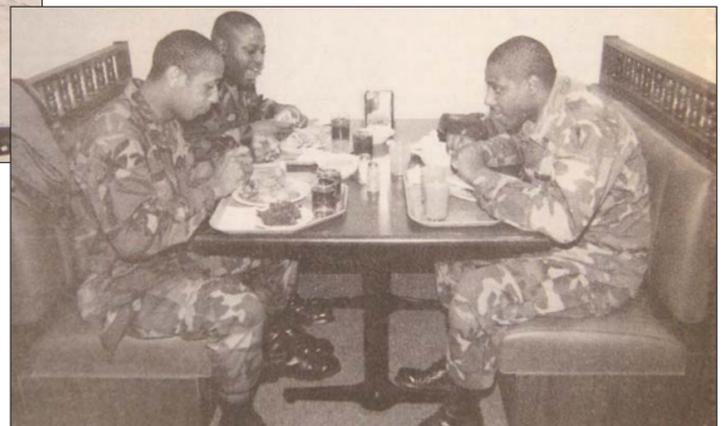


(Right) Command Sgt. Maj. Manuel Torres of the 61st Ordnance Brigade delivers a farewell speech during a retirement ceremony celebrating his 30 years of service.

25 Years Ago: May 2, 1990



(Left) Army spouse Sandra Leatherman rides an M113 Bradley Fighting Vehicle during the Ordnance Center and School's annual Spouse's Tour.



(Right) From left, Sgts. Douglas Clayton, Gregory Williams and Jimmy Shields from the Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course enjoy lunch in the new dining facility in Bldg. 4503.

50 Years Ago: May 6, 1965



(Left) From left, Francis G. Miller Jr., of the Federal Services Joint Crusade, accepts a \$29,544 check from Post Commander Col. Elmer W. Grubbs and William S. Lennon, chairman of the APG campaign.



(Right) Finance and Accounting Secretary Rosalie Mergler advertises an upcoming Armed Forces Day celebration at APG.

Update TSP address in myPay

By **KISHA A. TAYLOR**

Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board

Think about it: How many times has your address changed since you've started contributing to the TSP? If you're like many of your fellow military members, you've probably PCS'd more than a few times.

With all of the chaos that comes with relocating, changing the mailing address associated with your TSP account may not be at the top of your list. However, it is important that you update the TSP section of your myPay account each time your address changes so that you will continue to receive correspondence from the TSP.

You should verify that the TSP has your current address by calling the TSP ThriftLine (1-877-968-3778) or by checking your statements on the My Account section of the TSP web-

site tsp.gov. Be sure to check information such as the house or unit number and the spellings of the street and city names. These simple steps will reduce errors and save you time and frustration. If the information we have on file is invalid or old, you risk not being able to access your account.

Let's say you're about to deploy and you realize you've forgotten the password to your TSP account.* You request a new one with the hope that it will reach you before you leave. The TSP sends your replacement password to the address on record—the old address of your first duty station—and you deploy without having



received it. Unfortunately, this could make it extremely difficult to move money or even view your account while you're away.

Want to avoid these risks and prevent missing out on important TSP communications? Here's how to update your TSP address:

1. While you are active, going to the TSP section of myPay is the quickest and easiest way to update your TSP mailing address. You should know that the "Correspondence Address" section of myPay will NOT update your information with the TSP. You MUST go to the TSP section of myPay in order to

change your TSP address.

2. On the other hand, if you are separated from service, you can view and change your address by logging into the My Account section of the TSP website or complete and print a Form TSP-9, Change in Address for Separated Participant, to submit by mail or fax.

Whether you relocate down the block, across the country, or to another part of the world, we'd like to keep in touch. Although it may seem minor, maintaining a current address is key to staying connected to your TSP retirement savings account.

Keep in mind, If you forget your Web password, you can request a new one at tsp.gov; it will be mailed to you. Or, you may call 1-877-968-3778, choose option 3 to speak to a Participant Service Representative, and request that your password be reset.

McHugh scales up civilian workforce transformation

By **DAVID VERGUN**

Army News Service

A new roadmap for Army civilian professional growth has been announced by Army Secretary John M. McHugh - and more changes are coming over the next year or so.

"Our Army demands that civilian employees commit to a lifetime of professional and personal growth," said McHugh, in a memo April 10, introducing Army Directive 2015-24.

"I hold each Army civilian accountable for mapping and navigating a progressive program of self-development," McHugh wrote. He added that commanders, supervisors and managers have a shared responsibility in that endeavor.

The changes described in the directive affect a large portion of the 298,000 Army civilians, who make up about 22 percent of the total force. Future changes will impact the remainder of the civilian workforce.

The full title of 2015-24 is "Department of the Army Senior Enterprise Talent Management Program and Enterprise Talent Management Program," or SETM and ETM respectively.

Explaining some of those changes was Gwendolyn R. DeFilippi, deputy assistant secretary of the Army - Civilian Personnel, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

SETM

SETM, a leader development program for GS-14s and 15s, was launched a few years ago, DeFilippi said. It originally offered civilians a chance to increase their knowledge through a residency at the Army War College, with a follow-on reassignment to broaden their experiences.

Now, that program has been expanded with a senior fellow program, where civilians can become part of a "think tank" for a year. Another program enhancement, she said, is participants can be detailed into a senior executive service-level position for up to a year to gain broader experience and see what it is like leading at that level.

There is also a SETM-TDY module, which gives selectees a six-month career-broadening assignment where they gain valuable experience in another organization before returning to their unit. SETM modules present huge incentives for leaders to further develop in their current jobs or move on to larger enterprise positions, DeFilippi said.

Those who are interested need to immediately begin the application process, which closes May 15. To apply, go to the SETM automated website. Those who are selected will begin the program in 2016.

ETM

The ETM program is new - this is its first year. It is designed for GS-12s and 13s, with most of the openings at the 13 level, she said. If GS-12s have the right level of civilian education system, or CES, and a bachelor's degree, they can apply for two of the modules while GS-13s can apply for all four modules.

Those who are accepted to the program can be assigned to a 90-day project that requires some tough problem-solving skills, she said. Accomplishing this will enhance one's resume and boost the chance to be selected for a future job.

Secondly, up to 20 participants will get the opportunity to attend a 10-month Command and General Staff College residency on Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In the coming years, the number eligible will increase to 90, she said.

Thirdly, participants will get the chance to shadow a Senior Executive Service, or SES, or GS-15 at their instal-



Photo by Rodney E. Speed
Thomas Greco, right, a Senior Executive Service, or SES, officer with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, administers the oath of office to six newly-hired Army civilians at the civilian personnel office on Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, Sept. 8, 2014. As part of the Army's acculturation pilot, new civilian hires are administered the oath of office by a SES or general officer.

lation or on a temporary-duty assignment, if necessary. When we say shadowing, we mean working alongside the executive and getting in on the nuts and bolts of decision-making techniques.

Finally, there's a 10-week structured experiential leader development module that is spread out over 10-months, which allows Army civilians to participate in an existing DOD program. Called the Executive Leadership Development Program, or ELDP, it allows civilian employees to gain a greater understanding of the DOD mission, which in turn develops a cadre of future leaders with joint and interagency perspectives and skills.

The deadline for applying for this program is also May 15 and applications can be made using the SETM Automated website.

EEL

Still in development is the Emerging Enterprise Leader initiative, or EEL, a program for GS-11s and 12s, DeFilippi said.

EEL components will include a local developmental assignment, a group project and problem-solving challenge at one's installation, connecting with a mentor and self-study opportunities, she said. The goals are to broaden participants' perspectives and build leadership competencies, but at a more localized level.

Acculturation

Traditionally, new civilian hires are thrust into the workforce from day one without ever getting exposed to the Army culture and way of doing things, DeFilippi said. Soldiers get all of that in their initial military training.

The Army is conducting pilots at 18 locations, where new hires are presented with a more-informative introduction into Army life, she said.

On the first day, instead of a human resources person administering the oath of office, an SES, or general officer will do that.

Then, the civilians are told what the Army profession means and their part in it, she said. They are also introduced to the organizational structure.

Of course, the entire professionalization process cannot occur in the space of just one day, so it is spread out throughout the first year, she said.

Supervisors are an important part of the acculturation plan, she said. They are responsible for sitting down with their new employees and letting them know what the expectations are performance-wise. This occurs during the first week.

Then, supervisors will provide formal feedback at the six-month point and ensure performance appraisals are completed on time, she said. The importance is getting the personnel fully engaged with their supervisor and to understand the mission.

DeFilippi said the acculturation program will likely launch Army-wide in fiscal year 2016.

She said that although it is still a pilot, many federal agencies have adopted much of the Army materials. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has already adopted the entire program and NASA has adopted parts of it for their new hires.

ACT

In 2011, all Army civilians were mapped to one of 31 career programs. The Army Career Tracker, or ACT, allows civilians to track their progress in their respective career program.

Each of those 31 career programs has a leadership chain and professional staff that includes career program managers, she said. It also provides supervisors access to career maps for their careerist to help with coaching and mentoring.

ACT is a web-based leader development tool that allows users to search through and select education and training

opportunities, monitor their career development, get personalized advice from their leaders about which opportunities may be the most helpful and complete an Individual Development Plan, she said.

Fortunately, more than half of the civilian workforce uses ACT, DeFilippi said. The challenge is to get leaders on board to realize the value and benefit of using ACT to develop their careerists, she said, and to also get the other civilians that are not yet using ACT to realize how valuable it is for planning their careers.

Intern program

The Army is "refocusing" the intern program by matching job opportunities to what the Army's needs are anticipated to be in the future, DeFilippi said.

For example, it is anticipated that more openings will need to be filled in the science, technology, engineering and cyber specialties so placement will be increased in those areas relative to other areas, she said, with more decision-making authority made at the Army headquarters level vice at the installation level.

Civilian voices heard

DeFilippi said all of the aforementioned program changes came about with the input of Army civilians and leaders. "These programs and a few more that we are working on are the result of focus groups, questionnaires, the 2013 and 2014 FEVS [Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey] results and feedback from Army leaders and Army civilians to build a more professional foundation for the Army civilian corps."

The Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey and other forms of feedback have shown that Army civilians want opportunities to grow developmentally throughout their careers, she said.

As the Army civilian workforce continues to draw down, those who are left will have even greater responsibilities in preparing Soldiers to fight our nation's wars, she said.

Army needs dovetail with civilians' desire to grow, so it makes perfect sense to offer those opportunities, she said.

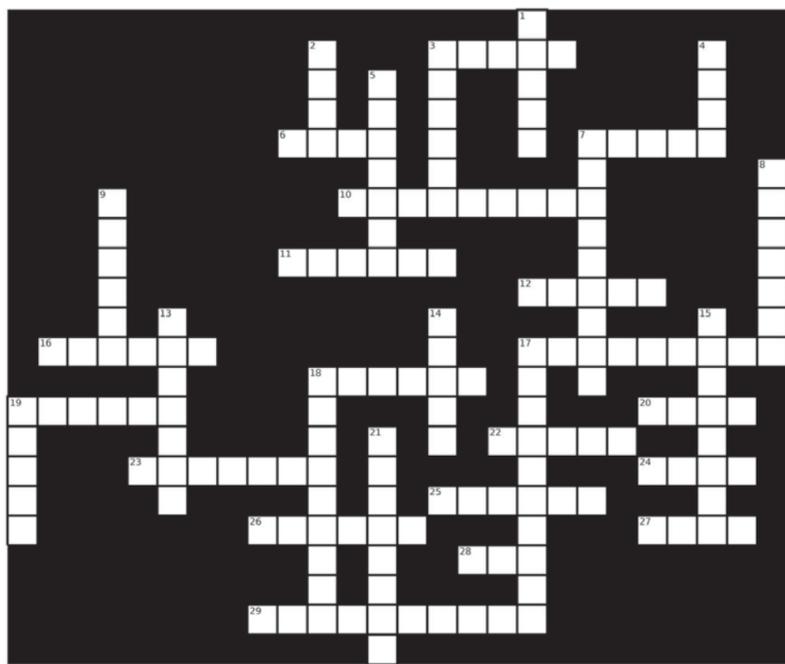
DeFilippi said that civilians want to know that what they are doing in making a positive impact on the Army. "We want to make that happen," she said. "We want Army civilians to know their voices have been heard and workforce engagement, along with civilian hiring, career management, training, development and sustainment are a priority for all of us."

"We want Army civilians to know their voices have been heard and workforce engagement, along with civilian hiring, career management, training, development and sustainment are a priority for all of us."

Gwendolyn R. DeFilippi

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army - Civilian Personnel, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs

The APG Crossword



By **RACHEL PONDER**, APG News

Mother's Day is this Sunday, May 10. Here's a challenging motherhood-themed crossword for the occasion.

Across

- 3. In this Asian country, Mother's Day is called "Haha No Hi." Haha is an affectionate term for mother.
- 6. Mother to Kate Hudson, she first starred in the television comedy "Laugh-In."
- 7. On the television show "The Simpsons," she is the mother of Bart, Lisa and Maggie.
- 10. This former First Lady used Mother's Day as an occasion to raise money for charity.
- 11. A traditional Mother's Day meal featuring breakfast and lunch items.
- 12. Hindus in India celebrate the goddess _____ or Divine Mother during a 10-day festival in October.

- 16. This Tony award-winning stage actress is the mother of actress Gwyneth Paltrow and director Jake Paltrow.
- 17. She was one of Hollywood's original blonde bombshells. Her daughter is actress Mariska Hargitay.
- 18. Celebrations of motherhood can be traced back to ancient Greeks and Romans who held festivals in honor of mother goddesses Rhea and _____.
- 19. Military _____ Appreciation Day is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day in the U.S.
- 20. This actress starred with her two daughters in the 2012 movie, "This is 40."
- 22. The American comed-

- an who said, "If evolution really works, how come mothers only have two hands?"
- 23. 1908, the first official U.S. Mother's Day celebration was held in this West Virginia town.
- 24. In Ethiopia, Mother's Day is celebrated during this season.
- 25. Mother's Day in Egypt and several other Arab countries falls on the first day of this season.
- 26. German word for mother.
- 27. In 2001, this former First Lady became the second woman in American history to become both the wife and mother of a U.S. president.
- 28. She is called "the mother of all living."
- 29. This clothing designer is the mother of CNN's Anderson Cooper.

- actress is the mother of Tony award-winner Liza Minnelli.
- 9. This U.S. president signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday in 1914.
- 13. This accessory is a common Mother's Day gift.
- 14. Mother's day is the busiest day of the year for telephone _____.
- 15. This "Singin' in the Rain" actress is the mother of Carrie Fisher.
- 17. In this 2014 movie, Angelina Jolie shared the big screen with her daughter Vivienne Jolie-Pitt.
- 18. The most common flower for Mother's Day, pink and red for mothers who are alive and white for those who have passed away.
- 19. In 1934, the United States Postal Service issued this item to celebrate Mother's Day.
- 21. In Spain, Mother's Day is celebrated during this month. Spaniards pay tribute not only to their own mothers on this day, but also to the Virgin Mary.

Down

- 1. Spanish word for mother.
- 2. A common term for mother in Russia.
- 3. In 1905, she began a campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday. She later denounced the commercialization of the holiday.
- 4. This pacifist, suffragette and author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," first suggested Mother's Day in the United States in 1872. She wanted women to join together on this day to advocate for peace.
- 5. This U.S. president said, "All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."
- 7. In the UK, Mother's Day is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent, and is called _____ Sunday.
- 8. This "Wizard of Oz"

Solution to the April 30 puzzle



WORD OF THE WEEK

Erstwhile

Pronounced: *urst-hwahyl*
Part of Speech: *Adjective*

Definition:

Of an earlier time; former

Use:

- She will accept advice from anyone except from her erstwhile friend.
- Before becoming successful, these erstwhile college students shared an apartment.
- One by one, his erstwhile supporters have begun to oppose him.
- Even erstwhile pirates often buy music.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

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

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

JCS

Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) is a body of senior uniformed leaders in the Department of Defense who advise the Secretary of Defense, the Homeland Security Council, the National Security Council and the President of the United States on military matters. The JCS consists of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the principal military adviser to the President, Secretary of Defense and the National Security Council (NSC), however, all JCS members are by law military advisers, and they may respond to a request or voluntarily submit, through the Chairman, advice or opinions to the President, the Secretary of Defense, or NSC.

The composition of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is defined by statute and consists of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (VCJCS), and the Military Service Chiefs from the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Marine Corps, and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, all appointed by the President following Senate confirmation. Each of the individual Military Service Chiefs, outside of their Joint Chiefs of Staff obligations, works directly for the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, i.e., Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force.



By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
 Source(s): www.jcs.mil; www.wikipedia.org



APG CATCH-A-POACHER PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Armed Forces Week kicks off Saturday

Continued from Page 1

Col. Nelson Laughton, chair of the APG Retiree Council.

On Monday, May 11, Ruggles Golf Course will host the Armed Forces Day golf tournament for the APG community. Teams of four will compete against each other for the top prize, a U.S. Army logo golf bag.

Rick Bond, golf program manager, said registration for the tournament is still available, and the cost is \$70 dollars. He encourages all golfers to come out and play.

"The golf course is in tremendous shape," Bond said.

A pig roast dinner and open bar at Sutherland Grille will follow the tournament. For more information or to register, contact Bond at 410-278-4794, or richard.j.bond10.naf@mail.mil.

An All APG Soldiers Armed Forces Run is set for May 12, starting 6:15 a.m. at Shine Sports Field. Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford and Command Sgt. Maj. William G. Bruns will lead the unit formation of Soldiers from APG units. Civilians who can run a nine-minute-mile pace for the 3K are encouraged to join the procession. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Scalies at 410-861-7069, or joseph.m.scalies.mil@mail.mil.

Several events are planned for

The legacy of Armed Forces Day began when President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank military members for their patriotic service in support of the nation. In 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard Days.

Wednesday, May 13, all of which are free and open to the public.

A Bike to Work Day rally is set for 7 to 9 a.m. at APG North (Aberdeen), with the ride beginning at Erie and Raritan streets, adjacent to the athletic center. The rally will include a welcome from local officials and dignitaries, cyclist parade routes, vendor exhibits, prize drawings, free bicycle inspections from a local bicycle shop, and light refreshments.

For more information about the rally, contact Alan Doran, Harford Commute Smart Rideshare coordinator at 410-612-1620, or asdoran@harfordcountymd.gov or rideshare@harfordcountymd.gov. To register for the event, visit www.Bike-2WorkCentralMD.com.

Also on May 13, the APG North recreation center, Bldg. 3326, will host armed forces displays from noon to 4p.m. The event will include military vehicle, tactical, equipment, and weapons displays, as well as information tables from APG organizations including Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Army Wellness Center, Army Substance Abuse Program. Attendees can peruse the displays while enjoying refreshments and live music.

That same day, Our Community Salutes, a ceremony to formally recognize young men and women who have recently joined the armed forces will be held in the recreation center 3 p.m.

"These are civilians who have answered the call to serve," said Capt.

Nicholas Milano, Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters company commander. Milano said that several of the 60 male and female recruits will graduate high school this summer and join the Army.

Crawford and Bruns will recognize each recruit on stage, and cake and refreshments will follow the ceremony.

Armed Forces Week concludes May 14 with the Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Appreciation Luncheon at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood, Maryland. For more information about the luncheon or to register, contact Chamber of Commerce at 410-838-2020.

The legacy of Armed Forces Day began when President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank military members for their patriotic service in support of the nation. In 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard Days. The single day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense.

For more information about upcoming Armed Forces Week events, contact Milano at 410-278-3000, or nicholas.c.milano.mil@mail.mil.

Motorcycle rules apply to all riders on post

Continued from Page 1

permitted.

▪ Shatter resistant goggles, wrap-around glasses or full face shield properly attached to helmet

Following policy

The Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) works closely with the Installation Safety Office to assure that all gate guards and other safety and emergency personnel recognize and enforce the motorcycle policy appropriately. Any rider or passenger who is found to be in violation of the motorcycle policy will be denied entrance onto the installation.

Terry Guest, an occupational and safety health specialist with the Directorate of Public Works (DPW), said that civilian motorcycle riders are not required to wear the PPE listed above when off-post.

"You don't have to have long pants on, you don't have to have gloves on. You can ride like that all day long on the streets of Aberdeen, but when you come on post, you've got to have the proper PPE," Guest said.

Military personnel, however, must follow all Army motorcycle policies at all times.

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Minimum PPE consists of:

- Helmet, properly fastened under the chin.
- Long-sleeved shirt and/or jacket.
- Long trousers such as blue jeans or leather pants.
- Full finger gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle.
- Sturdy, over-the-ankle footwear, such as hiking or riding boots. Tennis shoes, and any Footwear that does not cover the ankle, are not permitted.
- Shatter resistant goggles, wraparound glasses or full face shield properly attached to helmet.

Safety recommendations

A new motorcycle policy was issued by APG in February 2015. According to the new policy, fluorescent colors and retro reflective gear are now recommended, but not mandatory.

"So it's up to the rider if he [or she] wants to have reflective gear on," Guest said. He cautioned that although reflective gear is not mandatory, wearing it is still a good idea, especially at night or during low visibility conditions.

Riders and passengers are also strongly encouraged to wear shirts, jackets and pants constructed of abrasion resistant

material, such as leather, Kevlar or Cordura, and containing impact absorbing padding.

Guest said that wearing all required and recommended PPE offers riders the most protection in the event of an accident.

"If you go down, you'll probably still get skinned up, but it (PPE) will lessen the damage," Guest said.

Training

Motorcycle training is only required for military personnel, not civilians. All Soldiers must complete a Basic Rider Course within 30 days of purchas-

ing a motorcycle; with other trainings to follow.

The Military Sports-bike Rider Course (MSRC) is specifically designed for "Sport-touring and Sport Bikes," and the training is conducted at Fort Meade. The Experienced Rider Course (ERC)/BRC2, MSRC and the Basic Rider Course are free to active-duty, Guard and Reserve personnel and can be accessed at https://imc.army.mil/airs/usg_disclaimer.aspx. All sustainment training for the ERC and MSRC must be completed by service member motorcycle operators every five years in accordance with AR 385-10.

Civilians, retirees, family members and contractors must be properly licensed to operate a motorcycle on post but are not required to receive sponsored training or provide proof of training for entry onto the installation.

Whether you own a roadster, cruiser or sport bike, following the Army's motorcycle policy will help keep everyone safe on the installation this summer.

For more information about the APG motorcycle policy, contact H. Mike Allen, Safety and Occupational Health Specialist, at 410-306-1081, or horace.m.allen.civ@mail.mil.

Did You Know?

The Medal of Honor was conferred upon 21 members of the 100th Infantry Battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team; the nation's only Japanese-American formation during World War II.

After the Empire of Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese-Americans and those of Japanese descent, known as Nisei - the second generation of Japanese-born immigrants to a new country - faced prejudice at home. Those in uniform had their weapons taken from them or were discharged, while all Japanese-Americans on the west coast were placed in internment camps. Most only desired the chance to prove their loyalty to the United States.

In June 1942, during the Battle of Midway, 1,432 Nisei of the Hawaii National Guard had their weapons taken away and were shipped to the mainland without the chance to say goodbye to their loved ones. Upon their arrival at the Port of Oakland, California, they were designated the 100th Infantry Battalion.

After training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi, in August, the battalion deployed by train to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey and then to the Mediterranean on Aug. 20.

The 100th trained in North Africa in Sept. 1943 before sailing for Naples, Italy. It entered combat against Axis forces Sept. 29, 1943 near Salerno, Italy where it took an important rail center and drove German forces north. The battalion earned the nickname "The Purple Heart Battalion" in January 1944 at Monte Cassino where its Soldiers had to descend into the Rapido River Valley, traverse two miles of open fields filled with landmines, mud, and knee-deep cold water, cross a swift-moving river and barbed wire, and climb steep, rocky slopes, to the 1,500-foot peak of Monte Cassino.

From there they had to ascend still higher to a four-story fortress, with 10-foot-thick stone walls and overtake the St. Benedictine Monastery. While companies A and C reached the wall and held their ground, B Company came under intense fire and only 14 of 187 men reached the wall.

In February, the 100th led an assault on Castle Hill. They held the hill for four days under heavy fire from machine guns and tanks but had to pull back. During the second assault, only five of 40 Soldiers in one platoon survived. Pulled back once again to rest and reorganize the 100th was replenished with troops from the 442nd, another Nisei unit.

Cassino didn't fall until May 17. More than 50,000 Allied soldiers were killed and nearly 800 were wounded in the battle. The 100th Infantry Battalion numbered less than 500 when the battle ended.

The battalion was deployed to the Anzio beachhead March 26, 1944. After



Courtesy photo

This monument to the men of the 100th Infantry Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team stands in the Rohwer Memorial Cemetery at the site of the former Japanese-American internment camp in Arkansas.

an extended stalemate the Allies went on the offensive May 23. The 100th distinguished itself by capturing two German Soldiers to gain more information about enemy positions, and then wiped out the last German stronghold outside Rome so that "it was practically a walk into the city."

On June 11, the 100th was attached to newly-arrived 442nd Regimental Combat Team, giving the all-Nisei fighting unit the name 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Recognition

On Oct. 5, 2010, the Congressional Gold Medal was awarded to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion, as well as to the 6,000 Japanese Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service during the war.

Released from active status and delegated to reserve status, the Army Reserve unit was re-designated the 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment, Oct. 1, 2005. It is the only combat arms unit in the United States Army Reserve.

The 1951 film "Go For Broke!" starring Van Johnson, dramatizes the lives and wartime experiences of the most decorated unit in U.S. military history made of Japanese-American soldiers.

The Rohwer Memorial Cemetery, the site of the Japanese-American internment camp in Arkansas, features a monument to the Men of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Yvonne Johnson, APG News

Source(s): www.wikipedia.org; www.history.army.mil

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/>.



Photo by Stacy Smith; illustration by Molly Blossie

CDC CHILDREN ASK CANINE QUESTIONS

APG Directorate of Emergency Services Police Officer Anthony Basi answers questions from children at the APG South (Edgewood) child development center about Military Working Dog Poker April 30. Basi and Poker did several demonstrations for the children, showcasing their partnership and training.

Basi, who works for APG's Police K-9 Division, explained how Poker, a Belgian Malinois, helps keep them safe. APG is home to three working dogs, all of which are extensively trained in narcotics and explosives detection as well as patrol work and controlled aggression.

OSPREYS RETURN FOR NESTING SEASON

(Right) An osprey approaches its nest on a platform atop a telephone pole on APG North (Aberdeen) April 29.

(Far right) An osprey protects its nest on a platform just off the shore of APG South (Edgewood).

Ospreys, identified by their striking brown and white streaked markings, are abundant on APG. Similar to bald eagles, ospreys feed primarily on fish plentiful in the Chesapeake Bay.



Photo by Amanda Rominiacki



Photo by Molly Blossie



MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

APG's most inexplicable but entertaining resident Little Man resembles Princess Leia in honor of May 4, known as Star Wars Day.

A play on "may the force be with you," Star Wars fans across the globe take the opportunity to say "May the 4th be with you," once a year.

Photo by Molly Blossie

