



APG NEWS

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

www.TeamAPG.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2016

Vol. 60, No. 40

inside

FAREWELL

APG bids farewell to three CECOM civilians with 89 years of combined service to the government during the Installation Retirement Ceremony.

Ceremony | A3

FOOD

Former Bel Air restaurant "McShanes" opens its doors on APG in Bldg. 6010, offering Jersey fries and a triple-play combo to hungry APG personnel.

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SERVICE

The AMC Legal Office recognizes community volunteer for 17 years of dedicated service to APG.

Legal | A6



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

David Duran, a Woodlawn High School student in the Vivian Burey Marshall STEM Pilot Initiative, carefully maneuvers a robotic arm to balance an inverted water bottle on top of another bottle during the 4th annual APG STEM Expo, Sept. 28, 2016, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

newsbrief

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 9-15

APG Fire Department

An average of seven people die each day in home fires in the United States. Fire Prevention Week is observed Oct. 9-15 this year, reminding Americans to take the necessary steps to protect themselves and their property. The majority of the general public has misconceptions about smoke alarms - some don't know the last time the batteries were checked while others don't know how old their device is. This lack of knowledge places them at risk for home fires. This year's theme is, "Don't wait, check the date; replace smoke alarms every 10 years." In observance of fire prevention week, the APG fire department will host an open house for the youngest members of the Team APG community. Informative and interactive demonstrations will teach children about fire prevention and how to escape a fire safely. For more information about fire safety or how to prevent home fires, contact the APG Fire Department at 410-306-0501. Additional safety information and printable worksheets for children can be downloaded at www.nfpa.org.

Exploring STEM at APG

Army scientists engage Harford, Cecil, Baltimore County students during STEM Expo

BY MARIA MORALES
Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - More than 300 ninth-grade students from schools in Harford, Cecil and Baltimore counties and Baltimore City Public Schools participated in Aberdeen Proving Ground's 4th annual APG STEM Expo Sept. 28.

The goal of the Expo is to engage, inspire and develop the next generation of scientists and researchers. STEM careers in the Army and many technologies were highlighted in the four-hour event that took place at three installation locations.

"That's our country's future," said Dr. Augustus Way Fountain, senior research scientist for chemistry at Edgewood Chemical Biological

Center, of the gathering of students and educators at the Edgewood Area.

"There will be phenomenal opportunities in STEM careers," he added.

Hands-on activities

Ten installation agencies participated in the See **EXPO**, page 7

Community leaders share information

Community leaders meet for luncheon

BY RACHEL PONDER
APG News

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND Md. - Youth mentoring, community relations, small business development and the upcoming APG centennial were some of the topics of discussion during the quarterly community leader luncheon at the University Center in Aberdeen Sept. 30.

Larry Muzzello, deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, or CECOM, led the meeting with Harford County Executive Barry Glassman.

Muzzello welcomed attendees, calling the

turnout "fantastic."

"We look forward, from an Aberdeen Proving Ground perspective, to really strengthen our partnerships with the community," he said.

Glassman noted that "great things can be achieved by working together."

"We are always, in Harford County, so excited to exchange information and work with our partners on Aberdeen Proving Ground," Glassman said.

More than 40 leaders attended the forum that was coordinated by the garrison public affairs office and hosted by Harford County.

Garrison Community Relations Officer Rick Scavetta said the main purpose of the forum is rapport building. Attendees were encouraged to network before and after the meeting.

"This is Team APG's effort to strengthen relationships with community leaders, to talk

about topics that are important to APG and people in the surrounding areas," Scavetta said.

"This is the third time we've met this year and we will continue to grow the partnerships through these discussions."

AMSAA Mentoring Programs

Rachel Champion, with the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, told attendees about the Aberdeen Middle School mentoring program.

Champion, who has led the program for four years, said that AMSAA leads science, technology, engineering and science, or STEM, activities, on a monthly basis. Students who participate in this voluntary program typically excel in science and math and have an interest in STEM See **LUNCHEON**, page 6

APG remembers POW/MIA: Service members, civilians run 5K



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY STEVE LUSHER, JPEO-CBD

Runners head out on the annual Prisoner of War/Missing in Action 5K Remembrance Run on APG South (Edgewood) Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016.

online

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Facebook, [http://on.fb.me/HzQlow](https://on.fb.me/HzQlow)

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STREET TALK

Pumpkin Spice: Love it or Hate it?

That's a hard one. Sometimes I really like it and sometimes it gets to be too much. I like the pumpkin spice drink, but I don't like my house to smell like pumpkin spice.



Judy Duarte
Family member

Love it, because it brings out the fall.



Kathy Larmer
Family member

Love it. There's something about the taste, something unique about it.



Lt. Col. Joel Gegato
Service member

Actually, I'm pretty neutral. I don't really care that much for it. I love pumpkin pie, but that's it.



Silvia Meranski
Family member

Hate it. The pumpkin spice donuts are nice, but not the drinks. There's chemicals in there, and I just like regular coffee.



Wilfried Adams
Retired military



Authorized wear of ACU sleeves (clockwise from top left): Sleeves rolled camouflage in, sleeves rolled camouflage out, sleeves cuffed under once for field, sleeves cuffed under twice, sleeves cuffed out twice. Of course, sleeves can always be worn down as well (not shown).

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

New guidance on rolling, cuffing sleeves

'Camo in' now acceptable for rolled/cuffed sleeves

U.S. ARMY

Uniform sleeves can now be rolled either with camouflage facing in or out, depending on the preference of commanders in garrison, commanders in the field can now authorize Soldiers to cuff ACU sleeves either with the camouflage facing in or out.

The changes are effective immediately, according to a memorandum signed Tuesday, Sept. 27, by Lt. Gen. James C. McConville, the Army's deputy chief of staff, G-1.

For the past three months, sleeves had to be rolled or cuffed with the camouflage facing out. The new guidance gives commanders more flexibility.

"These changes enhance individual readiness and morale and give greater flexibility to commanders in determining the needs of their Soldiers in the performance of their mission," said Lt. Col. Jerry Pionk, spokesman for the Army G-1.

The original G-1 memorandum authorizing Soldiers to roll ACU sleeves with camo facing out was issued June 28 of this year. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley decided on the uniform change, following requests from Soldiers throughout the force made through Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey. The decision followed a month-long trial with Soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, rolling their ACU sleeves.

Until then, sleeves had not been rolled since the battle dress uniforms or BDUs were phased out almost a decade ago.

The guidance on rolling and cuffing ACU sleeves pertains to those of the universal camouflage pattern, or UCP; operational camouflage pattern, known as OCP; and the Operation Enduring Freedom pattern.

The decision on how to roll or cuff sleeves can be made by company commanders of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve as well as the active component. During a battalion, brigade or higher formation, the most senior commander will decide how the uniform will be worn, according to the guidance.

Sleeves can only be rolled in garrison, and despite whether the camouflage is exposed or rolled inside out, the sleeves must be rolled neatly above the elbow, but no more than three inches above the elbow. Sleeves of the Army aircrew combat uniform, or A2CU, will not be rolled under any circumstances, the guidance states.

During field training or when deployed, commanders may authorize Soldiers to cuff their ACU sleeves one or two times, either inside or out.

The changes are an exception to Department of the Army Pamphlet 670-1, Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, until a new pam is issued.

ASAP drug campaigns set for October

BY YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

With each October comes the push to halt the flow of drugs to the community in the form of the Over-the-Counter/Prescription drug take-back campaign and National Red Ribbon Week.

The Army Substance Abuse Program, known as ASAP, leads both efforts on APG. According to ASAP Prevention Coordinator Cindy Scott, OTC/Rx Drug take-back efforts start Oct. 17. During this week, anyone—military, civilian, contractor, retiree or family member—can drop unneeded or expired OTC/Rx medicines in collection bins at designated times and locations around the installation or 24/7 at the Directorate of Emergency Services police station on APG North (Aberdeen).

Scott said the effort to reduce access to drugs has "become a routine for people."

"People typically call me around this time of year wondering when the campaign is starting," Scott said. "I think we've gotten into the community mindset. People who participate realize we can do something toward keeping our children safe by denying them access to drugs."

She said studies have shown that many drug addictions start when teens acquire drugs through relatives or neighbors who store them in medicine cabinets or leave them otherwise unsecured.

"Thousands of tons of drugs are destroyed every year through this campaign and that significantly lowers the risk," Scott said. She added that ASAP continues to bring families who have lost their children to drug addictions or overdoses on post to tell their stories and work with community resources like the Harford County Office on Drug Control Policy to educate members of the Team APG community.

"Every time we host an outreach event, there's a chance we're going to reach someone and make a difference in their lives," she said.

In addition, plans are still coming together for Red Ribbon Week 2016, Scott said, noting that this year's theme is "YOLO [You Only Live Once]: Be Drug Free."

Scott said ASAP will set up information tables at various locations and will support the Super Hero Run set for Oct. 29. Check the APG News for more information regarding OTC/Rx Drug Take-Back collection sites and times and Red Ribbon Week events. For more information contact Scott at 410-278-4013 or email cynthia.m.scott.civ@mail.mil.

For more information about the campaigns, visit the Drug Enforcement Agency/Department of Justice website at https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/; or <http://redribbon.org/>.

See Something

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

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

DO OBSERVE & REPORT

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

INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

DON'T

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

Report suspicious activity immediately to APG Police!

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

Card created by APG Intel

APG NEWS

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

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Ceremony honors three APG retirees

By LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - Three civilians were recognized for their service to the nation during the Installation Retirement Ceremony at the Ball Conference Center on APG North (Aberdeen), Sept. 29.

Rhonda K. Diaz, director of Civilian Human Resources Agency, presided over the ceremony and presented awards to retirees, Janet L. Nelson, Hugo Bianchi, and Dr. Lawrence R. Valencourt, all of the Communications-Electronics Command, or CECOM.

Diaz praised the retirees whose combined total service amounts to 90 years.

"We are grateful for all your contributions and accomplishments. You will always be remembered for them. I know the Army and especially CECOM will miss all of you," she said.

Janet L. Nelson

Nelson was awarded Department of the Army certificates of appreciation and retirement signed by APG Senior Commander Major Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, CECOM commanding general.

Nelson hails from Middletown, New Jersey, and she began her federal career as a clerk typist in the personnel department at Fort Monmouth in 1979.

In July of 2011, she relocated to APG and continued her career as the Army Working Capital Fund Budget subject matter expert in the Command, Control, Communications, Tactical Directorate.

Nelson has received numerous exceptional performance ratings and letters of appreciation.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, and attained a level three certification in life cycle logistics from the Defense Acquisition University.

Nelson culminated her career as a logistics management specialist with the Integrated Logistics Support Center - Command, Control, Communications Tactical Directorate.

She said that she had a "wonderful" career, and added, "I'd do it all over again."

Nelson is married with two children and plans to spend her time after retirement volunteering at a nursing home, as



Janet Nelson

well as spoiling her first grandson.

Hugo Bianchi

Hugo Bianchi received the DA Superior Civilian Service Medal and DA certificates of retirement and appreciation, signed by Crawford.

Bianchi was born in Newark, New Jersey and attended Rutgers University in 1974 where he received a bachelor's degree in Education.

In 1982, Bianchi then joined the U.S. Army, followed by a position as a health physics technician, which started a career long relationship with the CECOM safety office at Fort Monmouth. He went on to work with the CECOM safety office as a U.S. Army Soldier, an Army National Guard Soldier, a federal contractor, and as a Department of the Army Civilian. He served in the National Guard for more than 24 years.

Bianchi earned an Environmental Protection Agency Certification of the Fort Monmouth Water Analysis Laboratory in New Jersey and New York as well as a



Hugo Bianchi

certification of the CECOM Radiological Engineering Laboratory as a Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment recognized Calibration Laboratory. He was assigned to the CECOM directorate for safety for its entire mission from 1988-2006, and wrote radiation safety news articles for Soldiers in the RADCO Register.

He culminates his civilian career as a health physicist with CECOM. Bianchi will retire on September 30, 2016 with over 35 years of dedicated government service.

Bianchi said "I just feel like I was a part of a great team... The reason I did it for so long is because I truly enjoyed the people I work with and the people I work for, the Soldiers."

He plans to spend his retirement getting back in his "military fighting shape," and reading and planting a garden again.

Dr. Lawrence Valencourt

Dr. Lawrence Valencourt received the Commanders Award for Civilian Service,



Dr. Lawrence Valencourt

signed by Deputy to the CECOM Commander, Larry M. Muzzelo, and DA certificates of retirement and appreciation signed by Crawford.

Valencourt was born in Delaware and entered the U.S. Air Force after high school. After his four year enlistment, he went on to the University of Delaware where he earned a Bachelor's of Science in Chemical Engineering. Valencourt also holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Valencourt worked at the Army Research Laboratory, or ARL, where he reached the position of ARL chief of risk management.

He culminates his government career as a safety engineer with CECOM, and will retire on September 30, 2016, with 17 years of outstanding service.

Valencourt said that he has had a "fun career," and that he's very lucky. He added, "I worked with some very nice people."

He plans to retire to Wyoming with his fiance in the spring, and welcomes the challenge of becoming a "cowboy."

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS

New restaurant opens at APG

Former Bel Air eatery aims to find new family at APG

BY LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

Within moments after meeting Dan McShane and his wife Marcia, owners of McShane's Gourmet, the new eatery on post, it becomes clear that they are passionate about what they do.

One afternoon a few weeks before their debut on APG, the pair were busy putting the final touches on their location in Bldg. 6010 on the C4ISR campus in order to open as soon as possible, because as Dan McShane put it, "I'm ready to open. I just want to serve food."

If even a drop of the passion they have for their restaurant makes it into their food, then this place is going to be a hit.

After putting in the paperwork to open a McShane's on APG three years ago and not hearing back, the couple continued growing their successful location in Bel Air while completely forgetting about what they thought was a lost opportunity. As fate would have it, however, just as problems with their building management were forcing them to look at other options for the restaurant, APG came calling.

"In March, when we got the email asking if we were still interested in the 6010 building, it was like the stars were finally aligning," Dan McShane said. "We've been waiting a long time for this opportunity."

Now open for business, McShane's serves the community from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. with breakfast and lunch options.

Some of their breakfast options include the Captain's Wrap, a wheat wrap loaded with lump crabmeat, eggs, grilled chicken, cheddar, tomato, and old bay seasoning, as well as breakfast bowls which include two scrambled eggs mixed with a variety of toppings. Freshly brewed coffee from Baltimore Coffee and Tea in Timonium will also be available for purchase.

Their lunch options consist of everything from soups and salads, to pulled pork sandwiches. Their "Triple Play Combo," includes the choice of a panini,

wrap, sandwich, or salad with any one of their 15 sides and a drink.

The couple said they're positive that whatever a customer's taste, they will be able to find it at McShane's.

"Our whole mindset is every item, every bite. When we create the menus, we want to make sure that everything goes really well together. If it doesn't wow us, it's not going on the menu," Dan McShane said.

Some of the options that he thinks will wow customers include their Jersey shore fries which are lightly battered and can be customized at a station set up with Old Bay seasoning, Cajun spice, malt vinegar and other toppings, as well as their corned beef or turkey Reubens.

Besides quality, the couple knows that people also want their lunch quickly. With

that in mind, they have been working hard to tailor their menu and service to the quality and speed that they know professionals are looking for. That's why McShane's offers a pre-order lunch option. Customers will be able to stop in between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. to order and pay for their lunch before the rush hits. At their specified pickup time, those customers will be able to stroll right over to the prepaid counter and breeze pass the line eliminating the problem of wasting half of a lunch hour ordering food.

Though the restaurant works diligently to fulfill orders in a timely manner, Dan McShane said he wants to make it clear that, "no matter what we do, we are not sacrificing quality. We are not sacrificing service."

That commitment extends to their catering service as well, which they offer for all APG events.

Besides great food, the couple credits great service for the reason why they have been so successful in such a tough business.

Marcia McShane said, "its always about the people."

Dan McShane added, "We are going to do everything we can to make our service what they need, with the speed, with the quality of the food... They [the APG community] deserves this."

The couple said they hope to bring the same personal service and quality that they brought to the Bel Air community to APG, and to gain a new family in the process.



McShane's is Aberdeen Proving Ground's newest restaurant, now open in Bldg. 6010.

COURTESY GRAPHIC

Protecting your privacy online

DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY

The Internet now touches almost all aspects of our daily lives. We are able to shop, bank, connect with family and friends, and handle our medical records all online. These activities require you to provide sensitive personal information such as your name, account numbers, addresses, email addresses, passwords, and location information. Sharing this personal information online presents a huge opportunity for cybercriminals to steal your information to commit crimes such as credit card fraud, identity theft, and harassment.

Did You Know?

•92 percent of Americans worry about their online privacy.

•Almost half of Americans (45 percent) are more worried about their online privacy now than they were one year ago.

•74 percent of Americans have limited their online activity in the last year due to

privacy concerns.

•91 percent of American adults say that consumers have lost control over how personal information is collected and used by companies.

•57 percent of Americans have refused to provide information about themselves that wasn't relevant to a transaction online.

Simple tips

•Use strong passwords. Create a password with eight characters or more along with a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Change passwords regularly. Do not include your name, names of your kids or pets, or other personal information about yourself in your password. Often, this information is easy to find on social media, so it's easy for hackers to determine your passwords with these words.

•Use stronger authentication. Always opt to enable stronger authentication when available, especially for accounts with sensitive information including your email or bank accounts. A stronger authentication

helps verify a user has authorized access to an online account. For example, it could be a one-time PIN texted to a mobile device, providing an added layer of security beyond the password and username. Visit www.lockdownyourlogin.com for more information on stronger authentication.

•Limit the amount of personal information you share online. Don't overshare on social networking websites. Keep Social Security numbers, account numbers, and passwords private, as well as specific information about yourself, such as your full name, address, birthday, and even vacation plans.

•Review privacy and security permissions. Be sure to review and understand the privacy and security permissions for any websites or apps where you share your personal information. When using social media sites, you can often customize your privacy settings. Make your privacy settings strict so that only people you know or approve can view your information.



STOP | THINK | CONNECT™

COURTESY DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

•Install and update anti-virus software. Make sure all of your computers and mobile devices are equipped with antivirus software, firewalls, email filters, and anti-spyware. This software should be updated regularly.

•Think before you connect. Before you connect to any public wireless hotspot – like on an airplane or in an airport, hotel, train or bus station, or café – be sure to confirm the name of the network and login procedures with appropriate staff to ensure that the network is legitimate. Cybercriminals can easily create a similarly named network hoping that users will overlook which network is the legitimate one. Most hotspots are not secure and do not encrypt the information you send over the Internet leaving it vulnerable to online criminals. Do not conduct sensitive activity, like online banking or shopping, over a public wireless network.

For additional cybersecurity tips, visit www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect.



ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Haunted Sights in Maryland

Venture if you dare!

BY LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

It's that time of the year when the days become shorter, the crunching of leaves are heard underfoot, and the air takes on a chill. As October tends to churn up nightmarish visions, that chill, may not be the work of Mother Nature, but of something more sinister. These destinations may provide the perfect opportunity for the few who are brave enough to confront the ghosts and ghouls of the Halloween season.

Point Lookout

Near where the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay meet, in Scotland, Maryland, sits a 530-acre state park called Point Lookout. With beautiful scenery and loads of activities it's an ideal location for weekend camping. Whether fishing, crabbing, kayaking or swimming, it's a great place to escape to, that is, if you don't mind the company of some ghosts.

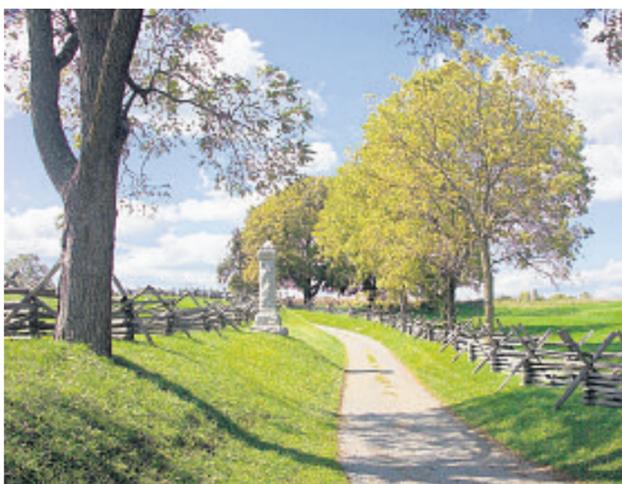
Point Lookout has many tragedies associated with it, from as far back as August 1863 when it was known as the most feared prisoner of war camp for Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. Then named Camp Hoffman, which operated until June 1865, it was the site of horrible conditions and many deaths.

The camp was built to contain 10,000 prisoners, but by the end of the war, it held more than 20,000. Besides the crowded conditions, the prisoners were housed in canvas tents through the long, hot summers and the freezing winters. If prisoners didn't die from dysentery, typhoid fever, or smallpox, it was likely that they would die of malnutrition, hypothermia, or from random shootings.

It is estimated that up to 8,000 people died there, however a mass grave on the site only accounts for a little more than 3,000.

The ghost sightings related to the camp include reports of a man dressed in ragged Civil War era clothing and smelling of mildew and gunpowder, walking from what would have been the location of the smallpox unit, and of soldiers guarding the grounds. Three of the lighthouse keepers also died there, as well as the wife of one keeper, who was found in the lantern room. They supposedly haunt the lighthouse, with strange sounds and happenings reported by most of its past residents.

Many ships have also been destroyed off the coast. A second



COURTESY PHOTO

Bloody Lane, the site of 5,600 casualties during the Battle of Antietam in 1862, is a common location where visitors report seeing ghosts of both Union and Confederate Soldiers.

mate from the ship the Express, which sank during a hurricane, is said to knock on the lighthouse keeper's door looking for help during violent storms.

Point Lookout State Park is located at 11175 Point Lookout Road, Scotland, MD 20687. For more information, call 301-872-5688 or go to <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/southern/pointlookout.aspx>.

Antietam National Battlefield

Antietam National Battlefield, located in Sharpsburg, Maryland, is another historic site with a gory history. The bloodiest day of the Civil War took place here Sept. 17, 1862, with a total of 23,000 soldiers killed, wounded or missing after 12 hours of fighting.

Sunken Road, which has fittingly been renamed Bloody Lane, was a site of heavy fighting, where more than 5,500 soldiers died. It is also known as one of the sites at Antietam where the most paranormal activity has been reported. Many visitors have claimed to have seen Confederate soldiers walking down the lane, and the sounds and smell of gunfire have also been reported through the otherwise quiet grounds.

Stretching over Antietam Creek, sits Burnside's Bridge, pre-

viously known as Rohrbach's or Lower Bridge, another site of supposed ghostly activity. Union Gen. Ambrose Burnside, the bridge's namesake, fought valiantly with the Union Ninth Corps in a successful attempt to overtake the bridge, guarded heavily by Confederate infantry and artillery. After three intense hours of fighting, the Union was finally able to push them back and claim victory. That victory however, would come at the cost of over 600 lives. The soldiers who fell here were buried quickly around the bridge in unmarked graves.

Visitors have reported seeing blue balls of lights moving through the area and hearing the sounds of a drum cadence continuously beating. Perhaps the soldiers who fell at the battle haven't realized their battle for the bridge ended more than 153 years ago.

While there are many stories about hauntings at Antietam, one of the most interesting comes from students who visited the park from the McDonogh School in Owings Mills.

According to legend, the students reported hearing singing that sounded like "Fa La La La La," from the Christmas song, "Deck the Halls," near an observation tower within the park. This was the exact site of a charge made by the Irish Brigade toward the Confederates, in which they shouted the Gaelic battle cry, Fagh-a-



COURTESY PHOTO

The lighthouse at Point Lookout State Park, in Scotland, MD is considered to be one of the most haunted places in America, and allegedly home to many apparitions that have terrorized lighthouse keepers since the 1800's.

Ballagh." That cry translates to "Clear the Way" and sounds very similar to "Deck the Halls."

Antietam National Battlefield is located at 5831 Dunker Church Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782. For more information, call 301-432-5124 or visit <https://www.nps.gov/anti/planyourvisit/index.html>.

The USS Constellation

Docked in Baltimore's Inner Harbor at Pier 1, sits the Sloop-of-War USS Constellation, a battleship that served from the Civil War through World War II. The ship has been a tourist attraction since 1999, when it was fully restored.

Many stories of haunted happenings have been reported ever since people have been free to roam the decks. From reports of a young boy who was murdered on the ship screaming in pain to sightings of various ghostly crew members. These otherworldly visitors all seem to be former inhabitants of the ship who have decided to stay onboard well past their time.

Captain Thomas Truxtun, a naval officer who served on the ship after the Revolutionary War, has reportedly haunted the forecastle deck, and led tours for unsuspecting guests who didn't

realize he was no longer a member of the living.

Another common sighting is of Neil Harvey, a sailor who was court-martialed in 1799 for leaving his gun station during a French battle, and later convicted of treason. Visitors report seeing him wandering the deck as well as feeling the presence of someone as they tour the ship. Harvey, was executed on the Constellation through grisly means. After being tied in front of a cannon, he was blasted into the ocean. It is said that he roams the ship to this day in an attempt to finally clear his name.

The USS Constellation is located at 301 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. For more information, call 410-539-1797 or visit <http://www.historicships.org/constellation.html>.

Source(s): <http://www.haunted-places-to-go.com>; <http://www.historicships.org/>; <https://www.nps.gov/>; <http://www.nationalparks-traveler.com/2007/10/haunted-house-antietam-national-battlefield>; http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2007-10-27/news/0710270077_1_point-lookout-lighthouse-prison-camp-ghost-stories; <http://reservations.dnr.state.md.us/camping/point-lookout-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=MD&parkId=380518>.

McDonogh teachers set story straight

BY LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

While researching haunted sites in Maryland, I kept coming across a story about students from the McDonogh School in Owings Mills. Though the versions varied slightly, the same basic facts remained the same: students from McDonogh had seen apparitions during a visit to Antietam National Battlefield.

This story was different from all of the other ghost sightings I had read, because it wasn't from some completely anonymous source; there was a school name to go along with it. This one small fact gave me hope that I could get to the bottom of the story once and for all, and that is what I set out to do.

After contacting the school archives and questioning the validity of the tale, I found out that there was a former middle school history teacher named Dennis O'Brien who took his classes on a field trip to Antietam every year on the anniversary of the battle, Sept. 17. With some sleuthing, I was able to trace O'Brien to the Living Classrooms Foundation that he founded in 1985 after leaving McDonogh.

O'Brien, who by now was long removed from the day-to-day running of the foundation, wasn't immediately known to the employee I spoke with. But, I struck gold on my next call, when I was given a direct number to the man who could help me to unravel this mystery.

Before I could make that call, however, O'Brien's partner in crime during his McDonogh days, a co-chaperone on the Antietam trip, and current McDonogh teacher, Jon Aaron, contacted me with a story. Aaron told me that prior to this phone call, only he and O'Brien knew the true story behind the tale that managed to make its way around the country. Their story, which follows, was also



COURTESY PHOTO

Dennis O'Brien (center, back) a former teacher at the McDonogh School in Owings Mills, Maryland, takes part in a Civil War reenactment at the school in the early 80's. O'Brien was one of the teachers present when ghostly sightings were reported at Antietam Battlefield by McDonogh students in 1982.

corroborated by O'Brien days later.

The Antietam field trip that the McDonogh students went on Sept. 17, 1982, the 120th anniversary of the battle, was the one spoken about throughout our modern day encyclopedia that we call Google.

According to Aaron, he and O'Brien gathered their students at sunset on the battlefield and went through the details of that tragic day dressed in authentic Union uniforms to set the stage. The students were pledged to silence on the walk they then took down to Bloody Lane. All of them laid down on the same ground where thousands of soldiers had fallen before them, with

their eyes closed. The assignment was for the students to listen and think about the events that took place at Antietam all those years ago.

Aaron remembers telling them, "If you listen very, very, carefully, you might be able to hear the horses, the rustling in the corn, and the smell of the gunpowder."

With all quiet, the two teachers decided to play a prank on the unsuspecting students. After covering their bodies in blankets to protect them from the corn stalks, Aaron and O'Brien began to run through the cornfield that lays parallel to Bloody Lane. All the while they heard the

gasps and the whispered conversations of the students who thought they were hearing the sounds of the dead.

Their fun came to an abrupt end however, when Aaron heard what he described as a "vomiting sound" and looked next to him only to find that his friend had completely disappeared. Backtracking through the field, Aaron whispered, "Dennis," over and over again until he heard moaning. When he found the source of it, he was looking at O'Brien on the ground, in pain, but otherwise fine.

O'Brien had run into the corner of a barbed wire fence. Miraculously the wire hit his belt buckle and caused no damage. Just a little higher or lower, and O'Brien might have joined the ghosts of Antietam battlefield.

As the pair trudged back through the cornfield, they could hear the teens yelling that O'Brien's moans were a soldier being shot. This conversation was then followed by the screams of two students.

The teachers sprinted through the field back towards their students. They found two of them curled up on the ground, pleading with bystanders not to touch them. After calming down, the two horrified students shakily relayed that they witnessed a Union soldier "transporting" through the cornfield towards them.

Other students shared tales of a riderless horse jumping over Antietam Creek, and other ghostly sightings. Some of the sounds and sights Aaron and O'Brien could easily explain away as being the students active imaginations spurred on by their elaborate prank, but others left questions for them.

Whether the sights and sounds that the students heard that night were real or imagined, we will never know.

You may want to plan a visit next Sept. 17 and find out for yourself.



COURTESY PHOTO

Aberdeen Proving Ground Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Polanco reads a certificate of appreciation recently awarded to community member Karen Goodpasture who has volunteered for more than 17 years at APG, providing support first to the civilian personnel office and most recently the Army Materiel Command Legal Office.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lt. Col. Mary E. Cardmina, Communications-Electronics Command staff judge advocate, right, shares a hug with community member Karen Goodpasture, who was recently recognized by the installation's legal office for her selfless service and volunteer efforts at APG.

Legal office recognizes spirit of volunteering

By MARY B. GRIMES

Communications-Electronics Command

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- "You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give," is an old saying that reflects how community member Karen Goodpasture has— through volunteering— lived a life of selfless service.

In recognition of that service, the Army Materiel Command, or AMC, Legal Office at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, recently presented her with a certificate of appreciation, and resounding applause in a ceremony most fitting at the AMC Legal Center on APG. In that same ceremony, Goodpasture was also recognized by APG Army Community Service who presented her with several mementos.

According to Lt. Col. Mary E. Cardmina, Communications-Electronics Command Staff Judge Advocate, Goodpasture first began her volunteering career with the APG Equal Employment Opportunity Office by

volunteering one day a week.

From there she became an ever reliable asset to the legal office – helping with shredding and performing a number of other important clerical support functions. For 13 years, the model volunteer also gave of her time and talent to the installation's civilian personnel office.

Cardmina's comments regarding Goodpasture's spirit of volunteering were further accentuated by others like APG Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Polanco; Legal Assistant Torria Harrington, and civilian attorney Jason Barocas, who had nothing short of glowing remarks regarding Goodpasture's seemingly untiring commitment.

Speaking to the importance of volunteer service and its impact on the APG community, Polanco pointed to Goodpasture's contributions, and the dedication of her parents as stellar examples. She said, "I want to thank Karen, who for the last 17 years, has rendered selfless and dedicated service both to the legal office and other

agencies around APG. Volunteering and countless hours of service have long been a priority for her."

For those who know her, Goodpasture would be the first to thank any and everyone who has helped and inspired her along the way. She has, for a number of years, been supervised, mentored and guided by Marian Goldsmith, a paralegal on the CECOM legal team. Another member of the team, Harrington has also played a significant role in working with and directing Goodpasture's career.

While for some, after a busy day at the office there tends to be little energy left for anything more, Goodpasture's zest for life appears to have no end. Among other things, she enjoys swimming, and loves to socialize with friends. She is a familiar face at the monthly local Parks and Recreation Dance, and not only participates in a Parks and Recreation Basketball League under Discovery, but the APG Bowling League, as well.

Just like her commitment to volunteering, Goodpasture makes time to take care of her personal well-being by working out with a trainer at the Arena Club— something she has been obliged to do over the past seven years. There is also a spiritual side to Goodpasture. An active member of Mount Zion Lutheran Church, Bel Air, Maryland, she attends its monthly Bible Social every first and third Tuesday.

Goodpasture joins the more than 330,000 Army civilian men and women working in professional job categories that run the gamut. Their selfless service not only plays an integral part in the Army's defense of our nation, but speaks to their passion, determination and desire to make a difference -- while at the same time embracing opportunities that will strengthen their own personal growth and development.

For more information about becoming a volunteer at Aberdeen Proving Ground, contact Polanco at 410-278-2464 or sarah.polanco.civ@mail.mil.

Leader luncheon enables ongoing dialogue

LUNCHEON, From page 1

careers.

"Our role in the program is to cultivate that interest," she said.

According to Champion, each year, several eighth grade students are accepted into competitive high school programs and some obtain awards and scholarships.

"Going forward we wish to continue to feed that interest and help them along the path to success," Champion said.

AMSAA's Tony Harris and Eric Johnson briefed listeners about the Kenneth V. Hilton Mentorship Program. The program, offered at Edgewood High School, consists of mentors primarily from AMSAA and the U.S. Army Evaluation Center.

The purpose of the program, Harris said, is to encourage, inspire and support provide African-American male students at Edgewood High School by providing African-American male role models who instill a positive work ethic.

"We want to be a symbol and a walking and breathing example of what you can accomplish, as long as you work hard, put forth the effort, and have a plan," Harris said.

Community events

Scavetta said APG is increasing its presence in the community by participating in more local community events, like the annual Earth Day celebration in Aberdeen and Operation Purple, a week-long camp held in Cecil County for military children.

Community members who would like to request APG participation in upcoming events should contact Scavetta at richard.a.scavetta.civ@mail.mil.

Small business perspectives

Bryon Young, executive director of the Army Contracting Command-APG, discussed small business perspectives and contracting opportunities.

Young said that as of Oct. 1, the Army Materiel Command, or AMC, Office of Small Business Programs-APG is fully operational. This consolidated office, located in the C4ISR Center of Excellence, provides information and resources necessary for the small business industry to conduct business with APG tenants.

"The primary beneficiary is the small business community seeking to do business with [APG]," he said. "They will know exactly where to go."

For more information, contact Director Andrea S. Armstrong at 443-861-4371, or email andrea.s.armstrong.civ@mail.mil.

APG Centennial

Public Affairs Specialist Heather Roelker, with the garrison public affairs office,



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY RACHEL PONDER, APG NEWS

Harford County Executive Barry Glassman welcomes Army and state and local officials to the quarterly Community Leader Luncheon spearheaded by the APG Garrison, at the University Center in Aberdeen, Maryland, Sept. 30, 2016.

briefed attendees on the upcoming APG Centennial.

According to Roelker, many centennial events take place in 2017; including an Armed Forces Week live fire demonstration on May 20, 2017. This event will highlight APG capabilities, she said.

"This is a very big opportunity for community involvement," she said. "There will be display opportunities, food vendor opportunities."

A centennial ball and an open house, open to the community, are planned for October 2017, Roelker said.

Additionally, Karen Holt, from the Harford County Office of Economic Development, briefed attendees about the APG Joint Land Use Study, or JLUS.

"It is a proactive measure, as we look to future rounds of BRAC [base realignment and closure] how we can be better prepared as a community," she said.

Attendees included leadership from APG Garrison, CECOM, AMSAA, 20th CBRNE Command, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, ACC-APG, and a host of state and local officials.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY RACHEL PONDER, APG NEWS

Eric Johnson, of the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, right, discusses mentoring opportunities at Edgewood High School during the community leader luncheon at the University Center in Aberdeen, Maryland, Sept. 30, 2016.

After the meeting, Muzzelo called the forum "valuable."

"The Community Luncheon is a valuable forum to help strengthen partnerships between APG and state, county, and local leaders," he said. "Taking time as a group to

discuss APG community initiatives is indispensable, especially with key efforts such as the APG Centennial fast approaching. Events such as these enable us to have an on-going dialogue as we move into next year."



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Students and staff from Bohemia Manor and Elkton high schools in Cecil County, Maryland, gather around the “Non-Destructive Test Interactive” Demonstration during the APG STEM Expo Sept. 28, 2016, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. During the demo hosted by the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, students learned how to find the minutest imperfections through magnetic particles inspection.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY STEVEN SKURSKI, ECBC

Students in the Vivian Burey Marshall STEM Pilot Initiative of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund experiment with magnetic iron particles under the guidance of Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Engineer Stella Lee during the APG STEM Expo, Sept. 28, 2016 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY STEVEN SKURSKI, ECBC

Students used commonly found household items – paper towel tubes and aluminum foil – to make spectroscopes in a “Light Spectroscopy” experiment led by Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Research Biological Scientist Mike Simini during the APG STEM Expo, Sept. 28, 2016, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Expo exposes students to STEM careers

EXPO, From page 1

Expo, each offering a demonstration station where volunteer scientists or researchers led students through various experiments. Students moved from station to station, learning about Army research and laboratory work and performing hands-on experiments.

“The kids are pretty excited,” said Dawna Taylor-Thornton, executive director of the Vivian Burey Marshall STEM Pilot Initiative, a component of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, who checked in with students from three schools that her organization brought to the Expo.

“They thought they were just coming to hear speakers talk. They didn’t know they would actually get to do hands-on participation,” she said.

ECBC employees who volunteered were eager to share their knowledge.

“I attended an expo like this when I was a kid and I still remember it,” said Cindy Learn, an ECBC chemical engineer who led a water filtration experiment. “That glimmer in their eyes when they ‘get it’ is what keeps me going.”

The students worked in teams with their classmates, rotating every 10 minutes to a new experiment station.

“This is fun,” said Kyashia Walker from the Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy in Baltimore, who’s interested in pursuing a nursing career. “I didn’t want to come at first because I thought it would be boring, but I like everything we’ve seen so far.”

STEM experiments

The experiments covered engineering, science, math and health-related fields. Each experiment correlated with a particular discipline.

ECBC personnel led experiments on water filtration (chemical engineering), identifying white powder substances in mail (chemistry, biology, forensic science), lead content in fortified cereals (food science), light spectroscopy (chemistry, physics) and reverse engineering (electrical and mechanical engineering).

“I enjoyed it,” said student Mackenzie Plowman from Bel Air High School. “I thought we were only going to see one or two experiments, but I’ve learned a lot here.”

Students from Bohemia Manor and Elkton high schools in Cecil County explored career fields related to testing at workshops hosted by the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command’s U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, or ATC.

At an interactive body armor demon-

stration, students learned about the properties of protective gear. The High Speed Video Interactive Demonstration provided insight into the methodology of capturing velocity data, diagnosing failure and providing analysis. Other ATC demonstrations included robotics and non-destructive testing.

ATC Commander Col. Morris L. Bodrick explained to the students that many of the employees who work at ATC have been in the exact same footsteps as some of these students.

“It’s going to take a lot of hard work and dedication to get to this point, but just know one day you are going to help serve this great country.”

Experiments at the Army Research Laboratory STEM Campus included 3-D printing (manufacturing science), network routing (computer science), robotic tele-operations (mechanical engineering) and much more.

‘Behind the gate’ at APG

Most of the students from Baltimore did not know APG existed prior to attending the

Expo, said Jemini Jones, a chaperone with the Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy.

“This expo is outstanding because it gives our kids an opportunity to see what’s outside of their neighborhood. It’s important because it gives them exposure, and exposure is everything,” she said.

By comparison, Harford County students who attended knew about APG but didn’t know what work takes place “behind the gate,” said Joshua Weeks, a biology teacher in the biomedical sciences program at Bel Air High School.

“The kids associate APG with the big ‘boom’ sounds,” Weeks said. “While explosives is a part of what APG does, now they see that there’s so much more being done here – physics, science, chemistry – and they see what opportunities there are for them to work here one day.”

Teachers and advisers who chaperoned the classes stressed exposure as a key benefit of the Expo and crucial to retaining students in STEM education. The expo also provided students with an opportunity to meet and interact with APG to find out about summer

internships that may be available in high school and college.

“For most, this is their first year in a STEM program,” Taylor-Thornton said. “Exposure is crucial to their success in a STEM program. Now that they’ve come here, they’re being exposed to the opportunities that are here at APG, close to home, and they’re really excited.”

APG participating organizations included: the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command; U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; U.S. Army Medical Command; U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Defense Threat Reduction Agency; Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical & Biological Defense; U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity; U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground; Program Executive Office Command, Control, Communications – Tactical; and Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives.

Editor’s Note: Lindsey Monger, a public affairs specialist with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, contributed to this article.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY DAN BALDWIN, CERDEC

A ninth-grade student participates in a hands-on demonstration of Command Post of the Future during the 4th annual APG STEM Expo, Sept. 28, 2016, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

EVENTS & TOWN HALLS

VETERANS INFORMATION FAIR

OCTOBER 8
Bel Air Armory, 37 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Hosted by Harford County Commission on Veterans' Affairs. Free event to include refreshments and information about: job opportunities, benefit assistance, survivor programs and more. For more information, contact Pam Silcox at pamela.s.silcox2.civ@mail.mil.

SHARP PROFESSIONALS STAND-DOWN DAY

OCTOBER 12
Bldg. 6008. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. All Team APG Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, victim advocates, and trainers will participate in a SHARP Stand-Down Day. Events will focus on response procedures and drills, hearing from a panel of subject matter experts and updates to the Army SHARP program. For more information, contact Michcell Shultz at Michcell.l.shultz.civ@mail.mil.

STRIKE OUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BOWLING NIGHT

OCTOBER 17, 24
APG Bowling Center. 5:30 p.m. Bowling event in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. For more information, contact Antoinette Saunders Gauth at 410-278-7874 or antionetta.m.saunders-gauth.civ@mail.mil.

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

OCTOBER 13
Bldg. E4810. 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Hosted by the APG Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Protection & Prevention Division. For more information, contact Ernie Little at 410-306-0583 or ernest.w.little.civ@mail.mil.

FAMILY & KIDS

SUPERHEROES RUN

OCTOBER 29
Exchange, 9 a.m. Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will host a SuperHeroes Run, Walk & Stroll for kids and adults. Kids 2K run/walk will begin at 9 a.m. 5K run will begin at 9:35 a.m. To register, visit <https://www.superheroesrunAPG.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact Capt. Maritzabel Gonzalez at 410-278-1773.

HEALTH & RESILIENCY

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS INFO SESSION & SELF DEFENSE CLASS

OCTOBER 13
Bldg. 6000, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. C4ISR Wellness Committee to host a Domestic Violence Awareness Informational Session/Self Defense Class. Class will discuss domestic violence and teach self-defense moves that will give participants the confidence, knowledge, and strength needed to feel empowered in any threatening situation. Open to all. For more information contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

CPR & AED TRAINING

OCTOBER 20
MFRI North East Regional Training Center (near Wise Road gate), Room 205. 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Open to all. For more information, contact Mike Slayman at 410-306-0566.

HOLIDAY SPENDING INFO SESSION

NOVEMBER 8
Bldg. 6001, 2nd floor, room 224. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Open to all employees and service members. Session provides light-hearted foundation for planning holiday spending, how to avoid debt and establishing a gift-giving budget. For more information contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

HOLIDAY HEALTH INFO SESSION

NOVEMBER 15
Bldg. 6000, Myer Auditorium. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Open to all. Session explores how to stay healthy over the holidays, from food swaps to managing stress. For more information contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MISCELLANEOUS

COMMISSARY HOURS CHANGE

STARTING OCTOBER 2
The APG Commissary will alter its hours of operations on Sunday, opening an hour earlier at 10 a.m. starting Sunday, Oct. 2. For more information, call 410-278-3101.

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

THROUGH DECEMBER 15
The Combined Federal Campaign at APG runs Oct. 1 through Dec. 15. This year's installation goal is \$300,000. Make a Difference, Be a Hero. For more information about the campaign or how to donate, contact Sgt. 1st Class Tameka Dixon at Tameka.d.dixon.mil@mail.mil or 410-278-3549.

CHAPEL SERVICES UPDATE

Catholic Service --- The APG Chapel offers an array of Catholic Services and Religious and Faith Formation Programs open to all

Soldiers, Families, DOD and contract workers residing on both APG and APG South and retirees residing in the surrounding area, including: RCIA, classes for Grades Pre-K - High School, an active Youth Group, Adult Faith Formation, Baptism and Marriage Prep classes. Schedules are available at the APG Chapel. For more information, contact Jeanne Colopietro at 443-243-2861 or teamcolo@msn.com
Protestant Service --- The APG Chapel has many opportunities to get involved with Worship Services and Chapel Programs. Worship Services are every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. and noon at APG Main Post Chapel and 0915 at APG South Chapel. Kids Programs, Adult Sunday School, Choir Ministry, Youth Ministry, Women's Programs and Men's Ministry are all in full swing this fall. Schedules are available at the Main Post Chapel. For more information, contact Joyce Wood at 410-278-4333 or joyce.l.wood.civ@mail.mil or contact Chaplain Capt. Jonathan Ginder at 278-2504 or jonathan.l.ginder.mil@mail.mil.

APG SOUTH 2016 WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The APG South (Edgewood) 2016 water main flushing schedule is as follows:
Through September: E3000-E4000 area;
Oct. through Dec.: E5000 area; Nov. 10-12: APG South housing area, Austin Road. For more information, contact Robert Warlick at 410-436-2196 or robert.w.warlick2.civ@mail.mil.

RETIRING SOON? UNCLE SAM WANTS TO THANK YOU!

Are you an APG Soldier or civilian nearing retirement from government service? Consider participating in the monthly Installation Retirement Ceremony. Hosted the last Thursday each month (except in November and December when hosted the first Thursday of the month) by the APG Garrison, the event includes awards and decorations provided to retirees and their spouses. Photo discs are mailed to each retiree four to six weeks after the ceremony. All Soldiers and civilians are eligible to participate, regardless of unit or organization. For more information, contact Lisa M. Waldon at 410-278-4353 or email lisa.m.waldon.civ@mail.mil.

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Firewood is available, on a first-come first-served basis, at a cost of \$20 per level standard 8-foot pick-up truck, \$15 per level standard 6-foot pick-up truck, and \$5 per car trunk load. For more information, contact Scott English at 410-436-9804 or Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789.

MARYLANDER'S GUIDE TO SKIN WOUNDS AND WATER CONTACT

Vibrio are bacteria that naturally occur in brackish water like the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and in salt water, especially during warm weather months. Vibrio infections are rare. However, when Vibrio comes into contact with an open wound, it can cause serious infections characterized by unusual redness, swelling and drainage. This can be particularly dangerous for people with weakened immune systems.

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST VIBRIO

- Avoid water contact if you have any skin wounds.
 - If water contact cannot be avoided, cover wounds with water-proof bandages.
 - Clean wounds immediately with soap and clean water after contact. If soap and clean water are not available, clean the wound with hand sanitizer then wash as soon as possible.
 - Wear water shoes to avoid cuts and scrapes.
 - Wear gloves and use extra care when handling crab pots or other equipment.
 - Always shower after swimming in natural waters and wash hands before handling food or eating.
- If you develop a wound with unusual redness, swelling or drainage, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY and let your healthcare provider know if you came in contact with brackish or salt water.
For more information, check out Maryland Healthy Beaches: Facts about Vibrio Bacteria at marylandhealthybeaches.com/vibrio.html

MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



Upcoming Activities

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

SAVE THE DATE

COSTCO MEMBERSHIP SIGNUPS

OCTOBER 11-12
Oct. 11, Exton Golf Course, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Oct. 12, APG Bowling Center, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. New and renewal memberships accepted. Gold Star Memberships are \$55 + receive a \$10 cash card. Executive Memberships are an additional \$55 + receive \$20 cash card. Memberships include free household card for spouse or family member. For more information, contact Patricia Harkins at patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil or 410-436-4667.

NEWCOMERS ORIENTATION

OCTOBER 25
APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, 1 to 3 pm. Session will have special emphasis on volunteer opportunities at APG. Garrison briefing begins at 1:25. Information from installation and community resources will be available. For more information, contact Jennifer Eichner at 410-278-2500.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

NOVEMBER 16
APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendors to feature items including home décor, jewelry, artwork, gift items, baked goods and much more. Door prizes and giveaways. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

LEISURE & RECREATION

DISNEY ON ICE DISCOUNT TICKETS

OCTOBER 28, 7:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 29, 11 A.M.; 2:30 P.M.; 6:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 30, NOON; 4 P.M.
Royal Farms Arena, Baltimore. Tickets are \$23 each, while supplies last. Visit MWR Leisure Travel Services to purchase tickets. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

PENNSYLVANIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE TICKETS

THRU OCTOBER 30
2775 Lebanon Road, Manheim, PA 17545. Tickets are \$25.25 each. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907.

CINDERELLA DISCOUNT TICKETS

NOVEMBER 6
Hippodrome Theater, Baltimore, 6:30 p.m. Upper balcony seating, \$39 per ticket. Visit MWR Leisure Travel Services to purchase tickets. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

BINGO

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
APG Bowling Center; early bird games at 6 p.m., session program at 7 p.m. Eight session games paying out \$50 each. Two nightly jackpots paying out \$200 and \$500. For more information, call 410-278-4041.

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

OCTOBER 7
APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. 6 p.m. "The Angry Birds Movie." Free movie, giveaway and craft activity. Food and drinks for sale. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

OCTOBER 21
APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. 6 p.m. "DC SuperHero Girls." Free movie, giveaway, snacks, and craft

activity. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

STRONG BEGINNINGS, PRE-SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN OPENINGS

Participants must be registered with the Parent Central Office. Fees are based on the total family income. For more information, contact the Parent Central Office at 410-278-7479.

SPORTS & RECREATION

RUGGLES 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 19
Ruggles Golf Course, 7:30 a.m. registration. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Lunch to follow completion of play. \$45 for annual green fee holders; \$60 for non-annual. Includes golf, range and lunch. For more information, call 410-278-4794.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION

OCTOBER 20
Bldg. 2503 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Session explores identity theft, how to deter, detect and defend against it. For more information, or to reserve a seat, contact Leary Henry at leary.g.henry.civ@mail.mil or 410-278-2453.

Sesame Street visits APG youth



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY LAUREN FINNEGAN, APG NEWS

Children gather at the stage in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center for a hug or a high-five from their favorite Sesame Street characters during the Sesame Street/USO Experience show at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2016. The show featured two performances called, "Moving," and "Transitions," that focused on the unique challenges military children face.

inside

LEGACY

As he nears retirement, former AMC commander, Gen. Dennis L. Via, reflects on the most pivotal moments of his 36-year Army career - from second lieutenant to four-star.

Via | B2

FUTURE

The Army Maneuver Center commander visits ARL to learn about latest research initiatives - including robotics and neuroscience - to impact the Army of 2030.

MCoE | B3

ACCOMPLISHMENT

A Natick engineer receives the Maj. Gen. Harry Green innovation award for his work developing a ballistic combat shirt that improves Soldier body armor.

MG Greene | B4

newsbrief

PHISHING AND REPORTING SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Mid-Atlantic Region Network Enterprise Center

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Phishing is an attempt to gain access to information or a computing device by sending emails purporting to be from reputable companies in order to induce email recipients to reveal personal information like passwords or credit card information.

It is a common practice; due to the large number of actors and multiple attack vectors, it is very hard to prevent all phishing attacks. It is much easier to set up malicious servers than it is to shut them down. As such, it is important to remain vigilant and be cognizant of phishing attempts.

Personnel who believe they have received a suspicious email at work should take care not to open the email (disable the reading pane in Outlook) and File>Save As>Outlook Message Format.msg. Send the email message as an attachment to the Cybersecurity Incident Response Team with the subject line "Possible Suspicious Email."

Users can also set up "rules" in outlook to divert emails from specified email addresses to a unique folder. Details can be found at <https://support.office.com> and searching "Manage email messages by using rules." For more information related to suspicious emails, contact your security officer.

online

www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

facebook.com/APGMd

twitter.com/USAGAPG

flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

ICE system <http://ioe.disa.mil/>
 Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQlQw>



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY YVONNE JOHNSON, APG NEWS
 Kylie Moses, 7, right, of Harford County Brownie Troop 419, right, tries her hand at the spool eraser tub station with a group of Cub Scouts during the 2016 STEM in Scouting Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Oct. 1, 2016. Moses is the daughter of Brownie troop leader and U.S. Army Research Laboratory budget analyst Erin Moses.

Scouts earn STEM badges

STEM in Scouting annual event draws 600 scouts to APG

BY YVONNE JOHNSON
 APG News

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - An estimated 600 scouts attended the 2016 STEM in Scouting gathering at Aberdeen Proving Ground Oct. 1. According to organizers, the 6th annual gathering was the largest yet.

STEM in Scouting focuses on science,

technology, engineering and math, or STEM, related subjects as Boy Scouts work toward a variety of STEM merit badges while Cub Scouts, Brownies and Girl Scouts can earn related badges.

The gathering took place at the Shore Pool recreation area.

Along with Brian Steger, chief executive officer of the Boy Scouts of America Baltimore

Area Council, the scouts, parents, and volunteers were welcomed by Jyuji D. Hewitt, executive deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"This is all about scouting," Hewitt said, "And we're here to teach you a little about the great things we have here at APG. It's so See STEM, page 7

Army improves emergency comms

PEO C3T aides National Guard, other first responders with 'DIRECT' tool

BY AMY WALKER
 PEO C3T

GEORGETOWN, Del. - During devastating national disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and 9/11, the inability to communicate between first responders, military and other critical organizations became gravely apparent. Phone lines and cell towers were completely destroyed or overloaded, and first responder's disparate communications equipment was not fully interoperable, significantly delaying critical emergency response.

To avoid situations like this, the Army's new Disaster Incident Response Emergency Communications Terminal, known as DIRECT, tool suite enables the National Guard to provide agile interoperable communications services at in-See DIRECT, page 7



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY AMY WALKER, PEO C3T
 Senior leaders from the National Guard Bureau and Army National Guard link personal cell phones to communicate via the Disaster Incident Response Emergency Communications Terminal, or DIRECT, system during a training and risk reduction event in Georgetown, Delaware. The event was supported by the Delaware Army National Guard 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 261st Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, to simulate a coordinated response by the National Guard and civil authorities during an emergency.

Army looks to the future with fuel cell vehicles



A "concept truck" created by General Motors for the U.S. Army - powered by fuel cells - is on display at the Association of the United States Army, or AUSA, National Expo opening exhibits Oct. 3, 2016.

The vehicle is being developed under an agreement signed in 2015 between GM and the Research, Development and Engineering Command's tank and automotive center. The Army will use the vehicle to demonstrate the capabilities a fuel-cell electric powertrain can bring to the military, including quieter mobility, while providing GM with feedback on non-standard fuel cell technology applications.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO



U.S. ARMY PHOTO
Lt. Col. Todd Burnley, AFsbn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, points to where vehicles are received, processed and stored for retrograde back to a depot in the U.S. to Gen. Dennis L. Via, Army Materiel Command commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Rilling, AMC command sergeant major, Jan. 15, 2013.

Via reflects on four-star career

BRAC was his 'toughest job' in the Army, Via said

BY MEGAN COTTON
U.S. Army Materiel Command

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. - For the Army Materiel Command's top leader, Gen. Dennis L. Via, a 36-year career in the military started with a challenge.

A newly pinned second lieutenant from Virginia State University, Via joined the Signal Corps and was assigned as the platoon leader of what was considered the worst platoon in the worst company - A Company, 3rd Platoon, 25th Signal Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

"The majority of my platoon had been given the choice of join the Army or go to jail," Via said. "I was a little apprehensive, but I said this is the job the Army has designated for me, and I'm going to do it well."

"It was probably the best leadership devolving assignment that I've had."

As Via moved his way through the ranks of the 25th Signal Battalion, he recognized the importance of wearing the wings. He avidly pursued jump school and earned his jump wings after negotiating with his new battalion commander.

"He asked me to command D Company, and I said I was honored, but I had to go to Airborne School. He said he couldn't afford three weeks to send me to school. I told him I would take three weeks leave to go ... That is what it means to me," Via said. "Here I was, negotiating with the new battalion commander, not even a captain yet, but I got to go to Special Forces Airborne school which was accelerated at two weeks."

Reflecting on his many assignments, Via credits the Army with giving him opportunities he would have never had, including traveling the world. One of his early assignments was to Naples, Italy, and he was later stationed in Mannheim, Germany.

"For someone who had never traveled out of the country, being able to live abroad in Naples, Italy, was unbelievable," he said. "The experiences, travel and opportunities I had were nothing I ever could have dreamed of as a young boy in Martinsville, Virginia."

A member of the 82nd Airborne, Via said he wanted to spend his life jumping out of airplanes until his mentor Lt. Gen. Robert Gray told him that he needed to go to Fort

Hood, Texas, and learn about tanks.

"I was so grateful for my experience at Fort Hood. There, I met people and learned things I never would have experienced anywhere else," he said about his time with III Corps. "I learned so much about program management, the program executive offices, and the business of fielding systems and capabilities."

During his assignment at Fort Hood, the attacks on September 11th changed the country, and Via knew his brigade would be going to war. He faced one of the toughest challenges of his career in changing command before the unit's deployment.

"I wanted to ensure that they had everything they needed to deploy, and I did all the things I could do to get them at their peak level of training, not knowing if I would be extended in command or not," said Via. "Leaving Fort Hood was probably the saddest day for Linda and me. We knew they would be going to war. I was confident that they would be able to do what they needed to do, but at the end of the day, I wasn't able to stay there."

A few years later, Via was once again challenged as he took the reins of the Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. CECOM was in the initial planning for relocation to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, under Base Realignment and Closure.

"I went in not understanding the impact of BRAC on the command. I was in the Army; I thought let's line up the trucks and get going, but only 13 percent of employees said they were going to move," he said. "I knew I had to win the trust of the people in order to move forward."

Via set out to make sure the command took care of every employee, whether they were moving or not. To embrace the entire community, the command planned bus tours to Maryland, a celebration of Fort Monmouth's 90th anniversary, and transition offices for those who didn't want to move.

"It was the toughest job I had in the Army because it involved people and their lives," Via said about the move, where ultimately, 69 percent of the command transitioned to Maryland. "How you treat people and how you gain their respect and confidence is how you get things done."

Following CECOM, Via was promoted to three-star general and moved back to Washington for his third assignment in the Pentagon as the Director for Command, Control, Communications and Computer

Systems, J-6.

One year into the assignment it was announced that the J-6 would be stood down, eliminating Via's position.

"With the announcement, I was often asked, 'What's going to happen to you?' At the time, we were happy to go back to the rank of major general and finish what had been an amazing career. What I cared about is what was going to happen to my people, taking care of my staff through this difficult time," he said.

Focused on finding positions for all of his personnel, it was towards the end of his time at the J-6 that Via received a call from Gen. Ann Dunwoody, then the commander of AMC, asking if he would like to become her deputy.

"As one door closes, another one opens. Had that decision not been made, I wouldn't have been the deputy at AMC and certainly wouldn't have had the opportunity to become the commanding general," he said.

After nearly four decades in uniform, Via said he was most proud of watching those under his command develop personally and professionally and achieve their goals.

"It really is all about people," he said. "It has always been about the people I've served with, and that's what I'll miss most."

Editor's Note: Via relinquished command of AMC to Gen. Gustave (Gus) Perna during a ceremony hosted by the 39th Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley at AMC Headquarters, Sept. 30.

BY THE NUM#RS

Columbus Day

Columbus Day, the second Monday of October, commemorates Christopher Columbus' arrival to the Americas on Oct. 12, 1492. Learn more about this federal holiday with these fast facts.

35,000

Number of people who will march in the 2016 Columbus Day Parade in New York City, on Oct. 10. This annual parade is the world's largest celebration of Italian-American culture.

524

Years since Italian explorer Christopher Columbus first landed in the New World.

90

Number of crew members that accompanied Christopher Columbus on his first expedition to the New World. The voyage from Spain to the Americas lasted approximately two months.

79

Years since Columbus Day became a federal holiday in the U.S. It was unofficially observed in a number of cities and states as early as the 18th century.

32

Years since President Ronald Reagan and the former mayor of Baltimore City, William Donald Schaefer, dedicated a monument to Christopher Columbus. The statue, carved in Italian Carrara marble, is located on President Street near Little Italy.

By Rachel Ponder, APG News

<http://www.cnn.com/>
<http://www.pewresearch.org/>
<http://www.southbaltimore.com/>
www.history.com
<http://www.columbuscitizensfd.org/>



U.S. ARMY PHOTO
Gen. Dennis L. Via, then at the rank of brigadier general, conducts a pass and review as commander of 5th Signal Command during a formal ceremony in Germany.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CONRAD JOHNSON, RDECOM
 Maj. Gen. Eric Wesley (left), commanding general of the Maneuver Center of Excellence and Fort Benning, Georgia, visits the U.S. Army Research Laboratory Sept. 27, 2016, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, to learn about the latest science and technology initiatives to support the Soldier of the future.

MCoE leader learns of ARL technology initiatives

BY DAVID McNALLY
 U.S. Army Research Laboratory

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- A small four-wheeled robot makes its way down the corridor of an office building. Laser sensors create maps of the surroundings and relay that information back to Army scientists to provide a three-dimensional view. This skill may one day lead to enhanced manned-unmanned teaming where robots perform tasks autonomously and reward Soldiers with situational awareness.

This was just one project Army researchers demonstrated to a senior official during a day of briefings at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory on APG North (Aberdeen) Sept. 27, 2016.

Maj. Gen. Eric Wesley, who serves as the commanding general of the Maneuver Center of Excellence and Fort Benning, Georgia, toured the laboratory to learn about the latest science and technology initiatives to support the Soldier of the future.

The Maneuver Center of Excellence, or MCoE, provides "trained, agile and adaptive combat-ready Soldiers and leaders and develops the doctrine and capabilities of the maneuver force and the individual Soldier," according to the organization's website.

"My mindset is maybe not where some of my peers at the other centers of excellence is, and that's 'What can I get to the field tomorrow or the next few years?'" Wesley said. "I feel like if we're going to shape the Army, we're going to have to shape it for around 2030 and beyond."



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY CONRAD JOHNSON, RDECOM
 The Jackal robot is a small four-wheeled vehicle that makes its way through its environment using laser sensors to create map and relay that information back to Army scientists to provide three-dimensional views.

During demonstrations, Army neuroscientist Dr. Jean Vettel, from ARL's Human Research and Engineering Directorate, showed the general her research on combining human skills with computer algorithms to optimize target identification and further machine learning.

"Whenever we want humans and ma-

chines to work well together as a team, one of the challenges is how to get more knowledge about the human," Vettel said. "Our goal is to find out how we can do neuroscience where we can start quantifying individuals and then design individualized technologies."

Army researchers also briefed the officials on their quest for coatings that may protect

future engines from the catastrophic effects of sand.

"When small sand particles enter the engine, they tend to melt and start to form a glass coating, which accumulates on the hot components within an engine," explained Dr. Michael Walock, a scientist with the lab's Vehicle Technology Directorate. "This causes problems. We have a rapid loss of power due to the accumulation. For a tank, that's bad because now you're a hard target because you can't move. For a rotorcraft, if you lose 10-percent of your power, you're no longer flying and your hover goes to a crash."

Walock said they are working on coating solutions to repel sand.

Wesley also learned about research on the 3-D printed On-Demand Small Unmanned Aircraft System, known as ODSUAS.

"This is part of a collaboration between ARL and Georgia Tech and focuses on the Sciences for Maneuver Science and Technology Campaign," said Eric Spero, a team lead with ARL VTD. "Our technology is not about UASs," he said. "It's about the capability to design and build on-demand. The concept takes advantage of 3-D printing as a future enabler and positions us, as the U.S. military, to take advantage of increasingly better manufacturing technologies."

Wesley concluded his visit by meeting with scientists and engineers from the Weapons and Materials Research Directorate.

"You've got my attention," Wesley told the researchers. "I'm not here just based on mild interest. I go to sleep thinking about what we're doing to enable the Army after next"

Baltimore to APG commuter bus begins service



THE NEW BUS BETWEEN BALTIMORE CITY AND ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND OFFICIALLY BEGAN SERVICE BETWEEN THE CITY AND HARFORD COUNTY'S LARGEST EMPLOYER OCT. 3, PROVIDING A NEW COMMUTING OPTION FOR APG PERSONNEL LIVING IN BALTIMORE.

STAFF REPORT

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- The new commuter bus between Baltimore City and Aberdeen Proving Ground officially began service between the city and Harford County's largest employer Oct. 3.

The bus service is the result of a joint effort between the Maryland Transit Administration, or MTA, and Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The effort is targeted at the more than 1,000 Team APG personnel who currently live in Baltimore and commute to the Army installation more than 30 miles north.

According to Syreeta Gross, a garrison contractor who manages the installation's Commuter Center, efforts to bring additional public transportation options to APG began more than five years ago. State funding issues ruled out additional train stops, she said, turning the focus to vanpools and buses. In late 2015, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan announced the Baltimore Link program, appropriating nearly \$200 million to overhaul the city's transit system and help aid transportation efforts to connect Baltimore City residents to regional employers, Gross explained.

"They're aware of what we do here at APG. We're trying to recruit young engineers and scientists to support the R&D mission and they want to live in metropolitan areas," Gross said. "[Implementing this new route] just makes sense."

The Baltimore/Aberdeen Proving Ground commuter bus line No. 425 oper-

ates on the following schedule:

- Northbound Weekday Morning Service: Operates between existing stops in Baltimore City and Aberdeen Proving Ground. The northbound route leaves its originating stop, Wolfe St. & Monument St. at Johns Hopkins Hospital, in Baltimore City at 5:10, 6:10 and 7:10 a.m., arriving to its last stop at the GATE Complex on APG North (Aberdeen) at 6:50; 7:50; and 8:50, respectively.

- Southbound Weekday Afternoon Service: Operates a similar route, in reverse. The southbound route leaves its originating stop, Raritan Ave. & Havre de Grace St. on APG North at 3, 4 and 5 p.m., arriving to its last stop in Baltimore City, Monument St. & Wolfe St. at 4:33, 5:33 and 6:33, respectively.

The commuter bus stops at several buildings on APG North, including general stops at the C4ISR Campus, Bldg. 2202, and the GATE Complex near the Route 715 gate. At this time, the commuter bus does not on APG South (Edgewood), but does make a stop at the Edgewood Shopping Center.

Federal Employee Mass Transit Benefit Program

As of Jan. 1, federal employees can receive up to \$255 a month for commuting costs when utilizing a vanpool, train or bus. The maximum cost for a monthly pass to utilize the Baltimore/APG commuter bus line No. 425 is \$170.

More information about the new Baltimore/APG bus route #425 can be found online at <https://mta.maryland.gov/commuter-bus>.

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 1981.

BY YVONNE JOHNSON, APG News



10 Years Ago Oct. 5, 2006

Army and APG retiree Alan Killinger (left) and friend Kathy Abey (right) join hundreds of people from the community to support the family of Navy Petty Officer David Sean Roddy during his funeral in Abingdon.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION — Norman and Christine Darby stand in front of a captured Iraqi recovery vehicle at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum. The Darbys, British citizens, were honored by Brig. Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, chief of Ordnance, for their support of Ordnance soldiers in Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield/Storm.

25 Years Ago Oct. 2, 1991

British couple Norman and Christine Darby pose in front of a captured Iraqi recovery vehicle at the Ordnance Museum during a ceremony thanking Norman Darby for supporting American troops in Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield/Storm.



PLEDGES ROLL IN FOR CFC Members of Aberdeen Proving Ground Comptrollers offices tally up pledges and donations to the

50 Years Ago Oct. 6, 1966

Post comptrollers (from left) Ronald Ashdown; Myron Bond; John Hebb; and Mrs. Cletus B. Heldman, count Combined Federal Campaign pledges totaling more than \$41,000.



/PHOTO BY DAVID KAMM, NSRDEC

Robert DiLalla, an engineer and team leader at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, is presented the FY2015 Maj. Gen. Harold "Harry" J. Greene Award for Innovation in the Individual -- Civilian Award Category during a ceremony in Natick, Massachusetts on Sept. 19, 2016. During the ceremony DiLalla (far left) was commended by Lisha H. Adams (second from left), executive deputy to the commanding general at the U.S. Army Material Command, Maj. General Cedric T. Wins (second from right), commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, and NSRDEC Director Douglas A. Tamilio (far right).

MG Greene Award goes to Natick engineer

BY JANE BENSON
Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center

NATICK, Mass. -- Robert DiLalla --an engineer and team leader at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center - was presented the FY2015 Maj. Gen. Harold "Harry" J. Greene Award for Innovation in the Individual Civilian Award Category during a ceremony on Sept. 19.

DiLalla won the award for his work on the Ballistic Combat Shirt, which reduces bulk and thermal burden on the Soldier while maintaining a high-level of ballistic protection. DiLalla took a revolutionary design approach by focusing on the Soldier as an athlete.

The Maj. Gen. Harold "Harry" J. Greene

Award for Innovation recognizes innovative technologies provided by the research and development/science and technology communities, as well as Soldiers in the field. The award acknowledges contributions that greatly enhance the Army's overall readiness, while positively impacting Soldier performance.

Greene was killed in Afghanistan in 2014 and had served as senior commander at the Natick Soldier Systems Center - where he was revered as a Soldier, scientist and commander - from August 2009 to May 2011. "You know in all of the interactions that I had with General Greene, it was very clear to me that he was all about improving, making things better for others, whether it was a process, a product or a method -- he wanted to make things better," said Lisha H. Adams, executive deputy to the com-

manding general at the U.S. Army Material Command.

Maj. General Cedric T. Wins, commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, pointed out that innovations like the Ballistic Combat Shirt help improve readiness and help save the lives of Soldiers. Wins said that DiLalla's invention empowers, unburdens and protects the Soldier.

"So I think you hit here, Rob, the trifecta, with this one piece of equipment, and that's quite an accomplishment for one garment," Wins said.

NSRDEC Director Douglas A. Tamilio commended DiLalla for his great character and said that Maj. Gen. Greene would be proud that the first award took place here at Natick.

"I am extremely pleased that Rob and his

team were recognized with this prestigious award for their work on the Ballistic Combat Shirt," Tamilio said. "This capability significantly increases the protection and flexibility of our personal protective ensemble, ensuring we are giving our Soldiers the edge they need."

"I am truly humbled to be recognized with the Maj. Gen. Greene Award for Innovation," DiLalla said. "I had the opportunity to meet Maj. Gen. Greene on a few occasions while he was the CG of NSSC/DCG RDECOM, so being the first recipient of his award hits close to home. The Ballistic Combat Shirt changes the way we think about wearing personal protection and improves Soldier performance. Knowing that Soldiers are better protected and more capable of performing their mission is extremely rewarding."

AMSAA colonel recognized for serving community



After receiving the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Sept. 19, 2016, Col. Ken Lenig, military deputy for the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, poses with his wife, Michele Lenig, and AMSSA Director James Amato.

"The Army values include selfless service. That includes service to our nation, our Warfighters, and the communities in which we live, work, and play," Amato said of Lenig's award. "This award recognizes the contributions that Col. Lenig, as well as his wife, Michele, have made to the local communities around APG."

The award was signed by APG Garrison Commander Col. James E. Davis for Lenig's "dedication and commitment to volunteering."

U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SEAN KIEF, USAG APG

WORD OF THE WEEK

Mercurial

Pronounced: mer-KYOO r-ee-uh l

Definitions:

1. Changing suddenly and often
2. Intelligent, enthusiastic and quick [or possessing characteristics attributed to the god Mercury such as eloquence, shrewdness, swiftness, etc.

Examples in common use:

- -The judge was thought to have a mercurial temperament; seemingly dictated by the number of cases placed before him each day.
- -Though she was engaging enough during the day, her mercurial mood swings made it difficult for him to plan their evenings together.
- -The child has a sharp mind and a mercurial wit not often observed in one so young.

By Yvonne Johnson, APG News

Sources:
www.dictionary.com
www.thefreedictionary.com

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

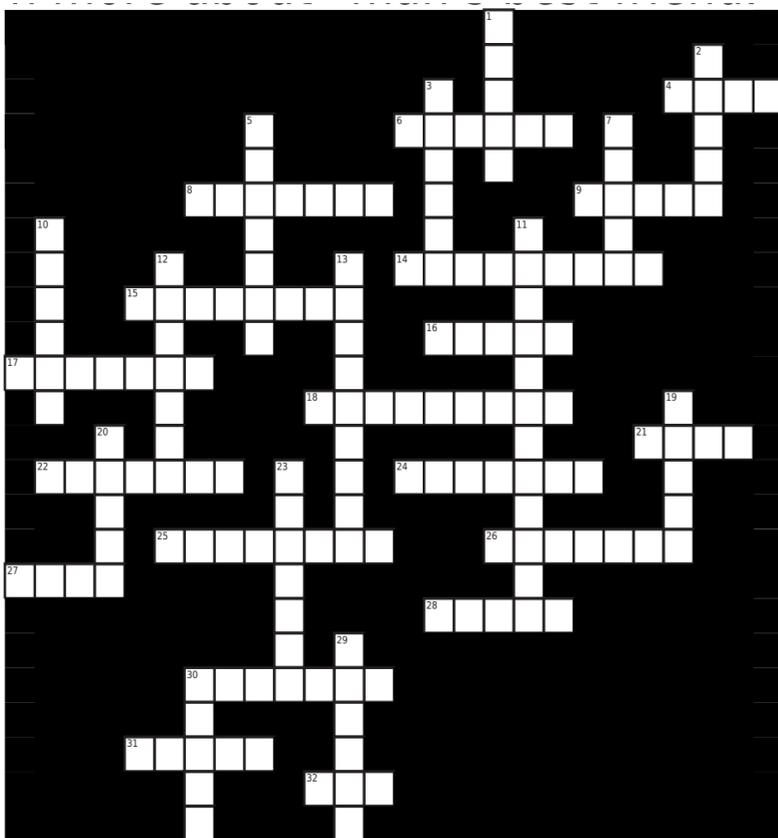
NHGRI

National Human Genome Research Institute (NIH)

The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) is a division of the National Institutes of Health, located in Bethesda, Maryland.

NHGRI began as the National Center for Human Genome Research, or NCHGR, which was established in 1989 to carry out the role of the NIH in the International Human Genome Project known as HGP. In 1997 the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) renamed NCHGR the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), officially elevating it to the status of research institute - one of 27 institutes and centers that make up the NIH.

Now, with the human genome sequence complete since April 2003, scientists around the world have access to a database that greatly facilitates and accelerates the pace of biomedical research.



THE APG CROSSWORD

Man's best friend

From English mastiffs to Yorkshire terriers, dogs come in all shapes, sizes and temperaments. Solve this puzzle to learn more about "man's best friend."

BY RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Across

4. Dogs are natural _____ animals.
6. An Affenpinscher is also known as a _____ terrier.

8. A _____ dog is a dog specifically trained to help people who have disabilities.

9. Name of the family dog on the 1969-1974 sitcom, "The Brady Bunch."

14. This dog breed is the second-fastest land animal, with a peak speed of about 43 miles per hour.

15. The national dog of Cuba.

16. The chow chow, one of the few ancient dog breeds still in existence today, originated from this Asian country.

17. This month is Adopt a Shelter Dog Month.

18. In the U.S., Dalmatians are known as "_____ dogs."

21. In ancient times, this breed of dog was bred to be companions for Chinese emperors. They are known for their wrinkly, short-muzzled face and curled tail.

22. The heaviest weight for a dog ever recorded was an English _____ named Aicama Zorba, who weighed 343 pounds.

24. The Cane Corso, also known as an _____ mastiff, is a large breed of dog averaging 99-110 pounds.

25. The German _____ is a relatively new breed of dog, with its origin dating to 1899. Due to its intelligence and strength, this breed is often used for police and military roles.

26. This singer released "The Puppy Song" in 1969.

27. The Ihasa _____ was originally bred as a guard dog by Tibetan Buddhist monks. They have a keen sense of hearing, and can be aggressive toward strangers if they are untrained.

28. The name of the dog on the Cracker Jack box.

30. In the 1955 animated romantic musical comedy "Lady and the Tramp," Lady is a female American cocker _____.

31. The average dog has 42 of these.

32. Dogs often have cold and _____ noses.

Down

1. In 1957, this Soviet space dog became the first animal to orbit the Earth.

2. In 2012, the First Family of the United States, adopted Sunny, a Portuguese _____ dog.

3. The _____ collie is often cited as the most intelligent domestic dog breed. They are used for herding livestock.

5. Dachshunds originate from this country.

7. Toto in the movie "The Wizard of Oz" was played by a female _____ terrier named Terry.

10. The Chihuahua, the smallest dog breed, originated in this country.

11. The National Dog Show is televised on NBC every year on this holiday.

12. This African dog breed normally does not bark. They produce a yodel-like sound called a "baroo."

13. According to American Kennel Club statistics, the Labrador _____ was the most popular breed in the U.S. in 2015.

19. The bloodhound is known for its ability to detect _____ scent over great distances.

20. Name of the family dog on the animated television show "The Jetsons."

23. This U.S. president owned beagles named Him and Her while living at the White House. They were featured in LIFE magazine in 1964.

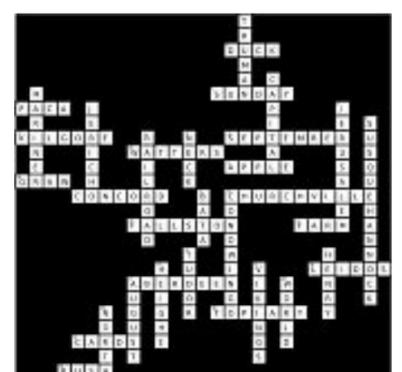
29. Newfoundland dogs are strong swimmers because of their _____ feet.

30. According to the American Kennel Club, puppies do this 15 to 20 hours a day.

Think you solved last week's puzzle?

Check out the solution below

Solution to the Sept. 29 puzzle





U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY AMY WALKER, PEO C3T

The deployable Disaster Incident Response Emergency Communications Terminal, or DIRECT, system, which enables the National Guard to provide agile interoperable communications services during an emergency, seen at left, towers above a group of onlookers participating in the DIRECT training and risk reduction event recently held in Georgetown, Delaware.

Direct eases comms between first responders

DIRECT, From page 1
cident sites. It links local first responses and emergency managers with state and federal authorities, even when local commercial services have been wiped out.

"I was one of the 55,000 Guardsmen who went to Louisiana after Katrina hit New Orleans, and I saw firsthand how the communications equipment that you assumed would work, did not," said Brig Gen James Begley, director National Guard Bureau (NGB) Joint Staff J2 /J6 and chief information officer.

"Equipment like DIRECT is absolutely critical, because citizens are dependent on us; they are dependent on the first responders -- the police, the fire department, emergency medical technicians. The bottom line? It's all about saving lives."

Training and risk reduction

The Army's Program Executive Office for Command, Control, Communications-Tactical, or PEO C3T, recently held a DIRECT training and risk reduction event in Georgetown, Delaware supported by the Delaware Army National Guard 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 261st Theater Tactical Signal Brigade.

Local first responders also participated in the exercise and successfully linked and utilized their own radios and network communications systems using the DIRECT system.

Without compromising the security of the military network, DIRECT leverages the Army National Guard, or ARNG, organic Warfighter Information Network-Tactical, known as WIN-T, tactical network to provide commercial 4G/Wi-Fi, commercial phone and internet access, and the ability to connect all the different types of radios that various responders bring to an incident site. The system also enables interconnection between telephones, military radios, first responder radios and cell phones for seamless collabo-

ration.
"If people are trapped under a pile of rubble in a disaster situation, the ability for first responders to communicate should not even come to mind, their thoughts should be on the rescue," said Lt. Col. Mark Henderson, PEO C3T's product manager for WIN-T Increment 1, which manages the DIRECT program for the Army and the ARNG.

"During emergency situations, the DIRECT system is easy to deploy and operate, and it enables first responders to focus on their jobs, not their communications, so they can seamlessly collaborate and be more effective."

As part of its participation in the event, Delaware's Sussex County Emergency Operations Center, or EOC, which also houses the county's 911 operations center, brought its mobile command unit, which includes a communications vehicle that serves as an on-the-move dispatch for emergency services.

In the face of disaster, DIRECT can provide communications redundancy for the EOC above the contingencies it currently has in place, enabling this critical organization to leverage commercial 4G/Wi-Fi, internet and phone services to continue operations when its own communications links have been cut off.

"With today's technology we are all on computers and smartphones and if we can't use that technology because of a storm, because there are towers down or what have you, that becomes critical," said Joseph Thomas, director of the Sussex County EOC. "And with our facility set 15 miles from the Atlantic coast, the concept of having communications issues...of losing the network...is real."

Bridging the gap

Thomas said that knowing DIRECT will provide the EOC an additional contingency to fall back on is a "big" deal. In the past,

creating a bridge between the EOC system and the ARNG systems during disaster response had been a big concern.

"With this [system], we have bridged that gap," Thomas said. "If we have a coastal storm or hurricane and we lose communications, by using DIRECT, now we will be able to continue to function."

DIRECT replaces the ARNG's legacy Joint Incident Site Communication Capability, or JISCC. Although JISCC aided first responder communications, it did not enable the military and first responders to directly communicate over the Army's robust WIN-T satellite-based network, which operates without need of local network infrastructure. The Army will field DIRECT to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and four territories with a National Guard presence, with fielding expected to begin in fiscal year 2017.

"This equipment will reinforce our role as the national security structure for domestic operations," said Lt. Col. Mike Orlando, commander for the 198th ESB. "We are like the governor's 911, and if he calls us, we have to be able to respond."

Inside the technology

DIRECT consists of a WIN-T joint network node with a satellite transportable terminal, which are already fielded to National Guard units in each state, as well as a new advanced capability Delta Package.

At the heart of the new DIRECT package is the commercial coalition equipment, or CCE, which fits into a single easy to carry transit case and provides the tactical access to commercial internet and telephone services.

"By having a smaller equipment footprint to support Army National Guard missions of Domestic Operations and Direct Support to Civil Authorities, we are able to move faster during the critical first 72 hours of the incident or event," said Col. Gus Santiago, NG-J6 C4 division chief.

Integrated into the CCE, the radio-

bridging and voice cross-banding module enables seamless interoperability among disparate radio networks without supplying common radios to all the users, as was done in the past. Guardsmen can combine radio and phone networks for crossed communications or create secure forums where various agencies can talk in independent groups.

"We can respond to an emergency and save lives on a much quicker bases if we can all get together at the hot zone as a concerted effort and go in with one voice," said Lt. Col. (P) James Benson, commander for the 261st TTSB. "With this system, no matter who shows up, we can all communicate together."

Seamless communication

To support DIRECT and other global disaster and humanitarian response, the Army installed a Commercial Internet and Phone package at each of its five worldwide Regional Hub Nodes. This additional capability package is the link that enables responders to call any commercial cell phone or landline or obtain internet access even when commercial towers are down.

"To know that in any major event my first responders can now seamlessly communicate with each other, and with the Guardsman or other military assets they are deployed with, is tremendous," said Brig. Gen. Mike Berry, land component commander for the Delaware ARNG. In addition to his service with the ARNG, Berry also works full time as the Deputy Troop Commander for the Delaware State Police, providing him with a unique dual-sided vision for what is needed during disaster response.

"We are always just waiting for the big one to hit; it could happen tomorrow. The DIRECT system gives us, or any organization, much more confidence in our ability to respond and serve citizens who might be in trouble."

Scouts work toward STEM-related badges

STEM, From page 1
important that you learn all you can today and I hope you ask a lot of questions. Have a great scouting day."

Steger said event participants include volunteers from APG organizations, parent and teen volunteers and Midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Attendees came from as far away as Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York as well as troops throughout Central Mary-

land, he said.

"I want to thank Aberdeen Proving Ground, the Navy commanders and Mr. Hewitt," Steger said. "And we've been so fortunate to have so many volunteers committed to this program."

Col. Joanna Reagan, a program manager with the PHC, was on hand for the dual purpose of overseeing the PHC display that focused on the performance triad of nutrition, sleep and activity, while mentor-

ing Girl Scouts and Brownies.

Reagan said she's been involved in scouting for 13 years and she's thrilled that girls are showing more interest in STEM-related subjects.

"There are so many cool things going on here today," she said. "APG has arranged such a lineup of stuff you have to take your time to take it all in. I think everyone will take away something."

STEM In Scouting participants can earn

the Scouting STEM NOVA award. Boy Scouts can choose from an array of STEM merit badges at stations facilitated by numerous Aberdeen Proving Ground professionals, and Navy Midshipmen support the day mentoring and instructing scouts. Innovative and required training for leaders and new volunteers is also offered.

For more information, visit the BSA/BAC website at www.baltimorebsa.org.



DID YOU KNOW?

October is National Liver Cancer Awareness Month

BY YVONNE JOHNSON, APG NEWS

About the liver

The liver is the second most important organ in the body after the heart. It is located under the rib cage on the right side, weighs about three pounds and is shaped like a football that is flat on one side.

The liver processes food and drink and turns them into energy and nutrients that it stores for the body to use. It also removes harmful substances from the blood.

Liver cancer

Liver cancer is the growth and spread of unhealthy cells in the liver. Cancer that starts in the liver is called primary liver cancer. Cancer that spreads to the liver from another organ is called metastatic liver cancer.

About 30,000 Americans are diagnosed with primary liver cancer each year. Primary liver cancer is

on the rise in the United States and is about twice as common in men than in women.

Risk factors

Long-term hepatitis B and hepatitis C infection are linked to liver cancer because they often lead to cirrhosis. Hepatitis B can lead to liver cancer without cirrhosis.

Excessive alcohol use
Obesity and diabetes are closely associated with a type of liver abnormality called nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) that may increase the risk of liver cancer, especially in those who drink heavily or have viral hepatitis.

Reduce the risk of liver cancer

Regularly see a doctor who is knowledgeable about liver disease

Talk to your doctor about viral hepatitis prevention,



including hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccinations

Take steps to prevent exposure to hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Learn more about prevention at www.liverfoundation.org or on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, website at www.cdc.gov.

If diagnosed with cirrhosis or chronic liver disease, follow your doctor's recommendations for treatment and be screened regularly for liver cancer

Those who are overweight or obese, diabetic, or drink heavily, should regularly consult their doctor

For more information, visit the Liver Foundation website at www.liverfoundation.org.