

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, July 7, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Nominations being accepted by FWP

Nominations will be accepted by the Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program until July 2 for Outstanding Woman of the Year, Outstanding Supervisor/Manager of the Year and Activity Most Supportive of FWP Goals.

Winners will be announced at the FWP Women's Equality Day, 10 a.m., Aug. 11, at Top of the Bay in the Aberdeen Area.

For more information, call 410-436-2800.

Reduced gate operations

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area and the Wise Road Gate (Route 755) in the Edgewood Area will close at 8 p.m., July 2 and reopen for normal vehicle traffic at 4 a.m., July 6.

Road closure scheduled July 3

Ricketts Point Road between Clearview and Chevron drives will be closed 7 a.m., July 3, for steam line modification construction, and reopen no later than 7 p.m.

During the closure, all traffic will be required to use Wise and Otto roads as the detour route and the jogging path will be closed during this period. After the work is complete, the roadway and jogging path will be reestablished using steel plates for traffic maintenance.

These dates and durations are subject to weather and environmental factors.

Motorists are requested to use caution and to obey all speed reductions, traffic controls and detours.

Joggers are requested to avoid the area during the construction periods and to use the temporary jogging path relocation with caution during non-construction periods.

For more information, call Jerry Norris, Directorate of Installation Operations, 410-306-1159.

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Army gets new combat uniform



Photos courtesy of ARMY NEWS SERVICE
Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, clothing and individual equipment noncommissioned officer in charge, demonstrates the most obvious change to the new Army Combat Uniform, a zipper at the top and bottom of the blouse. Seven other changes are visible in this photograph. See list on page 2 for all changes.

Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

The Army will be fielding a new combat uniform designed by NCOs and tested by Stryker Brigade Soldiers in Iraq since October.

On the Army's 229th birthday, senior leadership introduced the Army Combat Uniform during a Pentagon cake-cutting ceremony. Soldiers were on display, suited-up in the wrinkle-free uniform with a digitized camouflage pattern.

Three different versions of the ACU have been developed, and more than 10,000 uniforms have been produced and dragged through the sand in Iraq and at Army training centers. Even more are on American production lines to be issued by April 2005 to Soldiers in deploying units. Fielding to the total Army should be complete by December 2007, said officials from the Program Executive Office, known as PEO Soldier.

There were 20 changes made to the uniform, to include removing the color black and adapting the digital print from the Marine Corps uniform to meet the needs of the Army, said Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Program Executive Office noncommissioned officer in charge of clothing and individual equipment.

Black is no longer useful on the uniform because it is not a color commonly found in

nature. The drawback to black is that its color immediately catches the eye, he added.

"The color scheme in the ACU capitalizes on the environments that we operate in," Myhre said. "The current colors on the ACU are green-woodland, grey-urban environments and sand brown-desert. The pattern is not a 100-percent solution in every environment, but a good solution across the board."

"This isn't about a cosmetic redesign of the uniform," said Col. John Norwood, the project manager for Clothing and Individual Equipment. "It's a functionality change of the uniform that will improve the ability of Soldiers to execute their combat mission."

Every change was made for a reason. The bottom pockets on the jacket were removed and placed on the shoulder sleeves so Soldiers can have access to them while wearing body armor. The pockets were also tilted forward so that they are easily accessible. Buttons were replaced with zippers that open from the top and bottom to provide comfort while wearing armor.

Patches and tabs are affixed to the uniform with Velcro to give the wearer more flexibility and to save the Soldier money, Myhre said. Soldiers can take the name-tapes and patches off their uniforms before laundering, which will add to the life-cycle of the patches. Also the cost to get patches sewn on will

See UNIFORM, page 2

CASCOM changes consistent with future force requirements

Sgt. 1st Class Reginald P. Rogers

Army News Service

As the Army changes the way it does business, the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command must also change in its mission to provide the materiel needed for sustainment, CASCOM officials said.

Task Force Logistics, in charge of the newest of the Army's 17 focus areas, includes logistician and support personnel from all branches of the military. CASCOM is a large piece of the TF Logistics puzzle and therefore plays a major part in the task of supplying the troops.

"Task Force Logistics was formed to review and redesign how a land-component commander is sustained," said Maj. Gen. Terry E. Juskowiak, CASCOM and Fort Lee, Va., commanding general. "The scope of this review extends from CONUS support to support of deployed forces; includes support to the Army, how the Army provides support to sister components once deployed; and how the Army will contribute to a joint logistics capability."

During the annual Combat Service Support Commanders and Command Sergeants Major Conference, which was held April 8 and 9 at Fort Lee,

Juskowiak pointed out that CASCOM is prepared for the changes that are taking place within the force.

The increased use of computer technology in Army logistics is a very near possibility, according to a report by the Petersburg, Va., Progressive-Index.

The report went on to say that commanders and sergeants major in attendance were told of the possibility of using computer simulations designed for military logisticians in the same manner that combat Soldiers use them to improve their fighting skills.

"[The conference] was a chance for us to review what

happened, what went well and on what we need to put new emphasis," Juskowiak said following the conference.

He added that jointness and modularity present positive changes in the logistical spectrum, as all services and organizations will work together to ensure Soldiers' needs are taken care of.

He also explained that if logisticians and battle commanders are given the same "data points," such as where a hotbed of conflict is burning, the logistician could use the information to avoid sending a supply convoy through the middle of that battle scene. Or a petroleum shipment could be

redirected to where it is more urgently needed.

"We're looking at how we do logistics from the foxhole back," Juskowiak said. "When I say back, I mean all the way back to the CONUS national level. What we do in the foxhole is very green, very Army-oriented. But as you go back, it becomes more and more purple — that is, more (of a) joint (concept). That's because more joint aspects will be put into the force."

(Editor's note: This article is part of a weekly series on the 17 Army focus areas. This one focuses on "Logistics.")

IMA inspector evaluates APG dining facility



Frederick Jackson, right, food program manager with the Installation Management Agency Northeast Region, discusses serving line arrangements with Linda Fagans, left, dining facility manager, and DeVonnie Hart, center, assistant manager, in building 4219, during the round one evaluation to select the best facility.

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison dining facility in building 4219 completed round one of an evaluation to advance to the Phillip A. Connelly awards competition during an inspection by the Northeast Region Installation Management Agency June 24.

Frederick Jackson, NE/IMA food program manager, observed the dining facility before, during and after its breakfast and lunchtime meals. Jackson said that food

preparation and quality were the main focus but not all of the points of consideration on the evaluation.

"We look at the overall picture which means training, management, headcount procedures, and appearance and attitude of the staff," Jackson said.

He said the winner of this round, which includes 10 other facilities, would advance to represent the Northeast Region.

"There is no set standard that will place one facility above the rest," Jackson said.

"Following procedures is the norm and expected. The one that excels above requirements and standards is the one we are looking for."

"This visit was very important in preparing us for the next round," said Linda Fagans, dining facility manager. She said the staff "has been preparing for this level for the last six months."

"They're a very good crew of hard workers," she said. "We have our work cut out for us but we're ready."

Montgomery Gentry to bring top country sounds to APG

Single makes Number 1 on Country charts

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

With their single, "If You Ever Stop Loving Me," reaching the Number 1 spot as the top country song in the nation June 25, Montgomery Gentry is set to bring their 'straight-up' sound to Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Miller Lite Army Entertainment concert on Shine Sports Field July 17.

Nominated earlier this year as the Top Vocal Duo by the Academy of Country Music, Montgomery Gentry is at the peak of their form, making music that is as raw and powerful as it is compelling.

Troy Gentry said that with their latest CD, "You Do Your Thing," Montgomery Gentry has come into its own.

"I think our first CDs were identification projects," Gentry said. "They tested the waters in several ways, looking for the right style and fit," he said.

Then, with the release of "My Town" in August 2002, a transition was made which formed the foundation of their current sound.

"We tried different things musically and with the help of great writers and musicians, we've found the true Montgomery Gentry sound,"

he said.

The CD includes foot-tapping songs that exemplify MG like "It's All Good," and "I Ain't Got it All That Bad," a collaboration with their 'rowdy' friend, Hank Williams Jr. Other songs display their compassion for life, love and family.

One example is the single titled "Talking to My Angel," which Gentry wrote and co-produced. It tells of a father, who seeing the error of his ways, promises his sleeping child that he will not fail him.

See GENTRY, page 6



Photo courtesy of SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE
Eddie Montgomery, left, and Troy Gentry are set to do their thing at Aberdeen Proving Ground as they headline the Miller Lite Army entertainment Concert on Shine Sports Field July 17.

Army continues to examine cause of chemical alarm

CMA
Late last week, Army officials at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground conducted a visual inspection of containers inside a storage building located at its Chemical Agent Storage Yard, or CASY, where a trace amount of mustard vapor was detected through normal monitoring procedures on June 23. No vapor has been detected outside the storage building at any time and contrary to ear-

ly reports, since initial detection, no further vapor has been detected within the structure. Preliminary investigations have ruled out the possibility of a liquid agent leak on or near the containers and are now focused on identifying the source of a vapor leak. Edgewood Chemical Activity Civilian Executive Mary Jo Civis explained the investigative process. "Once our risk assessment and operational procedures are

finalized mid-week, we will re-enter the structure and drape heavy industrial plastic over the container stacks," Civis said. "We will then place monitors under the sheets. Once we are able to detect the vapor from a specific stack, we will narrow our search, and individually wrap and monitor each container in that stack." Civis added that this method will take time to complete due to the number of containers in the storage struc-

ture. "There have been instances at other stockpile sites where a very small amount of vapor has leaked from a container then sealed itself and stopped leaking. In such cases, we are dealing with extremely small levels of agent typically well below exposure limits set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration," Civis said. Once officials have identified and isolated the container

that caused the initial chemical alarm to sound, highly trained personnel will seal the leak and safely transport the container to the nearby Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ABCDF) where the mustard agent will be drained from the container and neutralized. The resulting byproduct is mostly water and will be tested to ensure the agent has been destroyed. Early morning June 23, Army emergency personnel

responded to a chemical alarm at CASY. The building in which the alarm sounded was sealed and a portable chemical agent filter was attached to its ventilation system as a secondary engineering control designed to prevent any potential release of vapor outside the structure. "We have practiced responding to simulated release scenarios at APG time and time again," said Lt. Col. **See CHEMICAL, page 9**

Test Center technical director retires

Susan Hagan, ATSS
ATC

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center said farewell on June 1 to an employee who dedicated his entire career to supporting the Warfighter. James Fasig, ATC's technical director since 1994, retired after 42 years of federal service, all spent at what is now ATC.

"Throughout my career the impact this test center has had on the quality and performance of the Warfighter's equipment is awesome," Fasig wrote for his final Technical

Director's Corner. "Everything from combat boots to M1 Main Battle Tanks have been touched at ATC to assure the highest quality performance in combat." Fasig began his career as a test director in the fire control area. As he progressed through his career, Fasig has been chief of the Instrumentation Development Section; director of the Measurements and Analysis Directorate; director of the Development and Analysis Directorate; and program director for Live Fire Testing of the Bradley

Fighting Vehicle. In 1987 he established and served as director of the Live Fire Vulnerability Directorate until 1994 when he became technical director. Throughout his career, Fasig received numerous awards including the Director's Award for outstanding technical achievement; the Baltimore Federal Executive Board Outstanding Supervisor Award; the Meritorious Civilian Service Award; two Commander's Awards for Civilian Service; the International Test and

Evaluation Association Francis Scott Key Chapter General Powers Award; the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service; and the Walter W. Hollis Award for Lifetime Achievement in Defense Test and Evaluation. He has also received numerous performance awards and special act awards. "Mr. Fasig has been a valuable asset to ATC," said Col. Mary K. Brown, ATC commander. "There is no doubt that he has postured the command for continued success in the future. [His] accomplish-

ments have made an impact on every significant management and technical issue that has challenged ATC and has been vital to achievement of the goals and objectives of ATC and the United States Army." "The good news is that ATC was great before I came and will be great after I leave. Without a doubt, I know every member of this command—contractor, Soldier and civilian—knows the importance of our work and our duty to the Warfighter," Fasig wrote.



Photo by WILLIAM NORI
James Fasig
Technical Director
U.S. Army Aberdeen
Test Center

MCSC awards \$5,000 in scholarship awards

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

During its annual Scholarship Awards Reception, June 15, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Military and Civilian Spouse's Club awarded \$5,000 in scholarships and \$2,000 in welfare distributions.

Led by MCSC president Paula Meredith and Lorel Lenaers, MCSC advisor, the group holds fundraisers

throughout the year, culminating with the annual distribution of funds. Fundraisers include basket bingos, pie sales, golf scrambles and the Pottery-a-Day lottery said MCSC publicity chairperson, Katie McDonald. "Scholarship and welfare chairpersons assemble committees to review all applications, then determine the awardees," McDonald said. Susan Burnett chairs the Welfare Committee, which

distributes funds to local community service organizations while Mindy Singler, scholarship chairperson, oversees the educational distribution. "We did very well this year with fundraising and were able to disperse a lot of money," Singler said. "We had a lot of high quality applicants," she added noting that the organization selected the winner of the First Command Education Foundation Scholarship of \$1,000,

which went to Matthew Jackson, an Aberdeen High School graduate who will be attending Villa Julie College. Singler said there were 10 applicants for the scholarship as well as numerous for part-time and full-time disbursements. **Scholarship awardees** The Non Full-time Certification, Continuing Education and Technical Programs award went to Angela Dennis, a student

enrolled in the Master of Arts program in liberal and professional studies at Towson University. The following received awards in the High School Seniors, Undergraduate, and Graduate Students category: Patrick Fox, graduated C. Milton Wright High School, will attend Loyola College. Charlotte Todd, graduated Aberdeen High School, will attend St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Okla.

Lisa Caughey, graduated Fallston High School, will be a sophomore at University of Maryland. Kimberly Caughey, graduated University of Maryland, will attend Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. Patricia Bautista, graduated Bel Air High School, will attend University of Maryland.

Uniform

From front page

be eliminated, he added. The ACU will consist of a jacket, trousers, moisture wicking T-shirt and the brown combat boots. It will replace both versions of the BDU and the desert camouflage uniform. The black beret will be the normal headgear for the ACU, but there is a matching patrol cap to be worn at the commander's discretion. At \$88 per uniform, about \$30 more than the BDU, Soldiers will eventually reap gains in money and time by not having to take uniforms to the cleaners or shine boots. The life of the ACU began

in January 2003 when PEO Soldier teamed with Myhre, Master Sgt. Alex Samoba and Staff Sgt. Matt Goodine - from the 1st Stryker Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash. The team looked at a number of uniforms and took the best part of each uniform and combined it into one. They built their first prototype and delivered 25 uniforms to Stryker squads at the National Training Center. After listening to their comments, the team went back to the lab and created prototype two. Twenty-one uniforms were then delivered to Stryker Soldiers at the Joint Training and Readiness Center, Fort Polk, La. "We watched them as they entered and cleared rooms, as

they carried their rucksack and all of the things they had to be able to do in the uniform, and then we came up with prototype three," Myhre said. Two issues of the third version were given to the Stryker Soldiers deploying to Iraq. Three months ago, Myhre was among a team who visited Iraq to get more feedback from Soldiers. "We would talk to Soldiers right after they had completed a mission while the benefits of the uniform were still fresh in their minds. We wanted to know how did the uniform help the mission." Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston is one of the ACU's biggest supporters. He said major command sergeants major had a chance to see the



Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Program Executive Office noncommissioned officer in charge, sports the Army Combat Uniform, the recently approved wear for Soldiers. It contains 20 new improvements.



The pocket-shoulders are a result of feedback from combat Soldiers. They replaced the bottom pockets on the blouse of the battle dress uniform. The shoulders are belled to allow increased movement.



Left and right belled calf-storage pockets and no-shine desert boots are new additions to the ACU.

uniform and give advice toward the final version. "We have not made a major change to our uniforms since the BDUs (battle dress uniforms) were introduced in the early 1980s," Preston said. "This new uniform performs well in multiple environments. Its new pockets and color designs are a result of feedback from Soldiers in combat. Every modification made on the uniform was designed with a specific purpose and not just for the sake of change."

Uniform changes

1. Mandarin collar that can be worn up or down
2. Rank insignia centered on the front of the blouse
3. Velcro for wearing unit patch, skill tabs and recognition devices
4. Zippered front closure
5. Elbow pouch for internal elbow pad inserts
6. Knee pouch for internal knee pad inserts
7. Draw string leg cuff
8. Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure
9. Three-slot pen pocket on bottom of sleeve
10. Velcro sleeve cuff closure
11. Shoulder pockets with Velcro
12. Forward tilted cargo pockets
13. Integrated blouse bellows for increased upper body mobility
14. Integrated Friend or Foe Identification Square on both left and right shoulder pocket flap
15. Belled calf storage pocket on left and right leg
16. Moisture-wicking desert tan t-shirt
17. Patrol Cap with double thick bill and internal pocket
18. Improved hot-weather desert boot or temperate-weather desert boot
19. Two-inch, black nylon web belt
20. Moisture-wicking socks

APG News

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Retired Brig. Gen. Richard Alexander, president of the National Guard Association, addresses the cadets of the Maryland Army National Guard Free State ChalleNGe Academy during his May 10 visit to the organization.

ChalleNGe hosts NG Association president

Story and photo by **Yvonne Johnson**
APG News

The Maryland Army National Guard Free State ChalleNGe Academy displayed its finest in cadets and facilities during a visit from retired Brig. Gen. Richard Alexander, president of the National Guard Association May 10.

Col. Richard Young, academy director; Mike Bryant, acting deputy director; and Linwood Whitehead, acting program coordinator, escorted Alexander through a tour of the compound, a testimonial briefing with selected cadets and lunch at the Garrison dining facility in building 4305.

Young summarized the program for Alexander, a chief advocate of the program, as one that is "not easy, but worthwhile."

"They give up everything to come here," Young said. "They know our rules, what we will and will not tolerate months in advance."

He said that testimonials from parents praising the program were numerous and available for Alexander's inspection.

Alexander heads the Youth ChalleNGe Foundation, which provides resources to support the academy through fundraisers. In addition, he leads lobbying efforts in Annapolis and

in Washington, D.C.

During a mass formation, Alexander told the academy's cadets that they "made the right decision to come here."

"Each one of you, while you are here, has the opportunity to learn and be motivated by this staff," Alexander said. "But also, you have one another. You are all in this together."

"The lesson beyond graduation is that you can be whatever you decide you want to be," he said.

The National Guard Association is a private organization. One of its purposes is to provide advocacy for National Guard programs and interests.

ChalleNGe graduate continues to excel



Staff Sgt. Christi Harrell, left, a medical technician with the Maryland Air National Guard's 175th Medical Squadron and 1996 graduate of the Free State ChalleNGe Academy, gives a booster shot to Staff Sgt. Keith Ziegler during a training weekend at Martin State Airport.

Story and photo by **Yvonne Johnson**
APG News

When Christi Harrell is not serving her one weekend a month as a staff sergeant with the 175th Medical Squadron, Maryland Air National Guard at Martin State Airport, she is on the job as a nurse in the Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Harrell graduated from the University of Maryland at Baltimore with a bachelor's in nursing in May.

She said the road to her goal to become an Air Force Army nurse began with an earlier achievement, however - her graduation from the Maryland National Guard Free State ChalleNGe Academy at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The Churchville native entered the ChalleNGe program in 1996 in search of direction, which she said she found thanks to a disciplined regimen and a caring cadre.

The Free State ChalleNGe Academy is a military-styled residential program funded by the Department of Defense and the state of Maryland that helps 16- to 18-year old high school dropouts obtain their General Educational Development, or GED, diplomas while providing post-residential mentorship focused on educational and employment goals.

Harrell called her decision to enter the military styled training environment one of the smartest of her life.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with my life. The program was just right for me," Harrell said.

She said that although she was nervous about what to expect, she met others from Harford County and quickly adjusted to the rigid schedule.

"I thought I would feel out of place but it was an eye-

opener," she said. "I had been pretty sheltered. I learned about other races and cultures and basically how to interact with others."

She said she adjusted well to the curriculum, which included physical training as well as classroom instruction.

"The cadre did just what was needed to instill discipline and respect," Harrell said.

She did so well, in fact, that she represented the program during a Joint Chiefs of Staff luncheon at the Pentagon in 2001 where she met actor Tom Selleck, and she was asked to speak in support of the pro-

gram during an information seminar at the HEAT Center in Aberdeen that same year.

Harrell entered the Guard in March 1997, three months after leaving the academy. After basic training and technical school, she enrolled in Harford Community College then transferred to the University of Maryland at Baltimore nursing program.

Her education was interrupted by 9-11 when she was activated and sent to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, in Ohio, to replace deploying service members.

Active duty took her to Oman for three months, March to June 2002, where she served as an emergency room technician.

"It was the first time in my life in that kind of environment," she said.

She returned to Maryland and resumed her education in September 2002.

She said she would recommend the ChalleNGe program to anyone hoping to improve themselves but unsure how.

"ChalleNGe is a life-altering experience," she said. "But after that six months, you still have to make a decision to move forward with your life. I'm glad I did."

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NCUA

POST SHORTS

Post Retention Office relocates

Beginning July 6, the post retention office will be located on the 2nd floor of the Janet M. Barr Soldier Support Center, building 4305, room 236. There will be no lapse in service to Soldiers and their families. The new phone numbers are 306-2769/2053/2054; the new fax number is 410-306-2055. For more information, call Master Sgt. Elijah Mobley, 278-2769.

Garrison Change of Command scheduled

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison change of command is scheduled for 9 a.m., July 8 on Fanshaw Field. Col. Mardi U. Mark will relinquish command of USAGAPG to Col. John T. Wright.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in the APG Recreation Center, building 3326.

For more information, call 410-278-1147.

Social Hour at Top of the Bay

Every Friday at Top of the Bay there will be a "social" hour, 4 to 8 p.m. featuring a cash bar and free munchies and wings available for purchase.

Due to the holiday weekend, the social hour will not be held July 2.

Sponsored by Bank One, www.bankone.com/, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, www.apgfcu.com/, the Friday gatherings are open to everyone.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

Blue Cross/Shield visits APG

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made

arrangements for a claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) to visit APG July 13.

The representative will be available in the Aberdeen Area from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, Room 236 to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will be available in the Edgewood Area from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811 (Seminar Area of Conference Center). No appointment is necessary.

For more information call Teri Wright, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, 410-278-4331.

ACS hosts Parent Information Exchange

Army Community Service will present a Parent Information Exchange, a support group for exceptional family members 6 to 7:30 p.m., July 13, building 2754. The meeting will address the needs and concerns of military families enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

PIE will offer parents the opportunity to meet other family members with special needs.

Free childcare will be provided.

For more information or to register to attend PIE, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-2420.

Fuel Station closes on Ozone Action Days

When forecasted code "Orange" and code "Red" Ozone Action Days occur, the Directorate of Installation Operations will close government fueling stations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at building 4209 in the Aberdeen Area and building E-4017 in the Edgewood Area.

Compressed natural gas and diesel fuel pumps will remain open during forecasted OADs. The use of compressed natural gas in dual fuel vehicles is strongly encouraged to reduce harmful air emissions, especially on a declared OAD.

In the event of an emergency, i.e., an emergency vehicle needs refueling between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., call 410-278-2871/3414 or 410-436-3270 to request DIO personnel to open the pumps.

CWF sponsors trip to NYC

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a trip to New York City, July 17, for a day in the 'Big Apple.' Roundtrip charter bus transportation is provided for \$35 per person.

For more information or to make a reservation, call

Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever, 410-278-4603/4771.

EA community yard sale scheduled

The Edgewood Area of APG will hold its community yard sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., July 24 and 25. Rain date will be July 31 and Aug. 1.

Participating housing areas include Everett Road, Deer Run, Skippers Point, Clearview Drive, Chevron Drive and Austin Road.

The Community Life Mayoral Program is sponsoring the yard sale.

TRICARE enrollment freeze at KUSAHC

There will be a freeze on enrollments, changes in primary care managers and transfers during the period July 15 through 18 as Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic transitions from Sierra Military Health Services to Health Net Federal Services.

There will be no routine transfers out of the old Region 1 for 'fee paying' beneficiaries from July 18 through 30.

New enrollments will be accepted Sept. 1 through 10. There will be no changes in primary care managers during this time.

Enrollees should not be adversely affected during this transition.

Openings for CID special agents

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is currently seeking qualified applicants to become highly trained, federal law enforcement special agents.

CID agents have many opportunities to receive training at the FBI National Academy, the Canadian Police College, and Washington University to pursue a master's degree in forensic science.

For additional information, contact Aberdeen Proving Ground Resident Agency CID at 410-278-5261. For more information regarding the application process, visit Web site, www.CID.Army.mil, or visit the Army Knowledge Online (AKO) Web site, and go to the CID link under "MACOM."

Free acupuncture offered to Soldiers

About Chi Acupuncture and Wellness Center, located on 1534 Eastern Avenue, second floor, Baltimore, offers four complimentary treatments of acupuncture and a

therapeutic massage and a reflexology treatment to Soldiers returning from Iraq. Further treatment is available to Soldiers at a significant discount.

Center practitioners believe their services can help Soldiers overcome the physical and emotional stresses of war.

For more information, post-war Soldiers can call 410-342-9702 to schedule a series of treatments.

YC holds Summer Basketball Camp

Bill Lewit, head coach of the Cecil Community College players, will instruct summer basketball camp at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2752. The camp will teach the fundamentals of basketball including passing, shooting, dribbling, rebounding, defense, team play and sportsmanship.

There will be three-on-three and five-on-five league games, and foul shooting and hotshot competitions. Cost is \$50 per CYS member and \$55 per guest. Youths must be registered at the AA and EA Youth Centers by noon, July 22.

Summer basketball camp will be held 6 to 9 p.m., July 26 through 30, for boys and girls in incoming grades 4 through 9.

Youths should bring desire, heart, sneakers, athletic shorts and shirt.

For more information, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297, or e-mail william.kegley@usag.apg.army.mil.

AA meetings held at APG chapel

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at the Aberdeen Post Chapel, building 2485, every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

APG plans Retiree Appreciation Day

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold its annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 to 11:45 a.m., Nov. 13, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Representatives from area agencies to include, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Commissary, Post Exchange, Community and Family Activities and the Veterans Administration will be on hand.

The National Association for Uniformed Services will provide a guest speaker.

Following the program everyone is welcomed to stay for lunch at the Dining Facility, building 4503.

For more information, call Army retirees Col. Charles M. Shadle, chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-663-9263 or Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Decker, co-chairman of the APG Retiree Council, 410-306-1153.

Christian coffee-house opens

The Coffee Grounds, a Christian coffeehouse, is now open 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, and 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday evenings in building 4308, at the intersection of Susquehanna and Erie boulevards. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Live bands, open mike nights, and various readings are scheduled for Saturday nights. Both nights feature coffee and snacks in a Christian gathering.

For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Mike Curtis at 410-278-3976.

WET BASEMENTS STINK !!

Mold, mildew and water leaking into your basement causes health and foundation problems. What can be done to fix the problem? Allstate American Waterproofing is an honest, hardworking local company. We will give you a **FREE** evaluation and estimate and a fair price. We have repaired thousands of basements in the area; we can provide local references. When your neighbors needed waterproofing they called Allstate American. Why don't you? Call now to receive a 20% discount with your **FREE ESTIMATE.**

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Once you've decided to leave the military, think about going above and beyond with a part-time job in the Air Force Reserve. In most cases, you'll retain your rank and continue to accrue retirement benefits. To learn more, go to www.afreserve.com/prior or call 800-AFR-8279.



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Tip of the Week

To reduce solid waste, purchase concentrates, larger sized container, or products in bulk.

APG Pollution Prevention Program

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50 -- Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard.
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520 -- The movie theater will be closed July 2 and 3.

RAISING HELEN

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 7 P.M.

Starring: Kate Hudson, John Corbett

Helen (Hudson) is living the life she always dreamed of—her career is on the rise; she spends her days at fashion shows and nights at the hottest clubs. But her carefree lifestyle comes to a screeching halt when her sister and brother-in-law are killed in a car crash, leaving her to care for their three kids, 15-year-old Audrey, 10-year-old Henry, and 5-year-old Sarah. Helen finds support in the most unusual place - with Dan Parker (Corbett), the handsome young pastor and principal of the children's new school - and realizes the choice she has to make is between the life she's always loved and the new loves of her life. (Rated PG-13)

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 9 P.M.

Starring: Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal

A climatological disaster ravages the world beyond recognition. Paleoclimatologist, Professor Adrian Hall (Quaid), tries to save the world from the effects of global warming while also trying to get to his son, Sam (Gyllenhaal), who was in New York City as part of a scholastic competition, when the city was overwhelmed by the chilling beginnings of the new Ice Age. In addition to all of the other challenges Dr. Hall faces, he's also going against the flow as humanity races south to warmer climes, and he's nearly the only one going north. (Rated PG-13)

SHREK 2 (FREE ADMISSION)

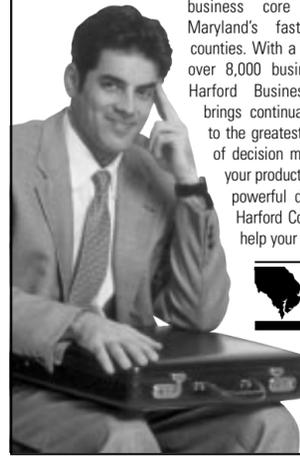
SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1 P.M. AND 7 P.M.

Starring: Voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz

Shrek and Fiona return from their honeymoon to find Fiona's parents inviting them to dinner. Fiona's parents anticipate the homecoming of their daughter and her new Prince. But no one could have prepared them for the sight of their new son-in-law. (Rated PG)



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Community Notes

SATURDAY JULY 3

KINGSVILLE PARADE

The Greater Kingsville Civic Association in cooperation with the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company will sponsor the Kingsville 4th of July parade 10 a.m., rain or shine.

Maj. Lisa Maddox, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, will perform the national anthem with John Carroll High School Band.

For more information, call 410-592-7385.

MONDAY

JULY 5

ORIOLES OFFER DISCOUNTED TICKETS TO MILITARY/VETERAN

FAMILIES

In recognition of Independence Day, the Orioles are offering discounted tickets to military personnel (including veterans) and their family members for the July 5 day-night split admission doubleheader against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. The games will be played at 1:35 and 7:05 p.m.

Military personnel may purchase tickets for \$5 each at every Orioles game, but as an additional gesture of appreciation, the team is extending the offer to include military family members as well on this day. Adults may purchase upper or lower reserve tickets for \$5 each and family members 14 and under will be admitted for \$1 each per game for both games.

Tickets may be purchased on

the day of the game or in advance by calling 1-888-848-BIRD.

FRIDAY JULY 9 CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The second annual Camber Corporation Charity Golf Tournament will be held at the Wetlands Golf Club, 740 Gilbert Road, Aberdeen.

Registration begins at 7 a.m.; tee time is 9 a.m. The cost of \$90 will cover the greens fee and cart, a continental breakfast, lunch, unlimited beverages and plenty of prizes.

The format will be Best Ball or Captain's Choice (scramble). Proceeds will benefit the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.



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UNDER CONTRACT



Bel Air - 2BR, 3BA Condo THS w/garage in Dallam Place community. This home was a Builder model w/numerous builder options. Marble FP in LR w/2 story ceilings. Master BR w/full MBA suite included. 2 person soaking tub. Lg FR in LL. Contact Sandie Shanks @ 410-935-1975. (52D)



MAJORS CHOICE - 4 BR Colonial w/ large country kitchen and adjoining FR w/ vaulted ceilings and wood burning brick FP. New ceramic tile in foyer. Full master bath. Fenced rear yard. Excellent Bel Air location. Call Margeaux Schunk @ 443-421-1521



OWINGS MILLS/TURNLEIGH - Recently remodeled 4BR, 2BA Colonial. Lg front porch, foyer w/custom painting, updated kitchen w/custom tray ceiling & brkfst bar, etc. Call Beverly Foltz @ 410-937-8253.

TOO NEW FOR PHOTO



CANTON - Lg 3BR brk frt TH. 9ft ceilings, remodeled country kit w/new oak cabinets. Fully finished LL w/separate laundry-utility area. New wndws and updated HVAC. Gorgeous! Call Sandie Shanks @ 410-935-1975.

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Host families needed

Ripken Stadium hosts Cal Ripken World Series

APG News

Host families are needed for two children each representing Canada, Australia, South Korea, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and the United States competing in the Cal Ripken World Series Aug. 10 through 22.

Volunteer parents will be required to provide a bed for the children (two from the same country),

and carpool them to every game or arrange transportation with another host family.

The family will receive a gift certificate from Klein's Supermarket and free attendance to the games, plus other gratuities.

To volunteer as a host family, call Lindsay Thomas, 410-823-0808 or e-mail Lindsay@ripken-foundation.org.



Visit **APG News** online at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

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Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Shirley Caesar returning to APG

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Shirley Caesar, the first lady of gospel will return to Aberdeen Proving Ground for a gospel extravaganza on Shine Sports Field July 18.

The concert includes special guest Evelyn Turrentine-Agee, the BCD Ensemble and local choirs.

With an exhaustive list of career credits including 18 Dove, 13 Stellar, and 11 Grammy awards, singer and pastor Shirley Caesar tirelessly works for one great cause, to praise God.

Her most recent effort, "Shirley Caesar and Friends" is a collection of collabora-

tions intended to bridge gaps in entertainment. The CD features duets with gospel legends and some of the most recognizable names in popular music, like Patti LaBelle, Gladys Knight, Dottie Peoples, Kim Burrell and Kirk Franklin.

Caesar defines gospel music and shows no signs of slowing down.

She was featured in the movie, "The Fighting Temptations" with Cuba Gooding Jr. and Beyonce that debuted September 2003, and has made guest appearances on UPN's "The Parkers."

Despite an obstacle-filled childhood Caesar believes the Lord trusts her to deliver the



Shirley Caesar

word and finding more outlets for His great teachings.

"If it's not saying anything to the people, I don't want it," Caesar said.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 the day of the show.

For tickets, call Ticketmaster at 800-551-

SEAT; visit Morale, Welfare and Recreation Registration in building 3326 or call 410-278-4907; visit the Hoyle Fitness Center in building E-4210 or call 410-436-7134.

For more information, visit the MWR Web site at www.apgmwr.com.

SWIMMING/POOL INFO

APG pool openings

Bayside, building 3325, and Olympic pools, building E-4655, are open 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Sunday.

The Shore Pool, building 2031, hours are 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

Fees

Daily: \$3 per person

Individual monthly fee: active duty E1 - E4, \$12.50; all others, \$25

Family monthly: active duty E1 - E4, \$25; all others, \$35, Individual Season: active duty E1 - E4, \$25; all others, \$50

Family season: active duty E1 - E4, \$50; all others, \$80

Passes are available for purchase at Outdoor Recreation, building 2407 or Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210.

For more information, call the Equipment Resource Center at 410-278-4124 or send an e-mail to outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons run July 12 through 23 for youths and Aug. 2 through 13 for adults at the Shore and Bayside pools.

Each class will consist of 10 lessons conducted Monday through Friday.

Lessons include 45 minutes of instruction, 10 minutes of practice time and 5 minutes to clear the pool.

Each class is limited to the first 20 signups.

Class schedules are as follows:

July 12 through 23

Teens, ages 13 through 18, 8 to 9 a.m.; youth, ages 6 through 12, 9 to 10 a.m.; children, ages 3 through 5, 10 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 2 through 13

Adults, age 19 and older, 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person with a 10 percent discount off for each additional family member.

Registration is open to everyone. Register at Outdoor Recreation or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center.

Collect Striker toys during Bowling for Bucks

Through Aug. 31, the APG Bowling Center will be offering Bowling for Bucks, the popular series that allows customers to purchase bowling bucks to buy prizes at the auction party at the end of the 2-month promotion.

Collect Bowling Bucks to purchase one of three 9-inch Striker toys, adorable plush collectibles, available with every purchase of \$5 or more.

In addition to food and beverage specials, music, free or discounted bowling and other specials, customers can bid on a 36" Striker doll, a 7-day vacation package from www.GovArm.com and Trading Places, Harley-Davidson shirts, coolers, any remaining 9-inch Striker toys, bowling parties and more.

For more information, visit the APG Bowling Center; call 410-278-4041; or visit the MWR Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

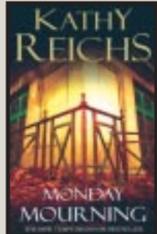
LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday. For more information, call 410-436-3589.

The following is a list of some new books available at the APG MWR libraries:

Monday Mourning by Kathy Reichs

Forensic scientist Tempe Brennan isn't happy. It's freezing in Montreal, her detective boyfriend is giving her the cold shoulder and her macho colleagues won't take her seriously. When she is called in to examine three skeletons discovered in the basement of a pizza parlor, her instincts tell her a crime was recently committed



Little Scarlet by Walter Mosley

The Narrows by Michael Connelly

The Jane Austen Book Club by Karen Joy Fowler

Four Souls by Louise Erdrich

The library's Web site, www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html, provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

FITNESS CLASSES

EA Fitness classes

Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210

Power Step: 11:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday

This class uses "the step" for 60 minutes of intense cardio workout. Abdominal strengthening exercises and a relaxing cool down are also included.

Power Bar: 11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, Thursday

A total body strengthening class that uses the power bar (a weighted bar), the step, hand weights and tubing for resistance.

Abs Blaster, Mat Pilates and Hatha Yoga classes are cancelled.

AA Fitness classes

AA Fitness Center, building 320

Step & Sculpt: 11:30 a.m., Monday

Class consists of cardiovascular conditioning using "the step." Hand weights are also used to sculpt. The class ends with abdominal and flexibility exercises.

Power Cut: 4:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday; 11:30 a.m., Thursdays

A 60-minute class that uses barbells or dumbbells for conditioning and strengthening, the class uses high repetitions to exhaust the muscle groups.

Step/Conditioning: 5 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday

This class uses "the step" in combinations with various sports conditioning moves to provide cardiovascular improvement as well as muscle conditioning.

Mat Pilates: 6 p.m., Wednesday

Double Step: 11:30 p.m., Wednesday

This class uses two steps for a more challenging workout. Muscle toning and a relaxing cool down follow.

Gut Cut: 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays

This is a 30-minute workout designed to sculpt and strengthen the abdominal and lower back muscles.

Aerobic Kickboxing: 5 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays

The class consists of a cardio workout that combines traditional high/low aerobics with punches and kicks.

APG Athletic Center, building 3300

Yoga Fit: 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday

Yoga class based on aerobic format, warm-up, workout phase and cool down.

Activities

MWR has exciting and entertaining events planned for APG.

Upcoming concerts include the Miller Lite Army Concert

Tour presenting Montgomery Gentry and Blue County on July 17.

Shirley Caesar returns to APG for another concert July

18.

To learn more, visit the MWR Website, <http://www.apgmwr.com> or call 410-278-4497.

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Social Hour at Top of the Bay

A "social" hour, 4 to 8 p.m. will be held in the Gunpowder Lounge at Top of the Bay every Friday. It is cancelled for the upcoming holiday weekend.

Sponsored by Bank One, <http://www.bankone.com/>, and

Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, <http://www.apgfcu.com/>, a cash bar and free munchies will be open to everyone.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

School's out, Chesapeake Challenge is in

The Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is fully operational through September. Hours are 5 to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 5 to 10 p.m., Friday; 1 to 10 p.m., Saturday and 1 to 8 p.m., Sundays and holidays.

Amusements include Go-Kart rides, miniature golf, batting cages and arcade room.

Go-kart riders must be 54 inches or taller to ride single.

Parties, special events and group packages are also available.

For more information or to get group rates, contact Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Volunteers Needed

Edgewood Arts and Crafts is looking for volunteers to help out during the summer months, 1 to 9 p.m., Thursday and 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

To sign up or for more information, call Holly Shisler at 410-436-2153.

ARTS & CRAFTS

To register for classes held at the Edgewood Arts & Crafts, building E-4440, 410-436-2153, call or visit during hours of operation or at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011.

Ceramics

This basic ceramics class teaches the fundamentals of mold pouring, glazing and painting, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 10. Cost is \$15 including supplies.

Woodshop Orientation

The woodshop orientation is a safety course, required in order to use the woodshop, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., July 10. Cost is \$5.

Gentry

From front page

"It's tough having a family and being on the road," Gentry said. "I came home one night with the taste of alcohol still in my mouth. When I looked in on them, it made me realize my kids look up to me for guidance and to help them grow."

The group's first CD, "Tattoos & Scars" in 1999 was certified platinum and "Carrying On," in 2001, went gold.

Gentry said their songs praise America, its freedoms, and the problems and joys of "regular folks."

"We were both raised to be patriotic but we're not caught up in being politically correct," Gentry said. "We live in

the greatest country with freedoms you don't have in a lot of other places. We appreciate that and we love to share that appreciation with our fans."

The duo enjoys getting to know its fans around the country, he added.

"We're very fortunate to have as many fans as we do. It always surprises me to see so many faces singing our songs right along with us," he said.

Both native Kentuckians, together since 1994, Eddie Montgomery and Troy Gentry come from a world in which muscle cars, honky-tonks and hell raising are the hard-earned rewards for the toil and struggle that make up the working-class landscape.

Fans should expect to be "totally entertained" at Montgomery Gentry concerts, Gentry said.

"We want them to get their money's worth from our

shows," he said. "We put a lot of time and hours into getting it right for all those fans willing to spend money and stand in lines to see us."

"Performing for the military makes what they do even more special," he added.

"It goes back to patriotism and not taking our freedom for granted," Gentry said. "We wouldn't have that if not for those who sacrifice to keep our country safe."

Miscellaneous concert information

The Miller Lite Army Entertainment concert featuring Montgomery Gentry and special guest Blue County will be held on Shine Sports Field July 17.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Guests may bring blankets and lawn chairs. No cameras, pets, food or drinks allowed.

This is a rain or shine concert.

Tickets are available at MWR Registration in building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011 or in the Edgewood Fitness Center, building E4210, 410-436-7134.

For more information, call MWR Registration at 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_Registration@usag.apg.army.mil, or visit the Web site <http://www.apgmwr.com>.

Essay contest ends tomorrow

July 2 is the deadline to enter the 'Meet Montgomery Gentry' essay contest. MWR is hosting the contest to win two tickets to the July 17 concert and a "Meet and Greet" with band members. Runner-up prizes include CDs, autographed hats, posters and T-shirts.

The essay must be titled, "Why I deserve to meet

Montgomery Gentry," and be no more than 100 words in length.

The contest is open to APG employees or residents. Community Recreation Division employees or family members are not eligible to participate. Only one submission per person is allowed.

The entrant's name should not appear on the essay. A cover sheet should include the entrant's name, on-post telephone number, e-mail address, APG organization address, and status (active duty, civilian, contractor, family housing occupant).

Send essays by mail to MWR Marketing, 3330 Raritan Ave., APG MD 21005, or fax to 410-278-9537, or e-mail to mwr.marketing@usag.apg.army.mil, or drop off the essay at the APG Athletic Center, Hoyle Gym, or the Aberdeen or Edgewood

Area Recreation centers.

For more information, call 410-278-4497.

Volunteers needed

Morale, Welfare and Recreation needs volunteers for the Miller Lite Army Entertainment Concert featuring Montgomery Gentry and Blue County July 17.

Jobs include gate workers, ticket sellers, concession workers, sponsorship assistants, warehouse workers, and photographers. Licensed bus drivers and parking attendants are also needed.

Volunteers must be 18 or older and available to work from 4 p.m. to midnight. Staff T-shirts and training will be provided.

For more information, call Ruth Overbay at 410-278-9536 or e-mail her at ruth.overbay@usag.apg.army.mil.

Commentaries

To die for love of country



**Chaplain (Maj.)
Joseph L. Di Gregorio**
USAGAPG

There's a Latin axiom which reads, "Dulce et Decorum est, pro Patria Mori." Translated it means it is sweet and just to die for one's country.

This 4th of July offers us an opportunity to consider 'Love of Country.'

Heroic Love is our most noble possibility. Buddhists teach: "A mother will watch over her child even at the risk of her own life, so let everyone cultivate a boundless love for all beings."

J. Glen Gray, in his book, "The Warriors," tells of heroic love in World War II. In Holland, a German soldier appointed to an execution squad is ordered to shoot innocent hostages. When the hostages arrive, he puts down his gun. He refuses to kill them. His comrades charge him immediately with treason. They line him up with the hostages and execute him.

This inspiring episode reveals a basic nobility in mankind. It was a story the Dutch people would not forget.

Aristotle says, "The good person does much for the sake of his friends and country. If necessary, he will die for them. He will give up wealth and honors for them. Those who die for others achieve nobility."

Among the Hindus there is a proverb, "Men without love think only of self. But love strips them to the bone for others."

In 1759, Adam Smith, the

economist, reflected, "A brave man ought to die rather than make a promise he can neither keep without folly or violate without ignominy."

As our nation prepares to celebrate the 4th of July, we ought to remember that it was love of country that enabled our founding fathers to pledge their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

Our celebration of the 4th of July should call us to no less a challenge.

Our brothers and sisters continue to serve in harms way, many have given their lives so that this nation, born in the belief that all people are endowed by their creator with rights, not given by man, but by the will and love of a merciful and benevolent God, is mankind's greatest and noblest legacy.

In St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells us that "much will be required of a person, to whom much is given." (Luke 12:48). I think we can safely make the assumption that this mandate

should also be applied to us, citizens of a nation blessed by divine providence with so great an abundance. Can we possibly think that this gift of the Almighty was given simply because we deserved it? Or could it be that God loves us more than any other nation on earth? Obviously not.

Our blessings are to be used to make the world a better place. Whether we use our strength to free other nations held hostage by cruel despots or share our resources with others who are not blessed as we are.

Love of God and love of country are inextricably intertwined. And that is why I believe America has been so blessed by God. We cherish freedom beyond life and we are willing to die for it.

May our nation always remain, as our national anthem proclaims, "The land of the free and the home of the brave". God bless you and may God bless America.

Ministers of war—The amazing chaplaincy of the U.S. military

**Chaplain (Maj.)
Joseph L. Di Gregorio**
UAGAPG

The shooting had long since stopped by the time Richard Kent arrived for his tour of peacekeeping duty in Bosnia. But what the American Soldier saw in an abandoned warehouse in a village called Kravica still haunts his dreams.

Eight years before Kent's arrival, Serbian forces crammed a thousand Bosnian Muslim men into the warehouse, where, according to the U.N. official report, they were "killed by small arms fire and grenades."

Visiting the Kravica warehouse several months later, U.N. personnel were able to see "hair, blood and human tissue caked to the inside walls of this building."

By the time Kent and his fellow Soldiers saw the building, it was being used to store tractors and manure. The only signs of the barn's past was a black mold covering the walls, feeding off the rotting human flesh and blood embedded in its crevices.

Kent went to Bosnia a devout Catholic, but nothing they taught him in catechism

class back in Michigan prepared him for that moldy barn in Kravica.

"When evil of this magnitude is encountered, simple piety is not enough," Kent says today, from his home in Northern Virginia.

"Why does a God who has protected me, a Soldier, through dangers large and small - where was He when the men murdered in this warehouse screamed for His mercy? Why did God allow this genocide?"

It is at this point, when the cruelty that a Soldier has witnessed threatens to overwhelm his understanding and devour his soul, that he may go in search of a chaplain.

Dave Peterson, a Presbyterian minister and retired Army colonel who served as a command chaplain in Operation Desert Storm, says the gruesome slaughter of fleeing Iraqi troops on the so-called "highway of death" back to Baghdad devastated many Americans who fought in that battle.

"We had chaplains talking to some of those troops for a significant amount of time after the fact," Peterson said. "A significant number of

troops just broke down after that. It left a mark, it really did."

If most people think of military chaplains at all, the image that comes to mind is kindly but slightly befuddled Father Mulcahy, from M*A*S*H.

In fact, the more dangerous the mission, the more vital chaplains are to its success.

The nearly 1,400 chaplains in the U.S. armed forces - nearly all Christian, except for about 30 Jewish and 15 Muslim clergy - must be on-the-spot counselors to men and women living through a kind of trauma that few civilians will ever experience.

They prepare Soldiers to kill and to die without losing their souls. They help Soldiers re-integrate into the lives of their families. Chaplains ministering stateside help military families left behind get through months of emotional and sometimes financial hardship.

And, most important, on the battlefield they serve as a sign of the presence of the just and good God in the midst of hell on earth.

Chaplains work on or very close to the front, and do so

unarmed.

To Soldiers under fire, the chaplain's presence is a sign that God has not abandoned them.

A chaplain's importance to the morale of combat Soldiers is so central that if his courage falters during fighting, commanders must immediately replace him or risk the collapse of the entire unit.

The things Soldiers in combat are asked to do and to suffer are so extreme that, in many cases, only a belief that God is with them enables them to endure.

Talking to chaplains, whether they are priests, ministers or rabbis, one is struck by their moral realism and how starkly it contrasts with the weakened sentimentality round among so many clergy today. Theirs is a sterner faith, a manlier piety than mainstream America is accustomed to. It has to be, because the world beyond our shores is filled with hot, cruel places, lands where a faith that has had its moral backbone turned sour by our decadent, Oprah-ized culture cannot hope to survive.

Winning the battle of the hazardous journey



Chaplain (Capt.) Mike Curtis
16th Ordnance Battalion

"MEN WANTED FOR HAZARDOUS JOURNEY. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant anger, safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success." - Ernest Shackleton

British Antarctic explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton (1874-1922) placed this advertisement in London newspapers in 1900 in preparation for the National Antarctic Expedition (which subsequently failed to reach the South Pole). Shackleton later said of the call for volunteers that "it seemed as though all the men in Great Britain were determined to accompany me, the response was so overwhelming."

The Apostle Paul writes that "I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death." (Philippians 1:20)

He wrote these words while under house arrest and unsure of his future on earth.

It is this courage of Paul and of the men who desired to accompany Shackleton that not only serves as an example, but also instructs about courage. Paul faced a real temptation to abandon his faith and his resolute service for Christ. The men who desired to accompany Shackleton faced certain death, but were excited to go.

We are on a hazardous journey, sometimes at work, sometimes in the field, sometimes at home, and, for some in combat. We are on a journey with difficult tasks, some of which seem incredibly daunting, and we often do not want to do them.

We might feel overwhelmed with part of our life, or we might be tempted to abandon our faith for some reason.

But what makes us continue is courage. Courage not only to do the "right thing," but courage to continue in the mission which God has given us.

We can't continue for selfish reasons or because we want something, but we have to continue for what is greater than ourselves. Being part of a larger mission lends courage to our character. Of course the largest mission in the world belongs to God. Being part of his mission—his fight against evil and injustice—is a winning battle as we're promised in the scriptures.

Despite the small wages,

bitter cold, darkness, anger, and danger, we do await honor and glory.

Paul's knowledge of God's work in his life and his surety of a place in heaven are his source of courage—the courage that, no matter what happens to him—he is guaran-

teed great success just for knowing God.

(Editor's note: Capt. Mike Curtis is the chaplain for the 16th Ordnance Battalion and at The Coffee Grounds, A Christian Coffee House, a ministry of the post chapel community.)

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency);

and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.a rmy.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	neuropathy)
Sarah Blevins	Beverly King (caring for husband)
Barbara Boyd (total right joint and hip replacement)	Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
Michael Cain	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Melanie Carns	Flora Ramey (Coulson) (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
Juanita Carter	Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Barbara Crossley	Michael Reynolds
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	Shannon Richards (maternity leave)
Geraldine Eaton	Cheryl L. Roark
David Fletcher	Matthew Ryan
John Furmankiewicz	Leigh Sanders
Renee Gaffney	Marguerite Soper
Melanie A. Hoffman (paranitis, fibromyalgia condition)	Alison Tichenor
Richard Hoffman	Linda Tignor
Janice Johnson (diabetic	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)

Promoting safety for the holiday weekend and beyond



Photo courtesy of MWR
All lifeguards at the APG pools are properly certified with all the latest CPR and lifeguard training.

Ron Kravitz DSHE

Summer fun in the sun is in full swing and strong emphasis on safety is vital.

Military personnel will continue to drive great distances to visit their families and friends.

Swimming, boating, off road driving, barbecuing and fireworks are popular activities for the 4th of July holiday.

Whatever the plan, adopting a risk management program before getting underway for the holiday celebration could save a life.

Forethought and common sense must be exercised when engaging in any activity. To meet the challenge of this extended Fourth of July weekend, keep in mind some safety

hints to minimize risks in order to avoid death and injury

Driving

If highway bound, make sure the vehicle is in excellent operating condition. Always carry a roadside emergency and first aid kit, and extra water in hot climates.

Putting on a safety belt is the first thing drivers should do when getting in a car. It takes all of three seconds to do. Wearing a safety belt is a simple habit and can make all the difference between walking away from a crash or being carried off on a stretcher.

Keep children safe. The back seat is the safest place for children to ride, and all children must be restrained with the correct safety equipment.

Don't speed. Speeding re-

duces a driver's ability to steer safely around curves or objects in the road. Drivers never know what's around that next corner: a deer, stalled car, or pedestrian in the roadway.

Most importantly, do not drink and drive and equally important, don't get into a vehicle with a driver who has been drinking and driving.

Swimming

Common sense tells swimmers to swim where lifeguards are present. They are trained to identify hazards and help a swimmer in trouble. Never dive into the water unless the depth of the water is known, and what obstacles are below. A bad decision could leave a swimmer paralyzed for life. Parents should not leave children unsupervised around water.

Boating

Taking a boating course, filing a float plan, never exceeding the boat's maximum capacity, wearing a personal flotation device and keeping an eye on the weather are all important when boating.

Equally important is to save the alcohol for later.

Off road driving

Operators of all terrain vehicles should receive training before operating a vehicle or ATV off road. Knowing the

condition and route being taken allows a driver to alter speed as necessary in areas with limited visibility or poor road conditions. Maintain proper speed and wear personal protective equipment.

Barbecue safety

Follow manufacturer's instructions for lighting and extinguishing gas grills. There is a right way and a wrong way.

Alcohol

Moderation, moderation, moderation. Drink responsibly. Know when enough is enough.

Fireworks

APG Regulation 420-1, chapter 7, paragraph 7, prohibits the "possession, sale, distribution and use of fireworks on the installation except for licensed commercial displays."

The best advice is leave them to the professionals. Attend a local event.

Fireworks injuries account for thousands of trips to the emergency room each 4th of July.

An emergency room physician offers some tips to help us keep our Independence Day celebrations safe.

As the July 4th holiday approaches, most of us are anticipating cookouts, get-



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
All equipment from the Equipment Resource Center, like this outdoor gas barbecue available for rent, is properly coded and examined to ensure product safety, and includes proper operating instructions.

together and fireworks displays.

Experts caution, however, to use extreme care when setting off fireworks.

More than 10,000 Americans are injured by fireworks each July 4th holiday, and children under age 15 account for almost half of these injuries.

Dr. Paul Wiegand, an emergency physician at Durham Regional Hospital, part of Duke University Health System, says the first rule of safety is to keep young children away from fireworks including sparklers.

"They burn very, very hot.

You can see very extensive burns. They burn up to 1,800 degrees, which can melt gold," Wiegand said.

Additional safety tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission include:

Never drink alcohol when operating fireworks

Keep a bucket of water nearby.

Don't try to handle or re-light malfunctioning fireworks; never ignite fireworks in a metal or glass container; (Editor's note: Author utilized several Web sites to compile these comprehensive guidelines to promote a safer holiday weekend.)

OC&S NCOs escort patient veterans to car show APG Soldiers provide community service

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Upholding a community service commitment to the Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center, Soldiers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School Noncommissioned Officer Academy served as escorts to patients attending a car show on the hospital grounds June 6.

Sgt. 1st Class Anderson Lewis and Staff Sgt. Robert Walker, small group leaders, led 34 Soldiers from Basic NCO courses 19 and 23 to the afternoon event.

Soldiers pushed patients in wheel chairs though the large display of privately owned vintage and antique automobiles that were parked outside the gym.

Several said they enjoyed the afternoon of chatting and camaraderie.

"Outings like this are really good for the patients," said Staff Sgt. Marcus Fields, a BNCOC student from Fort Lewis, Wash. "We chatted for a while. They really enjoy being around Soldiers."

"We all just came out of the field and we're real tired, but you find energy for something like this," said Staff Sgt. Katie Hope, from Fort Bragg, N.C.

"It makes you feel real proud," she added. "Everyone thanks us for the job we're doing but it's our privilege to be out here supporting those who came before us."

"We really enjoyed them today," added Lawrence Gerald, a Vietnam and Desert Storm veteran from Washington, D.C. "We really had a great time with the Soldiers and it's great for [Perry Point] to have stuff like this for us to do."



Sgts. Timothy Garner, left and Samuel Lee of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, chat with a patient as they check out vintage Corvettes during a car show at Perry Point Veterans Administration Health Center June 6. (Patient's name withheld at request of center.)

Military spouses receive President's Volunteer Service Award



Maj. Michael Bush CMA

Four military spouses from Aberdeen Proving Ground were awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award at a volunteer appreciation ceremony held at Edgewood Elementary School May 26.

Silver-level awards for over 250 volunteer hours were presented to Debra Flowers and Tracy Bush. Bronze-level awards for over 100 volunteer hours were presented to Dawn Brown, and to Bethney Davidson, who was unable to attend the ceremony.

Established in 2003, the award was created by President George W. Bush to give presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed over 12-months, demonstrating a sustained commitment to volunteer service.

The award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a

group convened by President Bush to help foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and civic participation among Americans.

Chaired by two-time Super Bowl Champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs, the council is composed of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofit and volunteer service organizations and community volunteering.

Awardees received a letter signed by President Bush, a lapel pin, a certificate denoting the award level, and a letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

Flowers served on the PTA's Executive Board for two years and was elected vice president for the 2003/2004 school year. Her ideas led to the Edgewood Elementary School PTA's philosophy of making events child-centric, teacher-involved, family-oriented and PTA-resourced.

Flowers envisioned PTA events tied into educational events at the school and she wanted these events to provide a fun, family activity as well as a convenient meal. She organized a Family Movie Night at the school in January that spawned the beginning of a string of successful events.

"The Family Movie Night was the most successful event

of the year up to that point and became the organization's blueprint for future events," said Edgewood Elementary Enrichment Teacher Carolyn Lang.

accomplishments while volunteering at the school.

Bush also served on the PTA's Executive Board for two years. She was elected secretary for the 2003/2004 school

"The ability of these women to not just cope with the stress that comes with being married to a service member while the nation is at war, but to also give so much back to the community is truly worthy of the recognition of this award."

-Edgewood Elementary School Principal Allyn Watson

"The most amazing part of this accomplishment was that Flowers achieved this success while her husband, Staff Sgt. Carl Flowers of the Technical Escort Unit, was deployed in Iraq," Lang said.

She also served as the membership committee chairperson, and PTA membership, which, under her leadership and guidance, increased by 44 percent over the past two years. Flowers was re-elected as the PTA Vice President for the 2004/2005 school year as a result of her leadership and

year and was the workhorse of the PTA, accumulating almost 300 hours of volunteer work this past school year. She excelled at keeping the PTA functioning and communicating.

In addition to her duties as secretary, she chaired all of the PTA's fundraising events, a leadership role that very few volunteers desire yet one that is critical to the organization achieving its yearly goals. Bush coordinated resource support for all 24 PTA-organized events this past school

year and she was present and working at 23 of the 24 events.

Bush is the wife of Maj. Mike Bush of the Chemical Materials Agency and was re-elected as the PTA Secretary for the 2004/2005 school year.

Brown became the treasurer of the PTA in December 2003. She brought financial discipline to the organization and had an immediate and positive impact on both the PTA and the school. From mid-December until mid-January Brown revised the entire financial foundation of the PTA and led the organization through a self-imposed audit. This effort allowed the PTA to shift the focus of the organization from bookkeeping back to child advocacy and parental involvement in education.

Brown is the wife of Sgt. 1st Class James Brown of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion. She is also one the most respected and requested substitute teachers at Edgewood Elementary School. Brown was re-elected as the PTA treasurer for the 2004/2005 school year.

Davidson served as a member of the PTA's Executive Board for the past two school years.

"She is a master at organizing school activities and generating support," said Edgewood Elementary Principal Allyn Watson. "She has a positive and friendly aura that radiates to all those around her, and everything that she is

involved in is successful.

"She single-handedly planned, advertised and executed the Spring Dance, the most successful event of the 2003/2004 school year," Lang said. "Attendance at this event was three to four times greater than any previous event and set a new standard for parental support for Edgewood Elementary School future events," Watson said.

Like Flowers, this was done while her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Richard Davidson of the Technical Escort Unit, was deployed in Iraq.

"These remarkable women serve as role models in our community, donating their time, energy and talent to help create a positive learning environment for our children."

"The ability of these women to not just cope with the stress that comes with being married to a service member while the nation is at war, but to also give so much back to the community is truly worthy of the recognition of this award," Watson said.

They both agreed that the President's Volunteer Service Award is one way of thanking these military spouse volunteers and inspiring everyone in the community, both military and civilian, to make volunteering a central part of their lives.

Children explore Wildlife Adventures at CDC



Ryan Trautman, left, Wildlife Adventures programmer, holds out a chinchilla to Vanesa Autry, bottom center, to pet, while Tyler Sipe, center, Leslie Carpenter, right, lead program assistant, and Michael Robinson, bottom right, look on at the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center June 22.

Story and photos by
Meghan Bowen
APG News

The Wildlife Adventures program visited the Child Development Center June 22, where children interacted and learned about a variety of live mammals, amphibians and reptiles.

The program was sponsored by the Parent Child Care Association, an organization comprised of parents who volunteer their time for the benefit of children at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Child Development Center, which tries to sponsor an event every month, according to Lisa Marvel PCCA publicity coordinator.

"We [brought] in the show, called Wildlife Adventures, to introduce the children to different types of small animals," Marvel said.

Children's eyes were focused on the green cloth covered cages that concealed the live animals to be presented by the programmer.

Ryan Trautman, Wildlife Adventures programmer, showed eight different animals to the 3- through 5-year old group. Trautman also presented animals to a group of younger children earlier in the day.

Introducing a gray and white rabbit sized animal, called a chinchilla, Trautman

told the children how chinchilla's, whose natural habitat is in the cold altitudes of the Andes Mountains, use alternative cleaning methods due to the frozen river water.

"This guy takes a special bath. He takes a dust bath," Trautman said.

"Ewww," the children said.

Trautman informed the children about how chinchilla's were in danger of extinction because people used to trap them for their warm coats.

Next, Trautman brought out a box turtle for the children to see.

"Do you know how to tell the difference between a boy and a girl turtle?" Trautman asked.

"Noooo," the children said in unison.

"Well the boy turtles have reddish orange eyes and the girls have brown eyes," Trautman said. "You can also tell by the bottoms of their shells. Boys have a dent and girls are flat on the bottom."

Trautman also taught the children how to tell how old a box turtle is.

"All turtles have 13 scales. Look at one scale and count all the rings in it. This guy's about 20 years old according to his scale," he said.

Trautman also showed students "one of the fastest turtles in the water," a Florida soft-shell water turtle, whose shell

resembles a large pancake.

The next animal, a hedgehog, had a sharper body than the soft-shell turtle.

"Hedgehog's have really sharp hair," said Trautman, adding that they use their hair to protect themselves from enemies.

"He jumps when we try to touch him, because he's scared. He's trying to stab me, because if I was a dog he'd want to stick me in the nose," he said.

Trautman surprised the children with the next small creature.

"Sometimes people get scared and scream when I bring the next guy out. You might want to take a deep breath before I bring him out, because if I drop him he'll break in half," he said.

Trautman pulled a tarantula out and displayed it on his right hand.

"His hair is made out of sugar and yours is made out of protein, but you can't eat him," he said.

Next, Trautman pulled out an amphibian for children to identify.

"Do you think this guy's a frog or a toad?" he asked.

He told the group that it was a toad, because he had big bumps.

"He's more poisonous than the tarantula, but only if I bite him. Nobody wants to bite him, right?" Trautman joked

with the children.

Trautman showed the children how to mimic the toad catching flies for food and had them pretend that their arms were a tongue.

"The back of the toad's tongue starts in the front of his mouth and his eyeballs push the food down his throat," he said.

"Here comes a fly, now try to catch it. Here comes a bee. Uh oh, you got stung and can't eat for a month because your tongue swelled up."

The last two creatures that Trautman showed them were reptiles of the slithering kind.

Trautman brought out a brown and cream-colored King snake which "uses his body as his hands."

Then he asked the children to name a few poisonous snakes. One child shouted out "cobra."

"The King could eat a cobra. He eats copperheads too," Trautman said.

One snake that the King is not allowed to eat was the last animal shared in the wildlife show, a small yellow baby albino Burmese python.

"This guy could grow to be as long as 20 feet and 2 to 300 pounds," Trautman said.

With the snake wound around his arm, Trautman walked with the baby albino python around the room for the children to touch if they liked.

"His skin feels like leather," he said.

Exploring Wildlife Adventures

Wildlife Adventures was started a couple of years ago by William Trautman, Ryan's father, who began his animal-filled career as a Baltimore City biology teacher who found that students responded to learning when live animals were brought into the classroom.

W. Trautman founded the Scales and Tales Outreach Programs for the State Forest and Park Service around 1985, which "grew to be the most popular program ever for the Forest and Park Service," according to the Wildlife Adventure's Web site.

Ryan's brother, Shawn, also works for Wildlife Adventures.

For more information on Wildlife Adventures, visit <http://www.wildlife-adventures.com>.



An assortment of small animals including, pictured from top to bottom, a hedgehog, tarantula and a King snake, were presented to children at the Wildlife Adventures program June 22.



An eagle representing Aberdeen Proving Ground serves as the focal point of the newly refinished gym floor in the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center.

Athletic center flooring completed

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

After closing its gym and four racquetball courts to patrons for nearly four weeks to refinish its flooring the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center reopened these areas to patrons June 28.

Carl Corrigio, chief, Operations Branch, Community Recreation Division, said the process included sanding, applying two coats of sealant and a layer of polyurethane protectant, and repainting the lines on the gym floor.

He said closing the areas allowed time for the contractors to complete the project and for the flooring to dry completely.

"It has to set five-to-seven days once the work is completed," Corrigio said, adding that normal activities resume only after an inspection by the Directorate of Installation Operation and the contractor to ensure no defects are present.

"The center has been in operation since 1997 and the courts had not been refinished since the opening," Corrigio said.

At the CRD's request, painters added an eagle to the center of the gym floor.

"The floor needs a focal point and we already have so many eagles here, we felt it was a good representation of APG," Corrigio said.

He added his thanks to the staff and patrons of the athletic center.

"The CRD appreciates the cooperation of all patrons and understands the inconvenience that this required maintenance created for the many daily users. Our thanks to all for their patience," he said.

KUSAHC offers heat injury prevention training

KUSAHC

Heat injuries are prevented by educating Soldiers and leaders, and through command influence.

Leaders at all levels must work to prevent heat injuries.

During the next several months, unit commanders should emphasize that Soldiers drink plenty of water

and take rest periods during strenuous activities in hot weather.

They also should train their Soldiers to recognize the causes, symptoms, and first aid measures for heat injuries, using the Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks as a guide.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Preventive Medicine

and Wellness offers classes on heat injury prevention and/or a packet with information sheets and a CD power point presentations covering hot/cold weather injury prevention.

For more information, call Capt. Chanda Parrie or Pfc. Demetrius Williams, 410-278-1964.

Perry Point thanks NCOA volunteers

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center thanked the leaders of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools Noncommissioned Officer Academy for its ongoing support of hospitalized veterans during the Volunteer Awards Luncheon held at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace April 21.

The Academy, which includes the Advanced and Basic Noncommissioned Officer courses, has been supporting patient activities as part of its community service support commitment to the hospital for several years, said 1st Sgt. Monte Greenhow, NCOA deputy commandant.

Greenhow and 1st Sgt. Douglas Novak accepted the certificate of appreciation from Cathy Deibel, Perry Point volunteer service specialist.

Greenhow said the notion of supporting yesterday's Soldiers has become "commonplace around the academy."

"We go because we feel good about it and because it's the right thing to do," Greenhow said.

For more than six years the academy's student NCOs have escorted patients to pub-

lic and hospital functions, participated in fishing outings, played softball games, and been a big part of the annual Valentine's Party and Fall Festival he said.

"We just love doing it," Greenhow said. "It's an eye opening experience for every NCO. We plan to continue to support our veterans at Perry Point."

Guests of the program included Dennis H. Smith, director, VA Maryland Health Care System; R. David Edwards, chief, Public and Community Relations, VAMHCS; and Sabrina C. Clark, program manager for Voluntary Service, VAMHCS.

"Your tireless service demonstrates the special love that you have for our veterans, and we thank you for all that you do to keep the promise for those who have served," Smith said.

Sandy Miller, Perry Point recreation therapist, who coordinates activities with patients and NCOA Soldiers, said, "The attention the Soldiers provide is something that we can't do."

"You can see the Nursing Home patient's faces light up when they see the uniforms. We at Perry Point are truly thankful for all the NCO Academy does for our veterans," Miller said.

Chemical

From page 2

Gerald L. Gladney, the Edgewood Chemical Activity and ABCDF commander. "It was reassuring to see our experienced storage and monitoring teams conducting this operation as they have been trained. They contained the vapor leak and kept the com-

munity safe."

Wednesday's mustard vapor leak was the first recorded release in the 60-year history of the Edgewood Area chemical stockpile.

"I think Wednesday's incident underscores our national imperative to safely destroy the Aberdeen chemical agent stockpile," Gladney said. "By safely destroying the mustard agent at the ABCDF, we are permanently removing the

greater risk posed by continued storage."

Since beginning disposal operations in April 2003, workers at the ABCDF have safely neutralized more than 300 tons of mustard agent.

More information about storage and disposal operations at ABCDF is available at the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency's Web site, <http://www.cma.army.mil>.



**We Accept
AAFES
WARRANTIES**



Mechanic

Bldg. 3329 Raritan Ave.

APG, MD

410-272-9001

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:30

MELVIN'S TIRE & AUTO SERVICE, INC.

OIL, LUBE & FILTER

\$16⁹⁵

FREE Preventative Maintenance Check (on request) Lube (where applicable) new filter & up to 5 quarts major brand oil (brands vary). Most cars. Special diesel oil & filter extra. Environmental oil disposal fee may apply in some areas. Call for appointment.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Environmental disposal fee may apply in some areas. Additional shop charges may apply. Vehicles requiring 5w20 may be extra. Offer expires 7/30/04

SUMMER CAR CARE PKG

Spring driving requires regular preventative service to ensure that your car's engine and systems run smoothly.

\$29⁹⁵

This service includes: • Lube, oil change and new filter (up to 5 qts. major brand oil- brands vary). • Top off all other fluids under the hood (excludes extended-life antifreeze). Complete tire rotation. • Check tread depth on all 4 tires. Adjust air pressure to manufacturer's specs. • Inspect battery terminals and connections. • Inspect all belts and hoses for cracks and proper tension.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Environmental disposal fee may apply in some areas. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

SHOCKS & STRUTS

\$10 OFF
EACH SHOCK

\$20 OFF
EACH STRUT

Installation Extra

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Discount off regular price. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

BATTERY SAVINGS

\$5 OFF
REGULAR PRICE

*FREE BATTERY CHECK WITH COUPON. SEE YOUR RETAILER FOR DETAILS.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Discount off regular price. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

COMPUTERIZED ALIGNMENT

\$5 OFF
REGULAR PRICE

4 Wheel thrust angle (Most front wheel drive vehicles) Limited warranty- 6 mos. or 6,000 miles, whichever comes first. Additional parts & labor extra.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Discount off regular price. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE

\$59⁹⁵

Your car may not need a tune-up. Cleans clogged fuel injectors to help restore power & performance. Improve fuel economy.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Discount off regular price. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

RADIATOR MAINTENANCE

\$5 OFF
REGULAR PRICE

Drain radiator and cooling system, includes pressure test of system, inspection of water, hoses and belts. Includes antifreeze. Recommended every 30,000 miles.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Discount off regular price. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

BRAKE SPECIAL
Get Your Brakes In Ship Shape Condtion.

\$20 OFF
REGULAR PRICE

This service includes: Replace front disc pads. • Resurface front rotors. • Inspect brake light system. • Check tread depth on all 4 tires. • Adjust air pressure to manufacturer's specs. Comprehensive analysis of braking system. • Road test.

Melvin's Tire & Auto Services

Most vehicles. Not valid with any other offers. Semi-metallic pads extra. Additional service may be suggested or required at additional cost. Additional shop charges may apply. Offer expires 7/30/04

Call For An Appointment.