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Permit No. 24

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Nov. 14 is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

APG Commissary holiday hours

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Commissary will be open on Sunday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed Monday, Nov. 12, and Tuesday, Nov. 13.

Re-Nu-It centers closed Veterans Day weekend

The Re-Nu-It Center in Edgewood will close at 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 9 and reopen at 8 a.m. on Nov. 13. The Aberdeen Center will be closed Nov. 10, and reopen at 8 a.m. on Nov. 13.

For more information, contact William Settles at 410-278-8814/8815.

Update on FEHB 2001 Open Season

The 2001 Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season runs from Nov. 12 to Dec. 10. Brochures and comparison charts will be distributed as soon as they are received in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Brochures may also be viewed/downloaded from the Office of Personnel Management Web site www.opm.gov/insure/health. All new changes will be effective Jan. 13.

Due to recent events and restricted access to Aberdeen Proving Ground, the annual health fairs have been cancelled this year.

Discounts offered to military

Servicemembers interested in receiving discounts available for military personnel should visit the Military Discounts page at Military.com. The listing can be found at: www.military.com/Resources/ResourceSubmittedFileView?ESRC=mr.nl&file=discounts.htm.

Power outage at Sierra on Nov. 11

This Sunday, Nov. 11, Sierra Military Health Services will experience a power outage in order to upgrade computer equipment. The power outage will occur from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Patients will be unable to schedule appointments at 1-888-999-5195 during this transition.

See SHORTS, page 2

DOIM increases computer security

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Directorate of Information Management is implementing security measures that will impact all computer users on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Firewalls are being installed to increase security on the APG network. Also a computer lockdown to secure standard desktops and eliminate unauthorized software is being implemented within the garrison, Ordnance Center and Schools, as well as some smaller tenants.

Mike Reynolds, DOIM security analyst, said the change is being made in accordance with requirements under the Department of Defense Information Technology Security Certification and Accreditation Process.

All tenants at APG are required to have a DITSCAP accreditation package completed by Jan. 30. This means that to continue operations, the DITSCAP accreditation will produce an agreement between DOIM and its tenants enabling them to receive services and to connect to each other via the non-secure network, known as the NIPRNET. Without this agreement, tenant organizations are subject to disconnection.

"The DITSCAP prescribes procedures for certification and accreditation of automated information systems, networks and

See SECURITY, page 7



Bucket brigade

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
A helicopter fills a Bambi bucket with water from the Chesapeake Bay near Woodpecker Point on Aberdeen Proving Ground. Helicopters from the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and the National Guard helped battle a multi-acre brush fire in a remote area of APG Nov. 5 to 7. See story in next week's APG News.

Garrison employees briefed on new Commercial Activities Study

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison were informed about a new Commercial Activities, A-76, Study during two briefings at the Post Theater, Oct 29 and 30.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG garrison and deputy installation commander conducted the briefing, introducing the garrison's new CA team members. They include CA manager, Liz Bowman and Core Team members, Heather Coursey, Dawn Remus, Alice Bell and Farrell Dreisbach. Support elements include the Robert Morris Acquisition Center, the Civilian Personnel Assistance Center, the Legal Office and the Small Business Office.

Mark said the study, which officially began Oct. 12, was expected and will proceed despite the nation being at war.

"The Secretary of the Army has said the A-76 process will continue," Mark said. She added that personnel would be kept

informed of occurrences through the CA hotline accessible through the Outlook Address Book and the APG Web site. She encouraged all listeners to air their questions or comments through these outlets.

"We intend to publish all letters in the APG News and on the Web site," Mark said, adding that all inquiries would be welcome.

"I am very interested in this process to ensure we get a working garrison," she said.

Mark said she wanted the work force to know that the garrison is competing for the consolidated Directorate of Installation Operations, DIO, with 371 positions within the DIO being studied.

The team will build on the previous CA study, verifying and updating information, Bowman said.

"We have functional experts in each study area providing input. We are not writing it ourselves," Bowman said.

In addition, personnel from DPW and DIO

See CA STUDY, page 7

CO2 training focuses on crisis reaction

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Reclaiming a personal sense of security in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks was the focus of a Consideration of Others, or CO2, workshop for employees of the Robert Morris Acquisition Center and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, held Oct. 25 at Top of the Bay.

Linda Fatkin, a research psychologist with the Human Research and Engineering Directorate, ARL, and a board-certified expert in traumatic stress, created the slide presentation in anticipation of the needs of supervisors and employees of local organiza-

tions. Robert A. Richer, organizational improvement specialist with the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command's Homeland Defense business unit, led the workshop.

Richer said the program was designed to help workers understand their reactions and the reactions of others since the tragedies, and to identify and discuss effective coping strategies.

"We have been experiencing normal responses to an abnormal event," Richer said. "Recognizing those responses in ourselves and in others is the first step toward overcoming

See TRAINING, page 5

Mixing chemicals to create a 'love of science' reaction

Sheila Little
APG News

In an effort to build a greater understanding of science, a team of American Chemical Society members from the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center volunteered to assist Harford County fifth graders set up, conduct, and evaluate 'fun' experiments, in the classroom.

The program called Kids & Chemistry is an outreach program organized by the

American Chemical Society. Two years ago, Suzanne Procell, an SBCCOM chemist, formed a local group comprised of 15 APG-related scientists and teachers. The goal of the Kids & Chemistry program is to spark an interest in science and, emphasizing safety, show students that learning through supervised chemical experimentation can be a lot of fun.

"We developed hands-on experiments that we felt were fun and would enable each student to explore common chemical principles," Procell said, adding that the focus was

on fifth graders because "they are old enough to grasp the concepts in chemistry that we are trying to convey."

Volunteers for the Kids & Chemistry program are participate in three separate one-hour classes with the students, bringing safety and experiment equipment, hand-outs to fill in results, and materials to conduct the tests. Experiments include making 'jiggle jelly,' so students can learn about polymers and chemical reactions; and a class on color, in which students learn the chemistry behind color changing

See CHEMISTRY, page 12

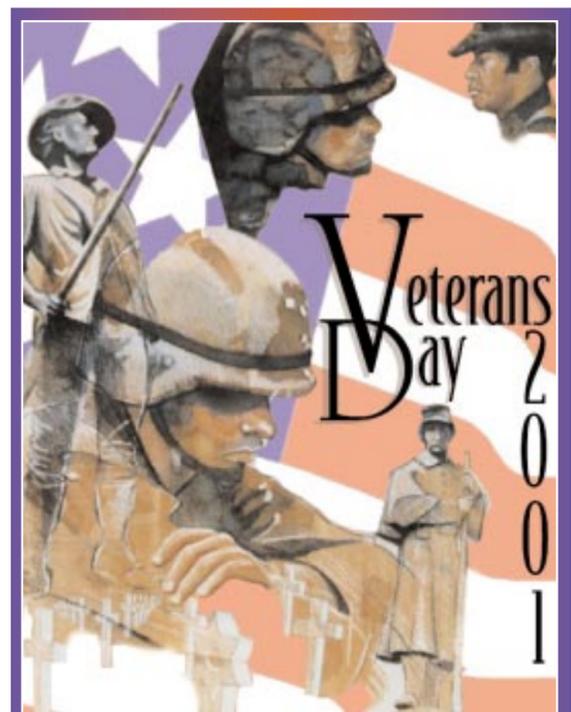


Photo-illustration by DIANE BURRIER (with excerpt from 1991 watercolor painting "Take a Trip With Me" by SFC PETER G. VARISANO)

The following is a joint Veterans Day message from Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army, and Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff:

On November 11th, our nation pauses on Veterans Day to honor those American men and women who served our country in uniform. This year, two short months after suffering the most horrific act of war in our country's history, it is only right that we pay tribute to those whose sacrifices and selfless service purchased for us the privileges of freedom, democracy, and unmatched opportunity that we enjoy in the United States - the greatest country on earth. From the first battle of the American Revolution through our ongoing war against terrorism, in conflicts that shook the foundation of civilization and in humanitarian missions that saved countless lives, our veterans provided the sword and shield that protected our Nation.

Veterans Day also provides an opportunity for us to thank the soldiers serving in the Army today, continuing the great legacy of those veterans who marched before us.

See MESSAGE, page 11



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Patrick Trecziak, left, and Deon Francis, fifth grade students at Roye-Williams Elementary School, work together to mix the formula for 'slime,' one of the more popular creations at the first session of Kids & Chemistry. Students were able to take home a few of their initial experiment successes, sharing their science enthusiasm with their families.

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143rd soldiers support Darlington Apple Festival

POST SHORTS

SHORTS from front page

Irish Veterans Memorial Project

Representatives of the Irish Veterans Memorial Project seek to establish a memorial in Ireland to all Irish men and women who served in military forces outside Ireland during the 20th century, in particular, those who made the ultimate sacrifice in U.S. conflicts and with other allied forces. The site chosen for the memorial will include a memorial to all who served as well as an historical exhibition and research center.

For more information, write to Declan Paul Hughes, Coordinator, Irish Veterans Memorial Project, Capel Chambers, 119 Capel Street, Dublin 1, Republic of Ireland, e-mail dectwth@eircom.net, or telephone 001-353-1-87 22 371.

TSP open season approaches

The Thrift Savings Plan Open Season will be held Nov. 15 to Jan. 31. During the open enrollment period employees may elect to enroll in TSP or change their current TSP deduction.

TSP Open Season Update Pamphlets will be distributed to agency administrative offices upon receipt in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

Employees are now required to contact the Army Benefits Center-Civilian, or ABC-C, at 1-877-276-9287 or www.abc.army.mil to enroll in TSP or change the amount of their contribution. Employees must also contact the TSP Office at 1-504-255-8777 or www.tsp.gov if they wish to change their fund allocation. Personal Identification Numbers are required for both ABC-C and TSP.

Employees who wish to change the way their current balance is invested must request a TSP Interfund Transfer. Interfund transfers can be made by calling the TSP office, using the Web site, or completing a TSP-50.

For more information, contact your servicing personnel assistant, Aberdeen Proving Ground CPAC.

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. This is an open discussion meeting available to the entire Aberdeen community, military and civilian. Light refreshments are served. For more information call Jack K. at 410-734-4396.

Troop 313 looking for alumni

Boy Scout Troop 313 is trying to locate anyone associated with the troop for its 75th anniversary. A celebration is tentatively scheduled for March 2002.

For more information, call Barry Williams at 410-569-8927 or e-mail barrywilliamsb@cs.com.

Bids being accepted for sale items

The Installation Morale Welfare and Recreation Fund has the following items for sale.

Chrysler Utilimaster Step Van V-6, 1991 (No minimum bid is required.)

GMC crew cab pickup, 1988 (No minimum bid is required.)

Wells Cargo utility trailer, 1990 (A minimum bid of \$500 is required.)

Items can be viewed at Army Lodging, building 5472, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, thru Nov. 15.

The sale will be sealed bid. All bids must be received by Nov. 16 by the close of business. There will be no refunds. Items are sold "as is."

Payment may be made by check or credit card. Purchaser must remove property within 72 hours after contacted. All bids should be mailed or turned into Army Lodging, building 2207, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005, ATTN: Richard McClain, 410-278-4373 extension 7722. For more information, call Preston Hill, 410-278-7217.

NAF health benefits open season 2001

Nonappropriated Funds employees are reminded Open Season 2001 runs through Nov 16. Eligible employees (regular full-time and regular part-time) may enroll or make changes to health insurance coverage without restriction; join and/or make changes to their life insurance elections; elect or decline the feature for a health insurance option that allows them to pay the employer share of the premium with pre-tax dollars; join the retirement program; enroll in the 401K program and update beneficiaries and mailing addresses.

Employees that have not received Open Season information at their home address may visit NAF Personnel, Lower Level, building 305, to pick up Open Season literature, or access the Internet at www.nafbenefits.com. Rates and benefits coverage have changed; therefore, all employees are encouraged to carefully consider the benefit options. For further information or an appointment call 410-278-5126/5127/8994. All changes MUST

be processed no later than Nov. 16 and will be effective January 2002.

VFW Post and Auxiliary 5337 in Abingdon seeks members

VFW Post and Auxiliary 5337 are looking for new members to help us assist youth, servicemen and veterans. To be eligible you must have served in foreign service during a war. To join the auxiliary, your husband, father, grandfather, brother or son must have served. VFW Post and Auxiliary 5337 is a nonprofit organization. Call today to see if you are eligible to join. For more information, call 410-272-7019 or visit VFW Post 5337 in Abingdon, Md., or you may contact the VFW nearest to you.

Pollution Prevention

To save water: Use a broom instead of a hose to clean off your driveway or sidewalk.



APG Pollution Prevention Program, Environmentally Preferable Product and Affirmative Procurement Policy

Defense Commissary Agency announces scholarships for military children program

Applications for the second annual Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program are available at the commissary and for download at www.commissaries.com.

Qualified sons and daughters of U.S. military ID card holders, to include active duty, retirees, and Guard/reserves, may apply for the \$1,500 scholarships. Eligibility of applicants, including survivors of deceased members, will be determined using the Defense Department ID Card Directive. The complete package must be received at the commissary no later than Feb. 5.

Two major changes in the 2002 program. Students will not have to show ID at the commissary when turning in their applications. Student eligibility will be verified through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, before scholarships are awarded. Sponsors should ensure that their children are enrolled in DEERS prior to applying for a scholarship. Students are encouraged to hand deliver applications, but they can be mailed to the nearest commissary.

USAWOA November meeting

The Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will hold their November meeting in the Regimental Room at Top of the Bay on Nov. 15 at 11:30 a.m. The Christmas fundraiser and holiday festivities will be discussed. For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Jane Jones, chapter vice-president, 410-278-4979, or e-mail nelda.jones@ocs.apg.army.mil.

Programs available to help when relocating with an Exceptional Family Member

A big part of military life is relocation. There are many military assistance programs available to help you and your family deal with issues that can arise during a move. For a family with an exceptional family member who has special needs, the confusion can be particularly stressful. To avoid some of the less desirable "adventures," it may be a good idea to map out your strategy before you move. This is especially important regarding school, and your child's special education, medical and housing needs.

If you will be experiencing a Permanent Change of Station with an exceptional family member call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP manager at 410-278-7474/4372.

School bus drop-off policy reiterated

If the Harford County public schools experience an unscheduled early dismissal and there is not an adult available to meet young children, or if a bus cannot access an on-post bus stop, the bus will take the children to the Youth Centers. Youth Center staff will attempt to contact the parents.

It is imperative that parents tape a card inside each child's book bag with the child's name, address, telephone number, and emergency points of contact. If young children arrive at the Youth Center and do not have this information or do not know how to reach their parents, the Youth Center staff has no way to

communicate with the parents. This policy applies during an unscheduled early dismissal or in the event of an emergency when the bus does not have access to a particular bus stop. Routinely, if young children are not met by an adult at the bus stop, the bus will return children to the school and school personnel will contact the child's parents. For additional information, contact Linda Holloway, Aberdeen Proving Ground school liaison officer, at 410-306-4520.

After Hours Clinic

Effective immediately the After Hours Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is closed on Sundays and holidays. Patients needing advice on their health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518. If you feel you have an emergency problem, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

Openings at EA Child Development Center

The Edgewood Area Child Development Center has openings for children ages 3 to 5 years. For further information, call Tracy Geier, EACDC director, 410-436-8361.

EFM program explained in seminar

Parent Information Exchange will present "Getting to Know EFMP" on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754. Child care will be available. To make reservations, call Reeshemah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator, 410-278-7474/4372, by Friday, Nov. 9.

Apple pies available for purchase

Purchase delicious, homemade apple pies made by members of the Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses' Club while supplies last. The pies are available for purchase for \$5 each. All proceeds benefit the welfare and scholarship funds. You may arrange pick-up by calling Angie Salamy at 410-272-6712 or stopping by the Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Commercial Activities Hotline available

The CA telephone hotline at 410-278-7414, and CA e-mail hotline at CA.Hotline@usag.apg.army.mil, are available to provide updates and answers to your questions concerning the CA Study. In addition, CA is now showing up as a choice on the first page of the APG Web site, www.apg.army.mil.

Carlson offers cruise specials

Carlson Wagonlit Travel is offering a three-night Bahamas cruise on Norwegian Cruise Lines, including port charges, as low as \$199 per person, and a three- to four-night Mexico cruise for \$239 to \$249. Call 1-877-588-8757 or 410-272-1549 for information. Ask for Debbie or Cathie.

New number for leisure travel office

The new Carlson Wagonlit Leisure Travel Office telephone number is 410-272-7124.

Bargains available at EA Thrift Shop

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop, located in building E-1633, is open Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignments are accepted on Tuesday, Thursday and the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The last Thursday and the first Saturday of the month are Bag Sale Days. All the clearance items you can fit in a paper bag for \$2. Merchandise varies daily. We currently have lots of infant items including strollers, bassinets and a crib. For more information, call 410-676-4733.

Organist position available at EA chapel

A contract position is available for an organist in support of the chapel program at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Persons interested in applying for this position for fiscal year 2002 (Oct. 1, 2001 through Sept. 30, 2002) should contact Chaplain Michael Wallman at 410-278-4333/2886.

Counseling through Behavioral Health at KUSAHC

In this time of need, the personnel at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic are doing what they can to assist the military family in the wake of the recent tragedy in New York and at the Pentagon.

Behavioral Health Care Services at KUSAHC is offering services to the Aberdeen Proving Ground community. Military personnel and their family members are eligible to receive services at KUSAHC. Civilians will be evaluated for proper referrals to outside agencies.

For anyone that has been touched by this tragedy, help is just a phone call away at 410-278-1715.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@usag.apg.army.mil.

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

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VETERANS DAY 2001

*As we celebrate still another Veterans Day,
 Wars are being fought in a brand new way,
 Not by uniformed people who fight and win,
 But by terrorists killing women and children.*

*We still will honor those who fought our wars,
 Lord only knows of their horrors and scars,
 But, we should also honor those who fall,
 Doing the lifesaving jobs while giving their all.*

*Veterans have never asked to be honored alone,
 And gladly will share any fame they may own,
 With those many brave fire and police groups,
 Who died doing their duty like our brave troops.*

*I'll not be one to say, "think of veterans first."
 For fame, sympathy or glory I have no thirst.
 Honor those whose courage and sacrifices made,
 Get the hard jobs done even when they're afraid.*

*So, as flags wave and sad speeches are made,
 And veterans are honored with another parade,
 Think a bit on all our heroes second to none,
 And the many more that now seem sure to come.*

By Buddy W. Maxwell

Photo-illustration by DIANE BURRIER

Kern becomes new commanding general of AMC



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY
Gen. Paul J. Kern addresses the audience during the AMC change of command ceremony at Fort Myer, Va., Oct. 30.

Melissa Bohan AMC

Gen. Paul J. Kern was promoted to four star general and became the commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command in a change of command ceremony at Fort Myer, Va., Oct. 30.

Kern, formerly the military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, brings vast knowledge and operations experience to his new position.

"I am excited to join the AMC team and am honored to serve in a command that is so critical to supporting soldiers," he said.

Kern, a native of New Jersey, was commissioned in 1967 following graduation from the U.S. Military Academy. In 1973 he earned master's degrees in both mechanical and civil engineering from the University of Michigan.

Prior to assuming duties as the military

deputy, Kern served as the Commander, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Army's Experimental Force. He was also the senior military assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense; military staff assistant, Defense Research and Engineering for Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary of Defense; and Director of Requirements (Support Systems), Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans. Kern has served as Team Chief, Light Combat Vehicle Team, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development and Acquisition, and as the Program Branch Chief, Bradley Fighting Vehicle Systems, Warren, Mich. He's taught weapon systems and automotive engineering at the United States Military Academy and has served as the department's research officer.

Kern served two tours in Vietnam with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as a

platoon leader and troop commander, and was a battalion operations officer with the 3rd Armored Division in Germany. He also commanded the 5th Battalion, 32nd Armor, 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga.; the 2nd Brigade, 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, and during Desert Storm; he was the Assistant Division Commander of the 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Purple Heart (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal, Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab.

Approving officials constitute the first line of defense against fraud, waste and abuse

Diane Schneider RMAC

A recent Congressional hearing involving an on-going General Accounting Office audit emphasized the need to ensure proper oversight of the government purchase card, or GPC, program to prevent fraud related losses.

Purchase card reviews are one of the measures that the Army uses to detect and minimize the incidence of purchase card misuse.

In accordance with Army Far Acquisition Regulation Supplement Part 13, and Robert Morris Acquisition Center Pamphlet No. 715-17, the Agency/Organization Program Coordinator is required to conduct annual oversight reviews on approving officials to ensure cardholder adherence to GPC policy and procedures.

One of the basic principles of the RMAC GPC program is that fraud related losses can be minimized if a system of internal controls is in place. As a result, one of the objectives of the annual oversight reviews will be to verify whether approving officials have effectively implemented the following controls:

- Approving officials (also known as billing officials) must review 100 percent of the transactions displayed on the billing statement to verify the adequacy of the supporting documentation, the accuracy of payment calculations and the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation charged.

- Approving officials must verify that hand receipts have been issued for accountable property.

- Approving officials must ensure that they have docu-

mented evidence that goods and services ordered by purchase card were received

- Approving officials must ensure that cardholders maintain a log of purchases.

- Approving officials shall ensure cardholder purchase records establish an adequate audit trail for individual transactions and show evidence of screening for mandatory sources of supply and special approvals.

- Approving officials shall ensure cardholders rotate sources of supplies/services among qualified suppliers.

- Approving officials shall ensure that the purchasing, receiving and approving duties are separated to maintain adequate checks and balances

- Approving officials shall not have more than 5-7 cardholders assigned to them

- Approving officials must ensure single purchase and

monthly limits are approved by their Division/Office Chief and Resource Manager/Budget Analyst.

- Approving officials must ensure that only personnel who have a continuing need to purchase goods and services as part of their job are cardholders

- Approving officials shall ensure that written office procedures are issued to cardholders under their purview. See RMAC Pam No. 715-17 section D.5.t.

- The approving official shall notify the A/OPC of each departing cardholder or approving official no later than 30 days prior to their departure

- The approving official shall maintain the billing statements, receipts and supporting documentation for 6 years and

3 months. See RMAC Pam No 715-17 Section F.8.

- The approving official shall ensure disputed actions are properly implemented when transactions are questioned.

- The approving officials shall ensure that all cases of suspected fraud are reported immediately to the A/OPC and U.S. Bank.

Copies of the RMAC Pam No. 715-17 dated 9 Feb 01 may be obtained by visiting RMAC GPC Web site at: www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil/srs/amcac/CC/local-news.html.

For more information contact the U.S. Army Robert Morris Acquisition Center, 410-278-0848, or e-mail itcard@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

Spousal SGLI may be reimbursed

Courtesy of Military.com

New Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance rules effective Nov. 1 provide free coverage for troops' children and low-cost premiums for spousal coverage up to \$100,000.

But what if servicemembers don't want spousal SGLI coverage? No problem — just opt out of the Veterans Administration-sponsored coverage. To decline spousal SGLI, servicemembers need to visit their military personnel office to fill out and submit a VA-8286A form. The forms are also available on the VA Web site: www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm.

Thrift savings plan now available to uniformed services personnel

Bob Northwood

ACS

Uniformed services personnel are now eligible to join the Thrift Savings Plan. Participating in the TSP can enhance retirement and save money on taxes at the same time.

Advantages

The sooner you start contributing, the sooner your money can go to work for you. Your account will grow from the earnings on your contributions, and those earnings, in turn, will accrue more earnings. This method of accumulating wealth is known as compounding, and the longer your money is in your account, the more you can benefit from it.

You have the flexibility to contribute as little as 1 percent, or as much as 7 percent, of your basic pay, plus any amount of incentive pay or special pay, including bonus pay. You will be able to contribute higher percentages of basic pay in the future.

Your TSP contributions are taken out of your pay before taxes are computed, so you pay less tax now. In addition, TSP earnings are tax-deferred. This means you don't pay federal (and, in most cases, state) income taxes on your contributions or earnings until you withdraw the money, usually at retirement, when you are in

a lower tax bracket.

You can diversify your TSP investment among five different investment funds: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund, the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund, the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund, the Small Capitalization Stock index Investment (S) Fund, and the International Stock index Investment (I) Fund. Administrative and investment expenses associated with these funds are very low, and you can easily change the amounts you allocate to the different funds at any time by using the TSP's Web site, calling the ThriftLine (the TSP's interactive voice response system), or by filling out and mailing in the appropriate form.

You can transfer any amount of money into TSP from certain qualified retirement savings plans in which you are already invested. For example, if you have money in a 401(k) plan from previous employment, you can transfer all or part of it into the TSP. Similarly, you can transfer your TSP account balance to an eligible retirement plan when you leave Federal service.

Unit commanders are urged to contact Army Community Service, 410-278-4372/7474, to schedule TSP training for soldiers.

Healthy choices when eating out

Courtesy of Sierra Military Health Services, Inc.

Choosing healthy foods at restaurants can be difficult. Fast food restaurants often serve fried foods, while in more upscale restaurants, the fat is often hidden in rich sauces and larger portions.

Occasional fast food meals are fine as long as eating them is not a daily habit. There are several ways to stay healthy while eating on the run.

Many fast food restaurants now offer the option of increasing portion size for pennies. Although it is a good financial deal, "upsizing" greatly increases the extra calories and fat in the meal. Ordering the smallest hamburger available can satisfy a craving with less salt and fat than a larger burger or hot dog. Ketchup and mustard are healthy, fat-free alternatives to mayonnaise-based condiments, which are mostly fat.

Pizza with onions, mushrooms, green peppers or a regular amount of cheese is a healthier choice than pizza with pepperoni, sausage or hamburger. Drinking water instead of soda or sweetened tea before and during a meal can help curb an appetite, causing the stomach to feel fuller.

Fried foods can be the greatest obstacle to

healthy eating. A baked potato with butter or sour cream on the side is a good substitute for french fries. Broiled chicken or a small hamburger has less fat and calories than a fried fish sandwich. With skin, fried chicken is one of the fattiest meats at fast food restaurants. Discarding the skin can significantly reduce the amount of fat in chicken.

At sit-down or family restaurants, unseasoned vegetables offer the most nutrition. They are low in calories and high in nutrients. Lemon juice is an excellent seasoning for most vegetables, chicken and fish.

Diners should avoid foods that are fried, batter-coated, basted with butter or covered with cream sauce or cheese. Lean cuts of broiled or grilled fish, meat or poultry (without skin, fat-laden sauces or butter) can be very healthy. Often, the portions are larger than one person needs. An alternative is to split the meal with a friend or order a lunch- or half-sized portion.

Fruit can be a satisfying dessert. Other choices that are relatively low in fat include sherbet, fruit ice, frozen yogurt, gelatin and angel food cake.

Consumers should check with their physician before changing their diet.

ACS celebrates Military Family Month

In honor of military families, Army Community Service is sponsoring several programs during National Military Family Month. The following are scheduled events happening in November:

Playmorning - Every Wednesday at the Aberdeen Area chapel, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Nov. 13 - Exceptional Family Member Support Group, 6:30 p.m.; Breast Feeding Class, 6:30 p.m., ACS, building 2754

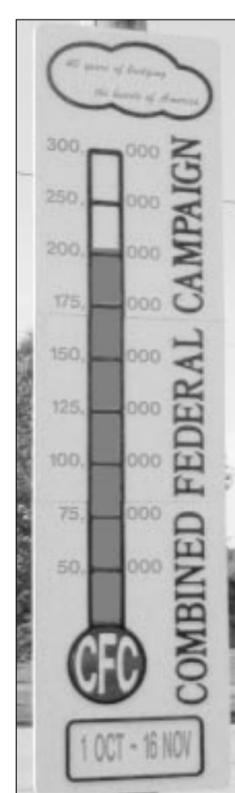
Nov. 14 - Parenting Lunch Session on Effective Discipline, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., ACS, building 2754

Nov. 19 - Family Craft Night, ACS, building 2754, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 26 - Family Game Night, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 28 - Playmorning topic- Baby Massage, 9:30 a.m., Aberdeen Area Chapel; Parenting Lunch Session on Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Disorder, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., ACS

In addition to these programs, ACS and YMCA of Harford County are sponsoring an art contest 2002 for children, kindergarten through sixth grade and an essay contest for children, first through twelfth grades. Winners will receive prizes. For more details on participation in military family month events, call Reeshmah Bugg, Laura Reich or Diana Hayes at ACS, 410-278-7474.



Donations to the Central Maryland Combined Federal Campaign surpassed \$200,000 this week. As of Nov. 5, total donations stood at \$206,514.42. Total awards distributed included 256 Oriole, 147 Cardinal, 68 Falcon and 52 Eagle awards.

TEU responds to anthrax threat

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

Anthrax-related alarms have saturated the nation in recent weeks and Aberdeen Proving Ground is no exception.

A suspicious package at the Edgewood Area's Berger Laboratories, the headquarters of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, brought out units from the EA Fire Department and the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit.

The incident occurred after a worker was dusted with white powder released after a packing label was pulled from a shipping box.

The employee, Harry Quinones, a project engineer who works in the huge facility's C500 quad, informed a supervisor who alerted authorities.

About 75 to 100 employees were evacuated from the immediate area and Quinones was removed to a medical treatment facility for evaluation.

Fred Cullum, EA Fire Department battalion chief, said the precautions were standard procedure, noting that firefight-

ers and emergency medical technicians are the first responders to hazardous material threats.

"We treat every incident like it's the real thing," Cullum said in regard to the numerous calls received in the past few weeks.

He said the section would be quarantined until cleared by hazardous material evaluators.

Sgt. 1st Class Tim Gross led the three-man explosive ordnance disposal team that included Staff Sgts. Adrian White and Zachary Bartley.

Gross said TEU is equipped to evaluate and dispose of biological and chemical agents or explosives.

"With packages, we first assess if there are explosives involved before the package is moved," Gross said.

He added that their mobile unit contains a portable x-ray along with protective garments and detection equipment.

The team prefers to talk with whoever handled the package, to better assess its weight and other characteristics before

moving it, he added.

Ray Mastnjak, ECBC bio-safety manager, and Becky Stump, security systems operator, assisted the emergency responders in securing the area and controlling access to the quad.

Mastnjak said that although they were "fairly confident" that the dust involved was dried glue from the shipping label, two packages would be removed to the Chemical Transfer Facility for evaluation.

Mastnjak said that EBC is the only Army organization capable of chemical, biological and radiological analyses.

"We do all three here. People shouldn't worry about reporting suspicious items," he said. "It's better to be safe than sorry."

Though the incident was not believed to be anthrax-related, Jim Zarzycki, ECBC technical director, said his concern was that employees remain vigilant and report incidents as soon as they are realized.

"It's important not to penalize or embarrass those who report suspicious

See THREAT, page 7

Training

From front page

ing them."

He said some common responses to psychological trauma are worry, sadness, anger, anxiety, and listlessness and may include feelings of guilt, vulnerability and fear.

Because most people have no major traumatic events in their past to compare to Sept. 11, they may feel like they are reacting like a child, Richer said.

"If you are {reacting like a child} that's normal too. It just means that your mind has gone back into your past and dug up something that works for you."

He encouraged listeners to find ways to "ground yourself in the present" when having trouble focusing.

"Go through a mental cycle. Count sheep, read a report, do anything that will help you concentrate on the here and now," he said.

Explaining that terrorist attacks are designed to cause physical and psychological harm, Fatkin stressed the importance of dealing with the reactions of children.

"Reassure them that they are safe and encourage them to express their feelings," Fatkin said, adding that caution should be used when answering children's questions.

"You know your child best. Trust your judgment not to give them more than they can handle," she said.

"Ask open-ended questions and really listen to what they say."

The workshop also covered coping strategies, which

Richer described as "whatever gets you to kick back, relax and feel good again."

People have found all kinds of ways to cope since the tragedies, he added, noting that the wave of patriotism sweeping the country is the most visible form of national coping.

"Some turn to prayer, others to humor, while others simply talk about it, he said.

"Find out what it is you need, who you need to be with and what you need to do to get back to where you were. Stay grounded."

Before commencing group discussions, participants watched a slideshow of images from the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Many of them seemed drawn back to those first unforgettable hours. Most said they were pleased with the workshop and appreciated its purpose.

"The film brought it all back to me, the feelings of helplessness and sadness," said Cherie McLaughlin, RMAC contracting officer.

"This was good for everyone," she said about the workshop. Everyone feels stress one way or another. We all needed it."

"The pictures made me look harder at what was going on within myself," said Jean Craig, RMAC contract specialist.

Observing that most participants were "into the slide session," Antha Edwards, RMAC chief, policy branch who oversees the organization's CO2

training, said several people expressed their appreciation for the workshop.

"Many thanked us on their way out and said they felt better for having come," Edwards said, adding that many came despite the fact that the session was not mandatory.

The high turnout indicated the need for such a gathering said Jim Allingham, public affairs chief for SBCCOM's Resources Development Acquisition. He added that the office tries to accommodate the civilian community with regard to how to present train-

ing.

"We were happy to have Bob Richer, a popular instructor who has done great things for us in the past," Allingham said.

Richer said the goal of the training coincided with the CO2 platform which focuses on understanding others.

"It encourages learning more about yourself and people you come in contact with," Richer said.

"The more you pay attention to others, the more you learn what you are all about."

See TRAINING, page 11



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Jeanine Worthington, left, and Jean Craig, employees with the Robert Morris Acquisition Center and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, relive the tragic events of Sept. 11 during a slideshow of photographs detailing images of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., during an Oct. 25 focusing on coping with stress.

Commercial Activities Update

Question: In the Reshape, we have promoted, hired, and generally increased costs. Shouldn't we have been decreasing costs because of the pending CA study?

Answer: The Reshape was required to adequately resource the Garrison support functions. The CA study will result in a new Most Efficient Organization, or MEO, structure, which will further streamline operations. Our competitive stance in the CA process will not be affected by the Reshape.

Question: I understand a contractor will be tied in with our bid as far as the Performance Work Statement goes. Is this true?

Answer: The Garrison support functions included in the PWS are performed currently by a combination of government and contract workers. It is important to identify boundaries between these, so that bidders can accurately bid on the in-house effort and we can develop the government Most Efficient Organization, or MEO, and bid. For example, if 50 percent of an activity's workload is currently subcontracted, and this arrangement is expected to continue, this will be identified in the PWS. The Performing Activity can choose how to resource this total workload.

Company B 143rd downs Company C 143rd, 18-12

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Intramural flag football is winding down to its last week of play. Fans are sure to enjoy key match ups in the post-season tournament that begins Nov. 17. The post championship will be played Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m. on Shine Sports Field.

In Edgewood Division action on Oct. 31, Company B 143rd Ordnance Battalion upset Company C 143rd, 18-12, in a game dominated by crafty play on the defensive front.

Company B 143rd's Carl Perry, who played on both sides of the ball, set the tone in the first half, rushing for a touchdown that put his unit up 12-6, then, on defense, he intercepted what would have been a Company C 143rd touchdown pass just before the break to maintain the lead.

Anticipating his team's first win of the season, Company B 143rd coach Carey Johnson said he gave his team a few pointers during the break.

"I told them to press the quarterback, he's spending too much time in the pocket," Johnson said. "If you have time, rush him and just go for it."

In the second half, Company B scored again with a handoff to Damien Hurt, who ran it in for the touchdown.

Company C 143rd's quarterback Michael Bennett marched his team back up the field scrambling for much of the yardage himself. He gained a key first down scrambling inside the

20-yard line then gained a first and goal on a Company B 143rd holding penalty.

Company B 143rd held them for three downs, then on fourth and goal, Bennett passed to a wide open John Witten in the end zone, for the score.

"With half the team in the field, we're holding our own," Bennett said during a timeout in the fourth quarter.

Down, 18-12 with 20 seconds on the clock, Company C 143rd got the ball back with one last chance to score, but a Hail Mary pass by Bennett was intercepted in the end zone.

"We'll be back," Bennett said after the disappointing loss. "We'll bring a whole different game next time."

The unit's coach and first sergeant, Bennett predicted the team would have an impact in the post season. Whitten, an 18-year old wide receiver from Cleveland, Ohio, agreed.

"I love the team and I love to play," Witten said. "Our first sergeant will work his magic and lead us in the right direction."

Perry, Company B 143rd's hero of the game, said the victory showed the team is "moving up."

"We were confident and we intimidated them a little bit," the Washington, D.C., native said. "Watch out for Bravo."

Running back Mitchell Brooks added that pride and determination got the team the victory.

"We're off to a late start but we're an all-star team," Brooks said.



Football Update

The following results were reported for intramural flag football for the week ending Nov. 2.

American Division

Results

Oct. 29
HHC 16th, 24; NCOA, 21
Company E 16th, 28; HHC 61st, 7
Nov. 1
Company E 16th, 26; NCOA, 18
HHC 16th, 24; HHC 61st, 19

Schedule

Nov. 13
6:30 p.m., NCOA vs. HHC 16th
7:30 p.m., Company B 16th vs. Company A 16th
8:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. HHC 61st

Standings

HHC 16th	9-1
Company E 16th	5-3
HHC 61st	3-6
NCOA	2-9

National Division

Results

Oct. 29
Company C 16th, 30;
Company A 16th, 0
Company B 16th, 28; USMC, 14
Oct. 31
USMC, 21; Company A 16th, 6
Company C 16th, 29;
Company B 16th, 28 (OT)

Schedule

Nov. 14
6:30 p.m., USMC vs. Company B 16th
7:30 p.m., Company C 16th vs. Company A 16th
8:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. HHC 16th
Nov. 15
6:30 p.m., Company C 16th vs. USMC

7:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. HHC 16th

8:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. Company B 16th

Standings

Company B 16th	8-2
Company C 16th	7-2
Company A 16th	2-7
USMC	0-9

Edgewood Division

Results

Oct. 29
Company C 143rd vs. SBC-COM, rescheduled
Company B 143rd vs. Company A 143rd, rescheduled
Oct. 31

HHC 143rd, 26; Company A 143rd, 0
Company B 143rd, 18;
Company C 143rd, 12

Schedule

Nov. 13
6:30 p.m., Company C 143rd vs. SBCCOM
7:30 p.m., Company B 143rd vs. Company A 143rd
Nov. 14
6:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. Company A 143rd
7:30 p.m., Company B 143rd vs. Company C 143rd

Standings

HHC 143rd	7-0
SBCCOM	3-2
Company C 143rd	2-4
Company A 143rd	0-3
Company B 143rd	1-4

Soccer Update

The following results were reported for intramural soccer for the week ending Nov. 2

Results

Oct. 25
USMC, 2; Company C 16th, 0
Company B 143rd, 5; MRICD,

4
Company E 16th, 1; Company C 143rd, forfeit
Oct. 30
MRICD, 1; Company C 143rd,

1
Company A 143rd, 7;
Company B 143rd, 2



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
The U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit's Sgt. 1st Class Tim Gross, right, seals the cuffs of Staff Sgt. Adrian White's Tyvek protective suit with tape in preparation for the removal of a suspicious package from the Berger Laboratory on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Oct. 30.

Threat

From page 5
occurrences," Zarzycki said. "We don't want people reluctant to raise the alarm because they might be teased by co-workers."

He said the employee involved should be "patted on the back and complimented" for reporting the incident so promptly, and added that he would distribute a message to the workforce informing them of the incident and assuring them that safety and security is paramount to the organization.

"All the work we do is covered by standard operating procedures," he added. "Our people are trained in those procedures so that it becomes second nature. I'm really proud of the people we have here."

Cathryn L. Kropp, TEU public affairs officer, said the soldiers and civilians of TEU

stand ready to respond to any threats on APG.

"TEU has teams which can be tailored to respond to a variety of chemical or biological hazardous situations across the globe," Kropp said, noting that normal responses are "quick and quiet" and that TEU members often go unrecognized for the work they do.

"America's Guardians, are repeatedly deployed to provide technical assistance to Department of Defense and government organizations. Their emergency response capabilities include escorting chemical and biological materials, and providing war fighter and crisis management support to theater commanders," she said. "Those involved in Homeland Security call TEU when they need experts in chemical and biological sampling, packaging and escorting."

Security

From front page

sites within DoD," Reynolds said.

"DOIM is currently undergoing the DITSCAP process," he said. "DOIM is presently working under an interim agreement to operate."

The Aug. 15 agreement allows the APG network to operate until certification is completed in January 2002.

"Basically, the DITSCAP identifies security measures that must be implemented to ensure safe delivery and storage of information to allow for secure handling of non-classified information via the APG network," Reynolds said. "It was created to secure information from the NIPRNET to the desktop. Whenever you surf the internet at APG you are using the NIPRNET to gain outside access to resources."

The NIPRNET "backbone" of fiber lines running between the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas, allows for tenant local area networks, or LANs, to talk to each other and receive email.

The DOIM controls access to the NIPRNET and the distribution of fibers between the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas and tenants.

Reynolds said the process includes the elimination of unauthorized software from desktops, which can create "holes" for hackers to gain access to government networks.

"A lot of commercial software opens holes in networks that allow intruders to enter," he said. "Without proper security measures in place we wouldn't realize there was an attempt to "punch" through the security walls."

All computers within the APG network will undergo the accreditation process and will be tightly scrutinized by information assurance personnel to ensure compliance.

"Government equipment is subject to monitoring at all times," Reynolds said. "Misuse can lead to suspension of privileges or jail time in extreme cases. Also, compromised computers are subject to confiscation which pretty much means you have no job."

Personnel accessing prohibited websites such as gambling or pornography also risk their jobs, he added.

An online users guide detailing the use of government computers in the workplace will be available soon. The guide prescribes how to use computers in a way that protects them against viruses and hackers. It includes information on local email policy, reporting computer security incidents, prohibited websites, user agreement, care of the computer and penalties for personal use or misuse of government property.

Reynolds provided five simple principles that play a key role in protecting the integrity, availability and confidentiality of government data.

- Guard your password.
- Follow the rules on personal use of your computer.
- Never forward chain mail or computer hoaxes.
- Keep your anti-virus software up to date.
- Report viruses and any other network-security incidents to your organization's information security personnel.

CA study

From front page

and branch chiefs are assisting in the process to ensure accuracy.

Bowman added that the American Operation Corporation, AOC, a management consulting firm, is managing the study.

"They are familiar with what industries will do to come up with a competitive bid," she said, noting that AOC has won two-thirds of the effort to manage the bidding process.

"They will help us put together Performance Work Statements, then RMAC will take over to handle the solicitation process, she explained.

The garrison bids will be evaluated by the U.S. Army Audit Agency and one bidder will be selected to compete against the garrison.

Bowman noted that Mark has directed the team to

uphold the highest standards of integrity and professionalism during this process.

"This is very important to her on a personal and professional level," Bowman said. "She has charged this team with maintaining integrity. We will do it the right way."

Several topics were addressed during the briefing's question and answer period. One listener voiced concern about the maintenance repair issue, asking how the garrison will compete for it.

Bowman responded that a list of units including the age of the buildings and the repairs needed, will be provided in a technical estimate of how much will be done in the period of performance.

Mark added that the office would make a projection at the end of the fiscal year stating what it will be able to repair.

In response to other questions, Mark and Bowman told the audience that the final award will be open to appeal as was the case with the last

study, and that concerns about the security of the bidding process already are being addressed.

In response to concerns expressed about job security for an experienced workforce, Bowman encouraged supervisors to provide complete and accurate data for the Performance Work statements.

"We will do our very best to capture the training, experience and security needs in the requirements," Bowman said. "It's important that we get good data from supervisors about what it is you require in the workforce so that bidders are forced to supply as close to our level as we require."

Before adjourning, Mark announced that she has extended her assignment by one year to remain at APG throughout the study.

Community Notes

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 9
BASKET BINGO**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground-Edgewood Area Child Development Center will host basket bingo to benefit their Parent Child Care Association at the Aberdeen Fire Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and include 20 bingo games (three cards per game) with door prizes, specials and raffles.

For tickets call the APG-EA Child Development Center, 410-436-8361, Tracy Geier 410-838-0193 or Leeann Domanico, 410-836-5618.

COUNTRY HOE DOWN

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing each Friday at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing will be held 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The instructor will announce lessons. Everyone is welcome.

Cost of admission is \$10 and includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

**MONDAY & TUESDAY
November 12 & 13
2001 SOLDIER SHOW COMESTO APG**

Aberdeen Proving Ground Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host two performances of the U.S. Army Soldier Show, 7 p.m., Nov. 12 and 13 at the post theater, building 3245.

The show is an 80-minute live Broadway style musical review showcasing the talents of active duty soldiers who are selected by audition from throughout the Army. They are amateur artists who have a passion for music, dance and performing. They are truck drivers, personnel specialists, medics, tank crewmembers; electronics repair specialists, and infantry soldiers. The show is put together in six weeks, and then tours for six months. It's a side of the Army and soldiers you've never seen before.

This year's performance entitled "We Are One," will contain Lee Greenwood's patriotic "God Bless the USA," the national anthem and "God Bless America."

The Nov. 12 performance is open to U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools personnel. The Nov. 13 showing is open to the public for anyone with a current government identification card.

There is no admission charge for either performance and attendees are urged to arrive early to ensure seating.

Flash cameras will not be permitted in the theater.

For more information, contact Gwen Meadows, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marketing specialist, 410-278-4497, fax 410-278-9537, or e-mail gwen.meadows@usag.apg.army.mil.

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 14
EA-OWC LUNCHEON**

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club is hosting a buffet luncheon at the Golden City Inn Restaurant on Route 40 in the Edgewood Shopping Center. The menu includes American and Chinese selections for \$7.95. The price includes beverages, tax and gratuity. The scheduled speakers are Elaine Bunting and Pat D'Amario, authors of the "Our Maryland Counties" series, written with a historical viewpoint. A book signing will conclude the program. Social begins at 11:30 a.m., with lunch at noon. Make reservations by noon Nov. 9 with Linda Kuchar at 410-838-5265, or e-mail specifying 'Nov. OWC luncheon' at linku@aol.com.

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 16
CWF SPONSORSTRIP TO DINNER THEATER**

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a bus trip to the Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater to see the annual

Christmas Show. The price is \$45 per person, which includes dinner, the show, and charter bus transportation. The bus will depart at 4:30 p.m.

For reservations or more information call Angela Keithley or Jaqueline McKeever, 410-278-4603 or 4771.

HARFORD COUNTY YMCA BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit Harford County Family YMCA will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers St., Aberdeen, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10 per ticket; additional sets are available for \$5. Three Quicke games will be held throughout the night.

For tickets, call Janet Nelson, 410-836-5075, or Lisa Greene, 410-273-7931.

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 17
SATURDAY NIGHT COMEDY JAM PT III**

Charlton-Miller VFW Post No. 6054 presents "Saturday Night Comedy Jam PT III" featuring from the "Kiss My Bumper" Commercial and BET Comic View, Comedian HOWARD G and Friends. Donations are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets are available at VFW Post No. 6054 or contact Sr. Vice Commander Terry Robinson at 410-272-3444. Show time is from 9:30 p.m. to midnight. There will be an "After Party" jam.

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 23
COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing each Friday at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing will be held 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The instructor will announce lessons. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$10 and includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

**SATURDAY
November 24
CWF SPONSORSTRIP TO RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL**

The CWF is sponsoring a holiday bus trip to the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Show, on Broadway, in New York City. There will be time for shopping and lunch before the show. The price is \$99 per person, which includes the show, and charter bus transportation. The bus will depart at 7 a.m.

For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever, 410-278-4603/4771.

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 28
EDGEWOOD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**

The Edgewood Christian Fellowship will meet on Nov. 28, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Edgewood Area Chapel.

This month at the ECF luncheon, we will review an earlier time in our country's history when our nation's capital was attacked and the White House burned.

On Aug. 24, 1814, the British attacked and destroyed our nation's capital and then turned their army toward Baltimore. It was out of the crucible of this conflict that Francis Scott Key penned what became our nation's anthem and a fascinating part of our nation's history.

Luncheon reservations should be made by noon, Nov. 27 by calling 410-436-4109

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 1
GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit the Good Shepherd Catholic School will be held at the school, 810 Aikens Avenue, Perryville, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10 per ticket; additional sets are

available for \$5.

For tickets, call the Good Shepherd School, 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 5
BUSTRIPTO THE APOLLO**

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to "The Original Amateur Night Live at the Apollo," in New York City, where many performers got their start, such as Michael Jackson, James Brown and more.

The price is \$60 per person, and includes charter bus transportation and a ticket to the show. The bus will leave at 10 a.m. There will be time for shopping and dinner before the show, which begins at 7:30 p.m.

For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 7
ABERDEEN POLICE ASSOCIATION BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit the Aberdeen Police Association will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10 per ticket; additional sets are available for \$5.

For tickets, call Judy Hinch, 410-272-7585, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 9 to 16
ABERDEEN LIONS PLAN VALENTINE CRUISE**

The Aberdeen Lions Club is sponsoring a seven-night Valentine cruise to the Western Caribbean in 2002. The public is invited to join the Lions on the newest Norwegian Cruise ship, Norwegian Sun, from Miami to Georgetown, Grand Caymen; Roatan, Bay Islands; Belize City, Belize; and Cozumel, Mexico. Snorkel on the longest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere, swim with dolphins or stingrays, or just relax on the ship.

The package includes complimentary round-trip transfers from Aberdeen to Baltimore-Washington International Airport, round-trip air from BWI to Miami, all meals and entertainment, all port charges and taxes, and a pre-cruise get-together. Call now and receive a \$50 shipboard credit per stateroom. Enjoy a romantic Valentine cruise while helping the Aberdeen Lions Club raise funds for their community service activities.

Prices range from \$1,269 to \$1,743 depending on cabin location. Final payment is due Nov. 20.

For information, call Lions club members Joyce or Ron Landbeck, 410-272-5649. For reservations, call Accent-on-Travel, 1-800-848-3273.

SOLDIER SHOW

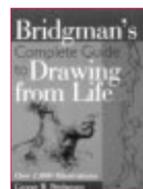
The Soldier Show on Nov. 12 is for the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools only. The second showing, Nov. 13, is open to the public. Both performances begin at 7 p.m. in the Post Theater. Call 410-278-9537 for more information.

MOVIES

Movies will not be shown the weekend of Nov. 9 and 10 due to rehearsals of the Soldier Show.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

The Garrison Library has new books for your reading pleasure. Come by and check them out.



Bridgman's Complete Guide to Drawing from Life by George Brant Bridgman

Crescent and Star: Turkey between Two Worlds by Stephen Kinzer

A History of Ireland by Mike Cronin

Drawing and Painting Hands & Feet by Robert E. Fairley



Drug War Heresies: Learning from Other Vices, Times, and Places by Robert J. MacCoun

The Last Kaiser: the Life of Wilhelm II by Giles MacDonogh



Too Much of a Good Thing by Daniel J. Kindlon

Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940 by Mary A. Renda

Women, Weight, and Hormones: the New Weight-Loss Phenomenon

Your Guide to the Family History Library by Paula Stuart Warren

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Operating hours of the Edgewood Area Library, building E4403, are Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

OC&S LIBRARY

The Ordnance Center and Schools Library is located in the basement of building 3071. Hours are Monday and Thursday, noon to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m., and Friday, noon to 4 p.m.

MWR UPDATE

Customer appreciation weekend at Auto Craft Shop, Nov. 10 and 11

The Auto Crafts Shop located in building 2879 is having a customer appreciation weekend Nov. 10 and 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All bay fees will be \$1 off. Coffee and doughnuts will be available.

For more information, call Cal Adams, 410-278-2884/5718, ter at 410-278-9725/9759.

Entertainment Books available at ITR

2002 Entertainment Books are available for \$25 each and can be purchased at ITR, building 3326.

For more information, call 410-278-4011.

Aerobic, toning classes offered at fitness centers

The Edgewood Area Hoyle Health and Fitness Center, located in building E-4210, offers aerobic and toning classes Monday through Friday.

The Aberdeen Area Fitness Center, building 320, offers aerobic and toning classes Monday through Saturday.

Both fitness centers are manned with a certified personal trainer who can get you started on an exercise program.

The fitness centers are available to all military members, Department of Defense civilians and contractors located on Aberdeen Proving Ground and their family members.

Hours of operation at the Hoyle Health and Fitness Center are Monday through Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information call the Hoyle Health and Fitness Center at 410-436-7135/7134.

Hours of operation at the APG Fitness Center are Monday through Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the Fitness Center at 410-278-9725/9759.

Registration for winter sports

Basketball clinics for ages 4 to 6 (age as of Nov. 1, 2001) will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10 and 17, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 29, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Fee is \$15 (for T-shirt and award).

Coaches needed

Anyone interested in volunteering as a coach for the clinics should call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

Nike SWOOSH Club

Nike SWOOSH Clubs are teen leadership groups that promote physical fitness, interest in sports and the potential for athletics-related careers. Held in Boys & Girls Clubs across the United States, NIKE SWOOSH Clubs enroll males and females ages 13 and older.

Teen NIKE SWOOSH Club members are trained to coach, officiate, keep score, conduct sports-related community service project and assist staff with sports clinics and camps. Club members who complete at least 25 volunteer

hours are eligible to attend a NIKE Sports Leadership Camp.

Edgewood Arts & Crafts

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is located in building E-4440 next to the military police station near the troop store. Hours of operation are Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 410-436-2153 during listed hours.

Ceramics class: A basic ceramics class will be held, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Porcelain Dolls: A porcelain doll class will be held Nov. 8 and 15, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$30 plus supplies.

Woodshop Orientation: The woodshop will hold a safety orientation, Dec 1, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is a \$3 user fee.

Stained Glass: A beginning stained glass class will be held Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 and includes supplies.

Framing Class: A beginning matting and framing class will be held Nov. 29.

ABC-C's new module eases access

Courtesy of CPAC

The Army Benefits Center – Civilian web-based Employee Benefits Information System has a new point-of-entry. The point-of-entry application was modified, allowing existing EBIS users to enter their Social Security Numbers to access the information system. The same password cannot be used within a six-month period. If your password is set to expire, you will also receive a warning notice that passwords must be changed every 90 days.

If you are a new user, you will need to create a POE account. Users may find additional information on the ABC-C home page under the “Announcement” section at <https://www.ABC.army.mil>.

Message

From front page

Your determination, your readiness, and your willingness to go where you are needed, when you are needed, are potent symbols of liberty, justice, and hope for freedom-loving people the world over. The memory of our fallen comrades lost in the horrible and unprovoked acts of war against our nation on September 11th is a stark reminder that our forces today are, as always, on point for our nation.

Each day you serve, you voluntarily forego comfort and wealth. You face hardship and sacrifice in defending the nation's security and spreading the blessing of democracy to others in countries around the world, from Korea to Kosovo. Your actions in a multitude of missions—humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, peacekeeping, warfighting—animate the Army core values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Your service ensures we never fail in our nonnegotiable contract with the American people—to fight and win our nation's wars. You constantly amaze us with the strength of your dedication and your unwavering morale.

To all of you, whether far from home or here in the United States, thank you for your contributions and your countless sacrifices. It is an honor to serve with you, and we could not be more proud of the great work you are doing. You carry on the legacy of valor and service that soldiers before you established.

And so on this day of reflection and tribute, our grateful nation thanks our veterans—those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom, those still serving, those no longer in uniform, young and old—for all they have done and continue to do for our great country. We pledge to you our tireless efforts to ensure that the Army remains the world's preeminent warfighting land force, the most esteemed institution in the nation, and the most respected Army in the world.

Tips for coping with extreme stress

TRAINING from page 5

- Concentrate on caring for yourself.
- Talk about it with other people in the same situation. Compare reactions and reassure yourself that you are not alone in the way you are feeling.
- Talk about it with friends and relatives who care about you. It is normal to need to tell your story repeatedly.
- Keep your schedule as routine as possible, and don't overdo it.
- Allow time for hobbies, relaxing activities, being with friends, even if you don't quite feel like it.
- Participate in whatever physical fitness activities you normally enjoy.
- Utilize whatever spiritual resources are part of your normal lifestyle.
- Beware of any temptation to turn to alcohol, tobacco, caffeine, and sweet foods. They may make you feel better momentarily, but they can cause more problems in the long run. Concentrate on a healthy diet.
- If you can, postpone major life decisions until you have had a chance to get yourself back into a more even keel.
- Don't hesitate to accept help from friends, co-workers and others. If you can, offer help to others affected by the event.
- Sometimes good self-care and talking with friends are not enough. You may want to seek professional counseling through your Employee Assistance Program. This does not mean you are “sick,” but rather that a counselor may be able to help you get your recovery process on track.

France honors Harford County veteran for service during the Normandy Invasion

Karen Toussant
Aegis staff

Along with other servicemen from the Air Corps, Navy and Army who took part in the D-Day invasion of France, a former staff sergeant received a Thank You America certificate Sept. 14 at the French Embassy in Washington D.C.

Irvin Clancy, who worked after the war at Aberdeen Proving Ground from 1952 until his retirement in 1970, was accompanied to the champagne luncheon and award ceremony by his wife, Nancy, daughters Janice Spellman and Linda Hartling, and son-in-law Bill Hartling. His daughters are both employees at APG. Spellman is the patient advocate at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, located in the Aberdeen Area, and Hartling works in the logistics section of the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command in the Edgewood Area.

Coming 57 years after D-Day, the award was bittersweet for the former lead foreman in the Mobile Industrial Equipment Section of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center Automotive Division Test Facility.

"Most of the boys who went in there (at Normandy) are gone. There are only a few of us left," said Clancy, 81, who lives near Bel Air.

Clancy remembers approaching Dog Green (Omaha Beach) in an LSVP sometime before noon June 6. When the landing craft dropped its ramp to offload the troops, he went over the side instead.

"We were in deep water," he recalled. "You were pretty much on your own. Everything was such a turmoil. There was so much confusion and fire and everybody getting shot. Somehow or other I managed to get to the beach all right. I ran toward the cliffs and tried to get out of the line of fire."

After making his way to the nearby town of Vierville, Clancy was reunited with others from his company.

"We were not a full company. There were a lot of casualties," he said. "We had trained for years. We were all supposed to do our job, but when we got there, half of us were not there to do our job. A lot of the officers were gone."

"One thing about the American soldier — if their

lieutenant or commanding officer is killed or out of action, the American soldier can think for himself and does what he has to do," he said. "We reorganized and just started in."

"At night, you dug a fox-hole and two men got in. One slept while the other one watched," he said. "If you stayed longer, every day you would dig it a little bit deeper."

Clancy remembers bartering K-rations or candy bars with the French for wine and cognac.

Along with packages of items like cookies, powdered drink, instant coffee, chewing gum, chocolate bars and cigarettes, the K-rations included cheese or the canned meat called Spam.

"Little kids would ask for chewing gum and candy bars. Men wanted cigarettes," he said, adding, "I got sick and tired of Spam. I haven't eaten Spam since. I liked getting mail," he said.

"My two sisters used to write to me. One worked in a candy factory and used to send me boxes of candy."

Back home in Baltimore, his mother, Ruth, personally supported the war effort by giving a gallon of blood during World War II. The 29th Division Association recognized her donations with a plaque.

"She prayed every day that I would be all right and get home," said Clancy, who was her only son.

On June 21, the infantryman was wounded at the French city of St. Lo.

"The city looked like a pile of rubble. The Americans bombed and shelled it when we took it, and the Germans bombed and shelled it after we took it," he said. "I was out of the foxhole and a mortar shell landed close to me. I got a small piece of shrapnel in my cheek right under my right eye and in my arm and leg. I was only in the hospital [in England] for three weeks."

In the town of Isigny, a sniper shot at Clancy, as he was trying to enter a building. "He shot at me and hit the [concrete] step. A piece of concrete hit me in the side, and I thought I was shot," he said. "Then I grabbed my side and didn't feel any blood."

A happy memory involves a farmhouse that was supposed to be a German communication center. Clancy led a squad

of men there to capture or destroy it.

"We were getting ready to shell it with mortars and for some reason I didn't give them the order. I went down to the house, opened the door and there was an old French couple that had taken in a bunch of children. There were no Germans there. I always think what would have happened if we had shelled them ..."

On the battlefield, Clancy did some things that were beyond the call of duty.

"I saved a couple of wounded buddies and brought them back to the lines," he said. "If one of your friends is lying in the field bleeding to death and calling for someone to help him, you help him."

At Brest, France, on Sept. 8, 1944, Clancy's luck ran out.

"I was on patrol, and we must have walked into an ambush. They started shelling us. It almost tore my right arm off. I remember holding my arm and walking across an open field. I must have passed out for a little while. When I came to my senses, I thought, either I get up and get to an aid station or lay here and die. Medics came by in a jeep," he said.

After spending some time in an English hospital, Clancy was sent back to the states on a hospital ship. He arrived at McCloskey Hospital in Temple, Texas, Christmas Eve, 1944.

"I stayed in the hospital until Oct. 9, 1945, when I was discharged," he said, adding, "I missed the Battle of the Bulge."

Besides nerve damage to his right arm and shoulder, Clancy has a tattoo of a flag and eagle on his left forearm to remember the war.

"Six of us went to London on a weekend pass," he recalled. "All six of us got the same thing."

Mounted in a case are other reminders of the war, such as an American Defense Service medal, a Europe-Africa-Middle Eastern Theater ribbon with two bronze service stars and bronze arrowhead, a Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster, a Bronze Star medal, a Silver Star medal, a Good Conduct medal, an American Campaign medal and a World War II Victory medal.

Clancy's Army career started when he joined the National Guard.

"We were called up for a

year's training in February 1941. We were supposed to get out, but then Pearl Harbor came along in December and they kept us for the duration. I was 21."

Before he was shipped out to England, Clancy married his high school sweetheart, Marjorie.

"I was afraid somebody else would get her before I got back," he said.

Once in England, Clancy volunteered for the 49th Division Rangers, which trained in Scotland. After the Rangers were disbanded, he went back to the 29th Division, where he trained until D-Day.

Shortly after the war ended, Clancy went to work at Aberdeen Proving Ground. He retired in 1970. After his wife, Marjorie, died, he married his second wife, Nancy. They have been married 40 years. Between them, they have seven children, 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Clancy belongs to American Legion Post 39 and the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 15.

Despite his honorable service, Clancy does not consider himself a fighting man.

"I don't like war. I don't like killing. You do what you have to do to survive, and you do what you have to do for your country," he said.

(Editors note: This is a reprint of an article that appeared in the Oct. 19 edition of *The Aegis*. Sheila Little contributed to this article.)



Courtesy of IRVIN CLANCY
Irvin Clancy, left, is pictured along with fellow National Guard members and Baltimore natives Jerry Miller and Stanley May, on leave in London, during the war.



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE
Irvin Clancy shows some of his service mementos, including ribbons and medals he earned, and his World War II service uniform.



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Brittany Howard, left, and Tristen Windsor share in the wonder of their first scientific creation during the initial class of Kids & Chemistry.



Photo by JOY JOHN

Suzanne Procell, standing, SBCCOM chemist and Kids & Chemistry volunteer, explains the next step in an experiment about color, during the second in a series of three classroom visits. The 10-year old students, from left to right, are Tristen Windsor, Marcus Burell, Brittany Howard, Adrian Rodriguez and Richard Yi.

Chemistry

From front page

markers using paper chromatography and common chemicals. The third class is named food and chemistry. In this class the students make soda fizz, create a gooey jelly and mix up 'polymer pudding.' During this final class students learn about chemical solutions, acid-base reactions, indicators, pH and gels while mixing edible treats.

When several of the volunteers traveled to fifth grade classrooms at Roye-Williams Elementary School last month, students showed that they were prepared for their visitors, correctly showing how to 'waft' for odors instead of smelling directly, and cooperating fully as they donned goggles and listened for instructions before tackling their laboratory session.

"I enjoy kids and a lot of them seem to get pretty excited about science when we come," said Barry Williams, a contractor at SBCCOM and a program volunteer.

After disbursing the materials and explaining the importance of careful listening and the wearing of safety equipment during all phases of lab work, students are directed through science experiments and review what they've learned from their forays into scientific research.

"This is fun," said Tralisa Colby, a student who participated in the initial session. "It's cool how you just mix two liquids together and get slime."

Other fifth graders expressed equal satisfaction with the class, several saying that they might consider entering the field of science as a career choice.

Sandy Matthews, a fifth grade teacher at Roye-Williams, said the students get several benefits from the classes. Observing and assisting the two volunteer instructors, Matthews

said teachers prepare their students for the visiting scientists by reviewing basic laboratory safety and the importance of listening, and, after each session, they review what the now-enthused student scientists learned.

"This program is an outstanding activity for hands-on science," Matthews said. "The children get the opportunity to work with laboratory professionals and act like real scientists, and they love it."

During the first two years of the program's operation, volunteers visited Deerfield, Churchville and Edgewood elementary schools, bringing their expertise and enthusiasm for science to each participating class. Schools visited this year include Roye-Williams Elementary and a scheduled spring session at William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary School. Eventually the volunteers hope to share their love of science with all fifth grade classes in the county.

Procell said the group makes the effort to promote science in other locations and arenas as well. Members have participated in Kids & Chemistry conventions, have provided weekend chemistry activities for children, and have supported a four-day chemistry summer camp.

"It is our hope to continue to promote science to children and to provide hands on opportunities whenever the opportunity arises," Procell said.

Kids & Chemistry volunteers, in addition to Procell and Williams, include Karene Campbell, Teri Connell, Sarah Cork, Lisa Costas, Denise Doesburg, Monica Gibson, Elaina Harrison, Dave Hendrickson, Lou Kosydar, Rafael Martinez, Mike Simini, Jennifer Weeks Sekowsky and Tawana Spencer.

Materials and supplies for the Kids & Chemistry program are funded through Harford County Public Schools, local businesses, Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club, Military and Civilian Spouses Club, Edgewood Area Thrift Shop and the Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop.

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH



APG celebrates Native-American Heritage Month

The Native-American Heritage Month Luncheon will be held Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Top of the Bay. This year's theme is "Our Children, Our Nation, Our Future."

The guest speaker will be Clayton Old Elk, health programs administrator with the Indian Health Service and member of the Crow Indian Tribe of Montana. Old Elk is a great grandson of "Curly," one of the Crow Scouts for Gen. Custer at the battle of Little Big Horn in Montana.

Traditional Native-American tribal dances will be performed as part of the entertainment.

Tickets are priced at \$9 and include roast chicken with dressing, salad, sweet potatoes, fried corn, baked zucchini, corn

bread, coffee, hot tea, iced tea and apple or cherry cobbler. Tickets can be purchased from the following personnel:

Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Johnson, U.S. Developmental Test Command, 410-278-1053

Mark Gallihue, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, 410-278-6756

Sgt. 1st Class Shelton L. Torbert, Garrison, 410-278-1534

Staff Sgt. George Torbert, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, 410-278-1765

Sgt. 1st Class Mitchelen Bigman, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, 410-278-7381

Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Yelder, 61st Ordnance Brigade, 410-278-5598

Denice Davison, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, 410-436-5432

Karen Walker, U.S. Army Environmental Center, 410-436-1684

Gerlina Adams, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Agency, 410-278-5144

Sgt. 1st Class Ismael Martinez, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, 410-278-2529

Carol Baker, U.S. Army Soldier Biological and Chemical Command, 410-436-2182

For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Shelton L. Torbert, 410-278-1534, or e-mail mileo@usag.apg.army.mil.

Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

VFW puts on hauntingly good play

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Halloween came early to the Jarrettsville VFW Post 8672 as it ushered in the spooky season with a murder mystery dinner theater straight from the graveyard.

Produced by seasoned character actor Ralph Denton, and featuring Charles R. Travers, an Army National Guard retiree, "The Haunting," was performed for three nights in mid-October in the post's dining hall.

For the Oct. 18 performance, patients from Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center were the show's special guests.

"We like to remember America's veterans in all our endeavors," Denton said, adding that proceeds from the three performances would go to the relief fund for victims of the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

The unusual plot consisted of a group of ghosts called back from the dead, who, with assistance from the audience, try to solve a century-old murder that occurred in a manor that once stood where the VFW stands today.

Travers played "Alberto," the medium who was "hired" by the VFW to rid the building of a ghost infestation.

The other players included Christopher Makres as "Martin Worthington," the owner of the manor and father of "Charlotte Worthington," who was played by Wanda Ingoglia. Dan Meyers played "Diamond Jack," the murder victim and Charlotte's secret lover. He still had the murder weapon, a large butcher knife protruding from his back.

Robert Seger portrayed the family doctor, "Doc Rawlson," and Eleni Densmore played "Alice Camden," the Worthington's all-knowing housekeeper. Nathan Cary played "Henry," Doc Rawlson's son, who was infatuated with Charlotte. Debbie Martin played "Lizzie," the scullery maid, and Jenny Tabb played two characters; "Jane Bryant" Alberto's assistant,

and "Flora Perkins," the chamber maid who had a crush on "Henry."

The characters agreed that since they all had a motive to kill "Diamond Jack," it was up to them and the audience to figure out "who done it and why."

The "ghosts" moved among the audience, alternately conversing and arguing with each other during the interactive show. In an effort to solve the mystery, members of the audience were allowed to query the "ghosts" and consult with each other as Denton guided them through the process.

At the show's end, each table submitted their theory of whom they thought the murderer was and the table with the winning submission received a surprise gift. Everyone seemed to enjoy the unusual performance.

"We thought it was excellent," said Faith Guber, the Perry Point hospital recreational therapist who escorted the group of patients.

She said Domiciliary Care sponsors two to three outings each month for non-resident patients in the program.

"It was unusual and fun. They pretty much agreed on who they thought the murderer was. We were wrong, but we had a great time anyway," Guber said.

She added that her favorite character was Makres as "Martin Worthington," the upright patriarch of the manor whose stodgy demeanor was "wonderfully entertaining."

Denton's daughter, Lithia Knapp, whose husband is the post's senior vice president, said the players and crew put a "lot of hard work into a production that benefits our community and our veterans."

"A lot of veterans return home and don't realize there are places like this that support the community," Knapp said. With a Korean War veteran father, a mother who was with the Navy Nurse Corps and a husband who was in the Marine Corps, Knapp added that veteran interests are "a big part of our lives."



A gaggle of ghouls fill the Jarrettsville VFW for the play "The Haunting" presented in October. Wanda Ingoglia as "Charlotte Worthington," consoles her back-stabbed sweetheart "Diamond Jack" played by Dan Meyers.



Robert Seger plays "Doc Rawlson" the kindly country doctor.



"Alice Camden" the Worthington housekeeper, played by Eleni Densmore, looks horror-fied.



Christopher Makres as "Martin Worthington," makes a smoky entrance.

143rd soldiers support apple festival

Capt. Christopher Metz
Company B 143rd

The annual Darlington Apple Festival was held on Oct. 6 and soldiers from Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion were on hand to support this classic Harford County event.

Forty-two soldiers from Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion supported the event, led by Drill Sergeant Carlos Mendoza, the battalion's Drill Sergeant of the Quarter.

They arrived at 7:30 a.m. and worked throughout the day.

Mendoza said the morning rain didn't dampen the soldiers' enthusiasm.

"Even though it rained early on, they never once complained," Mendoza said.

The skies eventually cleared, however, as visitors strolled the area sampling wares from the various vendors including arts and crafts items, homemade foods, game booths, horseback riding for children, and, of course, an abundance of delicious apples.

Company B soldiers stayed busy helping prepare food, directing traffic, handing out flyers to the public and helping anyone else who needed assistance.

When not working, the soldiers enjoyed the pleasures of the festival and the apples along with everyone else.

Pvt. Omar Lugo said he was amazed by the tremendous reception the soldiers received from the crowd.

"It was a good feeling when people would come up to us and say, thank you for defending our country," Lugo said.

For many of the soldiers, the festival was their first opportunity to experience the appreciation the public has for its military.

Given the present situation the country is in, the citizens of this great land are more patriotic than ever, and it showed at the Apple Fest, Mendoza said.

"A lot of military retirees there said they were proud to see young men and women carrying out the great tradition of soldiering," he said. "It was a great day for everyone involved."

This is the second year the battalion has supported the festival, though soldiers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools have supported it as part of their required community service project for several years, Mendoza said.

The Darlington Apple Fest, which is held on the first Saturday in October, began in 1985 as a small community event organized by June Griffith, Tom McCurry, and Art Johnson. The purpose of the festival is to raise money for non-profit organizations and churches in the surrounding community. The festival has grown into something of a phenomenon. The first festival in 1986 drew a few vendors and a crowd of 400 to 500 people. The event now averages 30,000 to 55,000 people a year.

James Calcutt, festival chairman, said that "the soldiers were fantastic" and that he and others were happy to see how professional and hard working the young soldiers are.

"We would love having their support again next year," Calcutt said, "especially because the crowd size has grown."



Photo by CAPT. CHRISTOPHER METZ
Private Omar Lugo, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, directs traffic at the Darlington Apple Festival Oct.6, while being supervised by Drill Sergeant Carlos Mendoza.