

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, June 19, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

KUSAHC curtails hours June 18

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will curtail hours on June 18 for participation in APG Organization Day. General Medicine will be open by appointment only from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments can be made through nurse triage at 410-278-1751. The Troop Medical Clinic will conduct normal sick call hours.

Garrison closes for Organization Day, June 18

U.S. Army Garrison APG will be closed for normal business on June 18 as the garrison observes Organization Day. Tenants and customers should plan to obtain any necessary support prior to June 18. Emergency requests for operational support will be handled by their Edgewood Emergency Operations Center, 410-436-4484.

Main Exchange conducts survey

Customer Satisfaction Index surveys will be conducted at the APG Main Exchange, June 25 and 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The survey will measure customer satisfaction with service, pricing, associate availability and friendliness, and merchandise availability and quantity.

Survey forms can be picked up at the tables set up at the front of the store. Refreshments will be available while filling out the survey. A \$5 coupon in the survey can be used toward a future purchase. For information, call Thea Sarver, 410-272-6828.

Senior leader briefings June 19

Four 30-minute senior leader overview briefings will be conducted June 19 to explain the Department of Defense initiative associated with Common Access Card readers and implementation.

APG Post Theater, 8 and 10 a.m.

EA Conference Center, 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

All senior leaders are requested to attend one of the briefings.

For more information, contact Jane Wettig, Directorate of Information

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Army news

Army celebrates 227th birthday, June 14

A birthday message from United States Army Chief of Staff General Eric K. Shinseki and Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White

For 227 years, soldiers have defended freedom. And again today, soldiers are fighting on behalf of the American people as we prosecute the war on terrorism. So as we celebrate our Army's birthday and reflect on our great institution, a simple truth arises: there is no greater profession than the Profession of Arms, and no greater job than ourserving on point for our nation. Thanks to American soldiers, freedom's light shines as a beacon throughout the world.

The Army has courageously fought our country's wars and served honorably in peace for over two and a quarter centuries. We can all be justifiably proud of the Army's achievements—a distinguished history of service to the nation. From our victories in the

American Revolution through the trial of our Civil War, from the trenches of World War I to the beaches of Normandy and the island battles in the Pacific of World War II, from the frozen mountains of Korea to the sweltering paddies of Vietnam, from Grenada and Panama to the sands of Kuwait and Iraq, and now on the plains and in the mountains of Afghanistan, soldiers have marched at

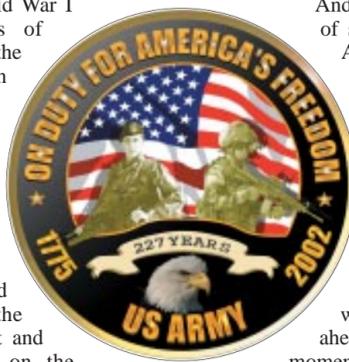
the van[guard] of democracy and the cause of liberty.

And throughout that history of service, the key to the Army's success is our flexibility and willingness to change, to meet the world as it is—without altering the core competencies that make the Army the best fighting force in the world. You are the best Army in the world. As we forge ahead to gain irreversible momentum in our transformation, you will continue to be respected by allies, feared by our enemies, and

honored and esteemed by the American people. Your courage, dedication to duty and selfless service to the nation are the hallmarks of the soldiers of the United States Army.

We will never be able to tell you enough how very proud we are of you, how everyone we meet offers their thanks for what you do and their prayers for your safety and well-being. So we are honored to join you in celebrating the birthday of the most powerful land force the world has ever known. Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices, and for your abiding devotion to something greater than self.

God bless each and every one of you and your families, God bless our magnificent Army, and God bless America.



Sept. 11 focus of 25th annual MAW luncheon

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce closed out its annual Military Appreciation Week tribute with its 25th Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon at Top of the Bay on May 23.

Headed by the chamber's Military Affairs Committee, the luncheon concludes the traditional annual tribute to American service members, past and present.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, was the program's guest speaker.

Doesburg focused on the last eight months and the country's reaction to Sept. 11.

"The better part of our nation has moved on," Doesburg said. "That's the power of our great country. What happened on 9-11 will change us forever," he added. "We, as a nation, have moved, on but have also learned a lesson."

Doesburg lauded "the great soldiers not normally stationed here" who are supporting the installation's security, and the soldiers and civilians from APG who

served in Afghanistan "on point for our nation."

He thanked the civilian community for its support and encouragement, adding that the war on terrorism will likely involve even more soldiers and civilians.

"We would not prevail," Doesburg said, "if it weren't for our communities and their support and dedication for being there for us when we needed them."

William B. Securro, chamber president and chief executive officer, led the presentation of proclamations from James Harkins, Harford County executive; Doug Wilson, mayor of Aberdeen; David Carey, Bel Air chairman, Board of Town Commissioners; David Craig, Havre de Grace mayor and Maryland State Senator Robert Hooper.

Linda Wall, military affairs committee chair and manager of the Aberdeen Four Points Sheraton Hotel, said the annual celebration went well, from the parade and festivities on May 18 to the day's luncheon. After nearly eight years on the committee and two years as chair, this year held the most meaning for the community because of 9-11, Walls said.

"I think we were all focused on 9-11 which made for a greater show of appreciation," Walls said.

"Everyone realizes how special APG is to the community."

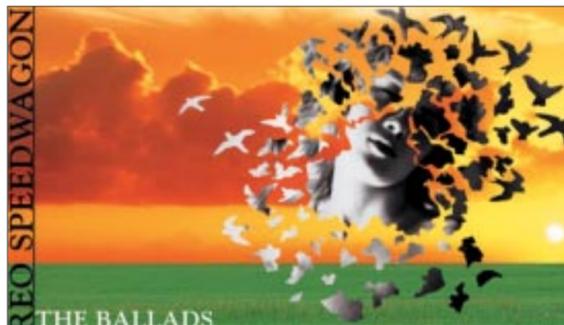
A special moment for most was when Blair Cross, chair of the Korean War Veterans Association, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

"It was a special moment for me as well," Cross said after the program. "All our prayers are with the service members of this great nation."

The Military Affairs Committee thanked APG, Headquarters Support Troop, the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) and the Directorate of Information Management for their support of the annual luncheon.

Members of the Military Affairs Committee include Walls, chair; retired Maj. Gen. Joe Brooks; Glenn Brown, Service Corps of Retired Executives; Becky Collins, Hess Hotels Group; Mia Henderson, Quality Inn; Mike MacPherson, APG Federal Credit Union; Laura Mancini, Harford Habitat for Humanity; Amy Shipley, Titan Systems; Rick Wiener, Battelle Memorial Institute; and representing APG, George Mercer, APG Public Affairs and Blake Sajonia, APG Business Development Office.

REO Speedwagon headlines summer concert



Sheila Little
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's MWR summer 2002 concert promises entertainment for new and old rockers

alike. REO Speedwagon will headline a performance that opens with Night Rider and Eddie Money on Aug. 17.

After 31 years of touring, writing, recording and per-

forming, REO's original members have made a few adjustments and welcomed a few replacement members, and the hits keep coming.

Joining lead singer/songwriter Kevin Cronin, keyboardist and original member Neal Doughty and bass guitarist Bruce Hall, are Dave Amato, formerly with Ted Nugent, and studio drummer Bryan Hitt.

Performing since 1971 when the band rented a Chevy station wagon to play at bars across America, the group has evolved into a class act with a wide range of appeal. The group's concert material is sure to include classic num-

bers as well as recent hits.

Dave Amato, the group's lead guitarist said the band's versatility is part of their appeal.

"Our band has two sides," said Amato. "We rock hard in concert and have a ballads CD which is for kicking back with that special person."

With 17 critically-acclaimed albums and 13 top 40 singles, including two number one hits, REO Speedwagon has sold more than 40 million records.

After playing together for 14 years, culminating in 1985 with the number one single "Can't Fight This Feeling," the group took time to regroup and

redefine itself.

"We went back to the Midwest and started the rebuilding process," said Doughty. He explained that fans became comfortable with newer band members Amato and Hitt, and the band's popularity took off once again.

"I discovered a new appreciation for our audiences and our music....it was fun again," said Cronin.

Sold-out concert tours with Fleetwood Mac, Pat Benatar, Foreigner and Peter Frampton, solidified a resurgence in the band's nationwide popularity. In 2000, the group performed with archival band STYX.

See CONCERT, page 7

Five honored in post retirement ceremony

E.C. Starnes
OC&S

Five individuals with 112 years of combined service were honored at Ordnance Circle during the Aberdeen Proving Ground retirement ceremony May 29.

"These five great Americans have served America," noted Maj. Gen. Mitchell H. Stevenson, chief of Ordnance and commander of the Ordnance Center and Schools. "They come from many parts of the country, California, Washington, D.C., New York and Maryland. They retire after serving in a wide variety of professional positions, in a wide variety of locations throughout their careers and earning many professional training certificates and degrees along the way.

"And yet, despite all of the places that they've been, and all of the things that they've done, they formed one united body as part of our United States Army. They truly formed an Army of One."

See RETIREES, page 13



From left, Linda Houck, John Houck, Jeanette Whipple and baby, Morgan, Staff Sgt. Kenneth Whipple, Iris Thorpe, Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Thorpe, Patricia Hill, Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth Hill, and Maj. Newton H. Foster honor the colors as the Ordnance Center and Schools' color guard passes by during the retirement ceremony May 28 at Ordnance Circle.

Photo courtesy of APG PHOTO LAB

POST SHORTS

SHORTS from front page

Management, 410-278-8716.

REO Speedwagon coming Aug. 17

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division is bringing REO Speedwagon, Night Ranger and Eddie Money to Shine Sports Field Aug. 17.

Due to security considerations, only the Harford Boulevard gate located on Route 22 will be open to concert-goers, who will be directed to designated parking.

Those 16 and older should bring a photo ID and plan their arrival time to accommodate personal and vehicle searches. No coolers will be allowed.

A tailgate party with a live broadcast by radio station WOCT, will be held at the designated parking area from 3 to 6 p.m. The concert staging area opens at 6 p.m.; concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets, \$25 in advance and \$35 the day of the event, go on sale June 24 through Ticketmaster, 1-800-551-SEAT, or the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office, 410-278-4011, between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Volunteers needed for rock concert

Morale, Welfare and Recreation needs volunteers for the APG Classic Rock Concert, Aug. 17, at Shine Sports Field.

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

Volunteers must be 18 or older and available to work from 4 p.m. to midnight.

Staff T-shirts and training will be provided.

For more information about volunteering, contact Ruth Overbay, 410-278-4402, or e-mail ruth.overbay@usag.apg.army.mil.

For general information, call 410-278-4011/4621, TTY 410-278-4110.

Register for HCC fall credit classes

Registration is currently underway fall 2002 credit classes at Harford Community College's Aberdeen Proving Ground Center, building 3146, Raritan Avenue, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and alternate Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, call 410-272-2338 or 410-278-0516.

Students may also register for courses by mail or FAX through Sept. 3. Forms and further information are included in the Schedule of Fall 2002 Credit Classes, which will be mailed to all Harford County residences this summer. It is also available in the Registration and Records Office at HCC and can be viewed at Web site www.harford.edu.

Prior to registering, students may call HCC's Academic Advising Center at 410-836-4301 to make an appointment to meet with an academic advisor and plan their semester schedule. Students who have never attended HCC, or who attended before fall 2000, should complete an HCC Application for Enrollment prior to registering.

For further information about registering for fall credit courses at HCC, call the Office of Registration and Records at 410-836-4222 or 410-879-8920, ext. 222.

Soldier Support Center undergoes renovation

It's been a long time coming, but renovation is underway at the Janet M. Barr Soldier Support Center, building 4305. The second and third floors are being gutted to allow for completion of the exterior. While this is occurring, the elevator and staircases will be built. To accomplish this, we will close off the front entrance to the building. The contractor will fence off the work zone on the front and sides for safety concerns. Personnel will be directed to the rear of the building for entrance.

For more information, call Janet Dettwiler, 410-306-2303.

USAWOA meeting, June 20

The Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association will meet June 20 at Top of the Bay. The meeting will be a working lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Old Baltimore Room. All warrant officers are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Pete Hill or Jane Jones at 410-278-4979.

EA community to hold yard sale

The Edgewood Area of APG will hold a community yard sale 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 22 and 23. Rain date will be June 29 and 30. Participating housing areas include Everette Road, Deer Run, Grant Court, Skippers Point, Clearview Drive, Chevron Drive and Austin Road.

The Community Life Mayoral Program is sponsoring this year's community yard sale. (See page 8 for more information.)

CWF sponsors trip to NYC

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to New York City, July 13. The bus will depart Aberdeen Proving Ground at 6 a.m., and depart New York City at 5 p.m. The price per person is \$35, which covers transportation.

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

Pollution Prevention



To prevent accidents, all chemical containers should be labeled as to what is in them.

APG Pollution Prevention Program

Employment Readiness Workshop offers summer classes

Army Community Service, Family Member Employment Readiness Program will hold Employment Readiness Workshops throughout the summer.

The workshop includes classes about Internet tools, resume pointers and other great ideas to energize your job search. Classes will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. every Monday in building 2752 Rodman Road, 2nd floor.

Scheduled classes include June 24, Information session for interview skills; July 15, Job skills workshop/Finding the perfect career; Aug. 19, Information session for interview skills and Sept. 16, Information session for resumes.

Classes are open to APG adult family members and APG civilians. To register, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669.

OSCA to hold reunion

The Ordnance Supply Control Agency reunion will be held Nov. 3 to 7 in Las Vegas. For more information, e-mail beachcomer08@msn.com or call 941-495-9215.

Weight Watchers at Work continues

Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are continuing on post, and new participants are welcome. The program offers professional leadership, group support and a sound and safe weight control plan.

To learn more about the Weight Watchers at Work Program at Aberdeen Proving Ground, call 410-278-1151.

Use both lanes

Drivers are urged to use both lanes as they approach the gates to APG's Aberdeen Area. At the barricades, motorists should alternate the right of way - allowing every other car to move into the primary entrance lane, like a zipper. This more efficient movement of traffic will speed up the process.

The provost marshal warns drivers who pull out in front of other vehicles, block traffic lanes or exhibit other aggressive tendencies, that they are driving on a federal installation and are subject to citations through the federal court system.

Make picnic reservations for 2002

Outdoor Recreation is accepting reservations from Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations for the 2002 picnic season.

Call at 410-278-4124, or visit building 2407 for reservations.

CWF sponsors trip 'down under'

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to Australia, Sept. 14 to 25, with an optional tour extension from Sept. 26 to 29. The trip includes tours to Melbourne, Philip Island, Sydney, Featherdale Wildlife Park, Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park, and Cairns, where visitors will travel on the Kuranda Scenic Railway, then board the Skyrail to experience a rainforest. Other experiences include a coffee cruise to Middle Harbour and a full-day cruise to the outer Barrier Reef. The optional four-day extended tour will consist of Alice Springs and Ayers Rock.

Price is \$3,299 per person, based on double-occupancy for the 12-day tour; \$3,499 for a single for the 12-day tour. The optional extended tour to Alice Springs and Ayers Rock will be an additional \$1,099 per person, based on double occupancy; and an additional \$1,399 for a single.

A \$500 non-refundable deposit is due per person upon reservation. There are limited seats and they will be filled on a first-

come, first-served basis.

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

Mortuary affairs schedules fall reunion

The U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs Center, Fort Lee, Va., is planning a reunion of Mortuary Affairs/Memorial Activities/Graves Registration specialists. The reunion is scheduled for Sept. 19 to 20 at Fort Lee.

Persons interested in attending should call the Mortuary Affairs Center's deputy director, Doug Howard, at 804-734-3831, or write him at howardd@lee.army.mil.

Due to post security requirements, visitors should plan accordingly in case of delays when entering the installation.

2002 purchase request submissions schedule

Early customer support in identifying and submitting purchase requests will assist the Robert Morris Acquisition Center's, or RMAC's, ability to meet customer needs. Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year end.

The following schedule should be used for the submission of purchase requests for fiscal year 2002 and maintenance for fiscal year 2003.

Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 by May 15. There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.

Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 by June 15.

Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million by June 15.

Short-of-Award over \$2,500 by June 15.

Commercial Items under \$100,000 by Aug. 15.

Maintenance for fiscal year 2003 by June 15.

PD2, the Department of Defense contracting automated system, is used at both the Aberdeen and Edgewood sites. Although the RMAC purchase request submission schedule has been increased to permit additional time to process actions through this system, year-end requirements should be submitted as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of funds going unobligated at year end.

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Refer questions to Joyce Roberts, APG Branch, joyce.roberts@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, 410-278-0869; or Cynthia Phillips, Edgewood Branch, cynthia.phillips@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, 410-436-2554.

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 a choice on the first page of the APG Web site, www.apg.army.mil.

Earn your master's degree at APG

Earn your master's degree on the weekends without leaving Aberdeen Proving Ground and without taking the Graduate Record Examination, or GRE, or Graduate Management Admission Test, or GMAT.

Central Michigan University on APG, a fully accredited school, offers a master's of science degree in administration with concentrations in public administration, human resources administration, general administration, health services administration, and information resource management.

Earn your degree in 18 to 24 months while working full-time. CMU is currently accepting applications for all concentrations.

For information, call 410-272-1532 or visit the CMU office in building 3146, Room 5.

CFC information

Anyone needing information for this year, or from the 2001 Combined Federal Campaign, should contact John Belcher, john.belcher@usag.apg.army.mil or call 410-278-3131.

Disposing of excess software

Excess software with accompanying DA Form 3161, Request for Issue or Turn-In, can be turned in every other Tuesday between 8:30 and 11 a.m. at building 4021.

For complete sets of software, the DA Form 3161 should include software name, manufacturer, date of manufacture, and the number of sets.

For incomplete sets, the media (diskettes, CDs, etc.) must be separated from the manuals and other papers. The entire lot may then be listed as "Assorted software, 1 lot."

For more information or for a turn in that involves more than 100 boxes, call Sandy Schiller at 410-278-8883.

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 8,900.

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.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

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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PET OF THE WEEK



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Mellow fellow

If you like big, laid-back cats, Leon is the one for you. This friendly buff-colored male cat is neutered and about 3 years old. He and other pets are available for adoption at the post Veterinary Treatment Facility. The VTF will close for the Garrison Organization Day, June 18. For information, call 410-278-4604.

APG employees garner FEB awards

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

More than 80 Aberdeen Proving Ground employees brought home gold, silver and bronze awards from the 35th annual Excellence in Federal Career Awards ceremony held May 3 at Martin's West in Baltimore.

The Federal Executive Board sponsors the annual program in which a blue ribbon panel of judges selects the region's top employees from the nominations received from their supervisors.

The programs' master of ceremonies was Richard H. Howell, executive director, FEB.

Col. Mark Brown, FEB chair, handed out the awards.

The panel that selected the 2002 awardees included Nancy S. Pugh, R.N., principal; Pugh and Associates, LLC of West Friendship, Md.; James Asher, Baltimore Sun investigative projects editor; and Katherine Mitzel, WJZ-TV human resources manager. The ceremony occurred in conjunction with national Public Service Recognition Week.

2002 Excellence in Federal Career Awards

Outstanding Supervisor, GS-13 and above

Silver

Nellie M. Duprey, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center
Keith A. Millison, U.S. Army Army Environmental Center

James F. Stewart, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

Bronze

Donna M. Doganiero, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Wilson Heaps, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity

Kenneth M. Snyder, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense
Anthony J. Strasavich, Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization

Rosalind Strickland, U.S. Army Garrison, APG

Outstanding Supervisor, GS-12 and below

Gold

Melissa K. Miller, CHPPM

Silver

William F. Armstrong, USAGAPG

Bronze

Eugene L. Burchette, II, ATC

Outstanding Supervisor, Trade and Crafts

Gold

William D. Kindley, ATC

Outstanding Professional - Technical, Scientific and Program Support

Gold

Michael Adler, MRICD

Bronze

Justina M. Allen, CHPPM
Norman J. Dombeck, U. S. Army Evaluation Center
Marguerite Madsen Dymond, USAMSAA

Norman Harrington, DTC
Gail E. Hatfield, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command

David S. King, ATC

Jerry L. Norris, USAGAPG

Jeffrey H. Waugh, AEC

Outstanding Professional - Administrative, Management and Specialist

Silver

Michael Cast, DTC

Phyllis L. McGauley, USAMSAA

Bronze

Rachel S. Ashby, USAGAPG

Brenda F. Blair, AEC

John K. Giesecking II, PMCD

Patricia B. Hooker, ATC

Sara A. Parker, CHPPM

Vicki Shafer, MRICD

Jack D. Smith, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools

Outstanding Para-Professional - Technical, Scientific and Program Support

Silver

Robin T. Gibson, ATC

Anita Moran, MRICD

Bronze

Anthony Clark, USAOC&S
Dale D. Druyor, PMCD

Thelma B. Lester, SBC-

COM

Henry A. Pabst, AEC

Delores Priborsky, DTC

Outstanding Para-Professional - Administrative

Management and Specialist

Silver

Master Sgt. Terry L. Layton, USAOC&S

Linda P. Tignor, ATC

Bronze

Carolyn R. Barry, AEC

Clara L. Bennett, SBC-

COM

Toni S. Christopher, CHPPM

Marlene E. Class, PMCD

Robert L. Crouse, USAGAPG

Janet R. Dawson, MRICD

Barbara L. Hornberger, DTC

Outstanding Clerical

Silver

Louise V. Beyer, ATC

Shirley A. Thomas, AMSAA

Bronze

Paulette Dean Adkins, MRICD

Susan D. Angelucci, DTC

Elizabeth A. Brooks, PMCD

Suzanne B. Demme, OC&S

Peggy J. Dietz, AEC

Patricia Shires, USAGAPG

Janet L. Silver, CHPPM

Phyllis J. Smith, Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center

Outstanding Trades and Crafts

Silver

Teresa Tezak-Reid, MRICD

Bronze

Edward A. Dewitt, USAGAPG

Robert M. Flowers, ATC

Equal Employment Opportunity Service

Gold

Karen J. Zeto, ATC

Silver

Billie Jo Benjamin, MRICD

Judith Matthews, DTC

Bronze

Margaret Hockenberry, USAMSAA

Heroism

Silver

Gary R. Bott, USAGAPG

Community Service

Silver

John D. Knapstein, MRICD

Barbara A. Tarczynski, DTC

Barbara M. White, ATC

Bronze

Paul C. Dubois, AEC

William J.B. Pringle, PMCD

Jane L. Treusdell, AMSAA

Distinguished Public Service Career

Gold

Dr. Clarence A. Broomfield, MRICD

Silver

Col. Andrew G. Ellis, ATC

John C. Schnell, DTC

Rookie of the Year - Professional

Silver

Douglas M. Cerasoli, MRICD

Dr. Marianne Cloeren, CHPPM

Bronze

Melanie L. Bragg, DTC

Dr. Jennifer Weeks Sekowski, SBCCOM

Jeremy Sprout, ATC

Rookie of the Year - Para-Professional

Silver

George R. Appel, ATC

Bronze

Elizabeth Miller, MRICD

Environmental Center employees recognized

Melissa Plummer

Army Environmental Center

Seven federal employees from the U.S. Army Environmental Center received awards in five categories at the 35th annual Excellence in Federal Career Awards Program and luncheon in Baltimore in May.

The program honors outstanding federal employees and service members in the state of Maryland. More than 250 federal employees were issued awards in 10 categories.

"This representation from Aberdeen Proving Ground is approximately one-quarter of the federal entities that participate in this program," said Aldona Pryce, AEC chief, management analysis branch. "That participation demonstrates the great opportunity organizations have to honor outstanding employees in a broader forum than merely within their home base."

Silver

Keith Millison, chief of the Financial and Human Resources Division, received the silver award for outstanding supervisor in grades 13 and above.

"I was humbled and honored to receive this award," said Millison. "It is nice to be recognized by your peers and supervisors."

Millison's accomplishments include exhibiting leadership in times of major reorganization and helping to create a new and comprehensive strategic plan for the center. He also

managed Army systems and the center's internal infrastructure and information management/information technology skills until its reorganization last year.

Bronze

The bronze award for outstanding professional in the technical, scientific and program support area was awarded to Jeffrey Waugh, an environmental scientist for the Range and Munitions

Division, who has worked at AEC for the past eight years. Waugh's supervisor nominated him for the award.

"Because this was my first nomination, I was very honored for being recognized by my supervisor. I have received a lot of support from my co-workers, the branch and the center," Waugh said.

Waugh's main tasks include developing a strategic plan for

See AEC FEB page 12

Advanced Individual Training students from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion fellowship together during the battalion's quarterly prayer breakfast in the Maryland Army National Guard Armory.



Chaplain promotes spiritual discipline at 143rd prayer breakfast

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

More than 300 soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers dined together and took in an inspirational message during the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' 143rd Ordnance Battalion quarterly prayer breakfast in April. The event was held in the Maryland Army National

Guard Armory on the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Led by Command Sgt. Maj. Sam Brinson, officers and noncommissioned officers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company donned mess hats and served the morning meal to Advanced Individual Training students from the battalion's Companies A, B and C.

Brinson, noting it was his final prayer breakfast with the battalion, said he would remember the 143rd and APG fondly.

"I put in many years here as a young soldier and NCO," Brinson said, adding that the command has evolved into one that promotes spirituality in its soldiers.

"There's no telling what will be asked of these young soldiers in the months and years to come. The firmer their foundation, the more likely they'll succeed."

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) brass quintet, led by Staff Sgt. Steven Stewart, entertained during the meal, then, Capt. Shawn McCammon, 143rd battalion chaplain, and his wife Julie sang a duet of the song, "I Will Be Your Shield," which received thunderous applause from the audience.

McCammon introduced the guest speaker, Maj. Joseph DiGregorio, APG Garrison chaplain, as "a fantastic speaker who has already had a great influence on me."

DiGregorio said that although he entered the military at age 48 and is now over 60, he continues to enjoy his military service.

"Every single chaplain should serve in a basic training brigade," DiGregorio said.

"It gives you the opportunity to make yourself the kind of person you want to be; not just spiritually, but physically."

He recommended that to obtain success in life, whether in or out of the military, soldiers should stick to the three B's: be yourself, be a friend, and be sure.

"First, be yourself," DiGregorio said. "The good Lord gave you something no one else has. No matter how insignificant your accomplishments seem, they're yours - be proud of them."

"Second," he continued, "be a friend to yourself and others. Follow those who stand up for what they believe in and follow your convictions. The leaders you see today are people who do that."

"And finally, be sure of yourself," DiGregorio said. "In faith, you are standing on a solid rock that is immovable."

He then shared a joke about a battleship commander who, upon seeing a light in the distance, assumed it was a ship in his path and radioed the ship to change course. When the respondent refused, the commander angrily gave his name and rank and informed the upstart that "this is a battleship." The voice on the radio calmly responded with his rank, which was much lower. Elated, the commander was about to pull rank in the firmest fashion when the voice added, "this is a lighthouse."

"With faith, you can be as sure as that individual in that lighthouse," DiGregorio said.

"God bless you in your training, stay well and stay happy."

(Editor's note: Command Sgt. Maj. Sam Brinson has since departed the command for Germany. 1st Sgt. Michael Deschenes, Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, is the acting battalion command sergeant major.)



Capt. Shawn McCammon, right, 143rd Ordnance Battalion chaplain and his wife, Julie sing "I Will be Your Shield," during the 143rd Ordnance Battalion prayer breakfast.

Duo promotes musical ministry

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Long before they took their wedding vows, Capt. Shawn McCammon, chaplain, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, and his wife Julie were making music together.

The two have been delighting members of the battalion and the Edgewood Area Protestant Service with musical duets since their arrival on APG about one year ago.

"We approach singing

together as a ministry, not as a performance and never as a show," McCammon said.

Both coming from strong religious backgrounds, the two met at a Bible college in Los Angeles and began singing together soon after.

A former Army reservist, McCammon is serving his first active-duty assignment. He said he enjoys the challenge and is learning something new every day.

"The Army really pushes

for numbers but I'm more interested in how many people have changed or see God in a new light," McCammon said. "I'm interested in the individual."

Also an ordained minister, Julie said she is looking forward to doing more in the ministry. A former first grade teacher, she now is a stay-at-home mom for the couples' two sons, Nathan, 5 and Caleb, 2.

"Living off post, I'm a little detached but I love the area and the people," she said. "I look forward to doing more in the ministry."

"She's my co-chaplain," McCammon said of his wife. "We work as a team. Music is our ministry and that makes all the difference."

Mystery contests at APG Bowling Center



Visit the APG Bowling Center through Aug. 31, and each paying customer will receive an entry form for the drawing of a mystery prize including watches, tools, golf clubs/balls, jewelry, small

kitchen appliances, and more ranging in value from \$20 to \$100. Winners choose their prize from a booklet provided by the bowling center.

The first week's Mystery Bowl winner is Capt. Isaac C. Spragg, JA, Trial Counsel, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Also, get your weekly clues to help guess the mystery trip destination by visiting www.armymwr.com to participate in the Mystery Trip Contest, or visit the bowling center every Monday for a preview of each week's clue.

For more information, contact Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041 or david.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil.



Right photo, in a simultaneous exchange of commands, Maryland Army National Guard Col. Ronald Eaton, left, accepts the guidon from Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Hutchinson, and left photo, Col. Alberto Jimenez, right, accepts his from Command Sgt. Maj. Michael R. Jeunette. Jimenez relinquished command of the 29th Infantry Division (Light) Aviation Brigade to Eaton, and assumed command of the Headquarters, Aviation Depot Maintenance Roundout Unit, Eaton's prior command.



National Guard commands change hands

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

In an unusual ceremony, the outgoing Headquarters, Aviation Depot Maintenance Roundout Unit (ADMRU) commander switched positions (command) with the commander, 29th Infantry Division (Light) Aviation during a change of command ceremony at the Maryland Army National Guard Armory on the Edgewood Area, May 5.

Brig. Gen. Warren L. Sumpter, assistant adjutant general and commander of the Maryland National Guard, oversaw the proceedings.

Sumpter lauded the performance of both commanders, calling them "professionals who have served the defense of our nation over the past several years. Both have served as Department of Defense civilians and have done an absolutely phenomenal job," Sumpter said.

He presented both with Army Meritorious Service medals and welcomed guests who included Col. Mardi U. Mark, Aberdeen Proving Ground garrison and deputy installation commander.

In his remarks, Jimenez said he was "deeply touched" by the praise from his commanders, and complimented Eaton's capabilities.

"You will be led by a very capable and veteran soldier," Jimenez said.

He, Eaton and Sumpter performed a joint review of the mass formation of local units and representatives from sister organizations. They included Headquarters, Aviation Maintenance Battalion; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 29th Aviation; B Troop 1/158th

Cavalry; Company G 224th Aviation; the 150th Attack Helicopter Battalion from New Jersey; the 629th Military Intelligence Battalion, MDARNG; and the 104th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), MDARNG.

Command Sgts. Maj. Timothy Hutchins and Michael R. Jeunette assisted in the formal exchange of the commands' guidons.

Before serving as the director, Eaton commanded the ADMRU. During his command, subordinate units deployed to Somalia, Haiti and Egypt. He has held numerous positions within the Guard and as a DoD civilian with the National Guard Bureau. He also was appointed by the Governor of Maryland to the Harford County Board of Education where he served for eleven years. Additionally, he served as a trustee for the Harford Community College for five years.

Eaton's military awards include the Bronze Star 1st Oak Leaf Cluster with "V" device for ground combat, the Meritorious Service Medal 3rd OLC; Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal 3rd OLC, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Master Army Aviator Badge.

Jimenez is a citizen soldier whose career spans more than 30 years of military service. A Vietnam combat veteran, he has served more than 20 years with the Maryland Army National Guard. In his civilian capacity, he has served in various assignments from chief, Aviation Logistics Division to director, Aviation and Safety Division, National Guard Bureau.

His military awards include the Air Medal
See CHANGE, page 12



Photo by AMY PRESTON

Cadette Girl Scout Troop 881 members, left, Amber Green, Nicole Stugen and Jamison Crowe hold up some of the videos their troop will mail for use in free video lending libraries MWR is setting up for troops deployed to Bosnia.

Girl Scouts honored by Maryland National Guard

Amy Preston
Troop Leader #881

Cadette Girl Scout Troop 881 of Aberdeen/Aberdeen Proving Ground received a special recognition award from the Maryland Army National Guard Family Program during its annual conference and awards banquet in April.

The Adjutant General for the Maryland National Guard Lt. Gen. James Fretterd presented the award.

Fretterd expressed his pleasure in seeing today's youth involved in supporting the guard.

Troop 881 was chosen because of its support to MDARNG members; specifically members of Company F, 224th Aviation Brigade, during their deployment to Bosnia during 2001-2002 as part of the SFOR Peacekeeping mission.

Initially, the troop planned only to support one of its scout leaders, Staff Sgt. "Bud" Preston, who deployed with the unit.

Upon learning of the deployment last spring, the troop began making plans on what they could do to help.

Their ideas and plans soon grew to include all of Company F and other units deployed to the same region.

Throughout the deployment the troop sent numerous care packages, including special treats for Halloween, Christmas, New Years and Valentines Day.

According to Scout Leader Michele Cabot, many of the Cadettes expressed their concern that the soldiers were so far from home during the major holidays and for an extended period of time.

"Several of the girls also stayed in contact via e-mail with Preston, letting their leader

know how much they missed him and wanted him home," Cabot said.

The troop helped arrange to have 29 cases of Girl Scout cookies delivered to military units serving in the Bosnian region.

"The care packages, goody boxes and cards that were received during our time in Bosnia were greatly appreciated, and showed the care and support of not only our family members and spouses but of other organizations," said Sgt. Phyllis Perry, a member of Company F deployed to Bosnia.

"The Girl Scout cookies were definitely a bonus and welcome treat for everyone," she said.

With the assistance of Candi Guzman with the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division in Bosnia, the troop also coordinated a used video drive for videos to be sent overseas for free video lending libraries at MWR offices located in the Bosnia/Kosovo regions.

Although the Cadettes welcomed Preston home in April, the members of Troop 881 plan to continue their support of the Maryland National Guard, its family program and soldiers deployed overseas or assigned to homeland defense.

"I am very proud of the work the girls did and plan on continuing," Preston said. "It shows that patriotism is still alive in today's youth. This is a very positive trait that needs to be kept alive considering the children of today are the leaders of tomorrow. The Girl Scout organization is a great place to instill these values."

Corrections

In last week's story entitled "Army secretary visits APG," the *APG News* regrets the errors. Corrections are written below.

At the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Site Manager Joseph Lovrich led a tour of the site and detailed the accelerated demilitarization process for the mustard agent stockpile.

A vehicle display awaited the secretary at the ATC Trench Warfare direct fire

range where he viewed the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles, an Abrams tank, a Bradley Fighting Vehicle, and the Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle and Mobile Gun System.

Col. David Ogg, program manager, Brigade Combat Team, identified in the front page photo, is from the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command in Warren, Mich.

Concert

From front page

Dubbed the Arch Allies Tour, the tour was hugely successful. Now, band members prefer to limit touring to stay near family, but will soon be on the road to APG, performing in what is expected to be another great concert.

"A lot has happened since those days in the old Chevy stationwagon," said Cronin. "We are thankful for every moment."

Join REO Speedwagon, Eddie Money and Night Rider at the Aug. 17 concert and support the military. Proceeds from APG concerts return to the community to support programs and organizations that serve APG soldiers.

In keeping with security, all concert goers will enter through the Route 22 gate. All entrants 16 and older should bring picture ID and be prepared for vehicle and personal searches. No coolers will be allowed.

A tailgate party, complete with live broadcast by WOCT, is planned for the designated parking area from 3 to 6 p.m. Shuttle service to the concert site is available from there. Seating is lawn seating, the concert starts at 7:30 p.m., and will take place rain or shine. Tickets go on sale June 24 for \$25, through Ticketmaster, 1-800-551-SEAT, or at the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office, 410-278-4011. Tickets will be available the day of the concert for \$35.

Community Notes

FRIDAY JUNE 14 IT CONFERENCE AT HEAT CENTER

A statewide conference for information technology professionals, "Gateway to the Future," will be held 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the HEAT Center in Aberdeen. Sponsored by Harford Community College, Maryland Association of Community Colleges, and Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, the conference will provide an inside look at what the future holds, how the industry has responded to new threats and opportunities, and how converging technologies will shape the future. The conference will also provide an update on critical issues in the information technology field and identify the needs of and resources available to IT professionals.

IBM Industry Solutions Lab's John Heidenreich will present the keynote address, "A Global Technology Outlook." Other presentations and panels will cover "The Risks and Rewards of a Wireless Future," "Emerging IT Issues," and "Disaster Recovery: The New Perspective." The \$15 registration fee includes a continental breakfast and a lunch buffet. For more information, call 410-638-2576 or e-mail pmarcomi@harford.edu.

SATURDAY JUNE 15 AN EVENING OF WINE AND JAZZ

The Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace at the Lockhouse will sponsor the 10th annual Evening of Wine and Jazz at the Havre de Grace Community Center, 7 to 11 p.m. The evening will feature entertainment by the Gentlemen of Jazz. There will be line and silent auctions (some antiques), light refreshments, beverages, desserts, a \$500 Savings Bond raffle from Harford Bank and door prizes.

Tickets cost \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Funds will benefit the Lockhouse. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-5780 or 410-272-0819.

FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY JUNE 21 to 23 CWF WEEKEND GETAWAY TO CAPE MAY

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a weekend getaway to Cape May, N.J. Lodging at the Grand Hotel provides ocean view rooms, an inside pool and jacuzzi, and easy access to the boardwalk, beach restaurants and shopping.

The prices are \$315 for a single; \$176 per person for double occupancy; and \$138 per person for triple occupancy. These prices include transportation and hotel accommodations. For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit Morale, Welfare and Recreation, APG- Soldier Programming, will be held at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5.

For tickets, call Stacie Edie, 410-278-3931, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

SATURDAY JUNE 22 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit VFW Post 8185 will be held at the Port Deposit VFW Post 8185, Route 222, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks, and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5. For tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

FREE CONCERT TICKETS TO USHER

USO of Metropolitan Washington will offer free concert tickets to see Usher perform on June 22, 7 p.m. at the Nissan Pavilion, courtesy of Clear Channel. Priority will be given to active duty military (E-6 and below) and family members only. Tickets are available only through USO-Metro on a limited basis. Tickets will be available for pickup June 17 at 10 a.m. at the USO Center, Fort Myer Community Center. For more information, call 703-696-2552 (Ticketline).

SUNDAY JUNE 30 GOSPEL CONCERT

The APG Gospel Service choir and other local choirs will hold a gospel concert at 5 p.m. in the Aberdeen Area Chapel. The theme of this old-time gospel celebration is "Taking It Back To The Old Land Mark." For more information, call Clarence Weaver at 410-272-6583 or Regina Mack at 410-273-5306.

FRIDAY JULY 12 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Ladies Auxiliary, Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Chesapeake City will be held at the Chesapeake City Fire Hall (2nd floor) 215 Lock Street, Chesapeake City at 6 p.m.; bingo starts at 7 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5.

For tickets, call Lori, 410-287-0827, or Carol, 410-885-5060.

FRIDAY JULY 19 BASKET BINGO

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

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

SATURDAY AUGUST 10 CWF SHOPPING AT POTOMAC MILLS

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a shopping trip to Potomac Mills for \$20 per person, which includes charter bus transportation. The bus will depart Aberdeen Proving Ground at 8 a.m. and depart Potomac Mills at 4 p.m.

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

FRIDAY AUGUST 23 BASKET BINGO

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

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

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7 CWF SPONSORS HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to fly in a hot air balloon for \$199 per person, which includes charter bus transportation to Lancaster, Pa., and a one-hour flight that begins at 6 p.m.

Reservations can be made through June 20. Seats will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. A \$50 deposit per person is required. For reservations or more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit Good Shepherd Catholic School will be held at the Good Shepherd School, 810 Aiken Ave., Perryville, 7 p.m.; doors open at 6 p.m. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available. Cost is \$10; additional sets cost \$5. For tickets, call the Good Shepherd School, 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard

DEUCES WILD

Friday, June 14, 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 15, 9 p.m.
Starring: Stephen Dorff, Brad Renfro



Leon and Bobby are brothers who, with their friends, are determined to maintain their way of life in their neighborhood. They are "The Deuces." Loyalty means everything to them, and protecting friends and family is their main priority. (Rated R)



SORORITY BOYS (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, June 15, 7 p.m.
Starring: Barry Watson, Harland Williams

Strapped for cash, Dave, Adam and Doofer find themselves drawn to one last, desperate hope for free housing: one of their campus' sororities, Delta Omicron Gamma (or D.O.G.). But, to become one of the boys, they have to first become one of the girls. With a little makeup, pantyhose, and lots of pluck, they go undercover in the girl's sorority house as Daisy, Adina, and Roberta. (Rated R)

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

The APG Garrison Library has the following new video-cassette titles:

Infantry (Weapons of War Series)

The French Foreign Legion

The True Story of Black Hawk Down

America's Black Warriors: two wars to win

Death From Above: A history of the airborne infantry

The West Point Story: Fortress of freedom

Combat Training

The Mystery of the 364th (the Mississippi massacre of World War II)

Women Warriors: The making of a Marine

EA YARD SALE

EA COMMUNITY TO HOLD YARD SALE

The Edgewood Area of APG will hold a Community Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 22 and 23. Rain date will be June 29 and 30. Participating housing areas include Everette Road, Deer Run, Grant Court, Skippers Point, Clearview Drive, Chevron Drive and Austin Road.

All family housing residents are invited to participate. The Community Life Mayoral Program is sponsoring the yard sale.

The following yard sale guidelines apply:

- All family housing residents are eligible to participate. Set up your items in front of your house.
- Signs announcing the sale may be erected in the immediate vicinity only on day of the sale.
- Signs will not be affixed to traffic signs, utility poles, trees, lamp poles, or fences. Signs should be placed on a wooden stake and placed in the ground.
- Signs will be removed at the end of the sale, and residents are responsible for policing their area.

For more information on the Community Yard Sale, call 410-306-2011.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

AFBTB TO CONDUCT CLASSES

Army Family Team Building is offering two classes on June 19, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754, Rodman Road, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The class topics are Introduction to Military and Civilian Resources, and Family and Military Expectations.

Reservations should be made by June 17 to Diana Jackson, ACS, 410-278-2464.

TEEN PARENTING CLASSES

The Family Advocacy Program will offer "Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP)" Teen Classes every Tuesday and Thursday, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754, Rodman Road. STEP is offered to all parents who have children ranging from 12 to 18 years old. The dates and topics are:

- July 9 Understanding Yourself and Your Teenager
- July 11 Changing Your Response to Your Teen
- July 16 Communicating Respect and Encouragement
- July 18 Encouraging Cooperation and Problem Solving
- July 23 Using Consequences to Build Responsibility
- July 25 Deciding What to Do

If you are interested in registering for STEP Teen Parenting Classes, call Laura Reich, family advocacy prevention specialist at 410-278-7478 by July 3.

CAN DO! KIDS CLASSES

The Exceptional Family Member Program will be sponsoring "Who are Can Do! Kids?" a program that will focus on what children can do instead of what they cannot. Can Do! Kids use their abilities in whatever way is best for them in order to do the things they want. Every child can be a Can Do! Kid.

There will be four sessions held every Monday starting June 24, 6 to 7 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754. The topics and dates are as follows:

- June 24 Social Skills
- July 1 Teamwork
- July 8 Life Skills
- July 15 Creative Thinking

Attendees must register by calling Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP manager at 410-278-2420.

BUILDING BLOCKS TO SUCCESS

Army Community Service is sponsoring a series of wealth building classes to teach how to manage money, live debt free and protect income.

- June 13 Banking and Checking Accounts
- June 20 Using Credit Wisely
- June 27 Saving and Investing

Classes are free and open to all civilians, active duty personnel, retirees and family members. All classes will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Army Community Service Center, building 2754, Rodman Road. Space is limited. For more information or to reserve a seat, call Arcelio V. Alleyne, 410-278-2450. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch.

VTC UNITES MILITARY FAMILY MEMBERS

Army Community Service has set up a free video teleconference (VTC) available for military families to get in touch with their deployed loved ones. The VTC is located at ACS, building 2754, Rodman Road. Families will be able to see each other on a wide screen. To set up an appointment, call ACS, 410-278-2453.



SELF AWARENESS CLASS

June 29, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Four Points Sheraton. Cost is \$249. Must register by June 14. For more information, contact Chris Lockhart at 410-278-3904 or e-mail her at chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil

BEGINNER SKEET AND TRAP SHOOTING

Learn skeet and trap shooting Saturdays starting June 22 at the Edgewood Skeet and Trap Shooting Range from noon to 3 p.m. Cost is \$25. Must register by June 19.

For more information, contact Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

BASKET BINGO

June 21, 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall. Tickets cost \$10 or \$5 for each additional ticket.

For more information contact Stacie Edie at 410-278-3931 or e-mail her at stacie.edie@usag.apg.army.mil.

FATHER'S DAY MINIATURE GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 16, 2 to 5 p.m. at Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park. Cost is \$8 per two-man team. For more information contact Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail him at charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil

NEW YORK CITY DAY TOUR

June 22, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. Must register by June 19. For more information contact Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or e-mail her at earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil

LINGANORE WINE CELLARS FESTIVAL

June 29, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$28 (21 or older) and \$20 (3 to 20 yrs old). Must register by June 19. For more information contact Chris Lockhart at 410-278-3904 or e-mail her at chris.lockhart@usag.apg.army.mil.

New TSP system set for September

Brian Friel
bfriel@govexec.com

The \$102 billion Thrift Savings Plan will have a new computer system in September that will provide daily updates of the value of the 401k-style retirement accounts held by federal workers and military personnel, the TSP board announced Friday.

The TSP's 2.9 million participants will also be able to move their money among investment options at any time under the new system.

The announcement marks the fourth time in three years that the TSP board has promised to unveil the new system, which will make the TSP more like private sector 401k systems. Such systems have long provided participants with daily valuation and the ability to update accounts at any time.

After three delays in 2000 and 2001, the TSP board in July

2001 fired Fairfax, Va.-based American Management Systems, the original contractor overseeing the TSP's computer modernization. The board hired Alexandria, Va.-based Materials, Communication & Computers Inc. (MATCOM), to take over the contract. While MATCOM has been working on the contract, the Thrift Savings Plan board and American Management Systems have been locked in a legal battle over who is to blame for their failed contract.

TSP officials say MATCOM scrapped the work done by American Management Systems and started over.

TSP board officials plan to close out the current computer system at the end of August and bring the new system into operation on Sept. 16. There will be some limitations on account transactions during the transition.

The chart below shows the major changes that TSP participants will see if the new system works as expected in September.

TSP Changes	
Now	After Sept. 16, 2002
In General	
The TSP is a monthly valued plan. Transactions are processed once a month.	The TSP will be a daily valued plan. Transactions will be processed each business day.
Account balances and transactions are processed and shown in dollar amounts.	Account balances and transactions will be processed and shown in dollar amounts, shares, and share prices.
Married FERS and uniformed services participants must obtain their spouses' waiver or consent for all withdrawal requests (except the prescribed TSP annuity)	For any withdrawal requiring a spouse's waiver or consent, a Federal Employee Retirement System or uniformed services participant must have his or her spouse's signature notarized.
TSP open season dates are Nov. 15 to Jan. 31 and May 15 to July 31.	TSP open season dates will be Oct. 15 to Dec. 31 and April 15 to June 30.
The TSP issues participant statements twice a year, for the periods ending April 30 and Oct. 31.	Beginning in January 2003, the TSP will issue quarterly statements for the periods ending March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, and Dec. 31.

Loans and Withdrawals	
If you have a loan, you receive quarterly loan statements.	Loan information will be included on your quarterly participant statements, rather than on separate loan statements.
You must repay a general-purpose loan within four years.	You will be able to take up to five years to repay a general-purpose loan.
You can reamortize your loan only once	You can reamortize your loan without limit.
You can repay a TSP loan at any time, but only in full with guaranteed funds. (Personal checks are not accepted.)	In addition to repaying your TSP loan through regular payroll deductions, you will also be able to repay all or part of it at any time and do so with personal checks.
Only monthly withdrawal payments can be electronically deposited into your checking or savings account.	You will be able to have loan or withdrawal payments deposited electronically into your checking or savings account.
Withdrawals after separation from service must be for your entire TSP account balance.	After you separate, you may also be able to make a one-time partial withdrawal (if you have not made an age-based in-service withdrawal).
You can make a post-employment withdrawal as either a single payment, monthly payments, or a life annuity.	You can use any combination of these same options to make a post-employment full withdrawal.
You can elect to receive monthly payments for a fixed dollar amount or for a fixed number of months, or you can have the TSP compute your payments based on your life expectancy. You cannot change your election	You will be able to receive monthly payments for a fixed dollar amount or have the TSP compute your payments based on life expectancy. You will be able to make a one-time change from TSP-computed payments to fixed-dollar-amount payments. Once a year, you will be able to change the monthly fixed dollar amount you are receiving.
After you separate from service, you will receive an automatic cashout if your account balance is \$3,500 or less, unless you choose another withdrawal option.	After you separate from service, you will receive an automatic cashout if your account balance is less than \$200. No other withdrawal options will be available.

Web site and ThriftLine	
Both the TSP Web site and the ThriftLine provide general plan information and allow you to check your (monthly) account balance; make an interfund transfer; allocate future contributions among the five funds; change (or request) a PIN; find out the current loan interest rate; and learn the amount available to you for a loan	On both the TSP Web site and the ThriftLine, you will also be able to find out your daily account balance and daily share prices. On the ThriftLine, you will be able to find out your outstanding loan balance and loan prepayment amount. You will also be able to request that certain TSP forms and publications be mailed or faxed to you.
On the Web site, you can download TSP forms and materials and find out your outstanding loan balance and prepayment amount. You can also use interactive calculators to project a future account balance; to estimate annuity payments and loan payments; and to find out how much you can contribute per pay period without exceeding the elective deferral limit before the end of the year.	On the Web site, you will also be able to begin (and in some cases, complete) a loan or withdrawal request and refinance a loan. You will be able either to estimate the number of monthly payments you will receive if you choose to withdraw your account in monthly payments of a specified amount, or to estimate the amount of your monthly payment if you choose to have monthly payments computed based on IRS life expectancy tables. If you are separated from service, you will also be able to update your name and address.

Softball update

The following results were reported for intramural softball for the week ending June 7.	143rd vs. HHC 16th 7:30 p.m., *(EA) Company C 143rd vs. HHC 143rd 8:30 p.m., *(EA) Company A 143rd vs. KUSAHC	vs. TEU June 19 6:30 p.m., Company B 143rd vs. HHC 16th 7:30 p.m., Company C 143rd vs. HHC 143rd 8:30 p.m., Company A 143rd vs. KUSAHC 6:30 p.m., **(AA) HHC 61st vs. SBCCOM 7:30 p.m., **(AA) TEU vs. HST	games postponed/rain
American Division Results	Standings	Standings	Schedule
June 3 HST 13; HHC 61st, 12 HHC 16th, 16; NCOA, 4 HHC 143rd, 14; KUSAHC, 11	HHC 16th 1-0 HHC 143rd 1-0 HST 1-0 HHC 61st 1-0 NCOA 0-1 KUSAHC 0-1	SBCCOM 1-0 Company C 143rd 1-0 TEU 0-1 Company B 143rd 0-1 Company A 143rd 0-0	June 18 6:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. Company C 16th 7:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. Company B 16th 8:30 p.m., HHC 1/115th vs. USMC
June 5 HST, 9; NCOA, 8 HHC 16th, 14; HHC 143rd, 5 HHC 61st vs. KUSAHC, postponed	Edgewood Division Results	National Division Results	June 20 6:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. USMC 7:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. HHC 1/115th 8:30 p.m., Company C 16th vs. Company B 16th
Schedule	June 3 SBCCOM, 13; TEU 6 Company C 143rd, 12; Company B 143rd, 9	June 4 USMC, 15; Company E 16th, 12 HHC 1/115th, 15; Company A 16th, 3 Company C 16th, W; Company B 16th, F	June 6 June 6
June 17 6:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. HHC 61st 7:30 p.m., HST vs. KUSAHC 8:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. NCOA	June 5 games postponed/rain	June 6 June 6	June 6 June 6
June 19 6:30 p.m., HHC 61st vs. SBCCOM 7:30 p.m., TEU vs. HST 6:30 p.m., *(EA) Company B	June 17 6:30 p.m., Company B 143rd vs. SBCCOM 7:30 p.m., Company A 143rd	June 6 June 6	June 6 June 6



Army News



National Guard ending airport security mission



Army National Guard soldier stands guard at Reagan National Airport near Washington, D.C.

Master Sgt. Bob Haskell Army News Service

Many Army National Guard troops are returning to life as they knew it before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks now that they are no longer helping to safeguard the nation's airports.

Guard troops have left more than 400 airports where they have steadfastly stood watch in their camouflage uniforms at security checkpoints since President George Bush asked the governors for the Guard's help late last September.

The mission for all Guard troops will end May 31.

Virginia Army Guard Sgt. Ishma Hodges gained a new respect for the civilian security screeners, and Spc. Derrick Kysar discovered that boring could be beautiful during the seven months they served at Reagan National Airport near Washington, D.C.

Both are traditional, or part-time, soldiers in the 29th Infantry Division that ended its mission at Reagan on Mother's Day.

"I gained a lot of respect for what the civilian screeners do," said Hodges, who took military leave from his civilian job as a land acquisition negotiator for the Virginia Department of Transportation to do his bit for the war against terrorism.

"It's hard but tedious duty," said Hodges. He added that the civilians with whom he worked closely at passenger-security points "get a lot of abuse, but under the circumstances, they do a really good job."

Kysar, meanwhile, balanced his airport duties with his part-time job as a geology instructor at George Washington University in the District of Columbia.

Nearly 9,000 Army and Air Guard troops were assigned to 444 airports by last December after President Bush called

additional personnel through the holiday season, said Greg Funk of the National Guard Bureau's homeland security staff in Arlington, Va.

Many of them, like Kysar, continued to hold down civilian jobs while pulling regular shifts at airports from Boston to Los Angeles. Others put their civilian jobs and college on hold.

The Guard's numbers were reduced to 5,071 troops at 341 airports by May 10 and then to 2,182 personnel at 223 on the Monday after Mother's Day, Funk added.

"The Transportation Security Administration, being committed to creating a workforce that commands the respect of the traveling public, is in the process of hiring security screeners and supervisors at over 400 airports who are taking and will take the place of our Guard members," stated the National Guard Bureau.

"This has gone extremely well. There was a lot of competition to do this mission, so we were able to select the best National Guard soldiers and airmen," explained Lt. Col. David Green, who coordinated a force of about 50 Army and Air Guard troops for four airports in New Mexico. "It has certainly boosted the National Guard's image."

The fact that the vast majority of passengers accepted the additional security measures made the duty pretty mundane most of the time, said Kysar.

"Hey, boring is good," he added before recalling some less than boring moments.

One man, for example, intentionally dropped his trousers after being asked by a civilian screener to open his belt buckle, Kysar said, because he felt his personal rights were being violated.

Another man threw his shoes at a screener when asked to remove them so they could be checked for wires. The shoes did not hit the screener, Kysar

added.

And there was the occasional government official or diplomat who, Kysar said, would try to cut through the security process by impatiently asking the tired old question "Do you know who I am?"

"Usually we could defuse a situation by walking up and making our presence known," he explained.

"Your mere presence at the checkpoints no doubt averted would-be criminals and terrorists who have, presumably, chosen other paths of less resistance," Christopher Browne, Reagan National's vice president and manager, told the departing Guard soldiers.

"You have been absolutely instrumental in restoring the nation's confidence in this critical mode of transportation," Browne added. "I truly hope we can maintain that confidence in your absence."

Others echoed Browne's praise as the mission winds down.

"They did a good job," said a Harbor Police officer in San Diego about the troops who ended the mission at that international airport on May 5.

"I want to express my appreciation to the National Guard men and women in the airports," said Margot Cranford of Little Rock, Ark., about the troops she encountered at half a dozen airports in California, Texas, Florida and Georgia.

"Their presence should be intimidating to the wrong people, but they have been so friendly and helpful to the general public," she added. "It makes me feel that I am part of them instead of apart from them."

(Editor's note: Master Sgt. Bob Haskell is a member of the National Guard Bureau public affairs team.)

Pentagon Memorial design competition, site selection announced

Mary Beth Thompson USACE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold an open competition to select a design for an outdoor memorial on the grounds of the Pentagon. The memorial will honor the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack at that building.

This announcement followed the selection of a location for the memorial near the point of impact. Washington Headquarters Services Director David O. (DOC) Cooke made the selection after reviewing the Corps' "Site Selection Report." WHS is the agency that manages the Pentagon.

Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense to establish a memorial at the Pentagon Reservation dedicated to the victims of the terrorist attack on the Pentagon in the Fiscal Year 2002 Defense Authorization Act. In October, the Department of Defense asked the Army, through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to provide technical services to establish the memorial. The Corps has constructed and renovated many of the nation's memorials.

"We will hold a wide open and fair competition for a concept design as part of our commitment to the victims, their families and the American people," said Col. Charles J. Fiala Jr., the Corps of

Engineers' Baltimore District engineer. The Corps' Baltimore District is managing the Pentagon Memorial project.

The Pentagon Memorial Design Competition will take place in two stages. In the initial stage, all entries will be judged, and several semi-finalists will be chosen. The semi-finalists will then have an opportunity to further develop their concepts prior to a final design selection.

Fiala also stated that a jury of professionals, with input from the victims' families and others and with Pentagon review, will select the design concept to be constructed.

A number of family members involved in the memorial planning process identified qualities the memorial should evoke. They used these words: peaceful, serene, poignant, not ostentatious, strength, life, eternity, honor, class, sadness, tragic senselessness, renewed hope, inspire, embracing, enduring, courage, calm. They used these phrases: understand the enormity of the attack, death is equal, shouldn't tell you what to think, brought the country together, effect should be positive, strength and endurance of the memorial should complement the strength of the Pentagon.

Family members of the victims, a Family Steering Committee, were involved in



As he holds his daughter, Samantha, 4, Army Maj. Ken Murphy tells her a spontaneously created memorial near the Pentagon "... is a place for people to say goodbye" to those who died in the terrorist attack on the building Sept. 11, 2001. With him are his wife, Kris, and younger daughter, Danielle, 2. A design competition is underway for a permanent outdoor memorial on the grounds of the Pentagon.

an evaluation of 10 potential sites conducted by the Corps.

In the words of one family member of the committee, "The site was selected on September 11." Strong family support for this site weighed heavily with Pentagon offi-

cialists involved in the site selection.

Any individual or team may enter the competition. Competition instructions will be available June 17 by calling toll free 1-866-782-4383, or by visiting a special competi-

tion Web site that is being set up at <http://memorialcompetition.pentagon.mil/>. The competition program will include submission requirements, site description and other directions and advice. General information about

the Pentagon Memorial project can be found at <http://pentagon-memorial.nab.usace.army.mil>.

(Editor's note: Mary Beth Thompson is a public affairs specialist assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District.)

AEC FEB

From page 3

environmental support to ranges and munitions. Brenda Blair, program analyst for the Financial and Human Resources Division, also received the bronze award for the outstanding professional, non-supervisory, administrative, management and specialist category.

"I was honored and touched to be chosen for this award," said Blair.

Her accomplishments include computing, analyzing and presenting the quarterly review and analysis as well as overseeing space utilization, trailer acquisition and leased trailer maintenance.

A federal employee for more than 30 years with 14 years at the center, Blair said she considers this award to be "the icing on the cake," since she is retiring later this year.

Henry Pabst received a bronze award in the

outstanding para-professional, non-supervisory, in the technical, scientific, and program support area.

Pabst, a computer specialist for AEC's Information and Environmental Reporting Division, is responsible for overseeing numerous tasks as well as building automated applications which have become the standard for reporting of Army environmental systems.

Carolyn Barry received a bronze award for outstanding para-professional, non-supervisory, in the administrative, management and specialist category.

A federal employee for more than 35 years, Barry, an information systems management specialist for the Information and Environmental Reporting Division, accomplishes tasks such as publication task management, public Web site administration and technical library oversight.

Peggy Dietz, secretary to the deputy to the commander and the technical director at AEC, received the bronze award in the outstanding clerical category.

Dietz's strengths include timekeeping skills, preparing documents for the commander and generating new ideas that increase efficiency and improve operations. Dietz has worked for the center for more than 13 years.

Paul Dubois received a bronze award for community service.

With six years in the Range and Munitions Division as a forester, Dubois volunteers his time as a conservationist, monitoring the streams and natural resources in his community and around the state.

In addition, Dubois drafted the first memorandum of agreement between the State Conservation Office and the Maryland Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, a national organization promoting bass fishing, conservation and community involvement.

Federal Executive Board awards are issued primarily in recognition of exemplary job performance and contributions to the federal government or the community.

Change

From page 6

for combat, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal 4th OLC, and the Humanitarian Service Medal and various state military awards that include the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross.

The ADMRU provides mobilized Army and in-theater tailored backup aviation intermediate maintenance and limited depot aviation maintenance capabilities. The unit supports Army aviation organizations deployed in all theaters. Four subordinate aviation logistics units located in Connecticut, California, Missouri and Mississippi comprise 1,440 spaces.

Company B soldiers stake their claim to victory



Photo by STAFF SGT. RICHARD KAM
The Weaver obstacle requires soldiers to weave their body over and under the structure made of 4 by 4 studs. Standing to the left is Staff Sgt. William Davidson; from the top, Staff Sgt. William Lee, Staff Sgt. Casford Johnson and Lt. Col. Anthony T. Grant.

1st Lt. David E. Sullivan
143rd Ordnance Battalion

On an unseasonably warm Saturday in April, three teams of 10 soldiers participated in the 143rd Ordnance Battalion Soldier Stakes Competition at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Soldier Stakes is a battery of tasks that measures the essence of soldiering. The three-part contest consists of an obstacle course, a three-mile road march and soldier Common Task testing.

Company B, 143rd took first place overall in the three-part or contest. 1st Sgt. Mark Malone, Company B 143rd, gave credit to the soldiers and the team captain, Drill Sgt. Timothy Hebbard.

"The streamer has come home at last," Malone said in response to his company's victory. He said Hebbard's motivation, knowledge and application was instrumental in leading Company B 143rd to victory.

The contest began at 8 a.m. with the Soldier Common Task Testing, a five-question exam.

SCTT includes various tasks, such as properly performing a single-channel-airborne-radio-system test, performing an M16A2 weapon functions check, and properly demonstrating first aid/lifesaver techniques such as treating for shock.

In addition, soldiers were required to recite the three General Orders and give the three basic types of ammunition for the standard issue weapon, the M16A2.

After completing the academic portion came

the obstacle course, then the road march, the true test of endurance. The winner is the team that negotiates all 15 of the obstacles and completes the road march in the least amount of time.

Some of the obstacles included the pipe-obstacle; the inclining wall; the swing, stop, and jump, also known as the rope-swing; and the weaver.

"The weaver was the hardest, especially going up. But on the way down, it was pretty easy," Pfc. Tia Maldonado of Company B, 143rd said.

She said the weaver is hardest because there is nothing to hold on to.

The weaver is a matrix of ascending, smoothly sanded 4 by 4 wooden studs that the soldier weaves his or her body over and under for a length of approximately 60 feet.

Pvt. Rovert Vasquez of the winning team said that Hebbard made sure everyone was trained to their utmost potential.

"Every time we trained, we sweated like it was 100 degrees out," Vasquez said. "He pushed us every bit of the way."

Lt. Col. Anthony Grant, 143rd battalion commander, said he was very pleased with the outcome of the Soldier Stakes.

"Each Soldier Stakes competition we've improved upon since I've been here. This one was, by far, the best that I've seen," Grant said. "I was very impressed with the execution of it; it went perfectly as planned."

Second place went to Company A, 143rd and Company C, 143rd came in third.

Edgewood CB Center provides support to U.S. Olympics

Kelly Buckingham
ECBC

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center personnel and equipment helped to support federal security agencies and emergency planners at this year's Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ECBC personnel were on-site during the Olympics providing technical assistance. This assistance involved scientific expertise in both biological and chemical forensic analysis, operations of and support to biological and chemical analytical systems, and the potential for on-site analysis of samples.

ECBC personnel also delivered a new mobile laboratory system to analyze trace quantities of explosives to support the Games.

In addition to on-site technical support, ECBC also supported emergency planners through the development of the Responder Assets Management System and its newest version, known as RAMSAFE™. RAMSAFE™ is a breakthrough emergency preparedness software that can improve national security by reducing human and economic loss from a hazardous incident, including incidents involving chemical or biological agents. RAMSAFE™, developed jointly by ECBC and Oak Ridge National Laboratories, was deployed to Salt Lake City, where over 100 federal, state and local law enforcement officials from 20 different agencies received RAMSAFE™ training.



*ECBC customized
Excursion*

Photo courtesy of ECBC

This mobile laboratory system, an ECBC custom-designed Ford Excursion with extendo-bed, is used to support field analytical equipment used at potential crime scene investigations involving explosives. Security involved dispatching the mobile lab to the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

Retire

From front page

As they stood with their spouses in front of an honor contingent formed by the 143rd Ordnance Battalion, the retirees were recognized for their dedicated years of service to the U.S. Army.

Maj. Newton Foster, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, received the Meritorious Service Medal, a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement, and a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation.

Chief Warrant Officer Pete Hill, OC&S, received the Legion of Merit, a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement, and a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Patricia, received a Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation.

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Thorpe, OC&S, received the Meritorious Service Medal, a

Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement, and a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Iris, received a Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation.

Staff Sgt. Kenneth Whipple, OC&S, received the Meritorious Service Medal, a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement, and a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Jeanette, received a Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation.

John Houck, U.S. Army APG Garrison, received a Department of the Army Certificate of Retirement and a Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation. His wife, Linda, received an Aberdeen Proving Ground Certificate of Appreciation.

Stevenson noted the importance of the support provided by the retirees' families.

"Among our five retirees today are 17 children and 3 grandchildren. The spouses and children of our retirees have been there for their

departures to foreign lands; for the departures before the day had begun for training areas throughout the world; and for times when one parent had to operate as both mom and dad.

"And they have shared in the successes, the awards, and the adventures that are unique to an Army family. These Army families made the achievements of our retirees today possible."

The general added, "Today these five great Americans move on to another part of their lives. They will not be forgotten, for they will live on in our hearts and minds, even when they move away. They have left us with fond memories, strong friendships, and a legacy of good old-fashioned hard work."

"And so to our retirees and their families, thank you for all you have done for all of us in your Army and God speed as you enter the next phase of your lives."

Taking part in the ceremony were the 143rd Ordnance Battalion and the 389th U.S. Army Band (AMC's Own).

Edgewood CB Center develops biological weapons detection system

Kelly Buckingham
ECBC

After Sept. 11, many federal agencies needed the ability to rapidly analyze a high number of samples for possible biological contamination. To address this need, scientists at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center initiated the Automated Biological Agent Testing System program, also called ABATS.

"Recent events have increased the demand for biological weapons screening capabilities. This has put a tremendous burden on our existing staff and carries a high labor cost," said Dr. Peter Emanuel, the ABATS project lead at ECBC. "The ABATS will enable us to reduce staff while processing three times the number of unknown samples, and reduce the potential of our personnel being exposed to hazardous materials. ABATS will provide consistent analysis and allow us to reduce our costs per sample by approximately 66 percent."

ABATS will be able to analyze a variety of environmental samples including air, food, soil and mail. Expected to be operating at ECBC by Sept. 11, 2002, ABATS will be used to test for biological threat agents of concern to the U.S. military as part of the homeland defense effort.

Beckman Coulter, Inc., has been selected by ECBC to develop the ABATS, which will

include Beckman's SAGIAN™ Core System and Biomek™ FX detection systems. ABATS will automate both the real-time polymerase chain reaction and immunoassays on a single platform, using SAMI, Beckman Coulter's intuitive method development and scheduling interface. The data generated by ABATS, will be seamlessly integrated with Beckman Coulter's LabManager™ iLIMS, a newly engineered laboratory information management system that can be accessed from a Web browser.

"Due to their versatility and flexibility, our SAGIAN™ and Biomek lab automation systems have been a great success in a number of areas including biomedical research, clinical research and drug discovery," said George Bers, president of life science research for Beckman Coulter. "The ABATS system is a clear demonstration of our system's ability to expand into new, innovative applications in public safety including bioterrorism, environmental and food safety testing."

Beckman Coulter, Inc. is a global biomedical company headquartered in Fullerton, Calif. The company develops and markets instruments, chemistries, software and supplies that simplify and automate laboratory processes throughout the biomedical testing continuum.

