

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Sept. 17, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



9-11 remembrance celebrations

The APG community is encouraged to attend the second Annual Patriots Day Ceremony, 9 a.m., Sept. 11, at Fanshaw Field, Aberdeen Area. The ceremony will honor all those affected by the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Post Theater, building 3245. Dress code for military will be duty uniform and civilians should wear business attire.

An All-Star team consisting of soldiers from Aberdeen Proving Ground will play Harford County police officers and fire fighters in the Battle of Guns and Hoses, a part of the 9-11 Memorial Program at Ripken Stadium, Sept. 11, 7 to 9 p.m. The memorial ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m.

Concert closings

APG will host the 2003 Miller Lite Army Concert Tour featuring Lonestar with special guest Trace Adkins Sept. 12.

In order to adequately staff and prepare for the concert, the following Community Recreation facilities will be closed or will close early:

- Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Arts and Crafts
- Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center
- Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Recreation Centers
- Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Libraries

- Information Ticket and Tour Office
- Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park
- Aberdeen Bowling Center

- The Aberdeen Area Health and Fitness Center and the Athletic Center will close at 2 p.m.

The Hoyle Gymnasium in Edgewood and the Auto Crafts facility in Aberdeen will remain open for regular hours of operation.

APG holds town hall meeting Sept. 17

The quarterly APG town hall meeting will be held at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810, Sept. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

See SHORTS, page 7

Curtain's up!



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

A canopy for the Army Concert Tour featuring Lonestar and Trace Adkins is raised on Shine Sports Field, Sept. 8, by Aberdeen Proving Ground volunteer soldiers from Headquarters Support Troop, airmen from the U.S. Air Force Detachment, and youths from the Military Youth Corps Freestate ChalleNGe Academy. Dozens of volunteers, working with Morale, Welfare and Recreation, will erect canopies for vendors, sponsors and support functions for the Sept. 12 concert.

APG readies for Friday concert featuring Lonestar and Trace Adkins

Aberdeen Proving Ground Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting country western band Lonestar, with special guest Trace Adkins at this year's summer concert on Sept. 12. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance, and \$25 at the gate.

Tickets can be purchased from the Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210, MWR Registration in building 3326, or Ticketmaster, 1-800-551-SEAT.

For more information, call Gwen Meadows, MWR marketing director, 410-

278-4497.

In preparation for the concert and during the concert, several activities will be closed or close early Friday. See listing in Post Shorts.

Concert attendees should use the Route 22 gate to gain entrance to APG and must have a photo ID.

Coolers, cameras, food, drinks and pets are not permitted at the concert. Food and beverages will be on sale. Attendees should bring lawn chairs and/or blankets.

Workforce reduction to affect APG

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison commander Col. Mardi U. Mark informed employees that the Most Efficient Organization transition would result in a reduction in force, involving more than 100 personnel during Garrison Workforce briefings held in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas, Sept. 8.

Those included in the RIF include all Garrison employees in Competitive Area 05 regardless of whether their positions were included in the study.

The window for Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority opened Sept. 8 and closes Sept. 18, Mark and Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director Diane Smith, told the gathering. The CPAC will accept VSIP/VERA applications during this time. Mark is the approving authority for all applications.

Reduction In Force 60-day notices will be issued Jan. 6, 2004 and will become effective March 13, 2004.

"The bottom line is that people need to take a good hard look at the information they receive today, and decide if this is a good time or not to retire," Mark said.

This is an in-house process, she added, concluding the Commercial Activities Study within the Directorate of Installation Operations, the Garrison, and APG that lasted more than two years and resulted in an initial final decision of no acceptable bids in April and approval to implement the MEO, Aug. 7.

"The transition to MEO begins in November with the full implementation set for March of 2004," Mark said.

Smith said the RIF timelines include Sept. 8 to 18, when the VSIP/VERA windows open and close; Oct. 14, when Civilian Personnel Operations Center personnel begin the RIF mechanics; Jan. 6, when RIF 60-day notices will be issued and March 13, when the RIF becomes effective.

"By close of business Sept. 18, all applications must be in," Smith said, contingent upon approval from higher headquarters, which should come by early October.

See WORKFORCE, page 5

Employee Assistance Program designed to meet worker needs

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

A program under the Army Substance Abuse Program umbrella has been redesigned to offer assistance to today's civilian workforce and family members, with or without substance abuse-related problems.

The Employee Assistance Program seeks to educate supervisors in identifying substance abuse related problems in the workplace as early as possible, encourages supervisors to refer employees to EAP for help, provides education at all levels, and helps to restore employees to duty, according to Bill Sanchious, EAP manager.

"Employee assistance deals with personal problems affecting work that can include medical, emotional, financial, marital or substance abuse problems," Sanchious said. "Eighty percent of the people I see have EAP related problems."

A retired Army sergeant first class, Sanchious has more than 12 years experience as a mental health and substance abuse addictions counselor. He began at APG in 1991, and then worked in Korea as a family guidance program manager before returning here to head the EAP program.

"We are trying to structure the program to meet current

See ASSIST, page 5

Army structure goes corporate

Connie Smalls
Casemate Editor

There is a new way of doing business for commanders since the activation of the U.S. Army Installation Management Agency last October.

IMA, a field-operating agency under the Army's Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, is using the initiative known as Transformation of Installation Management to accomplish its goal of molding the Army's base operations into a more corporate structure.

"It's a change for all of us ... it's a change in the way the Army has done business for about 45 years," Rick Fontana, chief of staff of Northeast Regional Office headquarters, said. "People were comfortable with the way things were. But, senior Army leadership, the Secretary of Army through Chief of Staff of the Army - that very top tier, has made it very clear to commanders at all levels that this is the way we're going to do business."

"For the most part, commanders have been very supportive," he said. "There have been a

few rough edges, but that's to be expected with any change of this magnitude."

"Transitions are always a challenge, and we are working diligently through that," Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, Fort Monroe post commander, said. "The regions and IMA are currently finalizing their staffs. We are establishing our relationships with our counterparts at the region, and support has been wonderful," he said.

The intent of transforming installation management is to improve installations through standards and direct funding, create more agile and responsive staffs, and to enable commanders to focus on their respective mission, be it warfighting, training or production plants.

"Garrison commanders will still be senior-rated by the Senior Mission Commanders on the installations," Diane Devens, Northeast Region Office director, said. "I'll rate the garrison commanders, and the SMCs will be the senior raters. So, it's a partnership, and the senior rater remains for a reason - to prioritize requirements based on mission needs."

"They [SMCs] are the commanders who are

See CORPORATE, page 12

CHPPM hosts Force Health Protection Conference

Ann Ham
CHPPM

The Sixth Annual Force Health Protection Conference and the Army Medical Command Public Affairs and Marketing Conference were held jointly Aug. 10 through 15 at the Convention Center in Albuquerque, N.M.

Hosted by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, attendees totaled more than 1,600 members from all services and other nations.

Brig. Gen. William T. Bester, commander of CHPPM, opened the plenary session with an overview followed by a presentation by Lt. Gen. James B. Peake, The Surgeon General, U.S. Army, who addressed Force Health Protection in the Army Medical Department.

"This year's conference was a significant expansion, in both quality and subject matter presented, compared to our

previous conferences," Bester said. "Considering the broadening scope of Force Health Protection in today's military environment, we were extremely pleased with the widening scope of issues and subjects covered at this year's conference."

This year's conference featured more than 350 sessions presented by experts from around the world.

"The Force Health Protection Conference offers a great opportunity for attendees to meet technical experts from around the world and expand the scope of their knowledge," said Jane Gervasoni, conference deputy director. "The conference included 10 tracks and allowed us to partner with the Veterans Administration for the first time."

The Veterans Health Administration and the VA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention provided a training

See CONFERENCE, page 14



Courtesy of CHPPM
Vice Adm. Richard Carmona, right, U.S. Surgeon General, talks medicine with a Guatemalan Army surgeon at the Force Health Protection Conference.

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Page 2

Near drowning at APG

Page 4

OC&S begins contest

Page 5

Community Notes

Page 8

MWR

Page 12

Army News

Page 13

Veterans return to Korea

Page 14

Lessons learned at Bible School

Safety & Health

13 year-old nearly drowns at Edgewood Area swimming pool

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

Frightened but without a clue was the best way to describe the feeling of 13 year-old Ana Bunger who nearly drowned, Aug. 20 at the Bayside Pool in the Edgewood Area.

Bunger and friends were playing a water game where the primary goal was to twirl around in the water simultaneously tilting the head back.

"I went under once and came back up. Then I told my friend to do the same," Bunger said.

The second time around the spinning headed her in another direction, taking Bunger completely under water. The pressure of the spin forced her to the deeper end of the pool.

"I put my head back and I started drifting to the deep end of the pool," Bunger said.

She said she knew from the movement, the water game was no longer fun.

"I tried to at least raise my hand to get help. I tried to breath out without taking in any water," Bunger said. "That's all I can remember."

Bunger compared the incident to being at a beach when a heavy wave comes along and the force of the water is so strong it pulls one into the ocean.

Bunger's friend, Lauren Wolfson, noticed Bunger did not come back up and spotted her at the bottom of the pool. Immediately, Wolfson called for help from the lifeguards on duty.

Lifeguard Lauren Constanzia came to the rescue pulling Bunger out and immediately administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

As she came to, Bunger began to regurgitate blood and water, not realizing what took place during the course of her unconsciousness.

Bunger was rushed to the nearest hospital, Upper Chesapeake in Bel Air, but because they did not have a pediatrics Intensive Care Unit,

she was flown to Johns Hopkins Pediatrics ICU. Bunger was diagnosed as having suffered from hypoxemia, a reduced concentration of oxygen in the blood, said to be common in all near drowning episodes.

The medical team said when lungs are filled with water it mixes with the natural gases in the body and eventually causes bleeding and pulmonary edema.

Bunger explained what she remembered.

"When I woke up, I could not speak or see and I was spitting up blood. I could hear voices all around me," she said. "I could only feel spinning deeper and deeper."

Because of the excessive amount of the water in Bunger's lungs, they still had to give her a drug called Lasix, so the water would be expelled from her body.

In spite of the scary episode Bunger said it did not scare her away from water.

"I will not play that game again, but I do not want it to be something that scares me for life," Bunger said. "Water is one of my favorite things and I don't think I could live without it."

Bunger's mother Monica Bunger said she never would have thought something like this could happen to her child.

"It just goes to show that anyone can be a great swimmer and still be a victim of a drowning," Monica Bunger said.

She said Bunger had been taking swimming lessons since she was very small, adding that playing with water should be done cautiously.

"Ana's experience should be a lesson to other children, not to play games in the water," Monica Bunger said. "Never turn your back on the ocean."

Ben Bunger, Anna's father, said he's just overwhelmed to see his daughter alive.

"It was the scariest day of my life. I'm just happy it turned out the way it did."

"It just goes to show that anyone can be a great swimmer and still be a victim of a drowning."

Monica Bunger



Photo by BEN BUNGER

From left, Ana Bunger, recent near drowning victim, returns to Bayside Pool in Edgewood to thank Lauren Constanzia, the lifeguard who saved her life.

In her own words -- Ana Bunger

Most people don't get a second chance in life but I did, thanks to many good people. I would like to thank those who gave me that "second chance."

First, I would like to thank my best friend in the whole world since we were born, Lauren Wolfson.

Second the two fantastic lifeguards, Lauren Constanzia and Aimee Brodie, and last but not least the hero's at APG fire department in Edgewood and all the paramedics. You guys are the best.

Also the excellent team of doctors and

nurses at Upper Chesapeake Medical Center and Johns Hopkins. Oh my gosh, I don't know how many times I could thank you but it will never be enough. All of you will forever be in my thoughts and prayers. All of you had a special part in saving my life and will never be forgotten.

I don't know how many people have had this happen to them and what's become of them, but my life has changed a whole lot from this experience.

Thank you. I love you all.

Freeing the toxic home--turning it 'green'

Maia Kaiser
DSHE

Common household chemicals are among the most serious threats to the health of children, with cleaning products among the most hazardous.

More than 90 percent of calls to poison control centers are regarding household chemical exposure. Children under six years of age account for about 50 percent of all reported poison cases.

Household cleaners can be toxic, corrosive, irritating and flammable.

The good news is that alternatives to traditional harsh cleaners are available.

When choosing a cleaner, look for products that are non-toxic and biodegradable.

Read the product labels and

avoid products that are labeled "poison/danger."

Manufacturers are required to label products to protect consumers and help them make informed choices.

Products labeled "poison or danger" are highly toxic and ingesting as little as a few drops can be fatal. Products that are labeled "warning" are moderately toxic.

Look for products that have the lowest hazard rating sufficient to accomplish the task.

Myths surround the use of natural and environmentally friendly household or "green" cleaners. The most common concerns are that they will not perform as well as synthetic chemical products and they will be more expensive. Both concerns are unfortunate misconceptions.

Green cleaners can be found in many of the same places that sell synthetic cleaners (like the grocery store), at prices that are comparable, and often significantly cheaper. Green cleaners can be made easily with ingredients present in the home (e.g., baking soda, vinegar, lemon peels, tomatoes), saving even more money.

Homemade green cleaners have been time-tested and usually perform as well as synthetic chemicals, depending on the situation. Society used green cleaners long before the synthetic chemical industry evolved.

Until after World War II, homes used a limited number of simple products to keep clean and odor-free. Most common were soap, vinegar, baking soda, washing soda, ammonia, borax, alcohol, and cornstarch. Certain foods were used to lift out spots and stains, deodorize, polish wood or metal, disinfect, scrub, repel pests, clean pets, wash and starch clothes, and perform other household tasks.

Developments in the synthetic cleaning field have tradi-

tionally imitated traditional folk recipes.

Annie Berthhold-Bond, author of Clean & Green, says, "The acid in lemon juice works as well as an artificial acid to clean aluminum, and a lemon doesn't threaten your health."

Common green cleaner ingredient properties

Baking soda deodorizes, scrubs shiny metals without scratching, softens fabrics, and extinguishes grease fires.

Borax disinfects, deodorizes, inhibits mold and mildew growth, and can be used with attractants, like sugar, to kill cockroaches.

Cornstarch cleans windows, polishes furniture, and shampoos carpets and rugs.

Isopropyl (i.e. rubbing) alcohol disinfects.

Lemon juice cleans glass, and removes stains from aluminum.

Vinegar dissolves mineral deposits and grease, removes traces of soap, removes mildew or wax build up, shines windows without streaking, and cleans brick and stone.

Washing Soda cuts stubborn grease on grills, broiler pans, and ovens.

There are many simple recipes for effective household cleaners consisting of various combinations of these ingredients that can be found easily on the labels of these products themselves, the Internet, and in books.

For more information, call 410-306-2274.



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-P, 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 2201, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@usag.apg.army.mil.

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

Staff

APG Commander Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg
Public Affairs Officer George P. Mercer
Editor Debi Horne
Editorial Assistant Marguerite Towson
Contract Photojournalists Yvonne Johnson
..... Sonya P. Reynolds
Contract Graphic Designer and Web Site Designer Diane Burrier
Web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

Watch card



Do observe and report:

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

Do not:

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

Report any suspicious activity immediately to DOD Police:

Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222
Edgewood Area 410-436-2222
Off post in Maryland, call
1-800-492-TIPS (8477)

Your call may save lives.

MWR wants to know...Who wants a Motocross Track at APG?

Gwen Meadows
MWR

Morale, Welfare and Recreation is considering adding a Motocross Track to its long list of recreation facilities at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Anyone interested in participating in the sport of Motocross is invited to take the following survey and send it to MWR Marketing, 3330 Raritan Avenue, APG, MD 21005 or fax to 410-278-9537.

Motocross is timed racing specially designed for motorcycles on a closed course, consisting of a variety of terrain—uphill, downhill, corners, jumps, etc. The track would be supervised and monitored during operating hours.

Survey

1. Would you or anyone in your family be interested in participating in a Motocross activity if it was offered on APG.

- a. Yes
- b. No

2. Would you or anyone in your family like to have a Motocross club in your community?

- a. Yes
- b. No

3. Would you or anyone in your family be interested in participating in a Motocross Club at APG?

- a. Yes
- b. No

4. Would you or anyone

in your family like to learn more about the opportunity to have a Motocross Track at Aberdeen Proving Ground?

- a. Yes
 - b. No
- Name and phone number optional:

If you would like to gather more information about this idea, contact the MWR Marketing Office at 410-278-4497 or e-mail mwr.marketing@usag.apg.army.mil.

Thank you for taking the MWR survey.

This is NOT your ordinary mortgage.

5.84% APR

15-Years

Quick turnaround. Minimal paperwork. Convenient closings in local branches, even on Saturdays.

You can save thousands of dollars in interest when you refinance your home with our special 15-Year Mortgage. The 5.84% Annual Percentage Rate is available on mortgages up to \$300,000 when payments are deducted from your Farmers Bank checking account. The monthly payments for 180 months on a \$100,000 mortgage would be \$835.24. Other rates and terms are available.

Limited time offer.
410-638-2124
Stop by or call today.



is registered with the U.S. Pat. Off. Member FDIC
Offer valid for Maryland primary residences only.

ARMY ENTERTAINMENT & APG MWR PRESENTS

LONESTAR

FROM THERE TO HERE TOUR



Special Guest
TRACE ADKINS

GATES OPEN: 6:30PM - SHOW: 8PM

Open To The Public
LAWN SEATING, NO REFUNDS...RAIN OR SHINE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 2003

\$20 Advance - \$25 Day of show

To Volunteer at this concert, Call 410-278-9536

SHINE SPORTS FIELD, ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MD

Ticket Sellers: Ticketmaster 1-800-551-5507 or APG MWR
Registration or Edgewood Fitness Center or Online Online at:
www.apgarmy.com or call 410-278-4867 or TTY 410-278-4110

NATIONAL SPONSORS

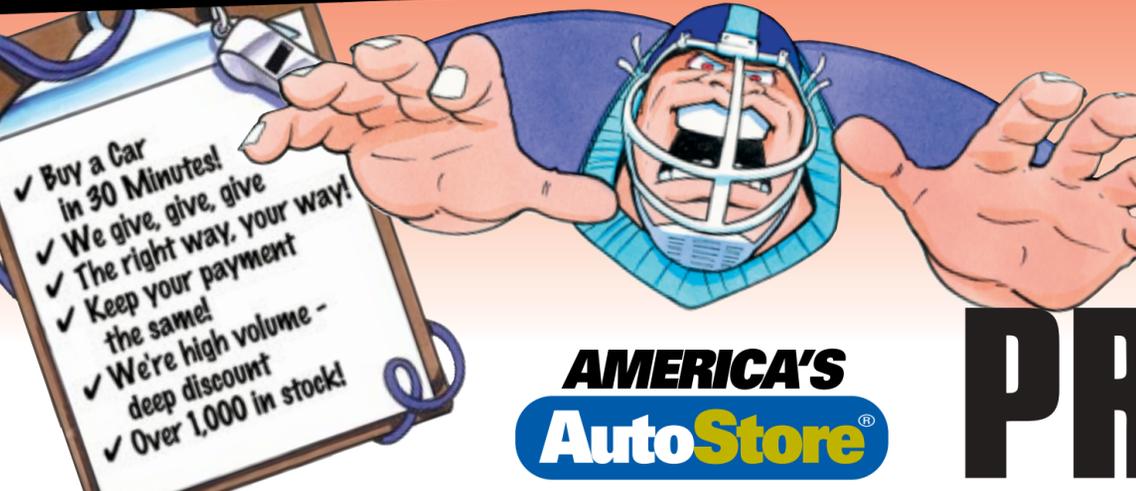
ARMY CONCERT TOUR

LOCAL SPONSORS

NO ENDORSEMENT BY THE U.S. ARMY IS IMPLIED.

#1 CHEVY DEALER FOR HARFORD CO.

ATTENTION COUNTY RESIDENTS



WE'RE TACKLING HIGH PRICES

03 CHEVY CAVALIER
STK# 80554
\$169/mo.

03 CHEVY MALIBU
AUTO, V6 & MORE. STK# 80526
\$9,995

03 CHEVY IMPALA
V6, FULL POWER, AC & MORE. STK# 80703
\$14,199

03 CHEVY MONTE CARLO
AUTO, V6 & ALL POWER. STK# 80060
\$14,449

03 SILVERADO EXT. CAB
V6, AC, LOCKING REAR. STK# 90901
\$15,599

03 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER
4X4, LOADED, AUTO, FULL POWER & MORE. STK# 91843
\$20,999

03 CHEVY TAHOE
LOADED, PW, PL, AUTO & MORE. STK# 91950
\$27,999

03 CHEVY SUBURBAN
Loaded, PW, PL & More. STK# 90913
\$27,850

GM CERTIFIED #1 IN U.S.A. • COMPLETE PEACE OF MIND

★ **KOONS CHEVY...WINNER OF GM'S MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD** ★

OPEN LATE!
WE'LL BE THERE

KOONS CHEVROLET

10207 PHILADELPHIA RD. • WHITE MARSH

1-888-320-4800



Payments based on using qualified rebates. Olds Owner, National College Grad at 72 months term at 8.5% APR with approved credit. 72% Finance Decision Score, putting tax, tags & freight, cash down. Prices incl. all factory rebates +2500 cash or trade down. Excludes GM employees or suppliers. Dealer has option to retain rebates. Cannot be used in combination with other offers. In-stock units only. Prior sales excluded. Sale expires 3 days after publication. See dealer for details.



Ordnance Center & Schools Essay and Display Competition begins

The Ordnance Center & Schools equal opportunity advisors have begun a new program to promote ethnical and cultural education and awareness among all military, civilian and family members within the Aberdeen Proving Ground community.

Starting this month, awards will be presented to the top two winners of an essay and cultural display contest for all Department of Defense approved Special Commemoration/Ethnical Observances.

First place essay winners will have an opportunity to read their essay during an awards ceremony, and the winning display will be available for viewing to the public as well (depending on size of display).

There is no entry fee for entering the contest. A special commemoration and ethnical observance timetable is listed below.

- * Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday, January
- * African-American/ Black History Month, February
- * Women's History Month, March

- Days of Remembrance (Holocaust), April
- * Asian Pacific Heritage Month, May
- * Women's Equality Day, Aug. 26
- * National Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 through Oct. 15
- * National Native American Indian Heritage Month, November

* Asterisk indicates events with theme
Essays must be submitted in 12 pt. font size, double-spaced, two pages or less, and must pertain to the respective celebration's theme. New themes are written annually by DOD personnel and the theme will be announced at least 30 days prior to each contest's evaluation date.

Fax or mail essay to an OC&S equal opportunity advisor. Displays must consist of, but are not limited to, models, poster boards or collages. For example, during Native American Heritage Month teepees may be built and displayed. Display contestants may enter individually or as a group,

however, only one award will be given to a winning individual or group.

Display participants must notify either EOA and inform them of the point of contact and location to include building and room number where the display is set up and prepared for evaluation.

The first competition will be held in conjunction with the 2003 National Hispanic Heritage Month theme "Honoring our Past, surpassing our Present, and leading our Future." The contest entry deadline is Oct. 6. An awards ceremony will be conducted at 3 p.m., Oct. 21 at 3 p.m. in Simpson Hall, building 3071.

For ideas or suggestions, call Master Sgt. Arbell Connor, 410-278-2529, or fax 410-278-8875; Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Yelder, 410-278-5598, or fax 410-278-2736; or Sgt. 1st Class Peggy McCormick, 410-278-9146, or fax 410-278-2736.

Military teens recognized

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

Three students received Eastern Region Commissary Scholarships sponsored by Hershey Foods Corporation and were recognized for outstanding performances in academics, community service and other school related activities at the Community Action Council Meeting, July 24.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Tammy Spickler, APG Commissary store director, presented plaques and a \$1,500 check to the students for their education expenses.

Amarilis M. Sarango, daughter of retired Sgt. 1st Class Marco L. Sarango, was recognized for outstanding performance as a member of Diversity Dynasty, Peer Helper, Key Club, a Humane Society volunteer and the National Honor Society.

Megan M. Speiles, daughter of Sgt. Maj. David Speiles, is a member of the

National Honor Society, the Letterman's Club, and serves on the Prom Committee, the soccer team and the Leo Club.

Tara A. Wagner, daughter of Master Sgt. Gary Wagner, Air National Guard, is a member of Best Buddies, the Psychology Club, Zeta Tau Alpha, the Society of Junior Fellows and serves on the Yearbook Committee.

Candidates were required to submit an application to the commissary and meet certain criteria.

To qualify, students had to be a military child, active in community service projects, meet academic standards and in financial need. Students were also required to write an essay about the life of a military child. Contents had to include the effects that the military has had on their lives and discuss long-term goals and future plans.

That and the application process determined the best candidates

Tidal wave of change approaches

Connie Smalls
Casemate Editor

A tidal wave of change was expected last fall when the Installation Management Agency activated Oct. 1, establishing seven operational regions with each having a headquarters office. The activation began a chain reaction by transferring installation functions from the Army's major commands worldwide, to the IMA and its regional offices.

Diane Devens, director of the Northeast Region Office, compared heading the largest region, consisting of 28 Army installations, depots and arsenals, to jumping into a swimming pool feet first.

"Once the shock is over, I'm fine," she said. "I'm not one to test the waters first - I believe in jumping right in."

Since taking that initial leap last Oct. 7, she's been "on the road" two weeks of every month visiting commanders, touring installations and attending town hall meetings. She still has five to go.

"She's had a very aggressive travel schedule, and she's taken members of the staff with her to learn about the missions of the various installations, and she's met the key people," Rick Fontana, NERO chief of staff, said.

"In addition, we've had to form our own staff. We're still working with a lot of new faces in the organization, from the MACOM staffs of TRADOC, the Military District of Washington, U.S. Army Materiel Command and Army Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"At the same time, the regional structure was still being developed. We then faced the challenge of matching people with the authorized spaces in the overall organization. That process is nearing completion at this time," he said.

IMA's mission is to bring all base operations support services together army wide to ensure optimal care, support and training of our fighting

force. This action is at the center of the Army's Transformation of Installation Management initiative and, therefore, critical in molding the Army's base operations into a more corporate structure.

For probably the last 45 years, installation management, or BASOPS, as many people refer to it, has come under the mission commanders - they focused both on mission and the installation side. With the advent of TIM, all those base operation functions were stripped away, Fontana said.

"So that's a huge undertaking which normally would have been planned over a two-to-three-year period. Reality is, we went from concept to activation last October within less than a year.

"As you strip apart the old ways of doing business, it's obvious that new staffs will form, procedures will change. For instance, the existing regulations for installation management included the

MACOMs in the approval process for virtually everything," Fontana said. "Under the new construct, most of those responsibilities have transferred to the IMA. However, there are areas such as force protection and construction priorities, where the senior mission commanders still play a major role"

As the former director of installation management support at TRADOC, DCSBOS two years ago, Fontana has seen the forming of the Northeast Region first hand.

"While part of TRADOC DCSBOS, we focused primarily on the training mission, and we were responsible for 16 TRADOC installations scattered throughout the United States," he said. "As we went into the Northeast Region, we went from managing 16 installations to 28. Those are a mixture of Training and Doctrine-type installations, Forces Command installations like Fort Drum, where we've got the 10th Mountain Division; and the Army Materiel Command sites like

Tobyhanna Army Depot and Radford Army Depot. We've acquired ones like Fort Detrick, which does biological-type testing. We've also added the Military Academy at West Point, Walter Reed Army Hospital and the Capitol District installations.

"So, we have had to put new systems in place, and learn the missions of 28 widely diverse installations ... and that's been a tremendous undertaking in an eight-month period," he said.

The Northeast Regional Headquarters mission is to provide equitable, efficient and effective management to installations under its command.

According to Devens, that mission consists of supporting mission readiness; enabling the well being of soldiers, civilians and their families; improving infrastructure and preserving the environment.

Her most immediate goal was taking care of people during the transition, at the headquarters level. BASOPS employees at the major commands that realigned under NERO received transfer-of-function letters last fall. Their jobs were transferred to NERO at Fort Monroe, but they did not have to make an immediate move.

IMA was committed to not moving anybody for two years, Devens said. But I think many personnel issues were settled over the last eight months. We're reshaping the workforce now, and personnel have a lot of time to work out personal issues, she said.

"We're accomplishing the workforce restructure," she said. "We wanted to make it through the first year by placing people, finding out who was excess, getting a Table of Distribution Allowances done. We're not there yet, but almost, and we've met every goal along the way. We thought it would take two years to get all the people placed, but I think it will only take one.

Creating the IMA structure was done to centralize the decision-making process, to make it more efficient, and to

See CHANGE, page 12

FALL SAVINGS FESTIVAL

First Time Buyers Welcome

Cadillacs

<p>2000 Cadillac Eldorado</p> <p>A/C, Pwr Wind/Lcks, Cruise, CD, Pwr Steer, Tilt, 2Dr, 37K #U191243 \$22,987</p>	<p>2000 Cadillac Deville</p> <p>4 Dr Sedan, Leather, Luxury #U252449 \$21,888</p>	<p>2001 Cadillac Deville</p> <p>Cassette, CD, Leather, Loaded #U193898 \$24,989</p>	<p>2002 Cadillac Escalade</p> <p>All Power, Leather, Sunroof #U106168 \$41,982</p>	<p>2003 Cadillac Deville</p> <p>Loaded, A/C, 7K #U221735 \$31,787</p>
--	---	---	--	---

Quality Used Cars

<p>2000 Pontiac Formula</p> <p>A/C, Pwr Wind/Lcks, Cruise, CD, Pwr Steer, Tilt, 2Dr, Ttops, 33K #U158804 \$16,877</p>	<p>1999 Chevrolet Cavalier</p> <p>2Dr, A/C, Pwr Steer/Brakes, Tinted Glass, 50K Great Gas Mileage! #U256715 \$5,953</p>	<p>1995 Honda Civic</p> <p>Pwr Steer, A/C, Great Gas Mileage, Ideal First Car! #U514707 \$5,487</p>	<p>2001 Chevy Monte Carlo</p> <p>All Power, Bucket Seats, A/C #U138665 \$12,777</p>	<p>1999 Pontiac Grand Prix GT</p> <p>Leather, Rear A/C, Pwr Wind/Lcks #U339492 \$10,765</p>
<p>2001 Chevy Impala</p> <p>Every Option, Sunroof, Heated Seats #U347524 \$14,967</p>	<p>1998 Oldsmobile Cutlass</p> <p>Pwr Wind/Lcks, A/C, Tint #U345895 \$6,898</p>	<p>2001 Chevy Prizm</p> <p>Cassette, 4 Cyl, Pwr Steer, 29K #U423222 \$7,989</p>	<p>1999 Chevrolet Cavalier</p> <p>Pwr Steer, A/C, 33K, Great First Car! #U169449 \$6,484</p>	<p>2000 Pontiac Firebird</p> <p>Sporty, T Tops, All Power #U115711 \$11,777</p>

Trucks, SUVs & Vans

<p>2002 Toyota Sienna XLE Van</p> <p>Loaded With Every Option Available! #U430773 \$22,878</p>	<p>2000 Chevy Tracker</p> <p>A/C, Pwr Steer, CD, 4Dr, 45K #U914397 \$9,683</p>	<p>1998 Ford Windstar</p> <p>Loaded, Tinted Glass, A/C #UB49904 \$7,877</p>	<p>1998 Ford Expedition</p> <p>CD Player, Alloy Wheels, All Power #UA51730 \$14,879</p>	<p>2002 Sierra SLE Ext. Cab</p> <p>All Power, 35K #U123972 \$17,787</p>
<p>2003 Chevy Suburban</p> <p>Leather, Rear A/C, Pwr Wind/Lcks #U213784 \$31,974</p>	<p>2001 Pontiac Montana</p> <p>CD, Cassette, Pwr Steer, Pwr Wind/Lcks #U101965 \$15,979</p>	<p>2001 Montana Ext. Van</p> <p>CD Player, 6 Cyl #U101268 \$12,877</p>	<p>2001 Chevy Blazer 4x4</p> <p>All Power, CD, 28K #U133227 \$15,588</p>	<p>2003 Chevy 3500 V8</p> <p>All Power, A/C, Seats 12 Plus Luggage #U124959 \$19,894</p>

Excludes prior sales.

Cadillac PONTIAC GMC Oldsmobile

HARCO

AUTO PARK

Route 22 & Beards Hill Road • Aberdeen
410-272-6200 • 410-575-7000
www.harcoauto.com

SELECTION SAVINGS & SERVICE

Company C 143rd wins drill competition



Photo by CADET JARED JAJACK

143rd Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Robert Pastorelli, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Neslie Etheridge place the drill and ceremonies streamer onto the Company C guidon after the unit won the battalion's quarterly competition, Aug. 2.

ROTC Cadets Jared Jajack and Matthew Coutu

Cadet Troop Leader Training Program

The 143rd Ordnance Battalion held its quarterly drill and ceremony competition, Aug. 2, and Company C came away with the coveted battalion streamer.

The event was held in the Company C parking lot. It involved the units in the battalion's three Advanced

Individual Training units and included formal drill and fancy drill.

Each company provided 40 soldiers, led by a drill sergeant who conducted the first stage of the competition, and consisted of standard marching and facing movements. At its conclusion, the drill sergeant turned the formation over to a selected soldier to lead the fancy drill portion of the competition.

The fancy drill segment

consisted of a routine created by soldiers who also take it upon themselves to learn and execute movements to competition standards.

Company B opened the competition with a strong performance led by Drill Sgt. Pamela Owens. Pfc. Joshua Harrison led the fancy drill formation.

To prepare for the competition, the Company B drill team "practiced for two to three, all after school," Harrison said.

Drill Sgt. Laron Scott led Company C through the formal portion of the ceremony. The soldiers displayed a near flawless routine with sharp movements and uniformity. Upon its completion, Pvt. Ronnie Campbell took control of the formation to conduct the fancy drill. The performance was highlighted by the formation splitting into two separate units, to perform the "to-the-winds" march.

"Company C trained hard and Drill Sgt. Scott worked them hard. They were immaculate and were a true display of professionalism," said 1st Lt. John McElhenny.

Company A, the last to perform, was led by Drill Sgt. Israel Salgado. Pvt. Brian Ballard led the fancy drill team.

The routine involved a figure eight, stomp and drag, and other distinctive moves.

"We practiced as much as possible in the last four to five days," Ballard said. "We all clicked and flowed together."

In the end, Company C walked away with the formal drill and ceremony streamer and Company B won the fancy drill. Pastorelli said the soldiers gave "an outstanding performance," and he commended the drill sergeants on their dedication to training their soldiers.



BEECHTREE

- Less than 5 miles from APG
- Delicious daily specials
- Panoramic view of the golf course
- Indoor / Outdoor seating
- Meeting facilities for 150

Beechtree Golf Club

811 S. Stepney Rd.
Aberdeen, MD 21001

410-297-9700
or 877-233-2487

www.beechtreegolf.com

Open Daily
for lunch
at 11 a.m.

Regional Business and Financial Resources for Technology Companies

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Higher Education & Applied Technology (HEAT) Center
Education & Conference Center
8 AM - NOON

- Featuring panel presentations and expertise on patents, trademarking, venture capital, Small Business Innovation Research Grants, Cooperative Research Development Agreements and Test Service Agreements.

Participating Firms / Organizations:

- Fish & Richardson P.C. • Astrachan Gunst Thomas & Ahn
- Ernst & Young LLP • Maryland TEDCO
- Maryland Dept. of Business & Economic Development
- Team APG Business Development Office
- University of Maryland TES and MIPS Programs

The race for a patent: Preserving your rights...
Create a strong trademark...
State and Federal Funding Resources for Technology...
What R & D facilities are in my own backyard...

Registration On-line registration available at www.nmtc.org or call (410) 638-3059 (Deadline for registration - 9/25/03)



\$20 for NMTC members
\$25 for non-members
Make check payable to:
Northeastern Maryland Technology Council
1201 Technology Drive, Aberdeen, MD 21001

Sponsored by: Northeastern Maryland Technology Council
Harford County Office of Economic Development
Small Business Development Center of Harford County

Workforce

From front page

She said that employees should acquaint themselves with VSIP/VERA requirements and that applicants must agree to all conditions before submitting applications.

After the briefings, attendees were issued VSIP/VERA packets that contained fact sheets, applications, information points of contact, including online services.

"We cannot pull an application once it has been approved," Smith said. "You do not have the option of changing your minds, as in the past. Please be sure that this is what you really

want to do."

After the RIF letters go out the CPAC will offer employee counseling.

"We will try to help you get through this as much as possible," Smith.

Meanwhile, employees should obtain VSIP calculations from the CPAC and Retirement Annuity Calculations from the Army Benefits Center - Civilian.

"You cannot put in your paperwork unless you know," she said.

In addition, CPAC personnel will conduct Retirement Package Preparation briefings and there is a Job Fair slated for Oct. 2 at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood.

First Baptist Church of Aberdeen

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Discipleship Training 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

- Youth Ministry Teams
- SBC Children's Mission Program (3 yrs. - 6th grade)
- Prayer Meeting

Dr. Gary Johnson, Pastor
219 E. Bel Air Ave. • Aberdeen, MD 21001
410-272-2845

VSIP, VERA CPAC representatives, Garrison Servicing Team

Kim Hart, 410-278-7144: Directorate of Installation Operations
Diana Brown, 410-278-8987: Directorate of Safety Health and Environment, Directorate of Information Management,
Linda Bryant, 410-278-

4921: Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security
Shirley Murray, 410-278-5795: Army Materiel Command Military Personnel Division, Directorate of Community and Family Activities, Internal Review and Audit

Compliance Office, Headquarters Support Troop
Melda Callender, 410-278-8997: Office of the Commander, Directorate of Resource Management, Equal Employment Opportunity, Office of the Adjutant General, Legal Office

Assist

From front page

needs," Sanchious said. "Our goal is to close the loop so that Equal Employment Opportunity, Occupational Health, labor organizations and employers can work together."

Also, Sanchious is working to get the EAP name out to the community.

He said problems may be ongoing because employees are not informed about local resources like EAP and noted the APG workforce characteristics.

"Many of the current employees are too young to retire and too old to start a new career," Sanchious said. "They deal with multiple stressors, such as the job insecurity brought on by the Commercial Activities study and the pending Reduction in Force."

Along with other concerns in their personal lives, like caring for older parents, or having adult children move back home, people can tend to feel insecure. They more or less go to

work and hope for the best without seeking help, he said.

"We try to teach that there are some things we can control," Sanchious said.

The program achieves this by encouraging people to "stick to the basics," concentrate on food, shelter, family, etc.

"Cut out the non-necessities and take care of yourself," he said. "Eat healthier, exercise and pay attention to your body. It's all about wellness."

He said the EAP focus continues to be on prevention.

"Alcohol kills as surely as high blood pressure," Sanchious said. "If you perceive a problem, come see us. We offer free and confidential services."

"Moderation is the key," he added, "to living your life, helping others, and taking care of soldiers."

The ASAP staff includes Jareta Coyle, director and alcohol drug control officer; Cindy Scott, prevention coordinator; Dadrion Wills, ASAP assistant; Troy Denson, prevention specialist, and Dr. Charles Bush, medical review officer, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic.

bel air festival for the arts

Sunday, September 21, 2003 • 10 AM-5 PM
Bel Air Band Shell • Hickory Avenue • Rain or Shine!

FREE ADMISSION

- 350 Craftpersons, Artists & Photographers
- Food
- Live Entertainment
- Children's Activities
- T-Shirts

T-Shirts & Sweat Shirts may be purchased at the information booth the day of the Festival!

PARKING: Shuttle Bus - MVA Parking Lot - Rt. 24

JOIN A PROFESSIONAL TEAM!

Start your aviation career today!

www.aviationbrigade.org

Aviation Brigade

Maryland Army National Guard / 29th Infantry Division (light)



Pursue a career in Military Intelligence or Aviation.

Many of the following jobs are compatible with well-paying civilian occupations:

- *Aircraft mechanics *Medics *Supply technicians
- *Intelligence analysts *Electronic technicians *Pilots *Crew Chiefs

Units located in:

- *Annapolis *Laurel
- *Edgewood

410-678-3050

We Have Money For College

Montgomery G.I Bill and Tuition Assistance Programs offered through the Maryland Army National Guard and ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program.



Community Notes

Diabetics!

If you have Medicare or Private insurance (No HMOs), you may qualify to have your supplies delivered to your door AT NO COST TO YOU.

Call our professional staff for assistance.

DyabetiMed

Toll Free: 1-866-807-0024



THURSDAY AND SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11 AND 13 EFFECTIVE BICYCLING CLASS

The League of American Bicyclists "Road 1" course helps cyclists develop bicycle handling and traffic skills. Given by a certified instructor from One Less Car, Maryland's bike advocacy group, the class teaches cyclists how to ride safely in traffic and on multi-use trails and to fix the most common mechanical problems.

The class will be held Sept. 11, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Sept. 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Bel Air United Methodist Church on the corner of Route 924 and Linwood Avenue. Cost is \$28, payable to One Less Car.

Bring a bike and helmet. The course is designed for those age 14 and older.

Pre-registration is required; call Jeff Springer at 410-638-8812, or e-mail at springjk1@comcast.net to reserve a spot in the class.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12 BINGO AT VFW POST 10028

The Aberdeen Memorial VFW 10028, 821 Old Philadelphia Road, will sponsor bingo every Friday, 5 p.m. Early birds start at 6:45 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Snacks, coffee and drinks are available. There are designated smoking and non-smoking areas. Jackpots include \$1,000, \$500 and \$300 for the last game. For more information, call 410-272-1218.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50, building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard. To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.



AMERICAN WEDDING

Friday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m. and Saturday Sept. 13, 9 p.m.

Starring: Jason Biggs, Alyson Hannigan

Jim and Michelle have decided to tie the knot. Jim's friends Finch and Kevin are on hand to help with preparations, but the trio soon gets an unwanted fourth wheel in the form of the eternally obnoxious Stifler. Meanwhile, the question is, how many things will go wrong before Jim and Michelle walk down the aisle? (Rated R)



LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER : THE CRADLE OF LIFE (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.

Starring: Angelina Jolie, and Gerard Butler

Lara Croft travels to an underwater sunken temple. It leads her to a sphere that contains the mystical Pandora's Box, only to have it stolen from her by Chen Lo, the leader of a Chinese crime syndicate who's in league with a bad guy named REISS who wants to use the box as a doomsday weapon. (PG-13)L

HOMEOWNERS BE DEBT FREE!

- ✓ GET CASH FAST!
- ✓ PAY OFF CREDIT CARD BILLS!
- ✓ SAVE HUNDREDS ON INTEREST!
- ✓ START BUILDING YOUR CREDIT!
- ✓ STOP COLLECTOR PHONE CALLS!
- ✓ LOWER YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENTS!

LOAN APPROVALS IN 1 HOUR!*



Purchases - Refinancing - Commercial Lending
100% Financing - No Income Check
Bad Credit is No Problem - Free Consultation
Tax Liens - Bankruptcies - Stop Foreclosure!

MAKE NO PAYMENTS UNTIL NOVEMBER!

Borrow \$20,000 PAY \$120* Borrow \$45,000 PAY \$270* Borrow \$70,000 PAY \$420*

WE ARE THE NATIONAL MORTGAGE INDUSTRY LEADERS!

ABLS Funding 888-LOAN-566

Closing Loans. Building Relationships.

5 6 2 6

*For qualified applicants only. Monthly pymt based on 30yr fixed rate 4.38%, APR 4.9%. Rates subject to change w/o notice. **Continue regularly scheduled payments until your loan closes. All loans arranged with 3rd party providers. Licensed mortgage lender MDR 9133.

It's our business to help your business do more business.

Focus your message directly at the business core of one of Maryland's fastest growing counties. With a circulation of over 8,000 businesses, the Harford Business Ledger brings continual updates to the greatest majority of decision makers. Sell your products or services to affluent, powerful decision makers in our community of Harford County. Call today to learn how we can help your business prosper.



For more information please call:
Ann Marie Bolen
410-938-4409 x165
10 Hays St., Bel Air, MD 21014
abolen@harfordledger.com

Get \$100 Rebate

when you bring us your car loan!

Did you finance your car at the dealer or somewhere else? Bring us your loan and we'll save you money!



WITH US YOU WOULD SAVE**
\$1,460
AT THE END OF LOAN TERM

Rebate Offer Extended with NEW Lower Rate!

Your Car Loan Somewhere Else

APR	PAYMENT
7.99%	\$405.59

Refinanced with us

APR as low as*	PAYMENT
3.99%	\$375.11

Plus we'll give you a **\$100 REBATE⁺** after you've refinanced.

APGFCU
Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union

Open to everyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in Harford or Cecil County.

www.APGFCU.com or call 410-272-4000 / 1-800-225-2555

Aberdeen / Abingdon / APG / Bel Air / Edgewood / Elkton / Havre de Grace

*Rates may be different as determined by the individual creditworthiness of each applicant. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate. Other rates and terms available. Ask for details. **Example illustrated is assuming an original new car loan amount of \$20,000 for 60 months with 48 months/payments remaining electing automated payments. Savings shown over the life of the loan. Existing loans with APGFCU are not eligible. †Minimum loan amount to qualify for rebate is \$7,000. Loan must be opened for 60 days before the rebate of \$100.00 will be deposited into your savings account. Existing APGFCU loans are not eligible for this rebate. Rebate offer expires 9/31/03.



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13 WATERSHED EXPLORATION

The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is sponsoring a Pontoon Boat program called Watershed Exploration, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for ages 8 to adult to learn about the local watershed. The fee is \$6 for adults and \$4 for ages 8 to 10. Reservations are required and space is limited.

For more information, directions, or to make a reservation, call the Estuary Center at 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 extension 1688.

LITTLE GUNPOWDER CANOETRIIP

The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is sponsoring a Little Gunpowder Canoe Trip, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages 12 to adult. Paddle up the Little Gunpowder River and discover this hidden water treasure. The fee is \$8. Reservations are required and space is limited.

For more information or to make a reservation, call the Estuary Center at 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 extension 1688. The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is located in southern Harford

County, just east of Edgewood and 18 miles northeast of Baltimore City at 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon.

FAMILY WELLNESS FAIR

The Inner County Outreach, a ministry of Aberdeen Bible Church, will sponsor the second annual Family Wellness Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Aberdeen Festival Park across from City Hall. Events include health screenings, arts and crafts, live entertainment, food, local vendors, games and more.

For more information, call Sharon Chapman at 410-272-3278.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 PADDLE FOR SIGHT

The Chestertown Lions Club will hold the Second Annual Paddle For Sight at 9 a.m. at the Chestertown American Legion Hall just east of town off Morgnac Road.

All kayak and canoe paddlers of all experience levels are invited to participate.

The cost to participate is \$20. All proceeds will benefit sight conservation projects. For more information, call Matt Bershon at 410-708-

3053.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15 VFW SUB SALE

The Aberdeen Memorial VFW 10028, 821 Old Philadelphia Road will hold a sub sale. The cost of each sub is \$4 and includes Italian, American, turkey or ham and cheese with choice of topping.

Orders must be received by today with pickup on Friday, Sept. 19. Delivery for large orders can be arranged for a limited area.

To order subs or to arrange for delivery, call 410-272-1218.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16 HISPANIC SPECIALTY MEAL

The Hispanic Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4219 and 4503 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, for dinner, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

All military personnel, family members, department of defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, department of defense civilian, retiree and their guests.

The discount meal rate of \$2.80 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The Hispanic Specialty Menu includes Spanish style barbecue pork, enchiladas, Mexican chicken, soft and hard shell tacos, beef and chicken fajitas, shrimp fajitas, burritos, chili, Spanish rice, steamed rice, Mexican corn, refried beans, black beans, Mexican corn bread, salad bar, assorted pastries, soft serve ice cream with assorted toppings and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Ernest Green, or Fred Dill at 410-306-1398/1397.

SAFE BOATING COURSE

The Bush River Power Squadron will hold a Safe Boating Course at 7:30 p.m. at Joppatowne High School.

Registration will be held the first evening of the class. The class lasts nine weeks.

For more information, call 410-515-0195, 410-378-3902 or 410-679-3951.

OMMS LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS IN VISUAL PROGRAMMING

The next topic in the LunchTime Lecture series entitled, "Applications in Visual Programming," will be presented by Tracy Reeve of SmartFix Corporation who will discuss the use of visual programming to develop innovative training aids, Sept. 17, 11:45 to 12:30 at the OMMS library, building 3071, lower level. Applications will be dis-

cussed and demonstrated on M1A1 tank engine control, digital logic simulation, electrical circuit simulation and robotic arm control.

The lecture includes a workshop and participants will have an opportunity to operate each of the applications. Attendees will receive a training certificate.

To make a reservation, call 410-278-4991 or visit the library.

WET BASEMENTS STINK !!

Mold, mildew and water leaking into your basement causes health and foundation problems. What can be done to fix the problem? Allstate American Waterproofing is an honest, hardworking local company. We will give you a **FREE** evaluation and estimate and a fair price. We have repaired thousands of basements in the area; we can provide local references. When your neighbors needed waterproofing they called Allstate American. Why don't you? Call now to receive a 20% discount on all work completed by September 30th.

CALL 1 800 420 7783 NOW!

Prescriptions Save up to 85%

Why pay Full Price for your prescriptions when you can save up to 85% with Glenway Pharmacy, a licensed Canadian Pharmacy. Glenway Pharmacy is Canada's #1 connection!



Call Toll free!
1-888-495-1315

POST SHORTS

From front page

The meeting is open to the entire community. For those who are unable to attend, the meeting will also be broadcast on APG Cable Channel 3. Briefing slides will be posted on the APG Web site.

Prior to the meeting, Linda Holloway will take questions at linda.holloway@usag.apg.army.mil or call 410-306-4520.

During the Town Hall meeting, telephonic questions will be accepted at 410-436-7849.

Hispanic heritage celebration

The Hispanic Employment Program, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine will present "Hispanic Americans: Honoring our Past, Surpassing our Present and Leading our Future," 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 17 at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650. Activities include speakers, food sampling, displays, music and a dance group.

For more information, call Linda Patrick at 410-436-1023; Spec. Alex Diaz a 410-436-3647; Eleonor Gordon at 410-436-8304; Carmen Adrover at 410-436-8341; or Capt. Roberto Marin at 410-436-5486

360th Basic Military Training Wing searches for members

The Sampson Air Force Base Veterans Association, Inc. is searching for all former members of the 360th Military Training Wing who were stationed at Sampson Air Force Base from 1950 to 1956. Former members include all basic trainees, permanent party, Women's Air Force, special schools trainees, officers, noncommissioned officers and former prisoners of war (if POW is deceased, friends and family of the deceased).

For more information, call

Chip Phillips, 716-633-1119, e-mail chip34@aol.com or fax 716-633-9118.

Breast Cancer Awareness seminar

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, women are cordially invited to become a part of Tel-A-Friend, a community-wide campaign in partnership with Aberdeen Proving Ground and the American Cancer Society. A Brown Bag Lunch-n-Learn training will be held from noon to 1 p.m., Sept. 24, at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Dessert will be provided.

RSVP by Sept. 15 by calling Milagros Borrero-Ruiz at 410-278-1774, Peggy Horne at 410-278-1772 or Cheri Whiting at 410-278-1908.

KUSAHC's goal is to encourage women to get their annual mammograms.

Postal Service job opportunities

The United States Postal Service Baltimore District is accepting registration for the City Letter Carrier Examination 470 only. The Postal Service will no longer accept the yellow PS 2479 A/B cards for test registration.

The listed announcements are open now through 11:59 p.m., Sept. 14.

Apply on the Internet at www.usps.com/employment or use a touch-tone phone by calling 1-866-999-8777 (TTY 1-800-800-8776) and follow the prompts. Use the announcement number identified below. Applicants can only apply once per announcement number. Duplicate applications will not be accepted.

Applicants can use the number for the zip code where they wish to work.

For zip codes beginning with 210, 211, 212, or 214, use Exam #71583.

For zip codes beginning with 215, use Exam #71597.

For zip codes beginning with 216, 218, and 219, use Exam #71586.

For zip codes beginning with 217, use Exam #71591.

For more information on the position and salary or the examination, ask to see the posting in the local post office.

PWOC Bible Studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold the new Bible Studies each Monday, 7 p.m. The PWOC will study Beth Moore's "Jesus The One And Only." For more information, call Cindy Sepulveda at 410-306-1780.

On Thursdays, 9 a.m., the PWOC will hold four Bible Studies to include After the Boxes Are Unpacked, moving on after moving in; A Heart Like His, a study in the life of David; Good and Angry, developing character in your children; and the 10 Commandments, a deep look at God's law.

The studies begin on Sept. 11. For more information, call the APG Chapel at 410-4333. Child care will be provided.

Playmornings for parents and children

Parents and Children Together will hold Playmornings for parents and children under six years old, 9:30 to 11 a.m., each Monday, APG Chapel Room 5; each Wednesday, 9:30 to 11 a.m., APG Chapel Room 5; and each Thursday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., EA Youth Center Gym. Have fun and meet other parents while the children interact with each other.

For more information, call Diana Hayes, PACT program coordinator, Army Community Service at 410-278-4322.

Basic Spanish Class

The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer a free Spanish class each Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., from

Energy tip of the week

Give leftover household hazardous products to someone who can use them (i.e., paints, pesticides, cleaning products, etc.).

- APG Pollution Prevention Program

Sept. 18 through Oct. 23, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road. Military personnel, APG DoD civilians, and family members are eligible to attend. A trip to Spain or Latin America will be more enjoyable after a course in basic grammar and conversation. The class will focus on real-life situations. Students will learn the basic structure and vocabulary of the Spanish language, learn to order meals, go sightseeing, ask directions, and have basic conversation as they learn about the Spanish-speaking culture through books and tapes and from the personal experiences of the instructor.

For more information or to register, call Relocation Readiness at 410-278-7474/2453.

Opportunity to earn money

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory is conducting several studies on hearing. Paid listeners must be 18- to 28-years old with normal hearing. Listening time is five hours or more. Each listener will be paid \$10 per hour. Qualified listeners can participate in one or more studies

Interested volunteers should contact Paula Henry, 410-278-5848, e-mail phenry@arl.army.mil, or Martha Dennison, 410-278-5918, e-mail mjdennis@arl.army.mil.

\$1.00 DISCOUNT COUPON
RV SHOW
 "Largest Outdoor RV Expo on East Coast"
 Timonium Fairgrounds
SEPT. 13-15
 Fri. & Sat. 10 AM - 7 PM • Sun. 10 AM - 6 PM
 One Coupon Required per Purchased Ticket
 Additional discount coupons available at participating RV dealers
 For more info. (410) 561-7323

Rates as low as 7.74%* APR

Going to the boat show at the Harford Mall this weekend?

APGFCU
 Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union

has the boat loan for you!

Open to everyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in Harford or Cecil County.

APPLY 24 hours a day
 7 days a week

1-800-225-2555
www.APGFCU.com

*Rates stated with automatic payments and direct deposit. Other rates and terms available. The rate stated above available on approved credit. Rates may be different as determined by the individual creditworthiness of each applicant. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate.

Aberdeen / Abingdon / APG / Bel Air
 Edgewood / Elkton / Havre de Grace

17589

**Over 55,000 items.
 Two GSA Schedules.**



You can do it. We can help.™



GSA Schedule
 Contract GS-06F-0052N

With our GSA Schedules, we've made it easier for government customers to purchase maintenance, repair, building, and remodeling products. And we welcome Purchase Cards. For additional information, call 1-866-589-0690.



GSA Schedule
 Contract GS-06F-0080M



Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

Activities

Putt for Dough

This class will help intermediate and advanced players improve their putting strokes. Class will be held Sept. 13, 3 to 4 p.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. Cost is \$15

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Solid Iron Play

Intermediate and advanced players can get tips on how to improve iron shots Sept. 17 at Ruggles Golf Course, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Military Salute Basket Bingo

The Aberdeen Fire Hall will host Military Basket Bingo Sept. 19. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the games start at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10. There will be food, drinks, and baked goods available too. Purchase tickets at MWR Registration or at the door.

For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

White House Christmas ornaments have arrived

MWR Registration has the latest White House Christmas ornaments for \$15 but supplies

are limited. For more information, call MWR Registration at 410-278-4907 or e-mail mwr-registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Putting championships

Test those putting skills in a putt putt contest on Ruggles Golf Course putting green Sept. 27, 5 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15. Register by Sept. 19. For more information, call Tom Green at 410-278-9452 or e-mail tom.green@usag.apg.army.mil.

NASCAR Winston Cup Race

Attend NASCAR racing at Dover Downs-Dover International Speedway

“Monster Mile” Sept. 21, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$135. For more information, contact Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Military Salute Basket Bingo

The Aberdeen Fire Hall will host Military Basket Bingo Sept. 19. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the games start at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10. There will be food, drinks, and baked good available too. Purchase tickets at MWR Registration or at the door. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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

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



Stray Voltage: War in the Information Age by Wayne Michael Hall

Hall, a retired brigadier general with 30 years of experience in intelligence, offers ideas on how to deal aggressively with the threats posed by the enemies of the United States in the field of non-conventional warfare.



Windows XP annoyances: Tips, secrets and solutions by David Karp

Big Lies: the right-wing propaganda machine and how it distorts the truth by Joe Conason



Banish Back Pain the Pilates Way by Anna Selby

The Lord of the Rings: the art of the Two Towers by Gary Russell



Century of the Tiger: one hundred years of Korean culture in America, 1903-2003 edited by Jenny Ryan Foster

Cold War Hot: alternative decisions of the Cold War edited by Peter Tsouras

The library's online catalog can be accessed at www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html.

'Action Hero Bowling' coming to APG

The Action Hero Bowling Club for families and kids of all ages begins Sept. 22 and costs \$10 per week per person, for 17 weeks. The new family club gives bowlers the opportunity to purchase officially licensed Action Hero bowling balls. Upon completion of the club, bowlers can choose a bowling ball featur-

ing either Spider-Man or The Incredible Hulk, which glows under blacklight.

For more information or to see the Action Hero bowling balls, visit the APG Bowling Center, building 2342, or call Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041 or e-mail dave.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil.



<http://www.actionherobowlingclub.com>

Fall/winter bowling leagues forming

Fall/winter bowling leagues are just around the corner, including ladies, men's, mixed, cosmic and youth.

Monday Night Crazy Trio begins Sept. 22. Start bowling at 6:30 p.m., for any combination of people, \$10/person/week, 12 weeks.

Monday Football Widows Trio begins Sept. 22. Bowling begins at 7 p.m., \$10/person/week, 10 weeks.

Tuesday Rock & Roll Trio League begins Sept. 23. Bowling starts at 6:30 p.m. for any combination of bowlers, \$10/person/week for 12 weeks.

Saturday Cosmic Trio League, for any combination

of people, begins Sept. 13, 1 to 3 p.m. Bowling includes three games, \$10/person/week for eight weeks, skipping Oct. 11. Handicap will be established after the first week.

Sunday Happy Trio starts Sept. 28, 3 p.m. Bowl three games for \$10/person/week. Handicap will be established after the first week.

Tuesday Intramural Trio begins Jan. 13, \$5/person/week, 10 weeks.

Wednesday Mixed, which includes two men and two women, is taking sign ups.

Anyone interested in signing up should call 410-278-4041 or stop by the Bowling Center.

BOWLING STATISTICS

Wednesday Doubles Lunch League

Week ending Sept. 6
Men's High Game Scratch

- Tom Haduch, 188
- Dave Spagnuolo, 175
- Men's High Game Handicap*
- Dave Spagnuolo, 264
- Steve Cornelison, 259
- Men's High Series Scratch*
- Tom Haduch, 351
- Kevin Doherty, 307
- Men's High Series Handicap*
- Dave Spagnuolo, 483
- Tom Haduch, 473
- Women's High Game Scratch*
- Kathy Anderson, 167
- Linda Ghiorse, 141
- Women's High Game Handicap*
- Chris Lockhart, 268
- Dawn Gordner, 257
- Women's High Series Scratch*
- Kathy Anderson, 284

Linda Ghiorse, 257
Women's High Series Handicap
Chris Lockhart, 497
Kathy Anderson, 491

Thursday Doubles Lunch League

- Men's High Game Scratch*
- Mac McClellan, 197
- John McLaughlin, 168
- Men's High Game Handicap*
- Gordon Brown, 265
- John McLaughlin, 258
- Men's High Series Scratch*
- Mac McClellan, 341
- John McLaughlin, 316
- Men's High Series Handicap*
- Marshal Childers, 471
- Johnny Jones, 460
- Women's High Game Scratch*
- Ronda Taylor, 165
- Ruthann, 162
- Women's High Game Handicap*
- Tasha Taylor, 248

Sandy Dowell, 243
Women's High Series Scratch
Ronda Taylor, 328
Ruthann, 275
Women's High Series Handicap
Tasha Taylor, 489
Ronda Taylor, 482

Friday Adult/Youth

- Men's High Game Scratch*
- Larry Waggoner, 189
- Men's High Game Handicap*
- Larry Waggoner, 242
- Rusty Kerner, 236
- High Series Scratch*
- Larry Waggoner, 476
- Men's High Series Handicap*
- Larry Waggoner, 633
- Rusty Kerner, 619
- Women's High Game Scratch*
- Dianne Swauger, 164
- Women's High Game Handicap*
- Dianne Swauger, 228

- Women's High Series Scratch*
- Dianne Swauger, 406
- Women's High Series Handicap*
- Diane Swauger, 621
- Boy's High Game Scratch*
- Curtis Swauger, 159
- Matthew Waggoner, 86
- Boy's High Game Handicap*
- Curtis Swauger, 246
- Matthew Waggoner, 228
- Boy's High Series Scratch*
- Curtis Swauger, 434
- Matthew Waggoner, 215
- Boy's High Series Handicap*
- Curtis Swauger, 614
- Matthew Waggoner, 607
- Girl's High Game Scratch*
- Angie Kerner, 131
- Girl's High Game Handicap*
- Angie Kerner, 222
- Girl's High Series Scratch*
- Angie Kerner, 335
- Girl's High Series Handicap*
- Angie Kerner, 608

ROYE WILLIAMS SCHOOL NEWS

ROYE WILLIAMS HOLDS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS

Back to School Night will occur in two sessions, Sept. 16 and 18. Each evening will begin with a general meeting for the P.T.A. in the gymnasium at 6 p.m. After a welcome session, the school's staff and PTA Executive Board will be introduced, followed by a review of the proposed PTA operating budget for the 2003-2004 school year.

The remainder of each evening will be scheduled in two 25 minute time periods for classroom visitations by parents. The purpose of these visitations is to give parents information related to curriculum for the school year, classroom procedures and expecta-

tions, and to allow parents the opportunity to ask related questions.

Sept. 16

Grades 3 to 5

6:35 to 7 p.m., Classroom visitation session I

7 to 7:30 p.m., Classroom visitation session II

7:30 p.m., Band parents meeting in Media Center

Approximate times are based on completion of general membership meeting.

Sept. 18

Pre/K-Grade 2

6:35 to 7 p.m., Classroom visitation session I

7:05 to 7:30 p.m., Classroom visitation session II

APG SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

PARENT'S WORKSHOP

APG Child and Youth Services, Outreach Services and Youth Education Support Services will host the Military Child Education Coalition's 'Parent Workshop' on Sept. 23, 6 to 8 p.m., at Top of the Bay, building 30.

Dr. Mary M. Keller, executive director of the Military Child Education Coalition, will lead the training session.

Workshop topics will range from learning about K-12 school transition, preparing for a move and expectations, to understanding school culture, working through challenges and social-emotional support.

Seating capacity is limited to the first 50 people who sign up. To reserve a seat, call Pat Palazzi, CYS Outreach Services director, building 2752 at 410-278-7479 or leave a message.

For more information, call Ivan Mehosky, 410-278-2857.

APG YOUTH SCHOOL OF DANCE REGISTRATION

Registration for the APG Dance Program for ballet, tap and jazz will be held 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 17, 18, 19, 22 and 23 at the CYS Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, building 2752, Room 110. Registration policy is on a first-come first-served basis. Children ages 3 to 18 of military or civilian employees at APG and sponsored personnel are eligible to register.

Schedule of classes

Beginning Sept. 30, ballet and jazz classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. for ages 3 and 4. Ballet classes will be held

5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for ages 7 through 9; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for ages 10 through 12; and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for ages 13 through 18.

Beginning Oct. 1, ballet and jazz classes will be held 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. for ages 5 and 6. Tap classes will be held 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for ages 6 through 9; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for ages 10 through 12; and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for ages 13 through 18 years old.

Children ages 3 to 18 of military or civilian employees at APG and sponsored personnel are eligible to register. Cost of registration/membership is \$15; children under 6 years of age can register for free. Cost is \$80 per student per discipline, with a 20 percent discount for each additional child and a 10 percent discount for each additional discipline. If a sponsor is required, cost is \$85 per student per discipline.

A minimum class size of nine students is required (less than nine students will be on a case-by-case basis) with a maximum class size of 15 students (more than 15 students will be on a case-by-case basis).

The APG Dance Program will consist of 32 weeks of instruction and will conclude with a dance recital on/about the last Saturday of May 2004. There will be no classes during the Christmas, New Year, or federal holidays. Should a class be cancelled due to inclement weather, that class or classes would be made up on a Friday, as announced, using the same time slots.

Should classes be filled to maximum capacity following registration, those students will go on a waiting list until a

class can be scheduled (Friday time slots).

First class will include a general orientation. Parents are encouraged to attend. Parents are not allowed in the ballet room during regular instruction time.

For more information or to register, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571.

YOUTH SERVICES OFFERS DRIVER'S ED

Driver's Education classes are scheduled Oct. 7 to Nov. 4, Tuesday through Thursday, 5:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. Parents and students must attend class together Oct. 7, 5:15 p.m.

The cost is \$274 for family members of military, retired, DoD (and DA) civilians and \$289 for sponsored guests, plus a \$15 registration/membership fee. Registration for Certified Driver's Education classes will be held 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Sept. 16 through Sept. 26, at the Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, building 2752, Room 110. A minimum class size of 12 students is required prior to the end of the registration period.

Teens must be 15 years of age to take the class. Teens must be 15 years, 9 months to obtain a Learner's Permit and take 'behind the wheel' instruction.

For more information or to register, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571, or Ivan Mehosky, 410-278-2857.



Army News



Commentary: 9-11 widow journeys to thank troops

Christy Ferer
Special contributor

"Christy Ferer is a 9-11 widow who recently was a member of a group of celebrities (including Robert DeNiro and Kid Rock, among others) that took an Armed Forces Entertainment Office and USO-sponsored trip to Iraq to show support for the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines still over there.

Following is an e-note she sent her escorts about the experience.

In her cover note, she said she intends to submit it to the NY Times for publication.

It is really powerful, and very moving, and will make you proud that you have chosen to serve your country, and proud to be an American.

Enjoy...and thanks as always for all you do for America's Air Force."

Brig. Gen. Ron Rand
Director, Public Affairs
U.S. Air Force

Christy's story

"When I told friends about my pilgrimage to Iraq to thank the US troops, reaction was underwhelming at best. Some were blunt. "Why are YOU going there?" They could not understand why it was important for me, a 9-11, widow to express my support for the men and women stationed today in the Gulf.

But the reason seemed clear to me. Two hundred thousand troops have been sent halfway around the world to stabilize the kind of culture that breeds terrorists like those who I believe began World War III on September 11, 2001. Reaction was so politely negative that I began to doubt my role on the first USO/Tribeca Institute tour into newly occupied Iraq where, on average, a soldier a day is killed.

Besides, with Robert De Niro, Kid Rock, Rebecca and John Stamos, Wayne Newton, Gary Senise, Lee Ann Womack who needed me?

Did they really want to hear about my husband, Neil Levin, who went to work as director of New York Port Authority on Sept. 11 [2001] and never came home? How would they relate to the two other widows traveling with me? Ginny Bauer, a New Jersey homemaker and the mother of three who lost her husband, David and former Marine Jon Vigiano who lost his only sons, Jon, a firefighter and Joe, a policeman.

As we were choppered over deserts that looked like bleached bread crumbs I wondered if I'd feel like a street hawker, passing out Port Authority pins and baseball caps as I said "thank you" to the troops. Would a hug from me mean anything at all in the presence of the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders and a Victoria Secrets model?

We arrived at the first "meet and greet." It made me weep. Why? Armed with M16s and saddlebags of water in 120 degrees [Fahrenheit] heat, the soldiers swarmed over the stars for photos and autographs.

When it was announced that a trio of 9-11 family members was also in the tent it was as if a psychic cork on an emotional dam was popped.

Soldiers from every corner of New York, Long Island and Queens rushed toward us to express their condolences. Some wanted to touch us, as if they needed a physical connection to our sorrow and for some living proof for why they were there.

One mother of two from Montana told me she signed up because of 9-11. Dozens of others told us the same thing. One young soldier

showed me his metal bracelet engraved with the name of a victim he never knew and that awful date none of us will ever forget.

In fact at every encounter with the troops a surge of reservists — firefighters and cops including many who had worked the rubble of Ground Zero — came to exchange a hometown hug.

Their glassy eyes still do not allow anyone to penetrate too far inside to the place where their trauma is lodged; the trauma of a devastation far greater than anyone who hadn't been there could even imagine.

It's there in me, too. I had forced my way downtown on that awful morning, convinced that I could find Neil beneath the rubble.

What I was not prepared for was to have soldiers show us the World Trade Center memorabilia they'd carried with them into the streets of Baghdad.

Others had clearly been holding in stories of personal 9-11 tragedies which had made them enlist.

USO handlers moved us from one corner to the next so everyone could meet us.

One fire brigade plucked the 9-11 group from the crowd, transporting us to their fire house to call on those who had to stand guard during the Baghdad concert. It was all about touching us and feeling the reason they were in this hell. Back at Saddam Hussein airport Kid Rock turned a "meet and greet" into an impromptu concert in a steamy airport hangar before 5,000 troops.

Capt. Vargas from the Bronx tapped me on the back. He enlisted in the Army after some of his wife's best friends were lost at the World Trade Center. When he glimpsed the piece of recovered metal from the Towers that I had been showing to a group of soldiers he grasped

for it as if it were the Holy Grail. Then he handed it to Kid Rock who passed the precious metal through the 5,000 troops in the audience. They lunged at the opportunity to touch the steel that symbolized what so many of them felt was the purpose of their mission-which puts them at risk every day in the 116 degree heat, and not knowing if a sniper was going to strike at any-time.

Looking into that sea of khaki gave me chills even in that blistering heat.

To me, those troops were there to avenge the murder of my husband and 3,000 others.

When I got to the microphone I told them we had not made this journey for condolences but to thank them and to tell them that the families of 9-11 think of them every day. They lift our hearts.

The crowd interrupted me with chants of "USA, USA, USA." Many wept.

What happened next left no doubt that the troops drew inspiration from our tragedies.

When I was first asked to speak to thousands of troops in Qatar, after Iraq, I wondered if it would feel like a "grief for sale" spectacle. But this time I was quaking because I was to present the recovered WTC steel to General Tommy Franks. I quivered as I handed him the icy gray block of steel. His great craggy eyes welled up with tears. The sea of khaki fell silent. Then the proud four-star general was unable to hold back the tears which streamed down his face on center stage before 4,000 troops.

As this mighty man turned from the spotlight to regain his composure I comforted him with a hug.

Now, when do I return?"
(Editor's note: Reprinted from *Armed Forces News*.)

9-11 anniversary message to soldiers

Secretary of the Army and
Chief of Staff of the Army

Two years have passed since the terrorist agents of hatred and fear committed their attack on America on Sept. 11, 2001. On this second anniversary of that day, we pause to remember and honor the innocent men, women, and children who perished in those senseless acts of terrorism in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Our observances on Sept. 11 also serve as a reminder of the heroes—soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines—who have lost their lives in operations in the war against terrorism. We will not forget, and will long honor, their devotion to this country and the principles we hold dear.

Soldiers are fighting today on behalf of our nation—they are a critical component of the Joint Team, prosecuting the war on

terrorism. In 120 countries around the globe, our soldiers are serving bravely on the frontiers of freedom, and they and their families set the standard every day for selfless service. For more than 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will.

We can all be justifiably proud of the Army's achievements in fighting terror and bringing liberty to the oppressed. The Taliban and al Qaeda are no longer terrorizing the citizens of Afghanistan. The brutal regime of Saddam Hussein has been forcibly removed. Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are vital parts of this nation's unyielding campaign to destroy international terrorism and to restore global stability.

We pause today to honor those lost two years ago, those lost in the long days since Sept. 11, and all of their families. The war on terrorism has demonstrated that our nation and our Army are

up to the task thrust upon us. We acknowledge the enduring contributions of the Army during the past two years, and our commitment remains constant. When the nation calls, we will fight and win decisively.

We are proud of you, our Army family—soldiers, civilians, retirees, veterans, and your families, and you are always foremost in our prayers and in our actions. Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices, and for your steadfast devotion to duty. Your courage, dedication to duty, and selfless service to the nation are the hallmarks of the U.S. Army.

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

Peter J. Schoomaker
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Les Brownlee
Acting Secretary of the Army
Chief of Staff

Changes

From page 4

get the Army to move to standards, Devens said. It's easier to make one organization responsible for doing that for the Army than it is to have 14 organizations arrive at one way to execute BASOPS.

Standards won't be developed overnight. Devens estimates five years to implementation and 10 years to maturity. "It's a huge project," she said.

"If you look at the corporate world, something like McDonald's - look how long it's taken them to develop standards for its restaurants.

They're pretty smooth right now, but it took a long time to figure out what the standards should be for operating hours, building facilities, staffing, etc.

"So, it's going to take a lot of research analysis, and we're not talking about a restaurant with one goal, we're talking about installations that have many, many different kinds of services on it," Devens said.

"When you look at the 95 service areas that are in an installation's status report, it's work that will never be finished. People change, technology changes, demographics change - missions change on installations, and standards will have to grow and change with them. So there will always have to be a constant analysis of standards."

The Navy has announced recently that they are going to regions, Devens said. The Air Force has always been somewhat corporate structured. They have standards for their installations. Air Force installations are pretty much the same around the world, because they're built around a runway. The master plan is similar, and their bases are much newer than Army installations, she said.

"Army installations like this one (Fort Monroe) are from the Revolutionary War, and in some cases from the Civil War. Out west some of the forts were outposts. So the Air Force didn't have to work around historic buildings like we do. Although it is starting to reach the 50-year mark. The Army has buildings over 100 years old. No, you're not

going to have standard, templated installations when you've got historic things to take care of," Devens said.

"There are Army installations that are unique, and not all facilities will be standard, but the services will. Whether or not you have a service - that's going to be a standard. But the way it's provided to you might vary, depending on the installation's size, population and needs," she said.

So, it's not something that happens quickly; it's something you grow corporately, she said.

Devens is confident about the course NERO has charted. As with any new organizational structure, in spite of the fast timeline to get everything implemented, she said the organization "is developing as we go along."

The break-neck speed is a challenge, but one she would choose over slowly incorporating the changes. "I'm more 'it's better to jump in with both feet, than to inch your way into a pool a little at a time.' Both ways get it done, and we jumped in," she said laughing. And while it's harder to jump in all at once, it's not impossible and we're getting good lessons along the way.

"I'm very confident that we've got great commanders, great civilians and great military leadership. We've come up against our various 'friction points,' and we will find ways to work through them and get the right decisions made," she said. "It's been working just fine."

Corporate

From front page

trying to get the mission accomplished; the garrisons are there to support the mission. So, mission requirements will drive priorities," she said.

With TIM and the creation of the Installation Management Agency, a new term has been created. Essentially, Fontana said, we've replaced the old term of installation commander with the term, senior mission commander. Normally, a garrison commander was a lieutenant colonel or colonel, and the installation commander was usually at the two-star level.

"What we've been sensitive to, is, when it comes to determining what the priorities are at a given garrison, i.e. military construction or force protection, the senior mission commander is always involved in the decision process," he said.

Mission commander, Maj. Gen. Robert T. Dail, commanding general, U.S. Army Transportation Center, Fort Eustis and Fort Story, has already seen some advantages under NERO management.

"Even at this early point, we can see that the regional installation management initiative has resulted in more resources for the Fort Eustis garrison," Dail said. "In previous years we

experienced shortfalls in installation resources. Fort Eustis and Fort Story both received increases this year in order to provide services to soldiers, civilians and families. Another area has been the implementation of Army-wide standards here at the installation against which we can apply our resources. Long term, this will ensure our facilities and services meet the expectation of our soldiers."

One of the biggest challenges is sorting out the resources, Dail said.

"We have worked hard with the region and TRADOC to realign the funding and manpower to separate base operations from mission requirements," he said.

"Another challenge has been to develop a process to capture the requirements of mobilization at a power projection platform like Fort Eustis. Traditionally, this has been a FORSCOM and 1st Army mission. We'll have to see how the region and FORSCOM/1st Army clarify the missions and resource streams," Dail said.

With a streamlined civilian workforce at installations, he said, the process and methods for reporting key information will have to be reviewed to ensure that the garrison staff is focused on providing service as opposed to reporting information.

Transferring installation functions from the MACOM to IMA and its regional offices is just the beginning of IMA's duties under the ongoing reconstruct initiative. A major feat will be

instituting a standardization process that will transform the entire Army.

"We'll be developing Army-wide standards within the next 12 months," Fontana said. "We are currently collecting data for the Installation Management Agency to determine what was the baseline (pre-IMA) for all the facilities and services as of October 2002."

"We need to know where every installation was in various ways like: how many hours did gyms stay open; what level of child care service was provided, during what hours, etc. - then we're going to decide what the standards should be," Fontana said.

There are currently "have and have not" installations. Our goal is to ensure the soldier at Fort Monroe and the one in Kaiserslautern, Germany receive similar services, Fontana said.

"It's going to take an infusion of money to bring them (the have nots) up to wherever the standard is set," he said. "It's never going to be a perfect world, but the IMA will control the BASOPS dollars and manpower. They will also have a great degree of influence on where those resources will be placed."

Standards, over time, will gain acceptance with Congress. For example, in the tactical side of the Army, Fontana says - are the training standards for tanks and helicopters. DA has set the standards of so many tank miles per year, or so many flying hours for helicopters per year. When they fight the budget battles, they can tell Congress: it costs this much money to do this

many tank miles or flying hours that we have set as the standard. Congress understands why those tank miles are important, he said.

"Hopefully, the BASOPS community/IMA will evolve to the point that we have accepted and recognizable standards. Then when we're talking to a congressional staffer, and say it takes "x" amount of dollars to support the standards for soldiers' barracks, they will understand and support us. That's when we'll know we have succeeded.

"Once we get the standards in place, our goal is to get the money to ensure all installations meet the agreed upon DA-wide standards," Fontana said.

Devens agrees that it's a huge project, and she predicts it should take the Army five years to implement and maybe 10 to reach maturity.

"The five-year mark is feasible," she said. "But even if we had the standards ready today, we would have to give commanders a two- to three-year glide path to get there.

"So you set the standards and you probably give them about three years to get there, then after that, you see how the standards are working, and you might change them after that. And then you give commanders another year or so to achieve the new standards.

"It's not something that happens quickly; it's something that happens corporately," she said. (Editor's note: For more information, see article "Tidal wave of change approaches," page 4.)

Local veterans return to Korea

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Most remembered it as they left it, a country crumbling from and ravaged by war. Although they held no plans to return, many did and were awed by the transformation of the place in which so many of their comrades had bled and died.

Eight members of the Maryland Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association honor guard were among thousands of veterans who journeyed back to South Korea for the 50th Anniversary of the Armistice Signing Commemoration ceremony, held in Seoul, July 27.

The Federation of Korean Industries sponsored the event and along with the South Korean government, provided all expense-paid trips to veterans from around the world who participated in the three-year war.

The honor guard contingent included four from Harford County: chapter president Tony Cirincione of Abingdon, Robert Banker of Fallston, Sam Fielder of Jarrettsville, and Carl Collier of Aberdeen, as well as honor guard captain Raymond Glock, Charles Ridgway, Leroy Thornton, and Sylvester Walker.

The trip included visits to the Korean War Memorial, the National Cemetery, the Seoul Tower, Kyongbok presidential palace, and concluded with the Armistice Signing Commemoration, July 27.

Fielder served during the war as an artilleryman with Easy Battery, 1st Marine Division from 1951 to 1954. He said he was impressed by the many ceremonies and courtesies afforded the 2,500 veterans from 21 countries in

attendance.

"Henry Kissenger [former Secretary of State], spoke at a banquet at the Hyatt Regency in which there were more than 2,000 of us in one room," Fielder said.

Although it was his second trip back to Korea in the last six years, there still were changes that surprised him, he added.

"The Japanese occupation had taken all the trees for lumber," Fielder said. "When we were there, there were very few tree or high rises. Now they're all over the place in PanPanmunjom and Seoul."

He called the trip "unforgettable," noting that they visited the buildings where the peace talks were held and where the armistice was signed, and he revisited Hill 329, on which he fired on during the war.

"I would never have known it if they hadn't told me. There are trees all over it now. I'm sure there were none back then," Fielder said.

"The most amazing thing was to go back and see how the country has embraced democracy," he added, and to know that there would be no democracy if not for us."

Banker said that during a bus tour in which they passed the president's palace, South Korea's first lady waved and bowed to the busloads of veterans.

"I thought that was a mark of respect to us," Banker said. "I thought it was very kind."

Banker added his thanks to South Korean businessman Jin Roy Ryu, chairman of TMX Industries of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who intervened on behalf of the honor guard to ensure their return for the 50th Commemoration



Courtesy of ROBERT BANKER

Members of the Maryland Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association honor guard pose for a group photo in Korea during the 50th Anniversary Commemoration ceremony in Seoul, South Korea in July. From left, honor guard captain Raymond Glock, Carl Collier, Sam Fielder, chapter president Tony Cirincione, Sylvester Walker, Charles Ridgway, and Robert Banker. Not shown is the group's eighth member, Leroy Thornton.

Ceremony.

"I thanked him for the generous gesture and informed him that we would always remember the warmth and friendship with which we were greeted," Banker said.

He recalled that during the trip someone commented that today's soldiers are, "awfully young."

"I thought to myself that I was awfully

young back then too," he said. "If it wasn't for young men and women in the service, who would the generals lead?"

He said that the transformation proves that something good can come the horrors of war.

"You live with the memories but they don't have to live with you," Banker said. "The past is the past and war is war."

Photos courtesy of MIKE BROWN

From left, Gary Mink and Michael Brown, right, discuss future developments as well as living arrangements for the newly constructed home built by U.S. missionaries for AIDS orphans in Namibia, Africa.



Building a house of dreams APG employee and missionary helps build orphanage in Africa

Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

As part of the ministry at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Bel Air, Mike Brown, television director team leader, Directorate of Information Management, visited Namibia, Africa, twice to assist in improving the overall living conditions.

In January 2002, Brown teamed up with Lisa McLaughlin, missionary and pastor's wife; Nick Lough, missionary; Carl Otter, missionary and construction engineer; and Benedict Suarts, missionary.

Brown said that prior to going to Namibia, they had to get nine shots.

"The ninth one hurt really bad," Brown said. "We had to get the shots because of the diseases. They felt it best that we were juiced up on meds so we did not catch anything."

On the first trip, Brown said they had to locate property suitable to construct a children's home. He said the process of finding the land was not an easy task.

"When we found the land, we had to find out who had jurisdiction over the area and then get it approved," Brown said. "After it was approved we had to go to the Government Bureau of Land Management and then get permission to occupy it."

After securing the location, Brown said Otter was responsible for designing the building. He wanted to make sure he did not design something that looked like an American structure. He aimed to make it more culturally welcome.

The design called for the ceiling to be made out of basket weaving material and the structure of the building in the form of a dormitory, thus making it conducive for children, ranging in age from infants to teens, to reside in.

Brown said the living conditions were extremely poor, adding that it's nothing like living in America.

"The living conditions are very, very

poor in that country. We are blessed to be living in America," Brown said.

He said the hospitals are infested with roaches, cats, and mosquitoes. He was frightened by the sites and commented on the medical conditions.

"The medical equipment is very old and inaccurate. A blood test was given to an 18-month-old baby and it tested positive for 'pregnancy.' They can't afford to update their equipment so they can provide better medical evaluations. We all got a big laugh out of that and knew that could not be true," Brown said.

Two boys at the hospital were deaf and Brown said, luckily only two babies tested HIV positive. He also said one of the children tested positive for Tuberculosis.

"Mateu is about seven years old and is very sick. Getting him on the right medication should make him better. He is treatable," Brown said.

He said even the grocery shopping conditions are poor, which could also contribute to the medical conditions of the children.

"They don't have decent shopping. All of the shopping is under unsanitary conditions. Most of the grocery shopping is outside with insects swarming all over the food," Brown said.

He said it was not common to eat the foods that Americans eat. Instead they eat locusts and mopani, which are worms and considered a delicacy.

"The worms look like dried up caterpillars. I ended up sampling a raw one without knowing they weren't cooked," Brown said. "They also eat crocodile tails and zebras are the steak of choice."

Brown said the zebras are comparable to the American steak and most everything is grilled.

"The zebra steak is very good," Brown said. "Some are better than others. I was told not to eat salads because you could pick up parasites," Brown said. "While I was there I did lose 13 pounds just eating

meat."

It took less than six months to complete the children's home. Brown and the other missionaries were not present to see the completed project but returned a year later to see the new building and changes in the environment.

"On the second trip, [February 2003] we took two teenagers with us. The teens volunteered to stay for more than a year and help out with the children," Brown said.

Brown said the teens had to go through training in order to sit with the sick children.

Brown noticed a lot of changes during his second visit.

"In just the year I was gone, I can see the economy boom in the region of Kataga," Brown said. "Now the home is growing their own vegetables. Things are more modernized and this all took place in just one year."

Brown said there is even an indoor super market, adding that last year pizza's were difficult to find but now they are common place.

He said that in spite of the poor conditions, Namibia is a beautiful country.

"I'm originally from Atlanta and a lot of the area reminds me of being home, so I fell in love with it," Brown said.

He said he plans to return to Namibia with his family. The third time, he wants to spend about six months to a year, and wants his family to see the living conditions in other countries as opposed to how Americans live.

Brown said he also wants to go back to help take care of the orphans, do chores around the building, home school the children and feed those who can't feed themselves.

The country is in the process of looking for teens and adults or retired couples to spend time in this mission. Brown said that the drawback to living in the area is that nothing is convenient.



A worker at the orphanage holds an HIV infected infant. The baby passed away at a later date.



ICE WORLD
Maryland's Premier Ice Skating and Hockey Facility

OPEN HOUSE!
Sunday, Sept. 14, 2003

1 - 5 pm

Come enjoy a great family afternoon of free skating, refreshments, ice hockey, and figure skating demonstrations! Learn to play hockey (we supply all equipment!) and group skating lessons will be offered, and coaches and pros will be on hand to answer questions about our Fall and Winter programs!

1300 Governor Court
Abingdon, MD 21009
(410) 612-1000
www.iceworld.com



Ann Kolenbrander, standing, displays a finished sun mosaic to Ami Shipley, 8, left, Megan Lucas, 9, center, and Erron Smith, 8, right, in the third- and fourth-grade art class during the final evening of Vacation Bible School at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, Aug. 8.



Naomi Salgado, 9, left, and Dorothy Shanks, 10, work on their projects in the fifth-grade classroom.

Bible School enlightens youths

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

More than 200 youths enjoyed a spirited and spiritual week of learning during the annual Vacation Bible School held at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, Aug. 4 to 8.

Joyce Bridges, chapel secretary, coordinated the event for the third time with the help of the chapel staff and about 50 volunteers a night who helped host an average of 130 youths each evening.

"It took the whole chapel community to make this work," Bridges said, adding that volunteers prepared snacks, taught bible lessons, and led arts and crafts projects.

"There were a lot of behind the scenes contributions," she said. "We owe a lot to the creative minds of our parents and volunteers."

"I just love doing this," Bridges said. "Children remember more when they have fun learning and that's what this is all about."

The theme, "Lighthouse Kids," was chosen to illustrate the way God's love can shine in a child's heart and reflect on everyone they meet, Bridges added.

"We taught them each night that they are shining in God's love."

Classes were held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. each day and the final evening culminated with a barbecue and award ceremony in which each participant received a certificate of completion.

Parents, volunteers and youths agreed that they all gained a lesson from the event.

Cathy Day, an assistant instructor in the second-grade class, and an employee of the Post Commissary, said she volunteered because her children were confirmed at the chapel.

"My husband retired here and we decided to stay and be a part of the community," Day said. "Supporting our friends is a big part of that."

"It helps you while you're helping the children," added Ann Kolenbrander, as she instructed an arts and crafts project with the fourth-grade class.

Kolenbrander said she used the Bible story of when Saul saw the light in Damascus to illustrate the week's theme.

"They really picked up on it and created some nice projects," she said of the youths.

Ten-year-old Dorothy Shanks and her friend, Naomi Salgado, 9, worked together on their art project. They said the most important thing they learned was the value

of vacation bible school.

"It teaches us lessons about how to live right and helps us understand more about the Bible," Salgado said.

"We learned about Moses, the burning bush, the Israelites and baby Jesus and how he lights the world," Shanks added. Led by chaplains assistant, Spc. Chad Emrick and his wife, Annette, the entire group gathered for a slide show and singing before the awards ceremony.

Emrick praised Bridges, the post chaplains, the staff and all volunteers for the successful event.

"She's worked hard on this the past few weeks," Emrick said. "Thanks to all the willing workers, everyone had a ball this week."

Afterward, Bridges and Jesse Shanks, a retired Army Warrant Officer, Sunday school superintendent, and a member of the chapel's Protestant service for 25 years, handed out complimentary Bibles to departing families in the lobby.

"Holding a vacation bible school takes lots of planning and hard work but it's worth it because the children not only enjoy it, they remember it," Shanks said. "Bring them up right when they're young, and when they're older, they won't depart from it."



Second- and third-grade group instructor Lulu Shanks, left, helps Ke Anna Tinson, 7, complete her project.

Local business donates backpacks

Story and photos by
Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

In an effort to give back to the community, Office Depot teamed up with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Child Development Center and donated more than 30 backpacks to school aged children, Aug. 26.

Inside each backpack was a folder, a pencil pack with an eraser, pencils and a note pad.

Ruth Strauss, director, CDC, said when Office Depot contacted her she was more than willing to accept the donations.

Lisa Jones, federal government account representative for the Business Services Division at Office Depot, said it is a normal practice for Office Depot to donate backpacks to county schools. As a representative for the federal government, she said it was a great idea to give back to military children.

Office Depot is looking forward to implementing other programs with various organizations on post by offering discounts on office supplies to military and civilian personnel, Jones said.



Vera Ruark, APG Child Development Center caregiver, watches as Lisa Jones, Office Depot representative, passes out backpacks donated by the company to CDC kindergarteners, from left, Jadya McKinney, Jalisa Arango and Tanay Caver, returning from their first day of school, Aug. 26 at the Child Development Center.

Conference

From front page

course for VA Preventive Medicine Program Coordinators as part of the conference.

Ellen P. Embrey, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness, spoke on Force Health Protection as the military's umbrella, and Vice Adm. Richard H. Carmona, U.S. Surgeon General, followed with preventive medicine initiatives within the Public Health Service. Rear Adm. Kevin Eldridge, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Eleventh District, spoke on the expanded role of the Coast Guard in Homeland Security.

True to the conference

theme, "Force Health Protection - a Military Imperative," the conference provided state-of-the-art knowledge and know-how to those whose job it is to preserve the health of the military community and the civilians who support it. Foremost experts in a wide array of fields conducted nine Force Health Protection tracks, a public affairs track and additional breakouts and special sessions continuing throughout the week.

"This year's conference is a great success with more speakers and more relevance to our changing health protection requirements than ever before," said Lt. Col. Mike Custer, conference director and CHPPM staff member.

Sports & Recreation



Commander's Cup point standings

The Commander's Cup is awarded each December to the unit that scores the most points in intramural sports during the year. Units garner points in basketball, the bench press competition, the 3-on-3 basketball tournament, racquetball, volleyball,

softball, golf, the deadlift competition, soccer and football. Points are awarded for unit participation and division and post championship wins in each event.

The following units currently lead in Commander's Cup point totals.

Current standings as of Aug. 25			
USMC	190	USAF	61
Company C 16th	158	HHC 61st	57
MRICD	119	Company B 16th	46
NCOA	100	1/246th Infantry	43
HHC 16th	98	Company C 143rd	36
Company E 16th	88	CHPPM	26
HST	83	203rd MI	14
HHC 143rd	81	389th Band	13
Company A 16th	65	Company A 143rd	12
Company B 143rd	62	KUSAHC	10
		520th TAML	7
		SBCCOM/TEU	6

Sharing the pride of champions



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

From left, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion's Nate Brown, most valuable player; Tony Vasquez, coach; Lt. Col. Robert Pastorelli; and David Cook, pitcher, celebrate with the intramural softball championship trophy, following the double-header win over the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, Aug. 18.

An All-Star team consisting of soldiers from Aberdeen Proving Ground will play Harford County police officers and fire fighters in the Battle of Guns and Hoses, a part of the 9-11 Memorial Program at Ripken Stadium, Sept. 11, 7 to 9 p.m. The memorial ceremony begins 6:30 p.m.