

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling scheduled pickup for Wednesday, June 2, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Military Spouse Appreciation Month

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Month, Army Community Service will hold a cake-cutting ceremony 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 27, at the PX.

Everyone is invited to stop by and visit the information table.

Blood Drive May 27

The 16th Ordnance Battalion will host an Armed Services Blood Drive 4 to 9 p.m. in the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center.

Civilians and non-advanced individual training students can donate from 4 to 5 p.m. AIT students can donate from 5 to 9 p.m.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Michael Poore, 410-278-8599.

Meet Montgomery Gentry

MWR is hosting an essay contest to win two tickets to the July 17 Montgomery Gentry concert and a "Meet and Greet" with band members. For more information, see page 8.

Holiday closings

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed May 29 and 31 in observance of Memorial Day. There will be limited services available on May 28 in the Pediatric and General Medicine Clinics.

The Housing Office, building 2727, will close at 4 p.m., May 27 and reopen at 7:30 a.m., June 1.

The main Cleaners, building 2401, in APG will be closed May 30 and 31.

APG commanders speak at Memorial Day ceremonies

Leadership from Aberdeen Proving Ground will participate in two Memorial Day events.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, will be the guest speaker at the Edgewood Area cemetery at 10 a.m.

After the ceremony, lunch will be served at American Legion Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road.

All traffic must use Route 24 Gate. Signs will

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ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Developing safer buildings, drinking water

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Respecting the flag

Veterans 'muster' at Harford Mall

Story and photo by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Hundreds of veterans from Harford, Cecil and Baltimore counties, and countless passers-by participated in the Veterans Muster held at Harford Mall May 15.

Twenty veterans and veterans service organizations assembled in booths on the mall's main concourse to provide information for attendees during the daylong program that included marching demonstrations by the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' U.S. Marine Corps and Air Force detachments, a performance by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) and remarks by Col. Mardi U. Mark, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander.

Other participants included the Young Marines drill team from Jarrettsville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8672 led by Mike Eilerman, and a performance by the John Carroll High School band.

The traditional posting of

the colors by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 588 and Korean War Veterans Association honor guards was led by Bill Fosnaught, honor guard commander, who also led the table of remembrance ceremony that honored those fallen in America's wars.

Wanda Story of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association Chapter 114 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs, led by retired Maj. Gen. Joseph Brooks, sponsored the program.

Participating organizations included the Baltimore Department of Veterans Affairs; the Military Officers Association of America; Disabled American Veterans, Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center; Maryland Veteran's History Project coordinator; the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command historian; Susquehanna Workforce Centers; Maryland Job Services; the Armed Forces



Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 588 honor guard salute the Table of Remembrance honoring the nation's fallen during the Veterans Muster held by the Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs at Harford Mall May 15.

Recruiting Command, Bel Air office; Army National Guard, 29th Aviation recruiting command; Harford County Public Library, Bel Air branch; Veterans of Foreign Wars;

American Legions; the Military Order of the Purple Heart; the Military Order of Foreign Wars; Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 588; Korean War Veterans of

America Maryland and Harford chapter 271; Women's Army Corps Veterans Association Chapter 114 and Catholic War Veterans chapters 1841 and 1837.

Ordnance Corps celebrates 192nd birthday

E.C. Starnes

U.S. Army Ordnance Corps

Heat and humidity tried to rule the day, but the spirit of celebration broke through as the Ordnance Corps celebrated its 192nd birthday at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Fanshaw Field May 14.

Soldiers, Marines and Airmen, under the command of Col. Kevin M. Smith, deputy commander and chief of staff of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, filled the field with a backdrop of the 50 state flags. The massed military formation represented the 59th and 61st Ordnance brigades. They were supported by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) and the Salute Battery.

The anniversary review celebrated the birth of the Ordnance Corps on May 14, 1812, as Congress established forces to prepare for the sec-

ond British war.

In the program welcoming visitors and guests to the review, Brig. Gen. Mike Lenaers, the chief of Ordnance, noted, "Our theme this year, 'Warriors First, Technicians Second to None,' encompasses the spirit of the Soldier's Creed and our heritage of forging the 'Armament for Peace.' Ordnance Soldiers and civilians have served our nation proudly in peace and war since long before we were formally organized on May 14, 1812.

"Warriors First embodies the spirit that emphasizes a commitment to victory: mission first, never quit, never accept defeat, never leave a fallen comrade behind. Ordnance Soldiers are Army values in action," Lanaers said.

"Technicians Second to None' embodies our heritage

of 'Service to the Line, On the Line, One Time.' Ordnance technicians are the architects of readiness. The 3rd Infantry Division battalion commander who spearheaded the Marne Division's attack to Baghdad

labeled his mechanics as heroes. Ordnance Soldiers are key players on the Army team.

"Today, we celebrate the Hall of Fame inductees who have contributed so much to the Ordnance Corps, our

Army, and our nation. We celebrate those who guide and nurture our young Soldiers and future leaders. And, we celebrate our youngest

See ORDNANCE, page 11



Photo courtesy of RALPH BROTH Col. Kevin Smith, standing front, Brig. Gen. Mike Lenaers, left rear, and Lt. Gen. Richard Hack review the command as the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps celebrates its 192nd Anniversary at Fanshaw Field May 14. Smith, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' deputy commander and chief of staff, was the Commander of Troops for the Review. Lenaers, the chief of Ordnance, served as the host commander, while Hack, U.S. Army Materiel Command deputy commanding general and chief of staff, was the reviewing officer.

Army dedicates facility designed to destroy chemical weapons

MAPS to treat recovered munitions

Jason Huffine

NSCMP

The U.S. Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program dedicated its newest capability and first fixed facility to treat recovered chemical weapons during a ceremony at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground May 5.

The Col. Garland M. White Munitions Assessment and Processing System, or MAPS, facility will be used to treat stable chemical and acidic smoke munitions recovered at APG during environmental remediation activities.

The facility provides the Army and the community with

an environmentally friendly alternative to open detonation for most recovered munitions.

"I'm pleased we were able to implement a solution that meets the needs of the local community," said Lt. Col. Paul Fletcher, program manager for NSCMP, during the ceremony. "Constructing a facility from concept to startup may sound simple, but consider that we started this project with a blank piece of paper in 1998. We had to budget the money, design the facility, complete environmental assessments, design reviews, obtain permits, clear the site and, finally, build it."

Fletcher also noted that

"many individuals and organizations have been part of the MAPS team," contributing to the success of development and construction since the project began.

These include the APG Restoration Advisory Board, Maryland Department of the Environment, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, Tennessee Valley Authority, Sandia National Labs, Mitretek Systems, Science Applications International Corporation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District and the John C.



Photos by CONRAD JOHNSON Kevin Flamm, program manager for the elimination of chemical weapons, assists Lt. Col. Paul Fletcher, non-stockpile chemical materiel program manager, in unveiling the dedication plaque for the Col. Garland M. White MAPS Facility during the ceremony May 5.

Grimberg Construction Company.

The cooperation of these organizations aided in the development and completion of the MAPS facility and represents a unique partnership

between the Army, its contractors, citizens, local community leaders, environmental advocates and the state of Maryland, Fletcher explained.

NSCMP is part of the U.S. See MAPS, page 12



Photo courtesy of U.S. Army Eleven solid-filled ordnance items uncovered during excavation activities at the old Kurt Iron & Metal facility in south Baltimore May 5 were loaded and transported to Aberdeen Proving Ground for safe disposition during the early morning hours of May 6.

APG ordnance experts handle Baltimore bomb emergency

Story by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The incidental discovery of unexploded munitions buried underground near the port of Baltimore May 5, prompted the city's emergency responders to call on Army Explosives Ordnance Disposal support and Aberdeen Proving Ground experts to help defuse the situation.

A construction crew unearthed 11 World War II-era bombs at an old shipyard site near the Harbor Tunnel and I-895.

Immediately, emergency responders secured the area and, via the Maryland State Fire Marshal's office, contacted the 767th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit from Fort McNair, Va. The 767th EOD team, consisting of Sgt. 1st Class Ted Talla, team leader, and Spc. Eric Rogers arrived at the site and began the task of assessing each of the recovered munitions.

As the EOD operation extended into the evening hours, a call for senior on-site coordination went out to APG commander Maj. Gen. John C.

Doesburg, who sent Col. Timothy Madere, commander of APG's Guardian Brigade.

Madere said the situation called for a field grade officer and an ordnance officer.

"I fit both bills," Madere said, "only with me, you get a whole unit if you need it."

Accompanied by his executive officer, Lt. Col. George LeCakes and explosive ordnance disposal officer, Capt. Anthony Dubay, Madere arrived on the scene about 9 p.m. that evening.

See BOMB, page 14

Partnering delivers homeland security solutions

Safer buildings, drinking water

Joan Michel
ECBC

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Homeland Security Research Center, U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center and STERIS Corporation are developing the next phase of tools designed to detect and remove chemical and biological agents from the nation's drinking water supply and buildings.

Two technologies—a Water Test Loop facility and a modified Vaporous Hydrogen Peroxide decontamination system—were demonstrated May

14 during a congressional briefing attended by Senator George Voinovich, Representatives Ben Cardin, Roscoe Bartlett and Dutch Ruppersberger and EPA Assistant Administrator Paul Gilman.

"These technologies help assure that the water we drink and the buildings in which we work, study and conduct the nation's business are protected," said Dr. Paul Gilman, EPA assistant administrator for Research and Development. "The U.S. Army, EPA and STERIS Corporation are protecting the health and well-being of all Americans."

The one-of-a-kind Water Test Loop facility, co-designed by EPA and ECBC, simulates an actual metropolitan water supply chain.

Studies will use chemical warfare agents and toxins to validate sensor systems for detecting these and other highly toxic chemicals entering water systems.

In addition, the fate of chemical warfare agents in various source waters, and the fate and transport of chemical and biological threat agents in water systems will be studied.

With this facility, scientists will be able to understand the

impact of a chemical or biological attack on the nation's water system.

The studies will help scientists figure out how to best protect against or mitigate the effects of such a terrorist event.

The Vaporous Hydrogen Peroxide system is a breakthrough decontamination solution that will allow first responders to clean a building, aircraft, vehicle, and sensitive equipment subject to a chemical or biological attack.

The VHP technology is compatible with many materials, equipment and environ-

ments, and may reduce the risk of human exposure to contaminated areas and objects.

The demonstration is part of an ongoing collaborative research and development project initiated in July 2002 to evaluate, optimize and modify STERIS' subsidiary, Strategic Technology Enterprises, Inc.'s decontamination technologies for use against chemical and biological warfare agents.

A modified VHP system was successfully used to remediate two facilities in excess of 1.4 million cubic feet each that were contaminated in the 2001 anthrax attacks.

The organizations, EPA, ECBC and STERIS have established formal partnership agreements. The Memorandum of Understanding between ECBC and EPA, signed in October of 2002, provides the framework for this research and development program.

"In establishing these partnerships the EPA, ECBC, Corps of Engineers and Strategic Technology Enterprises are combining resources and working efficiently, which ultimately saves taxpayer money," said ECBC Director Jim Zarzycki.

CMA wins Army community relations, international communicator awards

Greg Mahall
CMA

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency has been recognized in two prestigious awards competitions for its public affairs work in support of efforts to safely store and eliminate the nation's aging chemical weapons.

The CMA is the world leader in programs to store, treat, and dispose of chemical weapons safely and effectively. The agency develops and uses technologies to safely store and eliminate chemical weapons while protecting the public, its workers and the environment.

The CMA was created to incorporate the former Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization and portions of the U.S. Army Soldier Biological and Chemical

Command into one agency. This streamlines operations and allows for greater integration of these programs.

The CMA received Awards of Distinction from The Communicator Awards, an international competition that recognizes outstanding work in the communications field, for a media kit designed for the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program and the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System Reach Newsletter Commemorative Final Edition created for the closure of JACADS.

In the Community Relations Awards competition presented by the U.S. Army, the CMA won first place in the Special Event category for its Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Start-Up Program. For this category, the

competition recognizes a single event that accomplishes Army community relations objectives in an exceptionally superior manner.

The ANCDF Start-Up Program was created to provide stakeholders with timely, accurate and useful information leading to community support of agent operations at the ANCDF.

The package of commemorative items that the CMA created for the closure of its JACADS won first-place in its category, receiving a Crystal Award of Excellence in The Communicator Awards.

The JACADS Commemorative Giveaway Package was created as a communications tool for the JACADS closure celebration. The items included a screensaver of JACADS images on CD-

ROM, the JACADS Reach Newsletter Commemorative Final Edition, a progress update handout, a book about the thriving ecosystem of Johnston Atoll, and an etched Lucite block, all packaged in a custom giveaway bag.

The CMA is responsible for safely storing and eliminating aging chemical weapons stored in six locations in the United States and for the recovery and elimination of recovered chemical materiel.

Thus far, the Army has safely destroyed 8,369 tons of chemical agent, which is equivalent to more than 28 percent of the stockpile in the United States.

All of the chemical weapons on Johnston Island in the Pacific were the first to be destroyed.

Currently, chemical weap-

ons are being destroyed in Anniston, Ala., Tooele, Utah, and Aberdeen. Operations to destroy chemical weapons are

anticipated to begin within the next year in Pine Bluff, Ark., Newport, Ind., and Umatilla, Ore.



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY Program Manager for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons, Kevin Flamm, talks with an Edgewood public meeting attendee. Public meetings are just one tool that the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency uses to communicate with the public.

Systems manager honored at dedication of MAPS

Jason Huffine
NSCMP

Officials at the U.S. Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program awarded Donald Benton, a systems manager from St. Marys, Pa., the Commander's Award for Civilian Service during a ceremony at the Edgewood Area May 5.

Benton, a 1982 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, received the award for his leadership and oversight of the Army's latest facility to treat recovered chemical weapons - the Garland M. White Munitions Assessment and Processing System

Facility.

During the facility's opening and dedication, William Brankowitz, NSCMP deputy manager, recognized Benton in front of nearly 200 guests attending the event.

"I am honored by the recognition bestowed on me," Benton said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work on a project with such a worthy cause as increasing safety and improving the environment."

"MAPS provides the U.S. Army with a safe and environmentally secure option for treating chemical and smoke munitions recovered at

APG," he added.

"I feel proud to contribute to the elimination of our country's chemical weapons and am grateful to the individuals and organizations that contributed to the success of the facility."

As the systems manager for MAPS, Benton managed system development from 1999 to 2000.

Benton's current role requires oversight of system testing before operations are scheduled to begin in 2005.

He joined the NSCMP in 1995 and currently lives in Aberdeen with his wife, Martha, and their two chil-

dren.

NSCMP leads the nation in the development and use of advanced technology to eliminate America's non-stockpile chemical materiel in a safe, environmentally sound and cost-effective manner.

A division of the U.S. Army's Chemical Materials Agency, NSCMP researches and develops treatment options and destruction plans that comply with all federal, state and local regulations, and encourages public participation in its activities.

For additional information, visit the NSCMP Web site, <http://www.cma.army.mil>.



Photo courtesy of NSCMP

Don Benton, Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program engineer, explains the MAPS' air filtration system. MAPS work areas are designed to contain any possible vapor release when treating recovered smoke and chemical munitions, increasing worker and environmental safety.

APG, TEDCO to hold Technology Partnering Showcase June 3

Federal labs open doors to private sector

Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Maryland Technology Development Corporation will host "Robotic and Automotive Technologies for the Marketplace," a technology partnering showcase geared toward small businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as larger industrial companies and academia, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., June 3. An optional tour of APG facilities will follow.

The showcase, to be held at Top of the Bay, will highlight APG's robotic and automotive technologies available for commercial application.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore these technologies and learn how they can use APG resources and expertise to bring products and services to the market. Some of the technologies and resources available include networked autonomous systems and learning robots, prognostics for automobiles, vehicle propulsion system technologies and materials evaluation and non-destructive testing.

The event will feature presentations from the U.S. Army

Aberdeen Test Center, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Agency, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command and U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center.

Technology transfer officials from APG and TEDCO also will present information on funding programs and opportunities to support technology transfer projects.

As one demonstration of a productive collaboration with APG, ATC will share how it helped the Maryland Transit Authority diagnose and fix a mechanical problem with its Baltimore City buses.

Following the presentations, APG officials will lead attendees on an optional facility tour that will include demonstrations of several of its technologies and testing facilities, such as ATC's Roadway Simulator, the Assault Breacher Vehicle and a robotics course.

These facilities can be made available to private companies, academic researchers and other government labora-

tories under a range of technology transfer agreements that will also be explored at the showcase.

Dr. David Brown, director for Test and Technology for the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, who will lead the June 3 showcase, oversees the APG's development of technologies for the war in Iraq.

His accomplishments include spearheading the development of virtual test technologies at DTC's diverse test centers and the invention of the Moving Target Simulator, a virtual ATC test technology used to test the sight accuracy of key Army weapon systems.

To register for the showcase, visit www.gbtechcouncil.org by May 28.

For registration information, contact Melanie DeSmedt at 410-327-9148, ext. 3, or e-mail melanied@gbtechcouncil.org.

For more information, contact Ron Kaese at 410-715-4170, e-mail rkaese@marylandtedco.org or visit www.MarylandTEDCO.org.

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 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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Courtesy of JERRY ARNOLD

Designed by Jerry Arnold, graphic production manager for the U.S. Army Environmental Center, the 2004 National Cherry Blossom Festival Art Contest winning design symbolizes the gift of the trees from Japan to the United States.

AEC artist wins national award

Meghan Bowen
APG News

An accomplished painter, published author, photo-art lecturer and graphic production manager for the U.S. Army Environmental Center won the 2004 National Cherry Blossom Festival Art Contest in April.

Jerry Arnold's winning design depicts a cherry blossom tree branch and the Washington Monument linked by the red sun of Japan. The Japanese writing stands for "National Cherry Blossom Festival."

Arnold based the cherry blossom design on a flowering tree gardening book from the Harford County Public Library.

His design was displayed on posters, brochures and merchandise which promoted the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C.

"When I first saw the design, I knew whoever did this was a great graphic artist," said Jim Siemer, touristart.com merchandiser who handled the T-shirt reproductions of the logo. "He brought together a design that symbolizes the gift of the trees from Japan to the U.S."

"His design was the hottest top selling T-shirt in all of Washington, D.C., and in the history of the festival," Siemer said. "It was a design everyone wanted to wear. We sold between 8,000 and 10,000 T-shirts."

The logo shirt was sold at over 100 stores in the D.C. Metro Area, including the two largest T-shirt selling venues at the Jefferson Memorial and Reagan National Airport, where the Japanese Cherry Blossom trees were planted.

A percentage of the T-shirt and merchandising sales goes towards funding for future festivals, according to Diana Mayhew, executive director of the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

Arnold also designed the National Cherry Blossom Festival brochures as well as posters displayed on trains, busses, and in various D.C. Metro stations.

Arnold received \$1,000, a two-night stay in Washington, D.C., VIP tickets at the parade grandstand, box seats to the Kennedy Center for a Japanese dance and music concert directed by Mannojo Nomura and a reception at the Japanese Embassy. He also received an Odyssey cruise on the Potomac for his Metro poster designs.

While Arnold is ineligible to submit in next years contest, he's recruiting other staff members to enter.

"I'm encouraging coworkers to try for the 2005 contest," Arnold said.

Other award winning projects that Arnold has encouraged coworkers to try have involved creations of three-dimensional creatures from the eastern seaboard to the capitol.

In 2001, Arnold participated in the 'Fish Out of Water' project in Baltimore, with a 3-D fish displayed near the

Baltimore Convention Center.

In 2002, he created the 'Calico Elephant,' which was made to look like a large stuffed animal, near the Rhode Island Avenue Metro Station for the Washington, D.C., 'Party Animals' project.

In 2003, he created 'Sunburn Bird' for Ocean City's 'Beach Birds' project.

To assist in the observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 31, we will have the following early deadlines for the **Wednesday, June 2** and **Friday, June 4** editions of **The Aegis**:

EARLY DEADLINES

Wednesday, May 26 • Noon
• Real Estate

Thursday, May 27 • Noon
• PP&T, Business
• Legal/Auction Ads
• Automotive Ads
• Space Reservations For All Sections

Friday, May 28 • 10 AM
• A - Main News (6/2 Edition)
• Classified Display, APG News, Weekender
• PP&T- Friday 6/4 Edition

The Business Office and all Advertising Departments will be closed Mon., May 31, 2004.

The Classified Line ad deadline will be Tuesday, June 1, 10 AM.

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Photo by SHEILA LITTLE
The Washington Monument provides the perfect backdrop during the 2004 Cherry Blossom Festival held March 27 through April 11 in Washington, D.C.

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Post Shorts

be posted for directions. Attendees are advised to arrive at the gate no later than 9:30 a.m. to allow time for security procedures. Photo ID is required. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at American Legion Post 17.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, garrison and deputy installation commander, will speak at the Perryville American Legion at 11 a.m.

OC&S commander announced

The Chief of Staff, Army announced that Brig. Gen. Vincent E. Boles, commanding general, 3rd Corps Support Command, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, will replace Brig. Gen. William M. Lenaers, commanding general and commandant, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools. Lenaers will be assigned as commanding general, U.S. Army Tank-automotive and

Sampson AFB Veterans Association, Inc. seeks veterans

The Sampson Air Force Base Veterans Association, Inc., is searching for all personnel who served or trained at Sampson Air Force Base from 1950 through 1956, to include basic trainees, permanent party, "WAFS," students in special schools, officers and noncommissioned officers stationed at Sampson.

The Sampson Memorial Museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., through May 31, weekends only; May 31 through Sept. 6, Wednesday through Sunday; and Sept. 6 through Oct. 11, weekends only. The gate closes for the last tour at 3:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Chip Phillips, P.O. Box 331, Williamsville, NY 14231-0331 or e-mail Chip34@aol.com.

Weight Watchers offers 11 weeks for price of 10

Sign up for the next session of the Weight Watchers at Work Program at Aberdeen Proving Ground on June 2 and receive 11 weeks for the price of 10. The meeting starts at noon in building 3072.

The program offers professional leadership and group support convenient for APG employees.

Trying the new Weight Watchers FlexPoints system makes losing weight easier. Lunchtime Weight Watchers meetings are open to all APG civilian personnel, retirees, military personnel and family members.

For more information, call 410-278-1151.

2004 Army Birthday Ball

Celebrate the Army's 229th birthday including dinner, entertainment and dancing at the 2004 Army Birthday Ball, June 19, at the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel in Washington, D.C.

For more information or to register for the 2004 Army Birthday Ball, visit Army Knowledge Online, www.us.army.mil.

All U.S. Army Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians, contractors, retirees, veterans and their guests are invited to attend the event.

Tickets cost \$50 each. A limited number of discounted tickets at \$15 each will be available for Army staff sergeants and GS-7 civilians and below.

Seats are limited. For more information or to register for the 2004 Army Birthday Ball, visit Army Knowledge Online, www.us.army.mil, and follow the link to the ball.

60th commemoration of World War II

The World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration

Committee is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Coast Guard, who will also serve as representative to the U.S. Merchant Marine.

The committee will be involved in the planning of multiple events, most notably the ceremonies commemorating D-Day in Normandy, France; the Battles of Saipan and Tinian; as well as other observances honoring the service and sacrifice of so many.

To contact the committee write to 1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 5413, Arlington, VA 22209, call 703-696-0120, toll free, 1-877-868-2058, or fax 703-696-0122 or visit Web site <http://www.60wwii.mil>.

AMSAA celebrates D-Day anniversary

The U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity is sponsoring a Commemoration Ceremony of the 60th anniversary of D-Day 10 to 11 a.m., June 4, at the APG Ordnance Museum.

A memorial plaque will be unveiled as well as a tree planting to celebrate the occasion. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call Bill Fisher, 410-278-6464 or Patrick J. O'Neill, 410-278-6450.

School Age/Middle School Services Summer Program

The Aberdeen and Edgewood Summer Program will run for up to 10 weeks, starting June 14 (subject to change according to end of school year), 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed 1st through 8th grades.

Enrollment does not require attendance at all 10 sessions.

There will be a \$20 non-refundable deposit required at the time of registration for each week selected. Tuition fees are based on total family income.

Waiting list forms may be picked up at the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902, the Aberdeen Youth Services, building 2522 or the Outreach Services building 2752 during regular working hours.

Forms may be dropped off at the Edgewood Youth Services building E-1902, the Outreach Services building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-2582. Waiting list forms will not be accepted at the Aberdeen Youth Services.

Registration is by appointment only.

For questions or more information, call the Outreach Services Office at 410-278-7571 or 7479.

Reunion of 3650th Basic Military Training Wing

A reunion will be held at Sampson Air Force Base, now known as Sampson State Park, on Seneca Lake, Romulus, N.Y., Sept. 9 through 12, for all veterans, permanent party, Women's Air Force, basic

trainees and Special School trainees of the 3650th Basic Military Training Wing, Sampson Air Force Base, 1950 thru 1956.

For more information, contact Chip Phillips, P.O. Box 331, Williamsville, NY 14231-0331.

Warrant officers needed

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties to those that qualify. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information and all forms/documents required, visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or call 502-626-0484/0458.

Heat injury prevention

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

Leaders at all levels must work to prevent heat injuries.

During the next several months, unit commanders should emphasize that Soldiers drink plenty of water and take rest periods during strenuous activities in hot weather. They also should train their Soldiers to recognize the causes, symptoms, and first aid measures for heat injuries, using the Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks as a guide.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic Preventive Medicine and Wellness offers classes on heat injury prevention and/or a packet with information sheets and a CD power point presentations covering hot/cold weather injury prevention.

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

Reserve Capa Field now

The Civilian Welfare Fund is taking reservations for CAPA Field, for personal use. The fee is \$200 per day. For more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

Collect Striker toys during Bowling for Bucks

The APG Bowling Center will offer Bowling for Bucks through July 15. This popular series allows customers to purchase bowling bucks to buy prizes at an auction party at the end of the two-month promotion.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

After Hours Clinic

The After Hours Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is closed on Sundays and holidays. Patients needing advice on health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518.

For an emergency, call '911' or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

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*Source: 2004 Nissan North America. Sale prices and/or payments exclude taxes, tags, \$99 processing fee (not required by law). Special finance options are for qualified buyers. Offers on in stock vehicles only and are subject to prior sale. Dealer not responsible for typographical errors.

410-538-8500 - Rnissan.com

Community Notes

SATURDAY MAY 29 SEASONS OF A WOMAN'S LIFE

Grace Assembly will hold a "Seasons of a Woman's Life" luncheon and plant sale, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jarrettsville Gardens, 3825 Federal Hill Road, Jarrettsville. Tickets cost \$16 per person. Proceeds will benefit Women's Ministries of Grace Assembly in Bel Air.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Jan Bowersox at 410-879-5340.

MONDAY MAY 31 DAV MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

DAV Francis McLhinney Chapter 15 will hold a Memorial Day Ceremony, 11 a.m., at the Mount Erin Cemetery in Havre de Grace.

All families, friends and veterans are invited to honor the memory of Pfc. Francis McLhinney. McLhinney, a 20-year-old native of Havre de Grace, a member of the 9th Infantry Division who was wounded three times before being killed in Oberkirchen, Germany. He received four purple hearts and one bronze star with a "V" for valour.

For more information, call Senior Vice Commander Stanley J. Cizewski, 410-272-5585.

FRIDAY JUNE 4 COUNTRY HOE DOWN

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing the first Friday of the month at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing is held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$8. Cash bar is available, and no dance lessons. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit the Cecil County Relay for Life will be held at Elkton High School, Elkton. Bingo starts at 10 p.m., doors open at 9:15 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for all paper cards. Extra packs cost \$5 each. Light refreshments, door prizes and raffles. To purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332, or Pat Job at 410-658-5628.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY JUNE 5 AND 6 NATIVE AMERICANS HONORING VETERANS

The Perry Point Veteran's Administration Equal Opportunity Native American Program will host Eagles Nest 2004, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fifth annual Native American Festival honoring veterans will be held at the Perry Point VA Medical Center, front gate picnic area, Perry Point. The event is free and open to the public. Activities include traditional Native American drums and dancers, vendors selling artwork, jewelry, tee shirts, buffalo burgers, other foods and more. There will also be a visitation to the Nursing Home Care Units, 10 a.m., June 6.

Guests include Host Drum, Little Horse Singers; Guest Drum, Bum Kneeze; Head Man Dancer, Terry Strong Heart; Head Lady Dancer, Hanna Jacobs; Emcee, Scott Tiny Bear; flute performances; native and contemporary foods and more.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Linda Silver Otter, 410-885-2800.

MONDAY JUNE 7 PILOTLESS AIRPLANE PRESENTATION

The public is invited to a free presentation on the past, present and future of unmanned aircraft, 7 p.m., at the Lockheed-Martin Auditorium, 2323 Eastern Blvd. Joseph Thomas, vice

president of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Division of AAI Corp., will talk about pilotless flight and display one of the planes. Photo ID is required for admission. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

SATURDAY JUNE 19 DEE'S PLACE COMEDY CLUB

Headliner Alex Scott featuring Betina Sellers and Sweets will perform 9 p.m., at Dee's Place Comedy Club at the Holiday Inn, Aberdeen. Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Proceeds will benefit Parks and Recreation.

For more information, call Dee Shaw at 410-937-5715.

SATURDAY JUNE 26 15TH ANNUAL GENE CHANDLER CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 15th Annual Gene Chandler Sickle Cell Anemia Charity Golf Tournament is scheduled for 10 a.m. at Ruggles Golf Course. Rain date is July 10.

Tournament is captain's choice, four players. Donation costs \$60 for annual patrons and \$80 for all other golfers, and includes a \$30 charitable donation to the Sickle Cell Anemia Association.

Golfers are also responsible for their individual Ruggles Golf Package which includes greens fees, a shared motorized golf cart and picnic-style buffet.

Register by May 31. Checks should be made payable to Sickle Cell Anemia and mailed to Fifteenth Annual Gene Chandler Sickle Cell Anemia Charity Golf Tournament, 346 North Philadelphia Blvd., Aberdeen MD 21001.

For more information or for registration, call Eugene C. Chandler at 410-272-9194 or Beverly Bell at 410-273-8935.

Pentagon commends AEC engineer for cost-saving initiative

Story by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

An environmental engineer for the U.S. Army Environmental Center received an Army commendation for her part in a cost avoidance program that helped save the Army \$32.9 million, and that could save an additional \$280 million.

Janet Kim received the commendation from Business Initiative Council Executive Director Donald Tyson March 8.

Kim earned the honor as a member of the BIC team that endorsed a form of environmental cleanup contracting called 'guaranteed fixed price remediation.'

"Guaranteed fixed price remediation contracting holds environmental cleanup contractors to more financial responsibility than traditional federal contracts while still providing the Army cleanup oversight," Kim said.

"It's a way of projecting costs. Cleanup estimates by engineering estimates are included in budget requests. Companies submit their proposals, and then a technical evaluation board looks to see which meets the criteria, approach, cost, and time frame [desired]."

Kim said the initiative encourages competition.

"The element of competition is very important to the process. Companies will always try to look and do their best.

"Army facilities around the country participate with the goal of eventually meeting the requirements surrounding dirt and groundwater.

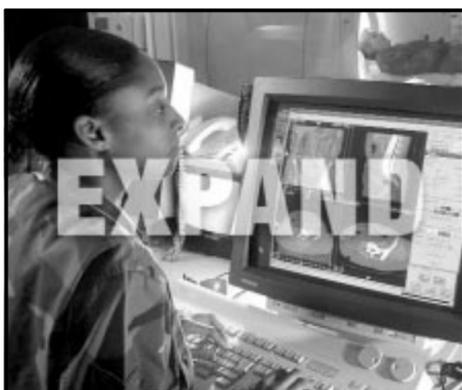
"Most sites will take years to clean up," Kim said. "But one thing inherent in the process is that there are checkpoints along the way to monitor progress and the process."

The Army's BIC is designed to improve efficiency of the service's business operations by identifying and implementing business reform actions and reallocating savings to higher priority efforts.

A resident of Joppa, Kim has been with AEC for 12 years. She holds a bachelor's in mechanical engineering from Washington University.



Photo Courtesy of AEC
Janet Kim



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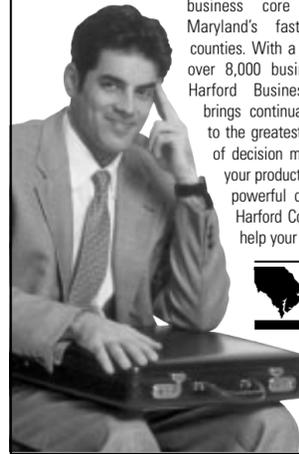
TIP of the WEEK

Get regular tune-ups.
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spark plugs or clogged
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20807

June 7 - 10, 2004 International Test & Evaluation Association (ITEA) Conference "First Annual ITEA Technology Review" Hyatt Hotel & Conference Center, Monterey, CA

A first-of-its-kind event for the T&E community, the Technology Review is a response to needs of the community and recent rapid technology transition initiatives. This all-technology conference features scientists and engineers from laboratories, universities, industry, and T&E ranges. Featured speakers will start each day with challenging topics. Then informative presentations will be delivered daily in a 3-track structure. These innovative briefings include: hypersonic test, spectrum-efficient/telemetry communications, multi-spectral test, micro/nano electronic test, directed energy test, information systems test, M&S, software test, homeland security test, urban operations test, chem-bio defense test, human performance test, materials, power and energy, and range operations. You can meet the program managers from government and industry to discuss your technology contribution. Exhibit space is available. Rates are good at the Hyatt! You must do this one!

For exhibit and registration information, contact: ITEA - Jean Shivar, 703-631-6121 or e-mail: jean@itea.org or see ITEA website: www.itea.org for program brochure and on-line registration.

25043

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23966

Sports & Recreation

USMC wins volleyball championship

Tops Company E 16th, 21-10; 21-17

Story and photos by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The U.S. Marine Corps Detachment topped off an impressive season securing a 21-10; 21-17 win over Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion to take the intramural volleyball post championship May 17 at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center.

Led by coach William Cowger, who departed APG the next day for an assignment at Camp Pendleton, Calif., the Marines swept their opponent with superior serving and net defense.

The game was delayed one hour for Company E 16th, a unit of ordnance officers enrolled in the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Officer Basic Course, to return from Gettysburg.

Company E 16th coach Brian Bridges said the trip might have had an impact.

"We might have a little bus lag but we're bringing our best game," Bridges said.

Cowger added that he had high hopes for his team of players.

"This is the best team we've had since I've been here. Better than the one that won the championship three



Company E 16th defender Brian Bridges, 40, leaps to guard against a volley by USMC's Abraham Sanchez, 23, during the second match.

years ago," Cowger said.

Play certainly began in the Marine's favor as the unit quickly jumped to a 7-3 lead. Guarding the net, Cowger, Jennifer Baker and David Rodriguez allowed few volleys past them. Great serving by Sean Enderle took USMC to an 11-3 lead before Company E regained possession, and with Bridges serving, added two points to make it 11-5.

Cowger served to a 16-5 lead, and showed no signs of letting up as USMC cruised to a 21-10 final score.

Turnabout was fair play in the second match as strong serving by Sam Sherwood and Gboyega Ukubenje got Company E 16th off to a 7-3 lead. Better play at the net and fewer miscues took the team to a 12-5 lead before the Marines called a timeout to regroup.

When play resumed, it was almost all USMC as Cowger, Enderle, Baker and Sanchez stepped up their games, closing in on the lead 13-10.

Down, 14-11, USMC gained five more on back-to-back possessions with Alconcer and Jonathan Motlagh serving up the points.

Alvah Childs, James

Johnson and David Rodriguez, rounded out the USMC comeback, helping the team to a 21-17 win.

"We had a great season," Bridges said after the two teams congratulated each other. "This was a very good team," he added. "It didn't take us long to gel after we discovered each others' abilities. We had a great year, but we would have loved to beat the Marines."

Cowger said the key to the team's win was staying together.

"We only lost one member the whole season," he said.

Although he said the "whole team was valuable," he named Baker the player of the season.

"She played fearless every game," Cowger said.

Baker said winning it all was the team's focus from day one.

"The key was, we worked together from the beginning," she said. "Coach wanted this very much and we wanted to win it for him."

Company E 16th players included coach Brian Bridges, Jennifer Walters, Emanuel Valez, Charles Schwartz, Kevin Hoffman, Sam Sherwood, David Hampton and Gboyega Ukubenje.



Commander's Cup standings



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Members of the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment team pose with their trophies after winning the intramural volleyball post championship at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center May 17. From left, kneeling, Abraham Sanchez and James Johnson. Standing, from left, Paul Alconcer, David Rodriguez, Alvah Childs, APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, coach William Cowger, Jonathan Motlagh, Sean Enderle and Jennifer Baker.

The Commander's Cup is awarded each December to the unit that scores the most points in intramural sports during the year. Units accumulate points by participating 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.

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

Company B 16th	172
USMC	166
Company C 16th	163
MRICD	101
NCOA	76
ATC	69
203rd MI	52
Company A 16th	50
Company E 16th	50
HHC 16th	49
Company B 143rd	46
HHC 61st	43
Company C 143rd	28
USAF	26
CHPPM	21
HHC 143rd	21
Company A 143rd	0



USMC's Alvah Childs, 8, sends one over the net toward Company E 16th's Jennifer Walters and Charles Schwartz.

April 3 Wrestling Tournament Results

Women
Winner, Rachel Carmichael, USMC
Runner-up, Jennifer Huston, Company A 16th

Men
130-pound division
Winner, Scott Bumgardner, USMC
Runner-up, Paul Yungandreas, civilian

145-pound division
Winner, Jonathan Nolan, Company A 16th
Runner-up, Nicholas Russell, Company A 143rd

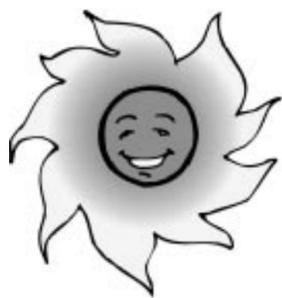
159-pound division
Winner, Michael Murray, USMC
Runner-up, Matthew Morton, Company A 143rd

170-pound division
Winner, Kevin Yungandreas, NCOA
Runner-up, Jesse Gurrero, USMC

180-pound division
Winner, Thomas Thomas, USMC
Runner-up, Victor Cervantes, USMC

190-pound division
Winner, Gregory Kinner, Company B 16th
Runner-up, Darren Nunez, USMC

200-pound division
Winner, Albert Garcia, Company B 16th



Aberdeen Youth Services Summer Program

Youth Services has many activities in its summer program to keep youths from getting bored after the school season ends. Children of active duty, DoD civilian and contractor employees are eligible for Children and Youth Services membership.

Full Day Summer Camp for middle school students

The Full Day Summer Camp will be held 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is available to youths in grades six through eight.

Summer Camp Category I and II costs \$50 per week; Category III and IV costs \$60 per week; and Category V and VI costs \$70 per week. Cost includes food; sports, fitness and health; arts, recreation and leisure; mentoring education and support services; and life skills, citizenship and leadership; field trips each week; and weather permitting, swimming every Tuesday and Thursday morning at the Olympic Pool

The Social Leisure Program

Alternative to full day camp for middle school students or for par-

ents of high school students, the Social Leisure Program gives a positive choice of activities without committing an entire week.

The program will be held 1 to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except on field trip days).

Social Leisure's drop-in program will not be available when field trips have been scheduled in the afternoons.

Middle and high school youth not participating in the full day camp, unless otherwise indicated, may participate on the field trips.

The trips have limited availability and registration deadlines. Social Leisure Field trip spaces will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Planned field trips

Franklin Institute of Science, June 23; bus departs Center 8 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m.; a bag lunch and snack will be provided. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$15.50. The deadline for registration is June 16.

Regal Cinemas, June 25 and Aug. 13; bus departs Center TBD and returns 5 p.m.; movie to be announced. Bring money for snacks. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$11.25. The deadline for registration is June 16.

National Museum of Health and Medicine/Washington DC Mall Area, June 30; bus departs Center 8 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m.; a bag lunch and snack will be provided. Donations welcome. Bring a camera and money for shopping. Cost

of the social leisure fee is \$5. The deadline for registration is June 23.

Bowling will be held on July 2, register by June 23; July 12, register by July 7; July 30, register by July 21; Aug. 9, register by Aug. 4; and Aug. 20, register by Aug. 11.

Bus departs Center at 12:40 p.m. and returns 3:30 p.m. Bring socks and money for snacks. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$5.

Swimming (not a Social Leisure Trip, full day campers only), 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., every Tuesday and Thursday. Bring a towel, sunscreen and toiletries. Bathing suits must adhere to dress code.

American Visionary Art Museum/Inner Harbor, July 7; bus departs Center 8:45 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m.; a bag lunch and snack will be provided. Bring money for the gift shop and shopping. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$8. The deadline for registration is June 30.

Chesapeake Challenge (NOT a Social Leisure Trip, full day campers only), 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., June 28, July 9 and 26, and Aug. 6. Bring money for snacks.

Farnsworth House/Gettysburg, July 14; bus departs Center 7:45 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m. A bag lunch and snacks will be provided. Bring a camera and money for the gift shop. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$15. The deadline for registration is July 7.

Christiana Mall, July 16; bus departs Center 9 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m. A bag lunch and snack



will be provided. Bring money for shopping and food. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$5. The deadline for registration is July 7.

Hershey Park, July 21; bus departs Center 7:15 a.m. and returns 8 p.m. A meal voucher and snacks will be provided. Bring money for souvenirs and wear sunscreen. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$35.50. The deadline for registration is July 14.

Abingdon Putt-Putt Fun Center, July 23; bus departs Center 8:30 a.m. and returns 1:30 p.m. One slice of pizza and soda will be provided for lunch. Bring money for extra tokens and snacks. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$15. The deadline for registration is July 14.

National Constitution Center, July 28; bus will depart Center 8:30 am and returns 5 p.m. A bag lunch and snack will be provided. Bring money for the gift shop. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$9. The deadline for registration is July 21.

Arundel Mills Mall, Aug. 4; bus

departs Center 8:45 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m. A bag lunch and snack will be provided. Bring money for shopping and food. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$5. The deadline for registration is July 28.

Frederick Douglas National Historic Site and National Zoo, Aug. 11; bus departs Center 9:30 a.m. and returns 6 p.m.; A bag lunch and snack will be provided. Bring a camera and money for souvenirs. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$5. The deadline for registration is Aug. 4.

Eastern State Penitentiary, Aug. 18; bus departs 7:45 a.m. and returns 5:30 p.m. A bag lunch and snacks provided. Bring a camera and money for the gift shop. Youths must sign a waiver and wear sneakers. Cost of the social leisure fee is \$12. The deadline for registration is Aug. 11.

Youths must be an active member of Child and Youth Services to participate; annual registration costs \$15 per child or \$35 per family. The deadline for registration for Summer Camp Week One June 21 is June 16.

An Open House for the Aberdeen Youth Summer Program will be held 8 a.m., June 19. Meet the staff, check out the summer camp schedule, ask the nutritionist about the USDA program and more.

For more information or for questions regarding eligibility, call CYS, 410-278-4995.

The APG Forum

These wives are service members ... without uniforms

LuAnne Fantasia
U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll Public Affairs

I can't speak for the husbands out there. They'll have to write their own story. But I will say for military wives everywhere - you are Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines, too. You just don't get the uniforms or the promotions.

Ahh, these wives of our military - drawn to the pomp and circumstance by the thrill of serving their country through their men, right?

Wrong. They each have their own war story, but chances are their military lives began with promises of exotic travel, or maybe even bribes.

He said, "So, do you want to go to Germany with me and pick up a cuckoo clock?"

She said, "I do ... and I'm packed."

So begins her life as an atta-girl.

An atta-girl is the woman who follows her big lug around the globe for at least 18 of his 20-plus years in uniform; unaccompanied tours and time at sea considered.

She's memorized her husband's social security number as soon as she learned she couldn't cash a check in the exchange, or have a baby in the military hospital without it.

The woman has changed jobs so many times that asking her to keep her resume to the preferred two pages is about like asking her which of her kids she wants to keep.

Oh yeah, the kids, the little darlings ... mini family members. They're born everywhere between Spokane and Savannah, except the twins, who always seem to debut in a foreign country when there's no extended family to pull sleepless night shifts. Maybe there's a west coast baby or an accidental east coast baby. Often the kid is on solid food before Dad lays eyes on it for the first time, but that's another story.

The atta-girl is not just another shop-til-you-drop woman, although she can ask "how much?" in a couple of languages.

She is strong and flexible.

She has to be to survive that last minute change to orders, sending her and her family to Walla Walla, Wash., when the household goods await them in Germany, and the family van is on a barge somewhere in between.

An atta-girl can spot the box with the wall hangings in it while it's still on the Mayflower moving van, tear it open with her teeth if she has to, and get the home-sweet-home needlepoint up on the wall before little east coast baby can wail, "Mommie, where's the bathroom in this house!?"

She is forever prepared. She learned long ago to have some culinary creation ready to pop into the oven at a moment's notice for those battalion potlucks or an Aloha beach party.

She can buy a low-cost, low-grade rump roast at the commissary, tenderize and pulverize it into something edible, and entertain guests that night in her new government quarters.

She is a Soldier, Sailor,

Airman or Marine without the uniform. Nothing can stop her and she doesn't ask for much. She sometimes fails, but usually succeeds.

She knows the only constant is change. She gets lonely, but makes friends easily. She lives and learns, and all that is important to her is having her teen-agers and husband on the same continent. If they're all speaking to each other, that's a perk.

They are atta-girls. Together they form neighborhoods, communities and long lines at the commissary. They work and volunteer for charities, and together they laugh, cry and sometimes swear.

All this and a cuckoo clock, too. Who can ask for anything more?

(Editor's notes: Reprinted with permission from the Redstone Rocket.

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Month, Army Community Service will hold a cake-cutting ceremony 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 27, at the PX.

Everyone is invited.)

An opportunity on the road of life



Lt. Col. Carol VanSchenkoff
RDECOM

A family is out for a drive on a Sunday afternoon. It is pleasant day and they are driving at a leisurely pace when suddenly from the back of the car comes a shout, "daddy, daddy, stop the car! Stop the car!"

Dad hits the brakes sure that one of the children must have fallen out or that some other catastrophe has taken place.

One of them continues, "There's a kitten on the side of the road."

Somewhat recovered, dad continues down the road and says, "So there's a kitten beside the road, so what?"

"But daddy, if you don't pick it up, it will die," the child said.

"Well then it will have to die. We don't have room for another animal. The house is already a zoo," dad said.

"Gee, we never thought our dad would be so mean and cruel as to let a poor little kitten die," the child said.

At this point, mom chimes in, and says, "Dear, why don't

you turn around and just check on it."

Now completely out numbered, dad complies, turns the car around and pulls off at the spot where the kitten is lying.

"You kids stay in the car. I'll check on it," dad said.

Dad goes out to pick up the kitten that is all skin and bones, sore eyed and flea bitten, but when he reaches down to pick it up, the kitten bristles, and, mustering its last bit of strength, bares teeth and claws.

He brings it over to the car and says, "Don't touch it. It probably has leprosy."

When they get back home, the children give the kitten several baths and about a gallon of milk, and you know the question that is coming next.

"Dad, dad, can it stay in the house - just for one night - please," asks a child.

"Sure, take my bedroom. The whole house is already a zoo," dad said.

Several weeks pass, and one day, dad walks into the living room and feels something brush up against his leg. There is the kitten. Checking to make sure no one is looking, Dad reaches down to stroke the cat. Now it doesn't bare its claws and hiss. It arches its back to receive the father's caress.

God reaches down his hand to us - a hand covered with scars and scratches from where we have bitten and clawed Him.

Allow yourself to be caressed by this loving Father and allow him to enter your life.

The Army Wives Seal

The eagle at the top of the circle represents the Army Wife, who in protecting her nest, also protects the flag and the future it represents. Alert and poised, she is ready to defend either when the need arises.

As the ultimate goal of her husband's profession is peace, so is it hers. The olive branch held by the eagle represents this peace; her hope for an end

to wars for her husband and her children.

The lyre, symbol of harmony, gentility and romance, surrounds the four phases of her life that she holds dear:

The cradle represents her children, her Mother - her own Motherhood. The sheaf of wheat represents the staples and stability she provides for her family - her duty.

The grapes represent the

social life, the wine, fun, sense of humor - her lighter side.

The open book represents her individuality and personal self-fulfillment thru knowledge and wisdom. The person she is and becomes - her personal self.

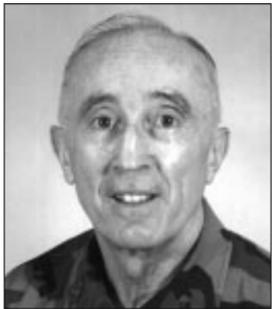
The double circle enclosing all is her wedding band, symbol of eternity and never ending love. This circle is broken only by the eagle, here a sym-



bol of her duty to country. For the Army Wife, the break in the circle represents the many separations and the possible ultimate sacrifice.

Ida True Terry, 1976

Remembrances for Memorial Day



Chaplain Joseph L. DiGregorio
USAGAPG

In his Gettysburg address, President Lincoln acknowledged the sacrifice of the Soldiers buried there when he said, "But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have con-

secrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract".

I think this phrase can very well be applied to all our brothers and sisters 'in arms' who have served in combat zones throughout the world. For any person dedicated to the values our nation holds dear and willing to sacrifice his or her life for those values are what make America the strong country that it is.

The blood of American Soldiers has and continues to tint the sands of Iraq, Afghanistan as well as other nations of the Middle East. The blood of Americans is mingled with the soil of France, Italy, Germany and Japan.

While stationed in Germany I had the humbling experience to be part of the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion. I remem-

ber vividly old veterans, many with canes standing at the edge of the English Channel at Omaha and Utah beaches, at Point du Hoc and at Gold, Sword and Juno beaches, no doubt remembering what it was like 50 years ago when they and their fellow Soldiers stormed those beaches and the thousands whose lives ended there.

I remember doing services at Omaha Beach and looking out over the 9,830 American graves and thinking, here in this hallowed ground far from the shores of home are American Soldiers. Likewise, the hallowed soil of Verdun, Korea, Vietnam and every other land where Americans have fought and died. Americans have fought and died in many places and always to give others the freedoms that we hold so dear.

America has never fought a war to gain land or put another people under oppression, but always to give freedom to those who wish it.

On Oct. 17, 2003 attending a summit conference on the Iraqi war, Secretary of State Colin Powell was asked if it was the intention of the United States to annex some of Iraq's land to use for its own purpose as it had done so often in past wars.

Secretary Powell was not put off by president Jacques Chirac's statement.

"No sir", he said, "all America has ever asked of any country that it sent its sons and daughters to defend and die for is a little ground to bury its dead."

The entire room fell into silence and utter embarrassment.

America has never turned

its back on any nation that asked its help in fighting tyranny.

America is a nation that remembers well its own struggle for freedom. Americans have only to look at the graves in Arlington, Omaha Beach and the hundreds of national cemeteries across Europe and America to be reminded of how costly is the price of freedom.

In a letter to Mrs. Bixby, dated Nov. 21, 1864, President Lincoln wrote, "I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I

cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

On Memorial Day, Americans will enjoy a day of rest from work. There will be picnics and parades. Remember that on this Memorial Day our Soldiers will be on the field of battle. Remember on this Memorial Day the cost of freedom. God bless us and God bless America.

Chaplain brings faith to his second war

Story by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

When Maj. Joseph DiGregorio, catholic priest for the Aberdeen Proving Ground chaplaincy, arrived here from Alaska in November 2001, he didn't want to be here at all.

DiGregorio was preparing to leave his previous assignment when on the morning of Sept. 11, at 5 a.m. in Alaska, which was 9 a.m. on the east coast, he stood on a gym floor and watched events unfold in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania.

Immediately, DiGregorio volunteered to go with the troops he knew would be deployed in response. He volunteered his services through the Worldwide Individual Augmentation System operated by the U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

By Sept. 2002, with less than a year on the ground at APG, he was headed to Saudi Arabia.

"Under WIAS, you and

your skills can be utilized when your specialty is needed even if your unit is not," DiGregorio said.

DiGregorio was no stranger to that part of the world. He had served in Saudi Arabia and Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division during the Gulf War.

First he was assigned to Eskan Village in Saudi Arabia. The village was a compound the U.S. Air Force had outgrown and the Army took over with the mission of air defense. While in Eskan, he served at the American and British embassies, offering mass to hundreds of soldiers, third country nationals, and hospital patients, averaging 200 people per day for mass and confession.

"We usually held services on Friday in the embassies," DiGregorio said. "We were always packed."

One interesting thing about his second Southwest Asia tour is that he had eight Muslim soldiers under him, he

said.

"Because they wanted to go to Mecca, I arranged for classes, special garments, shoes and a tour guide to guarantee their security," DiGregorio said.

"They had to shave their heads and take classes but they were so happy to go, and I was happy to help them make that trip."

He said the happiest time for chaplains is working with Soldiers.

"My happiest time was during the Gulf War. You were a Soldier 24 hours a day. Soldiers look for chaplains to move them. When someone is killed they have so many whys. They want answers because they need to put things into perspective," DiGregorio said.

"That's the best time to be a chaplain and the best part about being a chaplain."

"I would go back in a heartbeat."



Photo courtesy of MAJ JOSEPH DIGREGORIO
In this photograph published in the March 11, 1991 issue of Life magazine, Father (Maj.) Joseph DiGregorio holds mass for 101st Airborne Division Soldiers in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Activities

MWR has exciting and entertaining events planned for APG. Upcoming concerts include the Miller Lite Army Concert Tour pre-

senting Montgomery Gentry, and Blue County on July 17. Shirley Caesar returns to APG for another concert July 18.

To learn more, visit the MWR Web site, <http://www.apgmwr.com>.

Methods of registration

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

Dominoes

This Tuesday night class, June 1 through 22, covers the fundamentals of dominoes at the AA Recreation Center, 6 to 8 p.m. The overall strategies for winning will be covered.

Register by May 27. Cost is \$10.

Pinochle

Classes will be held 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 1 through 22 at the AA Recreation Center. The class teaches the basic fundamentals of Pinochle; the point system used in bidding and the taking of tricks will be covered in the first class along with the objectives and strategies of the game.

Register by May 27. Cost is \$10.

Fencing

Beginner classes will be taught 7 to 8 p.m., June 3 through 24, at the AA Recreation Center.

Beginner fencing teaches the basic maneuvers employed on offense and defense, how to initiate or avoid an attack by an opponent and how to improve skills and timing.

Intermediate fencing runs 8 to 9 p.m., June 3 to 24, at the AA Recreation Center. Intermediate fencing will fine tune movement and execution for match conditions. Practice and develop strategies and techniques, which will help make fencer a successful tournament contender.

Register by May 27. Cost is \$35.

All equipment will be provided.

Jujitsu

This ancient art of hand combat will be taught 6 to 7 p.m., June 3 to 24, at the Russell Gymnasium.

Instructional classes designed to enable the student to become proficient in the art of self-defense. The course will consist of learning takedowns, grappling, and gripping and ground floor fighting to subdue an opponent. The instructor will give an overview and syllabus of the requirements for obtaining belts as well as the recommended training regi-

ment for progression.

Students will be responsible for obtaining any individualized equipment needed for the program.

Register by May 27. Cost is \$35.

Tennis lessons

A tennis class will run June 5 through 26 at the AA Recreation Center Tennis Courts. Beginners will start 9 to 11 a.m. and learn the basic strokes such as the forehand, correct form, scoring, rules, and court etiquette.

Intermediate players will be held 11 a.m. to noon, and the class will emphasize ball control, shot placement, game strategy, shot variety and pace under pressure.

Register by May 28. Cost is \$25.

Win Montgomery Gentry concert tickets

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

To be eligible, entrant must live or work at APG, or be an immediate family member of someone that lives or works at APG. Community Recreation Division employees or family members are not eligible to participate.

Using 100 words or less, essay must answer the question "Why do I deserve to meet Montgomery Gentry?"

Entrant's name should not be on the essay. Instead, a cover letter needs to include name, telephone number, e-mail address, APG organization address, unit or organization, and entrant's rank or grade.

Send essays by mail to MWR Marketing, 3330 Raritan Ave., APG, MD 21005, fax to 410-278-9537, e-mail to mwr.marketing@usag.apg.army.mil, or drop off the essays at APG Athletic Center, Hoyle Gym, EA or AA Recreation Centers. Essay must be received by July 2.

Grand prize winner will be announced in the APG News on July 15.

Must present government ID card when claiming prize.

For more information, call 410-278-4497.

Match Play Golf Tournament

Play some good old match play golf on June 7 at Ruggles Golf Course. Tee times are to be determined by the number of entries. Cost is \$20 plus applicable daily fees.

This tournament is open to all players, but they must have

a USGA handicap. Ninety percent of handicaps are used for competition. All play will be from the white tees.

There is a strict three-week match window schedule for all matches to be completed. One hundred percent of all prize money will be awarded.

Register by May 31.

Refinishing Floors at APG Athletic Center

All Athletic Center patrons please note that the basketball and all racquetball court floors will be sanded and refinished starting on June 1. MWR regrets any inconvenience that this may cause. All other areas of the center will remain open for daily use.

Women's Strength Training 101

This beginner level class held 6 to 7 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, June 1 to 24, in the APG Athletic Center will teach strength training techniques including circuit machines, free weights and body weight exercises. The class will also focus on flexibility to design a strength program.

Register by May 27. Cost is \$45.

Social Hour at Top of the Bay

Immediately following the Army Birthday Ceremony on June 11, there will be a "social" hour, 4 to 8 p.m. in the Gunpowder Lounge at Top of the Bay. A cash bar and free munchies will be open to everyone. This event is sponsored by Bank One, <http://www.bankone.com/>, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, <http://www.apgfcu.com/>.

For more information, call 410-278-3062.

Introduction to kayaking

Learn how to become proficient in the safe operation of a kayak every Friday, June 11 to 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the AA Boat Docks. The course will consist of hands-on training in the water. Participants should wear comfortable attire, tennis shoes, or water shoes, shorts and a T-shirt. All equipment will be provided. Register by June 8. Cost is \$75.

Introduction to canoeing This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of canoeing 1 to 2 p.m., June 12 to 26, at the AA Boat Docks.

Basic stroking techniques for maneuvering in all types of water and weather conditions will be taught. Students

will learn the various types of equipment and boating safety. The information provided will help them to select the equipment and canoe best suited for their individual needs. Comfortable attire, tennis shoes or water shoes, hat and sunscreen are recommended. All equipment will be provided. Register by June 8. Cost is \$25.

Yoga Instructor Certification (Phase 2)

Certification will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 12, in the AA Fitness Center.

Learn the advanced pranayama, and variations of core asanas, creating a power flow vinyasa, the benefits of inverted positions and partner yoga, as well as advanced meditation techniques.

Register by May 28. Cost is \$99. Study guides are not included.

Participants must have completed Yoga Instructor Certification (Phase 1) in order to register.

Visit Cape May

Enjoy the famous Victorian seaside in Cape May, N.J., June 27.

Trip includes seeing the famous Twingings Tea Room, for a Victorian lunch. After lunch tour Cape May's only Victorian house museum, the Physik Estate. A trolley ride follows with a viewing of the "Queen of Seaside Resorts," plus time for shopping and sightseeing.

Bus will depart from Vitali's Restaurant in Edgewood at 7:45 a.m. and return at 10 p.m.

Cost is \$56. Register by May 27.

Bowling specials

Customer Appreciation Night will be held on 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., June 3. Games and shoes are \$1.

There will be a Solider special on 6 p.m. to closing, June 11. Games are \$1.50 each and shoes are \$1.

Chesapeake Challenge is open

The Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park is open for weekends only, Friday, 5 to 10 p.m., Saturday, 1 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 8 p.m.

Amusements include Go-Kart rides, miniature golf, batting cages and the arcade room. Parties, special events and group packages are also available.

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

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

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

Throughout our nation's history, the ordeal of the American Soldier in battle has been vividly portrayed in works of fiction.

The Vietnam War can be relived through the eyes of its participants in Winston Groom's **Better Times Than These**, and in **Fields of Fire** by James Webb.

"They were three young men from different worlds plunged into a white-hot, murderous realm of jungle warfare as it was fought by one Marine platoon in the An Hoa Basin, 1969. They had no way of knowing what awaited them. Nothing could have prepared them for the madness to come. And in the heat and horror of battle they took on new identities, took on each other, and were each reborn in fields of fire..."

The Civil War produced the classic **The Red Badge of Courage** by Stephen Crane.

The torment of one American Soldier in World War I can be found in **Flanders** by Patricia Anthony.

The Thin Red Line by James Joyce and **A Walk in the Sun** by Harry Brown introduces readers to the lives of ordinary Soldiers in World War II.

The Best Poems of the English Language: from Chaucer through Frost selected by Harold Bloom

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

Organization day at APG

The U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground Organization Day Picnic will be held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 24, at the MD Boulevard Picnic Area. There will be music, food, games and children's activities. Tickets will be sold May 10 through June 24. Adult tickets cost \$15, children 6 to 12 years of age cost \$6 and children under 6 are free. Tickets for adults will be \$20 the day of the event.

For more information, contact MWR Registration at 410-278-44907.

SCHOOL LIAISON/ YOUTH EDUCATION

CYS offers teen driver education

Registration for Driver education is underway for youths 15 years of age and older. Rules Driving School, Inc., will conduct training in building 2752, Room 210

Weekday sessions will be conducted 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., June 1 through 11 and 14 through 25; June 28 through 9 July; July 12 through 23; July 26 through Aug. 6; Aug. 9 through 20; and Aug. 23 through Sept. 3.

Saturday sessions will be conducted 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.: June 5, 12, 19, 26; July 10 and 17; July 31, Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Sept. 11.

To register, call Christina Keithley, CYS Outreach Services Central Registration, 410-278-7571. Cost is \$285 per student plus registration/membership fee.

Summer chess outreach

A chess class will be held for APG parents with children in grades 3 through 12 who want to learn to play chess or already know how. Chess boards and pieces plus instructional booklets are available. The summer chess outreach program will run June 21 through Aug. 20.

Any adults interested in serving as volunteer coordinators should contact Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

College resource information

Students interested in a college guide resource and information about how to pay for college should visit www.schoolguides.com.

Brochures available at the School Liaison/ Youth Education Services office, building 2752, Room 200 include "How Do I Pay For College? A Guide To Financial Aid," "You Can Guide To Financing Your Education" and "College 411-Student Guide To Higher Education and Financial Aid in Maryland." Copies are limited.

SWIMMING/POOL INFO

Swimming Lessons

Swim lessons run July 12 through 23 for youths and Aug. 2 to 13 for adults at the Shore and Bayside Pools. Each class will consist of 10 lessons conducted Monday through Friday. Lessons include 45 minutes of instruction, 10 minutes of practice time and 5 minutes to clear the pool. Each class is limited to the first 20 signups.

Class schedules are as follows:

July 12 through 23

Teens, ages 13 through 18, 8 to 9 a.m.

Youth, ages 6 through 12, 9 to 10 a.m.

Children, ages 3 through 5, 10 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 2 through 13

Adults, age 19 and older, 7 to 8 p.m.

Cost is \$35 per person with a 10 percent discount off for each additional family member.

Registration for active duty military ends May 31 and begins June 1 for other eligible personnel. Register at Outdoor Recreation or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center. For more information, contact Outdoor Recreation, 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

APG pool openings

Bayside, building 3325, and Olympic pools, building E-4655, will open May 29 through 31 for the weekend only and on June 5 and 6. Starting June 12 they will be open daily. Hours of operation will be 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Sunday. The Shore Pool, building 2031, will open 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., June 19, Tuesday through Sunday.

Fees

Daily: \$3 per person,

Individual Monthly Fee: active duty E1 - E4, \$12.50; all others, \$25

Family Monthly: active duty E1 - E4, \$25; all others, \$35, Individual Season: active duty E1 - E4, \$25; all others, \$50 Family Season: active duty E1 - E4, \$50; all others, \$80

Passes are available for purchase at Outdoor Recreation, building 2407 or Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210. For more information, call Equipment Resource Center at 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Equipment Resource Center offers holiday special

The Equipment Resource Center will offer a Memorial Day holiday special - rent any piece of equipment on May 29 and return it no later than noon June 1 and pay only a one-day rental fee.

The Equipment Resource Center is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. The center is closed on Sundays and holidays.

For more equipment and fee information, call Outdoor Recreation, building 2407 at 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Lucky Bucket 2 underway

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Ruggles Golf Course is hosting the Lucky Bucket 2 Sweepstakes, a spring golf driving range promotion targeting golfers of all ages and skill levels.

Through June 30, nine red "lucky" balls will be dropped in the range ball machine each week.

Instant prizes are awarded on the spot to those who find a red ball in their bucket.

Prizes include a Vivitar digital camera; Wilson Staff true velocity golf balls, a Dirt Devil hand vacuum, Samsonite "Legacy Sport" 2-piece luggage set, and more.

In addition, with every purchase of a bucket of balls at the driving range, patrons will receive an entry form for the grand prize, an all-expense paid golf vacation package for two at a championship golf resort.

The golf vacation packages will be drawn randomly at the CFSC headquarters on or about July 31.

Sharpen your golf skills and enter to win great prizes.

For more information, contact Ruggles Golf Course at 410-278-4794 or visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Ordnance

From front page

Ordnance Soldiers as they prepare to carry on the heritage of a Corps of “Warriors First, Technicians Second to None!”

Lt. Gen. Richard Hack, Deputy Commanding General and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, served as Reviewing Officer and recalled his days as a student at the Ordnance Center.

“When I was a student here, the world was a very different place,” he said. “In 1972, while I was in my Ordnance Officer Basic Course, the Paris Peace Talks brought about a tentative cease-fire in Vietnam. And, in New York City, builders were just completing construction of the first World Trade Center tower.

“... When I returned here for my Advanced Course, the headlines were about the Iranian hostage crisis and the Soviets invading Afghanistan,” Hack continued.

“It’s a very different world and a different Armed Force that we must field today. In the Army alone,” he explained, “we have 320,000 soldiers deployed in 120 countries around the world. In Iraq, our vehicle convoys are attacked with rocket propelled grenades, land mines, and improvised explosive devices. Our camps and logistics support areas are regularly being attacked with artillery rockets and mortars.”

Hack noted that the Ordnance Corps anniversary theme was actually much more than simply a theme. “It is an ethos... a way of life they must adopt. Today’s Ordnance Soldiers, Marines and Airmen must train to be disciplined, physically and mentally tough, and proficient in warrior tasks and drills. Today’s world demands that they be honed with warfighting skills, that they be flexible and adaptable-capable of handling any combat situation.”

The general went on to note that throughout our nation’s history, Ordnance Soldiers and units have fought bravely and with great skill. He explained that 15 Ordnance Soldiers have earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. He highlighted several Ordnance units who laid down their wrenches and tools and picked up arms to defend supply convoys and to protect fellow soldiers.

“Today,” he said, “the Ordnance Corps supports our Army as it operates in Afghanistan and Iraq, fighting the global war on terrorism. A dedicated team of Active and Reserve soldiers, government civilians, and contractors carries on the heritage embodied by our first Ordnance patriots who moved cannons across the snow to support Washington’s army. From the earliest days of our nation, Ordnance personnel have lived our motto by providing “Service to the Line, On the Line, On Time.

“Since September 11, 2001, 36 Ordnance Soldiers have paid the ultimate price while defending their country.”

He acknowledged the 11 individuals who had been inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame earlier in the week. “[They] join the distinguished list of Ordnance heroes like Wadsworth, Knox, Gatling, von Braun, Browning, Goddard, and Christie who made significant contributions to our Corps, our Army and our Nation.

“To the soldiers, Marines and Airmen who stand on the parade field before us... young men and women who have volunteered to serve our Nation in a time of great need—you represent our present and our future. Great heroes have gone before you, but it is up to you to advance the ideals, the traditions, and the warrior ethos of today’s Ordnance Corps.

“I salute each of you... I am proud to serve with you and to be part of the greatest Army, in the greatest military, in the greatest nation on earth.”

Honored on Thursday evening at the Ordnance Museum were (all are retired ranks) Brig. Gen. Benedict Crowell, Lt. Gen. Malcolm R. O’Neill, Maj. Gen. Norman E. Williams, Brig. Gen. James W. Boddie Jr., Col. Samuel L. Chappell, Col. Ronald W. Mordecai, CW5 Willard W. Batién, CW5 Michael D’Antonio, CW5 Troy A. Daugherty, Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua C. Hooper, and Olga V. Suppes. Joining the Chief of Ordnance in honoring these individuals were retirees Gen. John G. Coburn, Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, CW5 Thomas G. Grice, Honorary Warrant Officer of the Regiment, and Command Sgt. Maj. George E. Cutbirth, Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment.

Anniversary events got under way Wednesday with the Annual Ordnance Corps Association Golf Tournament at Ruggles Golf Course.

Celebrations continued on Friday evening as Lt. Gen. Claude V. (Chris) Christianson, the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (G4) addressed those gathered for the Ordnance Anniversary Ball at the Top of the Bay. On Saturday evening, Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston addressed the Ordnance Corps NCO Ball at Top of the Bay.

Also, during the week, the senior leadership of the Ordnance Corps gathered to discuss the future of the Corps during the Ordnance Senior Officer Advisory Meeting, the Ordnance Senior Warrant Officer Advisory Meeting, and the Ordnance Senior Enlisted Advisory Conference.

Safety

Mowing the lawn the 'safety way'

National Safety Council

Most homeowners cut small plots of grass with walk-behind power lawnmowers, while many suburban and country residents with large lawns rely on riding mowers, lawn tractors and garden tractors.

No matter which methods of lawn maintenance homeowners use, they should always keep in mind the possible safety risks and hazards.

Most fatal accidents are caused by riding mowers tipping over, with the victim falling under or run over by the mower (accidents usually involve young children), or the victim is thrown from or falls off the riding mower. The risk of an accident with a ride-on mower is almost twice the chance of a mishap with a walk-behind rotary mower.

Many new riding mowers and tractors have new safety features not found on older models. Under new provisions of a voluntary safety standard, which took effect for units made after July 1987, new safety features have been incorporated into new equipment.

Lawn mower safety tips

Always wear non-slip shoes instead of tennis shoes or sandals when cutting grass. Steel-toe safety footwear offers the most protection against the blade. Long pants help protect your legs from objects that may be thrown from under the mower. Use ear plugs to prevent hearing loss caused by

exposure to the high noise levels.

- * Wear protective boots, goggles, gloves and long pants. Do not operate a lawnmower while barefoot.

- * Never leave a mower running unattended. Always turn off the blades, set the parking brake and stop the engine. If the mower has an electric start, the key should never be left in the ignition.

- * Always start the mower outdoors. Never operate a mower where carbon monoxide can collect, such as in a closed garage, storage shed or basement.

- * Clean up the yard. Be sure the lawn is free of tree limbs, rocks, wires and other debris, which can get caught up in the blades.

- * The main source of danger is the blade. To perform its task efficiently, the blade must be sharp and travel at a high speed. It can cause serious injury if a hand or foot is allowed to get under the mower while the engine is running. Never attempt to unclog grass and debris or work on a lawnmower while the engine is running. Even with the motor turned off the blade remains engaged. Always use a stick or broom handle to remove any obstruction

- * Disconnect the sparkplug wire. Any time it is necessary to reach under the mower, disconnect the spark plug wire to insure that the engine cannot start. It takes a little extra time, but not as long as it does to

recover from a serious injury.

- * Check for frayed or cut wiring. If using an electric lawnmower, wires can easily get cut by the blade. Keep an eye on the wiring while moving the mower and check for frayed or cut wiring every time you mow.

- * Do not remove safety devices or guards on switches.

- * Never cut grass when it is wet or when the ground is damp. Reduced traction could cause sliding.

- * Never allow a child to operate the mower at any time or be in the area to be mowed.

- * Keep your mower in good working order with sharp blades.

- * Do not drink before or while using the lawnmower.

- * Never carry passengers.

- * Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Bring the machine to a full stop before shifting to reverse. Always look behind before and while operating in reverse.

- * Be aware of the discharge direction and do not point it at anyone.

- * Slow down before turning.

- * Stop the engine before removing the grass catcher or unclogging the chute. Empty grass catcher bags when they are only partially full. Do not use a grass catcher on steep slopes or rough terrains.

- * Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.

- * Watch for traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.

Mowing on steep hills or slopes

Slopes are a major factor related to tipover and loss of control accidents, which can result in severe injury or death. All slopes require extra caution. If unable to back up the slope or unsure about it, do not mow it.

- * Mow up and down slopes, not across.

- * Watch for holes, ruts or bumps. Uneven terrain could cause the mower to overturn. Tall grass can hide obstacles. Use slow speed. Shift into a lower gear before going on a slope. Choose a low enough gear so that you will not have to stop or shift while on the slope.

- * Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.

- * Keep all movement on slopes slow and gradual. Avoid sudden changes in speed and direction.

- * Avoid starting or stopping on a slope. If tires lose traction, disengage the blades, and proceed slowly straight down the slope.

- * Do not turn on slopes unless unavoidable; then, with the blades disengaged, turn slowly and gradually downhill.

- * Do not mow near dropoffs, ditches, or embankments. A wheel over the edge or an edge caving in could cause sudden overturn.

- * Do not try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot

on the ground.

Keep children safe while mowing

- * Never assume that children will remain where last seen.

- * Keep small children out of the mowing area, preferably indoors under the watchful care of an adult other than the operator.

- * Be alert and turn the mower off if children enter the area.

- * Before and when operating in reverse, look behind and down for small children.

- * Never hold children on the lap when mowing. They may fall off and be seriously injured or interfere with safe mower operation.

- * Never allow children to operate the mower.

- * Use extra care when approaching corners, shrubs, and trees.

- * Safe fuel storage and usage
 - * Use extra care in handling gasoline. It is flammable, and the vapors are explosive.

- * Use only an approved container.

- * Never remove the gas cap or add fuel with the engine running. Allow the engine to cool before refueling.

- * Never refuel the machine indoors.

- * Never store the machine or gasoline container inside the house where there is an open flame, such as a gas water heater.

- * Always clean up spilled gasoline.

- * Never run a machine

inside a closed area without good ventilation.

- * Keep nuts and bolts, especially blade attachment bolts, tight and keep equipment in good condition.

- * Never tamper with safety devices. Check their operation regularly.

- * Keep the machine free of grass, leaves, and oil build-up to prevent fire.

- * Stop and inspect the equipment if you strike an object. Repair if necessary before restarting.

- * Never make adjustments or repairs with the engine running.

- * Grass catcher components are subject to damage and deterioration. To reduce the thrown object hazard, periodically check and replace with manufacturer's recommended parts, when necessary.

- * Mower blades are sharp and can cut. Wrap the blades or wear gloves and use extra caution when servicing them.

- * Check brake operation frequently. Adjust and service as required.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/588.html>
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/5126.html>



Beating allergy season

Sierra Military Health Services, Inc.

More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergic diseases annually according to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. Often confused with a cold, which is short lived and passed from person to person, allergies are

immune system reactions to normally harmless substances, such as food, ragweed or pollen.

Preventing allergies is as easy or difficult as avoiding exposure to harmful substances. Medications are available to alleviate uncomfortable allergy-related symptoms, which may include sneezing, watery eyes, repeat-

ed ear and sinus infections, frequent coughing or dark circles under the eyes caused by increased blood flow near the sinus.

Pollen allergies are among the most common allergies. Allergies to ragweed and tree pollen are seasonal. Ragweed, curly dock, plantain and sagebrush are among the most prolific producers of pollen aller-

gens. Trees release their pollen as early as January in the southern states and as late as May or June in the north. Tree pollen can travel several miles from its original source.

Pollen counts are highest between 5 and 10 a.m. and on dry, hot and windy days. Avoiding the outdoors between these hours, saving outdoor activities for late in

the afternoon or after a heavy rain and drying your clothes inside (clothes dried on the line may catch pollen and bring it indoors) will reduce your risk of an allergic reaction.

Patients unsure if they have allergies or a cold or what to do, should call the 24-hour Health Care Information Line for help. The line is staffed by

Registered Nurses who can help determine the non-emergency or self-care needed in the proper setting and can provide information on health issues. Call 1-800-308-3518 anytime, day or night to speak to a nurse or to access the Health Information Library, Pin #208)-

Installation chaplain at home with Soldiers

Story by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Chaplain (Col.) William D. Willett became the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and installation chaplain when he replaced Lt. Col. Carol Van Schenkhof who moved to the U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command in March.

Willett comes to APG from Vicenza, Italy, where he served with the Southern European Task Force.

"Italy was very nice but it was not the vacation everyone

thinks it is," Willett said.

Willett said his goal at APG as with each assignment is to do the best he can for Soldiers and their families.

Regarding the unique makeup of the installation, with its large civilian and transient military populations he said that accomplishing that mission would be a challenge.

"It will be unique in that we have to take care of so many others," Willett said.

He commented that the Coffee Ground meetings for Soldiers in Advanced Individual Training are attract-

ing many Soldiers, and that he is committed to ensuring they are exposed to as many positives as possible during their time here.

"The thing is, these Soldiers are still in a training status and they're still struggling to find out what the military holds for them," he said. "It's easy to get pulled in the wrong direction."

As garrison and installation chaplain, Willett wears two hats. He said he hopes to gain a deputy or resource manager and that he looks forward to overseeing the religious cover-

age of APG inhabitants.

Willett said that in line with his personal philosophy, he always encourages people to "try to see the good in others."

"Help them overcome their faults and bloom better," he said. "Try to turn what's bad into good."

"All of us try to find our way through this life," Willett said. "Chaplains try to provide experience through prayer and worship."

Chaplain Willett is a Catholic priest from the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky. He graduated from Murray

State University with a bachelor's in agriculture and business. He received his master's in divinity from the St. Meinrad School of Divinity in 1979.

Willett entered the military in 1967 as an Army Infantryman, serving in Vietnam with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

He received a direct commission in the Army Reserves as a second lieutenant as a chaplain candidate in 1976.

Also a Desert Storm veteran, Willett served with the

210th Field Artillery Brigade supporting the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. His previous assignments include Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort McPherson, Ga.; Germany; Sinai, Egypt; Vicenza, Italy, and Bosnia.

He is a graduate of the Chaplain Basic and Advanced Courses, Basic Airborne and Jump Master courses, Air Assault School, Combined Arms Staff Service School, Command and General Staff College and the Division and Installation Chaplain courses.

MAPS

From front page

Army Chemical Materials Agency, the world leader in programs to store, treat, and dispose of chemical weapons safely and effectively. CMA Director Michael Parker, who spoke at the ceremony, said he recognized the value of the partnership between the Army and the community.

"This isn't just a building developed and designed by scientists, engineers, technicians, and other experts and professionals," Parker said. "Its existence is proof the public has a voice in the Army's mission, and that we're all on this team together."

"On this day," he added, "we recognize and renew our commitment to safety, ensuring that future generations of Americans have a cleaner, healthier environment."

The dedication ceremony featured remarks from Col. Robert J. Davis, Baltimore District Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who discussed the Corps' com-

mitment to serve the community's interest and protecting the environment.

Dennis Schrader, director of the Maryland Governor's Office of Homeland Security, addressed homeland security issues and the role the MAPS facility plays in the U.S. Army's commitment to chemical weapons disposal.

Kevin Flamm, program manager for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons, led the ribbon-cutting ceremony that marked the official dedication of the facility to Col. Garland M. White, the first commander of the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit at APG.

"The Colonel Garland M. White Munitions Assessment and Processing System Facility will uphold the chemical weapons disposal mission embraced by Colonel White," Flamm said "Forty-four years later, the MAPS facility prepares to continue Colonel White's work."

As the first commander of TEU in 1945, White pioneered the safe, secure escort of chemical munitions. His leadership led to a Meritorious Unit Commendation for his

unit after completing 847 missions without serious injury.

In 1949, White realized the need for chemical disposal and positioned TEU to take the lead on future disposal missions. Today, TEU remains the longest continuously active military chemical unit in existence.

MAPS systems manager Donald Benton was also recognized for his efforts with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service for the six years he spent managing the design and construction of the facility. (See story on page ??)

Designed with safety and flexibility in mind, MAPS will process a variety of smoke and chemical-filled munitions including World War I-era British and French munitions. This flexibility translates into the ability to quickly and safely process recovered munitions to reduce the number of open detonations and reduce the strain on APG's available storage facilities here.

Workers at the MAPS facility will drill each munition and drain chemical or smoke fill for treatment at the APG



Ordnance Museum volunteers Rich Carnegie, left, chairman of the board of the Ordnance Museum Foundation, and Mike DiAntonio, make adjustments to the model, the focus of the ongoing building campaign to house the museum's large artifacts. The model is on display in the Ordnance Museum lobby.

Chemical Transfer Facility. Explosives from the treated and drained munition then will be detonated within the MAPS burster detonation vessel. Testing of the system continues, with operations scheduled to begin in 2005.

NSCMP leads the nation in

the development and use of advanced technology to safely eliminate America's non-stockpile chemical materiel in an environmentally sound and cost-effective manner. A division of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, NSCMP researches and devel-

ops treatment options and destruction plans that comply with all federal, state and local regulations, and encourages public participation in its activities.

For additional information visit the NSCMP Web site at <http://www.cma.army.mil>.

Avoiding disrespect when respecting the flag

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

With the heightened climate of patriotism since the 9-11 terrorist attacks and the war in Iraq, groups and individuals across the country are finding new ways to show their support for the nation's service members.

Numerous gestures of support include the U.S. flag or its likeness. In the zeal to create a patriotic memento that includes the flag, however, care should be taken to ensure the gesture, however well intended, is not in fact a show of disrespect to the flag.

On Feb. 15, 1923, the War Department issued a circular on the rules of usage for the U.S. flag. These rules were adopted almost in their entirety June 14, 1923, by a conference of 68 patriotic organizations in Washington, D.C. A joint resolution of Congress, on June 22, 1942, amended by Public Law 94-344, July 7, 1976, codifies "existing rules and customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag..."

The U.S. Code Collection details the rules regarding proper display, honors, and disposal methods. Chapter 1,

Section 8 addresses prohibited usage of the flag. It reads as follows:

"Respect for the flag"

No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

(a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.

(b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.

(c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

(d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free. Bunting of blue, white, and

red, always arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used for covering a speaker's desk, draping the front of a platform, and for decoration in general.

(e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

(f) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.

(g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

(h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

(i) The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard. Advertising signs

should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.

(j) No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen,

policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.

(k) The flag, when it is in

such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

(Editor's note: Information taken from The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004.)



Photo courtesy of APG News archives
One existing rule pertaining to the display and use of the flag states that the flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise. Military ceremonies for reveille and retreat maintain this tradition.

Vehicle rally draws hundreds to Ripken Stadium

Story and photos by Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Hundreds of veterans, civilians, service members and history enthusiasts turned out for the 31st Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally held at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen May 6 through 8.

Sponsored by the Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Trust, the rally benefits the Ordnance Museum Foundation.

It includes a military vehicle show and swap meet, featuring a flea market of more than 200 vendors and military displays.

Anja Taylor, BGMVT sec-

retary, said 210 vendors and 25 convoy vehicles registered for this year's rally, held just outside the stadium, on the parking lot grounds.

"Activities this year include a tour of the Ordnance Museum Restoration Facility and its restored vehicle storage building," Taylor said.

"Proceeds from the Friday auction will benefit the foundation and other venues," she added.

Like they do every year, collectors by the score set up displays for collectible and sale items. Many dressed in period uniforms despite the heat.

Bruce Bowers of Eldersburg, Md., walked the grounds dressed in the repro-

duction uniform of a World War II 82nd Airborne paratrooper. He said the authentic Airborne wings and ovals belonged to his father.

"To me, this is just interesting stuff," Bowers said, about his interest in military memorabilia. "Every single thing has a story behind it. It's just way too interesting to ignore."

Proudly displaying a 50s M149 "water buffalo" on sale for \$600, Jeff Esmanski, a collector from Virginia, said that with his 15-vehicle collection, attending rallies is essential.

"There's a pretty good network of surplus dealers here and many who warehouse and sell themselves," Esmanski said.

Lily Kirchoff joined her husband Carl for the trip to Aberdeen from their home in Pennsylvania. Watching over a small display that included a World War II German scope with carrying case, uniforms, and two Remington typewriters, she said her husband has been collecting about 40 years.

"His favorite is an Army Jeep he bought several years ago, but we left it at home this year," she said.

Participating in his 14th consecutive rally, Karl Kindervater of Richmond, Va., said he tries to appeal to all collectors. His display included rare Marine Corps porce-

lain canteens with cups and covers, Army Signal Corps equipment, brown leather boots and helmets from several different eras, and a Bureau of Ordnance 40 millimeter ammunition display used during World War II.

"I sell to collectors," Kindervater said. "The only thing I collect is money."

Navy veteran Don Doornbos of Del Ray Beach, Fla., agreed as he showed off his 1955 U.S. Marine Corps one-quarter ton jeep. A Vietnam veteran, Doornbos said he became a military collector in 1992. He named his vehicle "Chosin Few" after the



The XM147 DUKW "Super Duck", one of 20,000 Army amphibious vehicles built in a two-year period and tested at Aberdeen Proving Ground from 1956 to 1957, was found "near death" in 1996 and restored by Tom Buonaugurio of the Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Trust.

famous Chosin Reservoir campaign in which 12,000 Marines found themselves surrounded by eight Chinese divisions. The Marines lost 4,000 men and the Chinese lost 37,500, Doornbos said.

"I put Marine markings on [the jeep] her because so many of my friends are Marines," he added.

A collector from Odenton, Md., Bill Todd said he learned the value of military collectibles from a neighbor who died and left him his entire collection.

"I'd been listening to his stories all my life," Todd said. "He taught me that the greatest tribute to the past is to pre-

serve it."

A former Army machine-gunner with the 82nd Airborne Division, Todd said he spent the early 60s in Cambodia training their military on machine gun operations and rappelling tactics.

"We didn't know these people were getting ready for war," he said.

His display included swords and sabers, pistols, boots, and headgear from several eras of both American and foreign fighting forces, including a 1795 British pistol used by the Confederate Army.

"It can get expensive but I like this hobby because I'm hard on things," he said.



Lily Kirchoff, the wife of military memorabilia collector Carl Kirchoff of Pennsylvania, looks through the site of a German scope, one of several items for sale in the couple's display.



Rare Marine Corps porcelain canteens with covers and cups sit on a display shelf belonging to Karl Kindervater of Richmond, Va.

Students plant trees for Arbor Day

Story and photos by Meghan Bowen
APG News

Edgewood Elementary School students learned how to make a human tree and planted eight trees around their school with the help of Maj. Gen. Larry J. Lust, U.S. Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, at the Arbor Day festivities

sponsored by the U.S. Army Environmental Center April 28.

"This event was part of the seven year partnership between USAEC and Edgewood Elementary to raise students' awareness in environmental sciences and issues," said Meg Schnebly USAEC event coordinator.

Students participated in

various indoor and outdoor activities that educated them about how trees grow and how to plant them.

The first through fifth grade students went with USAEC staff and volunteers to seven out of the eight tree planting sites around Edgewood Elementary to plant two White Pear trees, one Black Walnut, one Burr Oak, one Dogwood, one Pin Oak and one Cherry tree.

"We tried to get mostly native and mass producing trees to provide food to the animals that live in the ecosystem around the school," Schnebly said.

After the tree planting, students received seed cups, which contained dirt and flower seeds for them to grow at home.

Inside the school, Mark Lichtenstein, USAEC Natural Resources Branch contractor and forester, had some students form the different parts of a tree to show how each part is connected and func-

tions into an adult tree.

Lichtenstein traced the life of a tree from the taproots to the bark of a tree.

"Don't step on any of the roots," Lichtenstein cautioned children forming the tree.

Then, students presented Lust with a gift for speaking at the Arbor Day festivities.

"Not very often I get to speak to the future of the nation," Lust said.

Lust stressed the importance of taking care of the environment and then presented his coin to the principal and music teacher, who led students in a song for him.

On the coin, the eagles in the clouds are symbolic of the environment.

Arbor Day celebrates the environment by encouraging Americans to plant more trees.

Arbor Day is usually held on April 30, but USAEC arranged to hold the event on April 28 in order for Lust to be able to attend and visit with the students, whom more than



Mike Ackerman, U.S. Army Environmental Center, hands a seed cup to pre-schooler James Feeser during the Arbor Day program at Edgewood Elementary April 28.

50 percent have parents in the military.

Lust planted the eighth tree, a Black Walnut, at the end of the festivities.

Students received coloring

sheets from Woodsy the Owl, who was accompanied by Helene Cleveland, USAEC staff member, as well as "How a Tree Grows" handouts from Lichtenstein.



Capt. Scott Winter, left, U.S. Army Environmental Center, helps Robert Booze, USAEC contractor, plant a Dogwood tree during the Arbor Day program.

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BOMB

From front page

A former commander of the Technical Escort Unit with an extensive background in explosive ordnance and biochemical testing that included frequent coordination with federal agencies while serving as the military assistant to the Secretary of the Army, Madere said his instincts told him to rely on the assessment of the EOD noncommissioned officers on the ground.

"EOD techs have probably spent 7 to 12 years as EOD Soldiers. They are the real experts," Madere said, adding that upon his arrival, he found that the NCO in charge at the site was a former EOD instructor.

After speaking with authorities on the scene, which included Baltimore City, Maryland Transportation Authority Police, FBI and state bomb units, and consulting with the 767th EOD team leader Madere said he needed to make his own assessment. The team donned flak vests and helmets before approaching the area, he said.

"The problem was that on top was a BLU 31 railroad bomb, the kind that can be triggered by seismic movement," Madere said.

Based on the BLU 31's fuzing and the bomb's potential explosive payload, EOD recommended closure of nearby I-895 and the Harbor Tunnel. Madere conveyed this to the authorities and highway and tunnel were closed at 10 p.m.

To assist EOD in their assessment of the BLU 31 and a larger, unfuzed 3,000 pound bomb, Madere sent for a Portable Isotopic Neutron Spectroscopy unit from APG.

The PINS provides a non-intrusive way to determine the contents of munitions safely and reliably, Madere said.

Fortunately, it was determined the two bombs contained high explosives,



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center's High Explosive Team explosively vented the munitions found, which all contained inert fill material such as concrete or plaster.

nonetheless, EOD recommended that all of the recovered ordnance be explosively vented at a remote site to confirm their inert status. EOD made arrangements with the Aberdeen Test Center and the APG Garrison to perform this secondary operation at APG.

After working through the night to complete their assessment and assure all items were safe to move, the 767th EOD response team gave the okay for an on-site support crew to load the bombs onto a flatbed trailer provided by the Maryland Department of Transportation. The MDOT crew, with State Police escort and EOD responders, transported them to APG for disposal. Madere said that although the bombs appeared to pose no threat, they still were treated with every precaution.

"Every move is different. Nothing is conventional and it's always unusual," he said. "We were not going to put any workers, civilians or Soldiers at risk unnecessarily."

Teams worked through the night to remove the bombs, securing them on flatbed

trucks and transporting them to APG under MTA police escort.

"No way we could not close the tunnel," he said. "Fragmentation from bombs that size could go to 6,000 feet.

"I really didn't do much more than that," he added, noting that he informed the police chief upon the team's arrival "we are here to provide operational support and technical advice."

"Fortunately for all concerned the EOD team was able to do its job like it does every day," Madere said.

APG team members departed the site at 7:30 a.m.; about two hours after the Harbor Tunnel and interstate reopened.

Once at APG, ATC's high explosives team, in coordination with the 767th EOD Unit, began the task of explosively venting the items at a remote munitions disposal range.

The venting operation took place over the next two days.

All of the items were confirmed inert and contained either concrete or plaster of paris fill materials.

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