



APG NEWS

Published in the interest of the people of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

www.TeamAPG.com

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Vol. 60, No. 31

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CELEBRATION

The APG Office of the Staff Judge Advocate celebrates the JAG Corps' 241st birthday.
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TECHNOLOGY

ARL explores how neuroscience advances could shape the force of the future.
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newsbrief

TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS CAN KEEP EXCHANGE PRIVILEGES

AAFS

When service members transition to Individual Ready Reserve, or IRR, status, they keep the shopping benefit they've earned at Army & Air Force Exchange Service facilities.

"Service members transitioning to IRR status are very much a part of the Exchange family and can still shop at the Exchange, both in-store and online," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, Exchange senior enlisted advisor. "Their Exchange benefit, including tax-free shopping and competitive prices, remains intact during their time in IRR."


Service members transitioning from active duty and their families can continue to visit their local main Exchange, Express, mall and food court. They can also shop online at shopmyexchange.com for exclusive military pricing on many items and an expanded merchandise selection.

To gain access to the installation to shop at the Exchange, shoppers can apply for an IRR ID card at their installation's personnel office 72 hours after discharging from active duty.

"It's been an honor serving these shoppers while they served our country," Applegate said. "The Exchange looks forward to being there for them as they transition to IRR status."

online

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-  flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

 ICE system
<http://ice.disa.mil/>
Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQlow>



Maj. Gen. Kirk F. Vollmecke, Program Executive Officer for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors, congratulates Dennis Coleman Sr. who received his commemorative pin and proclamation during the Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 in Perryville, Maryland July 29.

Honoring 'Nam veterans

Local Legion thanks Cecil, Harford County Vietnam veterans for service

Story and photos by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

More than 70 veterans of the Vietnam War and Vietnam Era received heartfelt thanks for their service during a ceremony at American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 in Perryville, Maryland July 29. Attending veterans received lapel pins and proclamations

created specifically for the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration period.

Guest speakers included George W. Owings III, Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Maryland State Delegate Kevin Hornberger; Maj. Gen. Kirk F. Vollmecke, Program Executive Officer for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors, or PEO

IEW&S at Aberdeen Proving Ground; and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Colvin Bennett.

The Elkton Vet Center and the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs co-hosted the event with the Legion.

"We just wanted to do something locally

See EVENT, page A7

MTA announces Baltimore/APG bus

Team APG asked to attend public hearings on new commuter bus route.

First set for Aug. 19, Bldg. 6000, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
and **AMANDA ROMINIECKI**
APG News

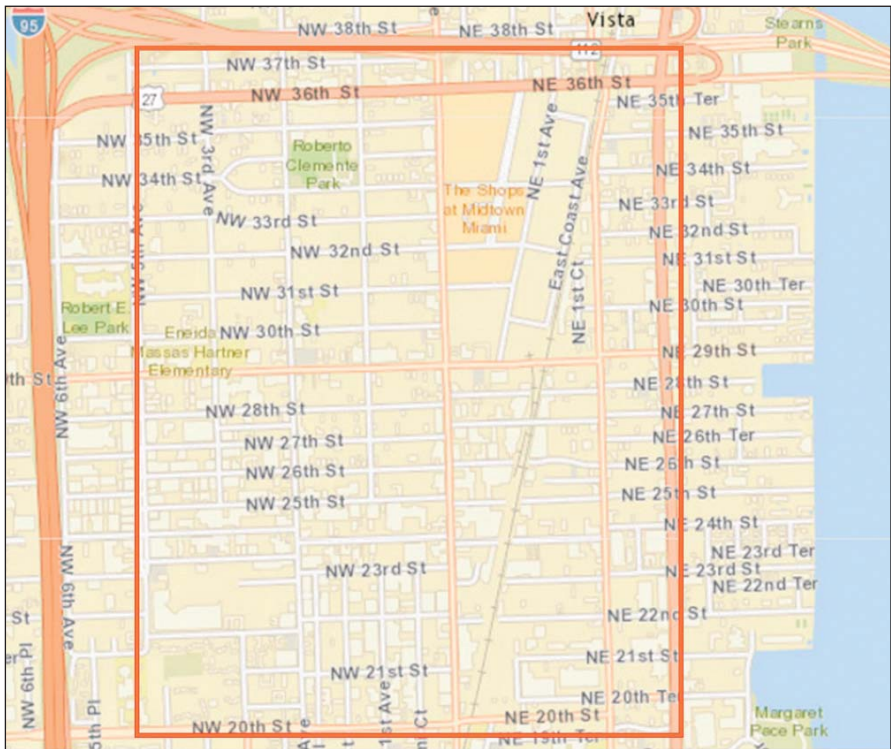
In a joint effort between the Maryland Transportation Authority, or MTA, and Aberdeen Proving Ground, the MTA has announced a commuter bus service between Baltimore City, Baltimore County and APG.

The effort is targeted at the more than 600 Team

See COMMUTER, page A7



CDC issues travel advisory to part of Miami



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Florida Department of Health, or FL DOH, has identified an area with local mosquito-borne Zika virus transmission in Miami.

This is an ongoing investigation, and CDC is rapidly learning more about the extent of active Zika virus transmission in the area identified by the FL DOH. The CDC is applying existing guidance to the occurrence of Zika virus transmission in this area of Florida.

- Pregnant women should avoid non-essential travel to the area with active Zika virus transmission identified by the FL DOH.

- Pregnant women and their partners living in or traveling to the area with active Zika virus transmission identified by the FL DOH should follow steps to prevent mosquito bites.

For more information about the Zika virus and mosquito bite prevention, visit www.cdc.gov/zika.

(Left) As both a heavily populated area and a frequent travel destination, the CDC has issued a travel advisory limited to the highlighted area of Miami, Florida after documented local mosquito-borne transmission of the Zika virus.

Courtesy photo

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STREET TALK

What is your favorite summer Olympic sport?

My favorite sport to watch is swimming, because I used to swim in high school. I think it is fascinating, they [the athletes] are so fast.



Abigail Cathelineaud
Family member

Track and field, because my oldest son was a top contender in track and field at Swarthmore College, and I admire the dedication that it takes to excel in the sport. I also like watching boxing, because it is a great competitive sport.



Mike Turner
CERDEC

My favorite sport to watch is the long jump, because I used to be good at it back in the day. I also like watching gymnastics, because it's entertaining and I admire how dedicated the athletes are at such a young age.



Tammy Norton
Family member

I like to watch swimming and gymnastics, because the athletes are so graceful. I like watching [American swimmer] Michael Phelps compete.



Sharon Volz
KUSAHC

I like to follow archery and shooting. I don't think those sports get enough attention from the media, which is sad, because those athletes put in the time to excel at their sport, so they should get the recognition.



Spc. Lizardo Falu Perez
Delaware National Guard

Prepare for your disability interview: tips from Social Security

By **VIRGINIA HARDY**
Social Security District, Abingdon

When a person becomes disabled, it can be a very stressful time in their life. There are many questions and unknowns when you have to transition out of the workforce due to medical issues. While an employer may offer short or long-term disability, most people faced with a disability will file for benefits with Social Security.

If you're facing life with a disability and don't know where to start, we encourage you to visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi. You can apply for benefits on our website; it's the most convenient way. Additionally, you can contact us at 1-800-772-1213 or visit your local office if you wish to apply for disability benefits. When applying for benefits, you should be prepared to answer a number of questions including:

- When your conditions became disabling:
 - Dates you last worked;
 - The names, addresses, phone numbers, and dates of visits to your doctors;

- The names of medications that you take and medical tests you've had; and
- Marital information.

■ In addition, if you plan to apply for Supplemental Security Income disability payments, for people with low income who haven't paid enough in Social Security taxes to be covered, we will ask you questions about:

- Your current living arrangement, including who lives there and household expenses;
- All sources of income for you and your spouse, if applicable; and
- The amount of your resources, including bank account balances, vehicles, and other investments.

You can view our disability starter kit at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/disability_starter_kits.htm.

Remember, we are there when you might be faced with one of the hardest obstacles of your life. Social Security helps secure today and tomorrow with critical benefits for people with severe disabilities, not just during retirement. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Federal Flexible Spending Account Contractor Transition and Blackout Dates

The Federal Flexible Spending Account will transition its contract administration on Sept. 1. Prior to this transition, there will be a blackout periods for certain services occurring July 29 – Sept. 8.

The blackout periods will, in some cases, restrict access or availability of services for claims submission, paperless reimbursements, phone-lines, website, online account access, and new enrollments. FSAFEDS has already begun to communicate this information to participants.

The services affected by the blackout periods are reflected below:

- **July 29 – Sept. 8:** Paperless reimbursements will be suspended on July 29th and will resume Sept. 8.
- **July 30 - Sept. 1:** No claims can be submitted from July 30 – Sept. 1. All claims must be submitted electronically by 4 p.m. EST July 29 or postmarked by July 20 for processing prior to the blackout period. Approved claims will be paid by Aug. 8. All claims not submitted during the pre-blackout period can be submitted starting Sept. 1. The fax number should not be used during this period.
- **Aug. 3 – Sept. 1:** Last day for new enrollments (plan year dates will remain the same).
- **Aug. 26 at 5 p.m. – Sept. 1:** Website, for general research or online account access will not be available and phone lines will only provide a pre-recorded message.

Questions may be directed to FSAFEDS at 877-372-3337.

Ergonomics can minimize some workplace injuries

CPAC

Ergonomics provide solutions for various physical problems for employees, making their work space safer, healthier and less likely to cause injury. Repetitive motion type duties tend to cause injury to certain body parts. With a better way to execute the job, suggested by the Industrial Hygiene team, that painful exposure can be eliminated!

Some good examples of ergonomic use in an office space would be:

- Proper desk or chair size
- Wrist rest, monitor repositioning
- Walking and standing surface padding/non-skid surfaces
- Reconfiguration of physical aspects of a specific duty (less bending of lifting)
- Using the proper equipment to accomplish a task or asking for another team, member to assist

Contact Industrial Hygiene at Kirk or Public Health Command for more information and assistance.

Another method to return an employee back to duty sooner versus later would be the use of the Federal Program called CAP, (Computer/Electronics Accommodation Program). This program was created in 1990 for federal employees with disabilities to allow them to continue to work through reasonable accommodations. They are great partners to the Army and the equipment they provide is free to the agency.

Some good examples of CAP assistance would be:

- Voice activation for computer
- Vision and hearing software packages
- Special monitors, mouse and or other accessories
- Any type of electronic handicap assistance

Reasonable accommodation is any modification or adjustment to a job or the work environment that will enable a qualified applicant or employee with a disability to participate in the application process or to perform essential job functions. Reasonable accommodation also includes adjustments to assure that a qualified individual with a disability has rights and privileges in employment equal to those of employees without disabilities. The provision of reasonable accommodations is the responsibility of the employing agency. CAP serves as a resource to our DOD and partner agencies.

CAP can be accessed by going to www.cap.mil. CAP can supply anything from chairs, monitors and other computer equipment to interpreting services.

See Something

Cut along dotted lines and fold in middle for use as wallet reference Card.

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

Say Something

INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

DO OBSERVE & REPORT

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

INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

DON'T

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss FP measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose information about R&D and testing.

Report suspicious activity immediately to APG Police!

APG (North & South):
410.306.2222
Off Post in Maryland call
1-800-492-TIPS or 911

Card created by APG Intel

APG NEWS

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305, IMAP-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; contact the Editor Amanda Rominiecki at amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil, contact Assistant Editor Yvonne Johnson, 410-278-1148 or email yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil.

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

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Commissary hosts Community Health Day

Story and photo by
LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

With help from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, or KUSAHC, the APG Commissary presented one-stop-shop information for health education and groceries during Community Health Day activities July 29.

This event informed customers about ways to lead a healthier lifestyle and distributed tools to help achieve some of their health goals.

Dorothy Ruff and Linda Pegram, tobacco cessation specialists with the Harford County Health Department, informed shoppers about the risks of vaping as well as smoking. Vaping, or smoking e-cigarettes, a popular alternative to smoking traditional cigarettes especially among young people, is rarely regulated, and is “enticing children” with flavors such as “Taste the Rainbow,” “Papa Smurf,” and “Cotton Candy,” according to Ruff. While the long-term effects of vaping are not known, Ruff and Pegram said they are trying to educate the community that e-cigarettes still contain nicotine, and nicotine is addictive.

Angela Lang, the registered dietitian at KUSAHC, discussed the aspects of healthy eating and explained the clinic’s diabetes education and nutrition services. Through the nutrition program, patients can learn how to make healthier choices that are tailored to their individual needs. According to Lang, “the goal isn’t to take things away, but to incorporate what they’re already doing into a healthier lifestyle.”

Organizers said that much of the



Dorothy Ruff, a Tobacco Program specialist with the Harford County Health Department displays a container of tar that is the equivalent of what a pack-a-day smoker inhales into their lungs in a year during Community Health Day activities at the Commissary July 29.

information that shoppers gained, could be immediately incorporated into their grocery shopping and hope-

fully put them on the path to leading a healthier lifestyle.

Other participants included the APG

Army Wellness Center, TRICARE, Blue Cross/Care First, and the Upper Chesapeake Health System.



Have a great idea for a story?

The APG News accepts story ideas and content you think the APG community should know about.

- Story ideas or content must be geared toward the greater APG community and cannot appear to endorse any private company.
- The deadline for content to appear in an upcoming issue of the APG News is the **Thursday PRIOR** to publication. The APG News cannot guarantee submissions received after the Thursday prior to publication will appear in the next issue of the paper.
- Send story ideas or pre-written content to amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil or call 410-278-7274 for more information.

Please note, the APG News editor reserves the right to (1) reject any content deemed inappropriate, irrelevant or against regulation, (2) delay the publication of submitted material if it is not timely and (3) edit or shorten content for space and style reasons without altering the meaning of the submission.



APG NEWS

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From left, Spc. Edric Sizemore, prepares corn on the cob for grilling and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles “Matt” Sonnenburg and Capt. Andrew Gross check the burgers and hotdogs during the Army JAG Corps birthday celebration at Shore Park.

JAG Corps celebrates 241st birthday

Story and photos by
LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

The installation’s Office of the Judge Advocate General marked the 241st birthday of the Army JAG Corps with a celebration at Shore Park July 27. Founded July 29, 1775 by Gen. George Washington, the corps has served the Army’s Soldiers ever since.

Lt. Col. Mary Card-Mina, Staff Judge Advocate, presided over the celebration, and as is tradition, the junior judge advocate, Capt. Robert Taylor read the complete history of the JAG Corps before cutting the cake.

The reading included important trials, like the court-martial of Benedict Arnold – on charges unrelated to but are thought to have fueled his future betrayal months later - led by JAG Col. John Laurance, and the first International War Crimes Tribunal created by the Army JAG Corps in order to prosecute German and Japanese war criminals after World War II.

Organizers noted that besides the high

profile trials, JAG supports the legal needs of service members, military retirees, and their family members.

Card-Mina said that she has “always enjoyed taking this time to celebrate our past and present as a Corps,” and she thinks it is important to honor, “history and those who have gone before us.”

Family members joined JAG personnel for a day of games, activities, and barbecue that, “helped to celebrate [the] Corps’ achievements and contributions.”

The APG JAG office celebrated the 241st birthday of the Army JAG Corps with a cake cutting and barbeque at Shore Park July 27. From left, Eric Feustel, chief, Client Services Division; Capt. Andrew Gross, Chief Military Justice; CW2 Charles “Matt” Sonnenburg, legal administrator; Lt. Col. Mary Card-Mina, staff judge advocate; Spc. Edric Sizemore; Maj. Thomas Clark, Deputy SJA; and Lt. Col. Timothy Thomas, Command Judge Advocate, 20th CBRNE Command, pose for a shot before cutting the cake.



Legal administrator recalls notable cases

Story and photo by
LAUREN FINNEGAN
APG News

While managing an auto parts store, one day in Longview, Texas, Matt Sonnenburg had no inkling that two army recruiters who came in later that day to find a much needed car part would change his life forever. Sonnenburg said that as he helped the recruiters, he was impressed by the “rare brotherhood” that the two Soldiers of different races, had for each other. Having grown up in a small town, this was something that he had never experienced and something that he knew he wanted to be a part of. That show of camaraderie was enough to make Sonnenburg rethink his future plans and take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Battery Test) the very next day.

That fateful day was back in 2005, and since then, Sonnenburg, has gone on to become a Chief Warrant Officer 2 and legal administrator with the Judge Advocate General, or JAG, Corps here at APG. Before arriving in June, he gained experience in several aspects of the law and on some interesting cases.

One such case started in 1986, when then Sgt. Timothy Hennis was convicted in a civilian court of the murder of Kathryn Eastburn , an Air Force pilot’s wife, and her two daughters in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Hennis was convicted and spent two years on death row, before the case was overturned on appeal due to prosecutorial misconduct. Hennis was freed. After winning a not guilty verdict in a subsequent trial, he continued to serve in the military and retired as a master sergeant. In 2004. Hennis settled into retirement and a quiet life that did not remain so for long.

In 2006, while going through cold cases, investigators with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation came across a DNA swab that was taken from Kathryn Eastburn postmortem and contained foreign DNA. With DNA technology now lightyears ahead of what it used to be, the DNA was tested in the hopes that there would



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles M. Sonnenburg, a legal administrator with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, relaxes with his wife Allison, left, and children Grayson, bottom left, and Zoey, bottom right during the Army Judge Advocate General Corps birthday celebration at Shore Park, July 27

finally be a conclusive answer to the question of who had murdered Eastburn and her daughters.

The DNA matched none other than Timothy Hennis, but there was a problem;

Hennis had already been tried and acquitted of the triple homicide, barring him from being tried again. However, because it took place in a civilian courtroom, the case could only be tried in the military court system. The Army recalled Hennis to active duty to face court-martial charges related to the murders.

This is where Sonnenburg came in. From July 2008 to April 2009, he “worked from morning through the night,” on the case according to Sonnenburg’s wife Allison. As a court reporter stationed at Fort Bragg, Son-

nenburg assisted in transcribing the motion hearings that led up to the case. There were many petitions, as Hennis argued that the military had no jurisdiction to try him for the crime, but eventually the Army prevailed. A court-martial, conviction and death sentence followed.

Sonnenburg said the Hennis case was an interesting case to be a part of because it “changed history,” and because it may become case law in regards to double jeopardy.

Despite all of his work on the pretrial motions, Sonnenburg was deployed before the actual trial began in March 2010. He was “heartbroken” to not be working on the trial, but little did he know that his deployment was about to deliver another case to remember.

While serving in Afghanistan, the

system that tried detainees, Unlawful Enemy Combatant Review Boards (UECRB) was overhauled into Detainee Review Boards, or DRBs. Previously, in the UECRBs, prisoners were not permitted to speak, weren’t given representatives, and were only allowed to submit written statements without hearing the evidence that would be used against them.

One of the new requirements under the DRB was that detainees had the right for their cases to be reviewed within 60 days of being transferred to the Detention Facility in Parwan (DFIP), and every six months thereafter.

Sonnenburg, a court reporter with the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne), out of Fort Bragg, N.C., was tasked with analyzing the data of the current detainees to figure out how many DRBs had to be held per day to align the current prisoners with their new rights. He created a “super tracker” to organize and track “every single aspect of every detainee’s information in respect to the DRB process” and was responsible for devising the standard for transcribing cases. His team was made up of three attorneys, three paralegals and himself as the lone court reporter. By the time he left country, he said 80 attorneys were brought in to do the same amount of work that his team was tasked with.

Sonnenburg is up for any challenge he may face while at APG, and he said he and his family are excited to be in the mid-Atlantic region. So far they’ve made it to the nation’s capital for the Fourth of July, and they look forward to experiencing the rest of the history in the area.

Though military life may bring some challenges, Sonnenburg said that his wife has their frequent moves “down to a science,” and his children have become very resilient. Instead of being sad that they are leaving their friends at every move, their automatic response is “Ok, what’s there? What can we see?” As for Sonnenburg, he said he loves his job, and he’s found the camaraderie that inspired him so many years ago.



ALL THINGS MARYLAND

Marylanders head to Rio

Two area swimmers among those to make Olympic Team

By **LAUREN FINNEGAN**
APG News

The U.S. Olympic team is comprised of 554 athletes, 11 of whom originate from Maryland. The Old Line State has its largest representation in swimming, including locals Chase Kalisz and Jack Conger.

Chase Kalisz

As long as he can remember, swimmer Chase Kalisz has wanted to be on the Olympic team. That dream has come true for the Bel Air native who recently won the 400-meter individual medley (IM) at the Olympic trials, earning his first Olympic berth.

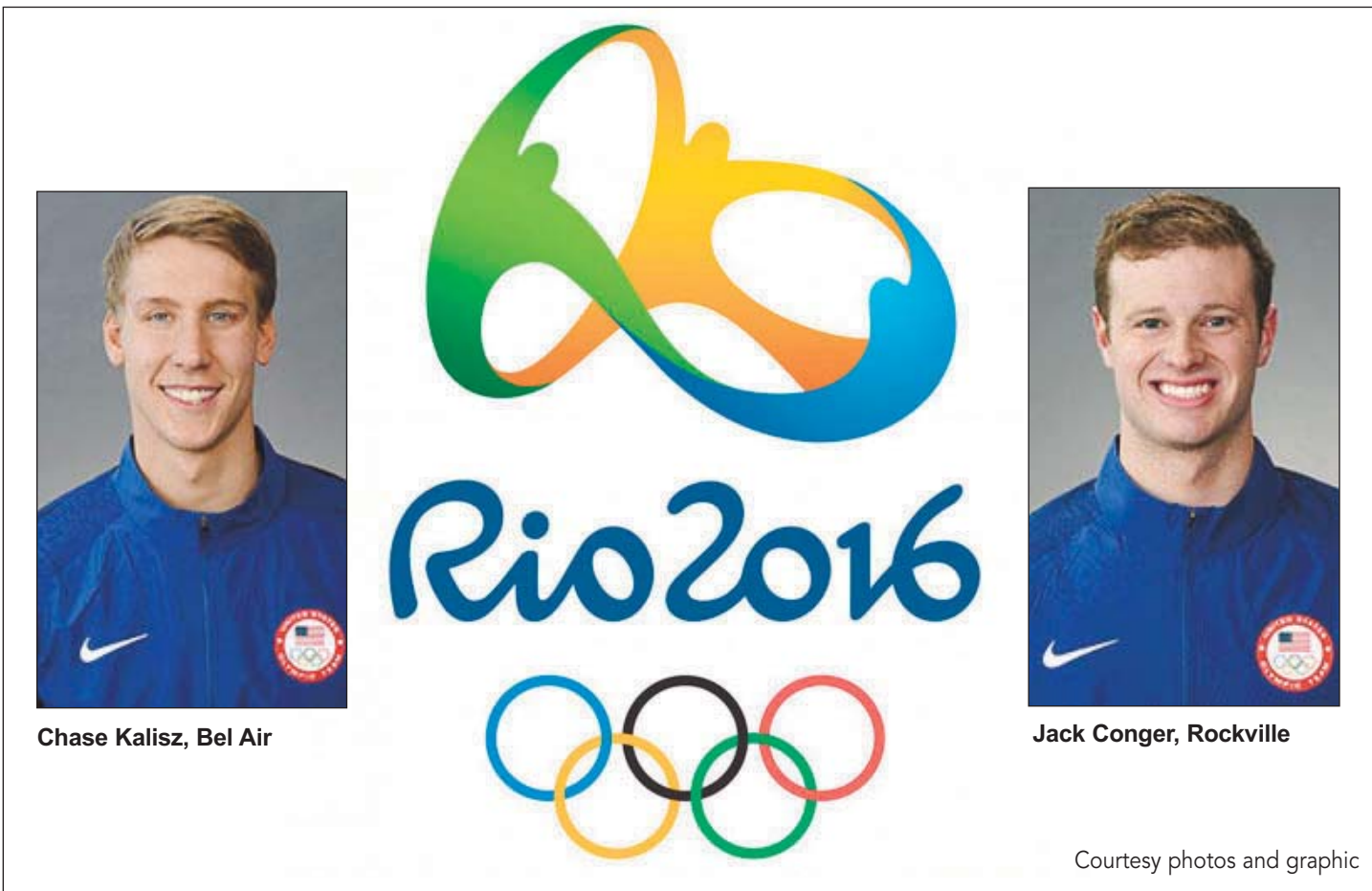
Since the age of 5, Chase has been swimming alongside his siblings at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club, or NBAC, training to make it to this point. He fell short of his first Olympic attempt in 2012, with a sixth place finish in the 400 IM, but he has improved since then.

A 2012 graduate of Fallston High School, Kalisz attended the University of Georgia where he swam for three years before deciding to redshirt the 2015-2016 swim season in order to fully focus on preparing for the Olympic trials. Kalisz trained under the skilled eye of his longtime NBAC Coach Bob Bowman at Arizona State University where Bowman is now head coach. Kalisz trained alongside his mentor and training partner, fellow Marylander Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time.

According to Bowman, being pushed and challenged by Phelps, a two-time 400 IM gold medal winner, helped Kalisz get “out of his comfort zone.” He said all the training paid off when Kalisz came in at 4:09.5, to take the win over favored swimmer and 2012 400 IM gold medalist Ryan Lochte.

Kalisz, along with Phelps and the rest of the U.S. Olympic swim team, trained for the 2016 Rio Olympics at the International Training Camp in San Juan, Puerto Rico. They spent eight previous days preparing at the Northside Swim Center, a state-of-the-art swimming venue in San Antonio, Texas.

Mike Kalisz, Chase’s father, said he has no doubt that his son will put the work in to represent the country the



best he can.

“Chase has a strong commitment of purpose and will work extremely hard... to prepare himself to compete at the highest level in Rio,” he said, adding that the Kalisz family hopes, “for Chase is to simply have a wonderful Olympic experience.”

Jack Conger

Jack Conger, a native of Rockville, Maryland will also be representing Team U.S.A. in Rio after coming in third in the 200 meter freestyle with a time of 1:45.77. Conger started his swimming career with a swim club and now swims for 10-time national championship Coach Eddie Reese at the University of Texas.

Conger started taking swimming lessons because his mom was afraid that he was going to fall off of a fishing dock that they frequented in North Carolina and drown. Steve Conger, Jack’s father, said they wanted to be sure that wherever they were, whether at a pool or the beach, their

kids would know how to swim.

Jack also played baseball, basketball, football and soccer, but each sport started to fade away as “swimming kept itself in the forefront,” Steve Conger said.

Jack joined the Rockville-Montgomery Swim Club where he holds numerous records and later swam for his high school team where he broke a 30-year-old National High School record in the 500-yard freestyle and holds a National Independent High School record in the 100 yard freestyle. When he started breaking records, his family knew “they were on to something,” according to Steve Conger.

After high school, Conger was scouted by several colleges, but chose to swim for the University of Texas. In his freshman season alone, he became a five-time All-American. In his sophomore year, he broke the American and U.S. Open records in the 200 butterfly. His coach at University of Texas, Reese said, “Jack works very hard all the time. He is a very tough competitor. Those

attributes will always give him a shot at any team.”

Now that Conger has made Team U.S.A., the world will have to wait to see what he will deliver in Rio. According to Reese however, Conger has already done the hard part by making the team.

“The Olympic Trials [are] the hardest meet in the world,” he said.

Conger’s family will be in Rio cheering him on just as they were at the trials. This time, his father will be holding onto a special memento; a father’s day card Jack gave him years ago. In it, he wrote that when he wins a gold medal he will point up to the stands at his father. Now, that promise of a little boy with big dreams, has a chance to come true when Conger competes on Aug. 9.

No matter what the outcome for Kalisz and Conger, Maryland and the rest of the country, will be rooting for them. Steve Conger said that if Jack wins a medal they, “will have to figure out something special for him... within reason.” But no “cliff diving.”

DOD urges Soldiers to participate in gender relations survey

By **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

About 700,000 invites to participate in a biennial gender relations study have gone out to active duty service members across the Department of Defense via email.

The congressionally mandated “Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of Active Duty Members,” conducted once every two years, assesses the rates of sexual assault, sexual harassment and gender discrimination in the Army as well as in the other armed services.

It’s the largest survey of its kind, according to Dr. Elizabeth Van Winkle, who serves as the principal investigator. In odd years, a similar biennial survey is administered to the Nation Guard and Army Reserve. The Defense Manpower Data Center also surveys service academy students on a biennial schedule as well.

Questions in the gender relations study focus on three periods of a service member’s life: the last 12 months of their service; the entirety of their military career; and their life before military service.

The survey ends Sept. 29. The results, which will be published next spring, will be broken down by service and gender. Van Winkle said those results will be used by DOD and each of the armed services to determine the effectiveness of their sexual assault prevention and response programs and identify areas that need additional focus.

The results of the survey will also go to Congress and the administration and will be made public, she said.

The purpose of the survey

The Army and DOD will benefit tremendously from personnel completing the survey, Van Winkle said. Survey results will be leveraged toward fostering an environment that discourages sexual harassment and sexual assault and emphasizes that such behaviors will not be tolerated.

The survey is a chance for Soldiers who have been subjected to such unwanted experiences to be heard, but Van Winkle stressed that it’s just as important for service members who haven’t had such



Army SHARP photo

The Army and DOD will benefit tremendously from personnel completing the “2016 Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of Active Duty Members,” said Dr. Elizabeth Van Winkle, who worked on designing the survey. Survey results will be leveraged toward fostering a climate that discourages sexual harassment and sexual assault and emphasizes that such behaviors will not be tolerated, she added.

experiences to participate.

“Hearing from as many members as possible, regardless of their experiences, will help us assess the scope of the problem,” she said.

The survey could take as little as 15 to 20 minutes, but the time it takes to complete will depend on the experiences of the respondent and how much the respondent wishes to disclose.

“We’ve offered opportunities in the survey (for respondents) to provide open-ended comments,” she said.

Were you selected?

Since July 22, when the survey was released, Soldiers have been notified via an email that they’ve been selected to participate.

For Soldiers who accidentally delet-

ed the invitation to take part in the survey or who recently received a new email address and are concerned they missed the notification, they can still find out if they’ve been selected to participate by visiting the Defense Manpower Data Center website at <http://www.dodsurveys.mil>.

Click the “Am I in a DMDC Survey Sample?” button and then enter the DOD ID number from the back of your Common Access Card. If you are among those selected to participate, the website will provide a link to the survey.

In August, a paper form of the survey will be mailed out to those who have not yet responded. Either the web survey or the paper version can be completed during on-duty hours, Van Winkle said.

Soldiers who are concerned about privacy can rest assured that the survey is completely confidential, Van Winkle said.

“No identifying information is ever provided,” she said. “Our reports and data tabulation are aggregate only. We conduct disclosure reviews on all of our data sets and products to ensure that even combinations of data elements cannot inadvertently identify a respondent. We really take this responsibility very seriously.”

Past Survey Results

In response to the 2012 survey, about 26,000 active duty DOD service members reported having experienced unwanted sexual contact. That figure represents about 6.1 percent of active duty women and 1.2 percent of men, according to Van Winkle.

The 2012 survey showed an increase in incidence of unwanted sexual contact from the previous survey in 2010, when around 19,000 service members reported experiencing an unwanted sexual contact. That was about 4.4 percent of active duty women and 0.9 percent of men.

In 2014, the RAND Corporation was contracted to conduct the gender relations survey, Van Winkle said. That study showed a decrease in reports of unwanted sexual contact from 2012, a decline that could be due to increased attention from leadership on gender relations as well as new programs and policies put in place by the DOD’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office.

“We’ve seen some movement in these rates over time, which is expected considering how crime rates often fluctuate, but we are interested in the direction of the trends,” she said.

The Army has also expanded sexual harassment and sexual assault victim services with the opening of Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention resource centers and approved additional skill identifiers for sexual assault response coordinators and victim advocates.

Additionally, the Army is currently assessing the effectiveness of measures meant to prevent sexual harassment, sexual assault and retaliation at the command level.

AMC Best Warrior challenges Soldiers

A Unit Ministry Soldier represents CECOM at the annual Army Materiel Command competition

By **MARY B. GRIMES**
CECOM

While many things have changed throughout the U.S. Army over the years, its longstanding practice of calling on the finest Soldiers to support and carry out the mission, has not. That sentiment is shared in military training environments at home and abroad, and is maintained from basic training throughout the course of the service member’s career.

For Sgt. Juan Howard, the noncommissioned officer and chaplain assistant of the Unit Ministry Team, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, or CECOM, his participation in the Best Warrior Competition held July 7-9, at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, is just one example of how important fitness and readiness is to the Army mission. Familiar to Soldiers throughout the ranks, the Best Warrior Competition recognizes those Soldiers who demonstrate commitment to the Army values, embody the Warrior Ethos, and represent the Force of the Future.

Recommended by his supervisor, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Scalies, to participate in the competition, Howard accepted the challenge, and began the arduous process of preparing himself mentally and physically for the grueling

“I’m open to any opportunity for self-improvement. Being prepared is so important to successfully moving forward. Opportunities like the Best Warrior competition teach you a lot about yourself, and what it takes to become a better leader. I would tell any Soldier that readiness and preparedness is important to that equation.”

Sgt. Juan Howard
CECOM Unit Ministry Team Chaplain Assistant

challenge.

“I constantly studied the Soldier’s manual of common tasks, and I carried those tasks out by participating in hands-on training with Sgt. 1st Class Scalies,” Howard said. “From the physical aspect, I maintained my physical fitness by ruck marching and doing other exercises that I would encounter in the competition.”

Motivated by a number of factors, including the wholehearted support of his family, Howard said that he was from the start, ready to give the Best Warrior effort his all.

“I always believed in my abilities, and I also had a great mentor,” he said.

That kind of confidence would come in handy as his three days of grueling mental and physical challenges got underway.

“You are competing against a group of Soldiers, NCO’s on Warrior tasks and battle drills. Each day began around [2 a.m.] and ended once all required tasks were completed. In this kind of competition, you get



(Left) Sgt. Juan Howard, CECOM NCO and chaplain assistant for the command’s Unit Ministry Team competes in a land navigation challenge during the Army Materiel Command Best Warrior Competition at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, July 7-9.

(Below) Sgt. Juan Howard, the non-commissioned officer and chaplain assistant of the Unit Ministry Team at the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, or CECOM, completes pushups during the Army Materiel Command Best Warrior Competition at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, July 7-9.

Courtesy photos



to apply all the lessons you’ve learned from your training, and then use that to optimize understanding and proficiency,” said Howard.

His experience at Camp Atterbury was no walk in the park. Resembling in some ways, the training environment that every Soldier experiences in basic training, the Best Warrior competition settles for nothing less than true grit from the Army’s finest Warriors. Events included, but were not limited to, depth of knowledge of battle-focused training, tactical communications, land navigation, physical fitness, leadership, communication skills, and a host of other tasks and battle drills.

Howard said of the training, “You have to always be prepared for the unexpected. The training pushes you and demands that you strive to be the best you can be, and then go beyond that

point. I still have a lot to learn, but for me it was a great privilege and opportunity to compete.”

Asked how he thinks he did in the competition overall, Howard said with humility, that he’d place himself in the middle of the other competitors.

With a tour in Afghanistan, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and Ansbach, Germany under his belt, the CECOM Soldier can now add his participation in the Best Warrior competition to his growing list of experiences. Asked what he would like to do next, Howard said, “I’m open to any opportunity for self-improvement. Being prepared is so important to successfully moving forward. Opportunities like the Best Warrior competition teach you a lot about yourself, and what it takes to become a better leader. I would tell any Soldier that readiness and preparedness is important to that equation.”

BY THE NUMB#RS

The United States Coast Guard

On Aug. 4, 1790, Congress authorized the construction of ten boats to enforce the trade and tariff laws of the federal government, called the Revenue Cutter Service. Now known as the U.S. Coast Guard, the organization is celebrating 223 years of enforcing the nation’s maritime laws.

3.4 million

Square miles of Exclusive Economic Zones that the Coast Guard services.

43,000

Number of active duty Coast Guard members currently serving.

19,790

Number of search and rescue missions the Coast Guard responds to in one year.

300

Total annual cadet enrollment at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

164

Total number of missions that Coast Guard aircraft fly on an average day.

By **LAUREN FINNEGAN**, APG News
Source(s): <http://mentalfloss.com/>; <http://uscgboating.org>.

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How are we doing? E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil

Event reaffirms dedication to taking care of vets

Continued from Page A1

to recognize Cecil and Harford County veterans,” said Jon Dansicker, a veteran outreach specialist with the Elkton Vet Center and the program emcee.

Legion Commander Doug Hornberger, the father of Delegate Hornberger, credited the dedication of VA volunteers, two, in particular, who he said spend one day a month at the Legion, helping veterans with claims.

“They are so dedicated, they’ll stay until the last veteran has been helped, no matter how late it is,” he said.

Event speakers

Dansicker called the lineup of speakers, “dynamic.”

Owings expressed concerns that veterans are aging and should be taking steps to ensure a smooth process for their survivors. He encouraged listeners to locate their official service record – DD Form 214 – and place it where family members can find it.

The inability to locate this document can delay benefits indefinitely.

“Make sure your family knows where your papers are and we will take care of you when the time comes,” Owings said.

A Vietnam veteran himself, Owings said, “we won our war, the politicians lost.”

He said the VA is moving forward, noting that veterans are getting treatment for Agent Orange exposure and other maladies that once were not even acknowledged.

“Are we ok? No. But we have each other. And we have our VSOs [veteran service organizations] and vibrant veterans commissions to hold us together and keep us informed,” he said.

He encouraged all veterans to access the www.marylandveteran.gov website and sign up for the newsletter to stay apprised of the latest news concerning veterans.

“It’s chock full of information; it’s all about you,” he said.

Vollmecke, noting that he comes from a military family, said events like this “recharge my batteries.”

“It’s events like this that allows us to embrace what we are,” he said, adding his thanks to “all the veterans and family members for choosing our armed forces.”

“Thank you so much, for your service and for your sacrifice. Without your service we wouldn’t be strong.”

Delegate Hornberger, who is spearheading the renovation of housing at



Veterans Robert Banter, left, and Glen Loy, center, get to know Maj. Gen. Kirk F. Vollmecke of PEO IEW&S prior to the start of the Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at American Legion Susquehanna Post 135 in Perryville July 29.

Perry Point for homeless veterans, added that Vietnam veterans in particular, deserve a “special level of respect.”

“They served proudly. Many were drafted. And the perseverance to rise above the controversy is a testament to their patriotism. They resolved to serve so we must set the record straight and ensure it never happens again,” he said.

“That means taking care of our veterans.”

Bennett noted that ongoing social issues, such as the civil rights era, anti-war demonstrations and accusations of civilians abuses by American forces also dampened support for the war.

“We take an oath to protect and defend with full commitment,” he said. “It’s not our job to decide if war is justified and it wasn’t theirs either.

“Soldiers have two goals: stand your ground and get back home,” he added.

“America turned its back on these heroes but these veterans never turned their backs on America.

“We can’t change history, but we can learn from our past [and] today is a great step in the right direction.”

Support services

At the VA Maryland Health Care System, or VAMHCS Voluntary Service display, program manager Susan Kern encouraged visitors to look into volunteer opportunities at the VA medical centers in Baltimore and Perry Point as well as at the Loch Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center.

“There’s always a need,” Kern said, adding that the satisfaction that comes from helping fellow veterans is “priceless.”

Roslyn Jones, a veterans employment representative with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, or DLLR, said the organization works closely with local workforce centers to educate veterans about training programs and opportunities.

“We want them to know about all the services they can take advantage of if they qualify,” she said. “The opportunities are there.”

Army veteran Sally Rejas, 2001-2008, distributed information about homeless veterans and the increasing numbers of

women being added to those statistics. She represented Final Salute.org which offers assistance to women veterans and their children who are homeless, facing homelessness, or financial strain.

“Unfortunately, it’s a growing population in the homeless community,” Rejas said, adding that the event provided the chance to “spread the word into Harford and Cecil counties.”

Jim Huber led volunteers and members at the Military Order of the Purple Heart display. The commander of Cecil County Chapter 703, Huber said that while membership is for Purple Heart Medal recipients, the chapter serves all veterans. This includes supporting or performing local community service projects, visiting schools to talk about the chapter, providing food or transportation to fellow veterans and more.

“We try to serve the needs of local veterans, regardless of branch,” he said.

For more information, contact Huber at rebuhj@comcast.net,

For more information about the 50th commemoration of the Vietnam War, visit www.vietnamwar50th.com.

Commuter bus users eligible for transit subsidy

Continued from Page A1

APG personnel who currently live in Baltimore City or near White Marsh in Baltimore County and commute to the Harford County Army installation more than 30 miles north. Interested members of the Team APG community are asked to attend one of two upcoming public hearings to provide input about the proposed bus route.

The first public hearing is set for Friday, Aug. 19 at the Myer Auditorium on APG from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The second public hearing is set for Monday, Aug. 22 at the War Memorial, Assembly Hall at 101 North Gay Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 from 6 to 8 p.m.

According to Syreeta Gross, a garrison contractor who manages the installation’s Commuter Center, efforts to bring additional public transportation options to APG began more than five years ago. State funding issues ruled out additional train stops, she said, turning the focus to vanpools and buses. In late 2015, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan announced the Baltimore Link program, appropriating nearly \$200 million to overhaul the city’s transit system and help aid transportation efforts to connect Baltimore City residents to regional employers, Gross explained.

“They’re aware of what we do here at APG. We’re trying to recruit young engineers and scientists to support the R&D mission and they want to live in metro-

politan areas,” Gross said. “[Implementing this new route] just makes sense.”

She said the purpose of the planned public hearings are to provide the public information about planned routes, stops and times.

“If someone looks at it and doesn’t like it or thinks it doesn’t address their needs, this is their chance to let MTA know,” Gross said. “Another nice thing is if people can’t make either meeting they can respond electronically.”

Individuals unable to attend the public hearings should email their comments to commuterbus@mta.maryland.gov.

The MTA has proposed the following route for Line No. 425:

▪ Northbound Weekday Morning Service: To operate between existing stops at Wolfe Street and Monument Street at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore City and Aberdeen Proving Ground. The northbound route is proposed to leave its originating stop in Bal-

timore City at 5:10, 6:10 and 7:10 a.m., arriving to its last proposed stop at APG at 6:50; 7:50; and 8:50, respectively.

▪ Southbound Weekday Afternoon Service: Proposed to operate the same route, in reverse. The southbound route is proposed to leave its originating stop at APG 3, 4 and 5 p.m., arriving to its last proposed stop in Baltimore City at 4:33, 5:33 and 6:33, respectively.

The commuter bus is proposed to stop at several buildings on post, including several stops at the C4ISR Campus, Bldg. 2202, and the GATE Complex near the Rt. 715 gate.

A complete outline of the proposed route for Line No. 425 is available at <https://mta.maryland.gov/baltimorelink/service/commuter-bus>.

At this time, the commuter bus is not scheduled to stop at APG South (Edgewood), Gross said, but the route will stop at the Edgewood Shopping Center.

The success of the route and future

state funding security is tied to individuals utilizing the new service. Federal employees who use the new commuter bus are eligible to participate in the Army Mass Transportation Benefit Program, which currently offers a subsidy of up to \$255 a month to individuals utilizing public transit or vanpools. More information about the subsidy program can be found at the APG Commuter Center.

“It’s so important to come out and let MTA know [your thoughts],” Gross said. “We worked hard to get MTA to bring more transportation options to APG but it’s no good if people won’t ride it.”

For more information about the proposed bus route, contact MTA Commuter Bus staff at commuterbus@mta.maryland.gov or contact Gross at syreeta.a.gross.ctr@mail.mil or 410-278-5491. Visit the APG Commuter Center in person at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Did You Know?

As of Jan. 1, federal employees can receive **up to \$255** a month for commuting costs when utilizing a **vanpool, train or bus**.

To learn more about the federal employee transit subsidy, contact the APG Commuter Center at 410-278-5491.

Missing the paper?

APG News

If your organization is moving and would like to receive the paper at your new location, or if your organization would like to begin receiving the newspaper, send an e-mail to: usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil with the following information:

- The organization name and building number where papers should be delivered
- Approximately how many people work at or visit the facility
- The number of papers you would like to receive
- Any additional information

Please note that the APG News cannot deliver newspa-

pers to every unit and facility. Delivery requests should be submitted by units and organizations where a substantial number of people work or visit.

Requests for delivery do not guarantee approval. Each request will be screened and a decision will be made by the APG News, based on circulation numbers and unit need. Delivery at approved locations will again be assessed at a later date to determine if delivery will continue at that location.

Include “APG News Delivery Request” in the subject line.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

EVENTS & TOWN HALLS

APG SHARP EXPO AUGUST 11

Bldg. 4503, 9 to 11 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Holly Gregory, cofounder to Holly's Hope to serve as guest speaker. Open to all APG and Adelphi personnel. SHARP Part 2 training credit is authorized for participation. Hosted by RDECOM. For more information, contact Deborah Prue Chambers at deborah.j.pruechambers.civ@mail.mil.

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY OBSERVANCE AUGUST 24

Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000, 10:30 a.m. 32nd Annual Observance themed "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote" will feature guest speaker Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols, Director, DOD SARPO. For more information, contact Nnenna Ewing at 410-278-3428 or Elizabeth Young at 410-278-1392.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE SEPTEMBER 22

APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. 10:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class April Marinakes at 443-567-1298.

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

FIRE MARSHALL TRAINING AUGUST 11

Bldg. 4403. 9 a.m. to noon. Hosted by the APG Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Protection & Prevention Division. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the class. For more information, contact Inspector Loren Brown at 410-278-1128.

EEO HR FOR IMCOM SUPERVISORS TRAINING SEPTEMBER 22

Bldg. 3147. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required. Maximum of 50 people per class. For more information, contact Charles Gilmore at charles.l.gilmore3.civ@mail.mil or 410-278-0130.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING AUGUST 17

Bldg. E4810. 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Hosted by the APG Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Protection & Pre-

vention Division. For more information, contact Ernie Little at 410-306-0583 or ernest.w.little.civ@mail.mil.

HEALTH & RESILIENCY HEALTHY WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AUGUST 11

Bldg. 330. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Anne Healy from BC/BS will discuss weight management through the four pillars of a healthy lifestyle. First 30 attendees will receive an infuser cup. For more information, contact Lori Wohr at lori.a.wohr.civ@mail.mil or 410-278-3352.

EDGEWOOD DENTAL CLINIC CLOSED AUGUST 11, AUGUST 25

For more information, contact Sgt. Tracy Glover at tracy.s.glover4.mil@mail.mil.

BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM SESSION AUGUST 18

Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

FAMILY & CHILDREN

BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS AUGUST 11

Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY AUGUST 13

VFW Post 10028, 821 Old Philadelphia Road in Aberdeen. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Operation Homefront invites active-duty, National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, Wounded Warriors and Gold Star Families to a free school supply giveaway. Registration required by Aug. 8, visit <http://tinyurl.com/vfwb2s>. For more information, contact Marti King at 304-943-1132.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MISCELLANEOUS

PASSPORT OFFICE CLOSED AUGUST 8-12

The Passport Office in Bldg. 4305 will be closed Aug. 8-12. Those who have already applied for a visa or passport will be contacted if their documents arrive

during the closure. For more information, contact Tom Shumate at 410-306-2303 or email thomas.s.shumate2.civ@mail.mil

LEADING IN THE ACQUISITION ENVIRONMENT COURSE SEPTEMBER 27-30

Bldg. 6175, Guardian Gateway, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hosted by Defense Acquisition University. Course provides an overview of the competencies and skills needed to lead in an acquisition environment. Experiential activities include role playing, simulation, communication, and critical-thinking exercises; a leadership challenge; and completion of a 360° feedback instrument and executive coaching to develop action plans related to the feedback. Level III certification in at least one acquisition career field and at least 3 years of Level III experience are required prerequisites for the course. Upon completion, students will earn 31 Continuous Learning Points. Applications due Sept. 6. For more information, visit <http://www.dau.mil/training/Pages/apply.aspx> or contact Ben Metcalfe at benjamin.metcalfe@dau.mil or 410-272-9471.

FORGING STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIPS COURSE OCTOBER 5-7

Bldg. 6175, Guardian Gateway, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hosted by Defense Acquisition University. Action-based learning course introduces professionals to the methods and skills necessary to identify, assess, and promote the building of stakeholder relationships required for success in the acquisition environment. Level III certification in at least one acquisition career field is a required prerequisite for the course. Upon completion students will earn 25 Continuous Learning Points. Applications due by Sept. 30. For more information, visit <http://www.dau.mil/training/Pages/apply.aspx> or contact Ben Metcalfe at benjamin.metcalfe@dau.mil or 410-272-9471.

APG SOUTH 2016 WATER MAIN FLUSHING The APG South (Edgewood) 2016

water main flushing schedule is as follows: July through Sept.: E3000-E4000 area; Aug. 11-13: APG South housing area, E1220-E1300 area, and child care center; Oct. through Dec.: E5000 area; Nov. 10-12: APG South housing area, Austin Road. For more information, contact Robert Warlick at 410-436-2196 or robert.w.warlick2.civ@mail.mil.

BIBLE STUDY CLASS
APG North (Aberdeen) chapel. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Soldier and Family Christian Fellowship Bible Study Class focusing on biblical fellowship and outreach and encouragement through prayer. Open to all. Free child care included. For more information, call 410-278-4333.

RETIRING SOON? UNCLE SAM WANTS TO THANK YOU!

Are you an APG Soldier or civilian nearing retirement from government service? Consider participating in the monthly Installation Retirement Ceremony. Hosted the fourth Thursday each month by the APG Garrison, the event includes awards and decorations provided to retirees and their spouses. Photo DVDs are provided to each retiree after the ceremony. All Soldiers and civilians are eligible to participate, regardless of unit or organization. For more information, contact Lisa M. Waldon at 410-278-4353 or email lisa.m.waldon.civ@mail.mil.

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Firewood is available, on a first-come first-served basis, at a cost of \$20 per level standard 8-foot pick-up truck, \$15 per level standard 6-foot pick-up truck, and \$5 per car trunk load. For more information, contact Scott English at 410-436-9804 or Kathy Thisse at 410-436-8789.

MORE ONLINE

More events can be seen at www.TeamAPG.com

MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE

BJ'S MEMBERSHIP SIGN UPS AUGUST 16 at Exton Golf Course

AUGUST 17 at APG Bowling Center

11 a.m. to 1p.m. Inner Circle membership is \$35 (\$15 savings) for 13 months. Rewards membership is \$75 (\$25 savings) for 13 months. New and renewal memberships eligible. All forms of payment accepted. For more information, contact Patricia Harkins at patricia.e.harkins.naf@mail.mil or 410-436-4467.

RIPKEN BALL GAME AND CRAB FEAST AUGUST 27

The Civilian Welfare Fund will host a crab-feast at the party deck at Ripken Stadium. Picnic dinner includes smoked pork BBQ, roasted herb chicken, hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, tossed salad, steamed crabs, cookies and drinks. Tickets are \$58 per person. Dinner begins at 6:35, game starts at 7:05.
Call 410-436-4467 to purchase a ticket.

APG OKTOBERFEST SEPTEMBER 16-17

More details to follow at www.apgmwr.com.

LEISURE & RECREATION

JERSEY BOYS DISCOUNT TICKETS

Tickets are available for the Sept. 29 performance of Jersey Boys at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore starting at 8 p.m. Tickets for upper balcony are \$39 and available until supplies last. The show is not appropriate for children.

To purchase tickets please visit MWR Leisure Travel Services at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326. For questions call 410-278-4011/4907 or email usarmy.apg.imcom.list.apgr-usag-mwr-leisuretravel@mail.mil.

CHILD & YOUTH

SERVICES

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AUGUST 5

APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. 6 p.m. "Underdogs." Free movie, giveaway, snacks for sale, and free craft activity. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

SCHOOL TRANSITIONS AUGUST 16

Bldg. 2503, Room 214. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for incoming sixth graders; 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. incoming ninth graders. Free event to ease transition to middle school or high school; registration is required. To register, call 410-278-7571. For more information, contact Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-2857 or stacie.e.umbarger.naf@mail.mil.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT AUGUST 19

APG South (Edgewood) recreation center. 6 p.m. "The Land Before Time: Journey of the Brave." Free movie, giveaway, snacks, and craft activity. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

SPORTS & RECREATION

KAYAK CLASSES AUG. 11 & 12

Spesutie Island Marina. 6 to 8:30 p.m. \$60 per person. Open to all eligible MWR patrons. Registration required, deadline is three days before class. Five days prior to class, excursion must meet minimum participants to take place. To register, call 410-278-4124/5789/2134/2135 or email usarmy.APG.imcom-fmwr.list.usag-mwr-outdoorrec@mail.mil.

KAYAK EXCURSIONS AUG. 27

Excursions leave from Skippers Point. Cost is \$400 per person. 8 to 11 a.m. Aug. 27. Open to all eligible MWR patrons. Registration required, deadline is three days before class. Five days prior to class, excursion must meet minimum participants to take place. To register, call 410-278-4124/5789/2134/2135 or email usarmy.APG.imcom-fmwr.list.usag-mwr-outdoorrec@mail.mil.

Private Piano & Guitar Lessons

Monday or Tuesday or Wednesday; 3:30 - 7:30p.m.
Aberdeen Area Youth Services, Bldg 2522

Private 30 minute sessions. Lessons meet weekly.
Book fee is not included. Please be prepared to pay for books at the start of the class.
AGES: Piano 4-18 Guitar 7-18

Mondays:
Aug 29-Sep 26 (4 lessons) \$72

Tuesdays:
Aug 30-Sep 27 (4 lessons) \$72

Wednesdays:
Aug 31-Sep 28 (4 lessons) \$72

NO CLASS Sep 5, 6, 7

Registration Dates:

Current/Former Students*
Aug 15, 2016

New Students
Aug 22, 2016

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For more information, contact
shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil or
tonya.m.froisland.naf@mail.mil or call 410-278-4589/3250.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Visit the Parent Central Office, Bldg 2503 Highpoint Road, Second Floor, Rooms 210/211. Please call (410) 278-7571/7479 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments will have priority and are highly encouraged.

Learn more about APG MWR activities & services by going online at www.apgmwr.com and downloading the FMWR Directory.

inside

SECURITY

Aberdeen Test Center supports Homeland Security to improve aviation security.

ATC | B2

COMPUTING

Through its 'Open Campus' initiative, ARL signs supercomputing partnership with University of Maryland.

Supercomputing | B3

NUTRITION

RDECOM center develops nutrition bar optimized for paratroopers.

Paratrooper | B4

newsbrief

ARMY PUTS FOCUS ON ANTI-TERRORISM THIS MONTH

Army Office of the Provost Marshal General

August marks Antiterrorism Awareness Month. The wide range of terrorist-related threats during the past year reflects the realities of the risks faced by the nation. To help prevent terrorist activities, Army communities must remain vigilant and constantly aware.

The focus areas for Antiterrorism Awareness Month include recognizing and reporting suspicious activity (through iWATCH Army and iSALUTE programs), antiterrorism awareness training and information sharing, countering insider threats, and spreading awareness of the risks associated with the use of social media.

In support of an active antiterrorism awareness campaign, the Army Office of the Provost Marshal General has developed a wide-range of antiterrorism awareness products and tools such as desk references, leadership guides, brochures, pocket guides, posters, and videos to support the field. These products are available on the OPMG's Army Antiterrorism Enterprise Portal (CAC-users only: <https://army.deps.mil/army/sites/PMG/OPMG/OPS/antiterror/ATEP/default.aspx>).

During Antiterrorism Awareness Month, installation commanders and leaders focus on community outreach, emergency response to an active shooter, efforts to prevent insider threats, and sharing information on radicalization and efforts to counter violent extremism.

Awareness of the terrorist threat and an understanding of protective measures are the hallmarks of Army's defense.

online

 www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews

 facebook.com/APGMd

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 flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

 ICE system <http://ice.disa.mil/>
Facebook, <http://on.fb.me/HzQIow>



EEG sensors and cap used to monitor test subjects' brain wave patterns is shown mocked up, with brain wave patterns in the background. According to U.S. Army Research Laboratory scientists, advances in brain science could lead to improvements in performance and decision making, changing the way Soldiers fight in the near future.

Shaping the future force

Neuroscience advances could boost battlefield performance

Story and photos by **DAVID VERGUN**
Army News Service

Advances in brain science could lead to improvements in performance and decision making, changing the way Soldiers fight in the near future.

The improvements could include

increased effectiveness in detecting and engaging the enemy and increased alertness while driving through the battlespace, according to Dr. Jean Vettel, a neuroscientist with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, or ARL, who spoke during a media day at Aberdeen Proving Ground, July 28.

For the last seven years, Vettel's team has been running experiments to gain a better understanding of the individual differences in brain patterns that could lead to future capabilities for Soldiers in the 2040

See BASIC, page B7

STEM program encourages students to 'RISE'

By **DAN BALDWIN**
CERDEC

For the third consecutive year, high school students spent two weeks working side-by-side with U.S. Army engineers and scientists in laboratories at Aberdeen Proving Ground during the APG Real-world Internships in Science & Engineering, or RISE, program July 11-22.

The RISE program is a partnership between the U.S. Army Materiel Command's Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, known as CERDEC, and the Communications-Electronics Command, or CECOM, which provides in-lab experience for high school students interested in pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, fields who might otherwise lack inroads.

"The goal is for the kids who ideally already have a longstanding interest in STEM, and who are looking to pursue



A RISE intern shows off one of the projects he created while spending two weeks working in the CERDEC Space and Terrestrial Communications Directorate's C4ISR Systems Integration Lab.

See RISE, page B7



First woman assumes command of MRICD

Col. Margery M. Hanfelt, second from right, becomes the first woman to assume command of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, as she accepts the unit flag from Maj. Gen. Brian C. Lein, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, second from left, during a change of command ceremony on APG South (Edgewood), July 26.

MRICD is the nation's leading science and technology laboratory in the area of medical chemical countermeasures research and development, headquartered at the chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives, or CBRNE, center of excellence on APG South.

Photo by Cary Sisolak, PHC

ATC aids Homeland Security safe flight efforts

By **MATTHEW G. GHENT**
Aberdeen Test Center

Terrorists can make explosives undetectable by all but the most intrusive searches.

Aviation security is critical to defense against terrorism.

The Army Test and Evaluation Command’s Aberdeen Test Center, or ATC, works with Homeland Security to identify threats and countermeasures.

Each day, aviation security impacts millions of commercial airline passengers. Terrorism remains an ever-changing threat, and protecting the current and future fleets of commercial aircraft requires the collaboration of organizations across the country.

Since well before 9/11, ATC has supported the Commercial Aircraft Vulnerability and Mitigation Program, which is now sponsored by the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security, known as DHS. The program’s overarching goal is to identify the vulnerability of commercial aircraft to terrorist-based internal explosive threats and establish countermeasures against cataclysmic structural failure resulting from those threats. Testing is performed in two main areas.

Explosive Mitigation testing focuses on developing technologies to mitigate catastrophic explosive damage, such as explosive shock, blast overpressure, fragmentation and fire. ATC has performed live-fire testing on a variety of commercial aircraft blast-mitigation techniques, including blast-resistant aircraft baggage/cargo containers, explosive-resistant aircraft passenger cabin and cargo hold liners, and hardened overhead stowage bins.

Commercial Aircraft Vulnerability testing addresses the ability of commercial aircraft to survive internal explosive detonations in the passenger cabin and cargo holds. At ATC, testing is performed on both jet and full-scale aircraft.



(Left) A DC-10 jet liner undergoes vulnerability testing at Phillips Army Airfield on APG North (Aberdeen).

(Below) A Blast-resistant baggage/cargo container design test in process.

Aberdeen Test Center photos

The central issue is determining the minimal size threshold for an explosive to cause immediate catastrophic aircraft loss. The test data is used to establish performance standards for the screening technologies used in airport checkpoints, upgrade future aircraft design, and develop technologies to reduce aircraft vulnerability to explosives. These improvements help to ensure that potentially disastrous terrorist acts do not result in the loss of the aircraft.

ATC also supports basic research on various types of standard and homemade explosives. As a Major Range and Test Facility Base, ATC provides the DHS Science and Technology Directorate with the scientific, engineering and test resources and capabilities of the DOD. Through a collaborative effort with ATC, DHS can leverage existing resources to innovate the technological tools to protect the homeland.

Editor’s Note: Matthew G. Ghent is a test officer in the ATC Threat Detection and Systems Survivability Branch, Survivability/Lethality Directorate.



APG fellowship program welcomes new class

Senior Service College Fellowship Program

July 25 marked the opening day for the Senior Service College Fellowship program at Aberdeen Proving Ground and represented the official welcome for the fellows in the Class of 2017.

The eighth and largest class to be held at APG, the Class of 2017 has embarked on 10 months of study through the Defense Acquisition University. The fellows were welcomed by Jim Oman, SSCF-APG Director and Joanne Schoonover, Dean, Capital and Northeast Region, Defense Acquisition University, during opening day activities.

The 10 APG fellows were chosen by a centralized selection board from among the numerous applicants for acceptance into the academically rigorous program of study. Each fellow participating in the program was identified and endorsed by their sponsoring command based upon their demonstrated past performance and, more importantly, their potential to assume positions of greater responsibility within the Acquisition Workforce.

The Class of 2017 fellows are: Laraina Adams, Army PEO Enterprise Information Systems; Stephen Conley, U.S. Army Evaluation Center, US Army Test and Evaluation Command; Michael Danhires, PEO Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors; Brian DeBiase, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command; Jerry Harper, PEO, Command, Control and Commu-

nications-Tactical; Scott Kelley, U.S. Army CECOM; Phillip Minor, System of Systems Engineering and Integration, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology; Graciano Nikolich, PEO C3T; Jonathan Reiner, PEO IEW&S; and James Shillingford, Defense Logistics Agency.

According to Oman, the upcoming academic year promises to be another excellent experience for the incoming class, and

is one that will continue to be characterized by adult learning in a small seminar. In the words of renowned military theoretician and British army officer, Maj. Gen. J.F.C. Fuller, will be one in which, “...we shall teach each other: first because we have a vast amount of experience behind us, and secondly, in my opinion, it is only through free criticism of each other’s ideas that truth can be thrashed out...”

The SSCF is a 10-month program,

provided under the auspices of DAU, focused on leadership and acquisition management and prepares senior civilian acquisition leaders for roles as product and project managers, program executive officers, and other key acquisition positions. Program information is available at <http://www.dau.mil/sscf/Pages/apg.aspx> or by contacting Jim Oman at james.oman@dau.mil or at 410-272-9470.



Adams



Conley



Danhires



Debiase



Harper



Kelley



Minor



Nikolich



Reiner



Shillingford

WORD OF THE WEEK

Virgule

Pronounced: VUR-gyool
Part of Speech: Noun
Definition:

1. A short oblique stroke (/) – sometimes called a ‘slash bar or mark’ - between two words indicating that whichever is appropriate may be chosen to complete the sense of the text in which they occur:
2. A dividing line, as in dates, fractions, a run-in passage of poetry to show verse division, etc.: 3/21/27; “Sweetest love, I do not go/For weariness of thee.” (John Donne)
3. A short oblique stroke (/) used in computing; a forward slash.

Examples use:

- The Baltimore Ravens won Super Bowl XLVII after the National Football Leagues’ 2012/13 football season.
- The defendant and his/her attorney must appear in court.
- Performers and/or their managers must sign the photography release forms.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source(s): <http://www.oxforddictionaries.com>; <http://dictionary.reference.com>

ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

JAG

Judge Advocate General Corps

Judge Advocate General’s Corps, also known as JAG or JAG Corps, refers to the legal branch or specialty of a military concerned with military justice and military law. Officers serving in a JAG Corps are typically called Judge Advocates. Only the chief attorney within each branch is referred to as the “Judge Advocate General”; however, individual JAG Corps officers are colloquially known as JAGs.

Judge Advocates serve primarily as legal advisors to the command to which they are assigned. In this function, they can also serve as the personal legal advisor to their commander, and as prosecutors for the military when conducting courts-martial. In the U.S. military, JAG Corps officers are charged with the defense and prosecution of military law as provided in the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or UCMJ. Highly experienced officers of the JAG Corps often serve as military judges in courts-martial and courts of inquiry.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source(s): www.wikipedia.org

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Supercomputing partnership creates opportunities for scientific discovery

U.S. Army Research Laboratory

The University of Maryland and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, the central laboratory that provides world-class basic research for the Army, announced a strategic partnership, July 29, to provide high-performance computing resources for use in higher education and research communities.

As a result of this synergistic partnership, students, professors, engineers, and researchers will have unprecedented access to technologies that enable scientific discovery and innovation.

The partnership was formed under ARL’s “Open Campus” initiative, and in collaboration with DOD HPC Modernization Office. Mid-Atlantic Crossroads, or MAX, a University of Maryland center that operates a multi-state advanced cyberinfrastructure platform, will connect ARL’s high-performance computer “Harold” to this ecosystem on its 100-Gbps optical network. Collaborators from the UMD, MAX, and ARL communities will be able to build research networks, explore complex problems, engage in competitive research opportunities, and encounter realistic research applications.

“The UMD/MAX-ARL partnership provides a unique opportunity for both organizations to create a national model of collaboration in the HPC field,” said Tripti Sinha, MAX Executive Director and UMD Assistant Vice President and Chief Technology Officer. “Collaborative partnerships are key to maximizing our technological potential and ensuring our nation’s strength and competitiveness in the critical fields of science and research. UMD and MAX are very excited to work with ARL on this endeavor.”

In addition to increasing accessibility and enhancing HPC resources for researchers, the collaboration between



U.S. Army illustration

The University of Maryland and the U.S. Army Research Laboratory announced, July 29, a strategic partnership to provide high-performance computing resources for use in higher education and research communities.

UMD/MAX and ARL will also support innovation activities conducted by private and startup companies that connect through MAX’s infrastructure.

“Our goal is to take the cutting-edge computational power that we use for defense research, development, test, and evaluation and put that in a place that will benefit the wider scientific community,” said Dr. Raju Namburu, Chief, Computational Sciences Division, Computational and Information Sciences Directorate, U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

UMD, MAX, and ARL’s combined effort not only benefits the mid-Atlantic region, but also aligns with the federal government’s strategic initiative to maximize the benefits of supercomputing for economic competitiveness, sci-

entific discovery, and national security.

An executive order announced in July 2015 established the National Strategic Computing Initiative to support the U.S. in its efforts to remain a leader in the development and deployment of HPC systems.

“The university is in full support of the federal government’s leadership on this critical HPC initiative,” said Eric Denna, UMD Vice President and Chief Information Officer. “The creation of the UMD/MAX-ARL partnership is just one step in the promotion of HPC innovation, and UMD will continue to actively participate by contributing technical expertise and sharing knowledge with our key collaborators.”

The UMD/MAX-ARL partnership also lays the foundation for the organi-

CECOM employee receives prestigious Macy award

By **MARY B. GRIMES**
CECOM

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”



Patches

While history may attribute these words to Anglican clergyman and evangelist John Wesley, they currently reflect the sentiments of recent recipient of the John W. Macy, Jr. award, Carrie A. Patches, a supervisory logistics management specialist with the Communications-Electronics Command at APG. She currently serves as the chief of the CECOM Security Assistance Management Directorate (SAMD), AFRICOM/Canada/EUCOM (ACE) Division.

A presentation of the 2015 award was held June 23, during a ceremony at the Pentagon. Patches, who is on maternity leave after giving birth to her second daughter, was unable to attend and was represented by Larry Muzzelo, CECOM deputy to the commanding general.

The award, according to U.S. Army Human Resources officials, recognizes demonstrated excellence in the leadership of civilians by an Army military or civilian supervisor. They said it also exemplifies the highest traditions established by Macy during his long and distinguished career of public service and the Army’s philosophy that leaders are responsible for civilian personnel management.

The road to this prestigious recognition is anything but a cakewalk. Individuals under consideration for the Macy award are nominated by their supervisors based on a specific contri-

bution for which the team, led by the nominee, is responsible, and resulted in material improvements in areas such as Army mission support, military-civilian teamwork, customer service, productivity, Equal Opportunity Office accomplishments, and/or enhancement of the Army’s reputation as an employer.

Patches led a team that managed a workload that encompassed 169 Foreign Military Sales, or FMS, cases consisting of nearly 700 lines for a total estimated value of \$2.4 million.

Patches’ team completed the case writing and execution of two urgent cases for an ally in support of an ongoing crisis. One case provided Man-pack Radio Systems, Vehicular Systems, Base Station systems, Handheld Radio Systems and accessories in just more than one-and-one-half years, a process that normally takes three to five years to complete.

Another case provided Night Vision Devices and Thermal Imagers, support equipment, spares, training, and logistical support in just over a year, a process that normally takes two to three years to complete.

All of these efforts required extensive coordination with Program Executive Offices, Program Management Offices, and vendors.

Expressing her surprise and appreciation for the award, Patches said, “Besides my girls, this is my greatest personal achievement.”

“I believe if you take care of the workforce, they will take care of the work mission. My team accomplished many wonderful things in CY 2015. Being recognized for leading the team and their efforts is a testament to the work they did. I won this award for the entire Army and it was presented by the Under Secretary of the Army. Receiving acknowledgement at that level for the efforts we performed is invaluable.”

With 16 years of civil service to her credit, Patches shows no sign of slow-



U.S. Army photo

Under Secretary of the Army and Chief Management Officer (CMO) Patrick J. Murphy, left, presents the John W. Macy Jr. award to Larry Muzzelo, deputy to the CECOM Commanding General during a Pentagon award ceremony June 23. Muzzelo accepted the award on behalf of Carrie A. Patches, chief of the CECOM Security Assistance Management Directorate, or SAMD, who was unable to attend.

ing down. When asked about the importance of dedication and commitment, she said, “It’s extremely important. In SAMD, we manage the execution of the CECOM LCMC Security Assistance programs by providing superior technology and life-cycle management to our International Partners; by supporting our U.S. partners by assuring a more responsive, agile, and interoperable military force during coalition operations, providing the technical expertise required to develop C4ISR architectural solutions to meet unique international customer demands while maintaining national security interests; and by providing total program management, from acquisition to sustainment, to best meet customer requirements.”

“The work we do for our military services -- and in the case of my organization our foreign allies, is the greatest and most rewarding work someone could do,” she said.

Patch added that the demanding workload takes the energy, drive and support of every member of the team and that that collective effort is what motivates her.

“SAMD is a very small organization. The output produced by the workforce is beyond anything I have witnessed in

zations to expand their reach and make additional HPC resources accessible to the communities they serve.

Harold will become available once the machine is scrubbed, declassified, and brought into ARL’s demilitarized zone, or perimeter network. Under ARL and UMD’s collaborative research development agreement, the HPC resource will be allocated to MAX’s Internet Protocol address space and will be accessible to the collective communities of UMD, MAX, and ARL’s Open Campus.

As a result, researchers will have supercomputing-caliber computational capability and leading-edge advanced networking research at their fingertips that is designed for application development and networking experiments.

“This joint research venture with UMD/MAX will leverage ARL’s high-performance resources and the Army’s groundbreaking research programs in emerging scientific computing architectures, such as non Von Neumann computing architectures, distributed ad-hoc computing, and programmable networks,” Namburu said. “The result is a unique opportunity for synergistic collaboration between two prominent organizations on the forefront of research and innovation.”

The ultimate goal is to share HPC resources for the good of the community and ensure that groundbreaking collaborative projects have the necessary tools.

“An HPC resource like Harold will significantly enhance the capabilities of the University of Maryland’s faculty and student researchers,” said Patrick O’Shea, UMD Vice President and Chief Research Officer. “The partnership between UMD/MAX and ARL opens up connections for our community and enables research opportunities. We are eager to see the expansion of our creative ecosystem.”

“Being recognized for leading the team and their efforts is a testament to the work they did. I won this award for the entire Army and it was presented by the Under Secretary of the Army. Receiving acknowledgement at that level for the efforts we performed is invaluable.”

Carrie A. Patches

CECOM Chief of Security Assistance
Management Directorate, AFRICOM/Canada/
EUCOM Division

my career. They do so much with so little. We have a workforce where each person manages multiple cases from cradle to grave. Our sister commands have teams of people who work a single case and may only have to focus on a single stage for that single case. In spite of these huge workloads, their performance metrics are exceptional and they always maintain the utmost professionalism, never wavering under pressure. The workforce is truly remarkable,” she said.

Patches added words of inspiration for others who are seeking to be more and do more.

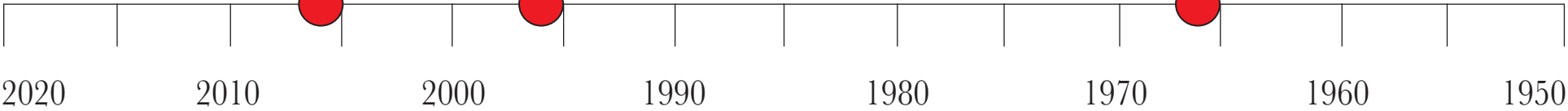
“Since this award recognizes demonstrated excellence in the leadership of civilians and the accomplishment of the mission through the civilian workforce, I will speak to fellow managers responsible for leading employees,” Patches said. “The most important rule when leading people is to take care of the people. If you take care of the people, they will take care of the mission. Learn the strengths and weaknesses of each of your people and play to the strengths and help them improve their weaknesses. This will instill trust and loyalty with your workforce members.”

This Week in APG History



Take a look back in time as the APG News explores what made the headlines around APG during this week 10, 25 and 50 years ago. This week’s APG News masthead is from 1971.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, *APG News*



10 Years Ago

Aug. 10, 2006

Child Development Center assistant Julia Courts, left, has second thoughts about letting a Wildlife Adventures staff member place a python around her neck during a wildlife show as the center.



25 Years Ago

Aug. 7, 1991

Human Factors Engineer William Debellis, second from right, explains the field materiel robot-experimental to Army Materiel Command science advisors during a tour of the U.S. Army Human Engineering Laboratory.



50 Years Ago

Aug. 4, 1966

Lt. Col. Lloyd O. Jensen, APG troop commander, center, presents the Zero Defects group recognition award to Warehouse and Services section for defect-free work from September 1965 to March 1966.

‘Paratrooper Bar’ jump-starts nutrition

By **JANE BENSON**
NSRDEC

Scientists at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center’s Combat Feeding Directorate, or CFD, jumped at the chance to develop a nutrition bar based on identified paratrooper needs.

The nation’s paratroopers have extremely demanding jobs, making proper nutrition and maintaining energy levels key to their performance and safety. Keeping paratroopers properly nourished is especially challenging during long flights, where the wait time between meals can be several hours.

NSRDEC’s CFD worked with the 82nd Airborne Division to solve this problem. CFD’s interaction is part of a larger effort by several organizations in NSRDEC to partner with the 82nd to develop products and solutions that better meet Soldier needs.

The result of NSRDEC CFD’s partnering with the 82nd is a “Paratrooper Bar” that is nutritious, provides energy, and is easy to carry and easy to eat.

While partnering with the 82nd earlier this year, NSRDEC’s Cognitive Science Team had noticed that paratroopers weren’t eating during an extended period of time, as it was a policy that Soldiers could not eat after being fitted with the parachute rigging. The Cognitive Science Team then hypothesized that paratroopers’ performance might improve if they were able to get some nutrition during this time.

The U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, or USARIEM, at Natick then recommended a nutritional profile, and CFD developed a nutrition bar to meet those requirements, focusing on carbohydrates and caffeine.

“We go out and conduct field tests every year and we interact and receive anecdotal information about needs,” said Dr. Jeannette Kennedy, CFD technical adviser. “But this particular partnering with a unit is on a much deeper level. The missions of the 82nd are demanding and somewhat unique in terms of their timeline and requirements.”

“If they are rigged three or four hours before their jump, per their standard operating procedure, they were not allowed to eat anything because of concerns related to the integrity of the parachute and the harness system, specifically, about dirty fingers or food waste or things being spilled,” said Jeremy Whitsitt, deputy director, CFD. “They didn’t want anything to affect the integrity of the parachute.”

“As material developers, we identified that a beverage was not going to work,” said Kennedy. “The item had to meet very specific requirements,



including ease of consumption during turbulence. One solution was a nutrition bar that they can store in their left arm pocket.”

CFD researchers have been creating nutrition bars for years based on specific needs, so they were able to create the Paratrooper Bar fairly quickly. The bar also has the potential to be applied to other situations and jobs, especially since it is easy to carry, easy to eat, and provides energy.

“When something like this comes along, you are able to see a direct connection between what you do and improving Soldier quality of life on the battlefield,” said Whitsitt. “It gives you perspective – this is why I’m doing what I do.”

According to Lt. Col. Peter L. Gilbert, commander, 307th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, the Soldiers “needed a product that would sustain the readiness of the paratrooper while en route to the drop zone. To do that, we partnered with Combat Feeding Directorate at Natick.”

The bar was recently used by the 82nd during a trans-Atlantic exercise.

“Exercise Swift Response 2016 is one of the premier military-crisis-response training events for multinational airborne forces in the world,” said Gilbert. “The exercise included more than 5,000 participants from 10 NATO nations and took place at locations in Poland and Germany. Swift Response 16 was a joint, multinational U.S. Army/U.S. Air Force exercise designed to train the U.S. Global Response Force – led by the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division. Swift Response 16 will evaluate the readiness of the core ground component of the U.S. Army’s

Global Response Force.”

“Operation Anakonda effectively demonstrated the strategic reach of the Global Response Force as an operationally significant force,” said Lt. Col. Patrick M. Roddy Jr., commander, 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. “It was a logistically daunting task, deploying from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, with limited notice, to landing on the drop zone in Poland ready to fight – just getting there was a complex and physically challenging task. By the time our paratroopers hit the drop zone, most had been awake for up to 30 hours. In that time they alerted, marshalled, planned, conducted sustained airborne training, loaded a tight aircraft, and stood to jump with over 100 pounds of equipment, in most cases.”

“After consuming the Paratrooper Bar during the 11-hour Trans-Atlantic Airborne Joint Forcible Entry Operation into Torun, Poland, our Soldiers were alert and able to remain at peak levels of readiness, not only during the jump into a contested operational environment, but the rigorous follow-on ground operation,” Gilbert said.

“Hydration and nutritional preparation of our paratroopers was decisive to our readiness to fight and win on the drop zone,” Roddy said. “Our brigade’s paratrooper nutrition initiatives are changing the ethos of how we view feeding. We are teaching our paratroopers to view nutrition as a tailored fueling process for tactical athletes. The in-flight meals and Paratrooper Bars really helped us to have the right energy levels and edge we needed to be effective the moment we hit the ground.

The Paratrooper Bar helped keep warfighters nourished and alert during Exercise Swift Response 2016, a military-crisis-response training event. The bar was developed by the Combat Feeding Directorate at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center and was based on identified paratrooper needs.

Photo by Sgt. Juan F. Jimenez, 1st BCT, 82nd Airborne Division

The best feeding initiative I’ve seen for airborne operations in 17 years of service.”

“The Paratrooper Bar is tied directly to the Chief of Staff of the Army’s number one priority -- readiness,” Gilbert said. “We must ensure our paratroopers remain at peak levels of readiness during large-scale airborne operations, and the development and employment of the Paratrooper Bar does exactly that.”

Gilbert believes that partnering with NSRDEC is truly helping with communication and better meeting Soldier needs.

“Working with Jeannette has been great,” he said. “We can’t thank Natick and the Combat Feeding Directorate enough for their interface and for connecting with the paratrooper, understanding his or her requirements, and then taking those requirements and putting them into a tangible product.”

NSRDEC’s work with the 82nd is part of an all-encompassing science and technology effort called the S&T Project Integration Pilot, which is part of the Soldier and Squad Performance Optimization, or S2PO, initiative.

“The customer intimacy is so important,” said Rick Haddad, NSRDEC S2PO Program Integration lead. “Partnering gives us a chance to see the Soldier’s challenges firsthand. It’s important to increase intimacy with the warfighters who use our products so we can better meet their needs. The big, overarching message here, and not just for Combat Feeding, is that being embedded in a unit and having a partnership allows us to come up with solutions much faster. Sometimes, we never would have known that there were these opportunities for these quick wins if we weren’t at the unit level.”

Contract specialist to receive C4ISR award

By **BETSY KOZAK-HOWARD**
ACC-APG

An Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldier will be recognized, as the Command, Control Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance quarterly award winner, but he won’t be there to get it.

Staff Sgt. Antoine L. Echols, a contract specialist assigned to the 926th Contracting Battalion, named the C4ISR Employee of the Quarter (junior category) for the second quarter, is deployed. He also nearly missed one of the activities for which he is being recognized due to his deployment.

According to the award criteria, the intent of the award program is to identify and reward outstanding C4ISR personnel who demonstrate the ideals of leadership, competency and service.

Although this is a second quarter award, Echols’ story began in 2015 when he trained and competed in the USA Track and Field Masters Indoor Championships in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He brought home gold medals in the 60-meter and 200-meter races for the 30-35 age group. After these wins, Echols was determined to defend his titles in the 2016 competition.

Echols trained for the 2016 competition while he simultaneously performed his contracting duties and prepared for his deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. He learned that he would report on March 4 for pre-deployment processing at the Continental U.S. Replacement Center, Fort Bliss, Texas. The 2016 USATF Masters Indoor Championships were scheduled for March 5, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and his



(Left) Staff Sgt. Antoine L. Echols, contracting NCO from the 926th Contracting Battalion, crosses the finish line in first place during the USA Track and Field Masters Indoor Championship held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Echols received first-place medals in the both the 60-meter and 200-meter races for the 30-35 age group.



Photo by Rob D’Avellar

(Right) Sitting on the first-place podium at the USA Track and Field Masters Indoor Championship, Staff Sgt. Antoine L. Echols, from the 926th Contracting Battalion in support of the Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground, displays his winning medals. He has a total of four gold medals for winning the 60-meter and 200-meter races for the 2015 and 2016 championships.

U.S. Army Photo

dreams of defending his titles faded away.

Understanding the importance of this championship to Echols, leaders from the 926th Contracting Battalion and the CRC stepped in to assist. They authorized Echols to miss some training and to travel to the race site.

“Well, that was a very stressful weekend. Leaving Aberdeen knowing how much my leadership put into making all this happen for me was great,” Echols pointed out. “I think the hardest

part about that weekend was [worrying about] not disappointing my leadership and co-workers back in Aberdeen who supported me since day one. I think going into the race, I wasn’t nervous about those I was competing against, but was more concerned about bringing back two gold medals to APG.

“On top of all that, I was stressing about leaving my family behind,” he added. “Deploying has never been an issue with me, but in a case like this a lot

was going on in such a small window.”

Echols represented the Army with a first place finish in both events, finishing the 60-meter race in 6.77 seconds, and the 200-meter race in 21.67 seconds, beating his previous record.

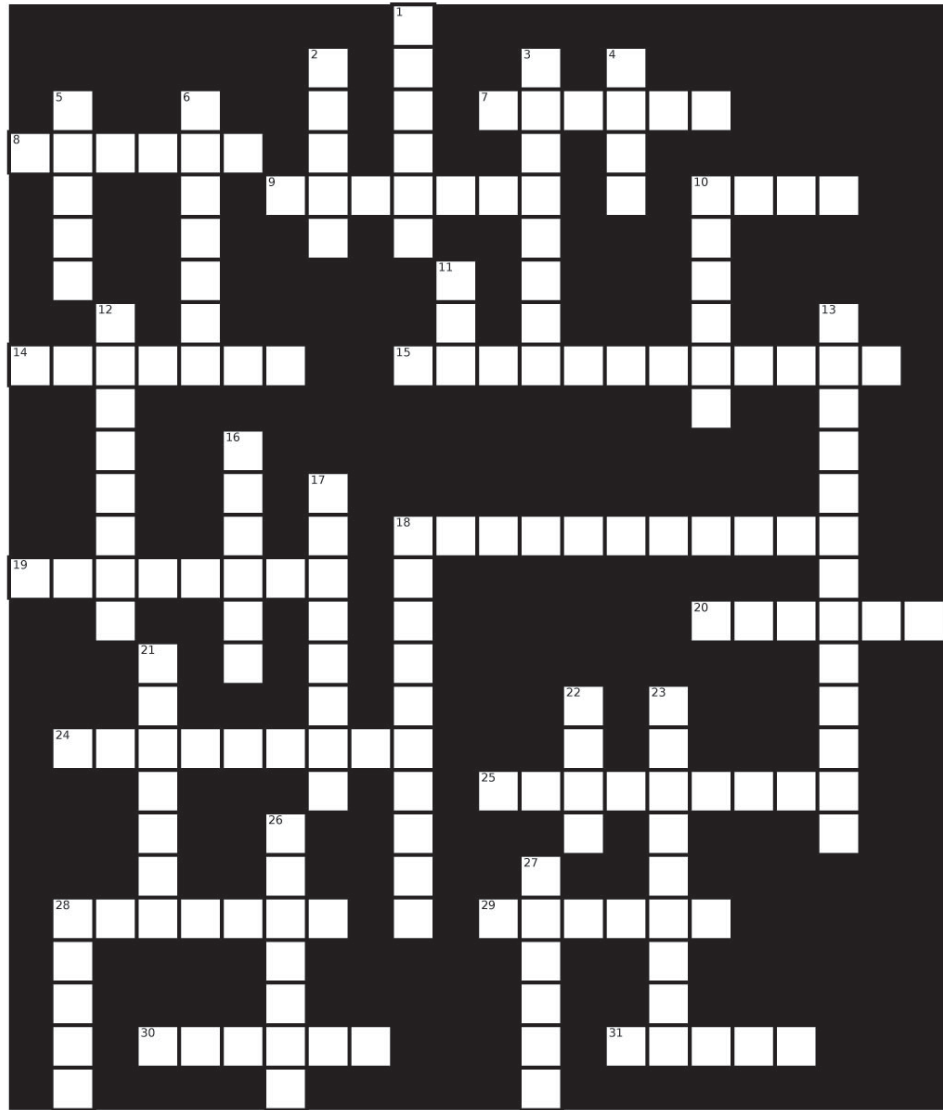
“My future plans are to hopefully get the Army more involved with supporting this sport,” Echols said. “I would love to see this sport as a part of the world class athletic program that the Army currently has with other sports.”

Leave Donations

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); or OPM 630- B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Please contact Sue Campbell at 410-306-0266 or sue.a.campbell8.civ@mail.mil

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The APG Crossword

Summer Olympics

The 2016 Summer Olympics starts Friday, Aug. 5, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Test your knowledge about the history of the Summer Olympics with this trivia puzzle.

By **RACHEL PONDER**, APG News

Across

7. This American swimmer has won the most Olympic medals.
8. This country hosted the first modern Olympic Games in 1896.
9. Mary Lou Retton is an American _____ who won one gold, two silver and two bronze medals in the 1984 Summer Olympics.
10. Number of times the U.S. has hosted the Summer Olympics.

14. The only country to have won at least one gold medal at every Summer Olympic Games is Great _____.
15. _____ swimming combines water acrobatics with music.
18. Dominique Dawes, an artistic gymnast, was part of the gold-medal winning “_____ Seven” at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia.
19. Number of countries repre-

- sented during the first modern Olympic Summer Games in 1896.
20. Beach volleyball first appeared in the early 1920s in Santa _____, California.
24. When he was just 17 years old, American Bob Mathias captured his first gold medal for this athletic event at the 1948 Summer Olympics in London, England.
25. Considered the founding father of the modern Olympic Games.
28. Title of the 1938 German documentary film written, directed and produced by Leni Riefenstahl, documenting the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany.
29. The first city to host the three Summer Olympics.
30. This American swimmer won five gold medals, setting world records in the 50-meter freestyle and three relay events during the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea.
31. Rio 2016 is the first time in Olympic history that a _____ American country has hosted the Games.

Down

1. American athlete Joe Frazier won a gold medal in this sport during the 1964 Summer Olympics.
2. The 2020 Summer Olympics will be held in this city.
3. _____ gymnastics is a women-only athletic event in which gymnasts perform on the floor with a rope, hoop, ball, clubs, or ribbon accompanied by music.
4. When basketball debuted during the 1936 Berlin Olympics, the games were played on _____ and sand in outdoor tennis courts.
5. The 1992 U.S. men’s Olympic basketball team was nicknamed the “_____ Team.” It was the first American Olympic team to feature active National Basketball Association, or NBA, athletes.
6. The five Olympic rings represent the five main regions of the world: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and _____.
10. Dutch athlete Francina “Fanny” Elsie Blankers-Koen, best known for winning four gold medals during the 1948 Summer Olympics in London, England, was nicknamed “The _____ Housewife.”
11. This athlete, from Great Britain, is the most decorated Olympic cyclist ever with seven medals, six of them gold. He now writes children’s books about a cyclist named “Flying Fergus.”
12. The name of the official mas-

- cot for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; it is a yellow and blue creature representing Brazilian wildlife.
13. This Olympic sport was practiced by ancient Egyptian and Greek societies as a way to measure strength.
16. The 2016 Summer Olympics marks the debut of rugby _____. A faster adaptation of rugby, this sport originated in Melrose, Scotland in the 1880s.
17. In 1896, he became the first modern Olympic champion, for winning the triple jump on the opening day of the Games.
18. The 2000 Summer Olympics held in Sydney, Australia were known as the “Games of the new _____.”
21. This Olympic sport was a favorite of the Egyptian pharaohs during the 18th dynasty (1567-1320 BC).
22. Number of athletes who have won Winter and Summer Olympic medals.
23. This Olympic sport is a traditional Korean martial art, which means “the way of kicking and punching.”
26. This Olympic sport is the art of moving a boat by harnessing the power of the wind. It was first contested as an Olympic sport at the 1900 Summer Olympics in Paris, France.
27. This Olympic sport was first used as a means of transportation in ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. As a sport, historians think it began in England in the 17th and early 18th centuries.
28. An American track and field athlete and four-time gold medalist in the 1936 Summer Olympics.

Think you solved last week’s puzzle?
Check out the solution below

Solution to the July 28 puzzle



Basic research influences future prototype testing

Continued from Page B1

timeframe. During her team’s experiments, her researchers have been examining brain patterns using an electroencephalogram, or EEG, which records voltage fluctuations in different parts of the brain through sensors placed on a person’s head.

Test subjects who are hooked up to an EEG and other sensors drive around, either in a car simulator or a real car, while data is collected on their brain patterns. Researchers sometimes measure multitasking by introducing a car passenger to talk to the driver, Vettel said. Brain patterns are formed by activated neural pathways linking various regions of the brain, but active neural connections can vary among people performing the same activity. For example, while pathways to one person’s object recognition region may be active, those to the language skills region of another person’s brain may be active.

The idea behind Vettel’s research is to build a database on the brain patterns of individuals and groups that will enable researchers to predict how Soldiers will drive in both a proactive state and in a reactive state, she said. A proactive state is where a driver has good situational awareness of the road, an awareness that allows him to stay in his or her lane, for instance. A reactive state is when a driver must react to a situation, such as when a driver misses an exit and must come up with a new strategy, she said. Researchers are beginning to use the database they have developed based on their experiments to predict both types of driving performance, she said.



A car simulator at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, July 28, shows EEG sensors and caps used to monitor test subjects’ brain wave patterns while driving.

In future experiments, her researchers might induce fatigue or sleep deprivation in the safety of the simulator, she said. Later, they will examine the brain patterns of Soldiers on patrol. **What’s this driving at?** While Vettel is involved only in basic research, not applied research, the knowledge her team has gained through their experiments has a good likelihood of transitioning to prototype testing in the decades ahead. Imagine a squad of Soldiers is on dismounted patrol in enemy territory, she said. They are monitoring for suspicious

activity as part of their situational awareness. A Soldier may have an inkling of possible danger, but that almost subconscious feeling hasn’t yet reached the threat threshold so no warning is given to the platoon. Now, imagine that EEG-like sensors have been embedded in the Soldier’s helmet or clothing. If several other Soldiers have the same inkling, the sensors could detect that and transmitters could convey a threat alert to them or to their commanders back in headquarters. Drivers in a convoy could similarly have sensors that could detect drows-

iness or inattentiveness, she speculated. Alternatively, if the vehicle is an autonomous vehicle, sensors monitoring the brain patterns of the Soldier inside the vehicle could alert him or her that the autonomous vehicle is about to do something dangerous and it could turn the driving over to the Soldier, she said, calling the proposed system the “shared control model.” Eventually, Vettel said she would like her researchers to use non-invasive sensors to monitor Soldiers all day doing a variety of tasks, which would dramatically increase the data they collect.

RISE puts 27 local high schoolers in APG labs

Continued from Page B1

STEM, to get a taste of what that future feels like to be able to work with engineers who can answer their questions,” said Erica Bertoli, CERDEC Educational Outreach Program lead, “And who can tell them, ‘yes. You’re interested in X, Y, and Z, this is the kind of engineering for you.’ It really gives them a taste of what the future might hold.” Previously, the RISE program was only an option for Harford County students. The program expanded this year to include several Cecil County Public Schools students as well. “We’re trying to slowly grow the program,” Bertoli said. “From my perspective, when we look at building a new program I like to build slowly and make sure the infrastructure is in place before

we just open it up. So this year we wanted to take another building step forward and that meant bringing in Cecil County where they have such amazing qualified students. We also wanted to make sure that we were serving all parts of our community and not just Harford [County].” The 27 student interns worked in 10 different CERDEC and CECOM labs and learned everything from cybersecurity to programming robots to battle each other, from more than 30 engineers and scientists who are experts in their fields. “RISE, as a program, lives or dies by the engineers who participate in it,” Bertoli said. “The success of RISE is a direct function of the excellence of the engineers that participate in it. These are engineers who want to do this, who are committed to the idea of paying forward

into the new generation, and to fostering these kids.” The RISE program is a paid internship opportunity and student interns are paid a stipend through the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, or ORISE, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy. The stipend is scaled on the student’s grade point average the previous school year. Students are selected into the summer program by a panel of engineers and professionals from the CERDEC and CECOM communities. Student applicants were required to submit two essays, a copy of their transcript and a letter of recommendation. To ensure the most qualified students would be selected, names were redacted so all the panelist saw was the content. “We learned how to use software to

analyze data,” said Alex Beam, a rising senior at Havre de Grace High School, who worked in the CERDEC Command, Power and Integration Directorate for two weeks. “We also learned valuable information about calculus, chemistry and physics so that we can get a head start on college and AP [Advanced Placement] classes.” At the conclusion of the two-week internship, students presented what they learned to APG leadership, their peers and family members during a closing ceremony July 22. “After these two weeks you all understand that you can be anything you want to be,” Bertoli said during the ceremony. “All of the opportunities are out there for you, limited only by what you’re willing to put into them.”



Did You Know ?

The State of Maryland Purple Heart Monument is located at Aberdeen Proving Ground on the grounds of the former U.S. Army Ordnance Museum.

The monument was dedicated during a formal ceremony on Aug. 7, 2004. The guest speaker, and the current Secretary of Veterans Affairs, State of Maryland, George W. Owings III, was sworn into office that morning. The monument reads: *“Dedicated to all men and women wounded in all our wars. My stone is red for the blood they shed. The medal I bear is my country’s way to show they care. If I could be seen by all mankind maybe peace will come in my lifetime. Erected by the Department of Maryland Military Order of the Purple Heart.”* View the dedication story and photos in the APG News archives at <https://www.apg.army.mil/PDF/APGNEWS/archives/pdf2004/Aug%2012%202004.pdf>

Purple Heart Day

Aug. 7 is Purple Heart Day. George Washington is credited with establishing the Purple Heart as a Badge of Military Merit to honor distinguished actions in battle in 1782. The award was not issued after the Revolutionary War but was restored in 1932 as an honor for those wounded or killed in battle. On Aug. 7, Military Order of the Purple Heart chapters throughout the country will sponsor services to remember and honor medal recipients. A program at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in New Windsor, N.Y., which opened in 2006, will honor non-combatant Purple Heart recipients such as World War I Army Nurse Beatrice MacDonald, the first known woman to be awarded a Purple Heart. The hall collects and shares the stories of Purple Heart recipients. It is located on the site of Washington’s last encampment and the site where the first modern recipients of the Purple Heart were awarded their medals in 1932.

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Chartered by Congress in 1958, The Military Order of the Purple Heart is composed of military men and women who received the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat. Although membership is restricted to the combat wounded, the order supports all veterans and their families with a range of nationwide programs. For more information, visit <http://www.purpleheart.org/>.

Cecil County MD Chapter 0703

Meets: 6:30 p.m., last Wednesday of the month
Location: VFW 6027, 815 Turkey Point Road, North East, MD
Phone: 410-272-8543; Email: asemsacc@gmail.com

Baltimore County MD Chapter 0577

Meets: noon, fourth Thursday (except July, Aug. and Nov.)
Location: VFW Post 9083, The Patriot Room, 8123 Harford Road, Parkville, MD

Phone: 410-256-2105; Email: dewitt777@aol.com
Cooch’s Bridge DE Chapter 9377-DE-1
Meets: 7 p.m., fourth Thursday (except June, July, Aug. & Dec.)
Location: Christ United Methodist Church, 6 N. Clifton Avenue, Wilmington, DE
Phone: 302-655-3820; Email: jobill8@verizon.net
For more chapter information, visit <http://chaptersearch.purpleheart.org/>

Purple Heart Facts

- Famous recipients of the Purple Heart include actors Charles Bronson, James Garner and Lee Marvin; filmmaker Oliver Stone; war hero Sgt. Audie Murphy; sci-fi guru Rod Serling; author Kurt Vonnegut; U.S. Senator John McCain; Secretary of State John Kerry and President John F. Kennedy.
- It’s against U.S. law to buy or sell Purple Hearts. EBay even expressly forbids the practice. Yet the illegal and grey market for the medals persists.
- No individual can receive more than one Purple Heart. Subsequent injuries are recognized by oak-leaf clusters, which are added to the accompanying ribbon.
- Until 1931, the Purple Heart was known as the Badge of Military Merit.
- The three words inscribed on the reverse side of the Purple Heart are “For Military Merit.”
- Per surviving records, Sgts. Elijah Churchill, William Brown and Daniel Bissell, Jr. are the three noncommissioned officers who received the original honor badge (Purple Heart).
- In 1931 Elizabeth Will, an Army heraldic specialist in the Office of the Quartermaster General, was named to redesign the newly-revived medal.
- After its disuse following the Revolution, the Purple Heart was revived on the bicentennial of George Washington’s birth.
- On Dec. 3, 1942 President Franklin D. Roosevelt extended the use of the Purple Heart to all services.
- The Purple Heart is ranked immediately behind the Bronze Star in order of precedence among the personal awards.
- The Purple Heart is the oldest military award that is still given to members of the U.S. military and differs from all other decorations in that an individual is not “recommended” for the decoration; rather he or she is entitled to it upon meeting specific criteria.



By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News
Source(s): www.nationalgeographic.com; www.wikipedia.org; www.purpleheart.org; www.thepurpleheart.com