



## APG Showcase highlights technology for Warfighter

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

More than 600 people attended the fourth annual showcase of Aberdeen Proving Ground hosted by Harford Community College at Technical High School's Amoss Center June 22-23.

The conference highlighted the latest technical and scientific capabilities developed by government and industry to support the Warfighter. The event also focused on contracting and technology transfer opportunities available at APG. This year's theme was "Transforming the Army Together."

**APG leadership provided an overview of their commands, directorates or activities and presented opportunities for contracting during the event.**

"Over the years the number of people who take advantage of this conference has grown exponentially," said HCC President Dr. Dennis Galloway during opening remarks.

Galloway said HCC is involved in the nation's effort to improve science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, education by hosting several STEM camps for students and special training sessions for teachers.

"We are promoting higher education that will serve APG," he said.

APG leadership provided an overview of their commands, directorates or activities and presented opportunities for contracting during the event.

During a Base Realignment and Closure overview, Tim McNamara, deputy to the APG garrison commander, said that as a result of BRAC, APG is now home to more than 70 support organizations with a strong focus on research, development, testing and evaluation.

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APG firefighters put out a controlled burn June 25 on the installation's border near Aberdeen Boulevard.

Photos by Ed Budnick

## Local firefighters ramp up training with live fire exercise

By **ADRIANE FOSS**  
APG News

Saturday's controlled burning of an Aberdeen Proving Ground building provided APG firemen a rare and realistic training opportunity.

"It allowed new firefighters to experience real world conditions in a very controlled and relatively safe setting," said APG Fire Department Chief Ed Budnick of the June 25 exercise. "New personnel get the sense of what it will really be like when they are called on to perform these difficult tasks at a real fire."

APG fighters joined forces with firefighters from seven departments in Harford Coun-

ty and two in Pennsylvania to conduct the day-long training along the installation's boundary near Aberdeen Boulevard.

Training included search and rescue for victims, forcible entry, ventilation, firefighter rapid intervention, metal cutting and breaching techniques—training Budnick says is crucial for successful fire operations and for the safety and survival of firefighters.

The large-scale operation culminated with the controlled burn of Bldg. 3752, formerly the police training academy and Marylander Club. The live smoke and heat conditions that



Capt. George Dorbert (right) of the APG Fire Department briefs Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz in one of the burn rooms.

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## Former DTC CSM returns to lead ATEC

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

The sun set on one career and rose on another during a dual ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground, June 21, as senior enlisted leadership of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command changed hands during a change of responsibility.

**Command Sgt. Maj. Allen G. Fritzsching, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, makes remarks during the change of responsibility and retirement ceremony at DTC headquarters June 21.**

Photo by Sean Kief

ty and retirement ceremony held at the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command headquarters.

Maj. Gen. Genaro J. Dellarocco, ATEC commander, presided over the ceremonies for outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen R. Flood, who retired after 36 years of service, and incoming ATEC Command Sgt. Maj. Allen G. Fritzsching, who returns to APG after serving as command sergeant major of the 10th Sustainment Brigade, Fort Drum, N.Y. Fritzsching served as DTC command sergeant major prior to that assignment.

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### WEATHER

Thurs.



84° | 67°

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Find out how local troops feel. SEE PAGE 2

# OPINION

## Return to cap reflects Army shift

Ten years ago on the Army Birthday, I stood at rigid attention, shoulder to shoulder with Soldiers of my artillery battalion in a motor pool at Fort Wainwright. We all wore starched Cold War era Battle Dress Uniforms and doffed patrol caps with tightly rounded bills.

"Don the beret!" our command sergeant major bellowed. We pocketed our PCs and pulled out folded black berets, using both hands to place it on our heads, many using a knife hand to precisely align the flash to their left eye.

The ceremony repeated itself across Fort Wainwright, U.S. Army Alaska and throughout the Army that day.

The night before, many of us were dipping the fuzzy French headgear in cold water and spent the next four hours sitting in front of the television while petting the new, mysterious lid until properly formed.

Then, we shaved it with a razor to remove the excess fuzzies, which could make the beret look more like an 18th Century impressionist's hat than headgear intended for a warrior.

Because U.S. contractors - who had made black Army Ranger, rifle green Special Forces and maroon Airborne berets for decades - couldn't immediately supply the entire Army, foreign knockoffs were mixed in with the tried-and-true brands.

**“Many of the early berets were floppy and wouldn't form, leaving Soldiers wearing “pizza hats,” which didn't look professional or elite. I was issued one of the pizza hats, but fortunately had ordered the genuine U.S.-made article which was probably originally intended for an elite Ranger.**

Many of the early berets were floppy and wouldn't form, leaving Soldiers wearing “pizza hats,” which didn't look professional or elite.

I was issued one of the pizza hats, but fortunately had ordered the genuine U.S.-made article which was probably originally intended for an elite Ranger.

The Army decided to adopt the black beret to reflect the transformation from a Cold War legacy force - forward deployed to bases in Europe and Asia - to an Objective Force largely stationed in the U.S. with the capability to rapidly mobilize to any overseas hot spot.

I believe the implication was the entire U.S. Army was and is an elite organization charged with the mandate to carry out contingency missions once reserved solely for special units.

The afternoon we put on those berets

was a little less than three months from the day a handful of terrorists flew jet liners into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. The test for the Objective Force was coming.

In the intervening decade, the Army has proven without dispute the service's standing as the world's premiere ground fighting force. Soldiers don't need to wear a beret to indicate they are someone special.

Instead, studies would indicate most Soldiers would rather wear the patrol cap with the Army Combat Uniform. The patrol cap is low maintenance, easy to put on, shades eyes from the sun, breathes and doesn't turn into a “wet sock” as one Soldier described the beret.

I suspect most Soldiers are pleased they can forget all about the beret during most occasions - the beret will still

be worn with the dress Army Service Uniform. I imagine they will appreciate the utility and comfort of the patrol cap while they are working.

I also suspect things will remain the same with our paratroopers stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. They will continue to wear the maroon beret with pride despite being high maintenance, uncomfortable and sweaty in hot conditions.

Why? Because the maroon beret is an Airborne tradition since being worn by the British Parachute Regiment in the early 1940s. Because the 509th Regiment - represented at JBER by the regiment's 3rd Battalion - was the first U.S. unit authorized to wear the beret as honorary members of the BPR.

Though the U.S. Army is an elite force among the world's military's, the Airborne, the Rangers and the Special Forces represent the elite of the elite.

They will continue to wear berets with their MultiCam uniforms and their ACUs, because it's what they've done for decades. It's their tradition.

Other Soldiers will be glad they finally have daily-wear headgear which makes sense for the task at hand - the good old patrol cap.

**David Bedard**

Joint Base Elmendorf / Richardson  
Public Affairs

## What do you think of the Army's decision to replace the black beret with the patrol cap as the default headgear for the Army Combat Uniform?



**Spc. Ernesto Garcia**

Unit: Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic



**Staff Sgt. Sean McBride**

Unit: Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic



**Chaplain (Maj.) Jonathan Morse**

Unit: Garrison Catholic Chaplain



**Staff Sgt. Dave Ribar**

Unit: HHC Garrison



**Sgt. Jessica Fulda**

Unit: HHC Garrison

“I think it's a really good idea. The beret is great for a professional look and it goes great with the Army Service Uniform. The soft [patrol] cap is just better for different weather conditions. This should have been done a long time ago.

“I prefer the patrol cap because it's more functional, especially in field units. When I was at Fort Bragg we had to wear berets to the motor pool. With the soft [patrol] cap we could keep the sun out of our eyes. The beret is better with the dress uniform.

“I think it was a great idea. You need two hands to put on the beret and one for the patrol cap, which keeps the sun out of your eyes. And the beret, on occasion, acts like a sponge when it gets wet. It's no use at all in the rain. And finally, among the elite units, the beret had the same look but when it went Army-wide; there never was a consistent look.

“I like the idea. I wore [the patrol cap] when I was downrange. The beret is too hot in the summer and not warm enough in the winter. I always thought it was the best headgear for the dress uniform.

“I think it is an excellent idea. Although the beret looks more professional, it takes two hands to put on and many Soldiers do not know how to wear it correctly. The patrol cap is practical, easy to put on, and makes every Soldier look sharp. Switching was definitely a great decision that should have been done a long time ago.

### APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



## APG NEWS

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

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# Summer wasted on the young?

It's hard to believe that figuring out how to fill a summer could ever be a problem.

Look around you. There is so much to do you could never get to it in a dozen summers. It's just a matter of prying your way outside and doing it.

To borrow a cliché, youth is wasted on the young.

That children need to be guided to activities might be the greatest failing we - the parents - have foisted upon them. Doesn't anyone just play anymore'?

I look back on the summers of my memory and I can remember endless activity, most of it outdoors. I don't remember much of it having been planned by anyone but me and my buddies.

We played a lot of pick-up sports back then. Most other kids did, too. It was hard to find any sort of baseball field that didn't have a group of young players throwing a ball around. I don't mean organized leagues, with bleachers full of yelling parents, I mean a group of guys - and girls, too - riding their bikes over to the school and picking sides. We figured out ways to play games with four or five on a side (one outfielder - the ball has to be in left field to be considered fair, and the on-deck batter plays catcher for the other team).

We played all sorts of variations (no walks, two strikes and you're out, and on and on). The important thing was that the games went on for hours.

I lived at the edge of town, with miles of fields and woods within reach. We spent endless time roaming what seemed like our own wilderness. We climbed trees to examine the eggs in birds' nests. We took target practice with sling shots firing rocks at hornets' nests - prepared to sprint to safety if we got lucky.

We built "forts" for days (usually more like foxholes, but imagination filled in the necessary battlements), then attacked those fortifications in long wars, armed with pine cones and cap guns.

We rode bikes just to feel the wind in our faces - often with a baseball card clothes-pinned to the frame so it flapped on the spokes and made a great sound

as we accelerated down the street.

Walking to the store to buy candy was always a favorite pastime, but that took money. Earning a little ready cash was a frequent obsession.

We had the classic lemonade stands, of course, but there was too little adventure in that. It was more fun to take an empty coffee can to the woods to pick blackberries. We'd return to the neighborhood eventually with a can full of ripe berries, arms scratched from the thorns and hands stained purple (and lips, too; you had to sample your crop). We would run door-to-door to offer our pickings to whomever was at home; a quart of fresh, warm, aromatic heaven for a handful of loose change.

There was one great summer when a university student told my dad he would pay me and my big brother for snakes: 25 cents a foot. That might have been the best vacation ever. We spent days poking through the underbrush looking for slithering reptiles.

I benefited from tolerant parents. Inevitably, some of our captures escaped in the house. I learned a shoe box wasn't the most secure cage for a lively snake intent on freedom. I will never forget lying on the floor in the living room to read a book, only to spot a garter snake staring back at me from under an easy chair. Then there is the image of my dad trying to coax an angry and hissing gopher snake out from behind the oil tank in the garage ...

Did any of you ever spend a hot afternoon catching grasshoppers in a field'? Remember the acrid smell and the brown stain of their "tobacco juice" on your hands'?

Of course there are a lot of wonderful, safe, well organized and fun activities, both on post and off available for children now. They are often educational, they ease parental worries and they fill the time until school starts again.

But I wonder what sort of memories today's children will have when they look back in 40 or 50 years. Youth is wasted on the young - and maybe it's our fault.

**David W. Kuhns Sr.**

*Editor Fort Lewis' Northwest Guardian. This article was originally published in 2008.*

# Proving Ground celebrates 151st anniversary of U.S. Signal Corps

By **ROBERT DIMICHELE**  
CECOM Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, took the opportunity of the Signal Corps' 151st anniversary to give a history quiz to the members of the local chapters of the U.S. Army Signal Corps Association and the Armed Forces Communications-Electronics Association.

He stumped the audience with little known, but significant, facts about the contributions of the Signal Corps to Army history. For example, he asked the audience if they knew who bought the first military aircraft for the American Armed Forces.

The answer is Charles Wallace of the U.S. Army Signal Corps. He signed the contract for the first military aircraft from the Wright Brothers in 1908. Strong joked that it was the Army's first fixed price contract with an incentive fee. The Signal Corps bought the airplane for \$30,000. That cost included a \$5,000 incentive for the plane to reach 40 miles per hour. After all, it could only carry two people about 50 feet above the ground for just an hour. So, the speed was a necessary capability.

He also cited Theodor Geisel, the famous author known as Dr. Seuss, as a significant but little known Signal Corps member. During World War II, Geisel worked in an animation department of the Signal Corps where he wrote a film that later won the 1947 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

In addition, current Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, Jr., was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps and he served on active duty following his graduation from the Yale Law School in 1975.

The Signal Corps traces its existence from June 21, 1860, when Congress authorized the appointment of one signal officer in the Army, and a War Department order carried the following assignment: "Signal Department--Assistant Surgeon Albert J. Myer to be Signal Officer, with the rank of major June 27, 1860, to fill an original vacancy."

Albert James Myer, an Army doctor, developed the idea of a separate, trained professional military signal service. He proposed that the Army use his visual communications system called "wig-wag" while serving as a medical officer in Texas in 1856. When the Army adopted his system June 21, 1860, the Signal



Photo by Tom Faulkner

**Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, took an opportunity during the Signal Corps' 151st anniversary to give a history quiz to members of the local chapters of the U.S. Army Signal Corps Association and the Armed Forces Communications-Electronics Association.**

Corps was born with Myer as the first and only Signal officer.

Using flags for daytime signaling and a torch at night, wig-wag was first tested in combat in June 1861 to direct the fire of a harbor battery against the Confederate positions opposite Fort Monroe, Va. Until March 3, 1863, when Congress authorized a regular Signal Corps for the duration of the war, Myer was forced to rely on detailed personnel. Some 2,900 officers and enlisted men served, albeit not at any one time, in the Civil War Signal Corps.

The Signal Corps Regiment wasn't actually established until June 1986 when it was activated into the Army's newly created Regimental System. Strong used the regiment's motto, "Prot Patria Vigilans," "Watchful for the Country" to emphasize the value of the Signal Corps accomplishments and the increasing role it will play for the Army.

From telegraphs to tactical radios, from radios to radar, from establishing the national weather service to bouncing the first signal off of the moon, the Signal Corps has provided the country with vital services. "Throughout the 20th Century, the Signal Corps led the way in technological developments that gave our Soldiers a combat edge," Strong said. "Since that time, the Signal Corps

has continued to contribute enormously to the scientific and military advancement of our country and the safety of its citizens."

For example, in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Fairfax County, Va., Emergency Management Agency asked CECOM to support the search and rescue efforts at the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon. CECOM provided valuable assistance on the Gulf Coast in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts to include satellite communications technologies and in 2008, it was C4ISR technology that successfully located hostages in Colombia that were constantly being moved beneath the dense jungle canopy.

"Watchful for the country, those words stand truer today than ever before. While we remember and celebrate the successes and achievements of our past, the Signal Corps cannot rest on its laurels. If there was ever a time for the Signal Corps to stand watchful for the country it is now," Strong emphasized. "We have entered the age of information warfare."

He explained to the members of the two chapters that the capabilities to meet the requirements of an asymmetric battlespace will need to rely extensively on communication and electronics. Fused information and data based on the latest intelligence and communicated on a fast, reliable network to our Soldiers will be essential to giving them a battle-field edge.

"If you ask Soldiers in the theater of operations what are the most important tools that give them their edge over the enemy, they will tell you it is their communications equipment and systems."

Celebrating these and other achievements the youngest and oldest members of the Signal Corps in attendance at the event cut the birthday cake. Capt. Ruth Anne McDermott, aide to Maj. Gen. Strong, was the youngest Signal Soldier in attendance and Maj. Gen. (ret.) Gerard Brohm was the oldest. (CECOM and Fort Monmouth Commander, January 1995-September 1998)

Col. Cris Boyd, the Signal Corps Regimental Association's chapter president, presided over the event which formally marked the transition of the Mallette Chapter from Fort Monmouth, N.J., to APG.

Strong, the Army's 33rd Chief of Signal, closed his remarks by quoting the first Chief of Signal, Brig. Gen. Myer, in describing the regiment. "There is no branch of the service in which military practice and scientific attainment may add more to the value of an officer, or be more variously employed to advance the interest of the State."

**"If you ask Soldiers in the theater of operations what are the most important tools that give them their edge over the enemy, they will tell you it is their communications equipment and systems."**

**Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong**

Commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command

# Congressman Bartlett visits CECOM hosted joint communications exercise at APG

Story and photo by **ANDRICKA THOMAS**  
CECOM

Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-Md.) toured the 18th Annual Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise, or JUICE, June 21 at the new Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center of Excellence.

JUICE is a worldwide Department of Defense exercise hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, Army Program Executive Office Command, Control, Computers-Tactical, and the CECOM Software Engineering Center in concert with Strategic Command acting as both the supported and supporting Combatant Command.

The exercise focuses on joint communications interoperability and architectures by incorporating new and emerging technologies in a Joint Task Force operational environment, according to John Caruso, chief executive agent for the Theater Joint Tactical Network and a JUICE organizer.

"JUICE serves as a forum where key stakeholders from the research and development, acquisition, testing, and technical communities collaborate to forge new joint interoperability communications solutions to meet the dynamic conditions and environments of tomorrow's joint military operations," said Nelson Keeler, SEC director.

JUICE simulates a tactical Forward Operating Base, or FOB, encompassing the life-cycle of network and communications support from concept to combat, said Caruso. Bartlett was interested in the mission and purpose of such an exercise. He asked a series of technically specific questions regarding much of the technology to grasp an understanding of the entire life-cycle demonstrated at the exercise.

"From the development of systems in the lab; testing those systems in the field;



**Army Spec. Gerald Gee, Joint Task Force Headquarters, J6, information technology specialist, sets up satellite communications during the 2011 Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise June 6-24.**

to achieving interoperability and certification requirements, JUICE simulates real-world applications for warfighters. JUICE supports joint, inter-agency, multinational and urban operations," Caruso said.

This year's theme, expeditionary communications, focuses on ways to increase warfighter quick-reaction capabilities. During the three-week exercise, participants have the opportunity to leverage training opportunities on the latest fielded equipment prior to deployment in a real-world tactical environment without disturbing the operational tempo, he explained.

"We have more than 600 organizations representing more than 60 organizations spanning the globe," said Keeler. "The Department of Homeland Security, National Guard Bureau, U.S. Armed Forces and our Coalition and international partners are just a few of the organizations working in concert to simulate a real-world forward operating base tactical environment for this exercise."

JUICE participants include a Joint Task Force FOB where the Joint Network Operations Coordination Center, or JNCC, provides timely network services for JUICE locations worldwide. The JNCC is the heartbeat of JUICE and vital to the success of the mission. The JNCC has the critical support role of provisioning network services at JUICE's worldwide locations. The JNCC staff roles include network monitoring and situational awareness; Joint Staff directed level of reporting; delivery of services throughout the network; communications security; battle rhythm and critical updates to the supported commander.

The Joint On-demand Interoperability Network, or JOIN, is a dynamically configurable information network specific to operational, training, experiments, or assessment/validations that support the warfighter, combat and materiel developers. JOIN is available free of charge to Department of Defense organizations and, has served many critical mis-

sions such as pre-deployment staging of equipment, training, certification support, assessments, distributed testing, development of Tactics/Techniques/Procedures and concept validation, said Caruso.

The Unified Capabilities Tactical Pilot was conducted during the exercise to nurture the evolution of testing tactical pieces of equipment in a tactical environment. JUICE provided communications capabilities to the Virginia National Guard as they participated in an Arkansas National Guard exercise to demonstrate their Joint Incident Site Communications capability in direct support of the medical community.

The Marine Combat Operations Center provided secure cellular capabilities to the exercise activities. Caruso said this effort is completely powered by renewable energy.

The DoD support to civil authorities provides warfighters with situational awareness through incident awareness and assessment capabilities during an incident. This effort provides warfighters with current situational awareness during an incident prior to and during response activities.

The FIRES Support Coordination Center showcased the military's capability to direct a live fire mission from remote locations. All participating sites are communicating using DISN services being provisioned by the JOIN and the Air Force's 42nd Combat Communications Squadron showcasing interoperability capabilities between U.S. Forces and Coalition partners, said Caruso.

"The lessons learned from JUICE will directly impact field operations and contribute to the enhancement of theater and global communications services in tactical environments," said Keeler. "That's our bottom line, equipping our warfighters with the communications solutions they need, when they need it."

# Live fire training

Continued from Page 1

new firefighters experienced last week is hard to reproduce, said Budnick, even in firefighter training centers.

"It just doesn't afford the same realism," he said.

Although last week's live fire exercise was a rare opportunity, training together was not.

Budnick said APG and area firefighters work together on a near daily basis

to provide mutual support, learn the latest techniques and ensure a seamless transition during actual fire and rescue operations.

"Both we at APG and the Harford County volunteer companies are highly skilled and well equipped to handle emergencies," he said, noting that many of the APG firefighters also volunteer at local fire departments.



Photo by Rachel Ponder

SAIC representative George Fortney (right) shows WFS Defense representative Ted Koblick technology that controls unmanned systems during the Aberdeen Proving Ground Showcase June 22.

## 2011 APG showcase

Continued from Page 1

"APG is a world-class technology campus," he said. "We are focused on what comes next, what is going to happen in the future."

McNamara said the scope of activities on APG has increased allowing for more partnership and collaborations with contractors and small businesses.

In addition to listening to the presen-

tations, attendees networked and viewed displays from 63 organizations that support the mission of APG.

Ted Koblick, director of sales for WFS Defense Inc., said he attended the event to learn more about how the military uses technology.

"Lots of good things are happening at APG," Koblick said. "The future is here."



Photo by Sean Kief

From left, Outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Flood, ATEC commander Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco and incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching stand at attention as troops march onto the field during the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Change of Responsibility and Retirement Ceremony at DTC headquarters June 21. Fritzsching assumed the enlisted leadership responsibilities of ATEC as Flood retired after 36 years of service.

## Dellarocco welcomes Fritzsching to ATEC

Continued from Page 1

Flood was awarded the Legion of Merit and his wife Sheila Flood received the ATEC certificate of appreciation. In addition, the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center honored Flood by firing a one-round salute from an M60A1 tank. He also was presented with two ceremonial rounds.

Noting that the two honorees represented six decades of experience, Dellarocco said it was "a great day for the Army and ATEC."

He said Flood has meant a lot to the command and its Soldiers.

"He's influenced every aspect of command with his efforts and all he has given ATEC," he said, thanking Sheila Flood for her support.

"You've supported him when he wasn't here, when his home was downrange," he said. "You served the Army as well and I want to thank you for doing that."

Dellarocco welcomed Fritzsching, noting how he "rose to the top" during the interview process due to his attitude, strength, vision and dedication.

"You are the right man for the job," he said. "I look forward to working with you."

To Angela Fritzsching, he added, "Welcome back. I'm going to put your husband to the test and I know I have your support."

Flood thanked attendees, and reminisced about his career with anecdotes that elicited laughter from the audience. He thanked his wife for putting up with him whenever he was "rough around the edges" and he assured the workers of ATEC that what they do every day is important.

"I didn't know what ATEC was when I came here," he said, "but this has been

the greatest honor. Be all you can be and stay Army Strong."

Fritzsching said he was thankful for the honor to serve the men and women of ATEC.

"I'm extremely humbled and grateful to be a member of your ranks once again," he said. "I will give everything I have every day and I promise you I will not let you down."

Sgt. 1st Class William Benjamin delivered the invocation, the 380th Army Band, an Army Reserve unit from Richmond, Va., provided the ceremony's music, and the 203rd Military Intelligence Battalion salute battery, led by 1st Lt. Jessie Cortez, fired a 13-round salute on Howitzers.

### More on Command Sgt. Maj. Allen G. Fritzsching

A native of Houston, Texas, Fritzsching holds a bachelor's degree in Science from Excelsior University and a master's in Business Administration from Trident University International. His significant accomplishments include his selection as the 1989 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and the 1993 1/101st Armor Regiment Drill Sergeant of the Year. He was the first member of the 101st to be inducted into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club and is a recipient of the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe and the Col. Decius Wadsworth Award of Scholarship.

Fritzsching's combat tours include Operation Desert Shield/Storm and three tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I, IV and IX.

View more ceremony photos at [flickr.com/photos/usagapg](http://flickr.com/photos/usagapg)

# FAMILY AND MWR

## Activities/Events

### APG Team Paintball Tournament

Do you enjoy extreme sports? If so, gather up your friends and form a three-man paintball team for the APG Shoot Out 3 Versus 3 Paintball Tournament 11:15 a.m. July 30 at Shore Park.

Navigate, strategize and compete in our inflatable paintball "Mega Dome." First and second place teams receive medals and the winning team photo will be featured in the trophy case at Outdoor Recreation. Music, games and refreshments will be available. (Paintballs will not be real paint. Pellets only).

Team entry fee is \$20 for pre-registration. Registration starts 11:15 a.m. with a tournament start time at noon. Teams may also register before July 30 by calling 410-278-4124/5789.

### Movies under the stars

Enjoy a fun family night out free of charge. Pre-movie festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. and include games, a deejay and karaoke. The movie will begin at 8 p.m. or at dusk. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Food and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

Movies include:

July 8, Harry Potter, APG North (Aberdeen) Shore Park

July 22, Karate Kid (2010), EA Bay-side Pool

Aug. 5, Happy Feet, AA Shore Park  
For more information, call 410-278-4124

### Staying Connected with Your Teen

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will present "Staying Connected with Your Teen." It is an exciting time for parents and teens as they develop into young men and women. Along with the excitement there may be some growing pains such as, "I can't control my child," or "My child is rejecting me." This class is intended to help parents let loose without letting go as their teens transition from children to adults. The class uses the "Social Development Strategy Model." The model is designed to help parents guide their teens toward healthy behavior by establishing healthy beliefs and clear standards and helping parents to provide opportunities, skills, recognition, and nurture their individual characteristics as a means to help them bond with the Family, community, school and peer group. Childcare is available.

"Staying Connected with Your Teen" will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., June 30. The class will be held at the ACS Bldg. 2503 Highpoint Road, Room 123.

For more information or to register, call 410-278-7478.

### APG Fitness Center closure

The APG Fitness Center, Bldg. 320, will be closed through Labor Day weekend. Work to install a new air conditioning system with duct work, expanded shower and locker rooms, new flooring and entrance area will be done. Call 410-278-9725.

### Hoyle Gymnasium closure

The court side of Hoyle Gymnasium, Bldg. E4210 will be closed through Labor Day for fire suppression system installation, ceiling repair work and expansion of the second floor area. During the time the court side is closed, fitness classes will be relocated to the Edgewood Area Recreation Center, Bldg. E4140. NOTE: small areas of the fitness center side will be disrupted at times for fire suppression installation. Call 410-436-7134.

### Weather damages Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park

Chesapeake Challenge Amusement Park will not open as earlier promoted due to maintenance issues and effects of severe weather over the last six months. The go cart track, mini golf and batting cage maintenance will be assessed over the summer. It will be determined if it is cost effective to open the park in 2012. For more information, call 410-278-4124.

### Discount Aquarium tickets

The Leisure Travel Office offers dis-

### Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://www.armycivilianservice.com> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.



count tickets to the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Adult tickets cost \$23.25 per person; tickets for children ages 3 to 11 cost \$17.50; active duty tickets cost \$19 each and are issued one per active duty ID card only. Tickets do not include the dolphin show or the 4D Theater, but are upgradeable at the aquarium. Take an unforgettable journey into the mysteries of water and the beauty of the natural world.

Watch brilliantly colored triggerfish explore a coral reef. Marvel as sharks glide through the shadowy depths just an arm's length away.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the MWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/4907, visit the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 or e-mail [APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).

### Single father books available

Army Community Service cares about the single fathers in the community and recognizes the unique challenges that many single fathers, including those whose wives are deployed, encounter. ACS has purchased "The Complete Single Father." It includes chapters on communicating effectively with kids, making your house a home and parenting styles. Stop by ACS 2503 High Point Rd, Room 123, to pick up your copy. Supplies are limited.

### Medieval Times discount tickets available through Leisure Travel

The Leisure Travel Office has discount tickets for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournaments located at Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md. Tickets cost \$39.25 per adult and \$32 per child (ages 3 to 12). Reservations must be made at the time of purchase; other locations available upon request. All prices and savings are based on the final cost to include all taxes and fees. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office, Bldg. 3326, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or email [APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).

## Post pools open, swim lessons available

The post pools are open to all Department of Defense identification cardholders and their guests. For more information, call 410-278-4124.

### Aberdeen Area

#### Olympic Swimming Pool, Bldg. 3325

- Daily operation: through Sept. 2
- Child, Youth and School Service Day Camp 9 to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Friday, thru Aug. 18
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Lap swim lane available 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., through Sept. 2
- Swim lessons, 1 to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, through Aug. 12
- Weekend operation schedule: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 thru 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

#### Shore Pool, Bldg. 2031

- Daily operation: through Sept. 5, 11:30 to 7 p.m.
- Lap swim lane available 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., through Sept. 4
- Weekend operation schedule: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 through 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

### Edgewood Area

#### Bayside Swimming Pool, Bldg. E4655

- Daily operation: through Sept. 5
- Morning swim: 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., through Sept. 2
- Child, Youth and School Service Day Camp, 9 to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Friday, through Aug. 18
- Swim lessons: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Open swim: 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Labor Day weekend: Sept. 3 through 5, 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closes Monday, Sept. 5

### Pool pass fees

#### Daily passes

- Daily .....\$5
- Under 5 .....Free
- Guest of eligible patron .....\$9

- 5 and under (guest) .....\$2
- Active duty and immediate Family members ..... Free
- Lap swim .....\$2

#### 30-day pass

- Individual .....\$35
- Family .....\$70

#### Season passes

- Individual .....\$85
  - Family .....\$175
- Swimming lessons will be offered in the Aberdeen and Edgewood Areas. Lessons cost \$50 per person for the first session and \$45 for each additional member of the same Family. There will be a 10 percent discount for each additional session.

### Swimming Lessons

#### Olympic Pool

- Monday through Thursday, through June 30
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4
- July 11 through 22
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4
- July 25 through 29
- Adult lessons, 6 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Parent/Toddler, 6:30 to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Aug. 1 through 12
- 1 to 2 p.m., level 1 and 2
- 2 to 3 p.m., level 3 and 4

#### Bayside Pool

- Monday through Thursday, through June 30
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4
- July 11 through 22
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4
- Aug. 1 through 12
- 9 to 10 a.m., level 1 and 2
- 10 to 11 a.m., level 3 and 4

## June bowling specials

- Early Bird Special: Bowl for one hour for \$12 from 7 to 9 a.m. Includes shoe rental.
- Each Friday, 3 to 10 p.m., bowl one game for \$3.50 and receive one game free. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$34 (Up to six people). Includes shoe rental.

games cost \$3.50 each on Fridays, 9:30 to 11 p.m.; Cosmic Saturdays cost \$3.75 per game; and \$3 per game on Sundays, game; and \$3 per game on Sundays.

### New hours for summer

Effective through September, The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday; 3 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday; the Bowling Center will be closed on Sundays. Holiday hours will be announced at a later date.

### Bowling rates

Bowling costs \$3 per game, Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

## APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Lunch delivery is available for orders of \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

### Week of June 27

Special #1: Tuna salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75.

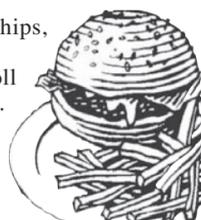
Special #2: Tuna salad-salad, cookie and regular soda for \$7.50.

### Week of July 5

Special #1: Chicken salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.75

Special #2: Veal Parmesan on a Bowler Burger Roll with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

The Bowling Center also serves breakfast. For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



# What YOU need to know about the new National Terrorism Advisory System

## SECURITY & INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

DPTMS, Aberdeen Proving Ground

The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaces the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System.

This new system will more effectively communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs and the private sector.

It recognizes that Americans all share responsibility for the nation's security, and should always be aware of the heightened risk of terrorist attacks in the U.S. and what they should do.

NTAS Alerts – After reviewing the available information, the Secretary of Homeland Security will decide, in coordination with other federal entities, whether an NTAS alert should be issued.

These alerts will include a clear statement that there is an imminent threat (warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States) or elevated threat (warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States).

Using available information, the alerts will provide a concise summary of the potential threat, which may include the geographic region, mode of transportation, critical infrastructure potentially affected, information about actions being taken to ensure public safety, and recommended steps that individuals, communities, businesses, and governments can take to help prevent,

mitigate, or respond to the threat.

These alerts will be based on the nature of the threat: in some cases, alerts will be sent directly to law enforcement or affected areas of the private sector, while in other cases, alerts will be issued more broadly to the American people through official and media channels.

NTAS alerts contain a sunset provision indicating a specific date when the alert expires. There will not be a constant NTAS alert or blanket warning that there is an overarching threat. If threat information changes for an alert, the Secretary of Homeland Security may announce an updated NTAS alert. All changes, including the announcement that cancels an NTAS Alert, will be distributed the same way as the original alert.

Citizens should report suspicious activity to their local law enforcement authorities. Everyone is reminded to be vigilant for indicators of potential terrorist activity, and to follow NTAS alerts for information about threats in specific places or for individuals exhibiting certain types of suspicious activity.

Immediately report any suspicious

activity on post to the police desk or call 911. In the past some individuals have taken days before they decided to make a report. Don't wait, make the report immediately and let the law enforcement community sort it out.

Community members are encouraged to cut out and carry the installation watch card (below) at all times.



### INSTALLATION WATCH CARD

**AWARENESS IS KEY!  
EVERYONE IS A SENSOR.**

#### **Do: Observe and Report**

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

#### **Do Not**

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

#### **Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police**

APG North 410-306-2222

APG South 410-436-2222

Off post in MD call

1-800-492-TIPS or 911

*YOUR CALL MAY SAVE LIVES!*

**NOTE - DO NOT TAKE  
THIS CARD WITH YOU WHEN  
ON TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.**

E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at [adriane.c.foss.civ@mail.mil](mailto:adriane.c.foss.civ@mail.mil)



Iowa National Guard Soldiers patrol the streets of Parkersburg, Iowa, days after a May 2008 tornado ravaged the town, destroying homes and businesses and decimating infrastructure.

Photo by 1st Sgt. Duff McFadden

# IT COULD HAPPEN HERE

## APG EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

A National Weather Service ground survey confirmed two EF-0 tornadoes in Harford County the afternoon of June 12.

The storm damage assessment team from the NWS Baltimore-Washington Weather Forecast Office conducted a ground survey June 13, of storm damage across Harford County. Areas surveyed included north central, central and south-east Harford County.

In nearby Street, a rural unincorporated area in northern Harford County, a tornado touched down between 4:07 and 4:10 p.m.

Winds were 70 miles per hour with a path 1.7 miles long and 75 yards wide. At nearby Belcamp, Md., a tornado touched down at 4:50 p.m. with 80 mph winds, a path length of 0.2 miles and a width of 50 yards.

These are the most recent severe weather incidents in Harford County but as many long-time residents know,

they are far from the only ones. According to Aberdeen Proving Ground's emergency management personnel, the area has seen its fair share of severe weather and urges residents not to estimate the extreme power and unpredictability of Mother Nature. The only real defense, experts agree, is to be prepared.

For those who live and work on APG, the first line of defense starts with the meteorological specialists on the Aberdeen Test Center's Atmospheric Effects, Measurements and Modeling Team.

Along with providing forecast discussions and video monitoring of ATC test sites, the team is responsible for providing the garrison commander with information needed to make decisions regarding installation delays or closures, warn of imminent weather hazards or threats, and supporting the emergency managers of the Emergency Operations Center with weather information and forecasts.

In the event that a weather emergency

takes place on post during the duty day, APG emergency managers communicate and exchange information with county, state and federal authorities. While weather emergencies can happen at any time, August and September is peak hurricane season.

APG (along with Joppa, Edgewood, Perryman, and Havre de Grace) sits in a storm surge-prone area. Here's what you can do now to prepare for a weather emergency:

- Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) to learn how to Get a Kit, Make a Plan and Be Informed.

- Learn about emergency planning for persons with special needs. Visit [www.mdod.maryland.gov](http://www.mdod.maryland.gov) or contact Harford County disabilities coordinator Sharon Grzanka at 410-638-3373, e-mail [disability@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:disability@harfordcountymd.gov) or call emergency planner Susan Ayers at 410-638-4794, e-mail [slayers@harfordpublicsafety.org](mailto:slayers@harfordpublicsafety.org).

- Register for the Harford County Emergency Notification System at [www.harfordpublicsafety.org](http://www.harfordpublicsafety.org).

- Register for the Cecil County One-Step Notification System on the Cecil County Department of Emergency Services Web site at [www.cedes.org/emergencymanagement.cfm](http://www.cedes.org/emergencymanagement.cfm)

- Purchase Weather Alert radios – National Weather Radio (NWR) broadcasts continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office, including watches, warnings and forecasts 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

- Learn more at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency at [www.mema.state.md.us/](http://www.mema.state.md.us/);

- The Delaware Emergency Management Agency at [www.dema.delaware.gov/](http://www.dema.delaware.gov/); and at the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency at [www.pema.state.pa.us/](http://www.pema.state.pa.us/).

During any emergency situation on APG – weather related or otherwise – employees, service members, family members and guests should heed all warnings and follow instructions from emergency managers and Directorate of Emergency Services personnel.

# APG EMERGENCY MANAGERS PROVIDE COMMON OPERATING PICTURE FOR DECISION MAKERS

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

The personnel of the Office of Emergency Management operate the Emergency Operation Center or EOC; the brain center from which all incidents, emergencies or sensitive situations affecting Aberdeen Proving Ground are handled. From here, information is received, analyzed and disseminated, and recommendations and orders are dispatched and put into motion. It is there, also, that decisions regarding the closing, delay or evacuation of the installation during severe weather situations are made.

The staff includes Richard "Rick" Deoliveira, chief of Plans and Emergency Management; Pedro Rodriguez, CBRNE officer/emergency management; Essie Bennett, surety officer; and Michelle Twist, acting secretary to the Plans and Operations Division Chief, Clint Zaengle.

The "control room" of the EOC contains rows of desktop computers marked with signs designating the organization they belong to, such as the Directorate of Emergency Services and the Directorate of Public Works. On the walls are charts, maps, and TV screens broadcasting local and national news and weather.

Particularly in the summer, weather emergencies can flare up at almost any time. Deoliveira said, and emergency managers are tasked with using all resources to provide the Installation and Garrison commander the information needed to make decisions.



(From left) Rick Deoliveira, chief of Plans and Emergency Management, and Essie Bennett, surety officer, monitor situations affecting Aberdeen Proving Ground in the Office of Emergency Management's Emergency Operations Center.

"We provide a common operating picture so that at a glance, he knows what's happening," he said.

Another element is to provide a message to the Public Affairs Officer for distribution to other media and the public and to use all mass notification options to inform the public. They include telephone alert, e-mail distribution and outdoor notification via the "Giant Voice." Deoliveira said the office is working with NEC on a desktop alert system.

DES police and firefighters.

"Know shelter-in-place, lockdown or evacuation procedures," he said.

Look for continuing coverage from the Office of Emergency Management in the *APG News* throughout the summer, focusing on how to prepare, how to respond and how to get more information about hurricanes and severe weather, fire safety, chemical threats and other emergencies.

"The object is to reach as many people in as many ways as possible," he said, noting that the office works closely with the Harford County EOC, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. This partnership enhances situational awareness capabilities, crisis response and rights to common operating pictures and is signified in the organization's new logo as the Office of Emergency Management.

Deoliveira said that in the event the EOC is activated for a weather-related emergency during the work day, managers would work closely with DES and DPW with input from the ATC meteorology team.

"DES would identify public safety concerns and DPW would identify potential infrastructure hazards and vulnerabilities. The ATC Met Team provides current conditions and forecasts."

He said that of primary importance during any emergency situation on APG is to understand all warnings and to follow instructions from emergency managers and

## WHAT IS A TORNADO?

A tornado is a violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground and extending from the base of a thunderstorm. A condensation funnel does not need to reach to the ground for a tornado to be present; a debris cloud beneath a thunderstorm confirms the presence of a tornado, even in the absence of a condensation funnel.

**Fujita Scale - or F Scale** - This is a scale of wind damage intensity in which wind speeds are inferred from an analysis of wind damage:

- F0 (weak): 40-72 mph, light damage.
- F1 (weak): 73-112 mph, moderate damage.
- F2 (strong): 113-157 mph, considerable damage.
- F3 (strong): 158-206 mph, severe damage.
- F4 (violent): 207-260 mph, devastating damage.
- F5 (violent): 261-318 mph, (rare) incredible damage.

**Tornado Watch** - This means that a National Weather Service statement has been issued that indicates that tornadoes are possible in your area (i.e. conditions are more favorable than usual for tornado formation). It is a recommended that you plan, prepare, and stay alert for changing weather and approaching storms. Stay informed by listening to NOAA Weather Radio or local radio and/or television stations. Have a plan about what to do if a tornado forms.

**Tornado Warning** - This means that a statement has been issued by NWS local offices indicating that a tornado is either imminent or has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. A warning indicates the need to take action to protect life and property.

### Some Tornado Safety Tips

- **DO NOT USE A HIGHWAY OVERPASS AS A SHELTER!** This myth was created after a videotape appeared on television of several people escaping the wrath of a tornado in this manner. The reality is that the tape was of a weak tornado that did not directly impact the overpass. Unfortunately, due to this myth, many people have lost their lives. In a home or building, a



Courtesy photo

pre-designated shelter such as a basement is the best option. In an above ground home, move to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Stay away from windows.

- Vehicles are notorious as death traps in tornadoes, because they are easily tossed and destroyed. Either leave the vehicle for sturdy shelter or drive out of the tornado's path if you have enough distance between you and the funnel. However, tornadoes can move faster than your vehicle, so don't try to outrun a tornado. When traffic is jammed or the tornado is bearing down on you at close range, your only option may be to park safely off the traffic lanes, get out and find a sturdy building for shelter, if possible. If not, lie flat in a low spot, as far from the road as possible (to avoid flying vehicles). In open country, the best option is to escape if the tornado is far away. Be aware of flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.

- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes. You should leave a mobile home and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy nearby building or storm shelter.

## BE PREPARED

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

### GET A KIT

**Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:**

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food: at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both

### MORE ONLINE

See more recommended Emergency Supply Kit items at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Can opener (manual) for canned foods
- Local maps
- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person.
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels

See more recommended Emergency Supply Kit items at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

### MAKE A PLAN

#### Family Emergency Plan

- Identify an out-of town contact who may be in a better position to communicate among separated Family members.
- Be sure every member of your Family knows the phone number. In cell phones, program that number as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone.

- Have Family members use text messaging (also known as SMS or Short Message Service which can often get around network disruptions.
- Subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails about bad weather and other emergencies.

You may also want to inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work, daycare and school. If no plans exist, consider volunteering to help create one. Talk to your neighbors about how you can work together in the event of an emergency. You will be better prepared to safely reunite your family and loved ones during an emergency if you think ahead and communicate with others in advance.

### BE INFORMED

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as making an emergency supply kit and developing a family communications plan, are the same for both a natural or man-made emergency.

However, there are important differences among potential emergencies that will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take. Learn more about the potential emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate way to respond to them.

In addition, learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local government.

Emergency preparedness is no longer the sole concern of earthquake prone Californians and those who live in the part of the country known as "Tornado Alley." For Americans, preparedness must now account for man-made disasters as well as natural ones. Knowing what to do during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count.

## AFTERMATH

It is the aftermath of the storm, however, that is the biggest problem for most people, often because they're not prepared for it.

After the storm is when you will need to tap into an emergency supply of non-perishable food, water, medicine, batteries, cash, and so on, all of which are more easily bought well ahead of the storm, even before the start of hurricane season, because these items will be in short supply when a hurricane is on your doorstep.

The aftermath might be the time you will be thankful you visited your insurance agent during the offseason, or wish you had, to determine if you can replace your home or business, plus the contents, if damaged or destroyed by a hurricane.

In addition, many people underestimate the post-storm hazards and get themselves into danger in the aftermath of a hurricane. For example, do not use a power generator in an enclosed space due to the fumes. And do not go driving on roads that are often covered in water, downed power lines, trees, and/or debris.

Be prepared to spend up to several days in place after the storm before any help might come.

**Dr. Rick Knabb**

Tropical Weather Expert [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

# ATC METEOROLOGISTS: APG'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE FOR SEVERE WEATHER

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Tucked away in a picturesque corner of Spesutie Island known as Locust Point, stands a former aircraft tower that now houses the personnel and equipment of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Atmospheric Effects Team.

Meteorology supervisor Kelly Fling leads the team of atmospheric experts whose responsibilities include alerting range personnel to weather conditions that could affect test missions and informing garrison leaders and emergency managers about potentially severe weather that could affect the workers and residents of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Fling leads meteorology team members Gerry Luft and Michael Padovani in daily tracking of weather patterns and storm systems that could impact the installation.

"We focus on APG, not Harford County," Fling said. "There are 50 counties between us and the National Weather Service in Sterling, Va."

When monitoring potential severe weather, information pulled from the national database is analyzed and compared to what is happening locally and shared among area meteorologists, she said.



Meteorology Team Members Gerry Luft, (standing) and Michael Padovani perform their daily mission of checking regional weather patterns affecting Aberdeen Proving Ground in the Atmospheric Effects Team office at Bldg. 1134 on Spesutie Island.

When called to the garrison Emergency Operations Center, for everything from snow storms to lightning strikes, the task remains the same: analyze and inform.

"We share what we're seeing or experiencing in our areas," she said. "We can't tell the garrison and installation

commander whether or not to close the post, all we can do is tell what we expect to happen, give periodic updates and issue advisories."

Hurricanes, lightning strikes, thunderstorms and tornadoes lead the summer areas of interest for the region. Fling said thunderstorms should not be underesti-

mated as they can spawn tornadoes, as evidenced in the two that touched down in Harford County June 12.

"It doesn't take much for one to pop up which is why we are constantly monitoring and tracking these systems."

Fling said that people should understand the difference between watches and warnings for all systems, particularly thunderstorms and tornadoes.

With a healthy respect for the power of Mother Nature, Fling said she can't emphasize enough the need to prepare the home and Family for significant weather events.

"Tornadoes happen fast. Lightning is pretty, but dangerous, and thunderstorms can spawn tornadoes and microburst super cells which leave similar damage," she said.

"Mother Nature can be unpredictable," added Luft, who with 20 years at APG recalled the impact of Hurricane Isabel, which devastated the region as a tropical storm in 2003. "It's like a buddy system; never swim alone; be prepared."

With more than five years at APG, Padovani said that knowledge is the key to surviving weather events.

"The forecast is the first line of defense," he said. "Then we narrow things down as it gets closer, but as long as you have some basic knowledge, the better you can prepare yourself."

# Post Shorts

## Reduced gate hours for 4th of July weekend

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area will close 7 p.m. and the Wise Road Gate (Route 755) in the Edgewood Area will close 6 p.m. Friday, July 1 for the Fourth of July holiday. The Harford and Wise Road gates will reopen 5 a.m., Tuesday, July 5 (Tuesday).

The Maryland Boulevard Gate (Route 715) in the Aberdeen Area and the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area will remain operational 24 hours a day throughout the holiday period.

## Kirk closes for holiday

Kirk US Army Health Clinic will be closed Friday, July 1, for a

training day and Monday, July 4, for Independence Day. No pharmacy services will be provided during this period. Patients should refill medications at Kirk before 5 p.m. June 30. The pharmacy refill line is 1-800-248-6337. For more pharmacy options, visit [www.tricare.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy).

For medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, contact Staff Duty, 443-807-0725 and initiate a referral. To avoid point-of-service charges, patients will need a referral to go to any urgency clinic. Emergency room visits do not require a referral.

If unable to reach staff duty, seek the nearest participating facility.

For more information on Urgent and Emergency Care, visit [http://www.tricare.mil/tricaremartfiles/Prod\\_570/BN\\_bulletin\\_08\\_i2\\_L.pdf](http://www.tricare.mil/tricaremartfiles/Prod_570/BN_bulletin_08_i2_L.pdf).

## Road closure in the Aberdeen Area

Beginning on June 27 and lasting until August 1, Bel Air Street will be closed at both the north and south sides of Aberdeen Blvd. APG Motorists are asked to use Frankford Street or Swan Creek Drive as alternate routes off of and onto Aberdeen Blvd during this closure.

This information is provided by the APG Transformation Office. If you have any questions or would like more information about BRAC and Transformation on APG, please visit our website at <http://transformation.apg.army.mil> or contact the Transformation Office at 410-278-0915.

## ACS Birthday July 21

Army Community Service will celebrate its 46th birthday at Shore Pool Picnic Area with a cookout, children's activities, bouncy house and open swimming at the

Shore Pool. Free tickets available at ACS, Bldg. 2503, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This event is open to the APG community. Call 410-278-7572/4372 or email [Diana.k.hayes.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Diana.k.hayes.civ@mail.mil). Last day to pick up tickets is July 15.

## Kirk SAMC members collecting shoes

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club members of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic are sponsoring a shoe drive. To donate new or gently used shoes, drop them off at one of the bins at the clinic entrance. All sizes and types welcome. Contact Sgt. 1st Class Keyana Washington at 410-278-1887 or [keyana.washington@us.army.mil](mailto:keyana.washington@us.army.mil) for information.

## Motorcycle safety card waived

The requirement for civilians to provide a MSF card to enter the installation will be waived for the next 90 days. During the 90-day period the Safety Team will attempt to identify training resources to support the training of military Family members, civilians, retirees and contractors. Active-duty military must present valid MSF cards at the gate. For more information, contact the Installation Safety Office at 410-306-1081.

## Thrift Shop closes Saturdays

The APG Thrift Shop will be closed on the first Saturday of the month until further notice. Regular store hours remain: Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with consignments from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with consignments from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

From pots and pans to sporting goods, clothing, toys, furniture, jewelry and more, the Thrift Shop is a one-stop shop for serviceable second-hand goods. Proceeds go back to APG. Call 410-272-8572.

## Register now for MSA degree

Central Michigan University offers a master of science in administration degree at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The MSA degree provides a solid core of management skills and a choice of four concentrations to include Human Resources, General Administration, Public Administration, or Information Resource Management. Registration for fall session is being accepted. Programs are offered to the entire APG

## Send newspaper submissions to new email address

Due to ongoing issues with the recent DISA migration, community members are asked to send all submissions for the APG News to [adriane.foss@us.army.mil](mailto:adriane.foss@us.army.mil), and CC the editor-[apg@conus.army.mil](mailto:apg@conus.army.mil) address. Type APG NEWS SUBMISSION in the Subject Line. You should receive a response within three business days letting you know that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a response, please call 410-278-1150 to inquire.

community. CMU is a fully accredited university. Alternate weekend classes available. Degree completion takes two years or less. No graduate management admission test or graduate record exam required. Credit available for prior learning. Online option available. Call 410-272-1532, 703-525-4971 or email [aberdeen.center@cmich.edu](mailto:aberdeen.center@cmich.edu).

## Register for UMUC classes

Register now for University of Maryland University College Fall classes at APG & HEAT Center.

■ CSIA 301 Information System Architecture (3) On Wednesday from 6:30-9:30pm 8/22/11 – 10/12/11

\* Online Hybrid Class

■ HRMN 300 Human Resource Management (3) On Monday from 6:30-9:30pm 8/22/11 – 10/12/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

■ IFSM 300 Information Systems in Organizations (3) On Tuesday from 6:30-9:30pm 8/23/11 – 10/13/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

■ BIOL 320 Forensic Biology (3) On Monday or Wednesday from 6:30-9:30pm 10/24/11 – 12/14/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

■ WRTG 394 Advanced Business Writing (3) On Tuesday or Thursday from 6:30-9:30pm 10/25/11 – 12/15/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

■ CSIA 301 Information System Architecture (3) On Tuesday from 6:30-9:30pm 10/25/11 – 12/15/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

■ BMGT 364 Management and Organizational Theory (3) On Tuesday from 6:30-9:30pm 10/25/11 – 12/15/11 \* Online Hybrid Class

Online Hybrid courses are offered with approximately every other session on site and the remaining sessions online. For information or to register, visit UMUC's APG office, Bldg. 4305, Room 210, or UMUC's HEAT Center office at 1201 Technology Drive, Room 206, Aberdeen or call 410-272-8269/443-360-9136 or visit [www.umuc.edu](http://www.umuc.edu).

## Actors, singers sought for Arsenic and Old Lace play

The APG Theater Group is still casting minor parts for its Aug. 6 performance of Arsenic and Old Lace. Actors and singers are needed. No experience necessary. Arsenic and Old Lace is the hilariously macabre film directed by Frank Capra and based on a play by the same name. In 2000 the American Film Institute listed Arsenic as one of the funniest movies in American cinema.

To take part in the APG Theater Group's inaugural performance, have fun and entertain the community with one of America's most beloved comedies, e-mail [triciadev@hotmail.com](mailto:triciadev@hotmail.com) or stop in at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center Thursday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. or Saturday at the post theatre 9 a.m. to noon.

## Good Shepherd accepting applications

Good Shepherd Catholic School in Perryville is accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year. The school provides a safe and nurturing learning environment for a faith-based education for grades Pre-K to 8. We offer small class sizes, before- and after-school care and a strong tradition of academic excellence. Good Shepherd is accredited through the Middle States Commission. Tuition assistance is available. We invite you to call or stop by and visit at 800 Aiken Ave., Perryville, MD 21903. For more information, visit [www.goodshepherdschool.net](http://www.goodshepherdschool.net) or call 410-642-6265.



**MORE ONLINE**

More shorts can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Shorts.

# COMMUNITY NOTES

## THURSDAY JUNE 30 INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT PUBLISHER

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air will offer Introduction to Microsoft Publisher 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Edgewood Hall, Room 215. Explore the basics of Microsoft Publisher to create professional-looking publications. Work with text boxes, shapes and graphics to make colorful cards, calendars and other projects. Tuition cost is \$99 per person. Course fee is \$99 per person. Course number 26268. Call 443-360-9108.

## FRIDAY JULY 1 LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a narrated lighthouse cruise, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis in Havre de Grace. Tickets cost \$30 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. Reservations are required. Cost includes a three-hour cruise enjoying water views of three area lighthouses: Concord Point, Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Island. Passengers need to bring their own lunch.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

## SATURDAY THRU SUNDAY JULY 2 THRU 10 KUTZTOWN FOLK FESTIVAL

The Kutztown Folk Festival is located at the Kutztown Fairgrounds, 225 North White Oak Street, Kutztown, Pa. The festival is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 3 to 11. Events include more than 200 American

craftsmen and folk artists, food, quilts, entertainment, a civil war reenactment, kids activities and more. Cost is \$14 for adults; \$13 for ages 55 and older; \$5 for ages 13 to 17; under 12 is free; An all-week pass costs \$24. For information or a free brochure, call 888-674-6136 or visit [www.kutztownfestival.com](http://www.kutztownfestival.com).

## SATURDAY JULY 2 HUNTING FOR HERPS

Explore the forest and wetland looking for snakes, lizards, turtles, salamanders, and frogs. This free program will be held 10 a.m. to noon for ages 7 to adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

## MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 8:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, soda, beer and margaritas. Reservations are required. Credit cards will be accepted.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

## SUNDAY JULY 3 FIREWORKS CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Fireworks cruise, 7:30 p.m., on board the Skipjack Martha Lewis for viewing the Havre de Grace fireworks display. Cost is \$40 per person (must be over 21 years of age) and includes a relaxing cruise with wine, beer and sodas. Passen-

gers are welcome to bring on board any food items they would like. Passengers can board the Skipjack Martha Lewis at Hutchins Park, located at the foot of Congress Avenue in Havre de Grace. Reservations are required and payments can be made with credit card.

For more information or to make reservations, call 410-939-4078.

## DIGGING FOR DINOSAURS

Become a paleontologist and dig for bones and real fossilized shark teeth. This program will be held 1 to 3 p.m. for ages 7 to 12. The cost is \$4 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

## TUESDAY JULY 5 TWILIGHT CANOETRIIP

Eden Mill Nature Center, located on 1617 Eden Mill Road Pylesville, Md. offers Twilight Family Canoe Trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45 to 8 p.m. These trips help acquaint the paddlers with the natural surroundings on Deer Creek. Basic paddling instruction is provided before the trip. Canoes, paddles, and lifejackets will be provided. All trips originate and end at the Eden Mill Nature Center. This cost is \$8 per person for non-members and \$5 for members. Small groups can be accommodated.

For more information or to register, call 410-836-3050, email [edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com](mailto:edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com), or visit [www.edenmill.org](http://www.edenmill.org).

## TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY JULY 5 THROUGH JULY 7

### NATURE DISCOVERY CAMP

Eden Mill Nature Center, 1617 Eden Mill Road, Pylesville, Md. is taking registration for the Nature Discovery Camp for ages 4 and 5. Camp will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. Participants will become detectives as they explore and understand the hidden wonders of nature. They will explore the meadow, wetlands, and trails and participate in environmental activities, crafts and games. The fee is \$75 for members or \$85 for non-member. Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register, call 410-836-3050, email [edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com](mailto:edenmillnaturecenter@gmail.com) or visit [www.edenmill.org](http://www.edenmill.org).

## TUESDAY JULY 5 THROUGH AUGUST 9 SAT PREP FOR MATH

Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air will hold SAT preparations for math 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays in Fallston Hall, Room 201. Review math skills and test-taking strategies needed to excel on the SAT1 test. Tuition is \$85 per person. Course number 35446. Call 443-412-2115.



**MORE ONLINE**

More calendar events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Community Notes.

# APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rdecom>.

## HARLEM ROCKETS VISIT A SLAM DUNK

(From right) Harlem Rockets and former Harlem Globetrotter James "Speedy" plays catch during halftime with Keshawn Gardner, 6, as teammate Jay Bryant, looks on. The Harlem Rockets, a comedy basketball team, competed against Aberdeen Proving Ground employees at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center June 24. "We wanted to kick off the summer in a positive way," said APG Community Policing and D.A.R.E. Officer Mike "Big Mike" Farlow, who was also one of the players. The Harlem Rockets defeated APG 82 -76. See more photos on [www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg). Read more about the game at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

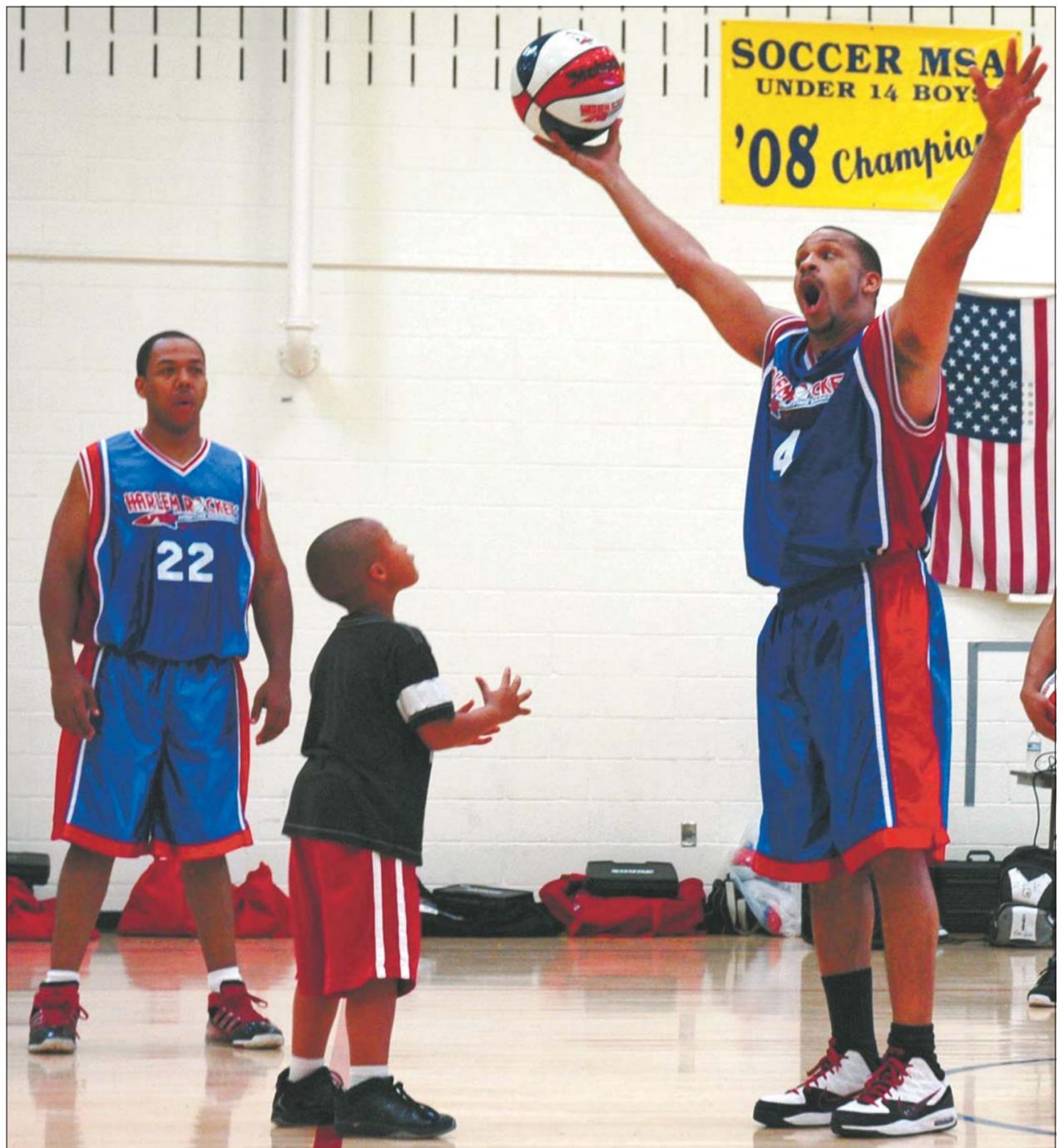


Photo by Rachel Ponder

## WHERE JESUS WAS A KID

(From left) Carolyn Todd, Lizeta Argiropoulos and Selma Gasu, members of Youth Apostles for Christ, sing for attendees during the 2011 Vacation Bible School at the main post chapel on APG North. This year's VBS theme is "Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid." Read the full story on APG Live: <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/>. For more information about the religious activities and opportunities on post, visit <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/Chaplain/index.cfm>.



Photo by Karen Price

## REGAL EAGLE

Nearly 250 species of birds can be spotted on APG during some portions of the year, but none more renowned than the bald eagle. APG has become a unique bald eagle sanctuary because of its location to fresh water ecosystems and protected forested habitats. The installation now hosts the largest bald eagle nesting population on Department of Defense lands in the Chesapeake Bay and possibly, the nation. This picture was taken by U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency employee Karen Price June 11 at Capa Field on APG South (Edgewood). "This fabulous bird was in an old tree and just striking a pose," said Price, who rides her bike in the area to get away from the noise and traffic. "It really made me feel patriotic to see a live bald eagle."



## SPLISH, SPLASH

Daophet Turner, 9, beats the heat by jumping into the Shore Pool. Turner's mother, Staff Sgt. Bountieng Somsamayvong, from U.S. Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, said that her Family enjoys spending time together at the post pools during the summer months. "They have been asking about going to the pool since April," she said. Post pools are free for active duty military and their Family members. Visit page 6 for pool schedule.

Photo by Rachel Ponder