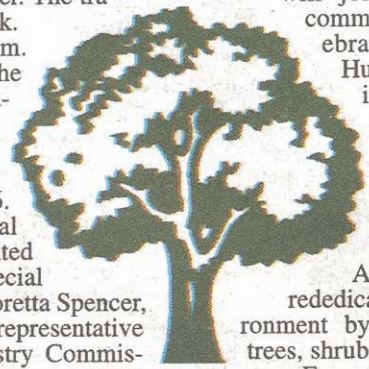
# Arbor Day plants roots for future generations

*'Tree City USA' extends invitation*

Thirteen years ago, then post commander Maj. Gen. Joe Rigby called on the community to join him at Redstone Arsenal's first Arbor Day celebration at the Child Development Center. The tradition continues this week.



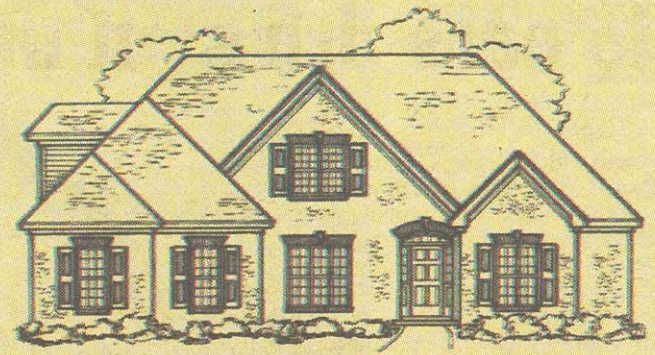
On Friday at 10 a.m. within 200 feet from the first Arbor Day celebration site, Darrell Brewer, deputy to the Garrison commander, will proclaim Arbor Day 2006. During this 14th annual event a tree will be planted in recognition of the special day. Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, Smokey the Bear and a representative from the Alabama Forestry Commission will be in attendance. Preschool children from Child Development Center will provide the Arbor Day music in song.

Redstone's commitment toward education and practices of planting, protecting and caring for trees for the future supports the ideals of Arbor Day. This annual commitment is reflected in Redstone's receipt of its eighth consecutive national recognition as "Tree City USA" from the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. There will be a limited number of cherrybark oak, nuttall oak, shumard oak and sawtooth oak tree seedlings available at the conclusion of the event at no cost to those present.

Around noon Friday, Redstone Arsenal will join with the surrounding community of Huntsville to celebrate Arbor Day at Huntsville's Big Spring Park, in front of the bell tower. Brewer, Spencer and members of the Huntsville Tree Commission will speak and sign a joint proclamation declaring the day as Arbor Day to signify their rededication to helping the environment by protecting and planting trees, shrubs and other plants.

Everyone is encouraged to take time out from their schedule Friday and join in celebrating Arbor Day at the Child Development Center and at Big Spring Park. If your work schedule won't permit your departure, then make plans to plant and maintain a tree this planting season. After all, planted trees, wherever planted, provide a healthier environment and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal for this and future generations. *(Garrison release)*


Walking Path • Nature Park • Playground
River • Canoeing • Fishing



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