

Redstone Rocket

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Comanche project family moving on

Helicopter's cancellation surprised office workers

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

They worked hard to develop the new Army helicopter in its 21-year history which included seven restructurings. Finally, the budget realities became too much.

They are the dedicated men and women of the Comanche Project Office. And their

leader since June 2003 wants to ensure they receive the recognition they deserve for their efforts.

"This is the best group of people I've served with in the Acquisition Corps," Col. Mike Cantor, Comanche project manager, said. "I've served with some very good teams, this is an excellent team. Totally dedicated to mission."

The Army on Feb. 23 announced it will cancel further research, development and planned purchases of the RAH-66 Comanche stealth helicopter.

The 381 members of the Comanche

team include more than 230 government workers (12 military) and 134 local support contractors.

Of the government workers, "They'll be taken care of. There will be no reduction in force," Cantor said. The Program Executive Office for Aviation is participating in a Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Program. "We're coordinating with the PEO with AMCOM, RDEC and across Redstone to match personnel with challenging and career-enhancing positions," Cantor said.

None of the three product managers have met their 24-month command requirement and they are to be reassigned to product manager positions elsewhere.

"We're also committed to doing the best we can to work with my support contractors in town," Cantor said. "We're devoted to taking care of all personnel. I consider it a Comanche team, to be like a family, and they will be taken care of. That's my commitment to the work force."

A transition plan to end the program is being put into place at the project office in building 5681. "It could take up to a year to do," Cantor said. "Crusader took about a year. It's a major program. There's a lot of work that has to be done."

Comanche began in 1983 and was scheduled for fielding in 2009. The requirements have been changing since its inception, including the seven restructurings.



File photo

FUNDS GROUNDED— The Army canceled the RAH-66 Comanche stealth helicopter based upon its ability to fund the current and future aviation force.

See Comanche on page 8

German restaurant tees off at post golf course

Soldatenstube's move becomes permanent

By SKIP VAUGHN

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It looks like the eatery at the Golf Course will have a German flavor from now on.

The Soldatenstube German restaurant moved out of its former location on Gray Road Dec. 17 because of structural damage to timber; and it temporarily moved to the golf course snack bar which was already closed for the winter.

"And we've now made the decision to remain there permanently," Dan Ahern, director of Morale Welfare and Recreation, said.

The menu, staff and hours remain as they were at the Gray Road location which MWR operated about 10 years. Previously the German Air Force operated the trailer, building 3512, as a guest house.

"We're waiting on a structural engineering assessment of the building in order to determine A, is it safe to go back in there and operate the building. Or B, if it's not safe, what is needed to make it safe," Ahern said.

The current location at the golf course does offer a similar amount of seating, better parking and better rest rooms, he said. "So it has a lot of things in its favor."

But of course it doesn't have the German ambience – at least not yet. "We're going to try to put that in there and operate it as a theme restaurant," Ahern said.

The Soldatenstube is open for lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; and it's open for evening dining 5-8:30 p.m. Wednesday and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. There is a buffet dinner on Wednesday night and a la carte dining Thursday through Saturday. Reservations are recommended by calling 883-8636. The bar opens at 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

See Restaurant on page 9



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FOOD STILL GOOD— Morgan Lynch eats lunch Feb. 25 in the Soldatenstube at the golf course.

Letters to the Editor

Black history display tasteful

Your commissary has a variety of contents needed to prepare many ethnic foods. The list could consist of items for cooking German, Mexican, Japanese, Korean, regional American and other cuisines. There are a lot of ingredients that are a must when preparing American "soul food."

Of course "soul food" is, more often than not, associated with black American culture. However, many colors and cultures have found many of these "delicacies" deliciously palatable.

As you entered your Redstone commissary in February, you were greeted with a "tasteful" display of black American history. It was apparent that these American contributors to our history made discoveries that complement the "being" and actual "lives" of all Americans. Looking at many products viewed as a stroll down the aisles pushing a cart reminded one of some of the scientists that provided a greeting at the entry.

I was so pleased to see this tribute to our black American ancestors and contemporaries. I inquired as to the source of this inspirational project. An employee told me that several people wanted to



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FOOD FOR SOUL— Commissary support clerks Debria Scruggs, left, and Evelyn Hayden did an award-winning display for Black History Month in February along with lead support clerk Latonia Griffin, not pictured.

honor these Americans and obtained permission to do so. They are to be applauded! The display was up during the entire month of February.

The desire for a peanut butter and jelly sandwich might bring to memory George Washington Carver. He formulated so many discoveries with the peanut.

See Display on page 3

Driving home motorcycle safety

I received the information below from a fellow motorcycle rider that rides his bike to work as I do. I know that the guards have a job to do and we all appreciate that they do but if they are going to enforce the regulations then they should be properly and correctly informed of what the regulation requires. At first the enforcement of the regulation did not exist and you could basically wear what you wanted on the Arsenal. We understand that safety comes first both on and off the Arsenal and that PPE should always be worn, but being stopped at the gate and being delayed because someone does not have the correct information is uncalled for.

We have just as much right to drive our bikes (with proper PPE) on the Arsenal as do those who drive four-wheeled vehicles. Please let everyone know that the regulations are now going to be enforced and what those regulations consist of. I personally know the regulation and will dress accordingly. I just want those that enforce the regulations to do it correctly.

This afternoon I was informed by the guard in BDUs that "soon they would be turning bikers around at the gate if they were not wearing a helmet with a face shield; goggles and a windshield are not enough." I told the guard that the DoD Traffic Safety program states riders must have face shield or goggles. Naturally this made no impression on the Soldier, he's just doing his job...

Marty Charlier

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for allowing the Directorate of Public Safety the opportunity to respond to the reader's question concerning the enforcement of Motorcycle Safety"

See Safety on page 3

Come on down to Fox Den

I would like to comment on the world class Fox Den operation at Fox Army Health Center and more specifically the chef, Ted Burruss. I have always found the food to be nicely seasoned and well prepared and presented, but the most important thing to me is the atmosphere. What an outstanding individual you have in Mr. Burruss — from his outstandingly friendly greeting as you come in ("come on in the house and eat") to his friendly, easygoing chatter as you go through the serving line. It all ties together to make the customer feel appreciated.

I always walk away with a feeling of satisfaction and from the comments I hear from other diners, others do as well. Anyone can easily tell that this man loves his work. And so, being the inquisitive type, I asked him how he could always be so cheerful and friendly (as I'm sure everyone coming into the Den isn't in a good mood). His response: He loves his work which is preparing and presenting food to make people happy or to feel better. And any day he can do that, he feels like he has made a worthwhile contribution. If that results in cheering someone up or making them smile, so much the better! What an attitude! Thanks to Mr. Burruss for making my day just a little more cheerful!

Lewis F. Spencer Jr.
 Military Personnel Office

Women in red for good reason

On Feb. 6, members of the Acquisition Center wore red in support of the first "National Wear Red Day" to remind women everywhere that heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women.

Heart disease and stroke are the No. 1 and No. 3 killers of women. They are two of the many cardiovascular diseases that kill nearly 500,000 women each year. That's more than the next seven causes of death combined, including all forms of cancer. Fortunately, you can do a lot to prevent these killers. "Go Red for Women" helps you discover unique lifesaving power by learning about heart disease and stroke and taking positive action to reduce your risk of both. Red is the American Heart Association's color for women and heart disease. Make it your color, too.

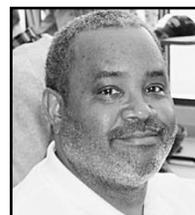
Pat Sandy
 heart attack survivor

An open lane random survey

How does your tax refund compare to last year's?

By **KELLEY LANE**

Staff writer
 kellyqa@bellsouth.net



Billy Gaines
 contractor
 "I expect my income tax to be smaller."

Sherry Lockhart
 Post Exchange

"Every year we look for more, but it's usually smaller."



Pete Varmette
 DoD civilian
 "My tax refund will be bigger. Mainly because George Bush is in office and cut the taxes."



Albert Lockhart
 contractor
 "It will be smaller because I just retired."

Quote of the week

'Before everything else, getting ready is the secret of success.'
 — Henry Ford

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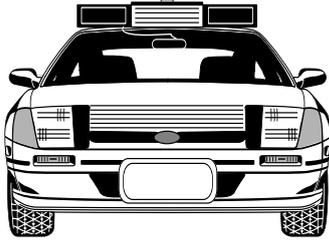
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Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents.

Feb. 22: A Soldier found to be intoxicated and disorderly in a barracks room on Aerobee Road was apprehended and taken to the Provost Marshal Office. He was processed and then released to his unit.

Feb. 22: An individual stopped on Mauler Road at a safety checkpoint was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He also had an outstanding arrest warrant on file. He was issued a violation notice and then released to the Madison Police Department.



Feb. 23: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 7. He also had four outstanding arrest warrants on file. He was issued a violation notice and then released to the Madison County District Attorney's Office.

Feb. 23: An individual reported that someone sprayed red paint on the inline hockey rink located on Goss Road. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 23: An individual was detained after he was observed in the Post

Exchange concealing several items and the exiting the store without rendering payment. He was processed and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 24: An individual was questioned after a Soldier reported that she had taken currency, credit cards and identification cards from his room. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 25: A Soldier reported that someone removed a government-owned Coleman 5hp pressure washer from the carport at his quarters. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 25: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license at a safety checkpoint at Gate 4. He was issued a violation notice and released. A passenger in the vehicle was found to have an outstanding arrest warrant on file. He was apprehended and then released to the Huntsville Police Department.

Traffic accidents reported: 4 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 40 speeding, 3 driving with a suspended driver's license, 2 failure to obey a traffic control device and 2 parking violation.

■ Commissary display earns praise

Display

continued from page 2

This scientist came to mind again when shopping for soap, shampoo and shaving cream. He found many, many uses for sweet potatoes. There must be lots of us happy about the "sweet potato" finds. This almost "staple" of our diets is so much a part of our everyday and specialty menus. Down the aisle where the light bulb can be found, surely Lewis Latimer comes to mind.

Most products arrive at their destination by train or truck. Elijah McCoy, Norbert Rillieux, Frederick McKinley Jones and Granville T. Woods are primary contributors to these modes of transportation. Garrett A. Morgan must be included here as he invented the traffic signal that regulated the traffic for

safe driving and arrival.

Our post exchange also offers a variety of items. Madam C. J. Walker, America's first female millionaire, created many hair products for straightening and grooming the hair of black females. Subsequently her inventions have benefited other cultures as well. When admiring and selecting shoes, Jan Ernst Matzeliger is in the forefront.

Astronauts, entertainers, attorneys and other professions were represented in this marvelous display. The public library, Internet and other resources have a multitude of information about these contributing Americans.

I'm hoping that this is the first year of many to come in providing the commissary patrons with a "Taste of Black American History."

Jeannette Sellers
Madison

■ Garrison clarifies motorcycle rules

Safety

continued from page 2

requirements. Operating a motorcycle or an automobile on the roadways of Redstone Arsenal is a privilege given to those who comply with established rules, regulations and policies, and federal and state laws for operating a motorcycle or automobile.

"Proper interpretation of the DoD motorcycle requirements for the wearing

of eye protection is as follows: Individuals will wear shatter resistant goggles or full face shield or eyeglasses with a motorcycle that has a windshield.

"The Provost Marshal Office continues to train those individuals tasked with proper enforcement of these provisions to ensure that all who travel on Redstone Arsenal roadways do so in a safe manner. The provost marshal is responsible for enforcing these rules, regulations and policies and ensuring that all are in compliance."

Getting to know you

By KIM MASON

Staff writer

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Name: Spc. Bianca Douglas

Job: Administrative specialist, 902nd Military Intelligence

Where do you call home?
Houma, La.

What do you like about your job?
The people. I get to meet a lot of new people daily.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Watch TV.

What are your goals?
To go to college and major in psychology, minor in physical therapy.



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

Operation promotion

Robb Walker is promoted to major Feb. 20 by his wife, Leigh Anne, and post commander Brig. Gen. Jim Pillsbury. Leigh Anne is holding one of their twin sons, Wes. Walker, a reservist working in the AMCOM Operations Center as a current operations officer since April 2003, has been extended for an additional year at the Aviation and Missile Command. He graduated from West Point in 1993.

U.S. flag insignia to be worn by all Soldiers

*Uniform policy change
a wartime reminder*

By Sgt. 1st CLASS MARCIA TRIGGS
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — All Soldiers can now wear the U.S. flag insignia on the right shoulder of their utility uniform, as a continued reminder that the Army is engaged in a war at home and abroad.

"The flag has been around for years to identify deploying troops. Now based on the Army's joint expeditionary mindset, the flag represents our commitment to fight the war on terror for the foreseeable future," said Sgt. Maj. Walter Morales, the uniform policy chief for G1.

Army chief of staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker approved the uniform item Feb.

11, and all Soldiers have until Oct. 1, 2005 to get the insignia sewn on their uniforms.

A message on the uniform policy went out to the force Feb. 14, announcing "the current policy of deployed Soldiers wearing the U.S. flag on utility uniforms is expanded to include all Soldiers throughout the force regardless of deployment status."

Currently there are not enough flags in the inventory, which is why Soldiers have a substantial amount of time to get the flags sewn on, Morales said. Deploying troops have the priority. Everyone else will have to wait until the Defense Logistics Agency has more in stock, he said. An estimated 30 million flags need to be procured, he added.

Enlisted Soldiers will not have to purchase the flags. They will be issued five flags from their assigned unit, and commanders will make arrangements for get-

ting the insignia sewn on, Morales said. However, if Soldiers purchase the flags on their own, they will not be reimbursed, he added.

When purchasing the flag, the only ones authorized for wear on the uniform is the reverse field flag in red, white and blue. Subdued flags and those in other colors are in violation of U.S. code, Morales said. Individuals should comply with Army Regulation 670-1, Wear and Appearance of the Army Uniform and Insignia.

The regulation still states that Soldiers are not authorized to wear the full-color cloth U.S. flag replica upon their

return to home station. However, the latest change will be added to the regulation when it is revised sometime this year, Morales said.

Nothing has changed regarding the placement of the flag, Morales said. It is sewn one-half-inch below the shoulder seam. If a combat patch is also placed on the right shoulder, the flag is sewn one-eighth-inch below the combat patch.

"The flag is worn on the right shoulder to give the effect of the flag flying in the breeze as the wearer moves forward," Morales said. "This will serve as a vivid reminder that our nation is at war."

Notes from the post Command Sgt. Maj.

*Army announces
uniform changes*

Redstone Soldiers will join their counterparts throughout the Army in wearing the new U.S. flag insignia by October 2005.

"The Garrison is going to ensure that AAFES (the Post Exchange) is the proponent for sewing on the patches," post Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn said. "And each unit supply will issue their people a memorandum authorizing the sewing. And just take (the patch) to AAFES and AAFES will sew it on at no cost."

This is effective immediately. As soon as the units receive the patches, they can start sending their Soldiers with the memos to get theirs sewn on at Post Exchange alteration shop. Redstone has more than 3,000 Soldiers, including 2,000 permanent party.

In other developments, the Army has decided to field wrinkle-free Battle Dress Uniforms (both weights) by 2007. The Army also plans to field a moisture-wicking T-shirt and a micro fleece cap to replace the wool watch cap.

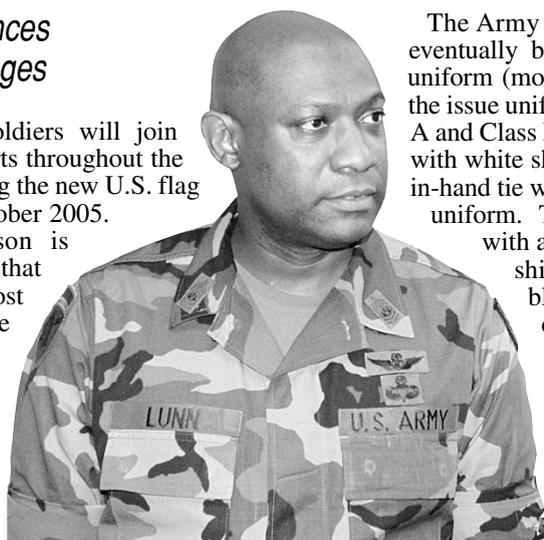


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn

The Army green uniform will eventually be retired. The blue uniform (modified) will become the issue uniform for dress, Class A and Class B. The blue uniform with white shirt and bow or four in-hand tie will be the issue dress uniform. The blue uniform with a different colored shirt — khaki, light blue, gray are being considered — will become the Class A uniform. All insignia and accoutrements currently worn on the green uniform will be worn on the blue uniform; and the large service stripes

will no longer be worn on the blue uniform. An implementation date has not yet been decided.

These were among the changes discussed during the Nominative Command Sergeants Major conference held in early January in El Paso. Lunn was among the more than 350 attendees at the event led by Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

"These changes and modifications I feel will enhance the Army, its mission and its focus on warfighting," Lunn said. "Change is good for the Army and we must be prepared to adapt to a transforming Army."

Exchange service monitors shrinking BDU supply

*Battle dress uniforms
limited until August*

EXCHANGE SERVICE RELEASE

DALLAS — Backorders from the military supply system, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, are affecting Army & Air Force Exchange Service military clothing sales stores. Both Army and Air Force stores are out of stock on selected sizes of enhanced hot weather and temperate Battle Dress Uniform coats and trousers.

The military supply system advised AAFES that the get-well date for the temperate BDUs will be August.

"AAFES continues to be in constant communication with DSCP," Dave Lumbley, military clothing divisional merchandise manager, said. "The information we received from DSCP indicates AAFES will be experiencing shortages on temperate BDUs through the end of summer 2004."

Representatives from the military supply system said the current supply position is due to the allocation of BDU production from woodland to desert to support the tremendous increase in desert requirements as a result of the war in Iraq.

"The temperate trousers are the item in the most critical position, and while DSCP does not expect to get well until August, we will experience a significant increase in deliveries starting in April," said Jim Kane,

product manager for battle dress uniforms in the supply system's clothing and textile directorate. "We have recently released all backorders for enhanced hot weather coats and trousers. These assets should be reaching the stores soon, and DSCP expects to remain in sustained supply for the enhanced hot weather items."

The supply system and the Defense Logistics Agency annually buy about \$10.4 billion worth of food, clothing, textiles, medicines, medical equipment, general and industrial supplies and services for America's warfighters worldwide, their eligible family members and other non-Defense Department customers.

The supply system provides routine support for exchange service requirements. Recruits/units and other higher priority requirements such as Operation Iraqi Freedom and Recruit Induction Centers receive first priority.

Since the supply system is the only authorized BDU source as directed by agreements with the Army and Air Force, the exchange service has no other choice but to continue to monitor the situation. Lumbley advises that AAFES continually requests updates on the backorder status. "We remain committed to providing customers with the latest information and fix shortages regarding the situation. Until such notice is received, AAFES is asking for customers' patience as it continues to work with the military supply system to find a solution to the BDU situation."

832nd holds third annual Soldier readiness program

Event prepares Soldiers for possible deployment

By Spc. RYAN McCLYMONT

Staff writer

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Armed with a shot card, identification card and tags, and a completed finance

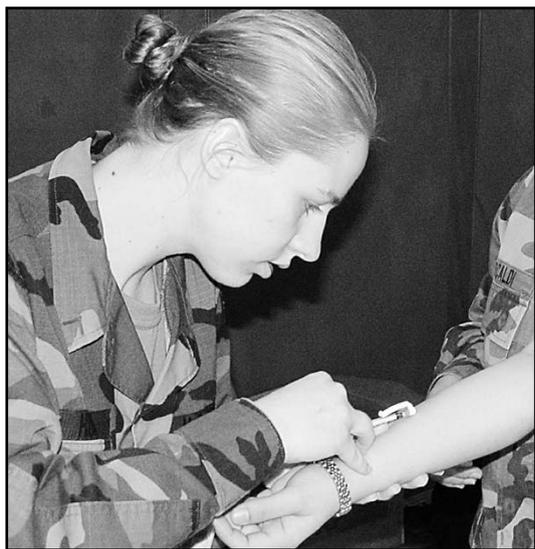


Photo by Spc. Ryan McClymont

GOOD TO GO— Pvt. Sarah Hunt, a combat medic for MEDDAC, gives one of many vaccinations during the Soldier readiness program Feb. 24.

worksheet, roughly 330 Soldiers from the 832nd Ordnance Battalion took part in the unit's third annual Soldier readiness program Feb. 24-25 at Pagano Gym.

"The goal of the SRP is to ensure that all Soldiers in the unit are ready to deploy," Capt. Stephen Smith, the 832nd adjutant, said. "In a unit like this there is not much chance that the unit itself will be deployed, however, individually all the Soldiers here are permanent party and (military occupational skill) qualified, therefore, the operational Army looks at us as a source of highly trained Soldiers. It is very probable that a lot of these Soldiers will be deployed to fill holes and gaps in the operational Army."

The SRP makes this process easy by getting all the Soldiers and agencies together at one location. From finance to vaccinations, some Soldiers completed the SRP in as little as 15 minutes.

"It takes coordination between the battalion and the five agencies here: the (military personnel office), the medical folks, the dental folks, (the judge advocate general) and finance," Smith said. "We get all the military and civilian agencies together to coordinate times, places and equipment requirements and we need about

20 to 30 personnel to make it all work."

"It's good to be proactive as opposed to reactive," said Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Alexander, the 832nd S-1 noncommissioned officer in charge. "You never can tell, we won't deploy as a unit here, but you could definitely go on (temporary duty) status down range and end up in Iraq. In a situation like that not only you, but your family want to be ready."

"The more prepared they are now, the less pain and suffering they have to go through when they actually do deploy," Smith said. "It helps everyone stay at that a high state of readiness, so if that call does come down, they can respond that much sooner and much more efficiently." Smith attributed the success of the SRP to the hard work of Alexander and the professionalism of the agencies involved.

Contract awarded for missile system

The Aviation and Missile Command has awarded Raytheon's Integrated Defense Systems a \$127 million contract for the Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile system.

The Short Range Air Defense Project Office will manage the joint Army-Marine Corps program. The contract will cover development, fabrication, integration and testing of the SLAMRAAM system. Components of SLAMRAAM include the joint service Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile mounted on a Humvee and a

new integrated fire control system netted to the Army's existing Sentinel radar, the Army's future Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor system, the Patriot radar and the Marine Corps' Multi-Role Radar System.

The Army has also joined with the Marine Corps' Complementary Low Altitude Weapons System and the Common Aviation Command and Control System programs to develop a joint, common launcher and a common command and control capability.

Pakistan captain enjoys sites he's seen on television

Ammunition specialist student has first visit to United States

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Pakistan army Capt. Faisal Khokhar won't be ready to leave the United States when his training ends at Redstone March 11.

He plans to stay an extra month for sightseeing in New York and California.

Fortunately the 29-year-old Soldier has his family here with him. He arrived Dec. 8 for the 11-week ammunition specialist course.

"I have enjoyed my time over here," said Khokhar, who's from Faisalabad. He's accompanied by his wife,

Sarah, and their 15-month-old son, Fahad.

This was his first trip to the United States but he didn't feel like a stranger. He had seen much of the world on television by watching the Travel Channel or History Channel.

But he actually got to visit Disney World in Orlando, Fla., and Times Square in New York.

"You cannot enjoy those places you've seen on television until you actually go there," Khokhar said.

When he leaves Huntsville March 11, he plans to travel to New York, then California, back to New York and return to Pakistan April 4. He and his family will stay 10 days in California and 10 days in New York on their vacation.

"As far as the United States is concerned, I think the country provides you with the freedom and your basic human rights," he said. "People, they are very friendly. And if you are in some problem, they help you."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PLENTY OF MEMORIES— Pakistan army Capt. Faisal Khokhar ready to start his vacation in the United States.

Members of the International Military Student Office, assigned to Headquarters & Alpha Company, assist visiting military students such as Khokhar.

"They're professionally competent and I treat them as my family member," he said.

Does he have any regrets as he prepares to become a tourist? "No regrets," he said. "I enjoyed my stay here."

International students visit historic Chattanooga

Bus tour for families proves informative

By SCOTT HUTHER
International military student officer

The International Military Student Office took 34 international Soldiers, a civilian government employee from Korea attending training at the Army Logistics Management College, and nine family members on a bus tour of Sequoy-

ah Caverns in Alabama and many sites in Chattanooga on Feb. 21-22.

Soldiers were from Pakistan, Guyana, Jamaica, Korea, Kuwait, Greece, Taiwan and Egypt. The purpose of this informational program trip was for these Soldiers to learn more about America's educational, political and economical systems.

The first stop on the journey was the Sequoyah Caverns in Valley Head. There the Soldiers had an opportunity to see one of the outstanding show caves in the coun-

try up close. They learned the story of Sequoyah, a Native American illiterate genius who, solely from the resources of his mind, endowed the entire Cherokee nation with an alphabet that enabled them to read and write. In honor of this great contribution, the giant Sequoia trees and Sequoia National Park in California were named after him.

The next stop was the Electric Vehicle Information Center. Here students learned about one of the fastest growing clean fuels available for motor vehicles: electricity. The EVIC offers information about vehicles through a number of interactive displays and hands-on activities to help them better understand the many benefits of electric vehicles and provided a preview of what will be seen on the road in the near future. The Soldiers were able to see the difference electric vehicles have made in cleaning up the air quality in this area as Chattanooga was the most polluted city in the United States at one time. For those who visit Chattanooga, this is a free tour.

After completing this, we checked into the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo hotel in downtown Chattanooga. This train station constructed in 1905 was converted to a hotel in 1973. The hotel has regular hotel rooms or you can choose to stay in actual train cars. We also visited the miniature train museum on the hotel grounds and rode a New Orleans trolley around the 30-acre complex.

On the second day of the trip we rode

the Chattanooga Incline Railway, called "America's Most Amazing Mile," to the top of Lookout Mountain. The breathtaking 72.7 percent grade of the track near the top gives the Incline the distinction of being the steepest passenger railway in the world. At the top of Lookout Mountain you can see six different states on a clear day. The observation deck at the top provided a great opportunity for photos of the countryside and of the other students. We then walked down the street three blocks to the Battlefield Electric Map Museum and saw a 35-minute presentation about the battles of Chattanooga and learned the significance of Chattanooga in the outcome of the Civil War.

The last stop on the trip was at the Tennessee Aquarium in downtown Chattanooga. The Aquarium is the largest freshwater life center in the world. Here the Soldiers learned about the conservation efforts to preserve our rivers. The Aquarium's exhibits guide visitors on a journey from the Tennessee River's source in the Appalachian high country, through its midstream, to the Mississippi Delta, and on to the great rivers of the world in Africa, South America and Asia.

The trip was a great success and gave the international Soldiers an opportunity to travel outside of Huntsville and learn more about our country. It also allowed them to spend time and learn more about the other international students who are here for training.

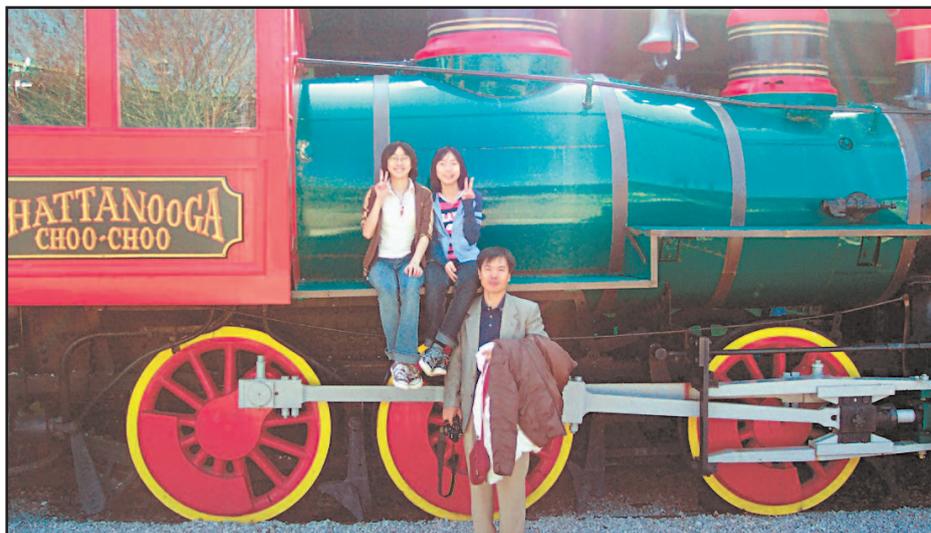


Photo by Ron Garrett

STATION STOP— Korean Lt. Col. Gu Hyun Kang and his two daughters visit the Chattanooga Choo Choo with others from Redstone.

Aviation, missile programs trying to stay rust free

Corrosion program offices identify potential solutions

By STEVEN CARR
Corrosion program manager

The Soldier in the field depends on us for the best support and equipment America can provide. That continues to be the driving force behind Team Redstone corrosion prevention efforts and the Aviation and Missile Command Corrosion Prevention and Control Program Manager within the Research Development and Engineering Center.

RDEC members of the Corrosion Prevention and Control Program have been extensively involved with aviation and missile corrosion issues in the field for more than 20 years. There are a lot more commonalities between aviation and missile

corrosion issues than most people realize. Aviation and missile assets have distinct requirements necessitating their fair share of Defense Department corrosion funding.

The efforts of the CPC office complement those of the PEO Aviation Corrosion Center of Excellence. Our work directions parallel and our offices enjoy an excellent working relationship. The CCoE, unlike the CPC office, seeks funding from units and the National Guard for unit corrosion training visits. To date, the funding received by the CPC office has come from the command Value Engineering Manager and internal resources. Both corrosion offices are diligently identifying potential issues and solutions to reduce corrosion and its costly effects impacting Army aviation and missile resources and readiness.

Defense objectives

This CPC PM is responsible to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense Director of Corrosion Policy and Oversight, Dan Dunmire, for several important responsibilities. Those responsibilities are: representing Army aviation and missiles as the corrosion lead to OSD, representing aviation as the corrosion lead on the Joint Council on Aging Aircraft Corrosion Steering Group, coordination of Team Redstone corrosion Program Objective Memorandum submissions, and review of all aviation and missile corrosion project plans submitted to OSD for funding.

The CPC office is targeting the following objectives for both aviation and missiles:

- Coordinate and unify corrosion POM input.
- Gather, process and quanti-



Courtesy photo

KEEP IT CLEAN— Aging aircraft corrosion is a growing concern of all field units and senior leadership throughout the Army.

fy actual corrosion data.

- Identify and quantify actual corrosion costs, events and impact to readiness.

- Analyze impacts of corrosion on Army aircraft/missile systems, components and airframes.

- Decrease life-cycle costs

and increase aviation and missile commodity operational readiness rates through corrosion control and reduction.

- Elimination of the duplication of effort and resource expenditures.

See **Corrosion** on page 13

Dual-mode seeker passes flight test

Eagle Eyes on target

NORTHROP GRUMMAN RELEASE

The Army's new Eagle Eyes dual-mode infrared/millimeter-wave radar seeker, supplied by Northrop Grumman Corporation, successfully detected, acquired, tracked and struck a moving multiple rocket launcher during a Jan. 11 engineering flight test.

Engineers from the Army's Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems project office and Northrop Grumman's Land Combat Systems business unit conducted the test on the missile range at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. It was the third in a series of developmental tests planned for the Eagle Eyes program.

"These tests have enabled us to refine

and mature Eagle Eyes' advanced sensors and algorithms," said Emmitt Gibson, vice president of precision munitions at Northrop Grumman. "Integrated with either a loitering weapon or a missile, the seeker will improve substantially the Army's ability to strike discrete, high-value targets, both moving and stationary."

William Forster, vice president of Land Combat Systems at Northrop Grumman, added, "The consistent performance of Eagle Eyes in these tests confirms our belief that our tri-mode seeker, which integrates this combination with a semi-active laser for the Joint Common Missile program, is ready for system development and demonstration."

The seeker was integrated with an unpowered precision loitering munition and equipped with a high-density flight data recorder instead of a warhead. It was released from a Cessna aircraft at a tacti-

cal altitude.

A preliminary analysis of the data and visual inspection of the target indicated that all test objectives were accomplished. The munition executed the planned top-down direct attack maneuver as designed, and the seeker achieved and maintained dual-mode track, fusing data from the IR and MMW sensors. The test demonstrated that the terminal guidance algorithms worked effectively in guiding the munition into the selected target, which was

struck in a vulnerable area.

Eagle Eyes offers onboard sensor fusion for an expanded engagement capability against a wide range of both stationary and moving ground targets, even in adverse weather conditions and against sophisticated countermeasures. It combines advanced millimeter-wave radar with an imaging infrared sensor, providing a co-boresighted, dual-mode seeker in a 5.5-inch-diameter, 8-inch-long compartment.

■ No layoffs planned for Army's helicopter workers

Comanche

continued from page 1

"But it was re-baselined in November 2002 to its current configuration," Cantor said.

Costs of ending the program are being figured. "The Comanche Project Office is doing an in-depth scrub of contract costs to determine an accurate termination liability," Cantor said. Boeing and Sikorsky are the major contractors involved.

Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, traveled from the Pentagon Feb. 23 to personally inform the Comanche workers of the Army's decision. The meeting was described by attendees as somber. Funds from the Comanche program will be reinvested into other Army aviation programs.

"The Army made a decision to end this program based upon its ability to fund current and future aviation force," said Cantor, a Marlton, N.J., native. "We

support that decision fully and will terminate the program in a manner that maximizes available funding and leverages technology transfer opportunities for the Army."

But that doesn't make it any less painful for the workers themselves. A visit to the project office found a subdued mood, with one worker overheard telling someone about the surprise cancellation.

"This was a very dedicated and professional team," Cantor said. "I believe they represent some of the Acquisition Corps' best folks. Totally dedicated to mission and they executed a very difficult and complex program in an exceptional manner. I also believe they will move forward, move on to assume positions in the acquisition work force where they will continue to deliver quality hardware to the Soldier. It's been a pleasure serving with every one of them."

Frank Wallace is the Comanche deputy. The product managers include Lt. Col. Vince Tobin, sensors; Lt. Col. Neil Thurgood, air vehicle; and Lt. Col. Brent Horrocks, avionics and interoperability.

Commissary shopper finds tasty prize at delicatessen

National sweepstakes
nets winner \$300

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Susan Tucker of Athens entered various sweepstakes for two decades with no success. Until now, that is.

Tucker, retired from the National Guard, won a \$300 check in a patron appreciation contest at the commissary deli. She was among 10 winners nationally in the random drawing sponsored by Special Markets Inc. which has 56 deli bakeries in military commissaries in the U.S.

"I'm really excited," said Tucker, who retired from the National Guard in 1999 and studies interior design at University of Alabama-Huntsville. "I've been registering for 20 years for things and never won a thing."

Special Markets Inc., based in Virginia Beach, Va., holds these contests several times a year in cooperation with the Churny Cheese Company.

"This is the second contest in a row that someone in this (Redstone) area has won which is kind of cool," field supervi-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LUCKY WINNER— From left are Special Markets Inc. field supervisor Debora Roberts, contest winner Susan Tucker and the commissary's store director Sandra Edinger.

sor Debora Roberts said. "That doesn't happen very often."

It was definitely a first for Tucker, who registered during the contest held Nov. 15 to Dec. 15. Her 46th birthday was Feb. 13 "so this is kind of a nice birthday (present)," she said. Her husband, David, is an engineer with Boeing.

"I've never won anything before in my life," she said, laughing. "It's a lot of money for me."

She plans to use it for tuition at UAH.

■ Soldatenstube settles in at former snack bar

Restaurant

continued from page 1

"Monday and Tuesday are our days to get prepped for the week," cashier Amy Whitten said. "But the rest of the time we'll be in full swing."

"The quality's just as good as it was at the old location," Ahern said. "In fact I've got customer input to prove it."

Morgan Lynch, a retired civilian, shared his thoughts about the site while eating lunch there Feb. 25. "It's OK. It's a little further away for me but it's nice - wherever," he said. "The food is still as good as it was."

Sky's the limit for new youth classes

Piano and tennis lessons begin on post in April

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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Child and Youth Services is piloting a new Army program called SKIESUnlimited but it has nothing to do with planes or flying, at least not yet.

The name SKIESUnlimited combines the acronym for Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills with the word "unlimited" for the unlimited learning possibilities this new initiative offers Army children and youth.

"This program sets up quality standards for the instructors we hire to teach an unlimited number of instructional classes to children of the Redstone community," Brandie DeRemer, SKIES director, said. "Some instructional classes are already going on here very successfully, like cheernastics and kindernastics and

tae kwon do. We have great instructors already. Those classes will move under this program but the students won't really see a difference. What we're doing with SKIES is going out into the community and recruiting more instructors on all kinds of things and bringing the classes here."

DeRemer and her colleagues had a brainstorming session last week about the types of instructional classes to bring into the program and now her walls are covered with possibilities. Classes will be offered in age ranges from 4 weeks old to seniors in high school. She's divided the categories up into sports and fitness health; life skills, citizenship, leadership; academic skills, mentoring and intervention; and arts, recreation and leisure.

"We are expecting to be able to offer a lot of different music lessons because we already have some instruments and a place at the youth center set up to give lessons," DeRemer said. "We're starting piano and tennis lessons in April. But that's just the beginning. We're working



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

SURROUNDED— Brandie DeRemer, SKIESUnlimited director, is surrounded by possibilities to offer through the Army's new skills building program for children.

on recruiting and training instructors in many different types of activities."

When DeRemer talks about training instructors, she's not talking about teaching them their trade or craft, she's referring to the training every employee at Child and Youth Services must undergo.

"That's what really stands out about this program," Myra Garriott, Child and

Youth Services coordinator, said. "The instructors under the SKIES program are contractors but they will become faculty and will have to take the training like all other CYS employees. Their certifications to teach these programs or classes will be checked. They will have background

See **Skills** on page 11

Skills

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checks and be trained in safety procedures, like knowing CPR, how to spot child abuse, everything someone should know who's going to work with children."

Hiring certified, qualified instructors able to work with and teach children in a safe environment is the focus of the program. The goal is to offer as many and as diverse courses as possible.

"I go into the community of professionals and find people willing to teach our kids," DeRemer said. "I negotiate the best price, at least 20 percent less than what it would cost to go out and get it downtown, and then coordinate and partner with managers of MWR activities here on post to provide the space for the activity.

"We already have the space and equipment for some things, like archery," she said. "Now we have to find a qualified, certified instructor, willing to become part of our faculty, go through the training, to bring the class here."

With some skills, proof through a certification board is not available but that doesn't mean SKIES won't offer a class. "We meet

with these people, look at the work they've done, especially if it's teaching some sort of craft, like quilting, for instance," DeRemer said. "We check references; examine experience in the field and experience working with children. There are ways to make sure these instructors are qualified to be here. And we want to offer as many types of activities as possible."

Some lessons will be offered on an individual basis, some group based. Beyond nurturing a child's interest in delving deeper into a hobby is the idea that as children move from base to base, someone qualified will be at their next post, able to continue with their training.

"It provides a continuity of excellence for our kids," Garriott said. "Children already give up so much moving from place to place. The Army understands how important it is to offer these kids lessons and activities to keep them growing in their interests and give them the chance to explore new opportunities."

DeRemer is interested in hearing from the community about what classes children are interested in having. She's also on the hunt for qualified instructors. For more information about SKIES or to offer course suggestions, call 313-3701.

MEDDAC gets healthy against NCO Academy

Medics survive 'meltdown'
to advance to tourney final

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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MEDDAC's once healthy lead was on life support in the second half against the NCO Academy.

But the medics made a full recovery.

MEDDAC beat the NCO Academy 73-60 Thursday night at Pagano Gym to advance to the final in the postseason tournament. The championship was March 2.

"The first half we came out strong," forward Detrick Bush said. "The second half we were having a meltdown on defense and offense. We got it together though and pulled it off."

Bush finished with 16 points and nine rebounds for second-ranked MEDDAC (13-3). LeRoy Howard led the way with a game-high 28.

"It was a lot of teamwork, just playing together. Overcoming adversity," said Howard, a shooting guard who played his last game for MEDDAC. He was due to leave last weekend for a weeklong assignment at Fort Gordon, Ga.

"It was a lot of fun just playing with the guys, coming together as a team," he said.

The medics surged to 38-27 halftime lead. But the third-ranked NCO Academy (12-4) battled back after intermission. Anthony Lewis' 3-pointer cut the deficit to only 50-46 with 11 minutes left.

MEDDAC answered with an 8-0 run for a 58-46 lead at the 7:35 mark. Bush's jumper made it 60-52 with 5:45 left; and the lead was at least six until the end.

"We almost lost it, we almost let it get out of hand," player/coach Michael Copeland said of the game. "But still we maintained."

The medics had their usual recipe for victory. "Just overall defense and actually again, it's still all about teamwork," Copeland said. "I've got some all-stars. We work together, we play together. We've just got that bond, that cohesion bond."

Point guard Ray Lee had nine points, seven rebounds, five assists and three steals.

"I think we played good," he said. "We

really got down on defense, you know. We beared down. We had excellent rotation, we were talking. I think defense is the name of the game, we played good defense. The second half we had a little meltdown, we let them back in the game. But we got refocused and came out victorious."

Lawrence Scott had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Academy. Lewis added 13 points, including three 3-pointers. LaQuaine Bess had 10 points and eight rebounds while John Horner added 10 points with four steals. Gregory Whaley contributed eight points and six rebounds.

"We just broke down," player/coach Darrell Small said. "We started giving them too many open looks and they beat us on the boards."

MEDDAC out-rebounded the Academy 37-30.

Marines 43, AMCOM 35: Damien Cason scored 20 points as the fifth-ranked Marines stayed alive and eliminated AMCOM.

The Marines (8-8) trailed 26-24 at halftime. But they had 12 players to AMCOM's six and took control after intermission.

"Hustle" was the key, according to Marines coach Summer Fields. "AMCOM always is a tough team. I have a lot of respect for them. They're a very, very physical team. And we've just got to counter that as best we could because I don't have the physical players to counteract that. And make them play our game."

Michael Gola had 11 points for AMCOM (7-10).

"You know you've got a good team and nobody shows up. It's so disappointing," he said.

Charlie 67, HHC 59th 35: Tim Latour scored 24 points and Gary Garrett had 23 for top-ranked Charlie (13-3).

Brad Mueller added 11 for the Wolfpack which enjoyed a 41-14 halftime lead. It was 55-20 when coach Roderick Cobb cleared his bench with 11 minutes left.

"We didn't play too good tonight," Cobb said. "We still could've been up more than that."

Garrett, a 6-foot-4 small forward, did his part. Afterward he reflected on Charlie's winning season and a berth in the Final Four along with MEDDAC, the NCO Academy and the Marines.

"It's been fun," he said. "I love being in Wolfpack. I wouldn't trade it for anybody



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NEEDED LIFT— Detrick Bush scores two of his 16 points for MEDDAC against the NCO Academy.

else."

William Lewis scored 12 points as fourth-ranked HHC 59th finished at 9-7. The Raise-up bunch missed Laevrmonde Watts, who was out with a foot injury.

"We have a hard time rebounding when he's gone and he's probably about 40 percent of our scores," said player/coach Mike Alsbrook, who had nine points. "So if Watts had been here tonight it would've been a different story."

"We just got very frustrated at the beginning of the game," shooting guard Mark Lewis said. "And frustration just

carried out through the rest of the game."

Here are other results in the postseason tournament:

• Feb. 23 - AMCOM d. 2117th 49-46, MEDDAC d. Delta 40-27 and HHC 59th d. Marines 56-53.

• Feb. 24 - AMCOM d. Charlie 61-50, NCO Academy d. Bravo 46-39 and Delta d. 2117th 46-19.

• Feb. 25 - MEDDAC d. HHC 59th 59-48, NCO Academy d. AMCOM 57-49, Charlie d. Bravo 50-48 and Marines d. Delta 43-38.

Corrosion

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- Support corrosion training at the unit level.
- Implementation of corrosion solutions for Reset, PMOs and users of fielded weapons systems.
- Provide feedback and solutions to field units after site visits.
- Share aviation and missile corrosion technologies.

Aircraft concern

Aging aircraft corrosion is a growing concern of all field units and senior leadership throughout the Army. Army aviation operations in Hawaii, Korea, coastal areas and shipboard environments encounter severe corrosion problems. Operations in Afghanistan and Iraq are adding to this growing corrosion problem.

The CPC office is actively engaged as the AMCOM-Naval Aviation Corrosion Partnership lead supporting the aviation Reset Program Management Office. The Reset PMO is a tremendous supporter of this partnership and requested the partnership assess corrosion on returning helicopters undergoing reset. The first round of joint site visits with our NAVAIR counterparts to reset locations has been completed with important data gathered from the corrosion assessments.

Southwest Asia is a very severe environment for all weapon systems, especially helicopters, and the joint partnership is finding significant corrosion problems during assessment visits. The good news is that we have immediate solutions for many of the corrosion problems documented. The partnership is coordinating with aviation PMOs, Aviation Engineering Directorate (Materials Branch), Integrated Material Management Center, Reset PMO and others to begin implementation of these solutions. These solutions, to include the cost of materials, coordination, training and implementation are at no cost to the PMs. The CPC office submitted POM input to include funding for both paper manuals and electronic manuals so PMOs will not have that burden down the road. A few of the near term solutions ready for implementation are 1) a mildew removal kit developed by the Navy, which is environmentally safe, 2) magnesium touch up kits, 3) Bristle Discs, and 4) antenna gaskets.

Rinse facility

In addition, a quick solution with long-term benefits for high corrosion sites is the Army Aviation Standardized Clear Water Rinse Facility. The CWRF is funded (\$2 million turnkey) and will be installed at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii this summer. This system is designed especially for helicopters and was selected during the fall of 2003 by JCAA and Defense Department as the standard for military helicopters. It automatically adjusts for each helicopter on the rinse pad from the OH-58D to the CH-47D. It has a small footprint and

meets FAA requirements for installation on airfields.

The CWRF is a self-contained closed-loop system with filtration. The filtration system uses an unconventional oil/water separator and removes heavy metals, hydraulic fluids, sand, dirt and salt from the rinse water. Contaminant removal by the filtration system has been demonstrated successfully to Army and Air Force officials and will return contaminated water to EPA drinking water standards. It will meet the 16 aircraft surge requirement and can be made transportable for areas like Southwest Asia. The CPC office continues to coordinate with Forces Command, field units, installations, environmental offices and the Corps of Engineers for additional CWRF facility installations.

Even though funding for the CPC office continues to be disproportionate for the service provided, we anticipate this changing as a result of last year's FY '05-11 POM and the previous POM input. A few submissions for out year funding in the last two POMs included funding for Corrosion Program offices, Aviation Corrosion Service Centers based on the Fort Drum (N.Y.) Aviation model, Clear Water Rinse Facilities for high corrosion cost locations Armywide, corrosion repair kits for field units, collection and reporting of quantified corrosion data, corrosion sensors and dehumidification.

Sharing technology

The CPC office has provided the latest OSD Corrosion Policy guidance to PEO Tactical Missiles, PEO Air, Space and Missile Defense, and PEO Aviation. In addition, Common Missiles and NLOS were provided draft Corrosion Prevention and Control Plans to help them prepare for upcoming Defense Acquisition Board questions regarding corrosion. An aviation corrosion prevention technology has been shared with Patriot PMO as an immediate solution to eliminate moisture intrusion and corrosion of radar electrical connectors.

This sharing of technology establishes common ground and goals for synergy between aviation and missiles. It is expected that other technologies currently identified for aviation can be shared and utilized on missile systems. Unfortunately, missile corrosion is not as easily quantified as it is in the aviation community. Shortcomings in corrosion identification, collection and reporting are areas for improvement in the future as funding permits. This will be accomplished through corrosion surveys, field assessments and recommendations to OSD.

The CPC office provides overall focus and coordination efforts of total Army aviation and missile asset corrosion reduction initiatives to reduce duplication, fragmentation and costs. Near, mid- and long-term solutions having quantified cost savings have been identified though intensive investigation and analysis. These solution sets will contribute substantially to the preservation of remaining Army aviation and missile resources.

K-9 teams sniff out trophies

Redstone handlers, dogs earn regional honors

By KIM MASON
Staff writer
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No one understands the phrase "man's best friend" better than the K-9 handlers at Redstone's military working dog branch. Sgt. Michael J. Nelson and officer Michael K. Nelson along with their dogs Tico and Pitjo recently took top honors at the regional U.S. Police Canine Association certification and competition in the explosives division.

"I am very proud of them," Capt. Jack Rush, military working dog kennelmaster, said. "I look back at the hard work they've done to train these dogs and I am glad it has paid off for them."

Four handlers and dogs from Redstone entered the regional competition Feb. 17-18 in Huntsville. Sgt. Nelson and Tico won, officer Nelson and Pitjo placed third and officer Mark Thompson and Eestabon placed fourth, all in the explosives division. Officer James Worrall and his dog Jimmy entered the narcotics division. Some 52 dog teams from Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee entered the competition.

"It is not whether they get first place, it's just getting out there and doing their best," Rush said. "I feel like all dogs and their handlers did their best and that is what is important. They all represented Redstone well."

As explosive detector dogs, Tico, Pitjo and Eestabon are trained to sniff out bombs. Since they are military working dogs they are taught to respond passively by sitting close to where they smell something suspicious. "Tico will sit and look at me, because he wants his reward (a rubber 'Kong' toy)," Sgt. Nelson said. "If I ask, 'Where is it?' he'll sniff at the spot and sit again."

The dogs and their handlers are judged by a panel of police canine trainers and former handlers on two searches: building and vehicle. They have 10 minutes to find two explosives in the building search and the vehicles search. Points are subtracted for everything from the dog acting disinterested or distracted to the handler lacking enthusiasm or confidence in the dog's find. Out of 200 possible points, Sgt. Nelson and Tico scored 190.

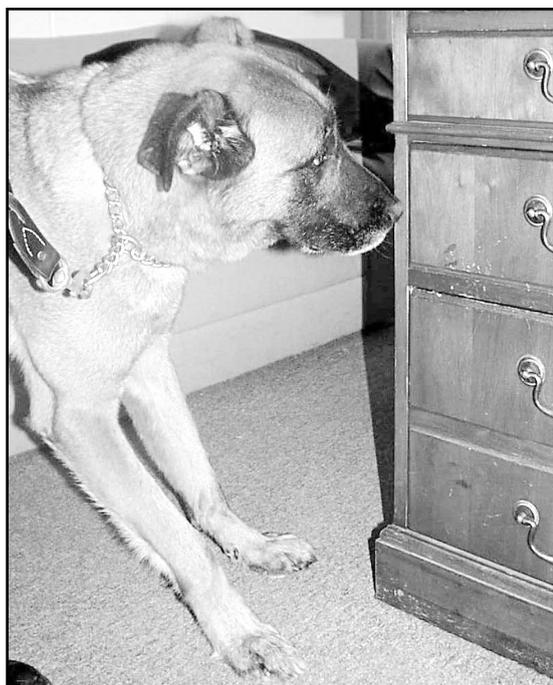


Photo by Kim Mason

WHERE IS IT?— Tico demonstrates how he would search for an explosive.

This comes as no surprise since Tico has been tasked to support the Secret Service on several missions. He has traveled extensively and assisted in the protection of President Bush, Vice President Richard Cheney, former presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, many first ladies and even traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to assist in the security of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Sgt. Nelson says that he has always wanted to work as a K-9 handler and even re-enlisted so that he could do so. When he came to Redstone in 2002 an opportunity came open for him to go to the school. He says that all handlers and dogs are trained at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"I've always had an interest in working with dogs and I thought it would enhance my career," Sgt. Nelson, Redstone's only Military Police K-9 handler, said. "What better way to go to work, than to play with a dog eight hours a day. I get paid to play with dogs."

He admits though that working with the dogs isn't as easy as it looks. "A lot of work goes into training the dogs. The hardest part is the training."

Officer Nelson has done police work in the military and Army for 15 years. He started handling dogs four years ago. "I was told by a couple of people who I had known for a while that I would be good (at handling)," officer Nelson said. "So I gave it a shot."



Photo by Kim Mason

FIRST PLACE— Sgt. Michael J. Nelson and Tico won the explosives division at the regional U.S. Police Canine Association certification and competition.

Both Nelsons agree that building a relationship with the dog is key to success. "The rapport is an ongoing thing. You can either build it or damage it every day," officer Nelson said. "I spend up to eight hours a day with the dog every day." Sometimes he spends time just petting, brushing and playing with Pitjo instead of giving commands so the dog will become more comfortable with him.

Redstone's working dog unit by regu-

lation must pass the Army certification annually. Rush says that his branch doesn't have to enter the USPCA certification and competition every year, but they do it as a method of testing their skills against another type of standard.

"I think it enhances our working relationship with other police and sheriff departments in the area," he said. "Sharing ideas in areas of training and utilization of police K-9s."

Enlisted Soldiers to soon find out assignments via e-mail

Web based initiatives represent cultural change

By Sgt. 1st Class MARCIA TRIGGS
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Human Resources Command will be using the Internet as a means to maintain up-to-date information on enlisted Soldiers to help them choose assignments and manage their careers.

In early March, HRC will begin notifying Soldiers of their next duty assignment within 90 days of their departure, by e-mailing the information to their Army Knowledge Online e-mail addresses. Other web based initiatives include:

- Sending e-mails that acknowledge receipt when Soldiers update their assignment preferences on Assignment Satisfaction Key, known as ASK, the web assignment preference page.

- E-mail reminders will also be sent out to get Soldiers to update their contact information (home address and telephone number) 90 days after arriving at their new duty station. Then Soldiers will be reminded to update their assignment preferences on ASK after being stationed stateside for 24 months, and 18 months for those overseas.

Out of 407,000 enlisted Soldiers, who have already graduated from Initial Entry Training, 292,660 Soldiers have visited the ASK web site so far, said HRC officials. Soldiers can be anywhere in the world and update their preferences through the Internet, officials added.

“The Army is going through a cultural change. We are giving privates career information before their chain of command finds out,” said Brig. Gen. Howard Bromberg, the director of Enlisted Personnel Management Directorate, HRC. “We will continue to change our policies as necessary to support the global war on terror and a joint and expeditionary Army.”

Commanders will still find out about Soldier assignments through traditional means, but the HRC-GRAM, formerly known as the PERSGRAM, that is sent to Soldiers through the mail will be phased out. Soldiers will be able to find out about assignments through e-mail notification or by calling an Interactive Voice Response System at 1-800-FYI-EPMD.

ASK was first introduced to Soldiers two years ago. However, this will be the first time Soldiers will have access to view key personnel information that is used by assignment managers when con-

sidering a Soldier for assignment, officials said.

“It is important that Soldiers look at their personnel information to ensure it is correct. If it needs to be updated they need to contact their local personnel office,” Bromberg said.

‘We will continue to change our policies as necessary to support the global war on terror and a joint and expeditionary Army.’

—Brig. Gen. Howard Bromberg
Human Resources Command

The more accurate information career managers have on a Soldier, the higher the success rate will be in finding an assignment that’s right for the Soldier and the Army, Bromberg said. However, Bromberg added that just because the Army is listening to its young Soldiers, that doesn’t mean that they’re going to always get what they ask for. In assigning Soldiers, the focus is combat readiness, Bromberg added.

Where Soldiers are assigned is only a piece of the Army’s stabilization puzzle, Bromberg said. The other parts include the Army’s new Manning System, Force Stabilization which consists of unit focused stabilization and home-basing. Home-basing will require initial-term officers and enlisted Soldiers to stay at their first duty station for an extended tour of up to six or seven years.

“These initiatives are about unit over self,” Bromberg said. “We’re still taking care of Soldiers and getting them the training and care they need. But we’re focused on getting units stabilized so they can do the mission at hand.”

An example of the needs of the Army coming before assignment preference is: a Soldier serving in Korea who was told that he could go to Fort Hood, Texas, when his tour is over, as part of the program HAAP (home base/advance assignment program). But if during the Soldier’s tour, overriding Army mission requirements determine that the Soldier is needed elsewhere, then their HAAP can be renegotiated. Enlisted personnel assignment managers work with the Soldier, but may, based on the requirements of the Army, assign the Soldier to a new location.

“We’re not getting rid of the program, but people think that if we give them an advance assignment, they are guaranteed that assignment,” Bromberg said. “What

Rumsfeld discusses Haiti deployment

By JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Between 1,500 and 2,000 Marines will deploy to Haiti as part of peacekeeping operations in that nation, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said during a Pentagon news conference March 1.

“A couple hundred” Marines are already in and around Haiti’s capital of Port-au-Prince, he noted. They are the leading elements of a multinational interim force sanctioned by the United Nations.

Rumsfeld said he is not aware of any “abduction” used by U.S. forces to get President Jean-Bertrand Aristide out of Haiti after his Feb. 29 resignation.

The Marines will secure key sites in the capital and will stabilize the security environment there to allow political progress to begin, Rumsfeld said. The interim force has a “shelf life” of three months, and then a U.N.

multinational force will take over security operations in Haiti.

The Marines arrived the night of Feb. 29 and more will deploy in the next few days. “The United States will take on the initial leadership of the Multinational Interim Force in Haiti,” Rumsfeld said. Leadership of the interim force may pass to another nation, and leadership of the follow-on force will be determined later, he pointed out. France, Canada and some Caribbean and Latin American countries also are participating in the effort.

Rumsfeld said the situation in Haiti is living proof that the world needs more peacekeeping forces. He said the United States will work to build these capabilities in the Western Hemisphere and around the world. “We’re committed to working with friends and allies around the world and through alliances such as NATO, to improve these capabilities,” he added.

we’re saying is that we will try to meet requirements, but we may change, based on the needs of the Army.”

Every single Soldier is needed somewhere in the Army, whether it’s as an instructor, drill sergeant, recruiter or in a rifle platoon in a deploying unit, Bromberg said. Every skill is important, he added.

In the future, HRC also plans to expand its web initiatives and get away from using Department of the Army form 4187, Personnel Action Request.

“We still get 4187s up here, signed by the company commander, and after it goes through everybody in the chain of command, it gets here with seven pieces of paper attached to it. We want to eliminate all of that,” Bromberg said.

The vision is to have a Soldier volunteer for an assignment electronically. If requests can go up and back down all electronically, the process can be cut from 90 days to 14 days, Bromberg said. The technology is there, he added, and it can be done.

Redstone selects police officer of year

Officer Paul Maack got his start dodging grenades in Vietnam

By **SANDY RIEBELING**
Staff writer
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When Pvt. Paul Maack stepped off the bus in DaNang Vietnam in 1968, his career was chosen for him by a Marine sergeant who said, "You, go over there."

"Over there" meant joining a group of Marines assigned to the 1st Military Police Battalion, 1st Marine Division. It was an assignment he never regretted.

Thirty-five years, a Purple Heart, two Bob Hope shows, an Army career, a wife and three kids later, officer Paul Maack is still proud to be serving in law enforcement. And Redstone is proud to have him.

Maack, along with nine other law enforcement officers from Madison County, were honored as officers of the year by the Exchange Club of Greater Huntsville during the 2004 Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet Feb. 10.

"It was a real nice evening at the Tom Bevell Center," Maack said. "I took my wife. We saw some old friends from the drug enforcement agency in Huntsville. It was a good time. I don't know how deserving I am but I was honored to be a part of it."

"It all boils down to initiative," Lt. Billy Booth, Maack's shift supervisor said of his selection as Redstone's officer of the year. "He comes in ready to go to work; excited about doing his job. The whole time he's out there, he's all about the job."

Maack, 53, admits that he takes his job seriously. "They joke about calling me Radar because I write so many tickets but I'm just trying to keep everyone safe. That's probably our biggest problem – getting people to slow down on the roads."

Keeping people safe isn't something Maack does, it's a part of who he is. It's why he joined the Marine Corps five days after graduating high school in Wisconsin.

"Me and a couple of guys from the track team signed up while we were still in school on the delayed entry program," said Maack, who comes from a family very familiar with the Marines. His father served six years between World War II and the Korean War. His uncle Fran was in the Marine Corps at the time. "We shipped out to boot camp five days after high school. I was the only one of us that got orders for Vietnam, though."

He was in country less than two months when he was wounded.

"There were two main roads coming into the city south of DaNang," Maack said. "One was a highway. The other was a road that went through a village and then on to the DaNang Air Base. It was our job to guard the bridge on that road. We had day patrols and night ambushes."

The bridge was used by civilians and Soldiers during the day and closed at night. To keep enemy forces from crossing the area at night, every hour or so, explosives were released from the bridge into the water.

"One night the VC showed up," Maack said. "They were supposed to come and take us out then let 300-400 of them through to destroy the air base. They never got past us."

A spotter in the bunker saw silhouettes moving in the rice fields and after confirming they were not friendly forces, opened fire. The enemy fired rocket propelled grenades at the bunkers to destroy the 50-caliber guns firing from the top. Maack was in one of the bunkers when it was hit by an RPG.

"The first one hit the back wall and blew out both of my ear drums," Maack said. "I got hit in the nose (by flying debris). My platoon sergeant caught a round through his hips. It didn't kill him though. There was one other guy that was wounded that night. The fight lasted a couple of hours but we kept the bridge. I was lucky. I was



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

CHECKLIST— Officer Paul Maack of the Redstone Police checks his car before beginning his shift.

walking wounded. I stayed at the bridge a couple of days before I got to the hospital. I couldn't hear a thing though."

He suffered only slight permanent hearing loss but Maack still has constant ringing in his ears. "I have to have the radio on at night to go to sleep."

Maack went on to finish his tour and then volunteer for another.

"After I was wounded, my brother joined the Marines," Maack said. "When he came up on orders for Vietnam, I offered to stay so he wouldn't have to come. I figured I was in as safe a place as there was and life there wasn't so bad. I wasn't much for the spit and polish Marine life back in the states. Things were a little more relaxed camping out in Vietnam. I got to pick where I wanted to (serve) so I stayed. I heard my uncle had come over and was running the mess hall in DaNang for the 3rd Military Police Battalion so that's where I went."

His new assignment was guarding the Marine brig and the prisoner of war camps in DaNang. It was a good assignment that allowed him a little time with family.

He was back in the states and out of the Marine Corps four years before he decided to go back into the military but this time it was the Army. "Job market was tight," Maack said. "I got to pick my MOS. I was single. I love to travel. So I signed up as an MP in '74."

This time he made a career of it, retiring in 1992. During his years, he served the first five as a regular MP then moved on to MP investigator and was then assigned to a drug team to combat drug abuse in the military. In 1984

he became a Criminal Investigation Division agent and ran a drug team at Redstone in 1985-86. He worked closely with civilian law enforcement agencies and made some lifelong friends. He also met his wife, Nadine, during that time. She was working at the State Troopers office.

He traveled a bit more, worked security for visiting dignitaries including Colin Powell, Richard Cheney and Barbara Bush while serving in San Francisco, and then settled with his wife and youngest son, Nick (now 17), in Huntsville. Nadine is from Alabama while Maack is a native of Wisconsin, where his two older sons live.

He spent a little time working criminal investigations for the state but his job (headquartered in Montgomery) kept him separated from his family. His wife works for the Corps of Engineers in Huntsville. So he hired on at Redstone in 2000 as a security guard.

"After 9/11 I was detailed to the police for about nine months," Maack said. It was only a few months later that he was hired on as a DoD police officer.

"I love coming to work here," Maack said. "Every day is a good day when you come to work in good health." Maack had a quadruple bypass in July 2003. "When I'm not working here, I'm at home doing domestic aerobics, looking after our two Shelties and Bomber the cat. I do a lot of cooking. Something I picked up working with my uncle. I like to ride my bike."

He's not looking to retire anytime soon. "I've already done that," he said.

Dixon directs civilian advisory center

New personnel system among challenges

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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Redstone's largest resource is arguably its workers. They crunch the numbers, run the offices and make the decisions that keep Redstone going. But where do Redstone's 10,000 civilians turn when they need assistance with their human resources needs? They turn to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, now under the

leadership of Don Dixon.

Dixon's career began in 1974 with an internship in civilian personnel with Aviation Systems Command in St. Louis after graduating from Florida State University. He chose to stay with the human resources field.

"I think it's a very interesting field because I get to help a lot of people with their human resources needs," he said.

This stint at Redstone is not his first. The Illinois native was here 1976-83 before heading to Heidelberg, Germany in support of Headquarters U.S. Army Europe. Five years later he landed state-side again, serving as the personnel offi-

cer at Fort McClellan until his return to Redstone in 1990. He has been a fixture in the CPAC for 14 years, most recently as the chief of CPAC's customer support division before becoming director Feb. 9.

During his time at Redstone, Dixon earned a master's in administrative science from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. He met wife, Melinda, during cross-training with Manpower, where she worked at the time.

"She's worked with the government longer than I have," Dixon said. "She's got two more years of service than I do." She currently works in the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles. Dixon and his wife have two children. Their son, Daniel, is a 17-year-old junior at the Alabama School of Math and Science in Mobile. Their 15-year-old daughter, Christina, is a freshman at DAR High in Grant.

Having been a part of the CPAC staff before becoming director, Dixon knows

the quality of the work being done by the center and has faith in its ability to cope with the demands of the future.

"We have a very good staff of about 50 here at the CPAC. They have a lot of experience working with the different customers here at Team Redstone," he said.

Dixon and his staff are preparing for upcoming challenges while still maintaining their high standards of support.

"We have big changes coming on the horizon. The National Security Personnel System was passed by Congress. It's a new personnel system for the command. Right now, DoD is working on new guidelines," Dixon said. "It will probably be a year or so before it is implemented, but once it is there will be significant changes to how we handle civilian personnel at Redstone Arsenal. It's going to involve a lot of training of our work force so that they can understand the new provisions and help our customers transition to a whole new system."

Ordnance officers relive history in Montgomery

Tour focuses on cultural, professional development

By **SpC. RYAN MCCLYMONT**
Staff writer
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Officers from the 59th Ordnance Brigade traveled to Montgomery on Feb. 26 as part of their officer professional development and in correlation with Black History Month.

The two-part event started at the State House with Rep. Laura Hall of Huntsville presenting resolution HR64.

The resolution states, "be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the legislature of Alabama, that in recognition of outstanding service, dedication, and commitment, we hereby most highly commend and honor the men and

women of the United States Army Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, in whom we take great pride."

The second part of the trip focused on the history of civil rights in Montgomery presented by the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture at Alabama State University. The tour highlighted the efforts of such civil rights leaders as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. Vernon Johns, E. D. Nixon, Rosa Parks and many more.

The daylong event also provided the officers the opportunity to mingle with house representatives, observe floor activities, tour the old capital, and visit the Civil Rights Memorial, the E.D. Nixon Institute for Research and Cultural Enrichment and the home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Photo by SpC. Ryan McClymont

RESOLUTION PASSED— Lt. Col. Douglas Taylor, brigade chief of staff, presents Alabama Rep. Laura Hall with a commander's coin of recognition after Hall had presented Resolution HR64 to the officers at the State House on Feb. 26.

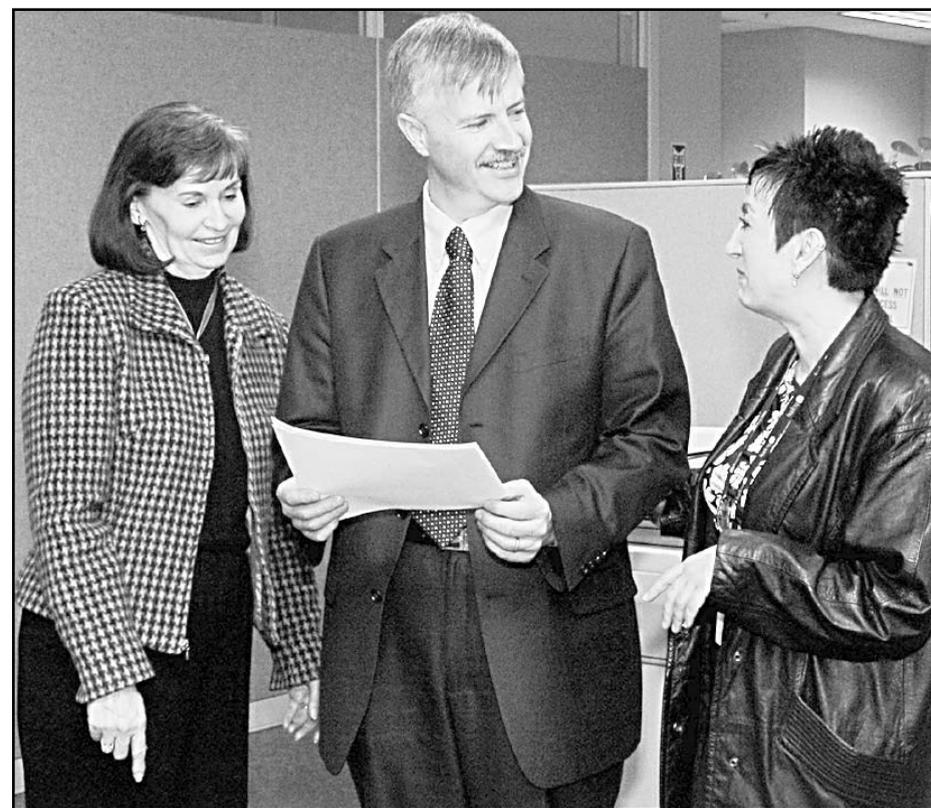


Photo by Kelley Lane

AGENDA— Don Dixon goes over the week's schedule for training with Human Resource specialists Wilma Wheeler, left, and Kim Stoufer.



Sports & Recreation

Duathlon competition

The 3D Duathlon – a 5K run, 25K bike, 5K run – is 9 a.m. March 13 at Hampton Cove. It's sponsored by 3D Research Corporation to benefit the Huntsville Hospital Foundation. For more information, call 464-9494.

Women's golf association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association will hold its fourth annual Tee-Off, March 11 from 6-8 p.m. at the Huntsville Country Club. Scheduled speaker is Cindy Parrish from The Golf Professionals golf shop. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Reservations are required. For more information about EWGA, call 828-8005 or log on to www.ewgahuntsville.com.

Baseball bus trip

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a baseball bus trip to see the St. Louis Cardinals and the Atlanta Braves in their only regular season series in Atlanta. This three-day trip will leave Redstone Aug. 13 at 11 a.m. and return Aug. 15 about 7 p.m. Cost is \$190 per person based on double occupancy. This includes two nights at the Embassy Suites Galleria, bus fare, game tickets for that Friday night and Saturday game, snacks and beverages on the bus. For reservations call Charlie Urban 955-7662. A \$100 per person deposit is due by

April 1 to hold your reservation. Space is limited so do not delay.

Youth baseball

The Redstone Arsenal Youth Sports Baseball/Softball Leagues will be played the last week of April through June. Registration continues through Friday. Opening ceremonies are April 23 at Joe Davis Stadium. Redstone CYS League play will be held on the RSA Little League Fields on Goss Road. Cost is \$35 for baseball or softball and is open children ages 5-12 whose parents or guardians are active duty, retired military, Guard, Reserve, DoD, NASA, and RSA contractors' dependents. You may register at Child and Youth Services central registration, building 1500 Weeden Mountain Road. Central registration fee is \$18 per child or \$40 per family per year if not already registered. A current physical and a copy of the child's birth certificate are required for registration. For more information, call 876-3704 or 313-3699.

Rodeo tickets

The Longhorn World Championship Rodeo is coming to Huntsville March 14. Active and retired military, National Guard and Reserves, and DoD civilians may purchase discount tickets to the 2 p.m. March 14 competition by obtaining a mail-in order form from the Leisure Travel Office, building 3711 on Aerobee Road. For more information, call the Diane Campbell Recreation Center 876-4531 or stop in building 3711 between 1:30 and

9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Conferences & Meetings

Toastmasters

Toastmasters can help improve your communication and leadership skills by conducting meetings, giving prepared speeches or briefings, giving impromptu speeches and offering constructive evaluations. This is an approved government training opportunity. A form DD-1556 is all you need to sign up to start earning your Continuous Learning Points. To find a club near you, go to <http://www.toastmasters.org/find/>. If you have trouble contacting a particular club, contact Chad Daly at Chad.Daly@smdc.army.mil or Toastmasters International at tminfo@toastmasters.org.

Worldwide logistics workshop

Register now for the Logistics Support Activity Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop, March 8-12 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations at Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Va. He is scheduled to speak March 8 at 11:30 a.m. Additionally, this year's event includes presentations by Department of Army for Logistics, Combined Arms Support Command, Forces Command, Army Materiel Command for Operations, National Guard Bureau, Defense Logistics Agency, and Program Executive Office for Enterprise Integration Systems. For more information, call 313-6698.

Air defenders

Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association will have its quarterly general membership luncheon March 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Col. John Vaughn, project man-

ager for Lower Tier Project Office. Cost is \$11 for members and \$14 for non-members. Applications for membership will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact the association secretary at michael.i.howell@ngc.com.

General services expo

General Services Administration's Southeast Sunbelt Region invites you to Orlando, Fla., May 11-13 to experience Expo 2004. Admission is free to all civilian and military personnel. Attend more than 250 hours of professional procurement-oriented training, with CEU credit. Visit more than 700 commercial partners, across 300,000 square feet, exhibiting their products and services — all available through GSA schedules. GSA is offering free meeting rooms to federal activities as part of the expo May 10, 11 and 13, 2004. For details check the web site <http://expo.gsa.gov> or call 1-888-272-5565. To schedule a meeting, contact Barbara Petersen at Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov.

Resource manager institute

The American Society of Military Comptrollers invites the AMCOM community to the 2004 Mini-Professional Development Institute Seminar titled "Designing your Destiny," March 31 and April 1 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The seminar leader is Lee Milteer, president of Lee Milteer Inc., career development strategists. Participants will attend one day of training. Bus transportation to and from lunch at Trinity Methodist Center will be provided from the auditorium. The luncheon program will be a workshop on dressing for success and promote the theme "Design Your Tomorrow." Some spring fashions for unisex will be presented by Connie Broadway, visual manager for Dillard's. You do not have to be a member of ASMC or work in the comptroller field in order to attend. The cost of the seminar

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is \$65 for ASMC members and \$75 for non-members. Payment will be by IMPAC government purchase credit card only. Reserve a space by having a government purchase cardholder call either Linda Caswell 955-0687, Betty Jones 955-0688 or fax 955-8332.

Workers compensation training

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's Workers' Compensation Office, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, Civilian Personnel Management Service, will offer training March 23 in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center to all Team Redstone managers, supervisors and organizational chiefs. Jeff Karl of DoD's Civilian Personnel Management Service in Jacksonville, Fla., will conduct sessions 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. "The purpose of this training is to make sure that managers understand their roles and responsibilities under the Federal Employment Compensation Act, OWCP's timeliness submission requirements, and the importance of reducing workers' compensation costs," a prepared release said.

Aeronautical faculty

The Embry-Riddle University Huntsville Center will hold a faculty meeting March 8 from 5-7 p.m. at the Redstone Flying Activity building 4828. The meeting is open to all current and interested ERAU faculty members. The ERAU Huntsville Center is recruiting part-time faculty, with a specific need for Economics, Accounting, Marketing, Management and Aeronautical Science instructors. Qualified applicants must have at least a master's degree with 18 semester hours in one of these disciplines. Call 876-9763 for more information.

Enlisted spouses

Enlisted Spouses Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at The Challenger Activity Center. "Come join us March 11 for fun, food and service to the community," a prepared release said. For information call Jean Mulcahy 881-7024.

Risk management clinic

North Alabama Chapter of the Project Management Institute, in conjunction with other local technical associations, will sponsor "Critical Success Factors for Effective Risk Management," an interactive dinner-clinic March 8 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-Research Park. The presenter is Dr. David Hillson. Cost is \$50. For reservations call Bill Kessinger 776-0026 or programs@pmi-nac.org.

Labor law symposium

The North Alabama Chapter of the Federal Bar Association presents its second annual Personnel/Labor Law Symposium on April 14 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel. Speakers include Merit Systems Protection Board administrative judges, an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission administrative judge, an assistant U.S. attorney, an attorney from Maxwell Air Force Base and a local practitioner. Application for six hours of Alabama and Tennessee Continuing Legal Education credit has been made. Managers, employees, human resource professionals, union officials and attorneys are the focus audience. For more information, call 544-0024.

Marine Corps league

The next Brandon-Wilbourn Marine Corps League meeting, which will include a St. Patrick's day meal, is March 9 at 6 p.m. at the American Legion post on Drake Avenue. Cost is \$8 per person. Those wishing to attend should call 881-2619 before Thursday to confirm meal reservations.

Technology expo

The "Redstone Arsenal Technology Exposition" is March 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. All Army, Defense Department, tenant activity and contractor personnel are invited at no fee. More than 25 exhibitors will demonstrate their wares. There will be free refreshments and giveaways (while supplies last). For more information, call

Tiffany Ratzlaff (888) 603-8899, ext. 227.

Employees union

AFGE Local 1858 will hold its monthly meeting March 8 at 5 p.m. in the conference room of building 3202 on Mauler Road. For the agenda, visit the web site afge1858.org.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal is looking for prior active duty Soldiers who want to return to duty, or Soldiers who wish to transfer from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 74B information systems operators, and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification/waiver action to 74B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, PC programming languages, networking/systems administration and telecommunications skills. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the character and personal qualifications to pass a SBI Investigation check to obtain a top secret clearance required by the specialty. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For MOS 75B/H, you must be MOS-Q prior service or transfer from another unit. For information call Charles Vartan

876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Gleria Edwards 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131.

Aerospace scholarship

The Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present a \$1,000 scholarship

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to an Air Force Junior ROTC cadet, cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, dependent of active duty or retired Air Force personnel, dependent of Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel, or dependent of an active duty member of another service (Army, Navy, or Marine Corps). Applicants must pursue a full course load toward an aerospace technology associate degree at Calhoun Community College. This scholarship will be for the 2004-05 school year and will be broken into \$500 awards to the school for each semester attended. Candidates may apply until May 1. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m. or e-mail at TLRoop@charter.net.

Warrant officer scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present two \$1,000 scholarship awards in 2004. Eligible participants include dependent or adopted children/stepchildren of military (active, retired, National Guard or Reserve) and DoD civilian residing in the Tennessee Valley. Applicants must be high school seniors or college freshmen. Deadline to apply is May 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open until April 15 in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. It provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 for walk-in services. For an appointment, call 842-1040.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday and Thursday 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted, and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Donation requests

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number. The deadline is March 31. Include your federal tax number and why you want a donation with your request letter to: Thrift Shop, Attention Mary McCarthy, building 3209 on Hercules Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training

is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

Bookkeeper job

There's an opening for a bookkeeper at the Thrift Shop. The salary is \$4,200 annually for about 10 hours per week. Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of Quick Books financial program and be proficient in bookkeeping procedures. Applications are available during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road. The deadline is April 1. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

Continuing education

Oakwood College's Leadership Education for the Adult Professional bachelor's degree classes will begin this spring at Redstone Arsenal. Pre-register from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19-22 at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. Earn your degree in 18 months. For more information, call 876-9761.

Army family team building

Let Army Family Team Building help you unlock the mysteries of volunteer management and leadership challenges. AFTB Level II will be held March 8-11 from 6-9 p.m. at building 3338 on Redeye Road. Level II is designed for emerging leaders within the Army community — experienced family members who have begun to assume leadership roles within the community and their unit or organization. Courses offered include Introduction to Effective Leadership, Volunteer Management, Management Skills (Communication, Conflict, Group, Stress, Time and Meeting Management), and Problem Solving. Call 876-5397 by Friday to enroll in this free seminar. Free on-post childcare is available while you are in class — ask about it when you enroll.

Income tax course

Learn to prepare your own taxes from a tax professional. The Redstone Arsenal Extension of Calhoun Community College has scheduled a course on how to prepare individual income tax returns. Besides teaching how to do taxes, specific tax issues of interest to participants will be addressed. Course dates are March 11 through May 11, Tuesday and Thursday, 7:20-10 p.m. Registration continues through May 8. Cost of the course is \$252. Call 876-7431 for more information.

Calhoun registration

Registration for the second spring "minimester" at the Redstone extension of Calhoun Community College continues through May 8. The term dates are March 10 through May 11. Call 876-7431 for more information or visit Calhoun's web site www.calhoun.edu.

Mardi Gras ball

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Xi Omicron Chapter, invites you to celebrate Mardi Gras 2004 and return to "The Roaring '20s." The masquerade ball is Friday

from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Omega Community Center, 181 Import Circle northwest. The donation is \$15 per person tax deductible and all proceeds benefit the chapter's annual scholarship fund. Contact any member of Xi Omicron Chapter for tickets or call Lawrence McRae 289-1215.

Pancake day benefit

The Huntsville Kiwanis Club is sponsoring its 27th annual Pancake Day, Saturday. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, juice, milk and coffee will be served in the Huntsville High cafeteria from 6 a.m. to noon. "This is your chance to support the Kiwanis programs and have a great breakfast, too," a prepared release said. Tickets at the door are \$5 each but you can purchase \$4 advance tickets by calling Charlie Urban 955-7662.

Ethics update

Recently, a number of federal personnel have received full versions of Microsoft Office Professional Edition 2003 and Microsoft Office OneNote 2003 through the mail from Microsoft Corporation. These gifts were preceded in the mail by a card announcing that the software would be arriving "in the coming weeks." The card noted that the software products were being sent "without obligation." These items have been determined to be gifts from a prohibited source, and may not be accepted by DoD employees, according to the Department of Defense Standards of Conduct Office which cited 5 CFR 2635.202. "Accordingly, we request that ethics counselors alert their organizations to this situation, and advise military and civilian personnel that they are not permitted to accept these gifts," a prepared release said. "If received, the items should be returned to Microsoft." For more information, call the AMCOM Legal Services Division 876-8921.

Master's degrees

The University of Tennessee's MBA programs for professionals will hold an information reception today from 4-7 p.m. at the Huntsville Marriott at Five Tranquility Base. Meet program faculty and admissions representatives from three featured programs: the Senior Executive and Aerospace MBA programs, both one-year, residence period-based programs, and the 16-month regional Professional MBA program. For more information, visit <http://TheCenter.utk.edu> or call toll free 800-486-EMBA (3622).

Weekend master's program

Nova Southeastern University will begin its spring-term master of business administration class in April. Classes are held on alternate weekends for 18 months in Huntsville. An information meeting is 6 p.m. March 18 at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. For information call Bill Spade 800-672-7223, ext. 5046, or Bruce Pieper (256) 227-7899.

Veterinary clinic

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics March 16 from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk in basis for routine vaccinations.

Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and the AVID microchip identification system will also be available for pets. For more information, call the facility 876-2441.

Second spring term

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center will begin its second spring term March 15. The term runs through May 15 with classes meeting one evening per week. The Embry-Riddle Huntsville Center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in aviation/aerospace and technical management fields. Deadline to register is March 12. Call 876-9763 or visit ERAU Huntsville in the Education Center, building 3222.

Women's history program

The Missile and Space Intelligence Center will celebrate Women's History Month on March 11 at 10 a.m. in the Richard Shelby Auditorium, building 4544. This year's theme is, "Women — Inspiring Hope and Possibility." The program will feature Lee Marshall of WAFF-TV 48.

Quarterly retirement event

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is April 20 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate by calling Sarah Brazzel 313-0546. Deadline for signing up is March 23.

Military night at museum

Earlyworks Hands-on History Museum, in conjunction with the American Legion Auxiliary Post 237, invites the Huntsville military community to "Patriots — Past and Present: A Salute to the Military," March 9 from 5-7 p.m. at the Earlyworks Museum, 404 Madison St. Admission is \$2 per person ages 3 and up, and free for all active duty military personnel and their families. Reservations are appreciated by calling 564-8119.

Garden plots

All personnel desiring garden plots for the 2004 planting season must contact the Family Housing office located at building 3207 on Hercules Road. There are 54 garden plots available at Vincent Drive (Area 1) and 58 plots available at Wesson Circle (Area 2). Requests and assignments of plots will be as follows: All requests must be made in person. With the exception of being closed daily 11:30-12:30, the Housing Office is open Monday through Wednesday from 7-4:30, Thursday 7:30-11:30 and Friday from 7-3:30. Please do not request more than one garden plot. Only one per family will be issued until March 31. Priorities have been established to better serve all interested personnel: first priority — Active duty military must

make requests March 1-12; second priority — Retired military must make requests March 15-23; and third priority — DoD civilians can make requests March 24-31. Beginning April 1, garden plots will be assigned on a first come, first served basis to the aforementioned. For information call Ms. Scott 876-7144 or Mr. Pearson 842-2449.

Chili cookoff

Want to prove you have Redstone Arsenal's best chili? Come be a part of the second annual Redstone MWR community-wide Chili Cookoff, March 18 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, right after the quarterly FACTS meeting. Team participation (limit five persons) is allowed, \$10 per team or single entry and participants must make two gallons of chili for judging. Three prizes will be awarded. Go to www.redstonemwr.com for rules. Beginning March 1, call 830-2582 or 876-4531 to register.

Discount show tickets

Independent Musical Productions Inc. is offering all Team Redstone badge and military ID holders \$2 off the regular ticket price for its musical production, "Hooray for Hollywood." Regular price tickets are \$15 (general) and \$12 (students and seniors). Evening performance dates and times are March 18-20 at 7:30 p.m.; and matinee performances are March 20-21 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at Parisian (Parkway Place), A.B. Stephens Music, and Shaver's Books. For more information, call 859-2563.

Contractor open house

The Joint Venture Yulista and Science and Engineering Services announces an Open House for any potential subcontractors interested in providing engineering or technical support to the Prototype Integration Facility. JVYS has an existing contract to provide support, but additional subcontractor support may be required in the future. The open house will be at the Science and Engineering Services office, 4015 Pulaski Pike, on April 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. Potential subcontractors should bring any brochures or information that describes their capabilities. For more information, call Darrell Harrison 876-5099.

Civilian of year dinner

The Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, will sponsor the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award and Dinner, March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, South Hall. This award and dinner recognizes local DA civilians who have demonstrated exceptional performance as members of the Army team. Tickets can

be purchased through the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies at <http://www.teamsworld.org/>, or directly from the AUSA event coordinator Jerry Hamilton, at A.Hamilton@TBE.com or 726-1033. The outstanding civilians will be nominated by their commands or agencies early in March. The chapter nominee selected from the local nominees goes on to compete for the AUSA Southeast Region competition in the summer. The region winners are recognized nationally at the AUSA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in October. Information on nominations has been provided to local commanders and executives.

Chapel fund-raiser

Catholic Chapel Youth will prepare fish dinners (for carry out or eat in) each Friday in March from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at building 50 on Bomford. Each dinner will include fried catfish, baked beans, cole slaw or potato salad and hush puppies. Beverages will be available free of charge for those who eat in. Suggested donation is \$6. Your donation will be used to finance expenses for youth to attend World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany in 2005. For more information, call Inger Frye 726-9323.

Redstone blood drives

March 4 — building 5400 (RTTC/ERC) from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; March 5 — building 4505 (Ground-Based Midcourse Defense) from 7-12:30; March 11 — build-

ing 7613 from 7-12:30 and Sparkman Center from 7-12:30; March 18 — building 4488 from 7-12:30; March 19 — NASA building 4316 from 8-1:30 and building 4545 from 7-12:30; March 26 — SMDC from 8-12:30 and Corps of Engineers from 7-noon.

AIDS awareness

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will host its third annual Youth Summit on HIV/AIDS, March 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road. For more information, call Kelli Curry 837-2544 or the AIDS Action Coalition 536-4700.

Firehouse pub

Firehouse Pub, building 114 on Hankins Road, will hold the Bud Light 2004 Quarter Bouncers Promotion through Saturday. Each local player will be able to play on the Quarter Bouncer shot board for a chance to compete for the grand prize — an all expense paid trip to compete in the April 4 National Quarter Bouncers Finals in Las Vegas. Local first place prize is a new MP3 player, and weekly prizes will be duffel bags, hats and T-shirts. Official rules are available at www.redstonemwr.com. This promotion is open to all authorized MWR patrons (active/retired/Guard/reserve military personnel and their families, and DoD/Army civilians, as well as NASA/Redstone contractors age 21 and older) with government identification.

