

Redstone Rocket

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Medicine for food bio-terrorism

Prevention expert
calls for vigilance

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Food bio-terrorism became a concern for the Army force protection community within the past few years.

There have been attempts in the Middle East to contaminate the food supply for military forces since Sept. 11, 2001, according to Thomas McNeil, chief of support operations, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Directorate of Environmental Health Engineering, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

He was among the guest speakers at the Army Materiel Command fiscal 2005 Antiterrorism/Force Protection Conference held Feb. 8-10 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

"Bio-terrorism is intentional contamination of the food supply," McNeil told the estimated 80 attendees. "Bio-terrorism can also be destruction of the food."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

REAL THREAT— Thomas McNeil, from the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, describes the potential for food bio-terrorism.

See **Protection** on page 13

Accessions commander optimistic about recruiting

Quality of recruits
still important

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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With more recruiters in the field and additional incentives, the Army expects to meet its annual recruiting goals.

That's according to Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, commander of the Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe, Va. He was here Feb. 7-10 for the Initial Entry Training brigade commander/command sergeant major conference at the Officers and Civilians Club. The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School served as host for this quarter's event which drew more than 100 attendees.

The Army has nearly 1,300 more recruiters than it did six months ago. Along with enlistment incentives, this generates optimism for the May through July period.

"Those two factors are going to increase the number of

recruits that we get in," Van Antwerp said. "We always worry about the quality of the recruits, too. So we're not by

any shape or form sacrificing the quality of the force."

The Army is on track for the annual mission of 80,000 for

the active duty component. The reserve mission is 22,175, but the Army missed its reserve goal for January.

"The Soldiers that we're getting in, those Soldiers know that they're here to serve and they're coming in because they feel they have a patriotic duty to do so," Van Antwerp said. "We're building a great force."

Van Antwerp also serves as deputy commander for initial military training at the Training and Doctrine Command, a mission which includes 24 installations. The conference is held twice a year and moves to the various locations.

"On one level it provides a forum to trade ideas because we've got 24 different places we do this business," Van Antwerp said. He pointed out that the other locations are interested in Redstone's ability to make inert explosive training devices.

The goal is "to prepare a Soldier to go to war when they get out of our training," he said. "That's what we're all about."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FUTURE WEAPONS— Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, commander of the Army Accessions Command, tours the weapon exhibits during last week's conference at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Letters to the Editor

Journey wrought with sorrows

In commemoration of Black History Month, I am submitting a poem that I wrote titled "The Journey."

The journey started long ago,
In a land far and away.
When ye olde colonial economy,
Condoned a race to slavery.
A race that once roamed proud and free,
Of cultures rich in tradition.
Now deprived of homeland and heritage,
Deprived of their history.
Captured and raptured on mighty ships,
Ruptured of decent respects.
On a one-way journey across oceans blue,
Over waves wrought with black.
Black lifeless bodies of once proud beings,
Now resting on currents of compassion.
Compassion of death from the hell of living,
Inside the hell of that hull.
The hull a hell all its own,
Deplorable beyond despair.
Cold and damp and dark and dismal,
Raw filth strewn everywhere.

Mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers,
Laying helpless in their own waste.
On a voyage lasting many months,
They lay shackled in disgrace.
Months came and months went,
As ship kept true to course.
Course tattered by bodies broken,
Thrown carelessly overboard.
Carelessly though not quite as careless,
As those still defying dignity of death.
The precious chattel beneath the decks,
Struggling in utter terror.

With months bygone, the journey ended,
The strongest just barely alive.
Unshackled from the hull and shackled again,
As a slave in this new land.

Just another piece of property,
To be owned, sold, or traded.
All in tribute to a democracy,
Where all men were created equal.
All men meaning all other men,
Except those of African descent.
Those helpless souls that made the journey,
Inside the hull of discontent.
Those not seeing the light of day,
Only darkness, sickness and death.
Hoping for that blessed moment,
When grace would free their spirit.
Grace of being treated like a human being,
Rather than a domestic animal.
Enjoying fellowship of family and friends,
Celebrating hopes and joys eternal.
But joy was to come at a hell of a price,
Over generations wrought with sorrows.
Sorrows sown in blood, sweat and tears,
From a thousand yesterdays and tomorrows.

Death the price that had to be paid,
For others still in passage at sea.
A million struggles in other hulls of hell,
A million screams crying to be free.
Voices being heard now like never before,
As freedom rings deafening and loud.
Still ringing for some more than others,
Standing ever steadfast and proud.
Freedom for some still a voyage on this journey,
With many ports still yet to call.
O'er tides of tyranny and discrimination,
We pray for liberty and justice for all.
All including every race and creed,
From cultures rich and grand.
Rich in heritage and grand in tradition,
And 100 percent American.

Roderick L. Bolden
Defense Contract
Management Agency

Kickoff event helps share culture

The third annual Black History Month kickoff celebration was held Feb. 5 at Parisian in Madison Square Mall with the theme "Coming Together and Sharing Our Culture."

The event was a way for the community to come together and share our culture. Mayor Loretta Spencer gave a wonderful welcome to the crowd. Lisa Washington of WHNT-TV Channel 19 was an outstanding mistress of ceremony. Chelsea Felder, a very dynamic singer, sang the national anthem. We dedicated this song as a salute to the Soldiers and our country.

Participants included Ivey Jo Milan, who performed African drumming; Alabama A&M University Gospel Choir, Oakwood Academy Gospel Choir, University of Alabama-Huntsville Gospel Choir, NEEMA International Performing Arts, Dance Theatre of Huntsville, SABA International Performing Arts, Alabama A&M University international students, Freddie Taylor of Oakwood College on harmonica, Reginald Smith of Alabama A&M University on saxophone, Gregory Datcher, Toni Hamilton and others. Renee Strong and Lee High seniors Leander McKenzie and LaQuasha King displayed arts.

All Americans, regardless of their heritage, can gain from studying and embracing the ways of our African-American ancestors.

Our goals are to continue to educate and promote cultural awareness to the community of the contributions and achievements that African-Americans have made and continue to make



Courtesy photo

CELEBRATION— Mayor Loretta Spencer and Channel 19's Lisa Washington participate in the Black History Month kickoff celebration.

throughout the United States.

Special thanks to Mayor Spencer, Parisian in Madison Square manager Jim Riley, Washington of Channel 19, Kathy Pack of Huntsville Hospital Breast Center, Strong of black arts, Lee High instructor Chuck Mathews and students McKenzie and King, other participants, and the parents and community members.

I would like to thank all the participants for a very successful program. You were outstanding.

There will be other community organizations that will celebrate Black History Month. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Rosie Douglas
CPOC worker,
Kickoff founder/organizer

Sweet boost to morale in Iraq

On Dec. 29, I mailed out nine boxes of almond cookies (totally 3,456 pieces) to seven different Army units in Afghanistan and Iraq with Christmas cards signed by numerous fellow SMDC employees. The Christmas

cards were scanned and e-mailed to various respective units prior to Christmas.

Through Capt. Laura Edwards of the Fox Army Health Center, I was able to obtain the APO addresses of the 126th Forward Surgical Team in Kirkuk, Iraq and another medical unit, the 86th Combat Support Hospital of the 101st Airborne Division currently in Baghdad, so that I was able to send the almond cookies to cheer up the morale of the doctors, nurses, medics and most importantly, our wounded Soldiers and Marines in Iraq.

John Yim

Quote of the week

‘Individual commitment to a group effort is what makes a team work.’

— Vince Lombardi

Throwing butts on ground

Whatever happened to common courtesy and pride? I am tired of walking through an ashtray to get in the building every day, and it's getting worse.

It's not bad enough that people are violating the 50-foot rule when smoking, but they are just throwing their butts on the sidewalk and the grass in front at all the doors, when there are receptacles in designated areas.

Who do they think is going to pick all this up? What if we all just threw all our trash around, hamburger covers, and french fry boxes, Coke cups and other junk instead of using the trash cans? It is no different!

Oh, but get caught throwing trash on the ground and you will get fined for littering! There is no difference — throwing your butts on the ground is littering!

It just needs to be enforced like any other littering! A few hundred dollars out of pocket expense in littering fines will make a big difference in attention to detail.

Why should we pay people \$10 an hour to pick up other people's cigarette butts by the hundreds! Your tax dollars at work!

Ralph Miller
IMMC

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An open lane random survey

What is your biggest pet peeve?

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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Petty Officer 1st Class
Tim Daugherty

"Big trucks – 18-wheelers – nowadays there are so many of them."

Rickey Wilbourn
contractor

"Rude drivers – they're everywhere."



Marcus Smart
contractor

"Mosquitoes, you can't get rid of them."



Donna Pruitt
retiree spouse

"People who are not friendly working at checkout counters."



Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Tim Boyett

Job: Support program specialist, Sparkman Management Office

Where do you call home?
Huntsville, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

Supporting the (Sparkman) complex, the customer service facet of it. The fact that we play an important role here in the complex, keep it running on a daily basis.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to work on my farm (in Lincoln County, Tenn.). I'm also a drummer and I like to race cars.



What are your goals?

I'd like to continue on my career here for another 12-15 years and hopefully retire to my farm in Tennessee.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

G-3 standup

Members of G-3 (Operations) celebrate the official start of their new organization Feb. 7. From left are Emmitt Rodriguez of Reset Project, Frank Wallace of Rapid Equipment Fielding Office, Charlie Barnes of Business Management Office, John Dove of Current Operations Directorate, G-3 director Gary Nenninger, Frank Lawrence of Command Analysis Directorate, and Col. Steve Brouse, military deputy and director of Future/Joint Directorate.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

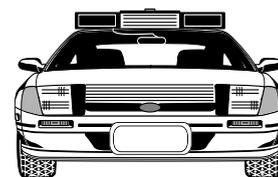
The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Feb. 5: An individual approached Gate 9 and appeared to be disoriented. A check through NCIC revealed that he was a missing person from Jackson, Tenn. He was transported to Huntsville Hospital pending pick up by family members.

Feb. 5: An individual entered the police station and stated that he had found a purse in a post parking lot. A check of the purse revealed a small amount of marijuana. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 8: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and in possession of drug paraphernalia when she approached Gate 9 lost. She was issued two violation notices and detained in the detention cell until her blood alcohol reached an acceptable level. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 8: An individual was found to have outstanding arrest warrants during an



inspection at Gate 10. He was processed and released to local authorities.

Feb. 8: An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 10. The passenger was found to be in possession of a controlled substance. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

Violation notices issued: 34 speeding, 1 driving with a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license, 1 driving under the influence, 1 improper display of license plate, 1 failure to signal intent, 1 failure to obey traffic control device and 2 expired tags.

Work closes parts of Patton Road

GARRISON RELEASE

The Installation Information Infrastructure Modernization Program construction project continues to expand its work locations, according to Michael Canfield, I3MP team leader in Directorate of Information Management.

Construction continues north on Patton Road between Corporal and Hercules Road. Sections of the outer southbound lane will be closed daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during excavation. In other locations within this work zone, the lane will be temporarily closed for loading and unloading equipment.

Work within this zone will take about two months to complete. Caution is required while driving through this area. Be aware of heavy equipment being operated, flagmen and all caution signs in these areas. Avoid parking or driving on recently refurbished excavation areas along the shoulder of the roadway. The soil is very soft and it's possible to get your vehicle stuck. Caution should be taken around these work sites to avoid mishaps.



Photo by Mindy Shelton

Command update

Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, AMCOM, provides information on the new Life Cycle Management Command at the January luncheon meeting of the American Society of Military Comptrollers.

Blind Worker of Year inspires others

Base Supply Center purchasing agent honored for his service

By **BETH SKARUPA**
Staff writer
beths@htimes.com

Whether it's learning to play tennis, becoming fluent in Spanish or studying for an advanced degree, Heath Brock doesn't let his visual impairment or the limitations that others set for him get in his way. When he wants something, he goes after it.

"I've never had anything easy in life. It's always a challenge because everywhere I go, every time I want to do something, people say I can't do this or that. But I've always met my goals," he said.

That determination was rewarded when Brock, a purchasing agent for the Base Supply Center operated by Alabama Industries for the Blind, was named Professional Blind Worker of the Year at a ceremony in Talladega in August 2004. Not only did he receive a cash award and several plaques, but he also received a trip to New Orleans to compete for the National Industries for the Blind award last October.

"I was glad to represent my team and organization up here," he said. He also enjoyed visiting New Orleans with his wife, Carrie. "It was a mommy and daddy trip," he said. "I think it was the first time we were ever away from the kids."

Brock was born with ocular albinism, an inherited condition in which the eyes lack melanin pigment. The lack of pigment causes various vision problems



Photo by Beth Skarupa

SHOP TALK— Heath Brock, a purchasing agent for the Base Supply Center, discusses Javits-Wagner-O'Day supplies with co-worker Sarah Robinson. Brock was named Professional Blind Worker of the Year by Alabama Industries for the Blind.

including reduced visual acuity from 20/60 to 20/400, involuntary back-and-forth movement of the eyes, crossed eyes or "lazy" eye, and sensitivity to bright light and glare, according to the National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation.

"I can see from here to those cabinets," he said, pointing to cabinets at the other side of the room. "If the lighting's good, I

see pretty good."

He's never let his poor vision get in the way of doing something, and he gives whatever he does his best. When he wanted to take tennis in ninth-grade his teachers told him he wouldn't be able to do it, so he ended up playing so well that he was on the tennis team. When he wanted to learn to speak Spanish and was told he couldn't, he became fluent and provided translation services to hospitals and the police. When he was told he couldn't earn an advanced degree, he enrolled at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, and is pursuing a degree in foreign language and international trade.

He said he would like to encourage others who are visually impaired to always keep a positive attitude and to set attainable goals.

"Someone with his visual impairment, to do what he does — he's a credit to the visually impaired," Morris Burbank, manager of the Base Supply Center, said. "He's good at what he does, he's very dependable and he gets along with all the customers. He's not perfect, none of us are, but he's a good employee. I don't know what else I can say about him ... he's a real joy to work with."

Elaine Evans, the North Alabama regional sales manager, said she nominated him for Professional Blind Worker of the Year because he's very dependable, he's knowledgeable of the merchandise and he's smart. "He's definitely a plus for the store, or for AIB, because of his dependability and knowledge," she said.

Brock has two more years before he retires from state service. He plans to continue taking classes at UAH when they are offered at night so he can complete his degree and eventually work with trade embargos and tariffs or international sales. In the meantime, he takes great satisfaction in his job.

"My vision sits right on that line where I can go either way. But selling these products (at the Base Supply Center), you get to help people a lot worse off than you. At the end of the day, I can see I've helped people and that's a nice thing," he said. "It's a two-way street, too, because buying the products helps people who are blind and our customers get quality products."

Originally from Boaz, he and his wife live in Huntsville with their two children, 6-year-old Taylor Maria and 4-year-old Ethan. His parents, David and Shirley Brock, both work for NASA at Redstone Arsenal. He enjoys running, providing translation services to hospitals and police departments, teaching his kids Spanish, cooking ethnic cuisines with his wife, helping his daughter sell Girl Scout cookies and keeping his curious son out of trouble.

"I really like my job. I like the people I work with and the customers. It's a great place," he said. "I wouldn't have stayed on this long if it weren't for the customers."

Army rights wrong to first African-American chaplain

Honorable discharge issued century later

By ERIC CRAMER
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — More than 100 years after the court-martial of Chaplain Capt. Henry Vinton Plummer, the Army redressed a wrong and issued an honorable discharge to the first African-American to be commissioned a chaplain in the Army.

Maj. Gen. David H. Hicks, U.S. Army chief of chaplains, said it was time the Army corrected its error.

"I am personally gratified that the Army Board for the Correction of Military Records, after 114 years, has restored Chaplain Capt. Henry Plummer to his rightful and deserved place in the history of the United States Army Chaplaincy," Hicks said. "This action makes me proud of the Army in its willingness to right former injustice by granting his honorable discharge in recognition of his many years of selfless service, both before and after 1894."

Hicks said Plummer was an historic figure in the Army, "I am especially proud of Chaplain Plummer's service to our Soldiers on America's frontier as our first commissioned black chaplain, and whose heritage I share. I extend my congratulations and gratitude to Chaplain Plummer's descendants who brought this case to the Army's attention."



File photo

FIRST IN LINE— Capt. Henry Vinton Plummer, Army's first African-American chaplain, has received an honorable discharge. He was dismissed from service in 1894.

Plummer's military career actually began 30 years before the events that led to his dismissal from service. Born a slave in Prince George's County, Md., in 1844, he joined the United States Navy in 1864, during the Civil War, serving as a sailor aboard the USS *Coeur de Lion*.

Upon leaving the Navy at the end of the war, Plummer taught himself to read

and write, and attended the Wayland Seminary, where he became a Baptist minister. He served as pastor of several churches in the District of Columbia before accepting a commission as an Army chaplain in 1884.

He served with the 9th Cavalry Regiment, the famous Buffalo Soldiers, as a chaplain for 10 years before he was dismissed from service.

"Plummer was an American pioneer," Army spokesman Maj. Steve Stover said. "His actions were selfless."

Plummer was responsible for the pastoral care of the regiment's troopers and for the education of the troopers and their families, as many had not had prior schooling.

Plummer was dismissed from service in 1894 after facing a court-martial on the grounds of conduct unbecoming an officer. At that time a dismissal was the same as today's dishonorable discharge.

The facts of his case are largely undisputed, said Dov Schwartz, Army spokesman. In 1894, Plummer, who was serving as the chaplain for the 9th Cavalry Regiment, joined the regiment's sergeant major and two other non-commissioned officers to celebrate a sergeant's promotion. There was general agreement that Plummer and the non-commissioned officers toasted the promotion with alcohol and that Plummer had an altercation with a noncommissioned officer.

In the resulting court-martial, all witnesses agreed that Plummer had consumed alcohol with enlisted troopers and had provided enlisted troopers with alcohol, both activities not allowed under the

Articles of War in use at the time. President Grover Cleveland approved Plummer's dismissal in November 1894.

Plummer requested that his commission be reinstated several times, volunteering for service in combat during the Spanish-American War in 1898, and to serve in the Philippines following that war. His requests were denied.

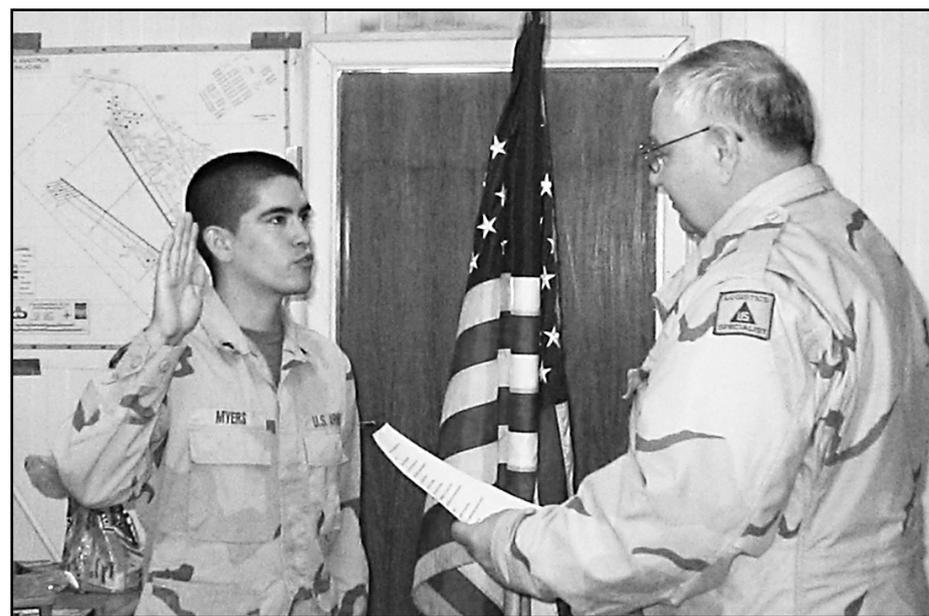
Schwartz said Plummer faced discrimination because he was the only African-American officer in the regiment. In the military tradition of the period, officers of European ancestry commanded African-Americans.

In 2004, Plummer's great-grand nephew requested that the Army review his ancestor's case, asking that the records of the Army be corrected to show the court-martial was overturned and expunged and that Plummer be issued an honorable discharge.

The Army Board for the Correction of Military Records reviewed the case. While it did not overturn the court-martial, it concluded that racism extant at the time contributed to Plummer's treatment and the characterization of his service that led to the dismissal. The board determined Plummer deserved an honorable discharge to restore equity.

"He had honorable service to his country during the Civil War, and for 10 years in the 9th Cavalry," Schwartz said. "He was a conscientious and well-respected officer, and his post-service conduct as well as his patriotism and love of country was taken into account."

Plummer's descendants are to receive his honorable discharge certificate.



Courtesy photo

Father to son

Logistic assistance representative Phillip Myers, right, re-enlists his son, Sgt. Carl Myers, in Balad, Iraq.

Mysterious slice of African life open for discussion

Post Library selects book for winter

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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Curl up with a good book — that's the post library's prescription for riding out the rest of winter weather. As part of the One Book One Community project, "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" by Alexander McCall Smith has been named the winter 2004-05 selection.

One Book One Community began last year, with Redstone being first to implement it. The idea behind it is one of a reading program for adults, similar in many ways to those for children. The focus is not just on getting people reading, though. It's also on getting them talking — to friends, colleagues or discussion groups. Sharing a common interest brings people and communities closer.

One book is chosen per season with a discussion group meeting once per quarter at the library. The 45-minute discussion group for the current selection is

scheduled for today at noon. Previous selections include the classic "To Kill A Mockingbird" by Harper Lee and Dan Brown's wildly popular "The Da Vinci Code."

"This has been a highly invigorating program for us. The publicity has helped more people find and use our friendly, welcoming library and has encouraged more people to read more — that's what it's all about," said Gail Alden, Post Library director. "For example, 'The Da Vinci Code' is the most circulated title in the library's history, bringing in approximately 100 new registered users."

In fact, demand for "The Da Vinci Code" was so high it was held over as the selection for both summer and fall. Alden said its circulation total, around 381 readers, far eclipses all other titles in the library, their average being around 40 readers.

The current book, the first in what is referred to as the "Botswana series," is a mystery novel set in Africa with a female detective in the lead. It's not your average mystery novel, however.

"It's not the way a lot of mysteries are written, where somebody is murdered and that's the story," Alden said.

"This character solves puzzling situations that people are in without a lot of trauma."

The book, and subsequent books in the series, have been warmly received by readers and critics alike. Gracing several book clubs and best sellers lists, Smith's novels are known for their depth of character and attention to detail. In this case, the author paints a lush landscape of African life. He encompasses the differences, but also shows readers how universal some ideas are, regardless of culture. It's a combination that draws readers in from the start.

"I like it. I'm interested. I can't wait to find out what happens," said Yolanda Mathis, an Integrated Materiel Management Center worker, who is reading the book.

Copies of the current selection, as well as past ones, are available at the Post Library, building 3323 on Redeye Road. It's open on Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information on the library or the One Book One Community project, visit www.redstonemwr.com or call 876-4741.

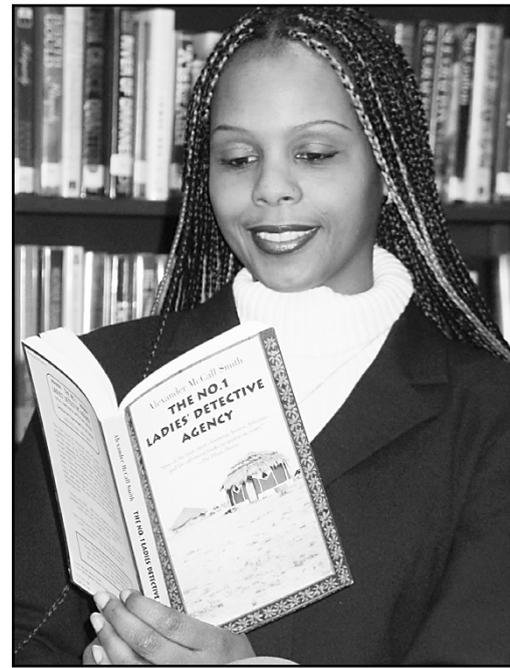


Photo by Kelley Lane

INTERESTING READING— Yolanda Mathis finds a comfy chair and a copy of "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" in the Post Library.

Honoring roots and rhythm of African-American music

Black History Month celebrated in February

By CHANEL LESLIE
For the Rocket

African-Americans have played a tremendous role in American music. Almost all popular music contains elements of African-American rhythms and culture.

Black spirituals are among the best known and earliest forms of American music. These religious songs eventually gave birth to the blues. Jazz, which began in the late 1800s, grew out of black folk blues and ballads. Musicians in the mid-1900s combined spirituals, blues and jazz styles to develop rock and roll. In the late 1900s, a new American musical form called rap emerged.

The history of jazz began in the late 1600s. The music grew from a combination of influences, including black American music, African rhythms, American band traditions and instruments, and European harmonies and forms. In the early 1910s, jazz as an art form began to develop in the rich Caribbean and African-American cultures of New Orleans.

Ragtime to jazz

In 1912 at the Howard Theater in Washington, D.C., ragtime based orchestras began to play. Ragtime was the predecessor to the development of jazz. Around 1915, many musicians began experimenting and moving away from ragtime to a freer style known as jazz. Noted jazz artists include Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie and Lionel Hampton. Other forms of jazz evolved and took on varying sounds and styles including Dixieland, Chicago Style,

Big Band Swing, Cool Jazz and Fusion.

The 1930s ushered in Swing and Big Band Music. One of the greatest jazz composers and performers during this time was Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington. Nicknamed "Duke" by a boyhood friend who admired his regal air, the name stuck and became indelibly associated with the finest creations in big band and vocal jazz. In 1932, Duke Ellington recorded his composition "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing." Swing was soon adopted as the name of the newest style of jazz.

Because of its personalized form, the popularity of blues music among blacks marked a unique period in the history of secular African-American song. Prior to the emergence of the blues, solo music was atypical. Such individualized song had never been the main ingredient of black music. Prior songs consisted of field hollers, which served as a means of communication among plantation workers, and work calls, which were chanted by peddlers in Northern and Southern cities.

Blues evolution

William Christopher "W.C." Handy has been called the "Father of the Blues" having single-handedly introduced a new style of music to the world. He acknowledged that he did not invent the blues but merely transcribed them and presented them to a worldwide audience. From blues music came great artists, such as Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, Buddy Guy, Bessie Smith and others. But the blues might never have been created if it had not been for the influence of hollers, calls, and the changes that occurred in the lives of blacks. The evolution of the blues provides insight into the changes that took place in the lives of African-Americans after slavery ended.

In the early 1940s, a group of young musicians began experimenting with more complicated chord patterns and melodic ideas in a combo setting. The group included trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, alto saxophonist Charlie Parker, pianists Bud Powell and Thelonious Monk, and drummers Kenny Clarke and Max Roach. The style they developed became known as bebop or bop. Cool jazz originated in the works of such musicians as tenor saxophonist Lester Young (who starred with Count Basie) and trumpeter Miles Davis.

In the early 1950s, rock music became one of the world's most popular and adaptable musical forms. When it originated in the United States, rock music was known as rock 'n' roll. From the start, it was party music, dance music and music that appealed to young listeners. Many adults dismissed rock 'n' roll as a passing fad or condemned it as a threat to society. By the mid-1960s, however, rock 'n' roll had earned wide respect as a legitimate art form. The music's popularity spread internationally and among older listeners as well. Some of the most noted African-American rock 'n' roll figures in the 1950s included Antoine "Fats" Domino, Chuck Berry and Little Richard.

Rocking on

The mid-1960s became a time of peak creativity for rock music. Rock artists explored new possibilities in lyrical content and form. The 1960s were also the peak period for soul music. Soul music developed from the gritty, emotional rhythm and blues style, but it had a smoother sound and more widely pleasing melodies. It was recorded primarily by black artists, but it found wide popularity among both black and white listeners. Detroit's Motown label was the most popular and successful soul label. Leading

Motown artists included Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross and the Supremes, and Stevie Wonder. The gritty soul styles of Otis Redding, Sam and Dave, and others from the Stax label in Memphis were also popular with rock fans. Other accomplished artists included Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin and the Godfather of Soul, James Brown.

With changing times came a change in music style and sound. The 1970s gave us Funk and Soul Bands and musicians who included Earth, Wind and Fire, Kool and the Gang, and Parliament. During the 1980s, many rock performers began to feature their music in short films called rock videos. The most recognized artists during this musical era included Michael Jackson and Whitney Houston.

The most popular new music to emerge from the 1980s was rap music. Rap music first developed in the mid-1970s in New York City, and soon in other urban areas, primarily among African-American teenagers. The style soon spread throughout the United States and much of the world. Some critics believe rap replaced rock music as the creative force in music of the 1980s and 1990s. The biggest inspiration for rap came from disc jockeys in Jamaica who would talk, or toast, over recorded music they played in clubs. The first rap hit was "Rapper's Delight" (1979) by the Sugar Hill Gang. "The Breaks" (1980) by Kurtis Blow helped to spread rap's popularity among a wider audience. Much early rap was primarily concerned with a dance and party spirit. However, "The Message" (1982) by Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five took a harder look at social issues in its portrayal of black inner-city life.

Editor's note: Sources for this article include the 2004 World Book Inc., afroamhistory.about.com, africana.com and blackvoices.com.

Income tax preparers spring into action

As home of the 'Rocket Refund,' center saves Soldiers money

By LIRA FRYE
For the Rocket

With just eight weeks left in the 2004 tax season, tax preparers at the Tax Assistance Center diligently continue preparing clients' tax returns.

"It's definitely gotten busy as people have received their tax documents," Capt. Eric Husby, tax assistance officer, said.

Referred to as the home of the "Rocket Refund," Husby said the center is well on pace to break last year's refund total of \$1.75 million.

As of last week the center had processed 363 federal returns with refunds totaling \$619,744, and 303 state returns with refunds totaling \$62,655 for a total of nearly \$683,000.

With four full-time military preparers, eight part-time civilian tax preparers and five volunteers who man the front desk answering questions and scheduling appointments, the center constantly buzzes with activity.

Rod Rodriguez has been volunteering at the center for the last four years. An Air Force retiree, he said he prepares taxes to keep busy and to keep exercising his mind, but he also enjoys it because of the Soldiers.

"It's a service I like to do," he said. "They're doing us a service, and we can certainly give them something back."

Clients save significantly by having their taxes prepared at the Tax Assistance Center instead of visiting a commercial tax preparer, according to Husby. Since opening in January, the center has saved clients an estimated \$77,500 in preparation fees.

Sgt. 1st Class John Randau, 142nd Signal Brigade, said he saved a significant amount by using the center.

"We used the service about three years ago and came back because of the money we saved over using a private tax preparer," he said. "Also, the volunteers here know military issues; you don't have to explain."

Tax preparers see clients from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The center usually sees at least five clients each hour, or about 30 clients a day. Walk-in evening hours are 5-7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Promotional partnerships with Morale Welfare and Recreation and the commissary provide an added enticement to take advantage of the free tax preparation.

Every 20th client receives a \$5 MWR certificate and all clients are entered into drawings for a Post Exchange \$100 gift certificate and six \$25 gift certificates for the commissary.

Eligible users include active duty and retired servicemembers and their dependents, as well as Reserve and National Guard members on active duty for 30 days or more.

Tax Assistance Center phone: 842-1040
web site: www.redstone.army.mil/legal/taxcenter

Volunteer tax preparers include Randy Duff (also the civilian volunteer coordinator), Donna Fork, Emily His, Larry Howell, Estan Rodriguez, Gunner Wallis, David Wyatt, Ernest Williams and Capt. Allen Stewart. Front desk volunteers are Debra Carpenter, Brenda Jemison, Cathie Wright, Sun Morgan and Wayne Butler. Full-time assigned military include Husby, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Richmond, Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Perry, Spc. Tobias Johnson, Spc. Jesse Strand and Pfc. Mervyn Oliver.

For more information about the center or information regarding necessary documents, call 842-1040 or visit the center's web site at www.redstone.army.mil/legal/taxcenter.



Photo by Lira Frye

FILLING APPOINTMENTS— Tax Assistance Center NCO- in-charge Sgt. 1st Class Mark Richmond, left, volunteer Kathie Wright and Pfc. Mervyn Oliver are key players in the center's success

Guidelines apply to workers compensation

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ADVISORY
CENTER RELEASE

The Federal Employees Compensation Act is administered by the Office of Workers Compensation Program of the Department of Labor.

It provides benefits to civilian employees of the federal work force for disability due to personal injury sustained while in the performance of duty or for employment-related conditions or disease. The FECA also provides for the payment of benefits to dependents if the injury or disease causes the employee's death.

Procedure if injured at work

Report the injury to your supervisor right away and obtain medical treatment at the Occupational Medicine Facility as necessary.

Complete a written report (Form CA-1 or CA-2) with your supervisor, and submit it to the Injury Compensation Office within 48 hours.

If a traumatic injury has occurred and further medical treatment is needed beyond the Occupational Medicine Facility, obtain authorization (Form CA-16) from the occupational medicine staff for treatment by a physician of your choice.

If a traumatic injury has occurred, furnish the supervisor with medical evidence of any disability within 10 calendar days of your absence.

If an occupational condition or disease develops over a period of time, complete a CA-2 with your supervisor, and submit it to the Injury Compensation Office by appointment.

Certain requirements must be met under FECA. The employee must provide medical and factual evidence

to establish five basic elements:

- The claim was filed within the three-year time limit set by the FECA.
- The injured or deceased person was an employee of the federal government and a U.S. citizen.
- A fact of injury, or diagnosis, is medically established.
- The employee was in the performance of duty at the time of the injury.
- The injury was causally related to employment factors.

Medical benefits provided

Medical benefits include medical, surgical and hospital services and supplies needed for treatment of an injury as well as mileage reimbursement for obtaining care. The injured employee has initial choice of physician and may select any qualified local physician or hospital to provide necessary treatment or may use agency medical facilities available.

Except for referral by the attending physician, any change in treating physician after the initial choice must be authorized by OWCP. The term "physician" includes surgeons, osteopathic practitioners, podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists and chiropractors within the scope of their practice as defined by state law. Payment for chiropractic services is limited to treatment consisting of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation as demonstrated by X-ray to exist.

For more information on workers compensation visit this local web site: <https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/wcw> or <http://dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/fecacont.htm>.

Controlled forest fires serve useful purpose



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SOMETHING'S BURNING— This prescribed burn Jan. 25 is in the pine stands and open areas on the south end of the Arsenal near the intersection of Patton and Buxton roads.

Prescribed burns preserve land

GARRISON RELEASE

Smokey Bear has a new message. After more than 50 years of reminding the public, that “only you can prevent forest fires,” his famous slogan was changed to “only you can prevent wildfires” in 2001. The new slogan is a reflection of the changing attitudes about the role of fire in many ecosystems.

Fire, resulting from lightning strikes, evolved as a natural component of most North American forests. Historical and paleontological records show that Native Americans often used fire to manipulate vegetation composition. European settlement, however, brought with it the attitude that fire is something to be controlled in order to protect forests, prairies and other ecosystems. These attitudes persisted until the 1970s when biologists and land managers began to realize the utility of periodic low intensity fires.

Many native trees and other vegetation are adapted to periodic burning; in fact many plant species are dependent on the heat generated during forest fires for germination. Controlled burns can be used to improve wildlife habitat, control exotic species, inhibit the spread of plant diseases, prepare sites for planting or seeding, and maintain an open understory.

Further, centuries of fire suppression in North American forests, which allowed for the massive accumulation of dead plant material, is thought to be a major contributor to the catastrophic wildfires that have ravaged parts of the U.S. in the last several decades.

A controlled fire (or prescribed burn) has become an established resource management tool used in many ecosystems. Redstone Arsenal has executed a sound controlled burning program since the early 1970s. Recently Redstone became one of a few DoD installations to develop an Installation Wildland Fire Management Plan. The plan, which includes the Annual Prescribed Burning Program on the installation, plays a major role in wildland fire control and prevention.

Under the direction of the installation wildland fire program manager and in coordination with the installation fire department, natural resource personnel within the Environmental Management Division implement the annual Prescribed Burning Program. Of the 38,000 acres on

Redstone approximately 2,000-4,000 acres are scheduled for burning each year as the mission and weather permits. Generally, any one forested area is burned on a three-year rotation to provide optimum forest habitat before hazardous wildland fire conditions begin to occur.

Much of the open land on the missile ranges are burned annually to prevent wildfires, thereby reducing the downtime for range operations and preventing potential damage to adjoining forests. Over the next four or five years some of Redstone's forests will receive annual burns in an attempt to prepare sites for the chemical treatment of kudzu.

In the South, most prescribed burning operations with multiple objectives are performed during the winter months. During this time of the year plant growth has generally gone dormant and the weather conditions are favorable for burning (cool temperatures, high relative humidity, steady northerly winds).

Initially, an area that has been burned makes it difficult to accept the fact that the forests' appearance has been enhanced. But the black appearance of a burned site is usually short-lived and is soon replaced by the new growth of greenery and flowering plants.

The understory will be more open and provide greater visibility within the tree stands. This open or park-like condition improves access through the area for hiking, hunting, timber marking, logging, troop training, and other day-to-day operations in the area.

The more open lower canopy and the reduced leaf litter also result in a dramatic increase in herbaceous vegetation growth on the forest floor.

This increase in vegetation provides an increased food source for many species of wildlife including large species such as deer and turkey to smaller species such as raccoon, rabbit, quail and white-footed mice. Increases in the smaller species in turn provide increased food for predators such as the barred owl, great horned owl, broad-winged hawk, red-tailed hawk and bobcat.

Because prescribed burning provides multiple use benefits and has a natural place in the ecosystem, it will continue to be an important forest management tool.

Wildfire occurrences cannot be completely eliminated from natural areas but prescribed burns can reduce their frequency and intensity thus preserving forest resources for future generations.



Photo by Erika Readus

Heroic showing

Natalie Strong and Roosevelt Pitts Jr. of IMMC look at the Tradition of Heroes display, located on the first floor of Sparkman building 5300. The board is for Team Redstone employees, military and civilian, or their family members who, since 9/11 have served or are serving this country in hostile areas of the world. If you are interested in participating, submit their name, Team Redstone organization or unit, and where they are serving, along with a photograph (5-by-7 preferred) to the Public Affairs Office, AMSAM-PA, Attn: Erika Readus, building 5300, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898. Provide your contact information with your submission including a return address if you would like to have your photograph returned. Photographs can also be e-mailed to erika.readus@redstone.army.mil. For more information, call 876-5302.



Photo by Nelson Miller

Star families

Jim Rountree, left, and Joe Fitzgerald, both of the Association of the U.S. Army, present blue star banners Feb. 5 to more than 150 families of U.S. Marine Corps Battery K in preparation of their loved ones' return home from Iraq. Lori Grey expresses her appreciation.

Waiting Spouses receive banners, encouragement

Veterans coalition does presentation

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE RELEASE

"Thank you for your sacrifices" was a phrase heard often during a Blue Star Banner presentation Feb. 8.

Waiting Spouses received one-star banners and encouragement during a special session of their monthly Talk Time at ChildWise. Bill Meier, North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition representative, arranged the banner donations and ceremony that recognized the spouses and parents of deployed active duty Soldiers from northern Alabama.

"This was an opportunity to share their tears and personal victories with people who understand what a waiting family member goes through," said Mary Breedon, Waiting Spouse coordinator. "The Blue Star Banner program provides a visual heartlink between deployed military overseas and their family members back home."

Shirley Jackson, John Blandamer and Midge Blandamer were presented with two-star banners for having two family members deployed on active duty. Textia Thomas not only got a banner, but hugs from the presenters when she expressed her fears about her son being sent on convoy duties in Iraq.

Making the presentations were Bill Hogan, North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Coalition; Col. Bob Devlin, Garrison commander; Joe Fitzgerald, Association of the U.S. Army; Capt. James McCool, 279th Signal Battalion; and Sgt. 1st Class David Carney, 142nd Signal Brigade. Fitzgerald also presented AUSA coins and small flags to the families.

Waiting Spouses is a group of geographically separated spouses of active



Photo by Nelson Miller

TIME TO SHARE— Waiting Spouses member Priscilla Reeves accepts a blue star banner from Bill Hogan, North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Coalition.

duty military, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers on active duty status and Department of Defense employees. The group holds a monthly Talk Time on the second Tuesday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Karen Scott, a social worker from Behavioral Medicine, moderates the session where spouses may voice any issues or concerns they may have.

For more information call Breedon, Relocation Assistance Program manager, at 876-5397 or e-mail mary.breedon@redstone.army.mil. Information about the Blue Star Banner program is available through Meier by calling 651-3241 or e-mail bmeiers@knology.net.

Strategy set for personnel system overhaul

Regulations ready comments sought

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT RELEASE

The Department of Defense and the Office of Personnel Management have submitted the proposed regulations for the National Security Personnel System for publication in the Federal Register.

The proposal offers rules and processes for a new human resources system for DoD civilian employees regarding pay and classification, performance management, hiring, work force shaping, disciplinary matters, appeals procedures and labor-management relations.

NSPS was signed into law on Nov. 24, 2003 and for the past year DoD and OPM officials have been working to design a modernized, performance-based civilian personnel system. NSPS will improve the way DoD hires, assigns, compensates and rewards its employees, while preserving the core merit principles, veterans' preference and important employee protections and benefits of the current system. The proposed regulations are the result of a broad-based effort that included input from DoD employees, supervisors, managers, senior leaders, union representatives and public interest groups.

The new system will be phased in using a "spiral" concept, with Spiral One scheduled for completion 18 months after the NSPS is established no earlier than July of this year.

Spiraling into action

Spiral One is further broken down into Spirals 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3. David Brooks, director of the Civilian Human Resources Agency's South Central Civilian Human Resources Region here, said both his organization and the Space and Missile Defense Command are scheduled to enter NSPS during Spiral 1.1. Workers for Army Materiel Command elements, including AMCOM (but not including workers already employed under the Lab Demo program), as well as workers at the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center and South Atlantic Division of the Army Corps of Engineers, will transition to the system during Spiral 1.2, approximately six months following implementation of Spiral 1.1. All workers covered by the existing Acquisition Demo program in Spiral 1 will move into the NSPS along with their respective organizations. Employees at Fox Army Health Center will transition during Spiral 1.3.

Remaining workers, including those employed by the Garrison and program executive offices, will transition to the new system under Spiral Two in about two years. Workers currently covered by the Lab Demo program will transition during Spiral Three.

Critical milestone

At a press conference last week, Navy Secretary Gordon England, who serves as the DoD's senior executive overseeing the National Security Personnel System, and Dan Blair, acting director of OPM, called the publication of the proposed NSPS regulations a critical milestone in the development of this

new personnel system that will emphasize performance rather than longevity as it provides more agile, flexible support to DoD's post-Sept 11 missions.

"NSPS is a win-win-win system ... a win for our employees, a win for our military and a win for our nation," England said.

Blair said NSPS will give DoD employees and managers "greater flexibility to accomplish their vital national security mission."

"True to the intent of the enabling legislation, the proposed regulations successfully balance the mission requirements of the department and the need to maintain core civil service principles and values," he said.

The proposed regulations were to be published in the Federal Register on Feb. 14, initiating a 30-day formal public comment period, providing all interested parties the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations on the content of the proposal. After the comment period, DoD will initiate the statutory meet and confer process with employee representatives for 30 days to discuss their views and concerns regarding the proposed regulations and seek common ground. DoD will report the results and outcome of the meet and confer period to Congress before finalizing the regulations, which should occur this spring.

Both England and Blair emphasized the broad-based effort to include all stakeholders in the design and development of NSPS and encouraged all interested parties to submit comments and continue to be part of that effort.

Implementation of the system will begin as early as July, with full implementation in the July 2007/January 2008 time frame.

DoD employees as well as interested parties are encouraged to visit the NSPS web site at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps> to view and comment on the proposed regulations as well as for the most recent information and announcements regarding NSPS.

Pay banding among features of upcoming system

The following information was obtained from a National Security Personnel System fact sheet posted last week on the NSPS web site.

Highlights of the new system include a simplified pay banding structure, allowing flexibility in assigning work; pay increases based on performance rather than longevity; a performance management system that requires supervisors to set clear expectations and employees to be accountable; streamlined hiring practices; more efficient, faster procedures for addressing disciplinary and performance problems while protecting employee due process rights; and a labor relations system that recognizes the national security mission and the need to act swiftly to execute that mission while preserving collective bargaining rights of employees.

There are several elements of the personnel system that will not change from the present one. They include: Merit System principles; whistle-blower protections; rules against prohibited personnel practices; veterans' preference; anti-discrimination laws; benefits; travel expenses; training and leave and work schedules.

Simplified structure

Some of the key elements of the NSPS are a simplified structure that replaces the General Schedule system with broad career groups and pay schedules based on the nature of work, mission, career patterns and competencies; pay bands that replace GS grades with broad salary ranges based on level of work (e.g., entry level, full performance level, supervisor), and movement through the pay band based primarily on performance and contribution; more flexibility to assign employees to new or different work; and no need for lengthy, detailed job descriptions.

There will be a new pay and compensation framework that will enable a move toward market-sensitive pay, with consideration of local market conditions to set pay rates, including a local market supplement. Performance pay increases will be based on performance/contribution rather than longevity. Larger increases will go to

outstanding performers and increases will not be given to employees whose performance is unacceptable. There will also be greater flexibility in setting pay upon promotion and reassignment.

Management training

Supervisors and managers will undergo intense training on how to implement performance management elements of the system, which will include working with employees to establish goals and expectations; recognition of conduct (behavior, professional demeanor) as an element of performance; ongoing feedback between supervisors and employees; ratings based on meaningful distinctions in employee performance (no forced distribution or quotas); and a formal process for reconsideration of performance ratings.

The NSPS will give the opportunity to improve and streamline examining procedures to speed up the hiring process. This could include DoD working with OPM to establish new hiring authorities tailored to DoD's needs with the possibility of some direct hire authority for critical need/severe shortage situations vested with the Secretary of Defense. There will be no change in veterans preference regulations and government-wide hiring authorities will be retained.

Greater precision

Should there be a need for a reduction in force, the new system will provide for greater precision in defining competitive areas and retention lists (based on organization, location, line of business or other business related factors). The RIF process will also retain veterans preference, will have the flexibility to minimize disruption associated with a RIF and will emphasize performance over seniority in retention.

Adverse actions will also be streamlined with a single process for taking adverse actions based on performance and/or conduct. There will be a standard 15-day notice and 10-day reply period, and due process would be ensured. The NSPS also allows the Secretary to designate Mandatory Removal Offenses, and MROs

would be developed and published with input from employee representatives.

Appeals to adverse actions will be expedited, using Merit System Protection Board administrative judges. Improvements to the process include reducing to 20 days the deadline for filing appeals; a summary judgment allowed when facts are not in dispute; and a 90-day deadline for the rendering of an initial decision. Under the NSPS, DoD would be able to review initial decisions within 30 days (or they become final); and could remand, modify, affirm or reverse the initial decision, based on stringent criteria. Final DoD decisions (including AJ decisions that become final) may be appealed to the full MSPB, which retains limited review authority. Preponderance of evidence will be the single burden of proof standard and mitigation by the MSPB will be permitted only when the penalty is wholly without justification.

Labor relations practices

NSPS will provide for some changes to labor relations practices, primarily focused on mission accomplishment. National level bargaining with labor unions will be allowed, at the discretion of the Secretary. There will be a National Security Labor Relations Board established to resolve DoD labor disputes.

The new system expands non-negotiable management rights (to include determining numbers, types and grades of employees, methods, technology and means of performing work). Bargaining over procedures in exercising core management rights will be prohibited, but management will consult with unions. Directives, policies, manuals, etc., that are issued at the DoD and component level will be non-negotiable. However, there will be limited bargaining allowed over certain management actions with an expedited collective bargaining process and impasse resolution.

For more information on NSPS and to see the fact sheet in its entirety go to the NSPS web site at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/> or click on the link at the bottom of the AMCOM portal.

School-aged children have highest rate of flu

Washing hands helps prevent infection

By DOROTHY LOPEZ
Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center

FORT MEADE, Md. — Every year an estimated 17 to 50 million cases of influenza are reported nationwide. On average, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets the flu.

Influenza is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus that attacks the nose, throat and lungs. Often confused with the common cold, influenza is more severe and poses a greater health concern.

Similar to the common cold, the flu can produce respiratory symptoms that include a runny nose, sore throat and coughing. However, the flu virus typically causes more intense symptoms, such as fever (usually high), headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches.

Gastrointestinal symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, are much more com-

mon among children than adults. Anyone can catch the flu, but surprisingly, school-aged children have the highest rates of infection during the flu season. School-aged children are usually the first group to be infected, followed by adults. Only a doctor can tell if your child has the flu.

Some flu symptoms differ from cold symptoms. The flu comes on suddenly, while a cold comes on gradually. The flu causes fever that is usually around 102 to 104 degrees Fahrenheit and usually lasts around three to four days, while there is usually no fever with a cold. A splitting headache is very common with the flu,

while headache is rare with a cold. A dry cough and muscle aches are two of the main symptoms with the flu, while a mild hacking cough and mild muscle aches usually accompany colds. Flu sufferers feel exhausted, usually wanting to crawl into bed and stay there, while cold sufferers can often continue their daily activities.

The flu spreads in respiratory droplets caused by coughing and

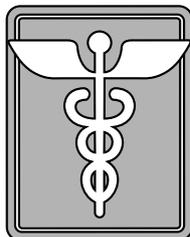
sneezing. Although it usually spreads from person to person, occasionally a person may become infected by touching something with a virus on it and then touching his or her mouth or nose. Adults may be able to infect others one day before getting symptoms and up to seven

days after getting sick. That means you can give someone the flu before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick.

Hands are the No. 1 vector of transmission of communicable diseases. Hand-washing is the first line of defense not just for

influenza, but for all of the cold bugs you will encounter.

Editor's note: Dorothy Lopez is community health nurse at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center at Fort Meade. Her article was reprinted from the Fort Meade Soundoff.



■ Army official assesses food vulnerabilities

Protection

continued from page 1

Food and water are potential objectives for a terrorist because he can create distrust, incite anger, disrupt operations and incite panic. Just a few incidents – anthrax in the post office, contaminated Tylenol capsules or rural postal box bombs – can result in loss of public confidence.

McNeil and Chief Warrant Officer Stacia Williams assess food vulnerabilities for the Army. Their goals are to reduce vulnerability of food supplies to terrorist attack, introduce public health, food service and management to the terrorist threat to food operations, assist in identifying threats, and develop protective measures to counter terrorist threats.

“But in reality we can’t eliminate everything,” McNeil said. “But what we’re trying to do is reduce that vulnerability.”

Foods that are most likely vehicles for terrorists include:

- Those that can be eaten raw, uncooked, although some toxins can survive cooking.
 - The centralized food processing industry – one facility attacked could affect millions (ground beef, for example).
 - Imported foods, which could be attacked before arrival.
 - Foods for a target group, which could be attacked before delivery to the receiving point.
- “There is susceptibility,” McNeil said. “It’s a real threat. It’s an easy threat to pull off but it’s one we can control with training and by looking at the processes.”

Billy Cooper, antiterrorism protection officer with the Garrison’s Force Protection Office, was among the interested listeners. He sees potential application for vulnerability assessment in the Commissary and dining facilities.

“It’s kind of a new area that we haven’t really gotten into here,” he said. “So this information I think we’ll be able to utilize to improve our security in those locations.”

326th Chemical playing with dedication

*Dragons win showdown
against Charlie Company*

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

Sometimes basketball doesn't seem so important. Sometimes things happen that put sports into perspective.

The 326th Chemical Company is remembering its company commander, Capt. William David Hoyt, 35, from Georgia, who died in a car wreck Feb. 4. Hoyt, a 326th player, was returning to Huntsville from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., when the accident occurred in Missouri. His wife, Shannon, and two sons reside on post.

"It's just one of those things that happen, man," power forward/center Eddie Bryan said. "So we're dedicating the whole season to him."

The 326th Chemical players, wearing red-white-and-blue head bands in Hoyt's memory, won an Eastern division showdown against Charlie Company 38-35

on Feb. 8 at Pagano Gym.

Miguel Smith led the 326th with 18 points and Bryan added 11. The first-place 326th, with only five players that night, led 21-13 at halftime.

Guyron Brock had 10 points and LaQuaine Bess nine for the second-place Wolfpack.

Results from last week included:

- **Feb. 7** — Headquarters & Alpha def. MEDDAC 52-30 and Marines def. Delta 52-34.

- **Feb. 8** — 326th Chemical def. Charlie 38-35 and Bravo def. MEDDAC 45-43.

- **Feb. 9** — HHC 59th def. Bravo 36-26, MEDDAC def. 326th Chemical 53-41 and Marines def. Headquarters & Alpha 38-32.

- **Feb. 10** — MEDDAC def. HHC 59th 60-46, NCO Academy won by forfeit over Bravo and Charlie def. Delta 61-26.

The standings entering this week were:

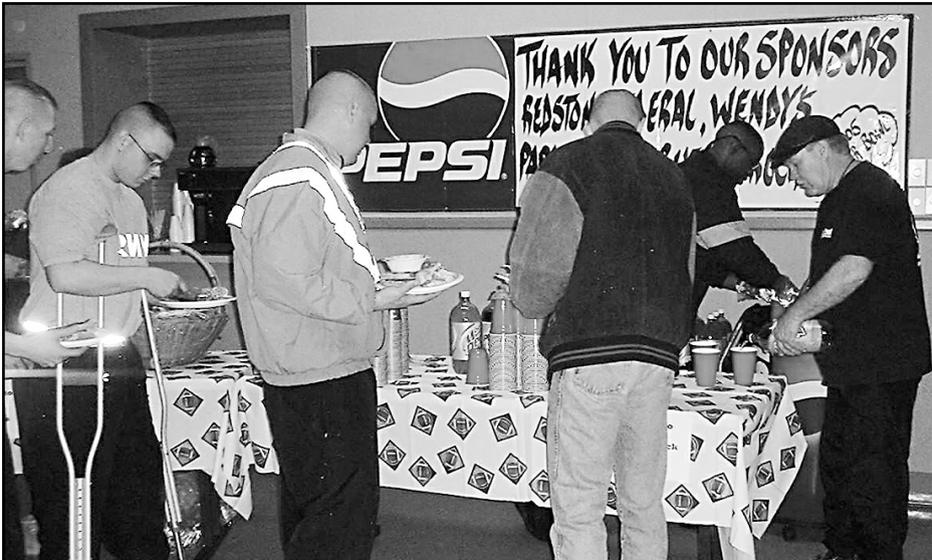
- **Eastern division** — 326th Chemical (7-3), Charlie (8-4), MEDDAC (6-7) and Delta (1-10).

- **Western division** — Marines (9-3), HHC 59th (7-4), Headquarters & Alpha (6-6), Bravo (4-9) and NCO Academy (3-7).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

OVER TOP— Eddie Bryan (15) of 326th shoots over Bravo's Jamie Justice in the preseason tournament final Dec. 16. The 326th won the preseason title and leads its division.



MWR photo

Patriots day

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center hosts its annual Super Bowl "Football Frenzy" Party Feb. 6 for more than 150 Soldiers and Marines. The party includes free food, drink and door prizes. The Soldiers and Marines have the opportunity to watch the Super Bowl on two big-screen televisions. Food is sponsored by Papa John's Pizza, Wendy's, and Redstone Federal Credit Union, and Morale Welfare and Recreation. Buffalo Rock Pepsi sponsors the beverages.



Sports & Recreation

Gym renovation

Due to renovation of the gym, Redstone Fitness Center will close at noon Thursday and remain closed until 5 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22. Three other fitness centers are available as follows: Sparkman Fitness Center, Thursday and Friday from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wellness Center, Thursday and Friday from 5 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Pagano Gym, Thursday and Friday 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the holiday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Taekwondo classes

SKIESUnlimited's Taekwondo lessons continue through March. Prices are \$40 for first family member, \$33 second member and \$28 third family member per month. This program is open to patrons age 5 through adult. For information call Brandie DeRemer 313-3701.

Dance lessons

Child and Youth Services' SKIESUnlimited, along with SABA School of Dance and International Performing Arts Company, is offering dance lessons to children 5-18 Monday through Saturday until May 22 at the SABA Dance Studio. Students will attend class once per week. The entire session is five months long, however, families may pay monthly. Cost is \$35 per month. Any child participating must have a valid sports physical completed before registration or participation in any dance class. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-3701.

Boating safety

Redstone Flotilla 2406 will offer the following boating safety classes this year from 6:30-9 p.m. at Stillwell Hall, building 3305, room 215: Class 05-1, Feb. 10 through March 24; Class 05-2, April 14 through May 26; Class 05-3, June 9 through July 21; Class 05-4, Aug. 11 through Sept. 22; and Class 05-5, Oct. 13 through Nov. 23. A \$25 fee covers the cost of the class text and binder which are provided to all students. For more information and class registration, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 (work) or 830-6621 (home).

Baseball trip

Civilian Welfare Fund Council plans to sponsor a baseball bus trip to see the St. Louis Cardinals play the Atlanta Braves in their only regular season series in Atlanta. This is a three-day trip that leaves Redstone April 29 at 11 a.m. and returns May 1 about 5 p.m. "We will see two games (Friday and Saturday) with two nights lodging at the Embassy Suites Galleria," a prepared release said. "Snacks and refreshments are always provided on the bus." Cost is \$195 per person based on double occupancy. The trip is limited to 40 people, so reserve your space now. After you have a confirmed space, a \$100 non-refundable deposit will be due by March 1. Respond by e-mail to debra.rosch@redstone.army.mil or Retired402@charter.net. For more information, call Debbie Roesch at 842-2962.

Gymnastics classes

SKIESUnlimited offers gymnastics class-

es for children of all ages: Mommy & Me Gymnastics, \$25 per child, ages 12 months to 3 years; Tumbling, \$30 per child, ages 5-14; Kindernastics, \$30 per child, ages 2-5; and Cheernastics, \$35 per child, ages 5-14. All children participating in a sports activity must have a valid sports physical completed prior to participation. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-3701.

Youth baseball

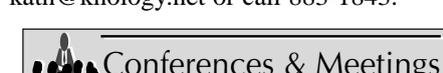
Registration for Little League baseball for boys and girls ages 5-12 continues through March 11. A copy of birth certificate and a current sports physical must accompany registration if not already on file. No registrations will be accepted without complete paperwork. Redstone Arsenal teams participate with Huntsville Recreation Services. Opening ceremonies take place at Joe Davis Stadium in the end of April. League play takes place in May and June. Fee is \$45 per player. CYS Central Registration fee of \$18 must be paid if not already current. Late registration fee of \$10 applies to all registrations accepted after March 11. Registration fee will include team hat and jersey for each child. For more information, call Mike Gates 313-2177.

Babe Ruth signup

Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registrations for the 2005 Summer Season on March 5, 12 and 19 from 9 a.m. to noon; and players ages 13 to 19 as of July 31 are invited. Registration forms will be accepted after March 19 on an individual basis. HBRL boundaries are the Huntsville city limits and players may choose the park they want to play in. The registration fee is \$65, and a birth certificate is required for all players. Persons interested in coaching a team are also encouraged to apply. Contact your park representative for registration location. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts are: Central Division, Brahan Springs — Bud Gambrell 564-5612; Northern Division, Mastin Lake — Dewayne Friend 830-7077; and Southern Division, Sandhurst — Tim Harrison 544-3180.

Ladies golf association

The Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association will have a Signup Coffee, March 2 at 9:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Ladies meet on Wednesday mornings at the Redstone Golf Course from March through October to play golf. There are also tournaments sponsored by the golf association that members are eligible to compete in. All women 17 and over who meet the eligibility requirements for the use of the Redstone Golf Course as defined by current Army and post regulations may apply for membership in the association. If you need more information or plan to attend, e-mail katn@knology.net or call 883-1843.



Men singers

The Rocket City Chorus, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Aldersgate Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12901 Bailey Cove Road. For more information, call John Gonzalez 842-2992 (work) or 852-2408 (home).

Warrant officers

The Warrant Officer Association, Redstone Arsenal Chapter invites all warrant officers to attend its meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Chapter activities and information can be viewed at <http://www.redstonewarrants.com/>. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Tommy Vaden 955-0886.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is 11 a.m. Feb. 23, at the Officers and Civilians Club with guest speaker Dan Satterfield, Channel 19 weatherman. For more information, call retired Major Glenn "Steve" Crawley 883-2323.

Parents committee

The Parent Advisory Committee will meet 11 a.m. Feb. 22 in the Redstone Room, Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 (phone 876-7952). All parents are invited to attend the PAC meetings. Parent participation points (2.5 points) are awarded for attendance — 5 points equals a 10 percent discount on childcare fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Arsenal child and youth facilities and to provide your opinions, ideas or concerns," a prepared release said.

System safety society

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the System Safety Society will hold a luncheon meeting today at 11:15 at SAIC, 4901D Corporate Drive. David Rumney of SAIC is to give a presentation titled "Recommendations for Balancing Perceptions of Risk Between Aerospace Operations, Management and Engineering." Pizza will be provided. RSVP to david.b.west@saic.com if you wish to attend. For more information, call Dave West 313-2091.



Miscellaneous

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.

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 25B/74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to

obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B/74B as well. To schedule an interview, call Victor Marshall 313-0168.

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 Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Tax Center, building 3489 off Ajax Road, provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents. Hours are 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, directions, or more information, call 842-1040.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comptrollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found on the Internet at <http://www.asmcconline.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Judy Smith 876-6163 or Debbie O'Neal 876-2671. Application deadline is Feb. 28. Packages may be mailed to AMCOM, Attn: AMSAM-RM-FD, Redstone Arsenal, AI 35898 or taken to Smith at building 5300, third floor, work station 53B062.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-4 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Military personnel and their families may call the manager for an appointment. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. No clothing will be accepted for consignment through Feb. 17, except for those on PCS orders. For more information, call 881-6992.

Bookkeeper job

The Thrift Shop has an opening for bookkeeper with annual salary \$4,200 (approximately 10 hours per week). Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of Quick Books financial program and proficiency with bookkeeping procedures. Applications can be picked up during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules

Road, and returned by Feb. 24. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship. The scholarships are awarded yearly for up to four academic years to unmarried dependent children of Soldiers (active, retired or deceased) to attend post secondary school full time for the entire academic year. Applications for the 2005-06 academic year are available at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, or by mail. You may mail your application request to AER Headquarters, Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund, 200 Stovall Street 5N13, Alexandria, VA 22332-0600. Applications and additional eligibility criteria are also available on the AER web site: www.aerhq.org. Completed scholarship application and supporting documentation must be postmarked by March 1. For more information call Army Community Service, Kristi Foster, 876-5397.

Association scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present a \$1,000 scholarship. Application packets must be received before May 1 in order to be considered. Completed application packets should be mailed directly to: RAWOA Scholarship Program, c/o Chief Warrant Officer Richard Storie, 102 Trevor Circle, Toney, AL. 35773. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen) of members of the active, National Guard, reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians in the Tennessee Valley area. Awards will be announced by June 15. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

Logistics achievement awards

The annual Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award Luncheon/Ceremony is March 17 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The two awards to be presented are the Management/Executive Award to GS-13s and above (or military equivalents), and the Professional/Technical Award to GS-13s and below (or military equivalents). Nominees include the following: Management/Executive Award — David Dapkus, Edward Grimble, Tom Ingram, Gifford Lee Jr., Mark Moe, Diane Overholt, Gordon Porter, Charles Reeves II and Alfreda Tabb-Green. Professional/Technical Award — Larry Johnson, David Lizotte, Eric Moton, Bruce O'Gorman, Redus Tittle, Darlene Williams and Craig Zeisset. Cost of tickets, available through March 11, is \$14. For tickets or more information, call Kathy White 876-1757 or Debra Foley 842-6783.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will accept scholarship applications for 2005. This scholarship is for students majoring in business (high school and college students). The scholarship application is located on the web page <http://www.geocities.com/iaapras/current.htm> listed under "Upcoming Events." Deadline for entry is March 31. For more information, call Glenda Davis 828-5681.

Welfare fund requests

The Officer and Civilian Women's club distributes funds each year to a variety of requesting organizations. OCWC Welfare Request Forms will be available in the group's newsletter "Southern Exposure," at Army Community Service or by mail at P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808. The request deadline is Feb. 28.

Art auction

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will present its 33rd annual Art Exhibition and Auction, March 5 at the Officers and Civilians Club. This year the club plans to double the fun by having a Craft and Service Auction. The exhibition starts at 5:30 p.m. and the auction at 7. Tickets are \$10; and proceeds benefit the OCWC welfare fund. Tickets can be purchased at the club 830-2582 or through an OCWC representative. For more information, call Lynn Carden 533-6368.

Pancake fund-raiser

The Kiwanis Club of Huntsville is sponsoring its 28th annual Pancake Day at the Huntsville High School Cafeteria on March 5 from 6 a.m. to noon. This is its fund-raiser that supports projects such as Reading is Fundamental, School Safety Patrols, Boys and Girls Clubs, Camp ASCCA and other programs that benefit families. Tickets are \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for all you can eat pancakes, sausage, juice, milk and coffee. For a limited time only, the Kiwanis Club Of Huntsville president is offering a special discount price of \$3 per ticket. For more information, call Charlie Urban 683-2047.

CFC charities

Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations wanting to receive contributions. Under federal law, each recipient must be a 501 (c) (3) organization. The application period is March 14 through April 14. The CFC campaign manages the collection and disbursements of donations from military and federal employees in Cullman, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall and Morgan County as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. For more information or to obtain an application, call Melinda Seigler, CFC director, 536-0745, ext. 108 or download the application with instructions at <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil>.

Black history celebration

Team Redstone's Black History Month celebration is 9:30 a.m. Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

History month program

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will present a Black History Month program and potluck dinner Friday at 6 p.m. at Heritage Plantation Clubhouse, 100 Bluff Springs Road in Madison.

Black history committee

The Black History Committee is searching for participants for the live dramatic performance "Up From Slavery" at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. "We are hoping to feature some of our own members of the Redstone community," a prepared release said. "Please come out and display your talents. There will be only four rehearsals lasting only

one hour after duty hours." For information call Loretta Ragland 876-7772.

Computer classes

The Employment Readiness Program offers free self-paced computer tutorials to military family members who would like to develop or enhance their computer skills. Other members of the military community, including active duty personnel, retirees and civilian employees may take advantage of this training on a space available basis. Classes are available for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Outlook, Access, and Windows XP. A certificate of completion is issued upon successful completion of each course. For more information, call Debra Jefferson at Army Community Service 876-5397.

Labor relations workshop

"Employee and Labor Relations Workshop for Supervisors and Managers," a two-day workshop, provides civilian and military supervisors and managers with increased skills and effective strategies for dealing with problem employees and poor performers as well as for managing civilian employees represented by federal employee unions. Participants will increase their understanding of the practical implications of managing a unionized work force. The course is scheduled March 15-16; and the registration deadline is Feb. 14. For more information call the course manager, Louise Olszewski, at 842-6670 or review the course announcement on the web site at <http://cpolrhq.belvoir.army.mil/scr/> for additional details and payment information. Class size is limited to 25 participants.

Defense budget analysis

The Education Committee of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of Association of the U.S. Army began series of educational meetings last year. These general membership meetings are held twice each year and are free to AUSA members. Non-members may attend by joining AUSA (join online at ausa.org or you can join at the door). Retired Lt. Gen. Theodore Stroup, vice president of education at AUSA national headquarters, will return to Huntsville March 8 to present an analysis of the FY '06 defense budget March 8 in the auditorium of the Lockheed Martin Facility, 4800 Bradford Drive. He will make two identical presentations; one from 9-10:30 a.m. and one from 1-2:30 p.m. To make a reservation, call Martha Townsend or Virginia McCullough 542-5100.

Mentoring workshop

The next Mentoring Program Workshop is Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Sparkman Center, building 5304, room 4347/49. All AMCOM interns, co-ops, and AMC Fellows are required to be assigned a mentor. The first step in the mentoring relationship is for the mentor and mentee to attend together the mandatory mentoring workshop. The class is also opened to all other mentor/mentee pairings. Register in TIPs under the catalog number AMPW. For more information, call Cheryl Wise of G-1 (Human Resources) 876-6062.

PX news

The Post Exchange will have the following hours on Presidents Day, Feb. 21: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; GNC, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Mall Barber Shop, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Cellular Service, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; all other concessions, closed; Furniture Store, closed; One-Stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Service Station, closed; Burger King, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Military Clothing, closed; Barber Shop in building 3479, closed; Food Court - Anthony's, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, closed; Robin Hood, closed; and Churches, closed.

Astronomical society

Von Braun Astronomical Society continues its coverage of NASA exploration of the universe. Dr. Martin Weisskopf, CHANDRA Program manager, is to give an update Saturday night at 7:30 at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 6-12 and free to those 5 and younger. Weather permitting, a free public star party will follow. For more information call Mitzi Adams, planetarium director, (256) 465-0945.

Reserve unit vacancies

The Battle Projection Group, 1st Brigade, 87th Division (TS), Birmingham, is looking to fill the following vacancies: five majors for simulation coaches; 23 captains for simulation coaches; six majors/captains for OPFOR controllers; one major for operations officer; three lieutenant colonels for chiefs; one sergeant first class for plans NCO; one master sergeant for OPFOR controller; five majors/captains for development officers; one master sergeant for signal chief; and two specialists for signal specialists. The unit has a continental U.S.-based mission to conduct battle command and staff training exercises for Army Reserve, National Guard and active units up to the brigade level. For more information call Lt. Col. James Knickrehm (800) 260-1337, ext. 5146; Lt. Col. Brian Tenney (205) 238-8853, Capt. Dwight Coleman (205) 229-6106 or Maj. Robert Bradley (205) 499-0038.

Calhoun registration

Calhoun Community College, Redstone Arsenal Extension, announces spring second semester registration for eight-week sessions beginning March 9. Registration continues through March 3, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Classes are offered at 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:20 p.m. Calhoun is a Servicemembers Opportunity College offering a VA approved curriculum. Academic advising is available for active duty servicemembers, and special degree programs are offered for qualified members of the military. Courses are open to all area residents. Calhoun is fully accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Call 876-7431 for more information, or visit Calhoun's web site at www.calhoun.edu, click on Schedule on the home page, click on Spring 2005 Schedule on the second page, on the third page scroll down to Redstone Arsenal Classes for course listings. Calhoun is located in building 3343 on Little John Drive.

Commissary hours

The Commissary will have the following new hours effective Feb. 22: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, closed Monday, and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Rockett Announcements

Commissary scholarships

There's no time to waste as the scholarship program deadline nears. Enter your application in the Commissary for the "Scholarships for Military Children" program by close of business today. Everything you need can be found at www.militaryscholar.org, from frequently-asked questions to the full application. Each commissary with qualified applications will award at least one scholarship of \$1,500.

Drama at Lee

Huntsville City School's Theater Magnet Program, located at Lee High, will present "To Kill A Mockingbird," 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Lee High theater. Tickets are \$8.

Arts and crafts

The Arts and Crafts Center offers the following classes in February: Introduction to PMC, Feb. 22; Mini Basket Weaving Series, Feb. 24; Matting & Framing Class, Feb. 26; Introduction to Woodworking, Feb. 28; Argyle Tote Basket, today; and Child's Toy Riding Airplane, Saturday. Pre-requisites may apply for some of these classes. Call 876-7974 for class times and prices.

Bingo at center

Everyone who participates in the regular Challenger Activity Center bingo program on Thursday and Saturday during February will receive a free game pack. Challenger bingo, open to the entire Redstone community ages 19 and over, is located at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Bingo is played from 5:15-10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 12:15-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, call 837-0750.

Pharmacy hours

Fox Army Health Center Pharmacy will close every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. for training effective Feb. 17.

Aeronautical university

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is registering for the spring term, March 21 to May 21. Classes offered include Aircraft & Spacecraft Development, Aviation/Aerospace System Safety, Studies in Rhetorical Theory, Aerodynamics, and Aviation Safety. The Embry-Riddle Huntsville Center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in Aviation/Aerospace and Management fields; as well as certificate programs in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Occupational Safety and Health, Aviation Safety, Space Studies, and Pre-Engineering Studies. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is March 18. For more information call 876-9763 or visit ERAU Huntsville in the Education Center, building 3222.

Professional development

Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its annual Mini-Professional Development Institute on March 17 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The Mini-PDI is a one-day session with lunch included and bus transportation provided to and from the luncheon. Four continued learning points will be earned by attendees. This year's program, "Leaping for the Gold," features Dr. Connie Ingram, a nationally-known speaker and executive coach. Ingram will cover topics such as Personal Growth, Leadership Skills, Communication Skills, and Managing Anger and Stress. The luncheon speaker is Dr. Tom Pieplow, associate director for aviation at the Integrated Materiel Management Center. There will also be entertainment during lunch by the Grissom High School Jazz Band. Cost is \$75 for ASMC members and \$85 for non-members, and can be charged to the government IMPAC card. To register, enter a DD Form 1556 into the TIP system under catalog F52MPDI, or call Cecile Pfeiffer 955-0685, David Adkins 955-0000 or Stephanie Cole 955-0701, or fax registration information (name, member status, phone number, credit cardholder name, card number, and card expiration date) to 955-8332.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE		WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U	
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																				
SCBK05388059D	Electronics Engineer	16-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	2	2	27,742 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK0541044D	General Engineer	16-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05380476D	Materials Engineer	16-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05380476D	Materials Engineer	16-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05394085	Secretary (OA)	16-Feb-05	ACQ Ctr	GS-0318	7	7	34,363 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05412855	Security Specialist	16-Feb-05	I&SD	GG-0080	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05379225	Supv Logistics Mgmt Sp.	16-Feb-05	IMMC	NH-0346	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK050365969	Contract Specialist CP-14	17-Feb-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-1102	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK0533695	Project Mgmt Specialist	18-Feb-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05350900	Security Specialist	18-Feb-05	SMDC	GG-0080	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05344668	Security Specialist	18-Feb-05	SMDC	GG-0080	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05350900	Security Specialist	18-Feb-05	SMDC	GG-0080	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05385926	Supply Mgmt Specialist	18-Feb-05	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05403628	Quality Assurance Spec.	18-Feb-05	RDECOM	DE-1910	3	3	46,289 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05330922D	Electronics Engineer	21-Feb-05	ACQ Support Ctr	NH-0855	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05330922D	Electronics Engineer	21-Feb-05	ACQ Support Ctr	NH-0855	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05412133	Secretary (Steno/OA)	21-Feb-05	SAMD	GS-0318	9	9	42,034 - 54,641	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05377530	Training Technician	21-Feb-05	USACE	GS-1702	5	7	27,742 - 44,637	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05405481	Budget Analyst	22-Feb-05	G8 RM	GS-0560	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05148151	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	22-Feb-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05403628D	Quality Assurance Spec.	22-Feb-05	RDECOM	DE-1910	3	3	46,289 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05287689D	Procurement Analyst	22-Feb-05	ACQ Support Ctr	NH-1102	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05416570	Program Analyst	22-Feb-05	AMCOM G8 RM	GS-0343	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05344655	Security Specialist	22-Feb-05	SMDC	GG-0080	7/9	11	34,363 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05326011	Supv General Engr; Supv Elec Engr; Supv Mech Engr; Supv Physical Scientist; Supv Physicist; Supv Oper Research An.	22-Feb-05	RTTC	GS-0801, 0855, 0830, 1301, 1310, 1515	15	15	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05326011D	Supv General Engr; Supv Elec Engr; Supv Mech Engr; Supv Physical Scientist; Supv Physicist; Supv Oper Research An.	22-Feb-05	RTTC	GS-0801, 0855, 0830, 1301, 1310, 1515	15	15	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05419629	Training Instructor (Elec)	22-Feb-05	OMEMS	GS-1712	9	11	42,034 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05427325	Training Instructor (HD/NBC)	22-Feb-05	OMEMS	GS-1712	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK04240032	Aerospace Engineer	23-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK04240032D	Aerospace Engineer	23-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05429147	Financial Mgmt Analyst	23-Feb-05	GS (RM)	GS-0501	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05428688	General Engineer	23-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05428688D	General Engineer	23-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05424290	Inventory Mgmt Specialist	23-Feb-05	IMMC	GS-2010	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTYU05314715	Liaison Officer	23-Feb-05	Test & Eval. Com	GS-0301	14	14	85,123 - 110,662	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05395463	Supv Logistics Mgmt Sp.	23-Feb-05	IMMC	NH-0346	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK04098586D	Supv Procurement Analyst	23-Feb-05	ACQ Ctr	NH-1102	IV	IV	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK0598586D	Supv Procurement Analyst	23-Feb-05	ACQ Ctr	NH-1102	IV	IV	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05375878	Visual Information Specialist (Exhibits)	23-Feb-05	IMMC	GS-1084	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05371714	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	24-Feb-05	LOGSA	GS-0346	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WTST05430510	Security Specialist	24-Feb-05	I&SD	GG-0080	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05433079	General Engineer	25-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05433079D	General Engineer	25-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK050390937	Logistics Mgmt Specialist (CP 17)	25-Feb-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0346	3	3	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK050390925	Logistics Mgmt Specialist (CP 17)	25-Feb-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0346	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05366793	Computer Engineer	25-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0854	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05366793D	Computer Engineer	25-Feb-05	RDECOM	DB-0854	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05431822	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	28-Feb-05	TMDE	GS-0303	7	7	34,363 - 44,673	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05431822D	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	28-Feb-05	TMDE	GS-0303	7	7	34,363 - 44,673	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05312046	Attorney-Advisor(Contract)	28-Feb-05	AMCOM LEGAL	GS-0905	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK050365987	Contract Specialist	1-Mar-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-1102	9	11	42,034 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05352784	Contract Specialist	1-Mar-05	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05430082	Financial Systems Spec.	1-Mar-05	G8 RM	GS-0501	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05394022	Lead Mechanical Engr	2-Mar-05	RDECOM	DB-0830	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05394022D	Lead Mechanical Engr	2-Mar-05	RDECOM	DB-0830	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05383038	Lead General Engr	9-Mar-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05377091OC	Safety and Occ Health Specialist	9-Mar-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05377091D	Safety and Occ Health Specialist	9-Mar-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05366832	Supv Electronics Engr	10-Mar-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK05366832D	Supv Electronics Engr	10-Mar-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SCBK050392616	Environmental Engr	11-Mar-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-0819	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X											