

# Redstone Rocket

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May 18, 2005

## Getting technical

Impact facility holds kickoff  
Page 6



## Hail and farewell

Retiring logistician reflects on career  
Page 10



## Helping hands



Funeral detail renders honors  
Page 12

## To your health



Syndrome strikes engineers children  
Page 14

## Win or lose

Volleyball title up for grabs  
Page 16



# Good news overall for Redstone

## Post gains jobs in realignments

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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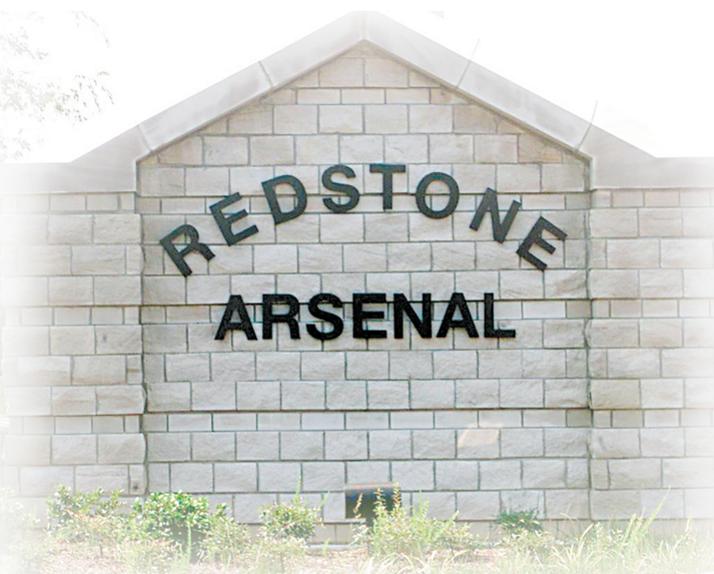
The news came early, thanks to local television.

Redstone stands to gain about 1,650 jobs in the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure list released Friday by the Defense Department. Local community officials declared their happiness in a press conference broadcast that morning.

The official word came from Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, in an 11 a.m. statement to the work force.

"This announcement is just the beginning of a much longer process," he said.

Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin outlined the recommendations in a 1 p.m. press conference at Bob Jones Auditorium.



File photo

**ENTRANCE—** Redstone Arsenal, with an entrance at Gate 9, is home to the Aviation and Missile Command, Marshall Space Flight Center and many other organizations.

"BRAC recommendations transform Redstone Arsenal into a more robust multifunctional installation that serves as the home to a life cycle

management command (the Aviation and Missile Command) that is responsible for two high-dollar weapons system commodities (aviation and missiles)," he said. "The goal is to further enhance the overall synergy of Army logistics by relocating headquarters

Army Materiel Command to Redstone, an installation that includes various field operating agencies and headquarters that provide key joint operation and research capability to all of DoD. The further addition of technical and research capacity to Redstone further enhances the total synergy of the DoD for rotary wing aviation and missile systems, and is further enhanced by partnering capabilities with the co-located NASA facilities at Redstone."

But there are some proposed departures, including the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School which is to consolidate with other schools at Fort Lee, Va. This is to bring to a single installation the combat service support training and doctrine development.

"That's a recommendation," OMEMS chief of staff Lt. Col. Mark Davidson said. "If it comes true, we'll follow suit and get on the bandwagon and do what we need to do to get moved. There are a lot of organizations that come under us."

See Gains on page 7

## Thirty-three major bases on defense closure list

### Twenty-nine others set for realignment

By JIM GARAMONE  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department has recommended closing 33 major bases and realigning 29 others as part of a comprehensive reshaping of the military infrastructure through the base realignment and closure process.

Michael Wynne, defense undersecretary for acquisition, technology and logistics, announced Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's closure and realignment recommendations at a Pentagon news conference Friday.

The recommendations now go to the BRAC Commission chaired by former Veterans

Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi. The commission was to start hearings on the specific recommendations May 16.

If adopted, the recommendations would give DoD a net savings of almost \$50 billion over 20 years, officials said. Annual savings are pegged at \$5.5 billion a year after that.

Fourteen major Army bases are recommended for closure, including Forts Gillem and McPherson in Atlanta; Fort Monroe, Va.; Fort Monmouth, N.J.; and the Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant and Red River Army Depot in Texas.

Nine major Navy bases will close, including Submarine Base, New London, Conn.; Willow Grove Naval Air Station, Pa.; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Maine; Naval Station Pascagoula, Miss.; and

See List on page 7

## 2005 BRAC timeline outlined

Base realignment and closure timeline for the rest of this year:

**July 1** — Not later than this date, the Comptroller General shall transmit to the congressional defense committees a report containing a detailed analysis of the secretary of defense's recommendations and selection process.

**Sept. 8** — Not later than this date, the Commission must transmit to the president a report containing its findings and conclusions based on a review and analysis of the secretary of defense's recommendations.

**Sept. 23** — Not later than this date, the president must transmit to the commission and to the Congress a report containing the president's approval or disapproval of the commission's recommendations. If the president approves the recommendations, the recommendations are binding 45 legislative days after presidential transmission, unless Congress enacts joint resolution of disapproval.

**Oct. 20** — If the president disapproves the commission's initial recommendations, the commission must submit revised recommendations to the president not later than this date.

**Nov. 7** — The president must approve the revised recommendations and transmit approval to Congress by this date or the process ends. The recommendations become binding 45 legislative days after presidential transmission, unless Congress enacts a joint resolution of disapproval.

**April 15** — Commission terminates.

## Letters to the Editor

### Honor heroic police officers

The Congress and president of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Members of the Army Garrison-Redstone, Directorate of Emergency Services, Provost Marshal Office play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Redstone Arsenal's Soldiers, employees, contractors, residents and visitors.

It is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices of their security and law enforcement community; and that members of our security and law enforcement community recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression. The men and women of the Army Garrison-Redstone, Directorate of Emergency Services, Provost Marshal Office unceasingly provide a vital public service.

I call upon Team Redstone — all Soldiers, employees, contractors, residents, visitors and organizations of this community — to observe the week of May 15-21 as Police Week, with appropriate ceremonies and observances. In so doing, we may join in commemorating security and law enforcement officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

I further call upon Team Redstone to observe May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day in honor of those law enforcement officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of duty. Let us remember, recognize and pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes.

**Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury**  
AMCOM and post commander

### Help boost morale with survey

This month approximately 4,900 Team Redstone members received an Army MWR 2005 Leisure Needs Survey, or "LNS." Some came by hand-delivery through organizational leaders, HR chiefs or deputies. Others, specifically retirees and military family members, may have received one in the mail. Inside the survey envelope there is a letter addressed Dear Community Members from Gen. John Macdonald, the commander of the Army Community and Family Support Center — our "MWR Chief Executive Officer" — asking for your cooperation with completion of the survey. As he put it, "your opinion is vital." It is just exactly that.

Yes, I know — yet another survey! Some of you — just over 900 of you to be exact — also did a recent survey of Morale Welfare & Recreation and Community Leisure needs, conducted by our Southeast Regional Office of the Installation Management Agency in November-December 2004. If you did that one, and maybe the Army Family Survey which was conducted last year as well, you may feel like you're being surveyed to near death!

But please — take the time to let us know on the LNS what you think of your community resources, leisure needs which are not being met, and rate the quality of services which already exist here. This instrument is employed just once every three to five years, and is of critical importance as we develop plans for the future. For example, concrete, statistically-valid survey data resulted in Redstone MWR developing plans for our new \$6.5 million Bowling and Fun

Center project back in 2000. This phenomenal facility is now nearing completion at the corner of Patton and Hercules Road. The 2000 LNS also gave us support to develop, design, fund and begin construction of our new Mini-Storage Facility on Mauler Road. And it gave us the justification needed to get our MWR Car Wash funded and put into operation on Vincent Drive.

But these are all in the past — they're budget approved with construction done or nearly done now. The survey you will complete this month by the May 31 deadline will tell us, for example, if we need that indoor swimming pool so many of you have talked to us about. Or do we also need a newer and larger fitness center, a new child development or school age services center, a new library or park? Should we expand the golf course? And, most importantly to me, how is the quality of services in Redstone MWR now?

However, we must gather statistically valid input back from our customers to make this survey a support instrument for future change. So please, please, take the 15 minutes or so that the online survey requires by going to <http://www.ArmyMWR-Survey.com> with your personal code number from the survey form and give us your opinion. Or we'll even take the old No. 2 pencil darkened in circles on the paper form if you prefer! Either way, as Gen. Macdonald said, your views on MWR activities here at Redstone are vital to us. They will truly help us to Better Serve You and meet your community service needs.

**Dan Ahern**  
MWR director

### Thanks for supporting AER cookout fund-raiser

The Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office culminated its Army Emergency Relief 2005 fund-raising activities May 12 by hosting the annual CMDS AER Cookout.

This has been the most successful AER fund-raising drive that the CMDS Project Office has hosted to date. The AER drive featured the following events: Krispy Kreme doughnut sale, Domino's and Papa John's pizza sale; silent auction featuring 19 different artistic, creative, fun and romantic baskets; and the cookout.

We had an all-star team of Soldiers, government and contractor employees, but our true success came from the many vendors that donated wonderful items which guaranteed our success.

The vendors included the following:

- Post Exchange, All

About Baby Inc., AMF Pin Palace Lanes, Atlanta Bread Company, Barnes & Noble, Bennett Nurseries, Blockbuster, Buffalo Rock Bottling Company, Chesley Oaks Golf Course, Chili's, Coca Cola Bottling Company, COSTCO, CVS Pharmacy, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dominos Pizza, Dry Ice Inc., Early Works Museum Complex, Firehouse Subs, Friedman's Jewelers, Frito Lay Inc., Fun & Games, Golden Flake Snack Foods, Gunter's Landing Golf and Country Club, Holiday Inn Express, Huffman's

• Huntsville Distribution Center/Sara Lee Bakery & Bread Company, Huntsville Flight, Huntsville Havoc Hockey, Huntsville Marriott, Jerry Evans Golf Shop, Kay Jewelers, Krispy Kreme Doughnut Co., Kroger Company, Logan's Road House,

See Cookout on page 3



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HOT JOB— Lt. Col. Lawrence McRae, product manager for Sentinel radar, grills hamburgers during the Army Emergency Relief cookout Thursday held by Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office.**

## Redstone Rocket

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# An open lane random survey

What is your biggest concern about motorcycle safety?

By KELLEY LANE  
Staff writer  
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Atkins  
"Educating the other drivers in the cars and trucks that motorcyclists are out there and to drive safely with them. The bigger vehicles are the biggest hazard out there for motorcycle riders."

Spc. Kaisha Gibson  
"Wrecking or sliding and then being hit by a car. I've seen it happen."



Doug Miller  
DoD civilian  
"Motorcycle awareness training – people need to be certified in the rules for operating a motorcycle. The Army requires that people do that and they need to enforce it."

Marty McKenrick  
DoD civilian

"Whether or not it is mandatory in any state, riders need to protect themselves by wearing their helmet. I know because I ride motorcycles. Some people don't think helmets are important."

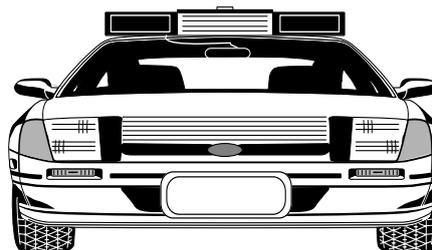


# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**May 5:** An individual was found to be in possession of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice, processed and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**May 10:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.



**May 10:** Another individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

tion at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 10:** An individual verbally harassed another in the post housing area. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

**Violation notices issued:** 18 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 2 driving with revoked driver's license, 1 possession of marijuana, 1 no driver's license in possession, 3 improper backing.

## Eight of 200 earn Army's top medical badge

Grueling test regimen includes 12-mile march

By MICHAEL E. DUKES  
Army News Service

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa. — About 200 candidates showed up May 1 from across the nation, but at the end of the week, only eight of them earned the Expert Field Medical Badge.

"It's one of the most difficult badges to earn in the Army," said Sgt. Maj. Everett Bivens, of the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command operations section. "Now, with Iraq and everything else going on, it's more important than ever for them to excel at taking care of the fallen on the battlefield."

Over the past 20 years, more than 95,000 Soldiers have competed for the highly coveted badge, but only about 21 percent actually succeeded, according to Sgt. 1st Class Brian Chase, of Army Medical Command's EFMB Testing Control Office.

Successful EFMB candidates must



Photo by Michael E. Dukes

**OBSTACLE COURSE—** Medics run through the litter-carry obstacle course May 3 as part of this year's testing for Expert Field Medical Badge.

first pass a 100-question written test. After passing the written test, candidates must complete a series of hands-on field exercises including proper evacuation of sick and wounded, emergency medical treatment, and various common skills tasks. They must also complete a litter obstacle course, as well as a day and night land navigation course. The final challenge successful candidates faced was a grueling, 12-mile road march.

During the first step of the process, only 86 passed the written test at this year's EFMB testing site at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. While most of the candidates were from the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, Soldiers from as far away as California showed up to compete for the badge.

After having shown mastery of their profession on paper, the next step of the testing would see if the remaining Soldiers could put their money where their mouths were — to prove they had the skill and stamina to prove their proficiency in the field.

While evaluators hurried the candidates through their tasks, explosions shook the trees around them, small arms fire erupted from every direction, and plumes of colored smoke billowed into the air.

Screams for help echoed through the forest as simulated casualties lay waiting for the candidates to assist them. The casualties suffered from a variety of battlefield wounds — everything from open chest wounds and possible spinal injuries to Soldiers experiencing combat shock or post traumatic stress disorder.

*Editor's note: Michael E. Dukes is the acting assistant editor of Stripes newspaper at Walter Reed.*

## Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Sgt. 1st Class Michael Harper

**Job:** Logistic management NCO, national channel, Logistics Support Activity

**Where do you call home?**  
Bonita, La.

**What do you like about your job?**  
Helping Soldiers — that's the main thing. And working with my fellow NCOs.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
Officiate sports — high school sports, post intramural sports. Lift weights. Spend time with my wife (Dolores). And I'm involved in a lot of work in the community, working with organizations



(such as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.).

**What are your goals?**

At this time, to retire (in June) is the main goal. And then pursue a second career.

## Quote of the week

'Don't stop thinking about tomorrow. Don't stop; it'll soon be here. It'll be better than before. Yesterday's gone. Yesterday's gone.'

— Fleetwood Mac

■ Project office has successful benefit campaign

## Cookout

continued from page 2

Michaels Arts & Crafts, Monrovia Golf Course, Movie Gallery, Outback Steakhouse, Pappa John's Pizza, Pauli's Restaurant, PETCO, Portrait Innovations, Redstone Commissary, Roller Time Skate Center, Sam's Club, SCI Quest, Sears Roebuck, Southern Adventures, Southern Lights Sterling Travel, Sun Drop Bottling Company, Sunset Landing Golf Course, Telecote Research, Tennessee Valley Raptors, Home

Depot, the Original Italian Pie, the Professionals Golf Shop, and Wal-Mart.

It is my pleasure to recognize our gracious vendors for they are true patriots supporting the men and women that volunteer in the service of arms for our great nation. These Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines stand ready to protect our country that we love and cherish.

Thank you for supporting Army Emergency Relief 2005.

**Maj. Charles May**  
executive officer,  
CMDS Project Office

# Redstone Flying Activity opens path to friendly skies

Community members invited to sign up

By KELLEY LANE  
Staff writer  
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Redstone activities have regularly scheduled Open House events. But how many “houses” have airplanes in them? Redstone’s Flying Activity, building 4828 on Hale Road, may have the market cornered there. Its annual open house was Saturday.

Admission to the event was free to the public. Instructors were on site to give mini lessons to visitors at the reduced cost of \$30 for adults and \$25 to children under 12 for a half-hour flight. Food and drink were also free. Aviation videos and simulators were set up for the public’s enjoyment. RAFA T-shirts were given to all who took a flight or signed up for membership. Local radio personalities from WZYP and WVNN were on hand as well.

Redstone’s Flying Activity is the largest of only three left on Army installations. It is also a certified FAA computer test station. Besides having a great time, members can test for their private and commercial pilot’s licenses as they progress through the teaching program. They have 11 planes of various sizes and speeds available to suit members’ needs.

**‘We love to talk about aviation. If anyone wants to come in and look or ask questions, we greatly encourage that.’**

— Robert Conklin  
Flying Activity

“Our aircraft range from a very basic two-seat trainer all the way to a quite powerful large weight capacity four-seat aircraft,” Robert Conklin, operations and maintenance manager, said. “Our maintenance record is top-notch.”

Once you have earned those licenses, however, what good are they without a plane? Well, for those who want to wave to the clouds as they pass but fear the lightest part of them is their wallets,

RAFA has a solution up their sleeve. They offer plane rental for those with the will looking for a way. Rental fees are based on hours of plane operation, not how long you have the plane.

“It’s while the engine is running,” Conklin said. “Say you plan a trip to go two hours away and want to stay there two days before you come back – you only pay for that four hours of flight time. Our rates are very competitive compared to our commercial competitors.”

Membership costs are low, with the initial fee being \$30. Those signing up during the open house had that fee waived. Monthly dues thereafter are \$35 per month.

Costs to become a licensed pilot are not as high as some might think. Conklin says that \$3,800 is a reasonable estimate for total costs. It also doesn’t take that long, 4 or 5 months should do it, if a student is flying at least once or twice a week. Those signing up at the open house could reasonably be licensed pilots by October.

Once you have that license in hand, the sky is literally the limit. Licensed members can reserve aircraft online and use the activity facilities to plan short jaunts or longer trips. Flight plans can be filed on-site. Members have access to the clubhouse and airfield 24 hours a day. Licensed pilots can also check planes out 24 hours a day, as long as their membership and certification is current, a service not available locally through commercial venues.

“There is an electronic lock on the door,” Conklin said. “Our members know the combination. They can come in and electronically check out the airplanes themselves.”

Conklin encourages anyone with an interest in flying or airplanes to visit the RAFA whenever they would like to have a look or find out more about aviation.

“We love to talk about aviation,” Conklin said. “If anyone wants to come in and look or ask questions, we greatly encourage that.”

For more information call the RAFA at 881-3980 or visit them during normal business hours Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

# Construction brings welcome addition to Gate 9 entrants

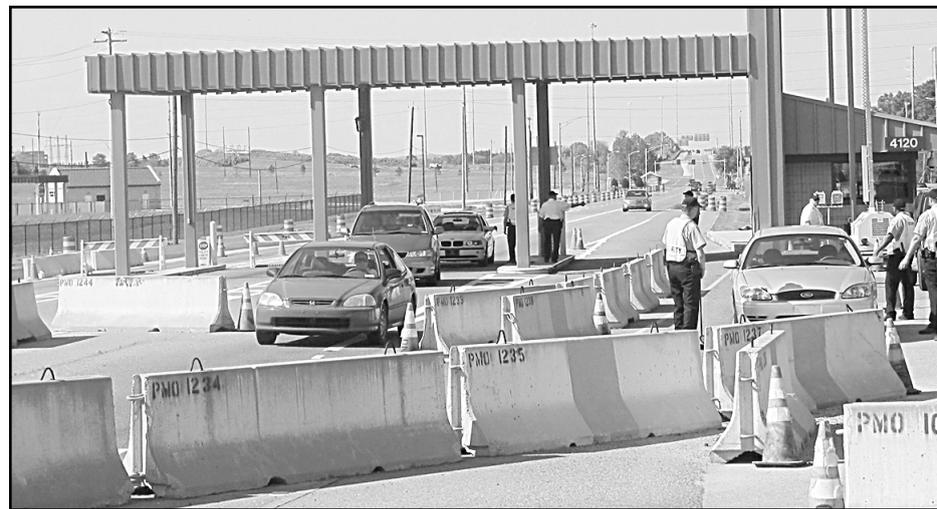


Photo by Dan O’Boyle

**CONSTRUCTION COMING— Gate 9, Rideout Road, will be the site of a six-month construction project in two weeks.**

*Visitor control center slated to open in fall*

By DAN O’BOYLE  
For the Rocket

Beginning in December motorists entering Redstone Arsenal via Gate 9, Rideout Road, will think that they are entering a turnpike toll plaza.

No, don’t worry; employees will not have to pay to come to work.

Rather, Gate 9, six months from now, will be the first access control point in the Defense Department to conform to the Army Access Control Points Standard Definitive Design.

“We are going to start the construction on this six-month project, Tuesday, May 31,” Keith Cook, of the Garrison’s Department of Public Works, said. “Over the Memorial Day weekend we will be setting up the traffic flow pattern that will permit us to begin this construction project which will, ultimately, produce a brand-new guard house.”

The guard house will have enhanced security features, including 360-degree visibility, canopy-covered islands with booths for guards, as well as red and green traffic control lights for access control to the Arsenal. The guard house will also have double the square footage of the existing structure, as well as an emergency power supply capability.

During the construction, four inbound and three outbound lanes will

be available during work-week hours. But motorists are urged to drive slowly and use caution in the gate construction area, as lane changes will be necessary to permit various phases of the project.

“When we begin on the 31st, all visitors will be inspected and processed in an area near the new visitor control center,” Cook said. “We will install signs directing visitors to the new location. Plus, anyone meeting a visitor, for escort purposes, will have to meet that visitor in the area near the new center.”

The new visitor center is planned to be open this fall.

One of the features that will be incorporated into the Chugach Support Services project will be ground retractable automobile barriers on both inbound and outbound lanes.

When completed the Rideout Road Gate 9 entrance will have six inbound and three outbound lanes. In the future, Redstone Road, Gate 3 and Patton Road, Gate 10 are slated for similar construction to meet the requirements of the new standard.



Courtesy photo

**FORCE PROTECTION— Gate 9 will soon be equipped with new protective measures.**

# Kickoff celebrates new impact capabilities

*Testing facility at Marshall simulates adverse weather*

By KIM GILLESPIE  
SMDC Public Affairs

With a backdrop proclaiming “NASA and DoD – together understanding and outperforming to benefit America,” representatives from Marshall Space Flight Center, the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command and Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering and Center, and the Navy’s Naval Surface Warfare Center, “kicked off” the new environmental impact capabilities presented to NASA by the Department of Defense and AT&T Government Solutions, Inc. on Thursday. The kickoff event opening was held at Marshall’s new Propulsion Research Center Exhibit Room, and concluded at its Impact Testing Facility.

“The collaborative effort between NASA and DoD has been great and the relationships we have here are great ... and this facility will extend that relationship even further,” said David King, Marshall director. King also emphasized that NASA’s return to flight depends on initiatives and collaborations such as this for “testing its margins.”

The Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center, the Space and Missile Defense Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Naval Surface Warfare Center, and the Naval Air Warfare Center worked together with NASA to bring the Hydrometeoroid Impact Facility to Marshall after AT&T Government Solutions decided to donate the facility to the Defense Department. The common denominator for these organizations was the unique test and evaluation capability its two hypervelocity guns provide. The HIF was recognized as the only facility of its kind in the U.S. having the capability to support the DoD high velocity rain impact test and evaluation to simulate adverse weather effects on missile systems.

Michael Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for research, development and acquisition, Space and Missile Defense Command, described the effort to save this “national asset” as truly a “bottom up” initiative by the engineers interested in preserv-



Photo by Kim Gillespie

**EQUIPMENT DISPLAY—** From left, George Snyder, deputy director of the Applied Sensors Guidance and Electronics Directorate, Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, David King, director of Marshall Space Flight Center, and Michael Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for research, development and acquisition, Space and Missile Defense Command, view equipment and exhibits at Marshall’s Impact Testing Facility.

ing the capability. He noted that rather than letting this opportunity slip by, the collaborative effort has created new opportunities for the organizations involved.

“Both NASA and SMDC have space applications in mind,” he said. Schexnayder also mentioned the possibilities it offers for cost efficiencies as services and NASA have endorsed this move and plan to utilize this now government-owned national asset.

SMDC became involved with this initiative through the Composites and Advanced Materials Program administered through its Technical Center, which provides materials characterization testing for MDA and directly supports the new Kill Vehicle/Kinetic Interceptor Center of Excellence.

“It’s part of our collaborative efforts with AMRDEC to develop and insert new materials technology in support of improved performance and/or affordability for missiles and missile defense systems,” said Doug Deason, CAM program manager and deputy division chief, Advanced Systems, SMDC. “This facility provides important test capability coupled to our existing modeling and simulation core competency that supports the CAM

Program goals and allows us to better support our MDA customer.”

George Snyder, deputy director of the Applied Sensors Guidance and Electronics Directorate, Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, stressed the importance in investing in technology that can be used

to validate engineers’ estimates about what’s going to happen, a counterpart to investments in simulation and modeling. He identified how this added capability compliments the existing capabilities of the Army and University of Alabama-Huntsville collaborative Aerophysics Research Center on Redstone Arsenal to provide hypervelocity impact testing and analysis throughout the full spectrum of velocity and impact scenarios. No other organizations have the exceptional capabilities and knowledge achieved through the collaboration, within such a close geographical area. Snyder also paid tribute to Dr. William Adler, research professor of Materials and Engineering Science Materials Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. Adler was instrumental in developing the capabilities of the Hydrometeoroid Impact Facility.

“I have been involved with the development of this facility since the 1970s and its inherent capabilities for research and development in assessing particle impact effects on missiles and flight system materials are critical to both DoD and NASA,” Adler said. “However, while this facility provides a useful means of supporting current system requirements, continuous improvements and modifications must be performed to support the future needs for both military systems as well as NASA Space Exploration. This requires a commitment from DoD and NASA to support the mission for

developing systems with adverse weather encounter capability.”

The kickoff also included a tour of the Impact Testing Facility’s Gun Room, where visitors were able to view Marshall’s Light Gas Gun, new Small Ballistic Gas Gun, and projections for the anticipated installation of the Hydrometeoroid Impact Facility which includes a Hydrometeor Impact gun, a Single/Multiple Particle Impact gun, and an Exploding Wire Device.

The word heard most often at the kickoff event was “opportunity.” While NASA-Army collaborations were most often mentioned, private industry has also expressed interest in having access to the environmental impact capabilities to assess weather encounter performance of material technologies in support of military and commercial applications. These interests include missile radomes, infrared windows, thermal protection systems as well as aviation systems addressing helicopter rotor blade erosion. Specific to NASA, Orbiter has also been notified of the capability for potential rain, ice and sand impact testing.

The excitement of the kickoff was focused on future collaborations and multiple uses of the facility ranging from missile systems, to space and aviation applications. But King brought the focus back to what was most important: “Our work is benefiting Americans today.”

## SMDC scientist receives Meritorious Rank Award

*Technical Center work leads to top recognition*

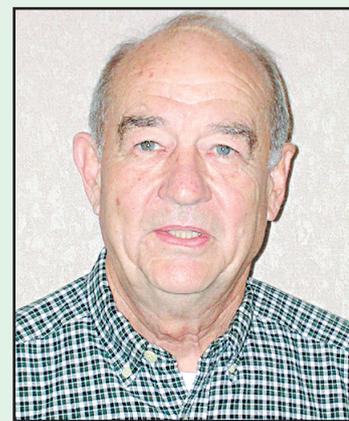
By DEBRA VALINE  
SMDC Public Affairs

Like many scientists, he quietly goes about his daily job looking for answers to perplexing questions, not expecting much in the way of recognition. For one scientist at the Space and Missile Defense Command, his actions spoke volumes to the director of the Technical Center, who nominated him for the Presidential

Meritorious Rank Award.

Dr. Bob McMillan, the senior research scientist for space in the Technical Center at the Space and Missile Defense Command, received the award in a ceremony May 9 at the Pentagon. Jess Granone, director of SMDC’s Technical Center, nominated him.

“I am so proud of Bob McMillan and all that he has done for SMDC and our people,” Granone said. “He has established several self-development opportunities and has



Courtesy photo

See Award on page 11

Dr. Bob McMillan

# Commissioners seek consensus on report

Here are the 2005 base realignment and closure commissioners:

Anthony Principi, chairman of the commission, recently served as the secretary of veterans affairs. He also served as a legislative counsel for the Navy.

Former Nevada Rep. James Bilbray was a member of House committees on foreign affairs, armed services and intelligence. He served in the Army Reserve from 1955-63.

Philip Coyle of California, a senior adviser to the Center for Defense Information. He has served at DoD as an assistant secretary of defense and as director of operational test and evaluation.

Retired Navy Adm. Harold Gehman Jr. served more than 35 years on active duty, including duty as NATO's supreme allied commander, Atlantic, and as commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command.

Former Utah Rep. James Hansen served on the House Armed Services Committee. He served in the Navy from 1951-55.

Retired Army Gen. James T. Hill's 36-year career culminated with duty as commander of U.S. Southern Command.

Retired Air Force Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton served in uniform for 34 years, culminating as commander of Air Education and Training Command.

Samuel Knox Skinner served as President George H.W. Bush's chief of staff and as secretary of transportation. He served in the Army Reserve from 1960-68.

Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner of Texas is a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission. She served for 30 years, most recently as the director of nursing services in the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General.

## Defense Department releases BRAC recommendations

### List

continued from page 1

Naval Air Station Atlanta.

Ten major Air Force installations are closing, including Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D.; Onizuka Air Force Station, Calif.; Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.; Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass.; and Brooks City Base, Texas.

DoD defines major realignments as installations losing at least 400 people. The five major Army realignments are Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington; the Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; Fort Knox, Ky.; and Fort Eustis, Va.; and the Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis.

Eleven Navy realignments include Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill.; Naval Station San Diego; and naval air stations in Brunswick, Maine, Corpus Christi, Texas, and Pensacola, Fla. The Marine Corps Logistics Base in Barstow, Calif., also will realign, as will the naval medical centers in Portsmouth, Va., and San Diego.

Ten major Air Force realignments include Eielson and Elmendorf Air Force bases, both in Alaska; Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.; Lackland and Sheppard Air Force bases, Texas; and McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

DoD agencies in leased spaces throughout the National Capital Area and Defense Finance and Accounting Service offices in Cleveland and in Arlington, Va., face major realignment actions as well.

Forty-nine installations are gaining more than 400 personnel. The Army made provision for units

reassigned from Europe and the Pacific. The major gainers in the Army are Fort Belvoir, Va.; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Benning, Ga.; and Fort Bragg, N.C.

Navy gainers include Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.; Naval Station Norfolk, Va.; Naval Station Newport, R.I.; Marine Corps Logistics Base Quantico, Va.; and Naval Station Bremerton, Wash.

Air Force gainers include Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.; Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; Scott Air Force Base, Ill.; Andrews Air Force Base, Md.; and Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.

The bases themselves are only part of the story. This BRAC process had seven joint cross-service groups to examine common business processes in education and training; headquarters and support; technical; industrial; supply and storage; intelligence; and medical.

Wynne said jointness — services working together — was key to creating military value, and military value was the most important consideration as the BRAC process progressed.

"These joint cross-service groups were key to making this jointness a reality in this process," Wynne said. "They each were chaired by a senior executive or flag officer, with representation from each of the military services, from the Joint Staff and from the relevant defense agencies involved."

More than half of the future annual savings \$2.9 billion of the estimated \$5.5 billion is generated from the joint cross-service groups, officials said.

■ Redstone seen adding 1,650 positions

## Gains

continued from page 1

Don Eiermann, president of American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858, said the news is preliminary at this point.

"My reaction right now is one of OK, the information is good but I know there is going to be a lot of gyration and change," he said. "The list is very fluid. It's comforting that Redstone is in the gaining side on the outset. But I'm just being cautiously optimistic, I guess. Right now we don't know which agencies those numbers are coming out of."

The union president said his main concern now is the National Security Personnel System, the Defense Department's revised civilian personnel system. "It can have a very tremendous economic impact too when you talk about changing the pay system," he said.

The BRAC Commission will review and possibly change some Defense Department recommendations; and the commission presents its recommendations to the president in early September. The president must approve or reject the entire list. If approved, he will forward it to Congress in late September. Congress then has 45 days to approve or reject the entire list, so nothing will be final until later this fall. Then it may take up to six years to implement.

### Incoming activities

Specifically BRAC '05 recommends that the following activities relocate to Redstone Arsenal:

- **What:** Activities in rotary wing air platform research, and development, acquisition, test and evaluation activities from Fort Rucker, and Warner-Robins Air Force Base, Ga. **Why:** Establish Joint Center for Rotary Wing Air Platform RDA T & E.

- **What:** Missile Defense Agency functions and Space and Missile Defense Command from various leased locations. **Why:** Consolidates headquarters to one location, moves personnel from leased office space in the National Capital Region, and provides enhanced force protection for DoD activities on a military installation.

- **What:** headquarters, Army Materiel Command and Army Security Assistance Command from Fort Belvoir, Va. **Why:** Moves Army headquarters agencies out of the National Capital Region and collocates AMC headquarters with one of its major subordinate commands.

- **What:** 2nd Recruiting Brigade from Fort Gillem, Ga. **Why:** Locates the unit in a central southeastern U.S. location with access to a transportation center in Huntsville.

### Departing activities

BRAC '05 recommends that the following activities relocate from Redstone Arsenal:

- **What:** Joint robotics program development and acquisition activities to Detroit Arsenal, Warren, Mich., and consolidate them with



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**MEET THE PRESS— Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin speaks at a BRAC press conference Friday afternoon in Bob Jones Auditorium.**

the Program Executive Office for Ground Combat Systems, PEO Combat Support and Combat Service Support and Tank Automotive Research Development Engineering Center. **Why:** Consolidate Department of Defense expertise in Ground Vehicle Development and Acquisition activities at Detroit Arsenal.

- **What:** Consolidate Information Systems Development and Acquisition to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. **Why:** Consolidation of RD&A at a single site is essential to achieve the transformational objective.

- **What:** Missile and Munitions Center to Fort Lee, Va. **Why:** Consolidates Combat Service Support training and doctrine development at a single installation.

- **What:** Inventory Control Point functions for Aviation Consumable Items to Defense Supply Center Richmond, Va., and reestablish them as Defense Logistics Agency Aviation Inventory Control Point functions; procurement management functions for Aviation Depot Level Repairables and designate them as Defense Supply Center Richmond, VA, Aviation Inventory Control Point functions; Inventory Control Point functions for Missile Consumable Items to Defense Supply Center Columbus, Ohio, and reestablish them as Defense Logistics Agency Missile Inventory Control Point functions; procurement management functions for Missile Depot Level Repairables and designate them as Defense Supply Center Columbus, Ohio, Missile Inventory Control Point functions; and relocate a portion of the remaining integrated materiel management, user and related support functions necessary to oversee the Inventory Control Point activities at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., Detroit Arsenal, Mich., and Redstone Arsenal to Fort Belvoir, Va. **Why:** Supports the acquisition management of the remaining Service Consumable Items and Depot Level Repairables of a single DoD agency/activity.

The changes result in an overall gain of 1,655 positions including military and civilian, according to a preliminary analysis by the Army BRAC Office based on fiscal 2003 data. This offsets a loss of 986 military.

"The foundation of what AMC does is to serve the nation's warfighters who keep our nation safe," Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander of Army Materiel Command, said in a release from Fort Belvoir. "BRAC recommendations will allow all of the services, including AMC, to serve our warfighters better. My first priority is people, and I will do all I can to ensure that AMC employees are taken care of and will continue to keep everyone informed as the process continues."



Photo by Claus Martel

**HEAVY INTEREST— Local news media trucks park outside Bob Jones Auditorium during coverage of the BRAC announcements Friday.**

# Missile defense program gets Army, Air Force help

*Members of both services unite at Vandenberg base*

By Maj. LINDA NORWOOD  
*Space and Missile Times*

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Thirty-three Air Force personnel assigned to the 30th Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, received Army Commendation and Army Achievement Medals during an April 6 awards ceremony at the VAFB Pacific Coast Club. This unusual ceremony highlighted the dedication and commitment of the team that has delivered the missile defense capability to Vandenberg.

Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th Space Wing commander, expressed pride in his unit for its role in working with the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office and the Missile Defense Agency supporting the president's Ballistic Missile Defense initiative.

"To see us working with Army folks on this project is one of the greatest things we have achieved," Gallegos said. "We've

done something fantastic for this country. What we have achieved is nothing short of extraordinary."

Army Col. Don Hazelwood, GMD director for site activation worldwide, recognized the esprit de corps that is Team Vandenberg. "We came here as one of 60 tenants," he said. "We had to receive and bed-down the ground-based missile program. We asked for your help and you gave it. Every contingency was completed within budget and ahead of schedule."

**'We demonstrated teamwork and team spirit. We're all Americans. It's about protecting America.'**

— Col. Damian Bianca  
*project director,  
Ground Based Interceptor*

Army Col. Damian Bianca, director of the Ground Based Interceptor Project Office, referred to the GMD program as having one common objective, "protect-

ing America's foxhole." He noted the joint service efforts here that ensure the success of the program.

"We've come a long way," he said. "We demonstrated teamwork and team spirit. We're all Americans. It's about protecting America."

"Everyone who has touched this system is part of history," he said. "On behalf of the Missile Defense Agency and the GMD Program, we thank all in the Vandenberg community who joined in this endeavor."

Gallegos; Col. Frank Wolf, 30th Space Wing vice commander; and Lt. Col. Gary Henry, 1st Air and Space Test Squadron commander, received the Army Commendation Medal for their proactive leadership and significant contributions to the GMD program.

The GMD program at Vandenberg and at Fort Greely, Alaska, is the result of a presidential directive. On Dec. 17, 2002, President George W. Bush directed the Defense Department to begin fielding initial missile defense capabilities in 2004-05 to meet near-term ballistic missile threats to the United States, its deployed

forces and allies.

Vandenberg provided pre-existing infrastructure to support this presidential directive. More than 10 of these facilities were renovated and four launch facilities were upgraded. Army Maj. Jeffery Hoover, Army Corps of Engineers, VAFB Resident Engineer Office, Los Angeles District, South Pacific Division, Army Corps of Engineers also received the Army Achievement Medal for leading the effort to renovate the facilities needed to support the GMD at Vandenberg program.

The presence of the GMD program at Vandenberg allows the flexibility to conduct operations and testing concurrently at Vandenberg. Over the next several years, the Missile Defense Agency will continue to conduct ground and flight tests at Vandenberg to improve the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense program's capabilities and to develop other elements within the Ballistic Missile Defense system to ensure that this nation has a viable missile defense capability.

*Editor's note: By Maj. Linda Norwood is a staff writer with Space and Missile Times at Vandenberg Air Force Base.*

# No thanks may apply to gifts to government workers

*Ethics guidelines restrict what can be accepted*

By Capt. CHRISTOPHER PLAISTED  
*AMCOM General Law Division*

Most government employees would be shocked at the thought of accepting a bribe. However, many of these same employees would have no qualms about accepting a token of appreciation or recognition from a government contractor, civic group, or private organization.

While these types of tokens are normally not intended as bribes, government ethics rules strictly regulate which gifts federal employees may accept. The reasoning behind these restrictions is simple. Government employees hold a public trust. Therefore, they must avoid even the appearance that their official duties could be compromised by outside influences.

An employee may never solicit or coerce gifts on the job. However, should an employee receive an unsolicited gift,

he or she must consider four questions.

First, is what I received a gift? A "gift" can be nearly anything that has monetary value. This includes not only consumer goods, such as a pen, baseball cap, or fruit basket, but also a free meal at a ceremony, an entry fee for a golf tournament, or even a discount off the price of a hotel room. Certain items, such as plaques, with no intrinsic value other than as presentation pieces are excluded from this definition.

Second, is the gift from a prohibited source? Unless an exception applies, a government employee may never accept a gift from someone who does business with the employee's agency, seeks to do business with the agency, conducts activities regulated by the agency, or is an organization made up primarily of prohibited sources. At Redstone Arsenal, this means gifts from government contractors.

Any gift offered to an employee because of his or her official position is treated as a gift from a prohibited source. Therefore, the employee may have to consider the gift is being

offered. For example, an employee may be the head of a government facility in her professional life and also a member of a local civic organization in her private life. If the civic organization awards her a free trip to Hawaii, she must ask herself whether the gift was offered because of her official position with the government or her private work with the organization. In other words, did she receive the trip because she did a great job organizing the group's recycling drive, or did she receive it because she allowed the group to tour the government facility she runs? The former is permitted, the latter is not.

Third, if the gift is from a prohibited source, is there an applicable exception that would permit acceptance? There are several exceptions that permit employees to accept gifts that would otherwise be prohibited. For example, an employee may accept an otherwise prohibited gift if it has a market value of less than \$20. However, the employee may accept only \$50 worth of gifts from a single source in one calendar year. An employee may accept a gift that is offered to a class of

federal employees and is not based strictly on official position or rank. For example, Soldiers may accept a restaurant's military discount. Employees who wish to discuss other potential exceptions should consult an ethics counselor.

Fourth, even if an exception applies, should I accept the gift? It is possible for a gift to create the appearance of impropriety even if an exception applies. For example, frequent acceptance of gifts, even permissible, could lead a reasonable person to believe that an employee is using his public office for private gain. It is never wrong to turn down a gift.

Government employees' official activities must be transparent and beyond reproach. The ethics rules pertaining to gifts help make this not only possible but mandatory. Still, navigating the complex gift rules can be tricky. Any government employee with a question pertaining to these rules should call an ethics counselor at the AMCOM General Law Office at 876-8921.

and farewell

# Martin ready for another change in careers



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FAMILY FIRST—** Marty Martin, deputy director for readiness at IMMC, keeps photos of his wife and three sons in a prominent place in his office.

## Readiness deputy director retiring from government

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

[skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil](mailto:skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil)

Thirty-four years. Where has the time gone?

Marty Martin wonders aloud. It just doesn't seem like more than three decades have passed since he opted to get out of teaching eighth-grade Earth science to pursue a government career. The Columbus, Ga., native wanted to stay in the Southeast so he picked Redstone Arsenal for his assignment. He knows now he made the right choice.

The deputy director for readiness in the Integrated Materiel Management Center will retire June 3 with – it went by so fast – 34 years of government service.

"It's been wonderful. It's been a great 34 years," Martin said. "Thirty-four years seems like a long time till you get on the other side and look back. I've enjoyed every year of it, had a lot of challenging assignments."

This won't be his first or last retirement. He served in the Reserves from October 1976 until March 2002 when he retired as a lieutenant colonel. He plans to find work in private industry locally in support of the Army.

"I've been around the Army so long I'd like to continue to have some involvement," Martin said. "I'd like to continue that affiliation with the Army but from a slightly different perspective."

Martin, 57, originally thought he might continue to work for the government a few more years until he turned 60 and his Army Reserve retirement kicked in. "But I thought if I was going to change directions in my career, now's the time to do it rather than later," he said.

He knows what he'll miss after his last day at work in the Sparkman Center.

"Without a question, I'll miss the people," he said. "And I may miss the pace of the work, the sense of urgency associated with supporting our troops in the Middle East. And like I said, the people. I've worked for and with some really great people."

"I like the work, I like the people, I like the challenge of the job. And time just flew by."

After graduating from North Georgia College in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, he taught at Richards Junior High in Columbus for the 1970-71 school year. He was about to marry when he reached a conclusion about his future. "I decided I couldn't afford a family on the pay I was making as a teacher," he said. He planned to return to school for his master's degree but applied for government work. Roland Volk, an intern recruiter for the Army Materiel Command, recruited him as a materiel maintenance management intern.

Martin spent 1971 in intern training at Anniston Army Depot. He arrived at Redstone in June 1972 as a GS-9 equipment specialist in the land combat division of the Maintenance Directorate. He was an equipment specialist there from 1971-76, a missile maintenance technician (now called Logistics Assistance Representatives) from 1976-81, and worked in the Integrated Logistics Support Office from 1981-91. In 1991 with the start of the ground war in Operation Desert Storm, he went to the Readiness Directorate as chief of the logistics assistance division.

In 1998 he became deputy director for readiness, with dual responsibility as chief of the logistics support division. He has 245 LARs serving throughout the world including Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, the Balkans, Germany, Korea, Hawaii, Alaska and in the continental United States.

Martin's assignments have included serving in Iran from 1973-74 with a technical assistance field team for the TOW missile system; and a tour in Mainz, Germany, with the 8th Combat Aviation Battalion from 1978-80. He deployed to Kuwait in October 1994 for a two-month assignment as deputy commander for the logistics support element in Operation Vigilant Warrior. Martin was in St. Louis from May-June 1997 to get experience with the aviation mission, as director of the logistics operations directorate there, before that function transferred to Redstone. He served as one of the chief negotiators for management in the formation of a new labor agreement between the Aviation and Missile Command and AFGE Local 1858 from 2001-03.

A certified professional logistician, he earned a master's of science in systems management from Florida Tech in 1982.

He and his wife, Cairenn, a teacher at Challenger Middle School, have three sons: Tony, 30, kitchen manager at the Third Base Grill in Huntsville; Joe, 28, a recreation specialist at Redstone Fitness Center and a personal trainer at Huntsville Hospital's fitness center; and Bob, 22, a Marine Corps reservist who just returned home after seven months in Fallujah with the Marines. Joe and his wife, Jessica, are expecting their first child in November.

Martin is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Huntsville and the Latham United Methodist Church. His hobbies include genealogy, serving as a high school football official, hiking and reading. Last August he and his wife bought a lake house at Smith Lake near Cullman.

"I really felt blessed to have worked with such wonderful and talented people," he said. "I've really been blessed the last 10 years to have my boss, Tom Ingram, who is not only my boss but my best friend. It's been great to have such a great professional to work with. We're not only colleagues, but friends. It's been fun to come to work every day. I'll miss the people most of all."

## Award

continued from page 6

developed several state-of-the-art concepts for air and missile defense. Most of all, Bob is a model of integrity. Everyone should aspire to be like him when it comes to family and the people with whom we work.”

Each year, the president recognizes a small group of career senior executives and high-performing senior career employees for exceptional long-term accomplishments. Those who receive this award are strong leaders, professionals and scientists who achieve results and consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service.

The Meritorious Rank Award is McMillan's highest level award to date, but is by no means his only accomplishment.

“When I worked at Georgia Tech, I got an outstanding research award,” McMillan said. “Out of about 600 professionals, they gave out two awards. I got one of them.” McMillan also is a Fellow in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a member of the Optical Society of America and the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers.

“Being named an IEEE Fellow is a real honor,” said McMillan, who holds a doctorate in physics from the University of Florida. “It made a big difference in my career.” Being named an IEEE Fellow

led McMillan to a job at the Air Force Research Lab at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He worked on concealed weapon detection and radar and infrared sensors as an Intergovernmental Personnel Act employee. “It was one of the most interesting times I spent before coming to work at SMDC,” he said.

Following his appointment to the Air Force Research Lab in 1998, McMillan retired from his position at Georgia Tech and accepted a position with SMDC. At SMDC, his primary duty is to provide technical guidance on issues related to radar, infrared, laser and visible sensors used in space and missile defense platforms and systems.

“At Georgia Tech, I was the program manager for a radar system that was the highest frequency coherent radar system built until that time,” said McMillan, who carried his interest in radars to SMDC.

“I am a physicist by education, but an engineer by experience,” said the Sylacauga, native. “I got into radars within the past 10-15 years. I think I probably like working with the radars best.”

But his experience is varied. As a physicist, McMillan has contributed to the understanding of the basic physics of semiconductors and laser materials, which was used to design lasers and other optical devices in actual systems used for warfighter applications. He has published more than 150 articles in journals and conference papers. He also submitted four patent disclosures on radar and infrared polarimetry techniques.

## Leaving a lasting impression for family members

*Redstone Soldiers serve on funeral honor team*

By SHAREE MILLER  
For the Rocket

“Ma’am (sir), this flag is presented on behalf of a grateful nation and the United States Army as a token of appreciation for your loved one’s honorable and faithful service.”

All Army veterans who served honorably are entitled, by law, to a military funeral.

To the men and women of the Redstone Arsenal Funeral Honor Detail, providing these honors is a responsibility they meet with pride and perfection. For the families of active duty, retired and veteran Soldiers, the Honor Guard symbolizes the feelings of a grateful nation.

“We represent every man and woman in the Army, past and present, when we stand in front of the families of Soldiers who have died,” Sgt. 1st Class Jose Guzman said. “Whether it’s an active duty Soldier or veteran from World War II, we are often the final military image the family has for their loved one.”

Although the detail trains twice a week for all aspects of funeral services, it’s important for families to know what services are authorized. Funeral services vary by Defense Department policy for active duty members, retirees and veterans.

For active duty Soldiers and military retirees, honors include firing of rifle volleys, uniformed Soldiers serving as pallbearers, folding and presentation of the flag to the next-of-kin, and the playing of “Taps” by a bugler or a high quality recording. For deceased veterans of the armed forces, a two-person team folds and presents the flag and a high quality recording of “Taps” honors the veteran.

One thing that remains the same for every Army service is the ending. The flag is folded and presented to the next of kin or chaplain, if the next of kin is not available. The following passage is recited: “Ma’am (sir), this flag is presented on



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Wynn

**FULL HONORS—** Members of the Redstone Arsenal Funeral Honor Detail participate in a funeral service.

behalf of a grateful nation and the United States Army as a token of appreciation for your loved one’s honorable and faithful service.”

“We want to show respect and gratitude to each and every Soldier that has served before us,” Spc. Kelveius Polite said. “We take pride in knowing we have given the family whatever support we can.”

While the military has a long tradition of providing funeral honors on a voluntary basis, a law passed Jan. 1, 2000 requires the military to provide a minimum of two uniformed servicemembers to fold and

present the flag, and play “Taps” at every funeral where military honors are requested. At least one member of the funeral honors detail must be of the same branch of service as the deceased.

The new law allows Reserve and National Guard units to help with funeral honors. As a result of teamwork between of command sergeants major for the Garrison, Mark Gerecht, the Army Reserve’s 4th Chemical Battalion of the 108th Division’s Command, John Perry, Aviation and Missile Command, Gregory Lunn, and Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, Lewis Lockett, a new more energized detail has emerged, working together to offer the service to local veterans and their loved ones.

“It is because of the great dedication of Staff Sgt. Julius Clark, former NCO-in-charge, Staff Sgt. Michael Williams, current NCOIC, and all the Soldiers that take time away from their jobs and schooling to perform this service with a level of quality that can’t be matched,” Gerecht said.

Members of the 4th Chemical Battalion/108th Division are represented on Redstone’s team.

“I am honored to volunteer because I like to parade and render honors,” Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Wynn, among the reservists, said. “It allows me to show my respect and admiration for those who have served before me. I’d like to see more Soldiers, both active Army and National Guard and Reserve, and male and female Soldiers volunteer for the

detail.”

The Army is facing a challenge with the new law since it is the largest of the armed services and had the largest number of World War II veterans. Of the 16.5 million Americans who served in World War II, 8.3 million served in the Army, which at the time included what is now the Air Force.

Redstone faces a unique challenge since none of its military units report directly to the Aviation and Missile Command. On larger installations, units rotate their membership monthly. But since Redstone has such a limited number of Soldiers, members are assigned to the funeral detail for a year. These Soldiers sometimes are working five funerals a day, along with their regular jobs and school.

The Funeral Honor Detail performs services throughout the state’s 10 most northern counties. Since October 2005, the detail has performed 253 services averaging 36 funerals a month.

This detail includes nine active duty and three reserve members. The active duty members are from the 59th Ordnance Brigade, Garrison, Medical Department Activity, 95th Maintenance Battalion, and Delta Company of 832 Ordnance Battalion. The reservists represent the 3rd Maintenance Battalion, 4th Brigade of the 100th Division, 4th Chemical Battalion, 3rd Brigade of the 108th Division, and 4th Logistics Battalion, of the 108th Division.

# Engineer advocates autism awareness

*Family's trial with Asperger syndrome leads to formation of local support group*

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

Thirteen years ago, Mike and Kay Burns had never even heard of Asperger syndrome. Although a higher rate of this form of autism exists among children of engineers and computer programmers, they never suspected that the condition would affect their child.

As their son Ed grew from newborn to preschooler, all they knew was that he was different from other children. They were amazed when he started reading his baby food jars before age 2. They were concerned when he failed to make friends in his preschool class and couldn't eat out because smells bothered him so much. Finally, they were baffled when he couldn't concentrate or sit still in kindergarten. By the end of first grade it was obvious that something was indeed wrong, they just didn't know what it was.

Mike Burns, an engineer for Aviation Engineering Directorate mission equipment, now knows a lot about Asperger syndrome. But it's been a long and bumpy ride on the road to understanding. It's a road he wishes he could spare others from by promoting awareness of the condition.

"There are so many engineers out here that seem to have the characteristics of it and they probably don't even know about it," he said. "And their children might have it, too. When we finally figured out my son had it, just knowing what the problem was helped."

## Defining syndrome

Asperger syndrome shares a number of traits of autism including: difficulty in communicating, difficulty in social relationships, and a lack of imagination and creative play. But people with Asperger syndrome don't have as much trouble with language or have the same learning disabilities as those with autism. They usually speak fluently, although their words can sound stilted, and they are often of average or above average intelligence.

There is a high rate of Aspergers syndrome in the Huntsville area, but the highest rate exists in the Silicon Valley. Several studies have found that children with this condition often have parents who work in technical fields.

"Some people say Bill Gates has it," Kay Burns said. "I feel like I have a touch of it myself. Although it's not as common in girls, girls do get it. You just grow up and think you're weird."

Unlike those with autism, people with Asperger syndrome want to interact with others and form social relationships but they have difficulty doing so. It's hard for them to understand non-verbal cues like facial expressions and this can make them appear insensitive to others feelings. They also take language too literally and have trouble understanding when something is said as a joke or used as a metaphor.



Courtesy Photo

**FAMILY TIME— Mike Burns, an engineer for Aviation Engineering Directorate mission equipment, enjoys spending time with his son Ed at a restaurant in Gulf Shores in July 2004. Ed has a form of autism called Aspergers syndrome.**

While people with Asperger syndrome usually excel at learning facts and figures, they often have difficulty thinking in abstract ways. They also often are obsessed with arranging or memorizing facts about special subjects or collecting as a hobby. People with the condition often find change upsetting and prefer their days to have set routines.

## Causes of condition

The causes of autism and Asperger syndrome are not known. Experts think that Asperger syndrome results from several physical factors that affect brain development rather than from any emotional deprivation or differences in upbringing. There is no "cure" for this developmental condition that affects the way the brain processes information, but education about the condition and support can help. Children with Asperger syndrome become adults with Asperger syndrome.

"My dad is a Ph.D. and he has so many of these symptoms, it just amazes me," Mike Burns said. "Recognizing the problem is so important. It's kind of new and if people recognize that they have it, it might help them know what to do and look out for traits in their children."

Mike and Kay Burns know all too well that children with Asperger syndrome have difficulty navigating the waters of the educational system in the United States. They have had to learn how to be advocates for their son in the public schools. They also have had to learn how to reach out for support from others.

## Finding support

Seven years ago, Kay Burns and Carolyn Rivamonte co-founded the North Alabama Asperger Parents Group after meeting each other through the Autism Society's web site. Now Kay is the president of this support group

that meets the third Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Meteor Buffet, a restaurant on the corner of Highway 72 east and Sparkman Drive.

She suggested that parents of children with Asperger syndrome try to be a partner with their child's teacher and provide as much information as they can. She offered these words of encouragement:

"Educate the school as best you can and educate yourself. Go to seminars, especially on the laws about special education," she said. "Take it one day at a time and pick your battles. You can have one good day and then five bad days after that."

She explained that a lot of these children do well if they have support in the classroom with a set schedule, a teacher's aid and larger worksheets to allow for their difficulty with handwriting and staying in the lines.

## Increasing awareness

"If I could have the power to do anything I wanted, I wish they could set up a program within a school — especially at the middle school level because middle school is the hardest time of these kids' lives — where the other kids would learn what Asperger syndrome is and understand it," she said.

One local school is trying to develop interest in a program especially designed for children with Asperger syndrome. Whitesburg Academy is considering a therapeutic program that would offer speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy to these children.

"If anything, these children are so bright and they can be so charming and funny and people don't understand them. If I could say anything it would be that if people meet somebody different, maybe they could give them more patience and understanding because they don't know what they're coming at you with," she said.

Mike Burns explained that since he has a child with Asperger syndrome, he recognizes the characteristics and he sees a lot of adults who are engineers that exhibit them. He thinks if more people knew about Asperger syndrome they could be more tolerant of others and those who have it could find support.

"I worry about (the adult engineers who seem to have it). If people recognize that this might explain their behavior, they're less likely to be made fun of, which happens sometimes," he said.

Although there is no support group in the Huntsville area for adults with Asperger syndrome, many call Kay Burns or the North Alabama Asperger Parent Group looking for other adults they can meet who have the same condition.

"We have tried to get volunteers to meet at a restaurant and to get a facilitator for such a meeting to get the conversation going, but we haven't had much success with that," she said. She would like to organize a support group for adults with Asperger syndrome but she just doesn't have the time.

For more information about the parent support group or if you're interested in starting a group for adults with Asperger syndrome, call Kay Burns at 776-0505. Parents interested in the program for children with Asperger syndrome that's being considered by Whitesburg Academy should call 880-1239.

# Airmen get Stryker vehicles, prep to deploy with Army

By Capt. MICHAEL BLANKARTZ  
and 2nd Lt. KATE McISAAC  
*Army News Service*

FORT POLK, La. – An Air Force squadron gained operational control of five Army Strykers May 6 in a ceremony at the Army's Joint Readiness Training Center during an exercise to ready the crews for Iraq.

The 3rd Air Support Operations Squadron is the first Air Force element to receive the Stryker – an infantry combat vehicle known for its rapid adaptability and enhanced survivability features on the battlefield. The squadron is attached to the Army's 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, stationed at Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

The 3rd ASOS and 172nd Stryker Brigade are now at Fort Polk participating in a Mission Rehearsal Exercise to prepare them for deployment.

"This is the most rewarding day in my entire Air Force career," said Lt. Col. Russell Smith, commander of the 3rd ASOS. "This integration provides options for commanders on the ground and further enhances the use of more responsive and lethal effects to the common operational picture," Smith told an audience of inquisitive observers – most being Soldiers and Airmen from his own squadron.

After a relatively slow beginning, the idea of the integrated Tactical Air Control Party vehicles began to take form in early January of this year. In a short five months, the eight-wheeled armored Strykers now have some of the most advanced communications and tracking systems in the world.

Bringing the Army and Air Force together is no new concept. But putting Soldiers and Airmen together in one fighting machine with the ability to call for close air support in seconds rather than minutes is revolutionary, officials said. They said the re-engineered manning of the Stryker crew integrates TACP into the already modularly scaled Army units of the 172nd SBCT.

"In providing Strykers to the 3rd ASOS, we allow the TACP enhanced intelligence and surveillance capability and have created a lethal and survivable joint team," said Col. Michael Shields, commander of the 172nd SBCT, just before the Stryker demonstration at the ceremony.

*Editor's note: Capt. Michael Blankartz serves with the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team public affairs section and 2nd Lt. Kate McIsaac serves with the 302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, an Army Reserve unit from Bell, Calif.*



Photo by 2nd Lt. Kate McIsaac

**DEMONSTRATION— Senior Airman John Norris and Staff Sgt. Tristan Magdich, both of the 3rd Air Support Operations Squadron, prepare their Stryker for a demonstration at Fort Polk, La., May 6. The 3rd ASOS is the first Air Force element to receive Stryker armored vehicles.**

# Headquarters & Alpha serves notice to competition

Postseason tourney concludes tonight

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

The postseason tournament was like a reprieve for troop volleyball teams that had been struggling.

Headquarters & Alpha continued its improvement since early in the season by beating the NCO Academy. HHC 59th pushed Delta Company to the limit before falling. Charlie Company did even better, toppling Bravo.

That was just opening night of the double-elimination tournament which concludes with the final at 6 tonight at Pagano Gym.

"We haven't lost by blowout to any team since the beginning of the season," Headquarters & Alpha player-coach Brian Blystone said. "Now we hang with every team."

The Gators opened the postseason tournament May 11 by beating the NCO Academy 21-11, 21-15. Their key players included Daniel Babbage and Eddie Freeman.

"From the beginning of the season, we had a little bit of a rough time but we melded as a team," Blystone said. "We've been underrated the whole time. But there's a bunch of good guys on the team."

Early on, Headquarters & Alpha had only two people that had ever played the game competitively. "And one of them was sandlot," Blystone said.

The improvement since has been by "leaps and bounds," he said. "Before, we couldn't pick up a serve."

The Gators were 1-4 at one point but finished the regular season at 6-6. "I think what sets us apart is the amount of fun we have out there," Blystone said.

In the second game, Delta survived a scare from HHC 59th and won 21-12, 20-22, 15-11.

"Our team was put together at a moment's notice but they came a long way," 59th player-coach Warnie Stokes said. "As long as they do their best, I've got no complaints. We have a losing season all season (0-12) but every player still comes out there with a high motivation. Can't ask for more than that."

Delta, the defending post champion, snapped a three-game losing streak. "Teamwork and less mistakes than we usually make," spiker Robert Harris said of the difference.

"We're going to take the tournament," he predicted. "Repeat from last year."

In the night's third game Charlie, 4-8 for the season, beat conference-winner Bravo 19-21, 21-19, 15-12.

The final regular season standings included: Eastern Conference – Bravo (9-3), Headquarters & Alpha (6-6), NCO Academy (5-7) and HHC 59th (0-12). Western Conference – Marines (10-2), Delta (8-4) and Charlie (4-8).

Here are last week's results:

- **May 9** – Marines def. Delta 21-11, 23-21; Headquarters & Alpha def. NCO Academy 21-18, 21-18; and Bravo def. HHC 59th 21-18, 21-16.

- **May 10** – Bravo def. Marines 18-21, 21-12, 16-14. Charlie def. HHC 59th 23-21, 17-21, 15-10. Headquarters & Alpha def. Delta 21-14, 15-21, 15-7. End of regular season.

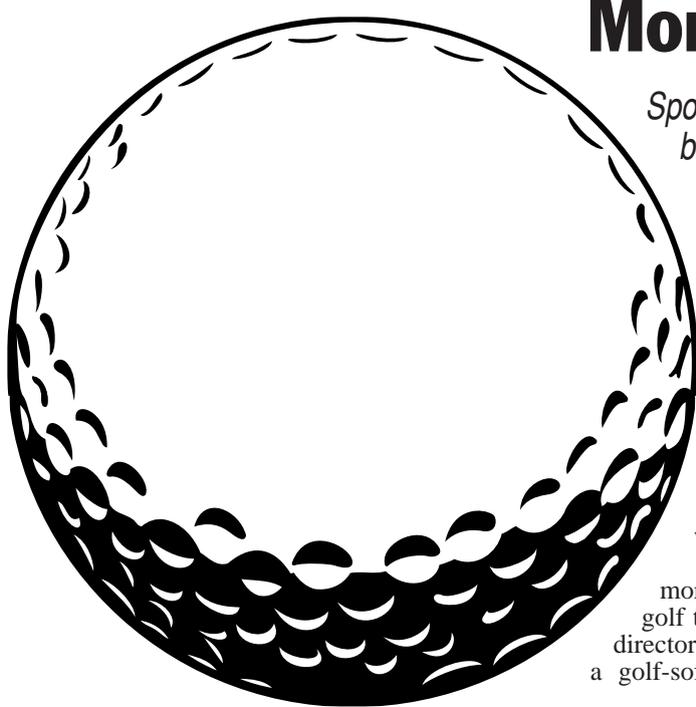
- **May 11** – Headquarters & Alpha def. NCO Academy 21-11, 21-15; Delta def. HHC 59th 21-12, 20-22, 15-11; and Charlie def. Bravo 19-21, 21-19, 15-12.

- **May 12** – Headquarters & Alpha def. Marines 21-19, 18-21, 15-11; Charlie def. Delta 21-15, 21-18; and Bravo def. HHC 59th 21-11, 21-13.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

UP AND AWAY— Delta's Robert Harris makes a play in the win May 11 over HHC 59th.



## More troops sought on post golf course

Sports organizers seek better participation

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@himes.com

Golf is part of the troop sports landscape, too, so spread the word.

Soldiers and Marines turn out to play softball on their unit teams. But the numbers in golf are down, and the sports organizers want to see that change.

"We really would like to see more people participate in the golf tournament this year," sports director Gaylene Wilson said during a golf-softball meeting Thursday at

Pagano Gym.

The unit scramble, with points counting toward the Commanders Cup, is June 3 with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course. Rosters for four-member teams are due by May 25 at Pagano. The individual championship is June 4-5.

To get more active-duty military involved in golf, training events are held every other Friday at 1 p.m. at the post golf course. The first such session May 6 drew 30 participants.

"(Golf) is so much fun, it's so gratifying just to go out there and do it," Chief Warrant Officer Alfred Kelly, of Delta Company, said. Working with golf course assistant manager Brenda Bryson, he conducts the training with Jason Langley of the golf course.

They teach golf basics and etiquette for the first 30 minutes and

then take the novice golfers for nine holes of play. For nine holes, cost is \$6 for the cart, \$9 to play and \$10 for rental clubs. If interested call Kelly at 955-0992 or the golf course 883-7977.

For troop softball, the preseason tournament begins June 6 at Linton Field. Team rosters are due by noon May 26 at Pagano.

"We're working on the fields right now," Wilson said. "Linton Field is in fairly good shape."

The regular season should start about the second week of June and conclude by August with a postseason tournament to follow. Like last year, the troop All-Stars will play their NASA counterparts in a postseason game at Linton Field.

Delta Company is defending champion in both golf and softball.



## Sports & Recreation

### Ten-miler tryouts

Team Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. June 25 and July 9 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team is to have six military – including active duty, National Guard and Reserves – and four civilian members. The 21st annual race is Oct. 2 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

### Bowling challenge

Want to get back at the Provost Marshal Office? The office issues a bowling challenge to any Redstone team – military, civilian or contractor – as a fund-raiser for Army Emergency Relief. Five-member teams are preferred but smaller groups are also welcome. “Males, females, mixed – it doesn’t matter. And it’s all for a good cause, AER donations,” organizer Lee Henry said. For more information and to sign up a bowling team, call Henry 876-4285 or Lt. Kenny Renew 876-2222.

### Summer sports camps

Child and Youth Services SKIES Unlimited offers many sports summer camps for the Redstone community youth. The Basketball Camp is May 31 to June 3 or July 18-21. The Sunshine Dance Camp is June 6-10 or June 20-24. The Tennis Camp is June 6-10 or July 18-22. Cheerleading Camp is June 13-17 or June 27 to July 1. Volleyball Camp for ninth through 12th-graders is June 16-18. Volleyball Camp for fourth through eighth-graders is July 7-9. Kicks Soccer Camp is June 20-24 or July 11-15. Softball Camp is July 25-28. There will also be a Baseball Summer Camp offered and the dates are to be determined. Any child participating in a summer sport camp must have a valid sports physical completed prior to registration. If your child is attending the CYS Summer Camp Child Care program, transportation will be provided to and from camp. Registration deadline is one week before each camp begins. For more information, call 313-3701.

### Summer bike ride

Summer Evening Bike Ride, sponsored

by the Spring Cycling Club, will be held at 6:30 p.m. June 7 in conjunction with Test Week 2005. This event is free. Download an application from the web site [www.rocketcity-itea.org](http://www.rocketcity-itea.org) or call Sherry Hilley 842-6715 for more information.

### Golf tournament

Test Week 2005 Golf Tournament will be held at Cherokee Ridge, June 6 at 11:30 a.m., shotgun scramble. Fee is \$75; and hole sponsorships are available for \$150. View the web site [www.rocketcity-itea.org](http://www.rocketcity-itea.org) for more information or call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

### Stars baseball

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a night out with the Huntsville Stars on May 21 at Joe Davis Stadium when the Stars play the Chattanooga Lookouts at 7:05 p.m. To receive free CWFC general admission tickets, contact your organization’s CWFC representative. An online list of each organization’s representative is available on the council’s web site at [https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/cwfc/01\\_01](https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/cwfc/01_01). For more information, call Don Clark 722-1035.

### Soccer registration

AYSO Region 160 registration for the fall and spring seasons is now open. Boys and girls age 4 through 18 (age on July 31) are eligible to play. Both girls and coed teams are available in all age groups. Practice will begin Aug 8. Practice and most games will be at John Hunt and Merrimack parks in Huntsville. Cost is \$65 per player through June 30 or \$75 starting July 1. Go to [www.ayso160.org](http://www.ayso160.org) or call 539-6852 for registration instructions or more information.

### Post swimming passes

Swimming pool passes are on sale. Passes can be purchased at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 or Outdoor Recreation, building 5132. Family passes are \$60 and individual passes \$45. For E-4 and below, family passes are \$50 and individual passes \$35. Daily swimming passes are \$3. There is a Morale Welfare and Recreation membership discount of \$3 off an individual pass or \$5 off a family pass. For more information on pool passes or swimming lessons, call 876-4868.



Photo by Lira Frye

## New look

Police and security vehicles will soon sport new, updated graphics. More easily recognizable by the public, the graphics align with those used by civilian law enforcement. Provost marshal Lt. Col. Brad Scofield says the decision to change the graphics coincides with upgrading DES’s vehicle fleet. “We don’t want people to get confused,” he says. “There’s no difference in the way we’re doing business, our vehicles just look different.” Scofield plans to have the graphics placed on all 26 vehicles within the next three weeks. Officer Jerry Baker, left, and security guard Clarence Jacobs talk near vehicles with the new graphics.

### Football officials

North Alabama Football Officials Association is recruiting officials for the 2005 season. No experience necessary. For more information, call William Hogue 828-4448.

### Post golf championship

For active duty military only, the unit scramble is June 3 and post championship June 4-5 at Redstone Golf Course. For more information and to sign up, call sports director Gaylene Wilson 842-2574.

### Bike rides

Upcoming bike rides include a “Ride of Silence,” Thursday night at 7, a nationally scheduled six-mile ride to remember persons killed in bike accidents, meet at East Clinton School, 805 Clinton Ave., for information call Dave Stone 705-9682; National Bike to Work Day, Friday, meet at 7 a.m. at the parking lot by Becky Pierce Municipal Golf Course on Airport Road for a nine-mile ride to work, for information call Janie Miernik 544-6534; and a Tour d’Arsenal, Friday at 5 p.m.,

meet at NASA Fitness Center on Digney and Morris roads at Marshall Space Flight Center, for information call Miernik.

### Cheerleaders golf tournament

The Grissom S/W Cheerleaders will host their inaugural golf tournament June 17 at 7:30 a.m. (shotgun start) at the Redstone Golf Course. Fee is \$85 per person (\$70 if RSA golf member). Fees include cart, practice balls, green fees, snack, lunch, two mulligans, a power drive and door prizes. Special drawings will be held for a number of items (not part of the entry fee). For more information, e-mail [regis-terghs@comcast.net](mailto:regis-terghs@comcast.net).



## Conferences & Meetings

### Men singers

The Rocket City Chorus, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Aldersgate

See Announcements on page 19

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.

#### Air Force association

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association invites all former and any present Air Force members, reservists or ANG to the Firehouse Pub for an informal gathering on the last Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. "AFA membership is not required to participate and we encourage anyone who has worn the blue suit to stop by and enjoy the camaraderie," a prepared release said. For information call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m.

#### Test week

The Defense Test Resource Management Center will sponsor Test Week 2005, "The Major Range and Test Facility Base: How Should It Transform to Meet the Needs of the Warfighter?" June 6-9 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. Registration fee

is \$325 for all attendees. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

#### Utility helicopter users

The Utility Helicopters Project Management Office will host the Black Hawk International Users' Conference Sept. 27-29 in Dallas. The host hotel will be The Westin Park Central Hotel, Highway 635 and Coit Road, Dallas, TX 75251. Registration will start Sept. 26 from 3-5 p.m. in the Westin Hotel lobby. The objective of this conference is to provide the current status of the Army UH-60 Black Hawk fleet; future planning for UH-60 Black Hawk; available transition programs to upgrade existing users' UH-60/S70 aircraft; and other issues of interest to both current and potential utility helicopter international users. Commercial vendors will be available with displays and information on their companies. Everyone must pre-register to attend the conference. Forms must be submitted by July 18 to the Utility Helicopters Project Management Office, SFAE-AV-UH-B (Donica Richmond or Richard Pryke), Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898. For pre-registration forms and more information, call Richmond or Pryke 313-8067 or 876-9019.

#### Industry briefing

Advance Planning Briefing for Industry is scheduled July 19-20 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The APBI is of primary interest to industrial executives; advance system

See **Announcements** on page 20



Courtesy photo

## Out of this world

International student Master Sgt. Mokhles Smairi from Tunisia learns how space travelers survive in space at this display at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. The International Military Student Office took nine international soldiers and two family members on a field studies program trip to the space museum May 5. Soldiers were from Korea, Philippines, Taiwan, Greece, Egypt, Tunisia, Botswana and Jamaica.

planners; directors of research, development, engineering and production; and to those concerned with the formulation of corporate, long-range objectives. As part of a continuing effort to keep industry well informed of the Army's long-range development objectives and goals, the Aviation and Missile Command and Team Redstone conduct these unclassified annual briefings. Registration is on a space-available basis due to the seating constraints. Be sure to register early. The APBI web site is <http://apbi.redstone.army.mil>.

## Federally employed women

North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will meet Thursday at 11:15 a.m. in the Regimental Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Dorothy Tiller from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. The buffet line can be used for those eating lunch. For more information, call Donna Rigsby 313-3021 or Juanita Sales-Lee 955-4521.

## Officers association

Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting May 25 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Chaplain (Maj.) Jerzy "Father George" Rzasowski, recently returned from Afghanistan, is to speak on the role of the chaplain in today's Army. The chapter's informal monthly breakfast is May 28 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and

former officers and their spouses and widows are invited. For more information, call retired Air Force Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

## System safety

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the System Safety Society will hold a lunchtime meeting today at 11:15 at SAIC, 6725 Odyssey Drive. David West of SAIC is scheduled speaker. Pizza will be provided. RSVP to [david.b.west@saic.com](mailto:david.b.west@saic.com) if you wish to attend. For more information, call Dave West 313-2091.



## Miscellaneous

### 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 Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-5390.

## 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](http://www.cpol.army.mil) for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

## Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to [www.gsaauctions.gov](http://www.gsaauctions.gov), search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

## 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. The shop is accepting spring and summer items. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call 881-6992.

## 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 person-

nel, 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.

## Enlisted scholarships

The Huntsville Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association has a number of scholarship opportunities available for undergraduates and graduates. Scholarships are available for military personnel, working students and students enrolled in SROTC. For more information, go to <http://www.afcea.org/scholarships>.

## Car wash benefit

The Evening Optimist Club will hold its annual car wash to benefit the Youth of Huntsville, May 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lee's Magic Tunnel Car Wash, 2318 Memorial Parkway southwest. Cost is \$7 for wash and sealer wax (\$13.50 value). In case of rain, the event would be held June 5. For information or tickets, call Bob Allen 772-5966.

## Workers' compensation session

The Injury Compensation Office, in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, will conduct a Workers' Compensation information session at request. If your organization wishes to schedule a session at your location choice, call Debra Hammond 842-9038 or Kim Stoufer 876-5294.

## PX sales

The Post Exchange will hold a Lighting Bazaar through May 23, and an Oriental Rug Bazaar through Thursday.

## Scholarship offers

"If you are a high school student or a parent of a high school student, we have a wonderful resource for you; it's a huge listing of scholarship and financial aid web sites," says Pam Berry, youth education support services director. "It's not too late to plan for those exciting college years." If you would like these listings, call Berry 876-7801 or e-mail [pam.berry@redstone.army.mil](mailto:pam.berry@redstone.army.mil).

See **Announcements** on page 21

### **Festival performers**

The Big Spring Jam Music Festival is calling on local and regional music acts to apply to perform at this year's event scheduled Sept. 23-25 at Big Spring Park in Huntsville. Submissions will be accepted until Sunday and must include a music sample and biography sheet. Acts that have previously applied or performed are required to resubmit the music sample and bio. The mailing address for the materials is: Lindsey Jennings, c/o DJ Promotions Inc., 2120 Metro Circle, Huntsville, AL 35801.

### **Military pay update**

The Military Pay Office is requesting that all Reserve Component Soldiers called to active duty in support of Contingency Operations schedule an appointment with the local office to recertify their Basic Allowance for Housing zip code. Appointments can be scheduled by calling Lito Valencia 876-7822. "This matter is of the utmost importance as it may affect the amount of BAH a Soldier receives (in most cases an increase and back pay are due)," a prepared release said. For more information call Sonya Morris, military pay chief, 876-1379.

### **Aeronautical classes**

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is now registering for the summer term, May 31 to Aug. 1. Classes offered include Aircraft Maintenance Management; Applications in Crew Resource Management; Macroeconomics; Management of Production and Operations; and Satellite and Spacecraft Systems. 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, and Space Studies. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is May 27. Call 876-9763, visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222; contact the web site at <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>; or e-mail [huntsville.center@erau.edu](mailto:huntsville.center@erau.edu) for more information. Appointments may also be made to receive a free unofficial evaluation of transfer credit/credit for prior military service.

### **Master's degree**

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is now offering a Master of Science in Management program on Redstone Arsenal. Students applying for admission to the Master of

Science in Management may choose from specializations in Management of Integrated Logistics; Aviation/Aerospace Industrial Management; Air Transportation Management; Aviation and Aerospace Security; Aviation Enterprises in a Global Environment; and a General Management Option. Courses will be offered in nine-week terms starting in August, and are available online as well. For more information visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222.

### **Calhoun summer classes**

Calhoun Community College, Redstone Arsenal Extension, announces summer 2005 registration for eight-week sessions beginning May 31. Registration continues through May 25, 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. Courses are open to all area residents. Calhoun, fully accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, is a Servicemembers Opportunity College offering a VA approved curriculum. Academic advising is available for active duty members of the military, and special degree programs are offered for qualified servicemembers. Call 876-7431 for more information, or visit Calhoun's web site at [www.calhoun.edu](http://www.calhoun.edu) and click on Schedule Summer 2005 for course listings. Calhoun is in building 3343 on Little John Drive.

### **Identification cards**

The Identification Card issuing section of the Military Personnel Division, building 3494, will be closed May 30 (Memorial Day) and June 1-2. The closure June 1-2 is due to the Department of Defense upgrading the computers in the section. During this period, there will be no ID cards issued or DEERS functions available. The section will resume normal operations June 3 at 7:30 a.m.

### **Resumix training**

A Resumix training session is scheduled 10-11:30 a.m. May 26 at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. The session is open to the military community. Military spouses and veterans are encouraged to call ACS 876-5397 to reserve a seat. This session will provide information on the federal application process and the Resumix system. It's an opportunity for you to ask questions and have them answered by a subject matter expert from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

### **Best yards**

Here are the Yard of the Month winners for May: troop area – Marines Detachment, building 3412. Area 1 – Staff Sgt.

Esteban Aguilar, 504-A Walnut Circle. Area 2 – Sgt. 1st Class John Peters, 1034 Hof Circle. Area 3 – Maj. William Taylor, 23 Ripley Drive. Area 4 – Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Lade, 642 Dyer Circle. Area 4A – Staff Sgt. Joseph Pearce, 602 Wesson Circle. Area 5 – Warrant Officer Robby Hoskins, 430 Skinner Drive. Area 10A – Staff Sgt. Marc Compton, 474-A Tripp Drive. Area 10B – Lt. Col. Brad Scofield, 488 Cooke Drive.

### **Association picnic**

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold a picnic noon Saturday in Hartselle at the Sparkman Civic Center in the walking area at pavilion number 1. For information and to RSVP by Thursday, call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

### **Astronomical society**

Von Braun Astronomical Society will have a program 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the VBAS planetarium on Monte Sano. Astronomer Rob Suggs remembers NASA's probes that set out to seek new looks at Earth's sister planets and their moons. If the skies are clear, a star party will follow the presentation. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 6-11. For more information, call planetarium director Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

### **Job vacancies**

The following jobs are available: procurement analyst (instructor) NH-III (GS-12/13) closing date June 3, with vacancy

announcement numbers NCAS05589212 and NCAS05589212D. These jobs are posted on the Civilian Personnel Online (CPOL) web site at [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil). People selected for these jobs will be assigned to the Army Logistics Management College-Huntsville campus. This is a satellite campus of the Army Logistics Management College, headquartered at Fort Lee, Va.

### **PX holiday hours**

The Post Exchange will observe the following hours Memorial Day, May 30: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; barber, closed; GNC, closed; mall barbershop, closed; cellular service, closed; all other concessions, closed; furniture store, closed; one-stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; service station, closed; Burger King, closed; military clothing, closed; barber shop, 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.

### **Latin dance**

The Alabama Hispanic Association will hold the "Tropical Fiesta" Latin dance May 28 at 8 p.m. at the Senior Center Auditorium, 2200 Drake Ave. The free Merengue and Salsa group dance lesson is 8-9 p.m. Music will be provided by disc jockey Signey Hernandez. Admission is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are available until May 27 at La Michoacana Grocery Store, 2007 University Drive, phone 532-0266.

# 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
<b>AS OF 13 MAY 05</b>																			
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																			
SCBK05543219	General Engineer	18-May-05	ACQ Support Ctr	GS-0801	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05543219D	General Engineer	18-May-05	ACQ Support Ctr	GS-0801	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05526079	Contract Specialist	19-May-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-1102	13	13	72,035 - 93,643	X											
MD-DHL-05-3597	Medical Officer (Psychiatry)	19-May-05	MEDICAL DEPT.	GS-0602	14	14	93,973 - 116,833	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05561624R	Program Support Assistant (OA)	19-May-05	IMMC	GS-0301	7	11	34,363 - 66,115	X											
NEAI05578955	Equipment Specialist (Electronics)	20-May-05	TYAD	GS-1670	7	11	50,858 - 66,115		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	
NEAI05578955D	Equipment Specialist (Electronics)	20-May-05	TYAD	GS-1670	7	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05518799	Contract Specialist	23-May-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-1102	12	12	60,955 - 79,238		X				X		X				X
SCBK05513684	Electronics Engineer	23-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK05513684D	Electronics Engineer	23-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05569667	Medical Support Assistant (Office Automation)	23-May-05	MEDDAC	GS-0679	5	5	27,742 - 36,069	X	X										
SCBK05564817	Equipment Specialist (General)	24-May-05	IMMC	GS-1670	11	11	50,858 - 66,115		X										
NEAE0552965	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	24-May-05	LOGSA	GS-0346	12	12	60,966 - 79,238						X		X	X		X	
SCBK05565266	Supv Supply Systems Analyst	24-May-05	IMMC	NH-2003	4	4	85,656 - 130,988		X										
SCBK05535229R	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X		X			X		X	X		X	
SCBK05535229D	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05535299D	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05535237R	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X		X			X		X	X		X	
SCBK05535237D	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05559641	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229			X			X		X	X		X	
SCBK05559641D	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05559743	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229			X			X		X	X		X	
SCBK05559743D	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05565924	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	26-May-05	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X											
SCBK05561892	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	26-May-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229		X										
SCBK05564845	Program Integrator	27-May-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0301	3	3	60,955 - 94,229		X		X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK05564845D	Program Integrator	27-May-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0301	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05569175	Contract Specialist	2-Jun-05	ACQ CTR	GS-1102	11	11	50,858 - 66,115			X			X		X	X		X	
SCBK05553761	Computer Engineer	3-Jun-05	RDECOM	DB-0854	4	4	85,656 - 130,988		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK05553761D	Computer Engineer	3-Jun-05	RDECOM	DB-0854	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05569173	Supv Contract Specialist	9-Jun-05	ACQ CTR	NH-1102	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X				X		X	X		X	
SCBK05569173D	Supv Contract Specialist	9-Jun-05	ACQ CTR	NH-1102	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05566467	Army Oil Analysis Program Resource Spec.	13-Jun-05	LOGSA	GS-0301	13	13	72,486 - 94,229		X										
SCBK05511963OC	Materials Engineer	29-Jun-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK05377091OC	Safety and Occ Health Specialist	9-Aug-05	CofE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	50,858 - 66,115		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	

**THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV**

SCBK05543219D	General Engineer	18-May-05	ACQ Support Ctr	GS-0801	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAI05578955D	Equipment Specialist (Electronics)	20-May-05	TYAD	GS-1670	7	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05559641D	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05535229D	CBRNE Operations Specialist	25-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05559743D	Safety Engineer	25-May-05	Safety Office	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05564845D	Program Integrator	27-May-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0301	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05553761D	Computer Engineer	3-Jun-05	RDECOM	DB-0854	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05569173D	Supv Contract Specialist	9-Jun-05	ACQ CTR	NH-1102	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

**WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)**

- A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.**
- B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).**
- C - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).**
- D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)**
- E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)**
- F - All Federal Employees**
- H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)**
- I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)**
- R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)**
- T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)**
- V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).**
- U - All U.S. citizens**

**NOTE:** If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

**NOTE:** The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) or you may telephone **876-7772**.

Resumes are now being accepted for **AMC Fellows** and **Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee**. Visit [www.amccareers.com](http://www.amccareers.com) or [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil), search for **Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647**, for more information.