

# Redstone Rocket

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May 25, 2005

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# Post commander assures workers

BRAC recommendations expected to bring change

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

If you don't want to move, you won't have to.

That was the assurance Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, gave members of the work force at a town hall meeting May 17 in the Sparkman Center courtyard. He addressed the Defense Department's recommendations to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

"There's going to be every action taken to ensure as spaces depart Redstone, faces do not," Pillsbury said.

Redstone stands to gain about 1,650 jobs under the recommendations but some positions, particularly military, are proposed to leave for other installations. The BRAC Commission will review and possibly change some defense recommendations; and the commission presents its recommendations to the president in early September.

See Assurances on page 5



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**QUESTIONS POSED**— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, listens to a question during the town hall in Sparkman Center courtyard.

# Army Emergency Relief campaign tops \$100K



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**MILITARY SUPPORT**— Northrop Grumman local site director Harry Quandt presents a \$5,000 check to AER campaign chairman Maj. Dave Bailey. From left looking on are Tom Douglas, vice president for business development for Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems Sector from Baltimore; senior representative Jim Henderson; and Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone.

Defense company gift lifts drive over mark

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Buoyed with community-wide support, the annual AER campaign has again exceeded its goal with money still coming in until the end of the month.

The fund-raising drive topped \$100,000 on May 17 with a \$5,000 contribution from Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems Sector.

"We cannot think of a better way to spend community relations money than to help our Soldiers," Northrop Grumman senior representative Jim Henderson said. Company officials presented the check to AER campaign chairman Maj. Dave

Bailey in the post commander's conference room at the Sparkman Center.

"This puts us over \$100,000," Bailey said.

Harry Quandt, local site director for Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems in Huntsville, made the presentation. "We like to do whatever we can for the men and women in uniform," he said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, expressed his appreciation. Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems Sector has contributed for the past decade.

The AER campaign opened March 1 and continued through May 15 with an \$85,000 goal. "One Nation – One Army – One Organization" is the slogan.

See Goal on page 5

*Letters to the Editor*

# An open lane random survey

*What challenges face today's high school graduates?*

By **KELLEY LANE**  
Staff writer  
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



**Dan Thibodeau**  
contractor  
"I would like to see them get engaged in more community activities. Finding a way to give back to the community is a challenge."

**Pvt. Jonathon Pigott**  
"Finding a good job. Without a college degree you won't find a good-paying job that you can live on."



**Carolyn Perry**  
retiree spouse  
"Continuing their education — usually now, a high school diploma is not enough. If you aren't computer literate, you are left at the gate. You can only get low-paying jobs."

**Pvt. Bobbie Jo Cockrell**  
"Teenagers don't know what they want to do. They don't know if they want to go to college. They don't know if they want to work. They don't know if they want to go to Florida and party. They need to find themselves."



## Quote of the week

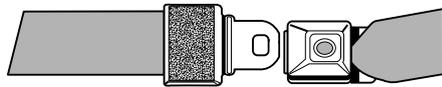
**'Y**ou can't hold a man down without staying down with him.'  
— Booker T. Washington

# Buckle up for your own good

**W**hile safety belts are proven to reduce the risk of serious injury or death in a crash by 45 percent in a car, for pickup trucks and SUVs, the risk reduction is as much as 60 percent, yet new national data show safety belt use is far lower among pickup truck occupants.

Because of the false sense of security that driving and riding in large vehicles can provide, Redstone Arsenal drivers put themselves at risk by not wearing their safety belts. If the threat of serious injury or death doesn't motivate them to buckle up, perhaps a reminder from one of our many scheduled safety checkpoint operations will.

From May 23 through June 5, the Directorate of Emergency Services



will join more than 11,000 law enforcement agencies across the country to crack down on safety belt violations as part of the national Click It or Ticket mobilization. We will conduct safety belt checks at various locations across the installation and the gates and this will occur throughout Redstone Arsenal for the entire two-week period. The enforcement wave will be supported by a national and state advertising campaign, some specifically targeted at pickup truck occupants.

In Alabama and on Redstone Arsenal, buckling up can save you a ticket — and save your life.

**Lt. Col. Brad Scofield**  
Emergency services director

# I spy on traffic wrongdoers

**I** have always enjoyed reading your open lane survey, but I think I have a different angle to it. As we all have an inner child within us, I suggest you create a new column called "I Spied." Although childish, we have all, and still do when we go to parties, played charades and "I spy." "I spy something big and orange" — is it an Auburn, Tennessee or Florida fan? — but I digress, I'm an Alabama fan.

Tell your readers that if they want to help RSA and have some fun while doing it, just join in on the new column. It would require a phone with voice messaging or e-mail, but anonymity is a must.

RSA patrons can call in and report: While driving down Rideout Road, May 18 at approximately 6:15 a.m., I spied a Rocket scientist in a Red BMW license plate BLT4SPD (Built for Speed) driving in excess of the 55 mph posting. I know this to be true, except the Rocket scientist, as I was driving 75 (no, no just kidding I was doing 54.9 mph) when he passed me like I was sitting still.

I spied the driver of a '67 sky blue Nova throwing a cigarette butt from his window on Martin Road.

I spied a green Ram Tough Dodge Truck Ram Head Emblem, as that is all I could see, as it was tailgating me on Nike Road.

Or my all-time favorite, I spied that yellor Ford 150 as it cut me off without a sign, no, not that sign, the blinker or technically called the turn signal.

You get the point. Tell the readers to have fun, but be safe and keep it clean.

I think it would be fun as well as tell offenders that their wrongdoings are seen and not appreciated. Just read the article "Note to Mr. Hit and Run"; but if someone sees a wrongdoing, do they want to risk a punch in the nose for bringing it to the offender's attention?

Oh yeah, no reports by cell phone as you drive on RSA or someone might report "I spied."

I'm game!

**Ricky E. Terrell**  
retired command sergeant major

# Security shouldn't be bypassed

**I** saw in the newspaper that the anticipated increase in personnel due to the BRAC would accelerate the schedule for the "Southern Bypass" which is planned to include a section across the northeastern corner of Redstone Arsenal. I had heard that after 9/11 that section of the road was to be rerouted off the Arsenal. Is the road still planned to cross that currently secure portion of the Arsenal? Will it allow unrestricted passage through the Arsenal or will new guard posts be set up to limit the traffic to approved vehicles and people? The map in the newspaper indicated that the road would pass near some of the most valuable terrorist targets on the Arsenal. Even if no exit ramps are in that area, is it safe to allow unregulated traffic so close to the Sparkman Center, or the new AMC and SMDC headquarters?

**James Carver**

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The 9/11 incident did not alter the route of the Southern Bypass; however, it did cause us to reduce the number of interchanges that were proposed on Redstone. As of now, three interchanges are planned on Redstone, i.e. East Martin Road (Gate 1), Toftoy and Rideout Road.*

*"The route across the Arsenal has not changed from the beginning in 1992. The only change that has been made to this roadway is the plan to make it part of the Memphis to Atlanta Interstate Roadway. This action required some additional lanes and the redesign of the interchange at I-565 which is off the Arsenal.*

*"The roadway will be open to all traffic but, any vehicle that exits the interstate will pass through a Redstone gate and will be subject to our entry requirement that may be in effect at the time.*

*"It is true that the interstate will cross Redstone close to Sparkman and Von Braun Center and many other major buildings in Research Park as well as buildings in other areas along the route from Atlanta to Memphis."*

## Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

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# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**May 12:** Two individuals became involved in a verbal altercation which turned physical. The subject was apprehended and transported to the police station and the victim was transported to Crestwood Hospital and treated for minor injuries. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**May 12:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 15:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and in possession of false documents during a vehicle inspection at Gate 10. Further investigation revealed that he was operating a vehicle with no driver's license. He was issued three violation notices and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

**May 15:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 16:** An individual was found to be

operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

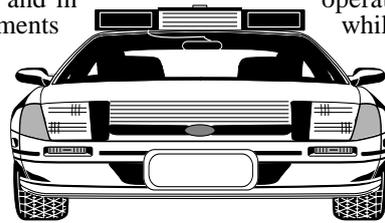
**May 18:** An individual reported that someone broke the front glass out of a vending machine in the barracks. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**May 18:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 8. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 18:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

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

**Violation notices issued:** 8 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 3 driving under the influence of alcohol, 3 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 expired tags, 1 unleashed pet, 1 following too close, 1 driving with no driver's license.



# Month observance celebrates Asian/Pacific Americans

Program slated Thursday at Rocket Auditorium

By Sgt. 1st Class MONIQUE MIXON  
Garrison equal opportunity adviser

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month promotes awareness and appreciation and increases understanding of the diverse cultures and experiences of Asian/Pacific Americans. In addition, this month celebrates the historical contributions and collective accomplishments of Asian/Pacific Americans to the development of the United States.

Surpassing contributions and accomplishments of Asian/Pacific Americans are evident in areas of arts and humanities, business and economy, education, entertainment, government, health and science, news and media, politics, sports, technology and the armed forces.

In May 1990, former president George H.W. Bush expanded this ethnic observance from a week celebration by designating the entire month of May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. This month was selected to commemorate two significant events in history: the immigration of Japanese to the United States in May 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in May 1869.

Most of the workers who constructed the railroad were Chinese immigrants.

Asian/Pacific American is a political name that attempts to give expression to cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity while recognizing common historical experiences in American history. The Asian/Pacific Americans' distinct and dynamic cultures encompass a multitude of different ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages, dialects, religions and national origins. The many diverse ethnic groups that comprise the Asian/Pacific American community include, but are not limited to, Chinese Americans, Japanese Americans, Korean Americans, Vietnamese Americans, Filipino Americans, Asian Indian Americans, Laotian Americans, Hawaiian Americans, Samoan Americans and Thai Americans.

This year's national theme is "Liberty and Freedom for All."

Team Redstone's Cultural Awareness Committee invites the community to the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Program at 10 a.m. Thursday at Rocket Auditorium, building 7120. The keynote speaker is city councilman Glenn Watson. The program will include cultural dance performances and static display and essay theme awards. For more information, call Gladys Lee at 876-5844.

# Understanding BRAC one question at a time

Local web link offers answers

By KIM HENRY

Staff writer

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It has often been said that there are no dumb questions, only the ones that are not asked.

With the recent announcement of the Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure recommendations, employees may have several questions. Team Redstone wants to help provide

answers to those questions.

There is now a link for employees to access local BRAC information. It is located at <http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil/brac.asp>. Employees can access the local BRAC link from Redstone's public sites including Team Redstone, Garrison, AMCOM and PAO home pages. The link can also be accessed from the Garrison, AMCOM and PAO Intranet sites.

This link will provide employees the opportunity to submit their questions and have them answered. There will also be a Frequently Asked Questions section compiled of other employees' questions and answers for all to see.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED— Employees can link to the new local BRAC information site to submit a question about BRAC.

# Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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**Name:** Greg Neal

**Job:** Cost analyst (a pre-internship program hire), Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office

**Where do you call home?**  
Union Grove, Ala.

**What do you like about your job?**

People. Meeting new people, working with people. And the experience that I'm gaining.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I like racquetball. I work with youth groups and stuff like that. Actually, I'm engaged so all my spare time now is



spent planning the wedding (in May 2006).

**What are your goals?**

To go wherever God calls me.

# Leader development cycle set into motion at command



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**TOP EMPHASIS—** Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, addresses the command's senior executives Thursday.

## Storm water permit requires awareness

A new permit has been issued to Redstone Arsenal by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. What is different about this permit is that it requires your involvement.

This new permit will cover all non-industrial/community activities in the northern portion of the Arsenal including Family Housing, Golf Course, Chapel, Post Exchange and other facilities. The permit is intended to improve surface water quality by preventing pollutants from being carried into the storm water systems during heavy rain events.

Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways and parking lots, pesticides from lawns and sediment from construction sites. It also includes antifreeze and carelessly discarded trash, such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers and plastic bottles. When deposited carelessly, these pollutants can impair the waterways. Recreational

use of water resources is impaired. Drinking water supplies are contaminated and habitat is degraded for fish, other aquatic organisms and wildlife.

The permit requires Garrison to interact and educate everyone on Redstone about the impacts of their actions on the environment; specifically it requires education and promotion of storm water environmental awareness.

There are four control measures that Redstone must comply with: Public Education & Outreach, Public Involvement, Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination, and Pollution Prevention & Good House Keeping Practices.

As members of the Redstone community, your participation is important not only for the success of fulfilling the new permit requirement but in keeping Redstone a little bit greener. *(Garrison release)*

The Aviation and Missile Command wants to ensure that its civilian leaders of today can be replaced in the future.

On Thursday the command kicked off the AMCOM Leader Development Life Cycle, an ongoing program designed to prepare members of the work force for leadership positions which will become vacant through retirement and attrition.

"We as a work force do a phenomenal job of training our employees at the functional work level," Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, said. "I don't think we're giving the same

emphasis to leadership development."

And that's what this program is designed to address. "It's about growing the next generation of leaders," Amos said.

Tim Grey, director of human resources, outlined parts of the program: AMCOM Leadership Model, staff rides, competitive developmental assignments, Leader Investment for Tomorrow (LIFT level 1 and level 2), and Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders.

"What we really want to try to do is develop individuals," he said.

## Johnson takes reins of technical test center

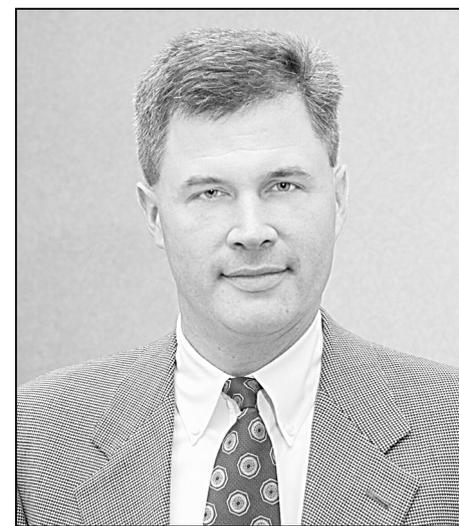
James B. Johnson officially assumed the Redstone Technical Test Center director position Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Johnson entered federal service in 1987 upon graduating from the University of Alabama-Huntsville with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He received his master's in systems engineering from UAH in 1992. He will receive a master's in strategic studies from the Army War College in July. He is a graduate of the Army Management Staff College and the Advanced Program Management Course. He is Level III certified in test and evaluation, program management, and systems planning, research, development and engineering.

Johnson was assigned to the Research Development and Engineering Center's Test and Evaluation Directorate, which was later realigned as the Redstone Technical Test Center under the Developmental Test Command. He served as chief engineer of RTTC's Radar Systems Group and later as team leader of the Radar Systems Group. In this capacity, he was responsible for radar testing, hardware-in-the-loop testing, and RTTC's High Performance Computing Systems.

In 2001 Johnson moved to the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office, an element of the DoD Missile Defense Agency. Initially he was responsible for GMD sensor test interfaces. In 2002 he was appointed chief of the test products division of the Test, Training and Exercise Capability Product Office. His division was responsible for development of the GMD hardware-in-the-loop simulation framework.

In 2003 he was appointed deputy product manager of the TTEC Product Office. In concert with the PM, Johnson was responsible for life-cycle manage-



Courtesy photo

**James B. Johnson**

ment of the GMD warfighter training program, test and simulation infrastructure development, and laboratory operation and maintenance. In 2004 he was appointed chief of the GMD Test Operations Division. In this capacity, he was responsible for all aspects of GMD flight tests, national range coordination, hardware-in-the-loop tests, and operational site checkouts.

Johnson's awards include the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service (two-time recipient), the DTC Edward H. Gamble Award for best technical paper, the TECOM Professional Certificate, the AMRDEC Extraordinary Performance Award, and a U.S. patent for design of a radar target generator.

Charlie Crocker received the Superior Civilian Service award Thursday for recent service as the acting director of the Redstone Technical Test Center.

# Apache helicopter receives improved sight

## Arrowhead system deemed eye opener

ORLANDO, Fla. – On behalf of Team Apache Systems, Lockheed Martin ceremonially delivered its first Modernized Target Acquisition and Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor, also known as Arrowhead, for the AH-64 Apache helicopter to the Army May 10 during the Army Aviation Association of America's national convention in Orlando.

The Lockheed Martin Arrowhead system was presented to Army Apache project manager Col. Ralph Pallotta by Tom Simmons, vice president, Fire Control for Lockheed Martin. More than 300 attendees were on hand for the ceremony, including Army dignitaries, Team Apache Systems subcontractors and Lockheed Martin employees who contributed to the success of the program.

"Today is a great day for the Army, for Army aviation and for our Apache warfighters as we receive the first Modernized TADS/PNVS — a capability that we have needed for a long time," said Lt. Col. Shane Openshaw, Army Apache sensors product manager. "M-TADS/PNVS delivers dramatically improved performance, reliability and maintainability,

ensuring Apache remains a relevant and ready capability for our Army. With M-TADS/PNVS, Apaches will be better able to get to the fight and will be able to see and engage the enemy at ranges that are unheard of today. The Apache is the best attack helicopter in the world and we just made it better. This roll-out marks the end of a tremendous effort to develop and produce the first system, and it marks the beginning of a new effort to get it fielded as quickly as possible. On behalf of the Apache aviators deployed around the world, I am deeply thankful for the outstanding team of professionals that developed and built the 'new eyes of Apache.'"

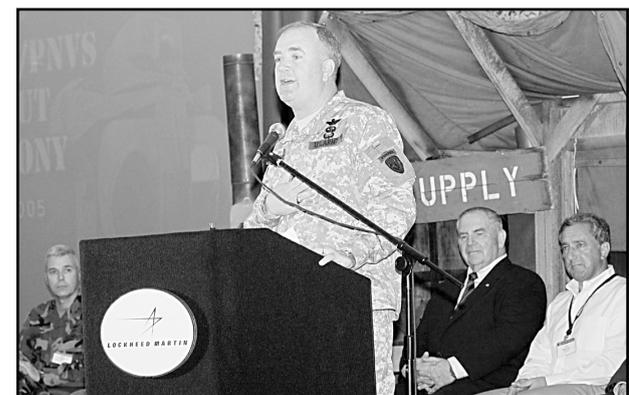
"Today's delivery provides clear evidence that the Team Apache Systems (Lockheed Martin/Boeing)-Army team continues to make significant progress towards equipping the first Army aviation unit with Arrowhead," Simmons said. "Attack helicopter missions require extraordinary targeting and navigation capability as well as reliability to meet their defining moments. We will continue to work diligently to help Army aviation be successful in its mission to get into the battle area, find, target and defeat hostile forces and return safely."

Henry Jacobsen, president of Team Apache Systems, called the Arrowhead pro-

gram a "great example of teamwork between the Boeing Company and Lockheed Martin."

"Lockheed has produced an outstanding product in the Arrowhead, which Boeing, as prime contractor for the Apache, has successfully integrated into the Apache weapon system," he said. "Through Team Apache Systems, we've made it all work very effectively."

Lockheed Martin's Arrowhead kit provides an advanced electro-optical targeting and pilotage system to Apache crews that will maximize safe flight in day, night and adverse-weather environments. Arrowhead continues a 20-year legacy of serving as the eyes of the Army's AH-64 Apache attack helicopter with the first fielding of the current TADS/PNVS in 1983. Arrowhead's newly designed forward-looking infrared sensors use cutting-edge image processing techniques to give pilots the best possible resolution to avoid obstacles such as wires and tree limbs during low-level flight. The roll-out of the first Arrowhead kit in an M-TADS system under the Lot 1 contract comes almost 23 years to the day of signing the first TADS/PNVS production contract. Several retired officers from the



Courtesy of Lockheed Martin

**SYSTEM ON TARGET**—Brig. Gen. Edward Sinclair, commander of Army Aviation Center and aviation branch chief, praises the Arrowhead system during the roll-out ceremony May 10 in Orlando.

1983 contract signing were present May 10 to witness the second generation fielding of the original system.

Arrowhead improves performance and reliability of the legacy TADS system by more than 150 percent, reduces maintenance actions by nearly 60 percent, and enables two-level field maintenance — achieving a savings that approaches \$1 billion in Army operation and support costs over the anticipated 20-year lifespan.

Arrowhead will be installed on AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopters both in the field and in production at the Boeing Company's Mesa, Ariz., facility. (Lockheed Martin release)

## ■ Pillsbury thanks work force for efforts in war

### Assurances

continued from page 1

"Every effort will be made to satisfy the desire of each and every one of the affected work force here at Redstone," Pillsbury said.

He stressed that the process is still in the preliminary stage. "I must emphasize that all we have right now are recommendations," he said.

Among the incoming activities are the headquarters Army Materiel Command and Army Security Assistance Command from Fort Belvoir, Va. Departing activities include the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School to Fort Lee, Va.

"Any movement, any loss, any gain, is not insignificant," Pillsbury said. "Everybody is significant."

He congratulated Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., which stands to gain 409 people. He also recognized Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas. "Keep up the great work," Pillsbury said.

The commanding general expressed his pride in the entire AMCOM work force for its efforts in the continuing war on terrorism.

"I want to thank you for your hard work, because let me tell you what you're doing. You're making a difference in Soldiers' lives," he said. "Our missile community is providing the firepower and our aviation community is providing life-saving protection and in some cases medical evacuation."

## ■ \$5K check puts AER fund-raising over \$100K

### Goal

continued from page 1

Army Emergency Relief assists members of the military community in a time of financial emergency that results in a financial need. It provides grants and no-interest loans to active duty and retired

military and their family members, widows and widowers of retirees. Redstone assisted 355 individuals and families by providing more than \$249,690 in 2004.

Financial emergencies include such things as vehicle repairs, rent, utility assistance and travel expenses for a funeral or serious illness of a family member.

## Soldiers learn ammunition management

Students gain knowledge about Army's number one commodity

By LIRA FRYE  
For the Rocket

Beans and bullets – two items a Soldier can't live without. But in a combat situa-

tion, bullets come first.

Soldiers in the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School's Munitions Training Department are the Army's ammunition experts. They train to receive, store and issue needed ammunition – the most critical of all commodities. "Ammunition is more important than food," conventional ammunition division

chief Dean Manley said. "In a combat zone, a Soldier can't go anytime without ammo. He can go couple of days without water and even more without food, but not ammunition."

The department trains more than 350 junior enlisted, 200 noncommissioned officers and 60 warrant officers annually. Students learn how to receive, store and handle ammunition at the ammunition supply point. They also practice emergency destruction and ammunition accounting. Noncommissioned and warrant officers gain supervisory and management experience

"I like to say we're the true ordnance," said deputy director Paul Michael, who oversees the curriculum and daily training. "We're what Soldiers put on target. Without ammunition, there's no firepower."

Differing from the maintenance-centered focus of most ordnance elements, ammunition troops focus on supply.

"Other commodities give 'due outs,'" Michael said. "Meaning we'll get it to you when it comes in. With ammunition, if you don't have what the Soldier needs, you'd better find it or find a substitute – no due outs!" Ammunition's hazardous nature requires extreme safety measures and accountability. Michael said safety must permeate everything a Soldier does.

"Consequences of unsafe actions are catastrophic," he said. "You wouldn't want to store tons of ammunition in a cantonment area, and you can't mix different types of ammuni-

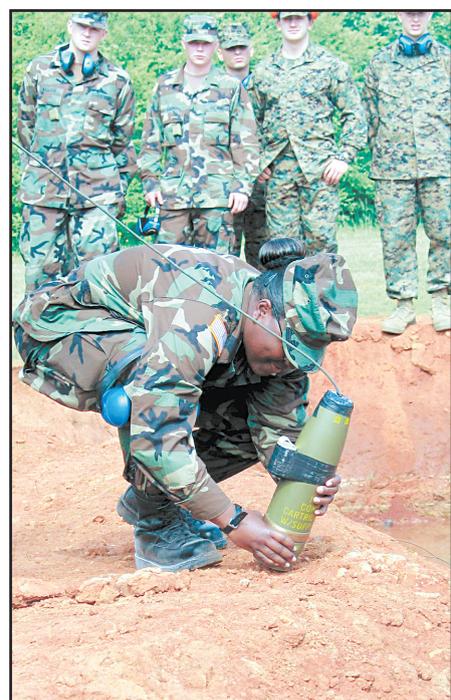


Photo by Lira Frye

**DIGGING IN**— An OMEMS student prepares a 105 mm howitzer high explosive artillery projectile for demolition.

tion in the same vehicle. Some aren't compatible with each other, like TNT and blasting caps."

In their training, Soldiers get hands-on experience in all areas of ammunition. Sgt. 1st. Class Lonnie Young, NCO-in-charge at Corkern Range, teaches Soldiers basic knowledge of ammunition disposal operations. Ammunition Soldiers may assist Explosive Ordnance Detachments in destroying enemy ammunition.

"A demolition operation is not about being cute or clean," Young said. "It's about completing the mission. We want to keep the enemy from getting it, and we want to make sure it's not used against us again."

With the current operations tempo, many Soldiers deploy within 30 days of completing their training.

"We support infantry," Manley said. "If you don't have bullets, you can't fight."



Courtesy photo

**TAKING OFF**— Soldiers practice an ammunition sling load operation at the ammunition supply point.

## Robots credited with saving lives on battlefield

Joint project office builds technology

By ERIKA READUS  
For the Rocket

The Robotic Systems Joint Project Office is working on technology for today and tomorrow.

Part of the Program Executive Office for Ground Combat Systems in Warren, Mich., it is responsible for the life-saving robots being used in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"The robots are being used in Iraq to counter Improvised Explosive Devices or IEDs," Marine Col. Terry Griffin, project manager, said.

Army Maj. Todd Lamb served in Iraq from last September to early January.

"Soldiers love the fact that they are over there making a difference," he said. "We are currently using five different variations of the Explosive Ordnance robots to repair and maintain robots that get blown up after countering an IED attack."

The robots are also being used for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition. But their most valuable mission is countering IEDs.

"The robots can be used instead of humans wearing bomb suits and taking the risk of getting shot," Griffin said. "This reduces the risk to human life."

"The robots also provide a safe way to gather information, further limiting the Soldiers exposure to harm," Lamb added.

The robots are used service-wide. Lamb served on a joint team while in theater.

"I served with a Navy reservist, an AMCOM (logistics assistance representative), a Marine reservist, a civilian contractor and Army enlisted and officers. It's really a joint effort," he said.

"Currently, the robots are EOD specific and of joint-level importance," Griffin said. "They provide joint level UGVs with ground breaking robotics and program management at the joint level. We do more together."

The project office will soon start phasing out older robotic technology and phasing in new robots that are more standardized to provide the best technology and the easiest means to repair them.



Photo by Erika Readus

**OVERVIEW**— Middle school students and Marines learn about robotics technology during an unmanned robotics demonstration at the Robotic Systems Joint Project Office.



Courtesy photo

## *Military transport*

The C-27J Spartan military transport aircraft, a leading contender for the Army's Future Cargo Aircraft program, is touring the United States this month for demonstrations and display, according to Global Military Aircraft Systems. GMAS is the joint venture of L-3 Integrated Systems and Alenia North America Inc.

# Fort Bragg Soldiers give rocket system high marks

*Redstone-managed weapon undergoes field testing*

By LUCILLE ANNE NEWMAN  
*Paraglide*

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — The Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, have field tested their new High Mobility Artillery Rocket System here at Observation Point 5.

Out of the whole Army, the 27th will be the first to be fully equipped with the HIMARS.

"This is all new," said Sgt. 1st Class John Sanford, master gunner, Headquarters Service Battery, 3rd Bn., 27th FAR. "The whole concept about this (new system) is that it's now lighter, more mobile and it's more strategic in that it can now be transported by aircraft. It can land, roll out (of the aircraft) and fire a rocket, then get back on the aircraft and leave."

Sanford explained the challenges they faced operating the older rocket systems and what they hope the new system will provide the battalion.

"This is the first battalion that will be fully equipped with HIMARS. The new system is mounted on an M-114 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicle, or FMTV chassis as opposed to the M-270 carrier it was mounted to before," he said. "The equipment we had before was so old that it took a lot of maintenance and man hours just to keep it working. We'd spend most of the time doing maintenance or finding parts for it, which lessened the training effect."

"We're testing the speed and accuracy of the rocket's ability to reach the targets on time, as well as the discipline of the unit performing the exercise," he continued. "The overall intent is to basically test all the equipment and take a look at the accuracy of the rocket itself to make sure



Photo by Ken Kassens

**FIRST TO FIRE—** Staff Sgt. William Wendt, launcher chief, Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, directs a High Mobility Rocket Launch System from a firing position April 28 during live-fire training at Observation Point 5.

it can perform. Because this is a wheeled vehicle as opposed to a track vehicle, the skills the drivers must have must be proficient and overall to check the system. Since this is new, we have to check everything and in doing so, we're not only certifying the system but the crew as well." Maj. John Davis, 27th FAR's training officer, said the testing also allows the unit to give their input to the manufacturer who will make the necessary adjustments to the HIMARS.

"This is a culmination of the fielding, they will demonstrate their ability to perform and certify as a team in which they did pretty well," Davis said. "It's still in the testing phase, that's why we're out here."

The Soldiers of the 27th FAR will convoy to Florida to continue field testing the launchers.

# A penny saved is a penny earned

Financial Peace class offers common cents

By KIM HENRY  
Staff writer  
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A \$25,000 load has been lifted from the Smiths' mind. Within the last nine months, that is how much debt Staff Sgt. Brad Smith and his wife, Pam, have paid off.

Both are recent graduates of the first Financial Peace University class that was offered at Bicentennial Chapel. The program is founded by radio personality and author Dave Ramsey.

The Smiths are not stopping there. Brad says they hope to be debt free, except for their mortgage, by July 2006 and have their house remodeled and paid off before he retires from the military in six years. He is an instructor/writer for the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School.

"With every bill we have paid off, no matter how minute or small, it just gives that much more drive and momentum to keep this rolling," Brad said. "I think the class will help achieve our goal."

Karl and Gwynne Ebert facilitated the 13-week class, which had more than 30 graduates. Gwynne, a reserve lieutenant colonel, said she initially went to the Dave Ramsey web site because she and her husband, a retired chief warrant officer, wanted to attend the class. She wondered why there weren't any classes offered at Redstone.

"I would feel much more comfortable to come to Redstone versus a church I didn't know and felt like other military would want the same," she said. After speaking with a FPU military adviser, she says she was more or less talked into facilitating the class. Gwynne says she was hesitant at first because she and Karl hadn't attended the class before, but after listening to the tapes and finishing up with a class in the community the Eberts began the class at Redstone.

"There is no better way to learn than to facilitate the class because you keep exposing yourself to the information," she said. "It keeps you on track."

Over 13 weeks the class cut up 40 credit cards, paid off nearly \$55,000 of debt and saved \$34,250. They also avoided more than \$6 million of total credit, by saving up credit card offers over the



Photo by: Kim Henry

**BALANCING ACT— Staff Sgt. Brad Smith shown balancing a checkbook, says he and his wife hope to be completely debt free in six years.**

period of the course and shredding them at the end.

Gwynne says a lot of individuals find it difficult to get rid of the credit cards, citing reasons such as renting a car, buying an airline ticket or reserving a hotel for keeping them. Dave Ramsey suggests using a debit card to do all those things. Also, she says that people who use credit cards when they go out to dinner spend 18 to 20 percent more on the meal. Ramsey suggests operating on a cash system where you will spend less.

Some other things the class teaches is putting together a budget that really works and strengthening communication between couples.

Brad says he avidly listened to Dave Ramsey on the radio the past four years. When he saw the FPU flyer in the Post Exchange, he thought it would be a great opportunity to get his wife to learn about Ramsey's practices. "I wanted her to hear things objectively so she and I could be on the same page financially," he said.

"It really does enhance communication as a couple," Brad said. "Stats show that the biggest reason most couples break up is over finances. This program allows couples to come together as one." He says

that it not only helps communication about money but also about being able to communicate with each other on any level of things. Brad, an Auburn, N.Y., native has been married to his wife, of Enterprise, Ala., for 14 years.

Another large part of the class is accountability. Gwynne says once a family sets a budget, they talk about it the next week to see if they are on track. "People don't have to reveal their personal finances, just discuss if they are meeting their goals," she said.

The class meets once a week for two hours. During each session, the class watches an instructional video and then discusses it with the group. Gwynne says they hope to offer the class again by the end of the summer.

She says that anyone could benefit from the class because of the variety of lessons it offers like learning how to handle money better or understanding different types of investments. "This class is for everyone," Gwynne said. "From someone facing debt or bankruptcy to someone who is doing well financially who wants to make sure they are on the right track. It is not just about money problems."

Brad says he thinks the class would be good for all Soldiers to take. "The military provides us with so much economically that we don't take advantage of," he said. "Typically a Soldier lives paycheck to paycheck and this class offers common sense for your dollars and cents. It uses everyday terms for getting out of debt or staying out of debt if you don't have any."

Over the years, Brad has had Soldiers who were almost discharged for indebtedness and he says that he hates to see that. "As a teacher I try to counsel every new Soldier to be financially conscious; to get them on the right roads to being financially independent by the time they retire from the military."

"At the end of the day, we all want to retire with dignity. The reality is that we haven't planned," Ebert said. "A lot of people say they want to travel when they retire. If you don't plan for those things, they're not going to happen."

# Military spouse believes in community service

*Cox assumes responsibilities as volunteer coordinator*

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer

[kellyqa@bellsouth.net](mailto:kellyqa@bellsouth.net)

Ask around Army Community Service. Anyone there will tell you that volunteers are the lifeblood of the Redstone commu-

nity. They are so vital that it takes someone keeping track of their activities all the time, making sure that these crucial positions are filled. That person is now Phyllis Cox.

Cox came to ACS as a volunteer in January after volunteering here and there as she was needed in the community. Working with the mobilization office at ACS, she learned how the organization operated and just how vital the volunteer program is. When Inger Frye departed the position, Cox took over on May 1.

"In 2006, ACS will go through accreditation again. All the volunteer files have to be right and kept up to date. They are. Inger did a great job," Cox said. "So did the woman before her. Everything is in great shape."

As a military spouse whose husband is deployed, she began volunteering as a way to focus her free time.

"He's deployed until January next year," she said. "I love working with people. Everybody says that, but I really do."

She sees her new job as a combination of recruiter and coordinator, making sure there are enough

volunteers to go round and that they are distributed to the positions that need them. She says front desk duty at the ACS office is perhaps one of the most important jobs to be done.

"Everybody who comes through the front door is greeted by the person at that desk. They make people feel welcome," she said. "They answer the phones. You get all kinds of questions about ACS, but you get all kinds of questions about everything. They get answers here."

Cox encourages other military spouses and retirees to join the ranks of Redstone's volunteers as a way to stay connected to the community. Newcomers can make friends and gain a better understanding of the installation from the inside. Those with experience can put their knowledge to work helping others who can benefit from their wisdom. For those with small children, ACS will even help out with child care.

"They pay for child care for people volunteering at ACS," Cox said.

Those interested in volunteering can call Cox at 876-5397 or e-mail



Photo by Kelley Lane

**READY TO HELP—** Phyllis Cox settles into her office as Army Community Service volunteer coordinator.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## *Fry fund-raiser*

Ellaphine Ragland serves food during the Acquisition Center's fish fry held Thursday for Army Emergency Relief.

[coxdk1@juno.com](mailto:coxdk1@juno.com). Her hours at ACS are Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I don't think volunteers realize sometimes how truly important they are, even people who just do it once and awhile," Cox said. "Volunteers do so much. They are an amazing group."

# Assistant manager's hobby takes off

*Redstone employee's model airplanes take him places he never thought he'd go*

By BETH SKARUPA  
Staff writer  
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What goes around comes around.

Brian Marbrey, assistant manager of the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, has been generous with his time and talent and now he's reaping the rewards. The Navy honored him not once, but twice, in the past two years for his support of the F-14 Tomcat fighter jet community.

First he was named as an honorary member of the VF 103 fighter jet squadron, also known as the Jolly Rogers, in 2003 — an honor never before bestowed on a civilian. Next the Navy flew a U.S. flag for him at the Angels Over Atlanta Air Show in May 2004 — an honor usually reserved for government officials or war heroes. And it all started with Marbrey's love of building model airplanes.

"I build model airplanes as a hobby," he said. "I was building models for a friend of mine, Jerry Gleason, the land survival trainer at Aviation Challenge. He's a retired Special Forces command sergeant major and I guess I just got more and more involved that way."

Marbrey has been a volunteer at Aviation Challenge, a military aviation training center affiliated with the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and Space Camp, off and on for the past seven years.

"They offer three different levels of classes for both children and adults. They train them in dog fighting, land survival and cold water survival. They even get flight suits, the coveralls — the kids seem to really enjoy it," he said.

In 2002 he built a model of a Jolly Rogers F-14 Tom-

cat and decided to get in touch with the commander of the air group. His e-mail was forwarded to the squadron's commanding officer in March who then put him in touch with their public relations officer, who subsequently arranged for him to go to the Naval Air Station in Oceana, Va., to present the model to the squadron.

"They took me out to the flight line and I met the junior officers and everything. It was great," he said. It turns out that they had paid someone to build a similar model and were not pleased with the result. Then Marbrey came along and presented them with one they liked without expecting anything in return.

He kept in touch with the squadron's commanding officer and later that year was asked to build another Jolly Rogers model as a fund-raiser for one of the squadron members, Lt. Brody "Taco" Prieto, who had just been diagnosed with ALS also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He was happy to oblige and the squadron raised several hundred dollars and then matched that amount with unit funds.

"After the squadron came back from their cruise, I had arranged to make a return visit to NAS Oceana and asked the commanding officer at the time — Cmdr. Gary Williams, if I could hang out with them a few days just to see what they do. He invited me to his change of command ceremony on March 13, 2003," Marbrey said.

"At the ceremony, while he was giving his farewell speech, he presented me with a plaque designating me as an honorary member of the Jolly Rogers squadron and even gave me a call sign, 'Oompa' from the Oompa Loompas of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' fame."

The plaque had a photo of a Tomcat in flight, a name tape with pilot's wings and his call sign, names of all the pilots in the squadron as well as all the radar intercepted officers and was signed by the commanding officer and the squadron executive officer.

Williams went on to become the air boss on the U.S.S. Harry Truman and Marbrey kept in touch with several of the junior officers. So he arranged for another trip to NAS Oceana in 2004, where he made contact with Lt. Cmdr. Brian Burns, the maintenance control officer of VF 101, also known as the Grim Reapers. He started building some models for him and then made some for the VF 32, also known as the Swordsmen.

Marbrey also was instrumental in restoring two museum pieces at Aviation Challenge — an F-14 Tomcat and an A-7 Corsair, both full-sized, military surplus airplanes that have been retired. He arranged for the VFA 83 squadron, also known as The Rampage, to paint and refurbish the A-7 Corsair. He contacted Lt. Mark Luly who in turn set up a detachment to come down in summer 2004. Then the VF 101 painted the F-14 Tomcat in November 2004. And now he's working on a deal to have



Courtesy photo

**FLYING HIGH—** Brian Marbrey, assistant manager of the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, poses with a Jolly Rogers F-14.

the VF 103 Jolly Rogers to repaint the F-14 Tomcat with their markings.

"The guys in the Jolly Rogers have been really accepting of me and what I do," he said. "The commanding officer told them to treat me like a Jolly Roger and they definitely have. They have a reputation as being the best fighter squadron in the Navy and I can see why.

"It's their unit pride and that they're more like a big band of brothers. They're really supportive of each other despite any faults they may have and they really take care of their own. And it's not just the officers. I even hang out with the enlisted guys because they actually work on and maintain the jets. I'm not officer-biased. It's all aspects of the military, they all sacrifice when they get out of bed each morning."

Marbrey has studied the F-14 since he was 8 and has followed the history of the Jolly Rogers for well over 20 years, becoming an expert on the subject. He has lived in the Huntsville-Madison County area his whole life. He graduated from Sparkman High in 1993 and served some time in the military before hiring on at Redstone in 2001. In addition to being assistant manager at the recreation center, he has his own business that is affiliated with the Navy — he makes model airplane decals with F-14 markings.

"I sent the flag that the Grim Reapers flew for me to the U.S.S. John Kennedy when the Jolly Rogers did their final cruise June through December 2004," he said. "The Jolly Rogers have taken the flag up with them when they've flown several missions in support of Iraqi Freedom. It flew on missions with Lt. David Reade, Lt. Charles Sikorski and Lt. Matt Koop, the RIO or back-seater for Lt. Ben Gibbs. They sent it back to me just after Thanksgiving 2004."

Those guys have since transitioned to the Navy's newest strike fighter, the F-18F Super Hornet, but Marbrey continues to build the F-14 Tomcat models. He believes the fighter pilots and RIOs like their new jets. "But they say, 'It's no Tomcat.' And that's all I'll say about that," he said.



Courtesy photo

**PICTURE PERFECT—** Several of Brian Marbrey's Jolly Roger F-14 Tomcat models reside in the trophy case in the VF-103 trophy room.

## Headquarters & Alpha survives volleyball championship

Gators beat Bravo in two-match final

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Headquarters & Alpha team captain Brian Blystone was only trying to make a play during the volleyball final against Bravo Company.

He jumped to get the ball but knew something was wrong while in the air. He was right. He landed on the inside of his ankle and felt his left knee give way.

"My first thought was my wife's going to kill me," Blystone said. "And then the fact I couldn't help but think I let the team down."

He was wrong on both counts.

With Blystone on the bench nursing a possible dislocated knee, Headquarters & Alpha rallied to beat Bravo for the championship May 18 at Pagano Gym. The Gators, who dropped the first match, won the decisive second 15-21, 21-18, 15-11.

"I'm grateful they did," Blystone said happily. "And I'm still afraid that my wife's going to kill me."

Assuming he survived the return home to his wife, Rosalyn, and their 5-week-old son, Patrick, he would have a trophy to present to the Headquarters & Alpha cadre.

This was the culmination of an unlikely journey for the Gators, who started the regular season 1-4. They finished the sea-

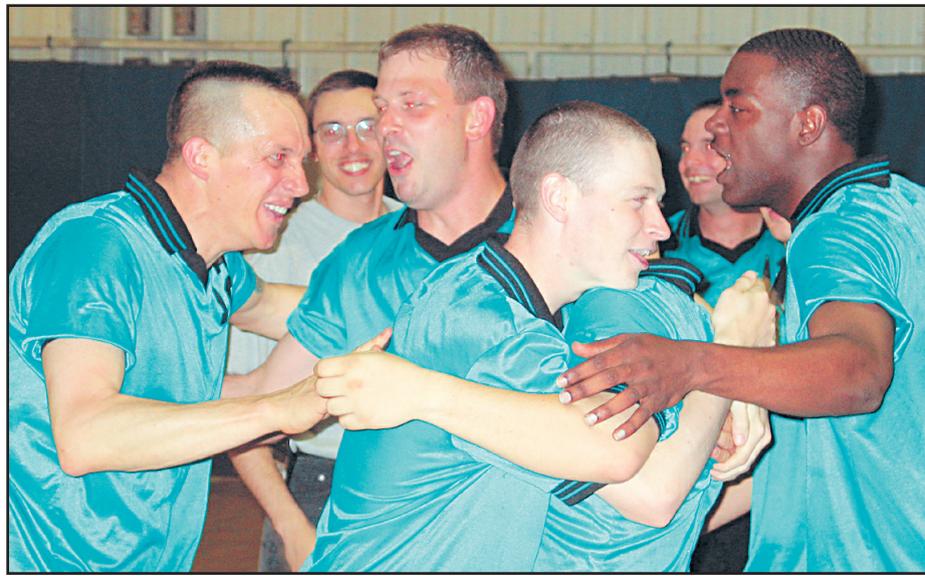


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CHAMPIONS—** Headquarters & Alpha players celebrate their volleyball championship.

son 6-6 and went 4-1 in the postseason tournament.

"Whenever I went down, everybody just stepped up," Blystone said. "I'm never going to be able to say enough about them."

The unit first sergeant enabled him to get in the practice. Delta Company practiced with Headquarters & Alpha most Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 5:30-7 at the gym.

"It was great for learning the game for

people that hadn't played," Blystone said. That was true for most of his team at the beginning of the year.

Bravo (9-3 season, 5-2 tournament) also persevered this year. The Bulldogs, who advanced to the final from the losers bracket, won the night's first match 16-21, 21-17, 15-8 but came up short in the second.

"Overall it was a great game," Bravo coach Ron Shepherd said of his players. "Who would've thought they would come this far, starting out (the year) with a six-man team?"

The Bulldogs played the final without Henry Herrera, who was on leave. "He's like the coach on the floor," Shepherd said.

But they pushed Headquarters & Alpha to the limit. And the Gators responded.

Blystone went down midway through the second set of the first match. He tried to continue but had to stop. "It felt the whole time like my knee was going to



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**JUMP BALL—** Brian Blystone (8) of Headquarters & Alpha makes a jump set during the first match of the final against Bravo. He later goes down with an injured left knee.

go," he said.

He was all smiles while hopping on one foot during the postgame trophy presentations, however.

Here are the tournament results:

- **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.

- **May 16** — Headquarters & Alpha def. Charlie 21-17, 24-26, 15-11; Bravo def. Marines 21-16, 21-12; and Delta def. NCO Academy 22-20, 21-15.

- **May 17** — Bravo def. Delta 21-0, 22-20; and Bravo def. Charlie 21-16, 21-23, 15-8.

- **May 18** — Bravo def. Headquarters & Alpha 16-21, 21-17, 15-8; and Headquarters & Alpha def. Bravo 15-21, 21-18, 15-11 for the title.

## Volleyball stars come out at night

The action didn't end with the volleyball championship May 18 at Pagano Gym.

For the first time, the troops played an All-Star game after the final.

"This is the first year they had this All-Star thing," head official Felix Milar said. "And hopefully it'll continue into the future."

The North All-Stars beat the South All-Stars 21-18, 21-15, 21-17. Players received a gold or silver medallion.

Members of the North All-Stars included Daniel Babbage of Headquar-

ters & Alpha, Lillie Cross of Charlie, Pedro Delgado of Delta, Steve Rikard of HHC 59th, Damien Pittman of Headquarters & Alpha, Jason Stafford of Bravo and Karen Gorgas of NCO Academy.

The South All-Stars had Jonathan Baughman of Bravo, Jason Brown of Charlie, Brian Blystone (injured) of Headquarters & Alpha, Chetoria Jackson of Delta, Justin Edwards of Bravo, Felix Santiago of NCO Academy, Aaron Shillig of Charlie and Warnie Stokes of HHC 59th.

## Police fund benefits from golf tourney

The 2005 North Alabama Law Enforcement/Security Golf tournament raised \$4,300 in donations for the Fallen Officer's Fund which will provide support to families of North Alabama law enforcement officers injured or killed in the line of duty.

Some 132 law enforcement professionals and supporters from across North Alabama participated May 13 at the Redstone Golf Course. Participation and contributions to this year's tournament were almost double that of last year.

Business and corporate support was critical to the success of this year's tournament. The 2004 tournament raised \$2,500, which was donated to the families of Athens police officers Anthony Mims and Sgt. Larry Wayne Russell who were killed in the line of duty in January 2004.

The law enforcement team winner for the 2005 tournament was from Huntsville Police Department. Plans are under way for the third annual tournament in May 2006.

## Annual 5K run contributes to Army Emergency Relief

Dale Cox and Kelly VanVeldhuizen weren't the only winners at the fourth annual AMRDEC 5K run.

The event, May 10 at the physical training track off Corporal Road, drew more than 110 participants and raised \$2,875 for Army Emergency Relief.

Cox won in 18:57 while VanVeldhuizen was first female in 22:33.

Age division winners included:

- 18-35 — male, Nathan Graham (19:44); female, Amanda DeWeese (26:47).

- 36-49 — male, Mike Greene (19:04); female, Susan Soloman (28:00).

- 50-up — male, Ricky Dickens

(22:34); female, Kathy Herring (44:01).

- Teams: 1. RTTC (21:48), 2. NASA (22:01).

Sponsors included Driving 2000/Suzuki of Huntsville, Colsa Corporation, Bowman's Enterprises, Lockheed Martin, First Place Athletics, H.G. Peake Co., Chick-Fil-A, Publix Super Markets Inc., Home Depot, Kroger, Sears Home Central, and Sam's Club.

The event was coordinated by Carolyn Farmer, Wynema Wooten and Justin Olander of the RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate at Research Development and Engineering Center.

# 1950s-era technical service unit's legacy lives on



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**MUSEUM VISIT**— Bennie Gardner, left, and Andy Karabinos, both veterans of the 9330th Technical Service Unit, visit the Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville.

## Soldiers provided support to Von Braun rocket team

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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They were part of Redstone's history and part of the development that led to the nation's space program. And they were just a bunch of young guys who liked to have fun, too.

They were the 9330th Technical Service Unit, an Army unit formed to provide support to the group of German rocket scientists known as the Von Braun Team. The unit came here from Fort Bliss, Texas, with the German scientists and helped develop this country's early rocket program.

The 9330th held its fourth, and probably final, reunion May 20-22 at Redstone. There were 60 participants, including 33 veterans and their wives and guests.

"What we're talking about is 50 years ago so anybody in their 20s (back then) is in their 70s now," veteran Andy Karabinos, 75, said.

He and veteran Bennie Gardner, 74, both of Huntsville, organized the reunion activities. Gardner was the reunion chairman while Karabinos was exhibit chairman. An exhibit, including memoirs and photographs, was placed in a room at the Veterans Memorial Museum at 2060A Airport Road in Huntsville.

The unit began in 1946 at Fort Bliss and disbanded in 1956. "The Secret GI Scientists of Redstone Arsenal," a book by the late veteran Ernest Pierce, detailed the exploits of these Soldiers.

Most were college-educated and proficient in science and engineering fields. The Army needed their expertise to support the German scientists and the early

rocketry efforts, so it started drafting them.

"I was scheduled to be drafted so I just joined," said Gardner, a Jay, Fla., native who entered the service in 1948. He was into radar and electronics; and the Army put him through electronics schools. He came to Redstone May 17, 1950 and was assigned to the 9330th.

Gardner was here until 1954 when he went to Korea. He returned to Redstone in 1955 and spent 14 years here in military service. He retired in 1969 and entered civil service, retiring in 1991 from the Security Assistance Management Directorate. Command historian Michael Baker asked him last week what Huntsville was like when he first arrived in 1950. "Cotton fields," he said laughing.

"Being a Florida farm boy, I learned a lot," he said. "It was really a thrill for me to be able to work in an area of expertise at that time. We learned a lot about management, how to manage people as well as equipment. It was a tremendous experience for me. I think I was fortunate to get into that."

Karabinos, an Akron, Ohio, native was a chemistry major working his way through the University of Akron when he was drafted Feb. 9, 1951. After basic training, he was assigned to the 9330th at Redstone and arrived that July. He was assigned to the director of propulsion lab as a scientist working on hydrogen peroxide decomposition and the flame speed of hydrocarbons. But he had to juggle this work with kitchen duty for the 9330th.

"Working in the laboratory and pulling KP," he recalled. "Those were the two things I was famous for. I pulled (kitchen patrol) 21 times in 18 months."

He left the Army in February 1953 and went back to Illinois where he worked in an oil refinery and finished his college degree in 1955. He returned to Huntsville in 1956 and entered the space industry which included one year at NASA in 1961 and the rest in private companies. "I have this difficulty with bureaucracies," he said. He retired in 1984 and again in 1992.

"The real thing that I took away from here, I learned discipline and I learned organization at a very young age," he said. "That really helped me the rest of my life."

Of the 33 veterans at the reunion, 13 were from Huntsville and the rest came from 14 different states. Their previous reunions were in 1971, 2000 and 2003.

"Probably it'll be our last one because people are just getting too old," Karabinos said. "And there's not enough left."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**UNIT EXHIBIT**— Andy Karabinos and Bennie Gardner study the 9330th exhibit at the veterans museum.

# Bowling center rolls onto recreational landscape

New facility  
opens June 2

By ADRIAN BAKER  
MWR Sales & Marketing

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, and the staff of Redstone Lanes invite you to come by and visit the new Redstone Lanes Bowling Center at 4 p.m. June 2.

The bowling center offers you, your family members and your friends a state-of-the-art, smoke-free, 32-lane entertainment experience complete with automatic scorers and the newest AMF pinsetters.

The center also features automatic

bumpers, Xtreme Bowling, Strike Zone Restaurant, party rooms, lounge and an arcade room. The Strike Zone Restaurant is an Army theme restaurant that offers a Primo's Pizza shop and a myriad of new menu items in addition to your favorite Betty Burger Meals, served every 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1-8 p.m. Sunday.

The Redstone Lanes lounge features satellite television and billiard tables, just perfect for relaxing with friends after work. Gather your friends and form a league, whether organizational, senior, a lunch league, or a "just for fun" league. The Strike Zone Restaurant can cater your organizational or birthday party needs. Come by and visit your new Morale Wel-

fare and Recreation Redstone Lanes bowling center, near the corner of Hercules and

Patton roads. Fall leagues are now forming. For more information, call 842-2695.



Andrea Mattox/MWR Sales & Marketing

**READY FOR ACTION**—Redstone Lanes is a state-of-the-art facility with automatic scorers and the newest AMF pinsetters.



Photo by Lira Frye

## Vets with Vettes

Corvette owners from Redstone Arsenal donated more than \$1,700 to Army Emergency Relief. The group, Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners, organized a car show May 7 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Through entry fees, donations and T-shirt sales, the 56-member organization raised the funds to benefit AER. "Our whole purpose is to raise money for community needs," said Jerry Campbell, event organizer. Sixty-three Corvette owners participated in the show.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Groundout

Dan Skabialka of Industrial Operations charges toward first against the University of Alabama-Huntsville team during the annual Engineering Directorate AER picnic and softball tournament May 18. With UAH catcher Phil Woodall looking on, he hits into a groundout on this play. The eight-team tournament alone raises \$300 for Army Emergency Relief.



## 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 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.

## Summer sports camps

Child and Youth Services SKIESUnlimited 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.

## 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.

## Soccer camp

AYSO of Huntsville is offering a Summer Player Camp, July 11-15 at the Brahan Springs Recreation Center field for players age 4-18. Morning and early evening sessions. Cost is \$73 for 4-5-year-olds (8-10:30 a.m. each day) and \$118 for 6-18-year-olds (8 a.m. to noon or 4-8 p.m.). Cost includes a ball and T-shirt. To register online go to [www.MLScamps.com](http://www.MLScamps.com) or call Loyd 881-6342.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 [registrgs@comcast.net](mailto:registrgs@comcast.net).

## Boating class

A Boaters’ Education class titled “America’s Boating Course” will be presented by the Coast Guard Auxiliary on June 11 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3512 South Broad St., Scottsboro. The one-day course will start at 9 a.m. and end late in the afternoon. Each textbook contains an interactive CD that can be used at home

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after the class. Those who pass the course exam will meet the requirements for the Alabama Vessel Operator permit. Course materials may be purchased for \$15. Lunch may be brought or an order-in service will be provided. Reservations are requested, but not required. Families with more than one member need not purchase duplicate course material, but a \$3 charge for each additional exam will be collected. For information call Lois (256) 582-2545 or Duncan (256) 218-9773.

### **Bicycle riders**

Road I Course from the League of American Bicyclists is a primer for those cyclists who wish to gain a full understanding of how to safely operate a bicycle in a variety of situations. The class includes learning how to perform a bicycle safety check, fixing a flat, interactive discussion, on-bike skills practice and student manual. Bring money to cycle to lunch. Bicycles and helmets are required. This program, recommended for adults and children above 14, is June 11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Safety City, 2221 Drake Ave. The \$50 course fee is due at signup. Deadline for registration is June 4. Registration forms can be found at [http://www.bikeleague.org/educenter/rd1\\_regist.pdf](http://www.bikeleague.org/educenter/rd1_regist.pdf).

### **Youth fitness workshop**

Child and Youth Services will host a Fitness and Nutrition Workshop for ages 11-18 at 2 p.m. June 10 at the Youth Center,

building 3148. This workshop will cover basic nutrition information, including the relationship between foods and exercise. It will also cover basic fitness information, including what makes up a complete exercise program. Healthy snacks will be provided. All children attending must be registered through Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. For more information, call 313-2177 or 876-5911.

### **Soccer tryouts**

KICKS FC 2005 soccer tryouts, for boys 8-18 and girls 8-19, is June 3-6 at Merrimack Park and City North/City South. For more information, visit [www.kickssoc.org](http://www.kickssoc.org).



### **Men singers**

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

### **Warrant officers**

The Warrant Officer Association, Redstone Arsenal Chapter invites all warrant officers to attend its meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at

the Officers and Civilians Club. Chapter activities and information can be viewed at <http://www.redstonewarrants.com/>. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Tommy Vaden 955-0886.

### **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 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

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space-available basis due to the seating constraints. Be sure to register early. The APBI web site is located at <http://apbi.redstone.army.mil>.

## Officers association

Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today 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 Saturday 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.

## Directed energy weapons

A directed energy weapons conference, presented by the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement, is June 27-29 at Doubletree Hotel Crystal City in Arlington, Va. For information call Mark Osborne (416) 598-5661.



## 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 inter-



Photo by Kelley Lane

## Good flying, folks

Flying Activity member Keith Lenhard gives a preflight pep talk to Janet Washington during the activity's annual open house May 14.

ested 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. "Join us Saturday, June 4 from 10-2, the shop will have a buy-one-get-one-free sale (of equal or less value),"

a prepared release said. 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 personnel, retirees and civilian employees may take advantage of this training on a space available basis. Classes are available for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Outlook, Access, and Windows XP. A certificate of completion is issued upon successful completion of each course. For more information, call Debra Jefferson at Army Community Service 876-5397.

## 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>.

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## 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.

## 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.

## Military personnel section

The Military Personnel Division, buildings 3493 and 3494, will be closed May 27-30 and will

reopen May 31. The Identification Card Section will be closed June 1-2 to conduct system upgrades and will resume business June 3.

## Resumix training

A Resumix training session is scheduled 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday 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.

## 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 cam-

pus 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 Church's, closed.

## Latin dance

The Alabama Hispanic Association will hold the "Tropical Fiesta" Latin dance Saturday 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 Friday at La Michoacana Grocery Store, 2007 University Drive, phone 532-0266.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Early notice

It's 3:30 p.m. on a weekday in the commanding general's conference room at the Sparkman Center but early in the morning at three other places of major Army interest.

## Newcomers' orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on June 7 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is

mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned to Redstone. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breedon, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

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