

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 55 No. 11

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

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More computer security in cards

Card readers key to network access beginning July 31

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Soon you won't be able to get into your computer at work by simply using a password.

Anyone who accesses an Army computer system will need to insert a Common Access Card (CAC) and then his or her personal identification number (PIN). This Armywide change will add another level of security, according to the Garrison's Directorate of Information Management.

"The message we want to get to the user is know your PIN number," Mike Saal, an information technology specialist in the DOIM, said. Users will use their common access card and personal identification number to access the Army networks beginning July 31.

The network login and password are being replaced by the CAC card and PIN number.

At Redstone this affects more than 18,000 people – military, civilian and contractor – who use Army networks.

Online training is under way March 13-20 for members of the Directorate of Information Management and Redstone's information management officers. The first users are scheduled to make the change to the CAC following the training. Defense Department goals are for 25 percent of the work force to be transitioned each month



Photo by Skip Vaughn

READ ON— Common access cards will serve as the key to the Army computer networks.

beginning in April.

"It's important to ensure the people have and know their CAC card PIN numbers and make sure the card hasn't expired," Saal said. "Between May and July, you'll be able to use your CAC card or your login and password."

If you are within 60 days of your card expiring, get your CAC card renewed now. If you have forgotten your PIN, get with the CAC card section and get your number reset. First contact your information man-

agement officer or your computer help desk.

"One of the greatest vulnerabilities of our networks is posed by weak user names and passwords," Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle, Army chief information officer/G-6, has said. "Spyware or keystroke tracking software can steal your user name and password, and even your personal identification number or PIN. It cannot steal your CAC card. The Army's goal is to eliminate the use of user name and password."

Command cutting expenses for fiscal year

Budget reductions limit spending

By BOB HUNT

For the Rocket

When fiscally responsible people are faced with a budget crunch, they seek every reasonable, least harmful way to reduce their expenses. They may not travel or eat out as much and they most certainly will try to reduce credit card purchases. Government organizations are not that different.

The need to support the Global War on Terror has been a fiscal challenge for nearly

every government organization. That challenge has been exacerbated by the impact of the 2005 hurricane season. As a result, the Aviation and Missile Command is now confronted with a budget crunch that will affect many employees through the end of this fiscal year.

There are several different kinds of government dollars that AMCOM uses: OMA, GWOT funding, Army Working Capital Fund, Army Procurement Appropriation, and Research, Development, Testing and Engineering.

"There have been a series of decrements to our base OMA (Operations and Maintenance,

Army) account this year," Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, said. "The latest decrement was roughly \$82 million.

"The OMA dollars that we have right now cover civilian payroll through the end of the fiscal year. What it does not cover is travel, training, overtime, new hires in OMA positions or the summer-hire program," he said. The OMA budget cut also includes some critical contractor performance functions such as information technology, publications, and environmental engineering. Amos explained that many of these contract functions are

now being performed but that AMCOM will have to curtail this support when the current contracts expire.

"We are identifying the impacts and carefully watching when the contract coverage for these support functions expires," he said. "Contract managers are helping us by going out and looking for opportunities for their employees to work on other programs within their respective companies.

"The Army is being asked, as all of the departments are, to control spending as best possible. We are trying to do our share just like all of the other departments in government."

An open lane random survey

What excuse have you used when pulled over for speeding?

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

Warrant Officer Michael Burns
OMEMS

"I had just gotten back from Iraq. I hadn't been back a week. I told the officer I was still getting used to driving with speed limits again."



Warrant Officer Joe Swartout
OMEMS

"When I was a police officer, I once had this lady tell me she was speeding because her husband was at home cooking and she was trying to get there before he burnt the place down. That was a pretty good one."



Napoleon Perry
DoD civilian

"I told him I was late for work. He pulled me over right outside the gate, so I guess he believed me."



Dondal Sorrell
Retiree spouse

"I say that I didn't see the speed limit sign."



Quote of the week

'Veni, vidi, vici! (Latin) 'I came, I saw, I conquered!'
— Julius Caesar

Letters to the Editor

Coffee goes cold

Can anyone tell me and others that use the Post Exchange food court on a daily basis why the price of senior coffee went from 35 cents to a dollar/99 cents?

Anywhere you go in a food environment in town or the mall you get senior coffee for a reduced price. It sure isn't a dollar. Is our exchange/system really that hard up?

Just asking, no one in the food court can or will answer the question.

Robert Davenport
retiree

Editor's note: Kim Sumpter, Post Exchange sales and merchandise manager/general manager, provided the following response. "Thank you for your recent questions concerning the change of pricing for senior drinks at AAFES food facilities. AAFES strives to serve our large demographic and to do it in an equitable way. We will no longer be able to offer special discounted pricing to one portion of our customer population. In an effort to provide the same quality of product and service to all of our customers, this would mean that the price of coffee would be the same for Soldiers, families, retirees and civilians in the Redstone community. You may still be able to purchase drinks at a discounted price for special categories of customers outside of our Redstone community, but AAFES falls under a different set of guidelines. Please feel free to contact me if you have any other concerns that I might be able to help resolve — Kim Sumpter, AAFES general manager, at 883-6100, ext. 122 or sumpterkim@aafes.com."

Industrial safety concern

I have noticed that many young women now work at Redstone in technical positions. A number of them will be visiting industrial facilities. I have been to industrial facilities where certain manufacturing areas were off-limits to pregnant women. This always struck me as prudent. I have become aware that such young women employed by the government have received no instructions or advice regarding the protection of their unborn. I especially question fetal harm which may be covert or marginal.

I wish the folks at the *Rocket* would inquire as to why there is no instruction to such young

See Safety on page 3

Commissary deli issue

I often see the banners at the Commissary that reflect the great savings we receive for shopping there. The banners reflect the competition that has evolved over the years. Competition is a great thing. It drives the organizations involved to provide lower prices and better customer service.

With that said, I would like to relate a recent experience that I had at the commissary deli. I placed an order for a \$50 meat tray on Monday, Jan. 30 with a pickup date of Thursday. When I went to pick up the tray on Thursday, I was told it wasn't ready. The order was still on the board. The deli employee said she was very sorry and would make sure the tray was ready by noon on Friday. She really didn't have an explanation why it wasn't ready.

The tray was for a wedding party and because it wasn't ready accommodations had to be made. Anyone who has been involved in planning a wedding knows how hectic it can be.

After making the necessary changes, I returned on Friday to the deli to pick up the tray and speak to the manager. The manager informed me that the order form had only a pick date of Thursday written on it, but with no date, so they didn't know when to make the tray. He said they tried to call someone to find out when the tray should be made. The problem was that he waited until the day on the order form, Thursday, to call. When he wasn't able to reach anyone, he decided not to make the tray. When I asked if there was a discount for putting me a bind, he replied with a firm "No." After I again explained how not having the tray ready on Thursday put me in a bind, the reply I received was "and how does this involve the deli?"

A simple I'm sorry, or what can I do to make this right would have been nice.

With the attitude and lack of empathy I received, I have made the decision that my deli business will go outside the gate. I know of at least two other Commissary patrons

who will not be using the deli for party needs. Prices are great but customer service also drives a successful business.

Eric Hoffman

Editor's note: Commissary director Sandra Edinger provided the following response. "Thank you for taking the time to convey your concerns about the Redstone Commissary Deli. Please accept my sincere apology for any inconvenience this may have caused you. Our goals are to achieve the highest level of customer service and make your shopping experiences pleasant."

"I have notified Mark Wynn, director of field operations for Specialty Markets Inc., who operates the Redstone Arsenal Commissary delicatessen, about problems associated with the deli. It is the responsibility of his on-site management to ensure the highest level of customer service and Mr. Wynn has taken immediate corrective action to ensure his deli personnel meet this requirement to provide optimum customer service. He is sending an area manager the week of March 6 to work with and evaluate the deli operation and personnel. In order to improve efficiency, the visiting manager will also accomplish customer service training while he is here. You should see improvement on your next visit."

"Thank you for bringing this important issue to my attention. I encourage you to continue taking advantage of your Commissary benefit and the 30 percent-plus savings. If you need assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me, Sandra Edinger, store director, or any member of my management staff, at 876-3517."

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.

Redstone Rocket

Editorial office 876-1500 Editorial fax 955-9138 Retail Advertising 532-4539 Classified Advertising 532-4300 Fax 532-4349

The *Redstone Rocket* is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The *Redstone Rocket* through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the *Redstone Rocket* is *The Huntsville Times*, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, Huntsville AL 35801.

The deadline for display and commercial classified is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil
Rocket articles are available online at the following:
https://ams36.redstone.army.mil:4443/portal/page?_pageid=614,1983766&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_cat_id=6&menupairid=pridr1870500

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Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates off post for The *Rocket* are \$30 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual) We do not send subscription renewal notices.

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Lakeisha Lee

Job: Budget analyst (AMC Fellow), Resource Management

Where do you call home?
Columbia, S.C.

What do you like about your job?
Meeting different people, new people.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Read, work out, and play with my dog.

What are your goals?
Complete the Fellows Program and



become active in the community.

What's your favorite type of music?
R&B

Contractor community meets Army leadership

Industry Days give insight

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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As industry leaders gathered on post to discuss the future of business at Redstone, Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury told attendees in no uncertain terms exactly what that business was.

“What we’re going to do is we’re going to continue to reduce the burden on the Soldier,” the post commander said, gesturing to the chart behind him. “This is what we’ve done so far. This is not just Power-Point b.s.”

Pillsbury’s comments were part of a larger briefing he gave to program office heads and contract representatives as they met over a two-day period for Industry Days.

It was a chance for contractors and the companies that do the Army’s business to meet one-on-one with Pillsbury and other key personnel to discuss not only where their respective projects were headed, but exactly how they are going to get there. Held in the Sparkman Center’s electronic meeting rooms, boardrooms and the commanding general’s offices, topics such as the progress of the Logistics Modernization Program transition were discussed.

“With LMP, we’re at an operational pause,” Pillsbury said.

He spoke of upcoming transfers and reorganizations to be brought on by base realignment and closure. He explained that the details of how those moves would be made were still in the planning stages, but more information would be made available as it progressed.

He also spoke proudly of the work done by Team Redstone.



Photo by Kelley Lane

MAIN FOCUS— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, briefs attendees at the start of Industry Days.

“This is what my Acquisition Center is doing,” he said. “I normally and generally don’t say ‘I’ or ‘my,’ but I’m proud as heck to say ‘my Acquisition Center.’”

He spoke of areas where he believes improvements should be made.

“We’re going to talk about some sticking points,” he said. “We’ve got to do some performance based logistics. We’re behind the Navy on that and we have to get better.”

He reiterated his pride and gratitude for the work private industry and contractors do.

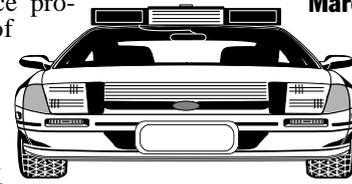
“I want to thank you personally for what you’ve done for the war fighter. We cannot lose focus on our commitment to them,” Pillsbury said. “As long as I’m here, AMCOM will have that focus. I ask that you all continue with yours, too. I know that each and every one of you industry giants that are in this room have challenges – challenges with material, with work forces, with globalization – and I know that. But you wouldn’t be here if you weren’t interested in supporting the war fighters. I appreciate that. I’m proud of this work.”

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

March 3: 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.

March 4: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver’s license during an inspection at Gate 8. Further investigation revealed that he had no proof of insurance. He was issued two violation notices and released.



March 6: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange, selecting several items, concealing them and then leaving without rendering the proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

Violation notices issued: 19 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 2 driving with a suspended driver’s license, 1 unsafe driving, 2 improper backing, 6 inattentive driving, 1 parked in a no parking zone, 1 parked in a handicapped space, 1 failure to use seatbelt.

Reutilization office making transition

The A-76 transition scheduled for June 30 is in full swing at Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office-Huntsville.

This transition will mark a new era in property disposal and is going to add modern business aspect to an aging program. DRMO Huntsville is not closing; it is merely, shifting or centralizing resources to one location. Its warehouses will be used as temporary staging areas for these operations and to support Redstone activities. The property generated by Redstone Arsenal will continue to be received at building 7407, and staged for re-shipment to central DRMO sites.

What will this change mean to the customers?

The customer will be responsible for completing 1348-1A documents, scheduling appointments, meeting the appointment with the agreed quantities, and have the material in a safe-to-handle, safe-to-transport state — the same functions currently being performed by DRMO customers.

DRMO Huntsville has been slated to have local disposal service representatives and one environmental specialist on hand to assist cus-

tomers with their turn-in requirements. The DSRs will be like mobile DRMOs, who will be dispatched to customer locations for on-site assistance with property turn-ins.

What short-term fixes are in place?

DRMO Huntsville, with the cooperation of Defense Office Inventory Material command (contact Toney Benefield), has commissioned a new team called the Excess Property Action Team. This new concept combines the knowledge of key players from DRMO, Supply and the Logistics branches for on-site property inspections. During an EPAT inspection, DRMO employees will determine if the material is scrap, usable or requires special handling. Meanwhile, Redstone Supply gathers item information for 1348-1A generation. In the final stage, the logistics branch determines transportation requirements, scheduling for customer pickup and DRMO turn-in. To schedule an Excess Property Action Team, call DRMO at 842-2532 or Supply at 842-2990.

For more information call Russell Manuel, DRMO Huntsville site manager, 842-2532. (DRMO release)

■ Employees should know workplace hazards

Safety

continued from page 2

women upon entry into employment at Redstone and what if any action is contemplated by people in authority positions here.

Name withheld by request

Editor’s note: The AMCOM Safety Office and Fox Army Health Center provided the following response. “The reader raises a good question concerning the safety of Redstone Arsenal employees. All personnel may be exposed to hazardous chemicals at work. The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard requires employers to train all personnel about hazardous chemicals to which they may be exposed on the job. This standard is based on a simple concept — that employees have both a need and a right to know the hazards and the identities of the chemicals they are exposed to when working. The HCS covers both physical hazards (such as flammability or the potential for explosions), and health hazards (including both acute and chronic effects). They also need to know what protec-

tive measures are available to prevent adverse effects from occurring.

“Whether here on RSA or at contractor’s facilities, it is the responsibility of supervisors to identify any hazards to which their employees may be exposed. All hazardous chemicals in the workplace require a Material Safety Data Sheet. The MSDS will explain the specific hazards and measures required to abate those hazards. This includes hazardous effects such as carcinogens, teratogens and mutagens. If an employee has questions about chemicals in the workplace, they should direct them to their supervisor.

“Also, any areas that have special safety requirements should be clearly marked. This applies to hazards such as hearing areas, eye hazard areas, falling protection or chemicals.

“In addition, the Occupational Medicine Service of Fox Army Health Center offers pregnancy surveillance services. Fox will consult with pregnant workers to discuss any workplace related hazards and precautions to be taken during pregnancy. We encourage all women to take advantage of this service. Anyone interested in this service should contact the Occupational Medicine Service at 955-8888, ext. 1026 or 1027.”

Youngsters take to golf

*Instruction offered
for beginners*

By KARI HAWKINS

*Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net*

Eight-year-old Chyna Williams looks forward to “hitting the links” with her dad, Staff Sgt. Del Williams of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

The third grader at J.E. Williams Elementary has been hitting the ball around in her yard for practice. But she hopes to get much better at the sport with the help of the Start Smart Golf program being offered for the first time by Morale Welfare and Recreation this spring.

“I need to learn how to put it in the air,” Chyna said. “I want to golf with my dad.”

“Do you want to learn how to beat him?” teased golf instructor Mike Gates, Youth Sports and Fitness director.

This spring, MWR will offer golf lessons for children through a national program known as Start Smart Golf.

“We will actually be teaching two

levels,” Gates said. “The beginner course is for young children, and is purely instruction of basic skills.”

“But, older children can sign up for our Start Smart Golf League, where they will get some instruction and actually get to play a series of 100-yard holes that we will set up at the soccer field.”

With the help of their parents, Gates will teach golf students ages 5 to 7 how to play the game through the Start Smart Golf program. The program uses fun, developmentally age appropriate equipment from the national Start New At Golf (SNAG) organization to teach the sport.

The Start Smart Golf League is a follow-up to the initial program, and continues to develop students’ golf skills as well as expose them to golf terms and etiquette. It is open to children ages 7 to 9.

Start Smart Golf will be taught at building 3148 every Saturday beginning April 15 and extending through May 20. Class time is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Start Smart Golf League will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays beginning June 3 and continuing through July 15 at the Youth

Soccer Field at Goss and Skinner roads.

MWR has used the Start Smart program to introduce young children to such sports as soccer, baseball and basketball. This is the first time MWR has offered the Start Smart Golf program.

“The Start Smart philosophy is to introduce children to sports without the fear of competition or failure,” Gates said.

“The Start Smart Golf League involves some instruction and actual playing of golf holes. It introduces a little bit of competition.”

Gates wants to encourage parents to get their children involved in golfing because, unlike many sports, it offers a lifetime of fun and exercise.

“Golf is one of those things they can play their entire life,” he said. “It is commonly called a lifetime sport. But, kids don’t usually get into golf because they aren’t exposed to it. It’s not a traditional sport like baseball or basketball that is played on the playground.”

See Golf on page 7



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SWING INTO SPRING— Aspiring golfer Chyna Williams wants to learn how to hit the golf ball in the air so she can go golfing with her dad, Staff Sgt. Del Williams of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion. With her is MWR golf instructor Mike Gates, who will be teaching Start Smart Golf classes for young golfers beginning April 15. This will be the first time MWR has offered golf instruction for children at Redstone Arsenal.

Positive lesson in helping disaster victims

Defense Acquisition University professors serve in Hurricane Katrina relief effort

In August and September of 2005, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita battered the Gulf Coast states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida with a fury and vengeance that has left parts of these states devastated quite possibly for many years to come. These two hurricanes, along with the flood that was caused by the levees failing in New Orleans, affected an area the size of Great Britain. It is the largest natural disaster both in area and dollar cost in the history of the United States. Shortly after the passing of these ravaging events, an outpouring of help and support rained in with nearly the force and determination of the storms themselves.

Five professors from the South Campus of the Defense Acquisition University saw the opportunity to assist in contracting for the disaster relief. The path was cleared and the approvals were granted. These patriots volunteered to go south to lend a hand and help make a difference for their affected fellow Americans. Contracting professors Timothy Hoff, Valerie Hunter, Craig Kaufman, Phyllis Roberts and Tony White received word just before Thanksgiving that the Federal Emergency Management Agency had a pressing need in Baton Rouge, La., to replace several outgoing contracting specialists who were there from various other agencies but would soon finish their temporary tours of duty with FEMA.

These five professors instruct courses in the contract-



Photo by Don Clark

UNIVERSITY TEAM— From left are professors Timothy Hoff, Valerie Hunter, Phyllis Roberts, Craig Kaufman and Tony White.

ing career field for both military and civilians with DAU. DAU is located in Progress Park at Old Madison Pike and is a full service Corporate University to Redstone Arsenal's Acquisition, Technology and Logistics community. Though the five had to work around existing schedule commitments, the cause was fully supported by DAU leadership and a staggered deployment schedule was cre-

ated which placed them on the ground Nov. 16 through Jan. 20.

In all, the five members of DAU South would spend 149 days supporting FEMA recovery efforts at the Baton Rouge Joint Field Office or as it became affectionately known to these five professors "The JFO."

The JFO is the hub of FEMA's recovery operations for all of Louisiana, parts of Texas, and Mississippi as well. It is housed inside a formerly defunct four-story department store which has been converted nearly overnight to a sizable, bustling business center. FEMA was on the ground quickly setting in motion a full frontal assault getting the JFO set up with cubicles, working stations, Internet connectivity, warehouse operations, a first aid station, cafeteria, phone service and a host of other essential infrastructure. They were there doing this a full two days before Hurricane Katrina made landfall in the Plaquemines Parrish on the southeastern tip of Louisiana's Gulf Coast. Over 3,000 people have been brought in to staff the operations for this location ranging from the Coast Guard, all the military departments, state representatives, customer call center specialists, planning, financial and contracting personnel, to name but a few.

The five professors from DAU South went in to assist with the tremendous contracting burden FEMA faced in the wake of thinly staffed personnel positions. This additional support from all over the government was needed

See Team on page 7

Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Fund-raising campaign goes through May 15

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- Coupon Books \$12 each, today, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., outside Sparkman Cafeteria. Sponsored by IMMC, ILS/Manprint Office. For information call Cheryl Baker 842-8695, Ranny Vinson 842-6793 or Kim Sharp 876-7077.

- Coupon Books \$12 each, March 16, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., lobby of building 5220. Sponsored by IMMC, ILS/Manprint Office. Call Cheryl Baker 842-8695, Ranny Vinson 842-6793 or Kim Sharp 876-7077.

- Cheesecake Sale, baked by the CINN-O-Man, \$2. March 16, 7:30-10 a.m., lobby of building 5308. Sponsored by CPAC. Call Andora Crawford 876-4609.

- Cinnamon Roll Sale, March 22, 8 a.m. until all are sold. Sparkman Center 5202, second floor kitchen. Sponsored by IMMC, Transportation Division and Supply Chain Executive Division. Call Aubrey Fencher 842-8485 and Austin Lundy 842-7853.

- Barbecue Plate and Bake Sale, March 30, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., in front of building 5309. Sponsored by IMMC, Lower Tier Sustainment Logistics Directorate. Call Roosevelt Pitts 313-1068, Dave Moudy 313-1069, Pam Reyer 313-1077 or Patricia Cox 842-7904.

- Motorcycle Poker Run, Sunday, April 9 (rain or shine), noon to 3 p.m. CD's Pub and Grill, 107 Arlington Drive, Madison. Sponsored by IMMC, Associate Directorate, Missiles and Space. Call Mitchell Novalis 876-3564.

- Fourth annual AER Charity Car "Show of Support." Saturday, April 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain date April 22). Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville, 2060A Airport Road. Sponsored by Fox Army Health Center and Vets with Vettes & Corvette Owners. Call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1146.

- AER Used Book Sale, April 24-28, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sparkman Center first floor, building 5300, corridor between 5303 and 5304. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs, and videotapes are welcome through April 26. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-5743 to arrange delivery and pickup of those items.

- "No-Tap" Bowling Tournament, May 4, noon to 3 p.m., Redstone Lanes. Sponsored by IMMC, Depot Maintenance Directorate. Tickets are \$10 and entitle you to three games. Call Don Slagle 876-3445, Lynn Moore 955-6001 or Sandra Swartz 842-6772.

- Barbecue Plate and Bake Sale, May 11, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., in front of building 5309. Sponsored by IMMC, Lower Tier Sustainment Logistics Directorate. Call Roosevelt Pitts 313-1068, Dave Moudy 313-1069, Pam Reyer 313-1077 or Patricia Cox 842-7904.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CAMPAIGN LEADERS— From left are AER officer Kristi Foster, campaign co-chairman Sgt. Maj. Perry West and chairman Capt. Robert Hawley. This year's goal is \$150,000.

Aspiring young golfers learn to hit the links

Golf

continued from page 4

Gates started golfing when he was 8. "I started playing with my dad because that's what he did," Gates recalled. "I still

have my junior golf set that I played with." Start Smart Golf will provide all the equipment for the courses and a golf T-shirt for each student. Sixteen children can be taken in both the Start Smart Golf and Start Smart Golf League.

To sign up, call Gates at 313-3699. The fee for each class is \$30.

Five professors make impact on hurricane relief

Team

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due to the unprecedented scope and nature of the destruction and the associated cleanup effort that must be brought to bear in the region.

Though between them, there is more than 27 years of DAU teaching experience, the five also brought to the table more than 110 years of hands-on contracting know-how which is why they were needed on the ground. The massive devastation unleashed by these storms has precipitated a need for just about every kind of service and supply one could possibly imagine. Things like debris removal, engineering services, trailer homes, photocopy services, a temporary jail facility, equipment maintenance, mortuary services, food and water, base camp support, janitorial needs, office supplies, and of course the ever popular portable showers and pot-ies.

Each professor hit the ground running to make a contribution to the recovery efforts and the job wasn't easy for any of them. Despite their experience levels, working recovery in a disaster environment is fraught with challenges, the pace is fast, and certain rules of contracting still must be adhered to. To facilitate getting the job done, the federal statutes that normally apply to contracting are relaxed somewhat and the rules of engagement for buying falls to language in the Stafford Act along with FEMA class waivers. These waivers are in full use for the first 90 days following a disaster. After that it is contracting as usual. The basic premises of sound contracting and business decision making are still what each professor operated by, however each professor became an expert in different aspects of contracting.

Hunter quickly became acclimated to one of her favorite past times — shopping. Though this was shopping of a different sort for her because most of her purchases were at places like Office Depot, Lowe's, and Home Depot as well as various businesses off the Internet. She honed her market research and credit card shopping skills by purchasing a plethora of quickly needed items for various customers throughout the affected areas — including office supplies for base support, cleaning items for field offices across Louisiana, and medical supplies needed for temporary medical trailers.

Hoff worked on various requirements from ambulance service throughout the entire state of Louisiana to printing pamphlets to help residents return to their flooded homes. But everyone agreed the most important thing he did while he was there was extend the lease on the rented condominiums so they wouldn't get evicted.

Kaufman worked tirelessly to help keep the streets of Orleans Parrish safe from crime. He spent the majority of his time conducting a formal source selection for a \$4.5 million temporary jail facility that was desperately needed once the water that had breached the crescent city's levees flooded the former New Orleans Sheriffs jail building. When he wasn't working on that project, he also

bought about \$200,000 worth of cell phone services, dumpsters, offices supplies, and computer hardware. But that's not all. Upon his arrival, he made the mistake of taking the seat vacated by the previous contract specialist who was charged with setting up the weekly bowling nights. So by default he became the coordinator for several group bowling nights at the local "bowl-o-rama" and much fun was had by all.

White became known at the JOC as the person to come to for FEMA's immediate needs. He would quickly source multiple contractors and award to the lowest, qualified bidder. He extended or initiated the leases for more than 2,000 portable toilets throughout Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, as well as dumpsters and portable showers. He became known as the "King of Porta-Pots" because of the countless purchase requests he worked for these services. The value of just those contracts was well over \$10 million. He also purchased propane for the FEMA trailers in Mississippi, closed many contracts down that were already complete and bought tractors for the security personnel at the 32-acre temporary mortuary facility. He fulfilled many urgent and compelling needs during his tour of duty.

Last but not at all least was Roberts. She departed in late December and got to ring in the New Year in Louisiana. Roberts took on a split personality during her deployment because she was integrally involved with getting unauthorized contract commitments resolved as well as taking care of a vast array of printing requirements. With the emergency conditions created early on by the storms, much of the direction given to contractors who showed up to help was loosely bound and in some cases verbal. The fallout of that is commitments that must be substantiated and ratified to make them legal contracts so contractors can be paid. This was one area Roberts made her name in as the "cleanup woman." But her talents didn't end there. She also held the title of "printing princess" because of all the purchase orders she wrote to procure guidebooks, map books and flyers.

Four of the five professors also got the privilege to spend their Thanksgiving holiday in deployed status and it was a Thanksgiving none of them will soon forget. Not because of the hardship of being away from family and familiar surroundings, but because of the unique way on-site FEMA contracting officer Richard Spillane pulled all those in the section, who didn't have a place for Thanksgiving, together at his apartment for a "pot-luck" Thanksgiving Day meal...

The five professors made a positive impact in the area and represented DAU in a professional manner. They formed some new friendships, enjoyed some fabulous food but beyond that they took away lasting real world experience that can be brought back into the classrooms at DAU South.

Editor's note: This article was written by professors Craig Kaufman and Tony White in collaboration with professors Timothy Hoff, Valerie Hunter and Phyllis Roberts.

One-two, cha-cha-cha ...



SHOWING STYLE – Ballroom dance instructors Vince Guarin and Mary Jo Blount know all the right dance moves and don't mind showing them off a bit for their students. The couple has taught ballroom dancing together since 1999. They have also won several ballroom dance competitions.

Waltz the night away in ballroom dance class

Story and Photos by KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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They stepped lightly, swirled gracefully and dipped with confidence to such tunes as “Be My Partner,” “Could I Have This Dance,” and “Dancing in the Streets.”

Couples, dressed for an evening of dancing, glided across the dance floor in the multi-purpose auditorium at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, transformed into a romantic ballroom with the help of subdued lighting, a mirrored dance ball, and dining tables covered with white table cloths and lit by candlelight. Throughout the evening, men courteously asked their partners “May I have this dance?” and their partners politely agreed, taking to the dance floor to Waltz, Fox Trot, Rumba, Tango, Swing, Merengue and Cha-Cha.

It was a fitting end to Morale Welfare and Recreation’s most recent six-week ballroom dancing course – an excuse to dress up, go out and dance the night away. The MWR Dance Party was a graduation celebration for 23 couples who completed the Waltz and Tango dance course, which is one in a series of dance courses being taught by contractor Mary Jo Blount and her partner, Vince Guarin, as part of MWR program offerings.

“We first taught a swing class with Single Swing and Double Swing,” Guarin said. “Our second class was Fox Trot and Tango. This is our third class.

“There are many different ballroom dances that we can teach. We will follow this up with another Swing class and then we will go on to the more intricate Cha-Cha. You need experience to dance the Cha-Cha.”

Most of the couples dancing at the celebration knew how to Swing, Waltz and Tango. But a full night of dancing also includes the Fox Trot, Rumba, Cha-Cha and Merengue. So, a short dance class started the evening’s festivities.

“Probably more than half of the class have just started learning to dance,” Guarin



A LITTLE SPIN, A LITTLE TWIST— Dance partners George Lewis and Sarah Kilpatrick make some fast moves on the dance floor during the MWR Dance Party. Lewis is an AMCOM intern while Kilpatrick is a co-op student working at the Acquisition Center.

said. “Others have experience, but they want to learn different dances or they want to get better at the dances they know.”

The class caught on quickly with the “quick, quick, slow” steps of the Fox Trot, but they had a little trickier time with the “quick, quick, up” steps of the Rumba.

“For some reason, guys get mesmerized by this beautiful lady going around their arm. But they need to still be doing their steps in the ‘box,’” Guarin told the class. “You need to add the beautiful arm movement and don’t forget your Latin rhythm.”

Guarin has been dancing since he was 8, when his 16-year-old sister taught him the Lindy Hop (later known as the Jitterbug and then later as the Swing). At 11, he took tap lessons and continued his interest in dance through his teen years.

“I found out if you knew how to dance you could date any girl you wanted to,” he said. “That was an incentive for me in high school.”

Guarin, who served in the Navy from 1954-57 and who retired as the director of project management with the Army

Corps of Engineers in Huntsville after 30 years of civilian service, met Blount in 1996 at a dance class. Blount, who had already won first place at ballroom dancing competitions in Huntsville and Atlanta, was an ideal partner for Guarin.

It wasn’t long before the couple began winning various ballroom dance competitions together. In 1999, they began teaching dance classes for local groups, such as the Academy for Lifetime Learning at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, the Elks Lodge, Senior Friends of Crestwood Medical Center, Good Shepherd Catholic Church and First United Methodist Church. They also teach on Princess Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

Since starting the MWR ballroom dancing classes last fall, the couple have found that it’s not difficult to find other couples who want to learn to dance together.

“There are so many different reasons to learn to dance,” Guarin said.

Dancing

continued from page 10

“Some just have always wanted to learn and now they are retired and have the time to take classes. Others are getting married or have a daughter or son getting married, and they want to know how to dance at their reception. Some want to be able to go out dancing on a date together. Or, they just might want to learn for the fun of learning.”

Eva and Winfred Green have been married for 20 years. They’ve talked about taking dance classes together for a long time.

“It’s been really, really fun,” Eva Green said. “To just go out there and learn together is really fun.”

But that doesn’t mean the couple don’t have to work at getting their moves just right on the dance floor.

“Every class is challenging,” Eva Green said. “Vince and Mary Jo make it look so easy. Then, we go out there and do it on our own, and say ‘What do we do?’”

“We have to practice at home or we won’t know what to do at our next class,” said Winfred Green, a CSC defense contractor with the Cruise Missile Defense System project office.

They’ve also been known to “show off” their skills to their two grandchildren – 5-and-a-half-year-old Gabriel and 4-year-old Ashland.

“Sometimes we’ll look behind us as we’re dancing, and Gabriel and Ashland will be there following us as they try to dance, too,” Eva Green said.

Mastering different dances together is not only fun, but it’s also a good form of exercise that a couple can enjoy together.

“After our first lesson of Tango, my whole body hurt,” Eva Green said.

Fellow students Patricia and Steve Mance dance as though they have danced for years, cutting a graceful line across the dance floor during the MWR party. Yet, they have only taken two classes.

“It’s fun, especially when you know what



PICTURE OF GRACE— Learning how to move gracefully across the dance floor looked easy when Patricia and Steve Mance teamed up together. The couple’s favorite dance is the Rumba. Patricia Mance works as a contracting officer with the Acquisition Center while Steve Mance is an engineering psychologist for RDEC. Patricia Mance is also a major in the Army Reserves and her husband is a retired Reserve lieutenant colonel.

you are doing,” Steve Mance said. “I like the Rumba because it has action. This is fun, too, because it gives us a chance to dress up and the ladies always like to dress up.”

The Mance couple both work for the Army, she as a contracting officer for the Acquisition Center and he as an engineering psychologist for Research Development and Engineering Center. Both have also served in the Army Reserves and have been deployed. Steve Mance retired as a lieutenant colonel while Patricia still serves as a major.

Dancing gives the couple a chance to cultivate a hobby together, making up for the time they are apart due to work or Reserve duty. They plan on taking MWR’s Cha-Cha class in April.

Another couple – RDEC budget analyst Jean Ann Snowbarger and her husband, Randy Nelson – have a lot of fun both on and off the dance floor.

“We’re almost ready for Dancing with the Stars,” Nelson teased, referring to a popular television show.

“This is better than sitting on the couch every night,” Snowbarger said, laughing. “Keeping the tempo together with each other is always a fun challenge.”

For dance partners George Lewis, an intern with Aviation and Missile Command, and Sarah Kilpatrick, a co-op student with the Acquisition Center, the Waltz and Tango class was the first they’ve ever taken.

“I didn’t know how to do the Tango and I was dying to learn,” Lewis said.

“He’s a great dancer,” Kilpatrick said about her partner. “It is awesome to learn these dances.”

Editor’s note: All ballroom dance courses are on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7:30-9 pm. Each course consists of 5 or 6 classes. Tuition is \$55 per couple for a five-week course and \$66 for a six-week course of instruction. Payment must be made at the time of registration. Class size is limited to 23 couples. Whenever possible, a free dance party, for practice and fun, will be included on a Friday night at the end of each course. The following classes are scheduled: Cha-Cha (five Thursdays), April 6 through May 18; Fox Trot and Rumba (six Thursdays), Aug. 3 through Sept. 7; Waltz and Tango (six Tuesdays), Sept. 19 through Oct. 24; and Cha-Cha (five Tuesdays), Oct. 31 through Dec. 12. To sign up for a ballroom dance course, call 876-4531.



ROMANCE IN DANCE— Winfred and Eva Green share an intimate moment while they dance during the MWR Dance Party celebrating the completion of a Waltz and Tango dance course. It is the first dance class the couple have taken in their 20 years of marriage. Winfred Green is a CSC employee who works for the Cruise Missile Defense System project office.

Acquisition Support Center reaches out to supervisors

Guidance to benefit entire work force

The Acquisition Support Center provided the following questions and answers about its Supervisor Outreach Program.

Question: What is the intent of the Supervisor Outreach Program?

Answer: One of the MILDEP's Army Transformation Campaign Plan Initiatives focuses on developing flexible acquisition officers and civilian leaders that possess a diverse and well-rounded background in the supporting functions and phases of acquisition. The Supervisor Outreach Program is designed to revitalize the role of the work force leaders and supervisory personnel by providing the necessary tools to manage their work force.

Question: What resources are available to assist supervisors in managing their Acquisition work force?

Answer: Regional directors, regional acquisition career managers, and acquisition career management advocates are available to assist in providing full career counseling support to the work force. Career management publications such as the Army Acquisition Logistics & Technology magazine, career management handbook, career development guideline and the Army Education Training and Education catalog are available. Future initiatives include a virtual center of "how to" movies on Acquisition Career Record Brief, Senior Rater Potential Evaluation, ATRRs Internet Training Application System and Individual Development Plan. You can also visit these web sites for additional career management information: <http://asc.army.mil/default.cfm> and <http://southernregion.redstone.army.mil/>.

Question: How does the Supervisor Outreach Program change the ACMs role in supporting the work force?

Answer: The acquisition career managers' role has shifted from supporting the work force to supporting the rating supervisor.

Question: How will the shift benefit the acquisition work force?

Answer: Since supervisors are aware of mission requirements and are already monitoring employee performance and providing feedback, they can better work with employees to identify long and short-term career goals and develop plans for growth and development. The ideal role of the supervisor is to help reinforce learning as a part of employee career growth, which is essential to developing work force leaders for the future.

Question: Will ACMs remain available to assist individual employees or will all questions be directed to the supervisors?

Answer: The supervisor should be the first stop for

acquisition career management support. Organizational contacts are also available within the organization to assist employees in answering questions.

Question: What is the supervisor's role as it relates to the Supervisor Outreach Program?

Answer: Supervisors are responsible for creating an environment that enables their employees to reach their full leadership potential. This includes playing an active role in assisting and advising the employee on career development decisions; ensuring education and training needs are included on the Acquisition five-year IDP; providing for adequate time to pursue career development activities; and encouraging cross-functional training/assignments. The MILDEP has also challenged work force leaders and supervisory personnel to recommend high performing individuals to compete for AETE opportunities such as PM Commands, Senior Service College, Competitive Development Group Program and Civilian Rotational Development Program. However, the employee is ultimately responsible for his or her career.

Question: How do you become a member of the Acquisition Corps?

Answer: There are several ways to become an AC member. If an individual is selected for a Critical Acquisition Position at the grade of GS-14/equivalent or above; those individuals currently occupying CAP positions; GS-13 or broadband equivalent; Competitive Development Group Program graduates; and AC members from other Defense Department components can transfer membership.

Question: What types of developmental opportunities are available to assist in meeting the MILDEP's challenge of developing high potential multi-functional leaders?

Answer: There are several career development opportunities available to the acquisition work force individual. They range from leadership development courses to bachelor's and master's degree completion programs. Employees can find a list of opportunities in the AETE catalog at <http://asc.army.mil/pubs/aete/default.cfm>.

Question: Who can apply for the Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program?

Answer: ATAP provides funding for 12-24 semester hours of business required for AC membership, undergraduate degree and graduate degree. ATAP is not authorized for education beyond the master's degree level. ATAP funding may only be used for study at accredited colleges or universities within the member's commuting area (50 miles); travel funds are not authorized. Classes will be taken during non-duty hours, unless the participant's organization approves class attendance during duty hours. Registration is online at <https://rda.altess.army.mil/cappmis/>.

Question: How can employees earn Continuous Learning Points?

Answer: CLPs are earned through DAU courses, leadership courses, college, seminars, conferences, published papers and developmental assignments.

Question: How are certification standards determined?

Answer: DAWIA mandates establishment of certification standards for all acquisition work force positions based on the level of complexity of the duties carried out in the position. There are three levels of certification. Each functional area is divided into three career levels for purpose of establishing standards and qualifications: Level 1 — basic or entry (GS 5-9), Level II intermediate or journeyman (GS 9-12) and Level III advanced or senior (GS 13 and above). Members may apply for certification using the Acquisition Career Field policy and procedures found at <http://www.dau.mil>.

Question: What is the process for requesting certification?

Answer: The employee provides the RCSO a signed, updated ACRB, which has been initialed by the supervisor indicating review. In addition to the ACRB, a resume and supporting documentation, such as DAU training certificates not listed on the ACRB, are also required. The RCSO reviews the package to ensure that certification standards have been achieved for the requested certification level. If the employee meets the certification standards, the package is forwarded to the certifying official for approval or disapproval. Once approved or disapproved, the ACRB will be updated and the package will be returned to the employee.

Question: What incentives do level 3 careerists have to be certified in other career fields?

Answer: Attainment of multiple certifications may be a factor considered in selecting work force members for advanced acquisition developmental opportunities, assignments and promotions. Individuals are encouraged to build cross-functional competencies by becoming certified in multiple AL&T career fields. Broadening experiences and multi-functional knowledge are beneficial in competing for and serving in critical acquisition and key leadership positions.

Question: What are positive outcomes of developmental programs such as Civilian Rotational Development Program and Competitive Development Group?

Answer: Acquisition Support Center developmental programs promote employee growth by offering expanded technical, leadership, management and multi-functional training and experience opportunities. These programs greatly benefit the individual selected and the Army as well. The developmental programs also create a pool of highly skilled work force members with the ability to adapt to the rapidly changing environment needed to support the war fighter.

Chapel members are fans of veterans home

Congregation gives annual contribution

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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The Protestant congregation of Bicentennial Chapel is generous in its support of community causes, particularly when providing funds to aid veterans at the local veterans home.

A check for \$3,600 was presented last week to representatives of the Floyd E. 'Tut' Fann State Veterans Home, an amount collected from about 250 Protestant members of Bicentennial Chapel during a Sunday service. The donation was presented by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Larry Lawrence.

"We support numerous organizations, such as the Harris Home for Children and the American Red Cross," Lawrence said.

"Every month we take up a designated offering for a needy organization. People are very giving in our chapel. And our

membership, which is made of mainly retired military, really wants to support the veterans at Tut Fann."

The chapel donates funds to Tut Fann every year. They go into a fund at the veterans home to pay for special activities and needs, such as outings, religious materials and personal items.

"This money is used to help take care of the veterans," Tut Fann administrator Tony Culberson said. "If a resident doesn't have any family support, he may need things as simple as a pair of socks or a razor, or a birthday cake for his birthday. This money goes into a special account to pay for things that help our veterans feel comfortable and cared for."

Besides the annual donation, Protestant members of Bicentennial Chapel also adopt Tut Fann veterans during the holidays.

"I think veterans are sort of the forgotten heroes," Lawrence said. "This is our way to recognize all the great things that they've done. There's some true, true heroes here. This is a small way for us to

say 'thank you.'"

Lawrence was joined by Purple Heart commander Archie Walker and senior vice commander George O'Connor in making the presentation to Culberson and Sharon Hallock, Tut Fann's activities

director. Walker is a veteran who was wounded at the Battle of Hamburger Hill during the Vietnam War. O'Connor is a wounded veteran who fought in Italy during World War II as a member of the 92nd Division, 92nd Buffalo.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PASSING ON A DONATION— Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Larry Lawrence presents a \$3,600 check to Tony Culberson, administrator of the Floyd E. 'Tut' Fann State Veterans Home. The money, collected from the Protestant members of the Bicentennial Chapel, is an annual donation that is used to pay for special items for the veterans who live at Tut Fann. With them are, from left, Purple Heart commander Archie Walker, Tut Fann activities director Sharon Hallock and Purple Heart senior vice commander George O'Connor. The local Purple Heart organization works closely with Bicentennial Chapel to provide special items and activities for Tut Fann veterans.

Historian recognized for her contributions

Dr. Kaylene Hughes of the AMCOM Command Historian's Office has been cited for her contributions in preserving women's history.

Linda Readus, secretary of the general staff, presented Hughes a certificate of honor on behalf of the Huntsville Women's History Month Committee.

Hughes was among five other recipients in an award ceremony at the Historic Huntsville Train Depot.

The certificate noted Hughes' "contribution in preserving and recording the history of the women 'soldiers of production' who worked at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., during World War II."



Courtesy photo

PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS— Dr. Kaylene Hughes, left, of the AMCOM Command Historian's Office receives a certificate from Linda Readus, secretary of the general staff.

Tuition assistance process computerized

Procedure change begins in April

By LAURA PECK
Education services officer

The Army Continuing Education System is undergoing a revolutionary modernization and automated business process called Centralized Tuition Assistance Management.

This process entails centralizing tuition assistance functions through a portal, thereby streamlining processes so that Soldiers may be assisted more efficiently and effectively within a downsizing environment. The portal, www.GoArmyEd.com, will allow Soldiers, ACES counselors, and academic institutions access to centralized support for all processes relevant to the Army Tuition Assistance Program.

The new process will have a direct impact on how Soldiers request and receive tuition assistance. In the past, Soldiers have been required to contact their local education center to request tuition assistance. Effective April 1, all Soldiers

must begin requesting tuition assistance online through the Army portal, www.GoArmyEd.com, for all classes that begin May 1 and beyond.

The benefits for Soldiers are anytime, anywhere registration for courses regardless of location, fewer trips to the Army Education Center, ability to view grades, degree plan, and other documents online, and 24/7 support from a centralized helpdesk.

Soldiers will be required to establish an account through the portal prior to requesting tuition assistance. ACES recommends that all Soldiers visit the web site periodically for the latest updates so that they may address any questions related to the new procedures with their local education center personnel. Currently, the eArmyU homepage appears under the portal address but will change to www.GoArmyEd.com on April 1. Counselors remain available at the education center to provide academic counseling, answer questions and assist in the transition process.

For more information, call 876-3465 or e-mail peck.laura@us.army.mil.

Eastern Baghdad gets surprise visit

Army leaders tour capital

By Capt. JAMES LOWE
Army News Service

BAGHDAD – Residents of eastern Baghdad were given a firsthand opportunity to share their viewpoints with the commanding general and command sergeant major of Multinational Division – Baghdad March 1.

Maj. Gen. J.D. Thurman, commanding general, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling, went on a tour to get a close-up view of the quality of life and essential services in the neighborhoods in the capital city of the emerging democracy.

They also met with Iraqi army and 4th Brigade Combat Team leaders during on-site discussions in the brigade's sector, including Sadr City.

While in Sadr City, Thurman sat and talked to a group of men near an auto mechanics shop. The men said they wanted electricity supplied to their homes and businesses more consistently.

“We will help you have better security and see the projects through

to completion,” Thurman said. “We’ll work to improve the availability of electricity and continue working to help finish the water distribution network.”

Clean water for Baghdad

During a tour of the R-3 Water Treatment Facility, located north of Sadr City, engineers showed Thurman the progress being made.

“This facility will provide millions of gallons of clean water to this portion of Baghdad daily,” said Lt. Col. Chris Hall, commander, 4th Brigade Troops Battalion. Hall also described how 19 completed water compact units, as well as 61 currently being worked on, will provide clean water to Sadr City residents later this year.

Thurman stressed the importance of getting the best people to do this and that he would return to check up on what they needed periodically.

While visiting residents in Zafarania and the Muhallas, Thurman took advantage of an opportunity to hand out toy animals to excited neighborhood children. Lt. Col. Kevin Milton, commander, 4th Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, introduced Thurman to the residents, who shared

their concerns about security and essential services.

Thurman assured them the division would provide assistance to help their local leaders resolve their issues.

On one of the main thoroughfares of east Baghdad, Thurman visited one of the checkpoints used by the Iraqi police to monitor traffic.

Iraqi army checkpoint praised

Lt. Col. Mark Bertolini, commander, 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, described the buildup of the checkpoints. He described combined operations with the Iraqi army and how well the Iraqi police perform in screening traffic. Bertolini's tanker teams patrol portions of the road and provide assistance to the IPs when they request support.

Thurman also met with Maj. Gen. Jawad, commander of the 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, and thanked him for his strong leadership in protecting mosques following the bombing of the Samarra Golden Mosque.

Editor's note: Capt. James Lowe serves with 4th BCT PAO, 101st Airborne Division.



Photo by Capt. James Lowe

WELCOME— Maj. Gen. J.D. Thurman, commanding general, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, shares an embrace with Maj. Gen. Jawad, commander, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army March 1. Thurman, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling, made several stops throughout the day to meet with local residents.

Corps of Engineers does last demolition in Iraq

Cleanup mission changes to depot operation role

By ANDREA TAKASH
Huntsville Engineering and Support Center

After almost three years of hard and dangerous work, the Army Corps of Engineers celebrated the last major demolition under the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program in Iraq.

Col. John Rivenburgh, commander of the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, Dr. John Potter, chief of the Ordnance and Explosives Directorate, and Bill Sargent, program manager of the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program, recently traveled to Iraq to witness the last demolition and to initiate the next phase of the ordnance destruction work.

"The last demo consisted of over 248 tons of stockpiled ammunition," Potter said. "Even though this was the last big one, there will still be some minor demolitions."

The demolition of stockpiled munitions took place at the Arlington Depot, which was originally controlled by Saddam Hussein's army before the war. The Arlington Depot is located approximately 170 miles north of Baghdad.

"When the U.S. Army started taking over control of the Iraqi depots, they experienced many challenges," Sargent said. "The Iraqis had no storage or compatibility procedures. High explosive items were stored with detonators, which could cause a big explosion. The Corps organized the depots and folded six depots into two."



Courtesy photo

BIG BANG— The last major demolition under the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program in Iraq contained more than 248 tons of stockpiled ammunition.

The destruction of ordnance items was taking place almost every day. This demolition contained items that either the new Iraqi army did not need or the insurgents could use during attacks, such as rocket propelled grenades, hand grenades, landmines and other large ammunition.

The completion of the last demo signifies a change in mission. Instead of a cleanup mission, the Corps will now oversee a depot operation mission.

"One Corps employee per depot will handle quality assurance, contract surveillance and oversee the depot operations," Sargent said.

The Corps hired a new contractor, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technologies Inc.

The contractor will operate the depots and train the Iraqis to take over running them.

"The Iraq cadre will learn how to maintain, pack and store ammunition, along with securing a depot. When they get it, we will leave," Potter said.

Both Potter and Sargent agreed that their trip was worthwhile and helps them to better understand what deployed employees are experiencing. They would go back if they were needed.

"The experience was eye-opening," Sargent said. "I got to see firsthand the security issues and appreciate the risks our employees deal with daily."

Said Potter, "There is a lot you can't appreciate from 9,000 miles away."



Photo by Spc. Eliamar Trapp

Field trip

Sgt. 1st Class William Plummer, with the Explosive Ordnance Training Department, 59th Ordnance Brigade, explains how the MEDENG EOD-8 Bomb Suit functions to Col. Jose Enriquez, left, 59th Ordnance Brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw, Southeast Regional Medical Command commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Donna Brock, SERMC command sergeant major, Feb. 8 at McKinley Range. The visit to Redstone was Bradshaw's first opportunity to meet the Soldiers and staff of Fox Army Health Center since he became the commander of SERMC in June 2005. It was only one of 11 stops to the facilities that fall under SERMC.

Iraqi army takes over operating base

Ceremony marks increasing role

By Pfc. PAUL DAVID ONDIK
Army News Service

FOB LOYALTY — The Iraqi Army assumed control Thursday of Forward Operating Base Hope, located in the northwest corner of the Al Thawra district of Baghdad, also known as Sadr City.

Relinquishing control of the base during a Transfer of Authority ceremony was

Multi-National Division – Baghdad’s 3rd Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Assuming control was the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division.

“It is our honor to accept responsibility and take over the sovereignty of Sadr City,” said Col. Hussain, the commander of 3rd Bn., 2nd Bde., 6th IAD.

“We stand in the company of those ready to accept the challenge of securing Iraq’s future,” said Lt. Col. Mark Bertolini, the commander of 3rd Bn., 67th AR, as he passed responsibility to the Iraqi

battalion.

Hussain said his main objective will be to help build a unified, strong and independent Iraq. He thanked coalition forces for their partnership.

“We work side-by-side with the dedicated soldiers of the ISF every day,” said Col. Thomas Vail, commander of 506th Inf. Rgmt., 101st Abn. Div. “The 2-6 IA is already patrolling and manning control points on a daily basis.”

“To my brother and friend, Col. Hussain, I’d like to say that your soldiers look magnificent today,” said Bertolini, a native of Long Island, N.Y.

The ceremony reflects the increasing responsibility for the Iraqis as their army gains control of more battle space throughout the region, officials said.

The ceremony included the playing of the Iraqi National Anthem, the uncasing of the 2nd Bde., 6th IA Div.’s colors, and remarks by both the outgoing and incoming commanders. Also included in the ceremony was a display of the Iraqi army’s new motorized equipment, including humvees, and a martial-arts exhibition.

“The turnover of FOB Hope demonstrates the increased capabilities of the ‘Tiger’ Brigade, and thus the Iraqi army,” Bertolini said. “The 2nd Brigade has earned the reputation of a tough, well-led and well-trained unit.”

FOB Hope previously housed units of Saddam Hussein’s regime prior to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Editor’s note: Pfc. Paul David Ondik serves with the 506th IR PAO, 101st Abn. Div.



Courtesy photo

Guest speaker

Command Sgt. Maj. Michele S. Jones, command sergeant major of Army Reserve Command, is scheduled speaker for the annual Women’s History Month observance March 23 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder seen rising

Army treats more cases

By **JERRY HARBEN**
Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — “We are seeing increased rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety and depression, which doesn’t surprise us as we now have been at war essentially since 9/11/2001,” said Col. Elspeth Ritchie, psychiatry consultant to the Army surgeon general.

“Leadership cares a lot about this,” Ritchie said. “There has been a great deal of education for noncommissioned officers and leaders, and more is being fielded.”

An extensive array of mental-health services is available, Ritchie said.

200 experts deployed

In Southwest Asia, more than 200 behavioral-health providers are deployed. Division staffs and combat support hospitals have mental-health specialists. Com-

bat Stress Control Companies take mental-health support to the units, including critical event debriefings when a unit suffers a casualty.

In garrison, psychiatrists and psychologists are available at hospitals and clinics, and through the Tricare program.

Programs include chaplains

Other behavioral health programs, such as the chaplains’ “Strong and Ready Families,” suicide prevention programs, substance abuse prevention programs and family support groups, also make valuable contributions to the overall mental health of the Army, officials said.

“Leadership, community prevention programs, and dedicated helping professionals in garrison and in operational theaters form the core of mental-health support for our servicemembers and their families,” Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, told the House Armed Services Committee’s subcommittee on military personnel last summer.

“This mental-health support is a con-

tinuum from community-based services, including buddy care, non-medical support resources and chaplains,” Winkenwerder said, “to command-level involvement, monitoring morale, improving living conditions and supporting quality of life initiatives; to the full spectrum of clinical care and patient movement of the Military Health System for those with a need for more intensive support.”

Resetting force

The Army surgeon general promotes a “Resetting the Force” concept built in three phases: Decompression, Reintegration and Readiness Reset.

“Resetting the Force comes from a realization that everybody needs a chance to retool and reconfigure after deployment. Programs are in place to help,” Ritchie said.

As part of the reintegration process, redeploying Soldiers are briefed on what stressors to expect on homecoming, the common symptoms of post-deployment hyper-arousal and friction, ways to ameliorate these symptoms, how to recognize

when further professional help is needed and how to access treatment services.

Soldiers returning home complete the Post Deployment Health Assessment, which screens for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other deployment-related stresses, concerns about family issues and concerns about drug and alcohol abuse. A primary-care provider then may refer Soldiers to on-site counselors or mental health departments of military treatment facilities if needed.

Soldiers now complete a Post Deployment Health Reassessment between three and six months after redeployment, to detect conditions that are not immediately apparent.

Military One-Source provides convenient assistance, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by telephone (1-800-464-8107), Internet (www.militaryone-source.com) or e-mail. It offers information and education services, referrals and confidential face-to-face counseling.

Editor’s note: Jerry Harben writes for the U.S. Army Medical Command.

Soldiers help bolster spirit at Iraqi girls’ school

By Cpl. **MICHAEL MOLINAR**
Army News Service

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq — After 25 years, the most prestigious girls school in the Najaf region is getting upgraded with help from American troops there.

For children in Iraq who want to receive an education, many are forced to attend school in less-than-ideal conditions. The prospect of acquiring an education to better their future seems to keep many young people motivated and striving to achieve.

The Abbasiya Girls School, currently educating more than 800 girls aging from 12 through 18, is the only one of its kind in the Najaf region.

In February, Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, distributed filing cabinets, reams of paper, snacks, soap, deodorant, brushes and other items to students at the school in an effort to show support for these future leaders of Iraq.



Photo by Cpl. Michael Molinar

SCHOOL UPGRADE— Girls from the Abbasiya Girls School sit in one of the classrooms at the prestigious school. Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, visited the school to hand out sorely-needed items and to make a list of restorations needed at the school.

Lack of electricity

“For years, it has operated with minimal electricity, causing a decrease in student attendance during summer months when many children decide that braving the 130-degree heat all day is too much to bear,” said Layla, the school’s assistant principal.

The school opened in 1981 but has been neglected due to lack of funding for education.

“Holes, sagging ceilings and blown-out windows are noticeable as soon as one enters the building,” said 1st Lt. Kimberly Hale, maintenance chief, Company G, 3/16 FA. “They’re concerned about the final exams coming up in a few months and they say it’s much harder to think when it’s hot, and they want to do well.”

An engineer traveled to the site with Company G to inspect the school and prepare an inventory of needed repairs inside the building in order to develop a priority list for school renovations.

More help coming

“The commander has already approved the construction repairs,” Hale said. “It’s just a matter of getting contracts set for the roof and windows. There are just so many repairs to make. You have to do what’s possible, whenever possible.”

The girls at school told Soldiers that they were thankful for the donated materials. Hale pledged to the students that the Soldiers will be back on a regular basis to check on the situation and make sure that progress is being made on the renovations.

“With or without the repairs, classes and learning will continue at the school,” administrators said. They added that it is a great comfort to know that some of the physical improvements so desperately needed at this one-of-a-kind school now appear to be right around the corner.

“I went to this school as a girl and now I work here,” Layla said. “It will be nice to have it fixed for my two daughters.”

Editor’s note: Cpl. Michael Molinar serves with 2nd BCT PAO, 4ID.



Photo by Cpl. Michael Molinar

EDUCATION SUPPORT— Girls from the Abbasiya Girls School receive sundry items from 1st Lt. Kimberly Hale, maintenance chief, Company G, 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, March 1.

59th takes long, slow road to first win

Strategy works
against Charlie

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

The HHC 59th basketball team wasn't use to this.

It actually led Charlie Company at halftime after losing all 10 of its games to this point in the season. HHC 59th coach Jonathan McDougal was ecstatic.

"Take a picture of the scoreboard," he quipped.

No need to rush for a camera because the seven-point halftime lead would stand.

The 59th's slowdown strategy and strong inside play resulted in a 29-22 win over Charlie on Thursday night at Pagano Gym. The 59th finally had a win, just in time for the postseason tournament which begins tonight at 6.

"We slowed down and we made them play our game," McDougal said. "We're seasoned veterans, we couldn't run with them. We made a point to slow

down and made them play our game."

The 59th's game has improved dramatically with the arrival a few weeks ago of 6-foot-8 center Jeff Reuter from Fort Dix, N.J. He's originally from Altus, Okla., and played at Western Oklahoma State College in 1993 and '94.

Reuter had a game-high 13 points against Charlie along with six rebounds, two steals and a block.

"Just slowed the game down and worked the ball around," the 31-year-old said of the team's win. "Penetration and made key outside shots. Made key 3-pointers."

Down 2-0, the "Raise up" bunch took a 4-2 lead on Reuter's first two baskets and never trailed again. It led 20-13 at halftime.

"Now we've got an inside presence," McDougal said of Reuter who played his third game for the 59th.

Charlie (7-3) will have to regroup to defend its title from last year. David Hooks, a forward, had seven points for the Wolfpack.

"We concentrated too much on

our offense, not enough defense," Charlie coach Chelsie Stokes said. "And big man (Reuter) caught us by surprise, I guess."

The 59th, thanks to Reuter, has reason for optimism entering the postseason tournament slated March 15-23.

"This is like the beginning of the season for us," McDougal said.

Here are last week's results:

• **March 6** — Headquarters & Alpha def. HHC 59th 51-28 and Marines def. NCO Academy 62-28.

• **March 8** — Bravo def. Marines 58-51, Headquarters & Alpha def. MEDDAC 48-33 and 326th Chemical def. NCO Academy 45-23.

• **March 9** — 326th Chemical won by forfeit over Bravo and HHC 59th def. Charlie 29-22.

League standings entering this week were: **Eastern Conference** — Charlie (7-3), Headquarters & Alpha (7-4), MEDDAC (6-4) and HHC 59th (1-10). **Western Conference** — 326th Chemical (10-0), Bravo (6-5), Marines (4-6) and NCO Academy (3-8).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOWERING PRESENCE— HHC 59th center Jeff Reuter (30) is head and shoulders above everyone else in his team's 29-22 win over Charlie Company.



Sports & Recreation

Babe Ruth baseball

Huntsville Babe Ruth League will be holding registrations for the 2006 Summer Season on March 18 from 9 a.m. to noon. Players ages 13 to 18 as of April 30, 2006 are invited; and 12-year-olds are eligible to sign up as well. Registration forms will be accepted after March 18 on an individual basis. HBRL boundaries are the Huntsville city limits and players may choose the park they want to play in. The registration fee is \$70, and a birth certificate is required for all players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Contact your park representative for registration location. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts are: Central Division (Braham Springs), Bud Gambrell 564-5612; Northern Division (Mastin Lake), Dewayne Friend 830-7077; Southern Division (Sandhurst), Tim Harrison 544-3180; and Eastern Division (Optimist Park), Ken Farnell kfarnell@knology.net.

Amateur softball night

The Alabama Amateur Softball Association has formed a partnership with the Huntsville Stars, the Double-A affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. June 16 has been designated as ASA Night. This special night is targeted for all ASA registered teams, adult and youth, in the area. The

Huntsville Stars has set up a discount package for teams. This event will include an appearance by Kelly Kretschman, Olympic gold medalist in softball, as well as fireworks that will be held after the baseball game at Joe Davis Stadium.

Youth soccer

The Madison Soccer Club is hosting a half-day Spring Break Soccer Camp, March 20-24 from 8 a.m. to noon at Dublin Park in Madison. Boys and girls ages 5-13 are invited. The cost is \$95. For more information or to register, please visit the web site www.madisonsc.org.

Bicycle safety

Road I Course, from the League of American Bicyclists, is recommended for adults and children over 14. "This initial course is perfect for all cyclists who wish to gain a full understanding of how to operate a bicycle in a variety of situations," a prepared release said. "The class includes learning how to perform a bicycle safety check, basic maintenance like fixing a flat, interactive discussion, on-bike skills practice and student manual." It will be held March 22 from 7-9 p.m., March 24 from 7-9 p.m. and March 25 from 8 a.m. to noon at Safety City, 2221 Drake Ave. The \$50 course fee is due at signup. Spring City Cycling Club members receive a \$5 discount. AlaBike members receive a \$10 discount. Registration deadline is March 15. Registration forms can be found at <http://www.bikeleague.org/edu->

[center/Road_I_Registration.pdf](#). For more information call David L. Stone, league cycling instructor for League of American Bicyclists, (256) 348-6414.

Golf league

The OMMCS Golf League will have its 2006 season second meeting Thursday at 4:30 p.m. at the Golf Course clubhouse. At least three vacancies exist from the league's 20-team roster. For more information, call Dean Anderson 313-3477 or Dave Parker 313-4196.

Youth fitness

Youth Sports is conducting a fitness program for ages 12-18 from now through May 17 at the Youth Center. The program includes strength training, cardiovascular conditioning, flexibility and education. It meets Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. each week. There is no program fee, but central registration fee of \$18 will apply, if not already enrolled at CYS Central Registration. For more information, call 313-3699.

Golf bus trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a golf trip to the Dancing Rabbit Golf Course at the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, Miss. This three-day trip will depart May 19 at around 6 a.m. and return May 21 about 8 p.m. There will be two 18-hole tournaments held on the two Dancing Rabbit courses (the Oaks and the Azaleas). The Callaway Handicap system will be used in each tournament to make the events competitive regardless of an individual's handicap. Cost for this trip is \$225 per person based upon double occupancy. Included in this rate is two nights stay at the Pearl River Resort, bus fare, green fees and shared cart for two rounds of golf, awards, and snacks and beverages on the bus. A non-golfing spouse fee is available at \$125. For reservations, e-mail Bob Olson at bob.olson@amrdec.army.mil. A

\$125 per person deposit is due by March 31, and final payment will be due by May 12. Space is limited so make your reservation today.



Conferences & Meetings

Toastmasters

Tennessee Valley Toastmasters meets the first and third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Radisson Inn, 8721 Highway 20 West, Madison. For information call 876-8706 or e-mail amy.donlin@us.army.mil.

Enlisted spouses

Enlisted Spouses Club meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Challenger Activity Center. New members are always welcome. Child care reimbursement is available to members. For more information, call Jean Mulcahy 881-7024.

Women accountants

American Society of Women Accountants will meet March 21 at the Holiday Inn Select on Williams Avenue, Sun Room of Lofton's. Social begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 and the program at 6:30. Dr. Danny Dutton is to speak on stress management. Cost is \$16.50 for members, \$17.50 non-members and \$10 full-time undergraduate students. Reservations are required by noon Friday. Call 830-0377.

Engineer society

The Huntsville Post Society of American Military Engineers meets Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost of the buffet lunch is \$8.50. Scheduled speakers are Susan Pearsall of SpecPro and Barbie Peek of the Port Authority of Huntsville. The topic is an update on changes at the airport. For reservations call Amber Dickens 895-1834 or Brandon Price 895-1613.

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Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 at the Officers and Civilians Club, Regimental Room. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Gregory Knight 876-8036.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting March 29 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker Joe Massonelli is to discuss the past and future of Wal-Mart. For more information, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

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 information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, 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 have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or Chief Warrant Officer Robert Smith 955-9722.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

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, 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. The Thrift Shop is accepting spring clothing and Easter items. On a trial basis, the shop will take early afternoon appointments. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Welfare requests

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number.

Please include your federal tax exemption number, point of contact, telephone number, the amount requested and the specific use of this donation. The deadline for requests is March 31. Requests can be delivered or mailed to: Thrift Shop, Attn: Mary McCarthy, welfare chairperson; building 3209, Hercules Road; Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

Manager wanted

The Thrift Shop is looking for a new manager; 30 hours per week, experience a plus and must be computer literate. Details and job application can be picked up during business hours.

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Chapel services

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) – noon Catholic Mass. Saturday – 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday — 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11

a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

Volunteer opportunities

There are many benefits to volunteering. One is to make a difference, and at Army Community Service you can do that by giving your time to help Soldiers, family members and retirees. But you can also help yourself by gaining skills and teamwork experience, boosting your self-confidence in the workplace, and gathering job experience to put in that otherwise blank spot on your resume. ACS has different programs that need volunteers as assistants. The hours and days are flexible and child care is free while you are volunteering. No experience necessary. Be a part of the ACS team. Call Phyllis Cox 876-5397.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is accepting requests for tax appointments; call 842-1040. Federal and state returns are prepared and filed electronically for free. This service is for active duty and retired military and their family members. The center is open through April 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday by appointment only. Walk-ins are accepted from 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$750 annual scholarships to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information or a scholarship application, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131 or Hilary Marshall 313-1349.

Parents' night out

Child and Youth Services' monthly Parents' Night Out has been moved to Friday night, March 24, so parents can attend Comedy Club at the Officers and Civilians Club. "Drop off your kids at a well staffed, accredited, affordable (as low as \$10 per child for lower enlisted military) MWR child care center during the show," a prepared release said. Call 876-3704 for Parents' Night Out registration.

Comedy club

The Officers and Civilians Club will hold its first Comedy Review on March 24 at 6 p.m. in the ballroom. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets should be available at the Sparkman Cafeteria, the Officers and Civilians Club, Redstone Lanes, and the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. For more information, call 830-2582.

CFC applications

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations wanting to receive contributions. Under federal law, the applicant must be a 501 (c) (3) organization. The open period for accepting applications continues through April 13. CFC manages the collection and disbursements of donations from military and federal employees in Cullman, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Morgan counties, as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. For more information or to obtain an application, call Melinda Seigler, CFC director, at 536-0745, ext. 108 or the

CFC office 876-9143. You may also download the application with instructions at <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil>.

Johnson High reunion

Plans are under way for Johnson High School's Class of 1976, 30-year reunion. The scheduled dates are June 30 to July 2. If you are interested in attending the class reunion, visit the web site <http://www.joj76.org> for more information.

AER book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 24-28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes are welcome through April 26. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-5743 to arrange delivery and pickup of those items.

Warrant officer scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present its annual \$1,000 scholarship award for 2006. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen), and spouses of members of the active, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Valley. Deadline to submit packet is May 1. To download a packet and application form, visit www.redstonewarrants.com.

Aviation scholarships

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Army Aviation Association of America awards scholarships and interest-free loans annually to members of AAAA and their spouses, unmarried siblings, unmarried children, and unmarried grandchildren of current and deceased members. In 2005, 17 Scholarships worth \$29,500 were awarded based on Tennessee Valley participation, affiliation and matching fund activity. May 1 is the deadline for 2006 scholarship applications. The member's effective date of AAAA membership must be



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Travel log

Jerry Alexander, a logistics management specialist in the Tactical Operation Center product office, looks at the Redstone Arsenal exhibit at Huntsville Airport.

on or before May 1, 2005 for 2006 applications unless the member is deceased. The one-year requirement for all uniformed active duty, Army Reserve and Army National Guard members is automatically waived. Some scholarships are specifically reserved for enlisted, warrant officer, company grade, and Army civilian members. The applicant must be attending an accredited college or university or selected for fall entry as an undergraduate or graduate. Applicants who will attend a service academy are ineligible for a grant or loan. No recipient can hold concurrent AAAA scholarships. For more information, see the AAAA web site <http://www.quad-a.org/>, Scholarship link, or call Tom Harrison, Tennessee Valley Chapter vice president for scholarships, 319-0100.

Test week 2006

The OSD Defense Test Resource Management Center, in cooperation with the International Test and Evaluation Association, announces Test Week 2006 will be held June 5-9 at the Von Braun Center.

Keynote speakers, panel discussions, exhibit information and registration information can be found on the web site www.testweek.org. This conference is also listed in TIP, vendor: Westar Corporation. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Short courses

In conjunction with Test Week, two short courses, "Practical Applications of M&S to Transformation" and "Interoperability Certification and Training Process," will be taught June 5. Both courses are in TIP, vendor: Westar Corporation, or the registration information is on the web site www.testweek.org. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Dissertation award

The International Society of Logistics and the Logistics Education Foundation announce the 2006 Dissertation Proposal Award Competition for Promising Research in System Design for Reliability,

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Maintainability and Supportability; Logistics Systems and Maintenance; Business Logistics; and Supply Chain Management. The 2006 SOLE Dissertation Award provides a \$3,000 grant to a Ph.D. candidate and recognition by the society through publication of an article in the SOLE "Logistics Spectrum" based on the completed dissertation. The money will be distributed as follows: \$2,000 presented at the annual symposium Aug. 15-17, \$500 upon receipt by SOLE of a bound copy of the completed dissertation, \$500 upon acceptance of a minimum 1,500-word article by the "Logistics Spectrum" of a summary of the dissertation. Applications and supporting documentation are due April 7. The contact is Martha C. Cooper, professor of marketing and logistics, Max M. College of Business at Ohio State University, 514 FH, 2100 Neil Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 43210-1144; phone 614-292-5716, fax 614-292-0879 and e-mail cooper.7@osu.edu. The application materials can be accessed at http://fisher.osu.edu/~cooper_7/.

Space Camp scholarships

The Army Community Service Volunteer Committee announces the Space Camp, Space Academy, and Aviation Challenge Scholarship Program for 2006, open to active and retired military family members. Children of Guard and Reserve members having served on active duty from March 17, 2005 to March 17, 2006 are also eligible. Applicants must reside

within a 50-mile radius of Redstone Arsenal, present a copy of their military ID card (or military orders) – along with their completed application, and a handwritten one-to-two page essay titled, "Why I want to attend Space Camp/Space Academy/Aviation Challenge." Children must complete grades 4-6 for Space Camp, grades 7-8 for Space Academy and grades 7-9 to be eligible for Aviation Challenge. Applications should be available at the Post Exchange, local schools and Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, and must be returned by noon Friday to ACS. Previous winners are not eligible. For more information, call 876-5041.

Women's history contests

Team Redstone is sponsoring Women's History Month display and essay contests. Essays should be two pages, double-spaced and pertain to the theme "Women – Builders of Communities and Dreams." Fax, e-mail or mail essays by today to Garrison, AMSAM-EO (Sgt. 1st Class Mixon), Redstone Arsenal, AL 35897, fax 876-8947, phone 876-8648, e-mail monique.mixon@redstone.army.mil; or to OMEMS, ATSK-AE (Master Sgt. Jackson), Redstone Arsenal, AL 35897, fax 842-6853, phone 876-9224 or 842-9765, e-mail tuynuykua.jackson@redstone.army.mil. For the unit/department static display contest, notify the 59th

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Ordnance Brigade or Garrison office of the location and contact for your static display today. The judging will take place Thursday. Contest plaques and trophies will be awarded during the Women's History Month observance March 23 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Physical training test

Headquarters & Headquarters Company, Garrison will administer the Army Physical Fitness Test every Wednesday in April for all Soldiers assigned or attached to the Garrison. The AFPT will begin at 6:30 a.m. each Wednesday. Note the change of the primary location for this event from the field adjacent to Tin City to HHC headquarters, building 3206 for push-up/sit-up events. This change of location is due to the chance of inclement weather. Special accommodations will be made for sections wanting to make this a morale-building event. Please call 1st Sgt. McIntyre 842-7091 or Mr. Gibson 876-7797 to verify that permanent/temporary profiles are on record at the unit. For all personnel that have temporary profiles which preclude them from taking the APFT, weigh-in will be conducted at 7:30 a.m. the day of the APFT.

Infantry reunion

The Southeastern Chapter of the 88th Infantry Division Association will hold its Spring Reunion April 27-30 in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Veterans of the 88th Infantry (Blue Devil) Division, Trieste U.S.

Troops, U.S. Forces Austria and the 88th Regional Readiness Command are invited. For more information, call Robert McCall 881-6325.

Panoply volunteers

Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers' Community Projects Committee is recruiting volunteers to help with the Panoply Arts Festival April 28-30 at Big Spring Park. Most of the shifts are three hours or less. For more information or a volunteer form, call Eura Reaves 842-7093.

Pre-retirement courses

FPMI has the following pre-retirement courses scheduled in Huntsville: Civil Service Retirement System pre-retirement March 21-22 and Federal Employees Retirement System pre-retirement March 23-24. For more information, call 539-1850.

Veterinary clinic

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics March 23 from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk-in basis for routine vaccinations. Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and microchip identification will also be available for pets. For more information, call the facility 876-2441.

Women's history program

Team Redstone's Women's History Month Committee invites you to attend the annual Women's History Month obser-

vance. The keynote speaker is Command Sgt. Maj. Michele S. Jones, command sergeant major of Army Reserve Command. The program will be held March 23 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, call Demetria Cruz 876-9718 or Stephanie Feltmeyer 876-0023.

Genealogy session

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society will present "Writing a Compelling Family History," by genealogist Howard Blood, at 7 p.m. March 20 at Huntsville-Madison County Public Library auditorium, 915 Monroe St. For information call 883-5650.

Federal employment

Do you have questions about applying for federal jobs? Would you like to know how resumes are processed and rated? Then don't miss a Federal Employment Briefing on March 30 from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. To reserve a seat, call Debra Jefferson 876-5397.

Commissary shoppers

The Commissary is holding a "Kellogg's Healthy Beginnings" health screening Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants receive a free blood pressure check, cholesterol check and a health assessment kit with information on assessing fiber needs, body mass index and heart health. The Commissary will also have coupons and product sampling.

Festival participants

If you are interested in participating in the Asian Pacific American Festival as a performer or vendor May 24 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, call Gladys Lee 876-5844.

St. Patrick's party

Join the Redstone Lanes Sports Lounge on Friday night from 7-11:30 for its St. Patrick's Day Party. There will be green beer, drawings for a pot o' gold, karaoke and finger foods. This event to open to the entire Redstone community. For more information, call 876-6634.

Library hours

The MWR and OMEMS Library, for a trial period beginning March 9, has extended hours Tuesdays until 9 p.m. and Thursdays until 8 p.m. The hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. The library is in building 3323 on Redeye Road. For information call 876-4741.

Benefit singing

A gospel and country benefit singing will be held April 8 from noon to 8 p.m. at Woodville High School Gymnasium, 290 County Road 63 (one mile off Highway 72). Riley Corbitt, 3, has been diagnosed with Niemann-Pick's disease. Monetary donations can be made at any Regions Bank. For more information, call 776-4143.

