

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 55 No. 20

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## Around town



Police academy session opens  
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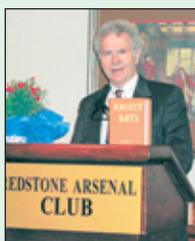
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# New unit goes with historic name

*Guns-A-Go-Go  
flying again*

By **KIM HENRY**  
Staff writer  
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Often when individuals retire they later go back to work. It is uncommon, however, to go back to work after more than 40 years of retirement.

On May 6 members of the Vietnam era combat unit, the 53rd Aviation Detachment, also known as the Guns-A-Go-Go unit, held their annual reunion in Huntsville. Though it was a time for friends and family members of the veterans to get back together and rehash old war stories, it was also a time for ceremony.

In a "Motto, Lineage, Colors Handover Ceremony" members from the original unit passed the torch to the new 21st century "Guns-A-Go-Go," the Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.

Handing over the name was bittersweet for many veterans.

"I have mixed emotions. I have a very proprietary feeling about our unit and what we did. I'm very proud," Ralph "Doc" Holloway, former "Easy Money" pilot, said. "By the same token, I am really proud these guys think enough of us to carry it on. They're going to



Photo by Kim Henry

**LESSONS LEARNED**— Alpha Company commander Capt. Jeff Siino, right, talks to Ralph "Doc" Holloway, former pilot for Guns-A-Go-Go, about the Multimode Radar on the new MH-47G Special Operations Chinook Helicopter.

carry on our history and traditions."

Guns-A-Go-Go was the only attack Cargo Helicopter unit, which was deactivated after three of the four Armed Chinook helicopters were

destroyed in Vietnam.

When the Alpha Company, a heavy assault Chinook unit, was formed in December they started looking for a unit name and patch. One of the pilots, Chief Warrant Officer Mike Rutledge, came across a web site about the Guns-A-Go-Go. He sent an e-mail to the web master and requested to modify the patch for Alpha Company.

After taking a consensus among the group, the original commander of the 53rd Aviation Detachment, Bill Tedesco, asked if Alpha Company would like to also take over their unit name.

"It was very humbling to take on their name," Capt. Jeff Siino, Alpha Company commander, said. "We have the deepest heartfelt gratitude to accept their lineage."

To give Alpha Company the full appreciation of the name, Siino called a formation where he gave crew members the Guns-A-Go-Go history. "I literally had goose bumps when

briefing the guys on this," Siino said.

He also took an informal vote on adopting the new name. "You want the majority of the people to be onboard with the name because it will last a lifetime with the unit," Siino said.

"The name and motto, they are the cornerstone of the unit. They build esprit de corps, loyalty and camaraderie in that organization."

To accept the new name, 23 Alpha Company crew members came to Redstone, some flying in their aircraft — the MH-47G Chinook, all wearing the Guns-A-Go-Go patch.

"When I saw these guys with the badge on their shoulder I got a lump in my throat," said David Knight, a former Guns-A-Go-Go gunner. "I am glad to see it on them. I'd rather see it on them than in my drawer."

Knight flew every mission on "Co\$T of Living" except the



Photo by Kim Henry

**SIDE BY SIDE**— Members of the Guns-A-Go-Go, along with their family and friends, had the opportunity to get up close with both the ACH-47A "Easy Money" and the MH-47G Special Operations Chinook.

See **Guns** on page 7

# An open lane random survey

What do you think about immigration reform?

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
Staff writer  
kellyqa@bellsouth.net



**Ed Blair**  
DoD civilian  
**"I think it's definitely needed. I believe anyone in this country should be here legally. Once here**

**they should be afforded every opportunity and likewise they should participate in the governmental system just like everybody else."**

**John Steingel**  
retiree

**"We need to secure our borders now and worry about the immigration problem later."**



**Tom Newby**  
retiree  
**"We need to line everybody up and send them back home if they don't have a green card. You need to be here legally or not at all."**

**Kurt Brouilled**  
retiree

**"I don't think illegal immigrants should get a free ride. I don't know what the right answer is, but we need to do something."**



## Quote of the week

**'M**arriage is like baseball's disabled list: day-to-day.'

— **Skip Caray**  
Baseball announcer

## Letters to the Editor

### Honoring law enforcement officers

The Congress and president of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week.

Members of the U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone, Directorate of Emergency Services, Provost Marshal Office play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Redstone Arsenal's Soldiers, employees, contractors, residents and visitors. It is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their security and law enforcement community; and that members of our security and law enforcement community recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression. The men and women of the U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone, Directorate of Emergency Services, Provost Marshal Office unceasingly provide a vital public service.

We call upon Team Redstone — all Soldiers, employees, contractors, residents, visitors, and organizations of this community — to observe the week of May 14-22 as Police Week, with appropriate ceremonies and observances. In so doing, we may join in commemorating security and law enforcement officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

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

**Directorate of Emergency Services**

### Cherry bombs and curious kids

The following is provided for humor. Remember, kids and fireworks don't mix without parents.

The Fourth of July in Oklahoma City in the 1950s was an interesting time to be a kid. From talking to local natives, it was about the same in Alabama. You did not need a calendar to see that it was the Fourth; you just needed to look at your friend's fingernails. If the fingernails were black, burned or missing, if a friend was limping from stepping barefooted on a hot sparkler, or if your neighbor's yard was on fire, it was the Fourth. Of course there were after-the-Fourth sales where for a dollar or so a kid's dreams could come true. I was a paperboy and therefore had a few dollars to participate in the festivities.

Believe it or not, our parents were concerned about our health and well-being. They tried to curtail or stop our purchases. But that did not stop us. Nope, we were young fools.

There were no legal restrictions on fireworks sales until around 1962. If you bought an M-80 that was supposed to be a quarter of a stick of dynamite, you got

See **Fireworks** on page 5

### Tobacco or not tobacco

What is the Army's policy on tobacco — to include smokeless? What are the rules for Redstone Arsenal, and Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School (permanent party, instructors, students)?

I thought there was no tobacco allowed in any government building.

**Reggie G. Johnson**  
contractor and retired EOD

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The Army policy on smoking is covered in AR 600-63, Chapter 4. It clearly states 'smoking of tobacco products is prohibited in all DA-occupied workplaces...' It further states 'designated areas will be at least 50 feet from common points of ingress/egress and will not be located in areas that are commonly used by non-smokers.'*

*"The Redstone Arsenal Regulation 1-15, 'Redstone Arsenal Controlling Smoking' states it covers 'smoking of tobacco products in all Department of the Army*

*(DA) occupied workplaces.' It reads 'it is command policy that all persons, military and civilian, who enter facilities, workplaces, or office space of the U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone, tenant activities and those AMCOM leased building located off post, totally refrain from smoking in areas specified in this regulation and in accordance with DA guidelines.'*

*"Neither AR 600-63 nor Redstone Arsenal Regulation 1-15 make any references to smokeless tobacco."*

### 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.



### Job selection frustration

I would like to address the selection process the Army Civilian Human Resources Agency uses, such as the Civilian Personnel On-Line. CPOL is the primary source utilized by regional civilian personnel operations centers and installation civilian personnel advisory centers to post resumes. I wish to convey what I have personally experienced using CPOL's Vacancy Announcement Board self-nominate system. For example, in the past 12 months alone, I self-nominated myself for 59 Redstone Arsenal job announcements through CPOL. Most were for promotion, but a few were for lateral into the same grade. I also need to mention the majority (97 percent) were in the same job series I

See **Frustration** on page 8

# Redstone Rocket

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#### Rocket Staff

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Editor: Skip Vaughn  
Reporters: Kari Hawkins  
              Kelley Lane-Sivley  
              Kim Henry  
              Spc. Eliamar Trapp  
Copy Editor: Scott Seeley  
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# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Gregory Rayford

**Job:** Chief of the AMCOM Safety Office

**Where do you call home?**  
Wilmar, Ark.

**What do you like about your job?**  
Dealing with the people. I work with the Patriot system, the Avenger, and Bradley system. The item managers are nice to interact with.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
Well, I'm a member of the Untouchables Corvette Club and we usually like to take road trips



about once a month.

**What are your goals?**  
My goal in life is just to be happy, get some of the things in life I want.

**What's your favorite type of music?**  
Smooth jazz

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**May 4:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 4:** An individual pumped gas at the Shoppette and left without rendering proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**May 4:** Another individual pumped gas at the Shoppette and left without rendering proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**May 5:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a revoked license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 6:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 6:** An individual reported that he was bitten by a dog at a recreation area. He was treated at the scene. The dog owner was cited and released. The dog was detained



at the Redstone Veterinary Clinic for evaluation.

**May 8:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**May 8:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

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

**May 10:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

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

**Violation notices issued:** 11 speeding, 8 driving with a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license, 5 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 expired registration, 1 improper lane change, 1 parked in a no parking zone, 1 parked in a handicapped space, 1 unleashed pet, 1 improper tag.

# Testing of water system may cause discoloration

The Garrison's Department of Public Works has announced that a test will be conducted Friday to check the pressure coming from the Arsenal's new water supply connection to the City of Huntsville.

When the new system is activated, the direction of water flow in some areas will be reversed. This could temporarily cause some water cloudiness

or discoloration.

In a new manner of supplying the installation's water, the Arsenal plans to start buying water from Huntsville, as opposed to using the aging treatment plant that has been in production for more than 40 years.

Purchasing the water from the city is expected to be less expensive than continuing to fund increasing treat-

# Claims office addresses property damage

## Upsurge expected in storm season

By JAMES E. FRIDAY  
Claims examiner

A flash of lightning and heavy thunder should tell you that the thunderstorm season is here in the Tennessee Valley. The Tennessee Valley is noted for its horrendous thunderstorms. Each year the Tennessee Valley experiences a number of thunderstorms that drop hail of various sizes in this area. It is not uncommon for marble size hail or in some cases, golf ball size hail to fall. With thunder and lightning comes the potential for hail damage to vehicles, power outages, and damage to other personal property.

Servicemembers sometimes sustain such property damage during this time of year. If hail causes power to fluctuate or damage your vehicle or other personal property while located on the installation at your place of duty, you may be able to recover for the damage by filing a claim. Army Regulation 27-20, Chapter 11, provides for payment to proper claimants for loss, damage or destruction of personal property when this type of damage occurs.

Who is a proper claimant? Army claims offices are authorized to compensate:

- Soldiers on active duty.
- Members of the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard engaged in active service or inactive duty training.

• Civilian employees of the Army or the ARNG while at their assigned place of employment. The incident must occur when the employee is at his/her place of employment.

• DoD civilian employees who are not employees of the Air Force, Navy or Marine Corps. Again, the incident must occur when the employee is at his/her place of employment.

AR 27-20, Chapter 11 provides for the payment of uncompensated damages once a claim has been filed with your insurance. If your vehicle is damaged by hail, the first thing you must do is notify your insurance company. The insurance company will verify the damage and give you an itemized list of the damages. Claimants whose insurance policies cover all or part of their loss must provide a copy of their insurance policy to the claims office with their claim. Such claimants must file and settle claims with their insurers before settling a claim with the government. Comprehensive vehicle policies will cover most loss

# Local man convicted of assaulting officer

Robert D. Ries Jr., 56, of Huntsville, has been sentenced to five and a half years in prison after pleading guilty in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama to a one-count criminal indictment of forcibly assaulting, resisting, opposing, impeding, intimidating or interfering with a federal officer.

The indictment alleged that Ries used his vehicle as a deadly or dangerous weapon and that the crime involved bodily injury. The

and damage. Local laws require liability coverage, and failure to maintain such coverage is normally a basis for denial of an individual's claim.

A claimant who refuses to provide a copy of his or her insurance policy, submit a demand on the insurer, or take other action necessary to present a demand on the insurer will have his or her claim denied, absent good cause. In the absence of clear evidence to the contrary in such cases, the claims office may assume that the claimant's insurer will fully compensate the claimant and may deny the claim on this basis. Additionally, a damaged vehicle must be registered on post in order for a claim to be successful.

Claims for damage resulting from power fluctuations are usually not compensable. The damage may be compensable, however, if the power company records or similar evidence shows that a particular residence or group of residences were subject to extraordinarily intense power surges. Soldiers and dependents should take measures to protect valuable home appliances and other equipment from power fluctuations. A surge protector is a relatively inexpensive way to protect electronic equipment from damage. Surge protectors come in many shapes, sizes and capacities. It is important to utilize a surge protector that adequately protects the electronic property in use.

If you want to file a claim, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate accepts claims on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-3:30 p.m. If you have any questions, you can call the claims office at 876-9006 or 876-9007.

# Leave lights off

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office provided the following energy consumption information.

**Myth: Leaving lights, computers and other appliances on uses less energy than turning them off and also makes them last longer.**

**Fact:** The small surge of power created when some devices are turned on is vastly smaller than the energy used by running the device when it is not needed. While it used to be the case that cycling appliances and lighting on and off drastically reduced their useful lifetimes, these problems have been largely overcome through better design.

For more information, call energy manager Mark Smith 842-0014.

incident occurred Feb. 17, 2005 on Redstone Arsenal.

Ries was formally charged in U.S. District Court after being arrested and the completion of an investigation by investigators of the Directorate of Emergency Services. The completed investigation resulted in the one-count indictment. The case was prosecuted by assistant U.S. attorney Russell Penfield.

On Feb. 17, 2005, Ries used a motor vehicle to assault Officer Marvin Stinney who was attempting to investigate Ries' presence on the Arsenal after having been previously cited for driving under the influence of an intoxicant. Following the assault, a 23-mile pursuit ensued from Redstone into Huntsville, where, with the assistance of the Huntsville Police Department, stop sticks were deployed and Ries was taken into custody near Oakwood College without further incident.

Ries was sentenced Jan. 20 to five and a half years in federal prison, three years supervised release after the prison term is completed and restitution totaling \$2,625. (Garrison release)

# Fireworks

continued from page 2

a quarter of a stick of dynamite. Something people do not remember is that in that era, dynamite and fuses/caps were sold in the hardware stores. No license or such was needed. Of course owners would not sell it to kids, but if an adult wanted some, he just bought it and left.

The availability of large, powerful firecrackers led to some interesting situations and resolution to events. I can recall my friends blowing large concrete blocks over houses — or halfway over houses, making guns by putting a black cat firecracker in one end of a pipe and a marble in the other, the terrorizing of the neighbor's dog, the firebombing of local ant beds, firecracker fights where lighted firecrackers were thrown at participants — and non-participants — and midnight duels with Roman candles.

Despite all of this, we all managed to grow from adolescents to teens with only minor wounds. Then we graduated to the illegals and the homemade stuff.

With litigation in 1962, legal supplies of “the good stuff” dried up. Sometimes good stuff could be had beneath the counter for a price. However, by this time we had learned how to disassemble firecrackers, save the powder, and make some “really” good ones.

That brings me to my red-headed

buddy, Steve. He lived two houses down from me and was a couple of years older. Despite the age difference, he was a good friend and I still hold him dear in my memories. Around the Fourth in different years, he and I were involved in three “accidents.” I call them accidents because I was the one throwing the firecrackers. If they had happened to me, they would have been tragedies.

The first involved cherry bombs. They were large, red, circular firecrackers that packed quite a punch. Steve happened to be in the general direction of where I lit and threw one. He was standing next to the curb. I happened to throw the cherry bomb into the road and it rolled to the curb and went off. A cherry bomb

was a large, circular firecracker that packed a particularly large explosion. Over the years they decreased in size. In 1957, they were about the size of a quarter. I am sure that this particular one was made by a mad bomber. Anyway, it had enough force to blow a piece of debris that struck Steve in the end of his nose. It skinned the entire end of his nose and he bled like a stuck pig. It bled so much that the neighbor girl got sick looking at it. That caused considerable weeping and gnashing of teeth on his part and regret on mine. I guess there was something extra terrifying about having to hold the meat on your nose in place.

The second involved the use of the largest crack-bombs I have ever seen. A

crack-bomb is a firecracker that does not have a fuse. A crack-bomb is ignited by throwing it against a hard surface such as concrete. The particular crack-bombs in question were larger than a golf ball and as potent as any M-80. When we threw them against the side of a brick house, they would flake off the brick. This led to another “accident.” Steve was standing beside me when I threw one of these things against our brick houses. On that hot July day, Steve was standing shirtless next to me. A flat piece of brick flaked off and peppered his bare chest in sensitive areas. From the way Steve screamed, I thought it was a mortal wound.

That leads me to Steve's last known “incident” with firecrackers. When he was about 16, Steve wanted to make a super bomb. By that, I mean that he was going to disassemble or unroll as many firecrackers as was needed and collected the powder in one of those large medicine pill containers. Steve's mom was a nurse so he had access to various sizes. Of course, he used a big one.

My brother, Larry, and I helped him in his preliminary efforts. We unrolled, and unrolled, literally hundreds of firecrackers to fill up half of the container. Now that I know something about the weights of powder, I would say that he had around a thousand grains of what is called FFFF (four-F) powder. Around 7,000 grains make a pound. This particular powder is used to make the flash in a replica flintlock rifle's pan. It is highly volatile.

After collecting the powder, Steve had to find out how to ignite the stuff. Instead of going outside, he went into the garage of his house. I don't

recall anyone even thinking of a fuse. Instead, Steve decided to set the thing off by lighting a piece of paper and sticking it into the medicine bottle. He stretched out on the ground so his hand would just reach the tube. He managed to light the paper and hold it above the powder, but the flame did not reach the powder because of the 90 degree angle. He reached further with the lighted paper and tilted the tube a little to bring the powder closer to the flame. The direction of the tilt was toward Steve's head. The more he reached, the more the tube tilted toward him. At last, after several tedious moments, the flame touched the powder — at the same moment the tube was aimed directly at Steve's face.

Whhhooooooooosh!

A red flame shot by both of Steve's ears to the wall in the garage. He was engulfed in the flame. He screamed in fear. In an instant it was over. All I could smell was burnt hair as Steve slapped at his eyebrows, eyelashes, and the hair on his head. It was out in a flash. Steve quickly regained his composure. He was blistered a little, wiser.

I know Steve will hate reading this, but I have had 40 years of laughter thinking about the good old days, so I had better put it down on paper and hope those who read it laugh as much at the story as I did at the event.

Incidentally, like a reformed drunk, I did not let my kids play with firecrackers without close personal attention. This was helped by restricted availability. I do not think they ever knew things such as I just told about happened.

**Name withheld by request**



# Huntsville police cadet using Marine experience

*Former Redstone guard in 18 weeks of training*

By **SKIP VAUGHN**  
*Rocket editor*  
[skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil](mailto:skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil)

Ronnie Dickey believes his Marine Corps background will help him in his new job.

Dickey, a former Redstone security guard, is among the 28 cadets in the 47th basic session of the Huntsville Police Academy. The academy for training future Huntsville police officers opened May 8 and continues for 18 weeks with graduation Sept. 8.

After graduation, the rookies will be assigned for another 14 weeks of training with field training officers. The Huntsville Police Department has 358 sworn police officers.

The cadets include 26 men and two women and range from ages 21-51. Dickey and at least

See **Cadet** on page 7



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FUTURE POLICEMAN**— Huntsville police cadet Ronnie Dickey was a Redstone security guard from January 2005 until March.

# Police officers honor their fallen comrades

*Peace Officers Memorial Day observed today nationwide*

By **Capt. ROGER TRIPLETT**  
*For the Rocket*

Members of the Redstone Arsenal Military Police and Department of the Army Police will participate today in the Madison County Peace Officers Memorial Day ceremony at the Madison County Courthouse, home of the Madison County Peace Officers Memorial.

The Redstone Army police/MPs and their civilian counterparts from the Madison County Sheriff and Huntsville Police Departments will honor and join the families of the fallen officers from the local area.

Redstone police were also planning to distribute blue ribbons to members of the public for display on vehicle antennas.

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund will hold a Candlelight Vigil to honor the 155 law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2005, and commemorate the sacrifices of more than 17,500 officers who have been killed while protecting public safety since the earliest known death in 1792. The vigil will be held at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The officers are from 33 states and U.S.

territories. The states with the highest number of officer fatalities were: California (18), Texas (14), Georgia (10), Missouri (8) and Virginia (7).

Around the nation and around the clock, law enforcement officers are on the front lines of the fight for public safety and security.

“There is no such thing as a ‘routine call,’” NLEOMF chairman Craig W. Floyd said. “This candlelight vigil will shine with a spirit of honor and hope for their families, friends and fellow officers and light the way for greater public understanding of the vital role of law enforcement in protecting lives, property and civic order every day.”

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Public Law 103-322, signed by President Clinton, directs that U.S. flags will be flown at half-mass at all government buildings on May 15. During this time of the year, police officers all across the United States take time out to remember their fallen comrades. Local commemorations of Peace Officers Memorial Day will ensure that those who are killed in the line of duty are never forgotten.

*Editor’s note; Capt. Roger Triplett is assistant operations officer in the Directorate of Emergency Services.*



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FIRST DAY**— The 28 cadets stand in formation during opening day for the Huntsville Police Department's 47th basic academy session.

■ Some police academy cadets have military background

## Cadet

continued from page 6

five others are former military.

Besides a former Detroit police officer, they generally don't have experience of being a police officer, according to training director Lt. Kirk Giles.

Dickey, 28, originally from Columbia, Tenn., served on active duty with the Marines from August 1996 until December 2004. He's now a staff sergeant in the Marine Reserves with an antiterrorism battalion in Bessemer.

"Continue what I've done before – serve my country," he said of his reason for becoming a police officer. "Now I live in Huntsville. I wanted to join Huntsville's Police Department because they're the best agency around here."

He was a security guard on Redstone from January 2005 until March when he got selected for the police academy. It took him about nine months to be accepted because prospective candidates must take a series of tests.

At Redstone he worked for Alutiiq Security at the various gates. He went to work at 5 a.m. and left about 1:30 p.m.

with one day off per week.

"It was OK," Dickey said of guard duty. "It's a good-paying job for someone who wants to do that line of work. It's not what I wanted as a career."

He wanted to become a police officer.

Dickey sees similarities between the academy's training advisers and the drill instructors he had at Marine boot camp. The basic drill movements – left face, right face and so on – are the same. Another way the Marine Corps helped prepare him is "the ability to work under stress," he said.

"I think being a (Redstone) security guard helped with that civilian transition from military to actual civilian law enforcement," Dickey said.

He was stationed in Huntsville as a Marine Corps recruiter from August 2002 to December 2004. His previous assignment was as a marksmanship instructor for a weapons battalion at Parris Island, S.C., from February 2001.

He and his wife, Karla, have a son, Justin, 6, and a baby boy due June 24.

"To do the best I can," Dickey said of his goals. "To graduate this academy, doing the best I can every day and also learning as much as I can."

■ Guns-A-Go-Go name returns to service

## Guns

continued from page 1

last one. "I lost all of my friends in one faithful swoop," he said about the ACH-47's crash.

The history of Guns-A-Go-Go is a unique one that can be traced back to one lone Armed/Armored Cargo Helicopter, named "Easy Money," that overlooks today's Program Executive Office for Aviation.

During the Vietnam War three test ACH-47 Chinooks, nicknamed "Easy Money," "Stump Jumper" and "Birth Control" were deployed for six months temporary duty in Vietnam. A fourth ACH-47A, called "Co\$t of Living," was the prototype and therefore stayed in the United States for flight testing.

Though these armed birds had a suc-

cessful evaluation period, each destroyed every assigned target they engaged, three succumbed to fate. In August 1966, "Stump Jumper" was destroyed by a freak ground-taxi accident with another Chinook at the Vung Tau Airfield. After this misfortune, "Co\$t of Living" stopped testing and joined the two other aircraft in theater.

In May 1967, "Co\$t of Living's" M24-A 20mm cannon vibrated loose causing the weapon to rotate upward and fire into the forward rotor system. The blades separated and the aircraft tumbled to the ground killing all eight crewmembers on board.

Then in February 1968, "Birth Control" suffered the destiny of her sisters. "Birth Control" received some bad hits from a gun run and had to auto-rotate into dry rice paddies. "Easy Money" flew in and positioned herself between the enemy

and "Birth Control" while rescuing the downed crewmembers.

Due to the extra weight, "Easy Money" fought to stay airborne and though she received numerous hits, which wounded some crewmembers, she made it safely to Camp Evans. Before a recovery team could rescue "Birth Control," she was destroyed by mortar fire from the North Vietnamese army.

Having only one Armed Chinook left, coupled with the fact that lift helicopters were badly needed in the field, the Guns-A-Go-Go unit was demobilized. "Easy Money" went to South Vietnam where she served as a maintenance trainer for the allied Vietnamese.

On remembering this event, Holloway said all the Guns-A-Go-Go members were reassigned to different units. "Most people were unhappy. It was sad," he said.

At the end of the hostilities in Vietnam, "Easy Money" returned to the United States where the aircraft at some point served as a sheet metal trainer at Fort

Eustis, Va. It wasn't until the late 1990s that "Easy Money" was recognized, restored and later moved to Redstone Arsenal.

When "Easy Money" came to rest at Redstone in 2000, the Guns-A-Go-Go veterans reunited for the first time and have held a reunion every two years since.

Their most recent reunion was an emotional one because it marked the 39th anniversary of the "Co\$t of Living" going down as well as the "Handover Ceremony" to Alpha Company. Crew members from Alpha Company found the event emotional as well.

"Doc said to me, 'Captain you've got big shoes to fill,'" Siino said. "Our regiment's motto is, 'Nightstalkers don't quit.' So during my remarks that night I told the group, 'I can promise you this: We will not quit trying to fill those big shoes.'"

*Editor's note: The Army Aviation Museum web site was a source for some of the historical information in this article.*



Photo by Kim Henry

**TOGETHER AGAIN**— Original members from Guns-A-Go-Go stand behind the newest addition to the "Easy Money" static display outside the Program Executive Office for Aviation. While the unit served in Vietnam, they painted rocks to designate areas around their camp.



Photo by Kim Henry

**PATCH PRIDE**— Crew members from Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 160th Special Operation Aviation Regiment bear the patch of their new name, "Guns-A-Go-Go." The unit will wear the original patch until their new one, which features minor changes to the graphic, comes in.

# Frustration

continued from page 2

have been serving for many years. Also worth mentioning, of the 59 job announcements I self nominated myself; I was referred to the selecting official, but not selected for the position 41 times, not referred to the selecting official 17 times, and the recruitment action was canceled one time.

It is very interesting I have never been contacted for an interview with a selecting official out of the 41 times I have been referred for consideration. I realize there are numerous reasons I may not have been contacted for an interview, when interviews are incorporated into the selection process: poorly written resume, stopper list, veterans' preference, and lack of required/desired skills, training, specialized experience, certifications, etc. To ensure I have an adequate resume, I attended the resume writing course offered here at RSA and had my resume reviewed by various managers.

I personally know scores of RSA personnel who have been promoted or hired using the current CPOL hiring system. Not once, again, not one time, has the personnel action transpired without the selection being made prior to the vacant position being announced; and yes, this includes me. The only conclusion I can come up with is the majority of selections for a vacant position is usually determined before the announcement is officially posted. Please understand this is not a complaint or objection; this is how the current system works. Interestingly, I recently read the following in an article: "It's been estimated that between 70 and 80 percent of all jobs are filled by people who learned of them through word of mouth." Granted, there are several job vacancies that are announced with no pre-selection determined beforehand and managers are truly seeking the best qualified applicant and the system does work.

However, the system is extremely biased when a vacant position is announced and the selecting official has already determined beforehand who is going to fill the position. I believe most everyone understands, and if one doesn't they will understand at least one now, the multiple measures that can be taken to ensure pre-selected individuals are guar-

anteed to be referred for a position. When anyone creates a resume in CPOL's Resume Builder and applies for a vacant position, shortly after the announcement is closed, all resumes are scanned using automated filtering software to search for key words, i.e. "task list," the selecting official has pre-determined for that announcement. Only the resumes with the task list variations are extracted for referral and ultimately the resume(s) with the most accurate task list wording will be at the top of the list when referred.

One measure a selecting official can do to ensure an individual is referred for consideration, qualified or not qualified, is to provide the task list to an individual so they can include them in their resume. As mentioned previously, ethical or unethical, this is one way the system can be biased. This is not an issue for me and does not need to be addressed with a response. Why is it not an issue? No matter who refutes this issue, nothing will change the fact this can and does happen to fill vacant positions. How do I know it happens? I have firsthand knowledge of selecting officials providing the task list to applicants. I also have firsthand knowledge of the outcome of selection board panels that rank resumes once Resumix extracts the qualified resumes. Numerous times there is "one" resume that includes the "task list" verbatim; this is not a coincidence. Of course, that resume will be at the top of the list when submitted to the selecting official. This is pure speculation, but also imagine anyone whose hands the "task list" cross can provide them to anyone they wish. So, selecting officials may not be the only source that can make the selection process biased.

My only suggestion to the Army, CHRA, CPOCs and CPACs, please consider modifying the whole announcement process and allow selecting officials to hire the person(s) of their choice, excluding stopper list, priority placement, etc. to fill a vacant position. Across the board it is a waste of time and effort throughout the whole process; those applying, CPOC/CPAC personnel, selection panels, and managers. It is not only a waste of time but it also takes its toll on individuals applying for positions. I am optimistic each time I apply for a vacancy I consider myself qualified. I have every reason to be, but only to be disheartened when the same reply

appears: "referred but not selected," or "not referred." When a "referred" appears in CPOL's answer, I imagine I am not the only one who thinks this may be the "one" opportunity to be contacted for just an interview, moreover a job offer.

One may ask why my current organization does not promote me. My organization has promoted me three times, I have numerous OSIs, and I receive performance awards year after year. I am certain I will be promoted again; this is not an issue. With that stated, I must admit the measure stated above may be used to promote me. I may not be provided the task list to improve my chances of being referred, but before the announcement is even announced, I will know beforehand if I make the referral list I will be selected. Ethical? Probably not, but again, this is how the system currently works. That brings up another point: one would think if a manager has someone in mind for a vacant position, the applicant would be capable of writing a resume to make the referral list. This does happen, but I won't go into details explaining ways selecting officials can get around this one to make sure they eventually end up on the referral list.

Further, for marketability purposes, I recently posted my CPOL resume word for word on an online resume builder for companies seeking qualified applicants. I was very encouraged when, within a day or two, I was contacted for an interview and I still continue to receive opportunities to interview for jobs outside the Army.

I constantly hear about similar experiences/feedback from other CPOL applicants. I am very interested in how more applicants perceive/experience the current CPOL hiring system.

## Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center provided the following response in conjunction with the Civilian Personnel Operations Center. "More than 1,000 jobs are filled each year at Team Redstone and competition for these positions is very intense. Up to several hundred applicants may apply for a single vacancy. For merit promotion, the top 25 plus ties are referred. In order to be referred, applicants must possess all required skills, candidate must be qualified (as determined by a manual review of their resumes by human resource specialists in the Civilian Personnel Operations Center, and candidates must be among the top 25 plus ties best qualified based on desired skills. Skills are used to screen applicants who self nominated to determine the best qualified applicants for referral, and not 'task lists.'*

*"The CPOC extracts these skills from the description of duties in the vacancy announcement, and sends them to the selecting official. All required and*

*desired skills selected by the selecting official should relate to the primary mission, duties, and specialized skill requirements of the position. These skills should not be shared with any applicants. If this should occur, it should be brought to the attention of your chain of command or the Redstone CPAC.*

*"Applicants should ensure that they have documented their work experience relating to the positions for which they are applying in their resumes. It is important that the work experience in an applicant's resume be as descriptive as possible when applying for Army and other federal positions. While private industry prefers short resumes with bullet descriptions, submitting more detailed descriptions of work experience related to the vacant Army position not only helps increase the chances of a skills match but also aids in determining whether or not an applicant meets the specialized experience requirements as defined by the Office of Personnel Management qualification standards.*

*"The writer must have documented good qualifications and skills in his/her resume to have been referred for 41 of 59 (about 70 percent) jobs and to be promoted three times. Jobs in the same series can have different qualification, skill and selection requirements. For example different General Engineer, series 801, can require different engineering disciplines. Candidates are referred in alphabetical order on merit promotion referral lists, not in score order. The selecting official must prepare the selection criteria in advance and have it reviewed by the next level supervisor. All merit promotion candidates must be scored against this criteria using a matrix. For GS-13, equivalent, and below positions, interviews are optional. If interviews are conducted, job related reasons may be used to reduce the number to not less than five candidates to be interviewed.*

*"The Team Redstone Merit Promotion Plan, Regulation 690-1, and most union contracts require selecting officials to debrief applicants, upon request. This includes sharing the selection criteria, plus the scores given to the selectee and the non-selected candidate. Since one of the writer's primary concerns is non-selection from competitive referral lists, he /she should request to be debriefed on some of those selections. This would help him/her understand the selection criteria being used, and how he/she could be more competitive for future promotion opportunities. In addition, the writer can discuss concerns further with his/her servicing Redstone CPAC human resources specialist.*

*"The writer also talked about the need for additional flexibilities. Once implemented, the new National Security Personnel System will provide additional flexibilities for managers and employees to be moved within the pay bands."*

# Look for expansion at Gate 9 and Rideout

Army's new leasing program gives Redstone chance to grow

By LIRA FRYE  
For the Rocket

The landscape may be changing soon at Redstone Arsenal's Gate 9.

The Army and the Arsenal plan to select a private developer to build meeting, academic and office space on approximately 422 acres of land located along Rideout Road.

The plan, called Enhanced Use Leasing, gives the Army flexibility to lease land to a private developer and then receive income from the development on the leased property. The income can then be used in a variety of ways like funding new construction or upgrading and maintaining current facilities.

With support for the global war on terrorism sustaining operations and maintenance funds, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski said EUL lets Redstone be creative in finding ways to maintain facilities and provide services.

"This is a win-win deal for everyone," he said. "If you don't think I'm excited about this, just wait. With the EUL



income we can do great things here at Redstone."

The developer will sign a long-term, 50-year lease with Redstone Arsenal. Redstone officials could choose to accept direct cash or in-kind payments. With direct payments, much of the revenue would return to the U.S. Treasury rather than to the installation. With in-kind, Redstone would keep 100 percent of the payment, and in-kind payments can be used in many ways. For instance, if a facility needed a new air conditioning system or roof repairs, and operations and mainte-

nance funding through regular budgeting channels wasn't available, the developer's in-kind payment could solve the problem.

Baltimore District Corps of Engineers representative Bob Penn said EUL developments happen at warp speed when compared to typical federal government projects.

"It's five-to-six months from the time the light bulb goes on until we start working on the project," he said.

Penn, along with Redstone Arsenal officials, addressed a group of prospective bidders at an industry forum held last week. More than 100 people representing over 60 interested companies came for a general overview of Redstone Arsenal and to learn about the EUL process and potential development opportunities.

"Look at this as a straight up real estate deal," he said. "We're looking for a world-class business park and we want you to bring your skills in to develop a campus like environment. We're looking to leverage our assets and put that land to work for us."

Developers have until June 12 to submit their proposals for the lease plan. A panel consisting of the Corps of Engineers, Redstone Arsenal Garrison and other Redstone organizations will review the proposals. The group plans to select a

single developer by the fall and potentially start construction early next year.

The successful bidder would develop, operate, and maintain the facilities and provide cash or in-kind consideration to the Arsenal for use of the land.

The development plan should eventually alter the fence line in that area with some of the new EUL facilities, the Redstone Golf Course and the Officers and Civilians Club located outside the Arsenal's gated/secure area for easier access, said Joe Davis, chief of Redstone's Master Planning Division. The EUL plan also allows for potential development of additional secure office space, classroom space for colleges and universities currently operating on Redstone, a conference center and even a small stage for concerts. Ultimately, the final development plan will be determined upon selection of a developer and design.

"That whole area by Rideout Road is a viable commercial property because of its location," Davis said. "We view this area as Redstone's front gate. For many, it's the first thing people see when they come to Redstone and even into Huntsville. We're looking for first-class facilities that project our professional image and benefit Redstone and the local area."

## Opportunity knocks for developmental assignments

Openings available in federal agencies

By JACKIE TIMME  
Human Resources specialist

Today, more than ever it is necessary to find ways to reduce cycle time and cost, increase reliability, and better manage inventories of aeronautical logistics assets across the full spectrum of operations. Our future requires civilians with in-depth knowledge across all participating organizations to make improvements on a consistent and continuous basis. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a cadre of employees with the abilities to assume leadership roles.

The Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders Employee Developmental Program represents a "first" in Army. This program was proposed by Aviation and Missile Command and developed jointly with the cooperation and dedication of members from AMCOM, Navy, Air Force, Federal Aviation Administration, Defense Contract Management Agency, Defense Logistics Agency, Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, and the Marine Corps.

The program provides an opportunity to enhance individual professional development in the aeronautical logistics community via joint opportunities. It broadens participants' "joint world view"; fosters

exchange of best practices across participating organizations, hones networking skills; and provides real-time experience that will foster creativity and savings in the way we do business.

The program provides eight developmental assignment opportunities across five of the member organizations: AMCOM, FAA, DCMA, Navy and DLA. The assignments will begin July 30 and will be six to 12 months in length. Funding will be the responsibility of the parent organization. The open application period for the program is under way through May 24. Copies of the JALC EDP Handbook, Application Package, and all developmental assignment opportunities are available on the G-1 (Human Resources) web site at [https://ams8.redstone.army.mil:4443/hrd/hrd\\_home](https://ams8.redstone.army.mil:4443/hrd/hrd_home). Click on Training and Development, and then click on Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders. If you are at the GS-12 through 15 or equivalent level, you are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to forge a joint environment and set the standard for future developmental assignment opportunities. AMCOM is committed to the continuous personal and professional growth and development of our federal civilian work force.

*Editor's note: For more information, call Jackie Timme of G-1 (Human Resources) at 876-6061.*

## Drolet receives Medaris Award for 2006

Retired brigadier general cited for defense efforts

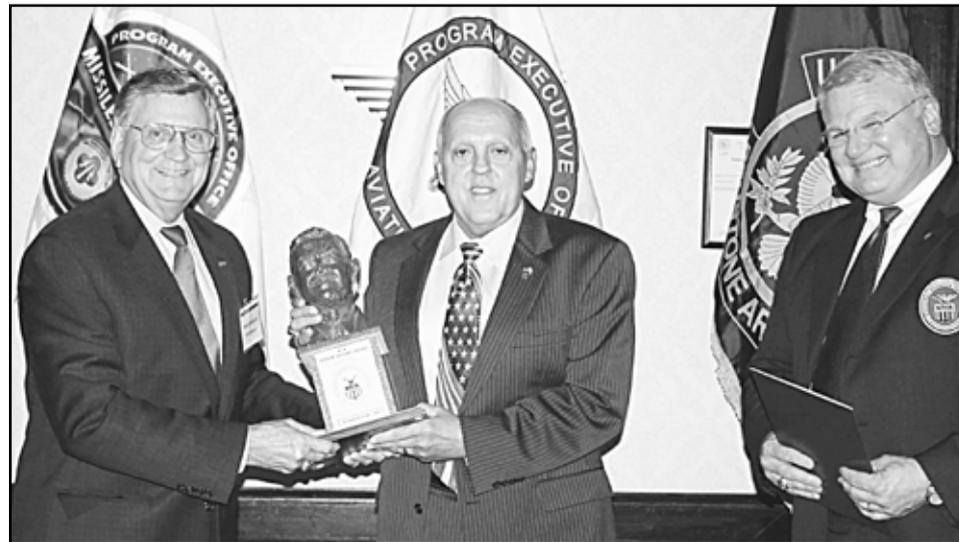
Lockheed Martin executive Bob Drolet has received the 2006 Medaris Award, the highest recognition bestowed by the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association.

During a May 4 ceremony in Huntsville, the award was presented to Drolet for his significant contributions to the technical progress of the defense industrial base in support of the defense preparedness of the United States.

"This award is a tribute to the talented Lockheed Martin team and to the dedication of our team to delivering systems that support the needs of our nation's war fight-

ers," said Drolet, who is director of Lockheed Martin Huntsville Operations and a retired brigadier general.

"While Brig. Gen. Drolet credits the countless individuals on his teams both at Lockheed Martin and in the Army, the results of those efforts are a direct reflection of his individual leadership and exceptional talents," said retired Lt. Col. Jim Pepper, president of NDIA Tennessee Valley Chapter. "His record speaks for itself, and we are proud to acknowledge his personal achievements. Brig. Gen. Drolet epitomizes the purpose of the General John B. Medaris Award and represents a distinguished group of individuals who have made a direct impact on the defense preparedness of our great nation." (Lockheed Martin release)



Courtesy photo  
**PRESENTATION**— Wally Kirkpatrick, left, president/CEO for DESE Research Inc., presents the Medaris Award to retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet. Looking on is retired Lt. Col. Jim Pepper, president of NDIA Tennessee Valley Chapter.



Courtesy photo

## *Visit to Iraq*

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, visits logistics assistance representatives who are deployed in Iraq. Standing from left are Alfred Ware, CECOM master technician; AMCOM SSTR Leonard Alejandro; Bill Helms, CECOM avionic LAR; Lester Linville, UH-60 LAR; Pillsbury; Bill Taber, AH-64D airframe LAR; Anthony Sarroca, CH-47D/UH-60 LAR; Erick Tibeau, AH-64D E-LAR; and Daniel Norton, MLRS LAR. Kneeling are TASM representatives Julio Octaviani and Dwayne China.

## Acquisition conference on tap at Redstone

The 2006 Acquisition Excellence and Business Transformation Conference will take place June 6-7 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

This first-time conference is sponsored by the Space and Missile Defense Command in partnership with the Aviation and Missile Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, the PEO for Aviation, and Marshall Space Flight Center.

This event will provide an opportunity to hear and learn from senior officials, chief executives, and leaders in industry and academia who will be addressing current trends, best practices, and current legislative and regulatory changes in the areas of acquisition excellence and business transformation. Highlights include a roundtable discussion with senior acquisition officials and principal assistants responsible for contracting, and a Contractor Awareness and Issues Forum.

Attendees will be able to select one of the seven workshops offered each afternoon. Some of the workshops available are Contractor Manpower Reporting Requirements; Contractor Issues and Awareness Forum; Leadership Development/Career Development; and Proper Use of Non-DoD Contract Vehicle.

This conference is free and open to the public, but seating and attendance will be limited. Registration for the conference can be completed at [http://www.smdc.army.mil/aebt\\_conference/](http://www.smdc.army.mil/aebt_conference/).

For more information, call Adrian Epps at 955-1644 or Leslie Duncan 955-4169.

# Health event worth checking into

*Morale Welfare and Recreation conducts annual fitness fair*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Redstone Arsenal's annual MWR Health Fair was scheduled at a good time for Teresa Barnett.

Under doctor's orders to get a baseline on her health, Barnett, who works for Aviation Ground Based Equipment, took advantage of the Morale Welfare and Recreation health fair May 9 at the Redstone Fitness Center to find out how her health is doing.

"No surprises so far," she said, after getting her bone density and body fat readings. She had yet to get her blood pressure reading, muscle tension scan or cholesterol reading.

"My doctor told me to come to something like this to get a baseline for my bone density and other things," she said.

The free health fair, coordinated by MWR Health and Fitness Directorate, is scheduled every year during National Health Month. About 200 Arsenal employees, retirees, Soldiers and their family members attended the event.

"We are offering body fat, blood pressure, cholesterol and bone density checks," said Gaylene Wilson, director of MWR Health and Fitness.

"We have massage therapy and diabetes screening. The Red Cross is here to take blood donations. We have information on foot arch support, colon treatment and other health issues. We have found in the past a lot of people discover possible health problems when they come to a health fair like this. This is all about help-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**REFRESHING—** Chinoo Dutta relaxes in a massage chair as Phil Thames of the Healing Arts Center massages her arms, hands and back. The massage is good for feeling refreshed and re-energized. Thames said many businesses are hiring massage therapists to use the chair to give employees massages in the workplace. The perk is said to increase employee morale, and reduce absenteeism and health care costs. Dutta's husband works for SMDC.

ing people with the awareness and prevention of health problems."

Most attendees, such as Chinno Dutta, whose husband works for SMDC, came to the health fair to get the more "traditional" health checks, such as blood pressure and cholesterol. But she also enjoyed the offerings of less traditional health care experts, such as Fleet Feet Sports orthotics, and the Healing Arts Center massage chair.

"My mother had arthritis. So, I thought I would check this out," Dutta said after

See Health on page 15



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TAKING BREAK FOR HEALTH—** Becky Freundt of Health First takes a break from her work at her Health Fair booth to get her cholesterol checked by MWR employee Joe Martin. Free cholesterol checks were among several health screenings for visitors to the annual event sponsored by MWR Health and Fitness.

# Author encourages sharing stories of the past

Hickam's career launched by "Rocket Boys" success

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

It took many years for Vietnam War veteran, former Army and aerospace engineer and well-known author Homer Hickam to listen to the advice of this third-grade teacher.

Back in the mountains of West Virginia, a young Hickam only gave fleeting notice to the now prophetic words of his teacher who told him "Sonny, you'll make your living as a writer."

Before he would go on to make those words come true, Hickam "made his living" as a Soldier. He served as a first lieutenant in the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam in 1967-68, receiving the Army Commendation and Bronze Star medals. His six years of service included a stint as a Reserve adviser in Puerto Rico, where he learned to scuba dive. He left military service at the rank of captain and began a career as an engineer first for the Army in Huntsville and then with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. He taught scuba diving part-time in Huntsville.

It was 1969, after his military stint and at the beginning of his engineering career, before Hickam finally settled down to writing in his free time. He wrote about his scuba diving adventures for a variety of magazines for several years before publishing his first book, the military history bestseller "Torpedo Junction," in 1989. Nearly 10 years later, Delacorte Press published Hickam's "Rocket Boys," a critically acclaimed book about his growing-up years in Coalwood, W.Va. It became a bestseller after the book was released as a major motion picture "October Sky." Hickam is now the author of eight books.

Hickam spoke of his life experiences with gentle humor during a recent lunch meeting of the Officer and Civilian

Women's Club at the Officers and Civilians Club. He credits his third-grade teacher, his parents' willingness to share interesting stories of their lives, the colorful residents of Coalwood and his wife, Linda, for his success as a writer.

"In a lot of ways, my whole life I've been looking for that place where I grew up," he told the OCWC members.

"Coalwood felt very comfortable. In many ways, it was like the military. It was a company town where the company owned the homes, built the roads, and stocked the school and library with books. Every adult male had to work in the coal mines and every adult female either married them or were teachers. Every church was built by the company. The preachers were company men."

But, as a young man fresh from his military experience and thrilled by his scuba diving adventures, Hickam shrugged his third-grade teacher's predictions and his industrial engineering degree from Virginia Tech.

"I fell in love with scuba diving," he said. "To heck with the third-grade teacher and being an engineer. I wanted to be a scuba diver."

The closest he could get to a scuba diving career was as a part-time instructor in Huntsville, depending on his income as a full-time Army engineer at Redstone Arsenal from 1971-81, and then as an aerospace engineer at MSFC from 1981-98. During his aerospace career, he worked in spacecraft design and crew training, and retired as the Payload Training manager for the Space Station.

Throughout those years, Hickam fondly remembered his Coalwood childhood and the stories his parents use to tell him while sitting around the dinner table. He urged his audience to find ways to share their stories with their children and grandchildren.

"I know it's really hard these days to raise kids," he said. "When you have them, it's really, really, really important to tell them the stories. They really



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**BREAK FROM SIGNING—** Bestselling author and Vietnam War veteran Homer Hickam takes a few minutes from his book signing at the OCWC luncheon to pose with, from left, OCWC member Becky Pillsbury, wife of Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury; his wife, Linda; and Faye Wishick, OCWC first vice president.

want to know this information. They really want to know the stories. The stories let them know not only who you are and who your parents are, but who they are ... I strongly recommend you tell the stories."

Children should know all kinds of family stories, including how their parents met, what it was like for their parents when they were growing up and what it was like when they were born.

"Today, it's almost like it's the TV that's raising our children and telling the stories," he said. "Your children and grandchildren really want to know about you, no matter what they say."

Hickam read an excerpt from his book "The Coalwood Way" to his audience. The excerpt told of a stranger in town who wanted to be accepted by her neighbors.

"Wherever you go, you are the new person for a while," he said. "Throughout life, you are either the one who has to be

accepted into a closed society or the ones on the other side who have to do the accepting."

Hickam also referred to his self-help, inspirational book "We Are Not Afraid: Strength and Courage from the Town that Inspired the #1 Bestseller and Award-Winning Movie October Sky," saying it was written in response to 9/11.

"There are attitudes that keep us from being afraid," he said. "We're proud of who we are. We stand up for what we believe in. We keep our families together. We trust in God and rely on ourselves ... We do what we have to do, and take the bad with the good and keep going."

*Editor's note: Also during that meeting the Officer and Civilian Women's Club installed the following officers for 2006-07: Chris Swart, president; Faye Wishik, first vice president; Maria Enriquez, second vice president; Susan Bender, treasurer; and Cathy Hays, secretary.*

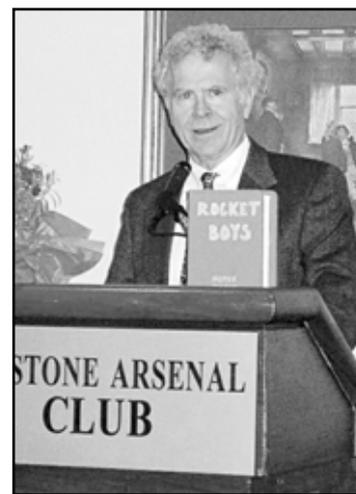


Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TELLING ALL—** Homer Hickam shares stories of his growing up years in Coalwood, W.Va., during a recent lunch meeting of the Officer and Civilian Women's Club. He autographed books for OCWC members both before and after the meeting.

# Greek student won't forget Alabama weather

An international military student from Greece says he'll remember weathering a storm at Redstone.

Warrant Officer Lampros Koutsioras attended the Electronic Maintenance Basic NCO Course from April 5 through May 12. "It was nice, educational, enjoyable, and in two words 'great time,'" he said of his stay.

But ask him the most memorable thing about his time here.

"The tornado warning which finally converted to a huge hailstorm," he replied.

Besides class from morning until afternoon, Koutsioras did some shopping, visiting people's homes and sightseeing. The International Military Student Office provides activities, including field trips, to students from other countries.

"These guys are the experts," Koutsioras, 33, said of the IMSO staff. "They are professionals. From the first time I was here they have done whatever is possible to help and make my stay easy."

Of course, sometimes the weather was a different issue.



Courtesy photo

**LOVELY DAY**— Warrant Officer Lampros Koutsioras enjoys the nine acres of indoor gardens during his visit to the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. The International Military Student Office provides field trips for students from other countries.



Courtesy photo

## Grand opening

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski and Steve Booze, who won a contest to name the facility, officially open the new Brooklyns Sports Bar at Redstone Lanes bowling center May 5. The facility features big-screen satellite television, billiard tables, food and beverages, electronic darts, Karaoke Friday evenings, and electronic games. Brooklyns is open seven days a week. For more information, call 876-6634 or 842-2695.

## Redstone Composite cadets of note

Two cadets from the Redstone Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol have received scholarships.

Cadet 2nd. Lt. Michael Barron has received the \$28,000 Cornerstone Award and will enter Birmingham-Southern College this fall to major in international studies.

Cadet Andrew M. Johnson has been selected to attend the Air Force Academy Class of 2010. In addition he has received the following scholarships: Air Force ROTC

scholarship for aerospace engineering to Auburn University (\$36,000), freshman academic scholarship from Auburn University (\$20,000) and Tennessee Valley Authority Scholarship (\$4,000).

The Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the Air Force headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery. The Redstone Composite Squadron located at Redstone Airfield is part of the Alabama Wing of the CAP.

## Health Fair delivers information on staying healthy

### Health

continued from page 12

her five-minute massage. "I'm feeling good. This is something anyone could enjoy."

Her massage was compliments of Phil Thames, a certified neuromuscular therapist who is trained in relaxation and deep tissue massage, and neuromuscular therapy. Massage chair therapy involves a patient sitting forward with their chest and head cushioned in a brace while the therapist massages muscles in the back, arms and hands.

"The chair massage is a refreshing pick-me-up during the day," he said.

"It's becoming a big business. A lot of companies hire massage therapists to bring the chair into the employment environment for the employees. It has been found that using the massage chair can bring morale up and improve health while absenteeism and health care costs go down."

Over in the blood donor area, phlebotomist Victoria Esslinger of the American Red Cross stayed busy helping both experienced and first-time donors go through the process of donating blood.

"When I'm at a health fair I try to give blood," said Lisa Terry, who was taking a break from her work at the Decatur Allergy Clinic booth to donate blood. Terry said she was once notified that blood she had donated was used to help babies in a hospital's neonatal nursery.

something like that happens."

The added bonus for donating blood, Terry joked, are the free Domino's and Chic-Fil-A coupons that Red Cross gives to its donors.

Dink Taylor of Fleet Feet Sports spent the day measuring people's feet and checking them for elongated arch problems.

"To fit properly in their footwear, most people should use over-the-counter orthotics," he said.

Taylor is a walking – or running – testimony for the benefits of proper foot care.

"I started keeping a runner's log when I was 13. I've run 73,000 miles since 1979. The reasons I can continue running is because I use the proper footwear, I use over-the-counter orthotics and I listen to my body."

While Taylor concentrated on feet, Amy Luttrell, a medical assistant at the Regional Spine & Wrist Center, helped pinpoint the severity of muscle spasms and tensions in people's neck and spine by using a muscle tension scan. Norma Moore Wilson, director of the Center for Optimal Wellbeing, explained to several visitors, including Lt. Col. Joecelyn Crittenden of Fox Army Health Center, about the benefits of detoxification and colon hydrotherapy.

"It's estimated that 80 percent of all diseases start in the colon," Wilson said. "We want to help you prevent these diseases and live a healthy life."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**CHECKUP DEVICE**— DoD contractor Susie Adams uses a machine that checks her overall body fat with the help of Lisa Brabon, a nurse and office manager at The Village Medical Clinic. Adams had an overall "good" check-up from the Health Fair.

Organizer Wilson said all the health experts at the health fair are committed to providing visitors with the kind of information that can make a difference in their health.

"It's important to offer health fairs like this as a service to the Arsenal community," Wilson said. "The information they get here can help people stay healthy, or it can make them aware of health problems they may need to look further into."



"I like to give blood. I like to know I am helping someone," she said. "It's really important. Usually, people wait to give blood until a family member is in the hospital or something actually happens to them. I wish more people would think about donating blood before

# Youngsters soak up educational festival

*Fourth-graders learn value of water quality*

By **ANDY ROAKE**  
For the Rocket

Who wants to be a shrimp crawling around in a North Alabama cave fighting for food with other creatures in order to stave off extinction?

Many of the 2,500 fourth-graders who attended the 2006 Madison County Drinking Water Festival on May 9-10, that's who.

The Redstone Arsenal Environmental Division presented a "Hungry Cave Critters" activity at the festival to teach students about endangered cave species and their vital role as indicators of water quality.

The festival, held at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, was sponsored in part by Redstone Arsenal. The festival educated students on the importance of surface and groundwater-related natural resources through fun, enlightening activities. Students

learned where their drinking water comes from and how to protect it and keep it clean.

Redstone Arsenal, which has a keen interest in the water quality of North Alabama, helped start the festival in 1998 and, in addition to sitting on the advisory board, has been an active participant each year.

"One reason we support this drinking water festival each year is because of concern about the endangered Alabama cave shrimp," said Gabbie Ehinger, garrison staff ecologist. "The Alabama cave shrimp is an important regional indicator species of water quality and is only found in three caves out of the nearly 4,000 caves in North Alabama, and one of those three caves is on Redstone Arsenal."

As an indicator species, if the Alabama cave shrimp population decreases, it usually means that the groundwater quality is decreasing also.

Redstone Arsenal has been working with local, state and federal agencies since the 1990s to



Courtesy photo

**CENT SIZE—** The Alabama cave shrimp is a small, colorless crustacean found only in three caves in North Alabama, including a cave located on Redstone Arsenal.

preserve water quality, according to Ehinger. Part of the cooperative agreements the Arsenal has with these organizations is to educate the public through events such as the drinking water festival.

The Arsenal interest in regional water quality is not only due to its role as host to an endangered groundwater species. Redstone

See **Festival** on page 19



Photo by Andy Roake

**CLASS ACT—** Gabbie Ehinger, right, and Angela Jolley teach fourth-graders how to play the "Hungry Cave Critters" game during the Madison County Drinking Water Festival.

# Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

*Fund-raising campaign has more events slated*

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- AMRDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk, today at 9:30 a.m. Call Mary Ann Brothers 876-1216, Wynema Wooten 842-2775 and Holly Rigdon 842-2764.

- Golf Tournament, four person scramble, Friday at Redstone. Registration

deadline is May 15. Hosted by Integrated Materiel Management Center. Call Austin Watson 842-7844, Cletis Severs 876-0196, Jan Pickard 876-2569 and Kim Marr 955-7133.

- AER Idol talent competition is May 25 from 1-3 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium, \$5 donation at the door. Audience votes for the winner; and the winner will receive prizes. Call Anthony Grayson 955-9002, Sharon Nolen 842-9431 and Sherry Miller 842-0736.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CHEERFUL GIVER**— From left, Jimmy Dunn of Phoenix Service receives candy for donating to AER on May 9 at the building 5303 entrance. Accepting his donation are Michael Smith and Brad Harris, both of G-8 Resource Management.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CHARITABLE THEME**— Members of the Civilian Personnel Operations Center contributed toward theme baskets which they auctioned Thursday. The Alabama A&M University bookstore also donated items for this effort. From left are CPOC's Sherry Delancey, Debbie Aldaz-Meade and Richard Braden.

## Corps of Engineers energized for Louisiana repairs

*Huntsville Center helps at NASA facilities*

By DEBRA VALINE  
*Huntsville Center public affairs*

While it's not out of the question, it is a little unusual for the Corps of Engineers to be called in to do facility repair work for NASA. Usually NASA handles its own building maintenance, but after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast last August, NASA needed some help.

"After Katrina, we got a call Sept. 9, 2005, from Jimmy Guarin, who works at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center," said Kent Criswell, the program manager for the Huntsville Center's Facilities Repair and Renewal Program. "Jimmy had done an initial assessment of the damage to facilities at Michoud. He said the damage was extensive; NASA needed temporary sup-

port — that is why he called us."

"We did an in-house assessment within 48 hours of Katrina," Guarin said. "After that we immediately started looking for a way to expedite the repairs. This was not business as usual. Lockheed Martin had the means to do the repairs, but we knew they would be dealing with their own losses. The place was devastated."

Lockheed Martin Space Systems-Michoud Operations manufactures, assembles and processes the space shuttle external tank at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. The NASA facility reports to Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. An agreement between the Corps of Engineers and NASA dated 1961 and the Economy Act allows the corps to work for another federal agency.

"Just so happens that I used to work for Boyce Ross," Guarin said. "I had worked at Huntsville Center, and my dad retired from

there. Boyce told us about the Facility Repair and Renewal process."

The Huntsville Center's Facility Repair and Renewal program is providing the program management and on-site management for the execution of the repair work. Through FRR, customers receive performance specification scopes of work that ensure the desired end results are achieved, work plans in lieu of designs, cost savings and time savings while achieving high quality workmanship. The key to the program's success is innovative use of Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity service/construction contracts spanning the globe.

"By the first week in October, I was sleeping under system furniture and eating MREs (Meals, Ready to Eat)," Criswell said. "After assessing the damage, we



Courtesy photo

**DAMAGED GOODS**— Inspectors from the Corps of Engineers, NASA and Vanguard inspect damage to building 102 at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility.

See Repairs on page 23

# Columbia College campus marks three decades

*Redstone extension serves adult learners*

Columbia College-Redstone celebrated its 30th anniversary Thursday with a reception for students, instructors and alumni.

Columbia College first entered Alabama in the mid-1970s in Birmingham at a recruiting center. The campus made its way north to Redstone Arsenal two years later when the Redstone education service officer approached the college about offering college courses to active-duty service personnel.

"It is remarkable to see the changes that have taken place at Columbia College-Redstone Arsenal during the last 30 years," campus director Mary Morgan said. "Our focus always has been on quality education for working adults. We thank everyone who has been a part of helping us advance the lives of adult learners."

Columbia College-Redstone offers associate, bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration, criminal justice administration and general studies,



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**30th ANNIVERSARY— Cutting the ceremonial cake are, from left, Columbia College-Redstone assistant director Frank Lasher, administrative assistant Hyacinth James, office manager Gabriele Lasher and director Mary Morgan.**

plus more than 350 online classes and complete online degrees.

Columbia College was founded in Columbia, Mo., in 1851. The college serves nearly 25,000 students annually at its Day Campus, Evening Campus, Graduate Program, more than 30 nationwide campuses and Online Campus. (Columbia College release)

## ■ Drinking water festival co-sponsored by Redstone

### Festival

continued from page 16

announced recently that it will soon close its water treatment plant and will purchase drinking water from the City of Huntsville.

The annual festival is made possible through donations from local governments, organizations and businesses. Other organizations sponsoring the event

included: Madison County Water Department, Huntsville Utilities, Harvest-Monrovia Water Authority, the Water and Wastewater Board of the City of Madison, Madison County Soil and Water, Geological Survey of Alabama, Madison County Farmers Federation, McWane Cast Iron Pipe Co., Rotary Club of Greater Huntsville, Community Consultants Inc., Garver Engineers LLC, Jim House and Associates, Kiwanis of Huntsville West, QORE Property Sciences, and American Legion Auxiliary Post 237.

# Instructors ready to defend their softball title

*Solid start with HHC 59th after missing preseason*

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

They're wearing the colors of another unit but they're still the team to beat in troop softball.

That's the consensus of the HHC 59th instructors who represented Headquarters & Alpha in winning the post championship last year. They originally played for Delta Company which merged with Headquarters & Alpha before the 2005 season. The permanent-party instructors made another move to Headquarters & Headquarters Company 59th on May 1.

After missing the preseason tournament, HHC 59th beat MEDDAC 17-5 in the season opener for both teams May 8 at Linton Field.

"We are the defending post champs," 59th coach/right-center Chetoria Jackson said. "Again, we've got a pretty nice squad. They're going to have to come see us (to take the title). But I don't think anybody could beat us."

At least not this night. The 59th trailed 4-0 after the top of the first, tied the score 4-4 in the bottom and broke the game open with a 12-run second inning. Its



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HAT TRICK**— HHC 59th's Henry Hayes gets his third hit of the night in a 17-5 win over MEDDAC.

seven hits in the inning combined with MEDDAC's five errors.

"We did pretty good for the first game," said Jackson, whose team had one week

of practice.

Bryant Burdell went 2-for-2 with a triple, two RBIs and scored three runs. Damon Geist had a two-run homer and

four RBIs. Henry Hayes went 3-for-3 with a double, drove in a run and scored twice. Kohlen Keylor had two hits, drove in a run and scored three times.

Second baseman and leadoff hitter Michael Ortiz went 3-for-4 with an RBI triple and scored two runs. He is among at least four returnees from last year's championship team.

"We're injured, we're old, we're tired but we have a lot of fun," Ortiz said. "It's just all fun and games."

The medics were led by Gregory Burno who homered, walked and scored twice and Ricky Lang who had three hits, an RBI and scored a run.

"We were missing three of our best players tonight," MEDDAC coach/short-stop/pitcher Mike Wolonsky said. "Just people (were) out of position, people haven't played before. I think (for) everybody that was here, it was a good game."

In other games May 8, the preseason champion Marines beat NCO Academy 16-14 and Bravo Company defeated PEO 18-13. On Thursday, 326th won by forfeit over PEO, and MEDDAC defeated NCO Academy 16-1.

League standings were: Eastern Conference — 326th Chemical (2-0), HHC 59th (1-0), Bravo (1-1) and MEDDAC (1-1). Western Conference — Marines (2-0), Headquarters & Alpha (0-1), NCO Academy (0-2) and PEO (0-2).

## Emergency relief tourney draws 100 golfers

The Engineering Directorate of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center held its third annual Army Emergency Relief 4-Man Scramble, Charity Golf Tournament on April 20 at the Sunset Landing.

With a score of 15 under, the winning team had Terry Hice, Maurice Cowan, Clark Cook and David Hyman.

The tournament drew 100 golfers from Redstone Arsenal and the local community. More than 30 local businesses provided donations to facilitate the tournament, hole sponsorships, and also participated in the event.

As a result, this year's tournament raised \$4,260 for Army Emergency Relief. The Engineering Directorate expresses its appreciation to the participants and coordinators of the tournament and recognizes the following businesses and individuals for their contributions:

- Tournament sponsor — Wal-Mart Super Center on South Memorial Parkway

- Closest-to-the-Pin sponsors — Carrabba's Italian Grill, Marc Nesselrote; and Intuitive

Research & Technology Corp., Rey Almodovar

- Hole sponsors — Rise Real Estate (Team Richard), CAS, White Fleming CPA; Morris, Conchin and King Attorneys; Regions Bank, Supreme Beverage; GMAC Distinctive Real Estate, Rebecca Lowery; Intuitive Research & Technology Corp., Express Oil Change, Mark Harris Homes, Huntsville Surgery Center, Wildman Eye Care, Goody's Family Clothing, Lake Forest Homes, GEICO Insurance, Knights of Columbus in Madison, and Energies Inc.

- Contributors (prizes, gift certificates, food and beverages) — McAlister's Deli, Smokey's Barbecue, Target, Domino's Pizza on South Memorial Parkway, Outback Steakhouse, Carrabba's Italian Grill, AmSouth Bank, Wal-Mart Bakery, Wilson's Office Supply, Home Depot on South Memorial Parkway, IRTC, Hooters, Cracker Barrel of Madison, Spike McRoy, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Jacks of Madison, Purity Dairies, O'Reilly Auto Parts in Hartselle, and Chick-Fil-A of Madison.

## Benefit golf tournament invests in scholarships

*Lockheed Martin wins corporate title*

A team from Lockheed Martin won the inaugural YOUTH Friendship Foundation charity golf tournament May 5 at Sunset Landing. But the real winners were local students.

The event raised more than \$20,000 for youth enrichment which includes sending children ages 4 to 11 to Sci-Quest summer education programs, fourth- and fifth-graders to Space Camp, and providing college scholarships to high school seniors this fall.

Lockheed Martin's four-member scramble team won the \$200 first prize and was crowned the 2006 Corporate Champions. The team included Steve Humphrey, Melanie Baker, Jeff Wishik and Allen Hasbrouck.

Adams Homes LLC finished second (\$140) and Peduzzi Associates took third (\$100). The Investing in Our YOUTH Partnership donated all prize money (\$440) to Terry Heights Elementary School's Allen Logan Memorial Playground project.

The event's sponsors included Psi Kappa Kappa, local chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.; the Y.O.U.T.H. Friendship Foundation Inc.; Lockheed Martin, CAS Inc., Northrop Grumman, Adams Homes LLC, Mercedes-Benz of Huntsville, BAE Systems, Camber Corporation, Engineering Management & Technology Inc., Suzuki of Huntsville, Green Hills Grille



Courtesy photo

**TOP TEAM**— Maj. Alonzo McGhee, local chapter president for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., presents the golf championship trophy to the Lockheed Martin team. From left are chapter member Austin Lundy, Melanie Baker, McGhee and Jeff Wishik.

Restaurant, Holiday Inn Research Park, and The Hodge Group (Allstate).

Other partners included NASA, U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Sparkman Boys and Girls Club, Terry Heights Elementary School, DESE Research Inc, COLSA Corporation, Intuitive Research and Technology Inc., Analytical Services Inc., Peduzzi Associates Ltd., SAIC, Radiance Technologies, LogiCore Corporation, Aerojet, Future Research Corporation, Redstone Federal Credit Union, Gray Research Inc., Boeing, Advanced Engineering and Planning Corporation, Alexander's Jewelry, Clean Cars, Wholesale Trophies Inc., Urgent Medcare, R.F. Vandiver Construction Co. Inc., and Donny's Diamond Gallery.

# Redstone among top travel system users

Majority of DoD's 11,000 sites now use Defense Travel System

By LIRA FRYE  
For the Rocket

Nearly a year after launching the Defense Travel System, Redstone Arsenal ranks as one of the top users in the Department of Defense.

The DoD's electronic solution for defense business travel, DTS started replacing Redstone's Internet Re-engineered Automated Travel System in May 2005. Using DTS, Redstone travelers processed 3,478 travel authorizations in March. Those numbers didn't come without some growing pains.

"We've come a long way since last May," Randy Gloyd, Financial Management Division chief, said. "We've migrated 80-90 organizations and thousands of people."

The ease of using iRATs made the migration to DTS more challenging. Lead defense travel administrator Pam Sutton said she initially received quite a few complaints, but as people became more familiar with the system and began attending training, the complaints decreased.

Early in the implementation, Sutton received more than 50 calls a day with questions on how to use the system. A year



Photo by Lira Frye

**HEADING OUT— Cindy McFerran, program analyst with the Lead AMC Integration Support Office, is one of many travelers who contribute to Redstone leading DoD in Defense Travel System use.**

later, she's getting 10 to 15 calls a day.

"It has slowed down," she said. "But there are still not enough hours in a day to respond to each question."

Today the DTS Helpdesk assists customers with most travel-related questions. But with only five technicians, addressing each issue and returning each customer call can be time consuming. Users can help alleviate the question congestion by first addressing problems with their organizational defense travel administrator.

"Keep in mind that the helpdesk can get

on average 110 calls and 45 e-mails a day," Sutton said. "They can easily spend an hour on the phone with one customer."

Sutton urges travelers to first work with their ODTA.

"Remember, your first line of help is your ODTA, the second is the helpdesk," she said. "The wait at the helpdesk is caused by travelers not going to their ODTA."

If the ODTA can't help, rather than have the traveler call the helpdesk, Sutton asks that the ODTA make the connection.

"That way the ODTA can learn and help the next person," she said. "All this helps to reduce the number of calls and the wait time to get assistance."

Even with the increased training and helpdesk support there are still quirks within DTS of which the traveler needs to be aware.

For instance, when a traveler has last minute changes, like changing a flight itinerary, the system lacks the flexibility to quickly make the changes. In those instances, it's necessary to call the commercial travel office and speak with an agent.

"People go in and try to do changes and think they're done," Sutton said, "but the system is not flexible enough to catch up."

Also, Sutton said that she's finding that some travelers have departed without

approved travel orders.

"They put their travel request into the system and think it's good, but it's not," she said. "They need to go back into system and make sure it's approved before they depart."

Another new area is travel agent fees. If a traveler has booked a flight and been issued a ticket and then cancels less than three days before the trip, the traveler will incur a \$5 travel agent fee. Rather than go in and cancel the orders, travelers need to have the orders approved so that a voucher can still be filed for the \$5 fee. If the traveler cancels the travel order, he or she won't be able to file a voucher.

Cindy McFerran, a program analyst with the Lead AMC Integration Support Office, traveled frequently during the initial DTS launch.

"Last year, I traveled every week for five months," she said. "Honestly, I thought DTS was taking a step back from iRats. It's more time consuming."

"There was a learning curve," McFerran explained. "Now I can make it work and I do get reimbursed, it's just more time consuming than iRats."

Gloyd echoed McFerran's comments. "No one ever said the system's perfect, but we have to deal with it," he said. "It's getting people's authorizations processed and vouchers paid, that's what's important."

## Missile defense interceptor on target in flight test

Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey Obering, Missile Defense Agency director, announced that a test Thursday of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Ballistic Missile Defense System element was successful in meeting all test objectives.

The test took place at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and involved the successful launch of the THAAD interceptor missile from its mobile launcher. THAAD is designed to intercept and destroy short to intermediate range ballistic missiles high within earth's atmosphere or just above earth's atmosphere in the "terminal" phase of a ballistic missile's flight — the final minute or so before it strikes its target.

THAAD is an autonomous, highly-mobile, integrated weapon system consisting of a radar, fire control unit, launchers and interceptor missiles. When field-

ed, it will be operated by the Army worldwide to protect U.S. forces overseas and U.S. allies and friends.

All planned test objectives were achieved. This was a fully integrated flight test of all THAAD components, including the mobile launcher, radar, fire control and communications element and the interceptor missile. The test did not involve a target missile but utilized "virtual target" software in order to evaluate performance. The test also demonstrated interceptor performance, including the booster rocket system and the divert and attitude control system, which uses small rockets to maneuver THAAD into the path of its target to achieve a "hit-to-kill" intercept, using only the force of a direct collision to destroy the target missile. The THAAD radar participated by injecting the virtual target information into the sys-

tem, acquiring and tracking the interceptor and providing in-flight target updates.

Soldiers from the 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas participated in the test, working with system contractors in the operation of the radar, launcher and fire control and communications. This interaction with the complete THAAD system proved a valuable test experience for the Soldiers and provided insight into overall system performance and operations.

While the previous successful THAAD flight test conducted Nov. 22, 2005 was focused on interceptor fly-out and controllability, the remainder of the near-term flight test program will provide verification of the integrated THAAD system at increasingly difficult levels, including a target intercept later this year.

THAAD uses technologies developed in earlier MDA programs and during the THAAD Program Development and Risk Reduction Phase. It is the first missile defense technology with both endoatmospheric and exoatmospheric capability. The THAAD element will provide upper-tier (high-altitude) defense in the terminal segment of MDA's integrated Ballistic Missile Defense System designed to provide a layered defense for the U.S. homeland, deployed forces, allies and friends against ballistic missiles of all ranges, in all phases of flight boost, midcourse and terminal. The higher altitude and theater-wide protection offered by THAAD provides more protection of larger areas than lower-tier systems alone.

The THAAD program is managed by the Missile Defense Agency in Washington, D.C., and executed by the THAAD Project Office in Huntsville. Lockheed Martin Corporation is the prime contrac-

tor. (Missile Defense Agency release)



Courtesy photo

**IMPACT POINT— A THAAD interceptor is launched at White Sands Missile Range last Thursday during a successful test of the system.**

# New project office comes up for air and missile defense

Col. McDaniels  
accepts charter

By DAN O'BOYLE  
For the Rocket

Marking a first for the Army, Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, program executive officer for missiles and space, chartered the Army's newest project management office, in the person of Col. Lloyd McDaniels, last week at Bob Jones Auditorium.

McDaniels is the first Integrated Air and Missile Defense project manager.

"Lloyd and his team will now be in charge of the Army's portion of the joint integrated air and missile defense system," Cannon said. "This has been a long time coming, but this system of systems capability will be deployed as an integrated component in the Army joint interagency and multinational network architecture."

The PM IAMD will develop, acquire, field and sustain integrated air and missile defense common battle architectural components, and integrate externally developed sensors and shooters to provide integrated air and missile defense capabilities.

"Nine months after merging two PEOs, we struggled mightily about how to tackle



**TAKING STAND—** Col. Lloyd McDaniels, the Army's newest project manager, addresses the audience in Bob Jones Auditorium during last week's chartering ceremony.

this requirement to integrate air and missile defense systems for the Army," Cannon said. "We experimented a lot and finally figured out that we needed to find somebody out there who could act like sand paper and open up all the wounds and then figure out how to heal all those wounds after doing that and make that happen."

"The only person in the world I could think of who was that nasty and ornery

was Lloyd McDaniels. Last November, he started this new office – with no resources – and had to be ready for an Army Systems Acquisition Review Council in January. Lo and behold he pulled together a team and got ready for that ASARC.

"I've been to probably 35 ASARCs. The resounding approval around the table of all at the ASARC signaled to me that we chose the right guy to lead this office. The experiments have stopped; this is the real deal."

McDaniels will be working closely with his fellow project managers, Col. John Vaughn of Lower Tier and Col. Ed Mullin of Cruise Missile Defense, to integrate the Army's air and missile defense systems with the U.S. sister services as well as international partners of the U.S.

"There is a lot of responsibility on this young man's shoulders," Cannon said. "But he's got two great partners to help him along the way. I think that as a three-person team we're sending a pretty powerful message to the Army that we're going to make this work. Lloyd, it's a challenge. You've made good headway. We're going to watch you grow and grow fast. We have a very short window of opportunity to really get a head start. But to put an ASARC together in two months shows me that we can do things very, very quickly because we've got to be ready for a Milestone B decision in the second quar-

ter of fiscal 2007."

McDaniels joined the PEO in specifying the significance of the new PM IAMD.

"This is a very special day for us," McDaniels said. "It's been a long time coming. This concept goes back many years, with lots of discussions about how to get here. We were just not sure about how to do it. Maj. Gen. (John) Urias' system-of-systems concept under Mr. Tony Cosby set the stage and supplied the parameters of what to do."

"Also, Rod Robertson of SMDC helped to form the nucleus of where we could go. Plus, General Cannon's long-range vision

of acquisition rigor discipline will get us the products for our Soldiers.

"Our motto is: 'Any sensor, any shooter, integrated all the

time.' But what does that mean? It means that we have a commitment to the future, and that a lot of things will be taking up our day-to-day activities. This project office will lay the groundwork for the future so that in 2011 — when children in the audience today are lieutenants and specialists — are out there in the force, they will have the protection that they need to execute the missions that we're going to give them."

"We will collaborate as a team to bring this together. A lot of folks before me have laid out a great challenge – a great opportunity for the Army."



■ NASA counts on Huntsville Center, Mobile District for repairs

## Repairs

continued from page 18

had a better idea of how much work was involved. We have been there with our contractor, Vanguard Contractors Inc., and Mobile District since October."

Huntsville Center is executing \$20 million worth of repairs at Michoud with an expected \$15-20 million more to come. A little less than 50 percent of the current work is complete. The major priorities, such as the buildings where the external tanks are assembled, are being worked. Once those buildings are finished, work will move into the other buildings and facilities.

"There is about two years worth of work left to do," said Kurt Braun, Construction Division, Mobile District Corps of Engineers. "All the critical buildings are being finished first – those are the production buildings for the external tank. The first building we are finishing is 42 acres under one roof. It was built in 1945 for Higgins Aircraft. We had to repair 125,000 square feet of roof."

"We are very satisfied with the work being done," Guarin said. "I think we have shown that the FRR process, if managed properly, works. The FRR has been in place for 10 years. It's not like we had to learn anything new. We were on-site early on, down-selected the contractor early on and the work got started early."

"We had two goals when we got started: the repair work could not impact production and we could not damage a tank. So far we are meeting those goals," Guarin said. "It is working well."

But like any job, there are challenges.

"On a day-to-day basis, we are challenged with getting people into the secure work area," Braun said. "We are working 6 a.m.-5 p.m., seven days a week. Some of the workers are foreign nationals and have to be escorted."

Braun said he also had to work through communications challenges. "It has taken seven months to get it fixed, but the secure site has now been loaded and the passwords changed. That has been a big challenge."

To Braun, it's the team effort between NASA, the corps, Lockheed Martin and Vanguard that makes the work possible. "If any one of those people is not here, our work stalls. It is definitely a team effort and we are all critical players," Braun said.

Huntsville Center has been doing such a good job with the repairs at Michoud that NASA officials at nearby Stennis Space Center took notice.

"At the end of March, Stennis called us," Criswell said. "A lot of the initial emergency repairs at Stennis had been done so the enthusiasm for repair had dwindled. They wanted to re-energize that. About 5-10 people from Stennis went to MAF to see what we had been doing."

Criswell said work at Stennis will be different because Stennis is more spread out than Michoud. At Michoud, the request was to repair whatever had been damaged by the hurricane.

"Michoud had a set of priorities – 10 main buildings," Criswell said. "NASA put them in order and we take them one at a time. At Stennis, their main issues that stopped production or testing have been fixed, but it will be the same type of work – roofing repair, infrastructure repair."



## Sports & Recreation

### Women golfers

The Links at Redstone is forming an afternoon women's golf league. The Links at Redstone Wednesday Evening Women's Golf League is geared toward the working woman who is unable to play golf in the Wednesday morning ladies league; it is however open to all women. This is a fun league geared toward all levels of golfers including the beginner. There will be a social at The Links at Redstone's Weeden Mountain Grille for those interested today from 5-6 p.m. Information on the league will be distributed and signups taken. For more information, call The Links at Redstone 883-7977 and ask for Jon Samuelson.

### Golf tournament

United Cerebral Palsy announces the 14th annual Huntsville Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors Golf Tournament is Thursday at Cherokee Ridge Golf Club. The tournament format is a four-person Florida Scramble and begins at 1 p.m. with a shotgun start. A buffet lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. Registration is \$350 per team of four. Sponsorship packages are available. For more information, call tournament chairman Johnny Franklin 679-7447 or the UCP office 859-4900.

### Swimming pools

Family swimming passes are on sale at Outdoor Recreation and at the Recreation Center. Outdoor Recreation, building 5129, is open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., while the Recreation Center, building 3711, is open Tuesday through Friday from 1:30-8 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Fees for the family season pass are \$60 with the individual season pass at \$45. Daily passes, which are purchased at the individual pools, are \$3. Swim lessons will cost \$25. Active duty families may register for swim lessons beginning May 22 and all others can register May 25 at Pool 3, located at Goss and Hankins Roads. Registration for swim lessons will take place Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Swimming lessons will be offered through Aug. 4. Presently maintenance expenses and funding shortfalls are under

review and are impacting the operation of all three pools. For the foreseeable future two pools will be readied and made available for this swimming season with Pool 2 remaining closed. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-6854 or 876-1373.

### Ride to work

May 15-19 is National Bike Ride to Work Week. Choose from several group rides from Huntsville on May 18 and 19 with experienced commuters. Find the best route to Redstone and NASA from locations in Huntsville. Rides begin at 6:30 a.m. Call Jamie Miernik 544-6534 for locations and more information.

### Boat inspections

MWR and the Garrison Safety Office will hold boat inspections May 26 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. The inspection is free of charge and is open to all members of Team Redstone. For more information, call John Zuber of Garrison Safety Office 876-3114.

### Bicyclist class

Road I Course from the League of American Bicyclists will be held June 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Safety City, 2221 Drake Ave. The class is recommended for adults and children over 14. The \$50 course fee is due at signup. Spring City Cycling Club members receive a \$5 discount; and AlaBike members receive a \$10 discount. Deadline for registration is June 3. Registration forms can be found at [www.knology.net/~BikeEdHSV/courses.htm](http://www.knology.net/~BikeEdHSV/courses.htm). For more information, call David Stone 348-6414.

### Junior Golf benefit

The Rocket City Retired Military Golf Classic Tournament organizers invite you to come drive a Chrysler and support Junior Golf. If you test drive a car at the tournament June 5-8 at The Links at Redstone, you get a sleeve of balls and Chrysler donates money for the Junior Golf Program.



## Conferences & Meetings

### AMCOM town hall

The AMCOM Town Hall with Maj. Gen.

Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, is May 31 from 9-11 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. It will be broadcast on Team Redstone Television Channel 42, and via Internet Portal TV to computer desktops equipped with the IPTV application. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the auditorium. Badges must be worn by all attending. All AMCOM, PEO-Aviation and PEO-Missiles and Space employees are encouraged to attend.

### 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](mailto: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.

### Fleet reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. The branch will present its scholarship award to the area winner of its essay contest; the topic for 2006 was "What My Vote Will Mean to Me." For more information, call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

### Federally employed women

Federally Employed Women will hold its general membership meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Lunch can be purchased through the buffet line. For more information, Donna Rigsby 313-3021.

### Air Force speaker

AFCEA Huntsville Chapter will meet May 23 at the Holiday Inn Research Park. Registration begins at 11 a.m., lunch at 11:30 and meeting at noon. Scheduled speaker is Steve Boe, program manager, 1st Air Force HLD DMO system. RSVP/cancellations are due by noon May 18 to Christine Downing 830-3654 or Sandra Pape 542-4334.

### Engineer society

The Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers, meets Thursday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at the Officers and Civilians Club. Buffet lunch is \$9 check or cash at the door. For reservations call Brandon Price 895-1352.

### Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting May 31 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski is scheduled speaker. The chapter will hold its informal monthly breakfast May 27 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

### Contract managers

National Contract Management Association will hold its May luncheon today at the Holiday Inn-Research Park. Registration starts at 11 with the luncheon from 11:30-12:30. Phyllis Roberts of Defense Acquisition University is scheduled speaker. Cost is \$12 for members.

### Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 at the Officers and Civilians Club, Regimental Room. The association is open to membership for all E-9s from all services, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserves. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Greg Knight 876-8036.

### Electronics society

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Aerospace Electronics Systems Society will meet May 25 from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Ryan's on University Drive (near Red Lobster). Dr. Bob Berinato of Dynetics is to speak on "The Future of Radar; fearless prognostications into the next 10-15 years." The meeting is in the enclosed room on the right side as you enter Ryan's. If planning to attend, please e-mail Buddy Bishop at [william.bishop@mssl.army.mil](mailto:william.bishop@mssl.army.mil).

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## Miscellaneous

### **Civilian deployment**

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

### **Surplus sales**

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to [www.gsauctions.gov](http://www.gsauctions.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 shop has appointments from 1:30-2:30 Tuesdays and Thursdays. The shop is accepting summer clothing/items. "Join us at your Redstone Thrift Shop Saturday, June 3 for some great bargains from 10-2," a prepared release said. For more information, call 881-6992.

### **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.

### **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](http://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 Testing 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](http://www.testweek.org). For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

### **Asian Pacific festival**

Team Redstone invites everyone to its Asian Pacific American Festival on May 24 at 2:30 p.m. at Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711. This year's event features cultural displays, demonstrations and artwork.

### **TOW system reunion**

The TOW missile system has been in existence since the 1960s. The TOW Reunion is planned Sept. 8-9 for everyone who has contributed to the system through the years. A registration web site has been established at <http://towreunion.com/> or call Jack Conway 562-2132. The chairman of the reunion committee is George Williams, former program executive officer for tactical missiles and former TOW deputy project manager. Chuck Ruddy, of Raytheon marketing and business development, is co-chairman.

### **AER scholarships**

Army Emergency Relief is offering education scholarships to spouses of Soldiers on active duty, and residing in the United States. Scholarships are also available for widows of Soldiers who have died while on active duty. Applications will be accepted through May 22, and are available at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) or by calling Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

### **American Idol singer**

Carrie Underwood, the 2005 American Idol winner, along with special guest Josh Turner, are coming to Redstone Arsenal July 21. Tickets can be purchased at the Post Exchange, ITR, Officers and Civilians Club, Sparkman Cafeteria, Outdoor Recreation, Hotel Redstone, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and all Ticketmaster locations. Cost is \$18 for general admission tickets and \$60 for premium tickets. For more information, call 876-4531 or 876-5232.

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# Rocket Announcements

## Johnson High reunion

Johnson High School's Class of 1986 20-year reunion is Aug. 4-5 at the Holiday Inn-Research (Madison Square Mall). Those interested can send their address and phone number to [joj1986@earthlink.net](mailto:joj1986@earthlink.net) or call Jenise Showers 457-4633.

## Quarterly retirements

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is June 22 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate. If you would like to participate, call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-2819. Deadline for signing up to participate is June 1. A retirement ceremony is also scheduled Sept. 21.

## Veterinary clinic

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics May 30 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.

## Reutilization office

As the final phase of the A-76 transition grows near, Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service-Huntsville, would like to remind all DRMO customers of some key transition milestones. On June 30, DRMO Huntsville will transition to full performance by the Most Efficient Organization. Because of accountability issues,

approximately 10 days before the transition, or on June 20, DRMO Huntsville will discontinue receiving and storage operations in order to conduct a 100 percent inventory. During the week of the inventory, the MEO will schedule a "Town Hall Meeting" to introduce key MEO members and address concerns. If you have any questions about this transition, call Russell Manuel 842-2532.

## Air show

More than 15 acts are scheduled to perform in the Wings of Freedom Air Show in Tullahoma, Tenn., Memorial Day weekend May 27-28. The free air show celebrates the 55th anniversary of Arnold Engineering Development Center at Arnold Air Force Base and will feature both aerobatic acts and static displays. Headlining the air show is the Trojan Horsemen T-28 Warbird Aerobatic Team, the only six-ship T-28 warbird formation and aerobatic demo team in the U.S. For more information about the air show, visit the AEDC web site [www.arnold.af.mil](http://www.arnold.af.mil) or call AEDC Public Affairs (931) 454-4204, the Tullahoma Area Chamber of Commerce (931) 455-5497 or the Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce at (931) 728-7635.

## Community car wash

Auto Skills is hosting a free self-service car wash at the MWR Car Wash on Vincent Road (behind the Shopette), today from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. This car wash is open to the entire Redstone community. The car wash (10 minute max), and vacu-

um will be free. Come out wash your car and enjoy a free lunch. No RVs, large trucks, or 18 wheelers, please. For more information, call 955-7728 or 955-7727.

## Free plants

There will be a free plant swap Saturday from 9-11 a.m. in the parking lot of Farley Community Church on Bell Road (behind Super Wal-Mart on South Parkway). This is a great time to divide your plants and also to try something new. Bring your extra plants (yard plants, house plants, vegetable plants, small trees) in something someone can take away — pots, bags, wrapped in paper, paper cups, etc. Please label with type of plant (iris, peony, hosta, honeysuckle vine), light needs (full sun, part shade), size (grows to 12 inches) and color of bloom if applicable. Bring a plant — take a plant. For more information, call Lynn Moore 883-9384 or Anna Grace 883-8478.

## Motorcycle rally

The Rocket City Motorcycle Rally for United Cerebral Palsy is May 19-21 in John Hunt Park, next to Joe Davis Stadium. The rally will feature one stage with performances by local and regional musical acts, food vendors, retail vendors, a Saturday poker run, and prizes. Hours are from 4-11 p.m. May 19, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. May 20 and 9 a.m. to noon May 21. Buy your tickets in advance for \$15 per day or \$20 for the weekend. Weekend passes are available at the United Cerebral Palsy Center at 2075 Max Luther Drive or at UCP's Administrative Office at 721

Clinton Ave, Suite 22. For more information, call United Cerebral Palsy 859-4900.

## License tags

Madison County license director Mark Craig advises the following: In order for military members to renew their National Guard or active Reserve tags, they must bring their military identification card and an affidavit signed by their commander affirming that the servicemember is entitled to the exemption.

## College registration

Columbia College-Redstone Arsenal will begin its June session on June 5. Registration is now open, and students can register for classes through June 9. For more information, call 881-6181 or 876-4851.

## PX holiday hours

Post Exchange will operate with the following holiday hours Memorial Day, May 29: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; all concessions, closed; Barber shop, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; GNC, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Furniture store, closed; One-Stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tire store, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Military clothing, closed; Barber Shop, building 3479, closed; Food court — Anthony's, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, closed; Robin Hood, closed; Church's, closed; and American Eatery, closed.

## Children's volunteers

Volunteers are needed Tuesday and/or

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Thursday mornings for Childwise, a parent and child play morning program. Help out with crafts, snacks and more. Call Esther McDaniels at Army Community Service 876-5397.

### **Employment briefing**

The Federal Employment Briefing is designed to give an understanding of the federal application process. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct this session May 25 from 10-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Topics will include veteran and military spouse preference, recruitment sources, resumé procedures, candidate evaluation, and referral lists. Call ACS 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

### **Newcomer orientation**

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on June 6 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths, and a tour of Redstone. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Civilian employees, contractors and family members are welcome. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are

required for children using the child care services. If you have already attended a Newcomers' Orientation or you were reassigned to a new unit at Redstone Arsenal, disregard this notice. For more information call Mary Breen, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

### **Youth camp**

Child and Youth Services is accepting applications for its School Age Services and Middle School/Teen Program (sixth-12th grade) in "Summer Camp Sizzler 2006," scheduled May 22 through Aug. 4. In order to register for this camp, each child will need a complete registration packet, current shot record, and current physical. For a registration packet, stop by the CYS Central Registration Office, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, or visit [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com). Registration cost is \$18 per child or \$40 per family. For more information, call 876-3704.

### **MWR auction**

Outdoor Recreation will auction its older equipment on eBay throughout the summer. To bid on various items, visit the Morale Welfare and Recreation web site [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) and follow the link at left or direct link to the following: <http://www.redstonemwr.com/html.auction.intro.html>.

### **Officer dinner dance**

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military

Officers Association of America will hold an old fashion Country and Western Hoedown on June 2 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cocktails will be served at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. There will be a DJ for after dinner dancing. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. Reservations are required by May 29. For more information, call Carrie Hightower 882-3992.

### **Latin dance**

The Alabama Hispanic Associations invites everyone to its "Tropical Night Salsation" Latin Dance on June 3 at the Senior Center auditorium, 2200 Drake Ave. There will be a group dance lesson at 8 p.m. and music by "DJ Azúcar" (disc jockey Signey Hernandez) after 9. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door, available at La Michoacana Mexican Store or through members of AHA. Tropical attire is encouraged. For more information, call AHA at 325-4242 or visit [www.alabamahispanicassociation.org](http://www.alabamahispanicassociation.org).

### **Best yards**

Yard of the Month winners for May include: Unit – Marine Detachment, building 3412. Area 1 – Staff Sgt. Howard Andrews, 529 Magnolia Circle. Area 2 – Sgt. 1st Class Loel Clements 1023 Flagler Plaza. Area 3 – Capt. Randall Klingensmith, 28 Ripley Drive. Area 4 – Staff Sgt. Manuel Vega, 650 Dyer Circle. Area 4A – Sgt. 1st Class Melecio Campos, 606 Wesson Circle. Area 6 – Sgt. Eric Ironsmith, 304 Hughes Drive. Area

10A – Sgt. 1st. Class Jason Sokolowski, 471-B Tripp Drive. Area 10B – Lt. Col. Ronald Mulkey, 493 Cooke Drive.

### **Post Exchange news**

The PX has an Oriental Rug Bazaar going on through May 30. Also, stop by and take a look at its latest spring collection of Texier purses, according to a Post Exchange release. "Do you want to have a direct link to all the great sales events going on at the AAFES Redstone PX?" the release said. "Stop by and fill out a request to be on our e-mail Buddy List. Pick up a copy of the registration form at any register or at customer service — fill it out, and bring it to the manager's office at the back of the store. Soon you will receive e-mails of all the great events going on at the Redstone PX."

### **Fox health center**

Fox Army Health Center announces its hours for the Memorial Day holiday, May 26-29. The Primary Care Extended Hours Clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to noon for scheduled appointments Friday, Saturday, and Monday, May 26, 27 and 29. All other clinics and the pharmacy will be closed those days. The health center is closed on Sundays. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments.

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## Doughnut sale

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers – the BOSS Committee – will hold a doughnut sale May 23 from 8-11 a.m. at Fox Army Health Center, the Sparkman Center (on the north end of building 5300 pathway of building 5301 and 5302) and the Commissary.

## 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 special-

ists. 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.

## ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																			
SCNAFBK06051	Hotel Desk Clerk	17-May-06	Bus Oper Div	NF-0303	1	1	5.15 - 10.32	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCNAFBK06052	CYS Prgm Associate Instructor	17-May-06	Child and Youth Services	NF-1702	3	3	20,060 - 57,500	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCNAFBK06053	Hotel Reservation Agent	17-May-06	Bus Oper Div	NF-0303	1	1	5.15 - 10.32	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06248876	Program Analyst	18-May-06	SMDC	GS-0343	14	14	88,178 - 114,631												
SCBK06261789	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	19-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK06261789D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	19-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06304512	Supervisory Logistics Mgmt Spec	19-May-06	IMMC	NH-0346	3	3	62,751 - 97,003		X										
SCBK06307732	Nursing Assistant (Office Automation)	23-May-06	MEDDAC	GS-0621	4	4	25,525 - 33,187		X		X	X	X						
SCBK06307732D	Nursing Assistant (Office Automation)	23-May-06	MEDDAC	GS-0621	4	4	25,525 - 33,187								X				X
SCBK06260275	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06260275D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264988	Lead Electronics Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264988D	Lead Electronics Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06247861	Administrative Supp Assistant (OA)	24-May-06	USADTC- Redstone Tech Test Ctr	GS-0303	6	6	31,834 - 41,383				X								
SCBK06247861D	Administrative Supp Assistant (OA)	24-May-06	USADTC- Redstone Tech Test Ctr	GS-0303	6	6	31,834 - 41,383	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06261583	Lead Aerospace Engr	25-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06261583D	Lead Aerospace Engr	25-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06235736	Executive Mgmt	25-May-06	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0301	13	13	74,621 - 97,003		X										
SCBK06304344	Supervisory Prgm Analyst	25-May-06	IMMC	NH-0343	3	3	62,751 - 97,003		X										
SCBK06259551	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06259551D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06262589	Lead General Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06262589D	Lead General Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06260406	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06260406D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264236	Lead Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06264236D	Lead Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06262291	Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06262291D	Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264731	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06264731D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06195664	Telecommunications Spec	7-Jun-06	SMDC	GS-0391	14	14	88,178 - 114,631		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06195664D	Telecommunications Spec	7-Jun-06	SMDC	GS-0391	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06253546	Mechanical Engr	9-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0830	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06253546D	Mechanical Engr	9-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0830	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06266183	Electronics Engr	18-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	62,751 - 97,003		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06266183D	Electronics Engr	18-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SPM.GOV</b>																			
SCBK06261789D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	19-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06307732D	Nursing Assistant (Office Automation)	23-May-06	MEDDAC	GS-0621	4	4	25,525 - 33,187									X			X
SCBK06264988D	Lead Electronics Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06260275D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	24-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06247861D	Administrative Supp Assistant (OA)	24-May-06	USADTC- Redstone Tech Test Ctr	GS-0303	6	6	31,834 - 41,383	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06261583D	Lead Aerospace Engr	25-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06262589D	Lead General Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06259551D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	26-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264236D	Lead Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06260406D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	27-May-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06184623	General Attorney	28-May-06	Corps of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0905	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06262291D	Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06264731D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	1-Jun-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06195664	Telecommunications Spec	7-Jun-06	SMDC	GS-0391	14	14	88,178 - 114,631		X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK06195664D	Telecommunications Spec	7-Jun-06	SMDC	GS-0391	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06266183D	Electronics Engr	18-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

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

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

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