

Redstone Rocket

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June 21, 2006

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Thanks again, Team Redstone

Emergency relief campaign raises more than \$171K

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Arriving onstage at the former movie theater, the commanding general had a question while looking out over filled Heiser Hall.

"What's the movie tonight?" quipped Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal.

The occasion Thursday afternoon was an awards ceremony for the 2006 Army Emergency Relief campaign, which collected \$171,260 to eclipse a \$150,000 goal. Key representatives and organizations received certificates from Pillsbury for their fund-raising efforts.

"I couldn't be more proud to be here and to be part of this ceremony," he said.

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski added his appreciation to the Redstone community which he joined a year ago.

"AER is still the biggest thing going," Olshefski said, "because it gives to our Soldiers."

Capt. Robert Hawley served as the 2006 campaign chairman with Sgt. Maj. Perry West as co-chairman. Kristi Foster of Army Community Service is the AER officer.

AER's traditional motto is "Soldiers

Helping Soldiers" but the civilian community – individuals, organizations and so on – annually provides an outpouring of support through contributions and fund-raising events.

"Every single event has been important in us getting this \$171,000," Hawley said. Last year's drive collected \$142,479 to surpass an \$85,000 goal. Last year 342 individuals in the Tennessee Valley area were served by AER. Some \$310,000 was provided in no-interest loans and grants.

Army Emergency Relief provides no-interest loans and grants to active duty and retired military, National Guard and Reserve who are active under Title 10 for 30 days or more, and their qualifying family members for any emergency that results in a financial need. Examples include death or serious illness of an immediate family member, vehicle repair, utility or rent assistance.

"It's Soldier support," Hawley said. "You're helping those who are helping us."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CAMPAIGN TEAM— Showing their appreciation during the awards ceremony are, from left, AER officer Kristi Foster, 2006 drive chairman Capt. Robert Hawley and co-chairman Sgt. Maj. Perry West.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FULL HOUSE— Heiser Hall is full during Thursday's awards ceremony for Army Emergency Relief.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WOW— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury looks at the \$171,260 figure on the check held by campaign chairman Capt. Robert Hawley with Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski at right.

An open lane random survey

Should same-sex marriage be outlawed?

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
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Debbie Moore
DoD civilian
"I think it should be outlawed. I was raised in the church from childhood to believe that God meant for man to

have a wife not of the same sex. I just go by God's word."

Jennie Gardner
DoD civilian

"I think it should be outlawed because it's not the way that God intended things to be."



Riley Freelove
DoD civilian

"I don't know. In a way it's discrimination against some people. It depends on the religious background of marriage – whether it's a legal document or a religious ceremony. Where do you separate church and state when it comes to marriage?"



Amy Anderson
military spouse
"Yes, definitely. The Bible says it's wrong."



Quote of the week

'If you enjoy what you do, you'll never work another day in your life.'

— Confucius

Letters to the Editor

Bridge takes brunt again

When I heard that the bridge at Martin and Patton roads had been hit by a truck again, I was surprised that it was hit again. A couple of years ago the same bridge had replacement work for being hit by a truck. McDonald's, Burger King, and Taco Bell put up barriers prior to the drive thru windows with the intent of: "If you hit this, you won't get through the drive thru." Can these barriers be installed for the same intent?

I also hope that we are utilizing the driver of the truck's insurance information for the repairs. The clearance of 14 feet was clearly posted on the bridge and it should be the responsibility of the driver to avoid the collision. If the government is paying for the repairs, this should be looked into at the appropriate level.

Travis Moore
Robotic Systems JPO

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The Patton Road bridge over Martin Road was struck again (June 7). The truck driver's load

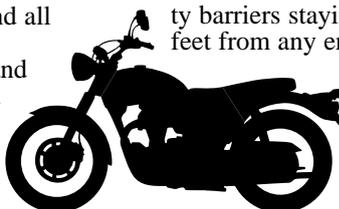
was 12 inches higher than the posted bridge height. The bridge section over the southern side of Martin Road was destroyed. We have installed bars in the truck inspection station at the height of the bridge. This has helped to detect incoming loads that are over the bridge height. In this case it was struck in the outbound lanes.

"The truck driver came onto the Arsenal, loaded a piece of heavy rental equipment and was heading eastbound on Martin Road when the incident occurred. We have investigated the methodology and cost of detection devices on the outbound lanes and have not had the funding to install them in the past. Even with height detection devices installed on Martin Road, we would not be able to identify the trucks that were over the height limit coming down the circular off ramps from Patton Road before they hit the bridge. We are working with the truck driver's insurance company to gain restitution for the damages. We are also working with the Installation Management Agency to ascertain funding to raise the bridge height over Martin Road."

Watch out for motorcycles

I would like to remind all that with the warm weather returning and the cost of gasoline on the rise, more Arsenal employees are riding their motorcycles to work. Be aware that the smaller image projected by the motorcycle is closer than you may think it is. As reported in the Rocket earlier, many collisions are automobiles turning left in front of motorcycles.

I would also like to add that under "Force Protection," the Sparkman Center is under extensive addition of barriers. Prior to these additional barriers, the Garrison had afforded motorcycles the courtesy to park within the securi-



ty barriers staying more than 80 feet from any entrance. This opened up precious parking spaces and afforded protection for our motorcycles that we don't get if we park in a conventional parking space in the parking lot. We were informed by Sparkman authorities (at Garrison direction) this week that this courtesy was no longer available. Please be aware before whipping into a seemingly vacant spot that a motorcycle may be parked there now.

Steve Huffman
IMMC

Guard house in place

For many months now in my travels using Goss Road, I have been aware of gate guards posted on Goss Road, utilizing a temporary or portable guard house, located just past the golf course as you exit the post. In my travels on Goss Road either east or west passing by this guard location, I have never seen one vehicle stopped. Matter of fact, I have never witnessed the guard even present him/herself to passers-by.

Now I must ask, what exactly is the purpose of the individual inside of this gate house, sitting on a stool with their feet resting on the window sill or table top, in some instances even smoking? In having to pass through the main entrance to Gate 9, then execute a U-turn to come back to Goss Road and travel east toward the golf course, Officers and Civilians Club, Challenger Activity Center, Post Exchange or Commissary as the west entrance to Goss Road is closed, there seems to be absolutely no reason to have this guard house or individual guard on duty.

In a time when there is much importance placed on the dollar or lack thereof, it seems to me that paying for this non-productive position is a waste of taxpayers' hard-earned money. I can personally visualize the money paid to support this position going to a much better cause on Redstone Arsenal – example, repaving the drive-through pavement at Burger King or adding more handicap parking spaces at the Commissary. I would hope that the answer to this question or observation is not 911-related!

Philip H. Rowe
Logistics Support Activity

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The Directorate of Emergency Services appreciates your concern regarding the Access Control Point located near the intersection of Ride-out and Goss Roads, on Goss. The mission of this particular post is not to check those personnel who have already properly accessed the installation but to restrict unauthorized entrance to the installation from those personnel that attempt to bypass Gate 9 ACP. The very nature of the design of this ACP corridor allows for potential unauthorized access to the installation should this post go unmanned. Contract Security Guard personnel ensure (through access control procedures) that all authorized personnel are directed to Gate 9 for access to the installation and denying all access through this location for those personnel that have not processed through Gate 9. Removal of the CSG personnel from this guard post will not only create a vulnerability by leaving a gap in the installation perimeter defense program, but will also prevent the ability to stop vehicles traveling east on Goss Road that may have been turned around by CSG personnel at Gate 9."

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Bruce Cline

Job: Protocol specialist, AMCOM

Where do you call home?
Wolcott, Colo.

What do you like about your job?
Opportunity to do something different every day. Great people I work with.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My wife (Barb) and I have a small farm (in Fayetteville, Tenn.). We do organic farming, organic gardening. So fighting weeds is pretty much all I do because we don't use the chemicals.



What are your goals?

To have great-great grandchildren. I already have grandchildren (three granddaughters in Edmonton, Ky.).

What's your favorite type of music?
Classic rock

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

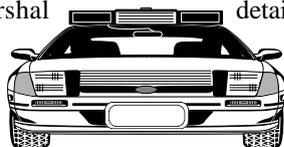
The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

June 8: An individual reported that his privately owned vehicle was damaged while in the barracks parking lot.

June 8: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and released to a licensed driver.

June 9: An individual was found to be operating his vehicle while under the influence of alcohol after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol level reached an acceptable level.

June 10: An individual was found to be operating her motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license, while under the influence of alcohol, and underage at Gate 9. She was issued three violation notices, and



detained in the detention cell until her blood alcohol level reached an acceptable level.

June 13: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and under a warrant from the Huntsville Police Department during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released to Huntsville Police Department.

June 14: An individual reported that someone had removed a 42-inch plasma screen television from the supply room of building 3205. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

Violation notices issued: 19 speeding, 4 failure to obey traffic control device, 3 driving with a suspended/revoked license, 1 failure to judge proper distance, 1 no insurance, 1 driving under the influence, 4 expired registration.

Adding up energy bill

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office wants to attune consumers to some common misconceptions:

Myth: Many people don't see how trying to save money on small appliances and equipment in the home can make much difference in their energy bills because they use so little electricity.

Fact: Do not forget the amenities because they can quickly add up. For example, the energy use of a heated spa or Jacuzzi can easily be as much as the annual consumption for

water heating. If you use electric-resistance heating for your spa, you're probably spending at least \$160 per year on these energy costs. Clothes dryers use about \$70 worth of energy yearly (a lot of money when you realize that an outdoor clothesline doesn't charge you anything for the sunshine that does the work). Other appliances also use varying amounts — amounts that look a lot bigger when you lump them together.

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

Army service uniform turning blue

Simplicity, tradition reflected in decision

WASHINGTON — Army service uniforms will be streamlined to one blue Army Service Uniform, the Army has announced.

"World-class Soldiers deserve a simplified, quality uniform. The blue Army Service Uniform is a traditional uniform that is consistent with the Army's most honored traditions," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

"We have all of these variations of uniforms — green, blue and white," said Army chief of staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker. "It makes sense for us to go to one traditional uniform that is really sharp and high quality and which Soldiers will be very proud to wear. And that's what we've done by adopt-

ing this blue Army Service Uniform that reflects simplicity, quality, utility and tradition."

Many Soldiers already own an Army blue uniform (now to be called the Army Service Uniform) and may continue to wear it. Improvements will be made to the fabric and fit. Reduction of the number of uniforms will reduce the burden on Soldiers for purchases and alteration cost.

Introduction in the Army Military Clothing Sales Stores should begin in fourth quarter of fiscal 2007. Introduction in the Clothing Bag should begin first quarter 2009. The Mandatory Possession Date is expected to be fourth quarter fiscal 2011.

A wear-out date for the Army Green Class A and White dress uniforms will be determined at a later date. (*Army News Service*)

Contractor workers killed in Iraq identified

Four Army Engineering and Support Center Huntsville contractor employees killed in Iraq June 8 have been identified.

Wayne Shultz, 34, from Hervey Bay, Australia; Penaia Vakaotia, 32, from Suva, Fiji; Mikaele Banidawa, 46, from Yalalevu, Fiji; and Vilisoni Guana, 43, from Ono-I-Lau, Fiji, were killed when the vehicle they were riding in was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device.

The four worked as security specialists and were employed by ArmorGroup Iraq, which is headquartered in London.

This brings the number of contractor casualties killed under the Coalition Munitions Clearance program since September 2003 to 25.

"Our condolences go out to the family," said Bill Sargent, program manager, Coalition

Munitions Clearance Program. "Our personnel are highly trained and experienced and are doing a superb job, but it remains a very dangerous mission."

The incidents are under investigation.

Huntsville Center is the Army Corps of Engineers' Center of Expertise for Military Munitions. Huntsville Center's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program is responsible for receiving, transporting, segregating and destroying captured or any other munitions posing a danger in Iraq. Storage and disposal of the ammunition is performed at several locations throughout Iraq. To date, more than 450,000 tons of ammunition has been destroyed by the Huntsville Center program, significantly reducing risks to Iraqi citizens and U.S. personnel serving in Iraq. (*Huntsville Center release*)

Modern helicopter carries tradition

New Chinook unveiled for heavy transport

By **KIM HENRY**
Staff writer
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RIDLEY PARK, Pa. — The unveiling of the first production CH-47F Chinook took place Thursday in a ceremony at Boeing Rotorcraft in Ridley Park. The event marks the delivery of the first of 452 new CH-47F heavy-transport helicopters in production as a part of the Army Cargo Helicopter Modernization Program.

"This is truly a great day for the Army, aviation and most of all, our Soldiers," Col. Tim Crosby, project manager for cargo helicopters, said. "This aircraft, delivered on cost and on schedule, marks the beginning of a long production run that is a keystone in Army Aviation's transformation. Our special thanks to all of our industry partners for their dedication to this program and to our Soldiers."

The Chinook, a twin-turbine, heavy-lift transport helicopter, entered Army service in the early 1960s with CH-47A, B and C model designations. From 1980 through 1993, the early-model aircraft were remanufactured to the current CH-47D configuration. Today, 46 percent of the Army's CH-47D fleet was originally manufactured prior to 1966.

"The air frame and all its dynamics will be pretty much the same as the CH-47D, because it is built on the legacy of the same model that was built in the '60s," Lt. Col. Tony Pelczynski, CH-47F improved cargo helicopter product manager, said. "The

materials will be new, but the actual construction and aerodynamics of the air frame are the same."

As the Army's only heavy-lift helicopter, the CH-47 transports troops including air assault, supplies, weapons and other cargo in combat, combat support and service support operations.

"One indication of Chinook's great value is that it is now the longest running continuous production program in the history of the Boeing company; outstripping every commercial jetliner and military aircraft the company has ever built," said Jack Dougherty, Boeing director for Chinook programs. "Chinooks are recognized around the world for their unique design, but more importantly for their capability to carry people and supplies into areas unreachable by other means."

Members from the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division attended the ceremony to accept the keys of first CH-47F production model because they will be the first unit equipped with the aircraft.

"The CH-47F will give us an enhanced capability to conduct air assaults and deliver critical supplies to our Soldiers as we prosecute this war on terrorism and remain on the offensive," Col. Warren Phipps, 101st CAB commander, said.

The new aircraft features a newly designed, modernized air frame and the Common Avionics Architecture System advanced digital cockpit. The air frame will feature modern manufacturing techniques, where single piece machined components replace built-up sheet metal structures. The new components



Courtesy photo

LOAD TO BEAR— An Army aviation unit with the Maryland National Guard demonstrates the CH-47D Chinook helicopter lifting a Humvee as part of the CH-47F ceremony at Boeing on Thursday.

reduce operating and support costs while improving the structural integrity of the aircraft, extending the overall useful life of the Chinook.

The new model Chinook should benefit Soldiers in the battlefield. "Primarily it is going to provide increased situational awareness both from mission planning and mission execution capabilities. We're bringing in a new avionics system, a new cockpit and a whole host of new product improvements to include new ASE (Aircraft Survivability Equipment) suites," Pelczynski said.

The advanced avionics in the CH-47F provide improved situational awareness for flight crews with an advanced digital map display and a data transfer system, storing preflight and mission data. Additionally, the Digital Advanced Flight Control system replaces the legacy analog system. Improved survivability features include Common Missile Warning and Improved Countermeasure Dispenser Systems.

"We're continuing the progression of the product improvements for the CH-47D including 714 engines for higher and hot environments and new machine frames so the entire air frame is going to be brand new, which is significant in terms of configuration management," Pelczynski said.

Powered by T55-GA-714A engines, the new CH-47F is

capable of speeds in excess of 175 mph making it among the fastest rotorcraft while providing the capability to transport up to 21,016 pounds. "It is built for speed, it is built to carry the load," Pelczynski said. The CH-47F, with the Extended Range Fuel System, is capable of a mission radius greater than 400 miles.



Courtesy photo

Facility visit

Ken Krieg, center, the under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, visits the Prototype Integration Facility on June 7.



Courtesy photo

MODERN MACHINE— Rollout ceremony attendees take a closer look at the new CH-47F Chinook helicopter produced by Boeing in Ridley Park, Pa.

Team elevates aviation war fighter's safety

*Survival, mission equipment
part of air crew's ensemble*

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

The Air Warrior Product Management Team works daily to develop, field and continuously improve integrated, modular, life support equipment for helicopter air crews.

For the past three years, team's efforts have focused on vigorously supporting the nation's war fighters.

"Air Warrior integrates air crew survival and mission equipment into a modular war fighting system for AH-64 Apache, UH-60 Black Hawk, CH-47 Chinook, and OH-58D Kiowa aircraft, and Air Warrior outfits every air crew member," John Jolly, Air Warrior logistics chief, said. "Modularity allows one set of equipment to support all missions in all environments."

The Clothing and Individual Equipment system consists of newly developed items and currently fielded equipment collectively referred to as the Air Warrior ensemble. The Survival Equipment Subsystem includes a survival gear carrier with integrated extraction harness, soft body armor, a .30-caliber ballistic upgrade plate that provides protection from 7.62mm armor-piercing rounds, a modular thigh or shoulder holster for the M9 (9mm) defensive weapon, provisions for a PRC112/CSEL radio and a survival knife carried in a thigh sheath.

A key component of the Air Warrior system is the Microclimate Cooling System. The system consists of a Microclimate Cooling Garment worn against a Soldier's torso, and a Microclimate Cooling Unit that is mounted on the aircraft. The system provides a significant increase in mission duration times coupled with reducing body core temperature, enhancing the overall war fighter effec-



Courtesy photo

LOG DOG— Staff Sgt. Derrick Davis, of Air Warrior Product Management Team, adjusts the equipment for a combat aviation brigade Soldier at Fort Hood, Texas.

tiveness. Testing in a climate-controlled simulator at Fort Rucker demonstrated a 350 percent increase in mission duration time, compared to current equipment.

Additional systems are part of the ensemble, and are designed to meet a full range of user requirements. For example, the Modular Integrated Helmet Display System includes the HGU56P flight helmet, laser eye protection and a night vision device mount. The Over-Water Survival Subsystem includes a low-profile personal-flotation device, an inflatable raft and an emergency underwater

breathing device. Chemical and biological protection includes a modified Chemical Protective Undergarment, M45 or M48 protective mask, gloves and overboots. Specific clothing items include the modified Aviation Battle Dress Uniform and the Aircrew Cold Weather System.

"Air Warrior is currently being fielded to all air crews deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan," product manager Lt. Col. Shannon Womack said. "We are fielding equipment much faster than previously planned in order to support those deployments. Each air crew member is provided two hours of training on the equipment and how to care for it before being fitted and fielded. Some 8,283 Air Warrior ensembles have been fielded to Army air crews during the past two and one half years."

The Air Warrior Product Team is fielding generation three of the Air Warrior ensemble. The Air Warrior Product Team has made more than 100 changes to the system based on war fighter feedback.

Being responsive to the users' needs is a fundamental part of the program's success. Every day the Air Warrior system plays a significant role in air crew safety.

But Air Warrior is not just clothing and individual equipment.

The Air Warrior Product Team is also fielding the Electronic Data Manager to deploying units. EDM is a small, full featured computer in the form of an interactive touch screen electronic kneeboard worn by the aviator in flight. EDM provides the air crew with mission planning and graphics, digital map data, and — when paired with Blue Force Tracking — GPS moving map, digital messaging, and friendly force situational awareness capabilities. The Air Warrior Product Fielding Team presents pilots a four-hour training class on operation of the EDM during fielding.

The Air Warrior Product Team works closely with its Program Executive Office for Aviation counterparts to integrate all Air Warrior systems on deploying aircraft.

Professionals of year honored in community

The Huntsville Association of Technical Societies honored 19 recipients at its annual Professionals of the Year awards dinner June 8 at the Von Braun Center North Hall.

The 19 professionals were all nominated and selected by their membership organizations for their outstanding contributions to the mission of their awarding organization.

Each of the 2006 recipients engaged in professional activities that resulted in broad social, technological, or economical consequences to benefit the science and engineering community. Each winner exhibited dedication, creativity and leadership in their work.

The 2006 Professionals of the Year are:

- Sylvia Dean, Alabama Council for Technology
- Karmel Herring, North Alabama National Society of Black Engineers
- Darren Brewer, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association
- Pete Cerny, Army Space and Missile Defense Association
- Richard Henrick, American Society for Quality
- Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence B. Scott, Association of the U.S. Army
- Steve Humphrey, Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association
- Bob Woods, Huntsville Association of

Technical Societies

- Bill Craig, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- Stan Miller, Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Summit Working Group
- Darryl Walker, National Contract Management Association
- Jim Pepper, National Defense Industrial Association
- Harry Craft, National Space Club
- Ken Merwin, Program Management Institute
- Dr. Christian Smart, Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis
- Elmwood L. "Woody" Bombara, Society of Reliability Engineers
- Rhonda Barnes, System Safety Society
- Woody Williams, HATS STEDTRAIN
- Tara Ragan-Ward, Women in Defense

This year, there was also a special award given out for the first time in honor of Huntsville community leader Joseph Moquin. The recipient of this award was Bill Craig of IEEE. Craig was chosen because of his extraordinary contributions to the North Alabama technical community. Moquin was present to deliver the award and was himself honored as a driving force behind the effort to establish a first-class research park, Cummings Research Park, in the community. *(Huntsville Association of Technical Societies release)*



Courtesy photo

Contract professionals

The Depot Partnering/Fort Rucker Contracting team is the Acquisition Center "Contract Professional of the Quarter" for the first quarter of fiscal 2006. The team awarded a five-year contract with potential value of approximately \$1.5 billion for General Electric Aircraft Engine to provide support to Corpus Christi Army Depot in overhaul and repair of the T700 family of engines. From left are Acquisition Center executive director Marlene Cruze, contracting officer Charles Miller and contract specialist Laurie Hewitt.

Wishing the Army a happy 231st year

Birthday celebration recognizes Soldiers

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Among those recognized during Redstone Arsenal's 231st Army Birthday celebration at the Officers and Civilians Club on June 14 was a pint-sized, 17-year-old Soldier who helped AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury officially cut the birthday cake.

As the most junior Soldier on Redstone Arsenal, Pvt. Courtney Pollard of Charlie Company got the distinguished honor of cutting the cake with Redstone's commander in front of about 340 Soldiers and civilians who gathered to toast the Army's birthday.

"I feel so great! I'm glad to be the youngest here so I can meet the general," Pollard said.

Her slight frame belied a young lady who is determined to make it as a career Soldier.

"I looked up to the Army. I felt the Army was powerful," she said when asked what motivated her to join the Army straight out of high school in Gadsden.

"What we are doing in Iraq and Korea is incredible, and I wanted to help out."

Pollard said she easily survived boot camp and isn't worried about the physical challenges of her job. The former high school softball and basketball athlete has easily met all her physical training requirements.

"I was prepared for it to be a lot rougher," she said.

Though Pollard is excited about her training at Redstone Arsenal and her future in the Army, her mom wasn't so sure about the decision.

"She didn't want me to, but she supports whatever I decide to do," Pollard said.

The young Soldier and her determination is a fitting example of what the Army has become in its 231 years — an organization where Soldiers can be all they can be in an Army of one.

Pillsbury told the audience during his comments that he is always amazed at what motivates a young person to be a Soldier, particularly at a time when this country is at war.

"What makes a Soldier raise their right hand to promise to defend their country knowing they will go into battle?" he said.

"I don't know. There's a spark there. God bless the parents who instilled it. God bless the child who raised her right hand at 17 to do that."

Pillsbury's tall frame hovered over Pollard during the cake cutting. She was all smiles to Pillsbury's serious and



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CUTTING A GOOD CAKE— Redstone Arsenal's most junior Soldier, 17-year-old Pvt. Courtney Pollard of Charlie Company, cuts the Army's birthday cake with AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury. It is a tradition to have the post's most junior Soldier help with the cake cutting on the Army's birthday.

fatherly expression

"Let's do this like we've practiced it," Pillsbury whispered to Pollard as he invited her to join him in holding the saber.

"OK, right down the middle," he said. With the Army birthday cake cut and

"Happy Birthday" sung to the Army, Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon and Redstone Arsenal's oldest (in age) Soldier, Chief Warrant Officer Eduardo Hope, cut the Flag Day birthday cake.

"I couldn't be prouder to be part of the Army today, tomorrow and in the future," Pillsbury said. "In my 33 years in the Army, I've had wonderful mentors, wonderful leaders."

The evening of toasts to the Army included a dinner sponsored by the Huntsville chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. There were also video messages from Dr. Francis Harvey, secretary of the Army; Gen. Peter Schoomaker, chief of staff of the Army; and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston; a dramatic presentation involving NCOs and Soldiers, and a video salute titled "Supporting Our Army."

"It's great being around Soldiers," Pillsbury said. "They have their boots on the ground. Here they come. They will continue to keep our country free, and make sure we celebrate our 250th, 275th and 300th birthdays. They will make sure that our country stays free and your grandkids grow up in a land that is free."

Soldiers will go where they are called and do their duty, regardless of how they feel about the nation's politics.

See **Birthday** on page 11

Local community celebrates armed forces

Week of events set July 10-16

By SHAREE MILLER
For the Rocket

The Redstone and Madison-Huntsville community pays tribute annually to servicemembers during Armed Forces Celebration Week.

"America Supports You" is this year's theme for the observance July 10-16.

Together with Redstone, the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce will have a proclamation signing to kick off the week at 9:30 a.m. July 10 at the Software Engineering Directorate, building 6263. Those with access to Redstone are welcome to attend.

Redstone Arsenal's NCO/Soldier of the Year luncheon will also be held July 10 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The event honors Redstone's outstanding NCO and Soldier. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon at 876-8648.

Army Community Service will hold an open house July 10 which also serves as a birthday celebration for its 40th year of service to the military. The open house starts at 1:30 p.m., imme-



Photo by Tim Hippius

RAISE ROOF— The 2006 U.S. Army Soldier Show cast delivers a gospel medley of "Awesome God," "The Best is Yet to Come" and "Sanctuary."

diately following the NCO/Soldier of the Year luncheon, and lasts until 4.

The 82nd All-American Chorus and AMC's Own-389th Army Band will perform at the "Concert in the Park" series, sponsored by the city of Huntsville and the Arts Council, on July 10 at Ditto Landing. The 82nd All-American Chorus will kick off the night at 6:30 p.m. and the AMC's Own will begin around 7:45. The concert concludes with a fireworks display at approximately 9.

In addition to the concert in

the park, military hardware such as helicopters, aircraft and weapon systems will be displayed as part of the Armed Forces Week and concert activities. The Concert in the Park and hardware displays are open to the public; and people are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is set for three performances at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Performances are July 11 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and July 12 at 7 p.m. For tickets contact the Diane Campbell Recreation Cen-

ter in building 3711 or the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce. The Army National Guard is the lead sponsor and partner for the Soldier Show and AT&T is the corporate sponsor.

The Armed Forces Salute Luncheon, sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army and the Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled July 12 at 11:30 a.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Tickets for the luncheon are \$30. For more information, call Tina Leopold of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce at 535-2031.

To wrap up the week, AUSA will hold the Armed Forces Week golf tournament at the Links at Redstone on July 14. The tournament is a four-person scramble open to the public. Registration begins at 6:45 a.m. Cost is \$45 for military and DoD civilians and \$85 for others. The price includes entry fee, green fees, cart, food and drink. There is a limit of 192 players in the tournament. For more information, call Mike Kelley at 542-5100 or michael_kelley@raytheon.com.

The following area attractions will honor military personnel by offering free or reduced admission during Armed Forces Celebration Week, according to the

Chamber of Commerce:

- U.S. Space & Rocket Center — All military and their immediate family enter free of charge July 8-16. (IMAX movie \$7.95 per person.)

- EarlyWorks Museum — \$6 "Works"(all three sites) on July 15.

- Huntsville Art Museum — Free admission for active military ID card holders and their families July 10-16.

- Botanical Garden — Free admission to military ID card holders July 10-16.

- Burritt on the Mountain — Free admission to military ID card holders July 11-16.

- Huntsville Dragway — Active military ID card holders free admission July 9-10.

- Sci-Quest Museum — Half off regular admission for military ID card holders and their families July 11-16.

- Huntsville Stars — Active military personnel receive half-off price for box seats and general admission July 12-16 (Stars vs. Mississippi Braves baseball games.)

For more information about Armed Forces Celebration Week, log on to the Team Redstone or AMCOM web site for a calendar of events. You can also call the Chamber of Commerce at 535-2000, or the Public Affairs Office at 842-0558.

Graduates represent more than ordinary Fellows

11 at Redstone finish leadership program

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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This graduating class from a leadership development program represented the first, and the last.

AMC Fellows, a five-year program that began in June 2001, becomes the Department of Army Fellows program as of this year. So, the 11 participants who graduated June 12 at the Aviation and Missile Command are not only the first graduates from the program. They are also the last graduates of what was an Army Materiel Command effort.

"What you have done is set a path to allow this movement to go forward to become an Armywide movement," AMCOM human resources director Tim Grey told the graduates in Bob Jones Auditorium. "And you should be very

proud of that."

The program is designed to develop the civilian leaders of the 21st century. These Class 1 Fellows spent their first 18 months in Texarkana, Texas, and the last three and a half years with the Aviation and Missile Command. Of the original 43 people in the AMC program, 28 are at other subordinate commands throughout the Army Materiel Command.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, presented the 11 graduation certificates and officially welcomed the graduates to AMCOM.

"I want you to try, I want you to try hard, to support Soldiers," Pillsbury said.

Among the graduates was Ken Olney of the Integrated Materiel Management Center, where he serves as a performance based logistics team member for the Patriot missile. He has been working for AMCOM for three and a half years and located at Redstone for a month.

"Working with AMCOM specifically, I've had great supervisors and mentors



Photo by Skip Vaughn

IN LINE FOR CERTIFICATES— Among the 11 graduates from AMC Fellows Class 1 are, from left, Martin Roggio, David Stapp and Felicia Williams.

who have provided me great opportunities for development," Olney said.

The other Fellows Class 1 graduates Tara Bell, Emanuel Bumpass, Kathryn

Fuller, Pamela Johnson, Clifton Officer Jr., David E. Robinson, Martin Roggio, David Stapp, Richard Trudeau and Felicia Williams.

People empowered through mentoring program

Signup under way for six-month cycle

The AMCOM commanding general approved the launch of the AMCOM People Empowering People Mentoring Program Pilot in June 2004. Mentoring is an

opportunity for the command to leverage its diverse strengths and professional development through mentoring relationships.

The pilot program, Cycle I, had 12 mentoring relationships, Cycle II had nine mentoring relationships, and Cycle III has 24 mentoring relationships and will end on July 21. The PEP mentoring program

represents a cross-section of AMCOM organizations. The mentoring relationships range from GS-3 (protégés) to SES level (mentors), to include the deputy to the commanding general and the chief of staff.

AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) announces Cycle IV of the People Empowering People Mentoring Program. Cycle IV will begin Aug. 7 and will end Feb. 2. The six-month mentoring cycle consists of a variety of educational and guided learning experiences to include mentor/protégé training, lunch and learns, independent mentoring sessions, and a culminating capstone experience — a staff ride. Staff rides have a specific focus such as leadership, continuous improvement, or application of a specific technology.

Participants' feedback indicated the

PEP mentoring program benefited the mentors and protégés in a variety of ways — from learning problem solving skills, exposure to the "big" picture, and professional development.

What happens in a mentoring relationship can have a profound, deep and lasting impact. The process of creating effective learning relationships through mentoring challenges each participant to think about what he or she might become. Be a part of shaping AMCOM's future — sign up as a mentor or protégé during the application acceptance period, June 14-28. Call Jackie Timme, mentoring program manager, AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) at 876-6061 for more information or visit the G-1 (HR) web site at https://ams8.redstone.army.mil:4443/hrd/hrddb.hrddba.hrd_home. (G-1 release)

Space and missile defense conference on schedule

Annual event slated at Von Braun Center

The ninth annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition will take place Aug. 14-17 at the Von Braun Center. The theme for this year's event is "Global Missions ... Meeting the Challenge."

Special features of this year's conference include presentations in the areas of global ballistic missile defense system development and operation, emerging technologies, and integration of cruise missile defense. Scheduled speakers for the event include Gen. James Cartwright, commander of U.S. Strategic Command; Lt. Gen. Trey Obering, director of the Missile Defense Agency; Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of SMDC; Maj. Gen. David Ralston, commander of Fort Sill, Okla.; Maj. Gen. Douglas Burnett, the adjutant general for the Florida National Guard; and Dr. George Friedman, chairman of Strategic Forecasting.

Other invited speakers include Lt. Gen. Keith Alexander, director of the National Security Agency and chief of the Central Security Service; Vice Adm. Thad Allen, commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; Stephen Hadley, assistant to the president, national security adviser; Adm. Timothy Keating, commander, U.S. Northern Command; and Lt. Gen. Michael Maples, director, Defense Intelligence Agency. Condoleezza Rice, secretary of state, has also been invited as a special guest.

The previously successful Small Busi-

ness Innovation Research Conference and Exhibition will also be held in conjunction with this year's conference.

The biggest change for the 2006 event is the expansion of the conference into the entire VBC. With the South, East, West and North halls housing exhibition areas, there will be more than 150,000 square feet of exhibit space. The conference program will be located in the VBC Concert Hall, transformed for this event into a Conference Center. There will be special attractions located in every exhibit hall as well.

The special attractions will be of interest to many different subsets of the general public, such as the celebrity book signings by Billy Vaughn, author of "Hunting the Jackal" and Col. Ola "Lee" Mize, Medal of Honor recipient, among others. There will be a Global Technology Lectures session covering topics such as systems engineering and management of technology.

The Cold War Museum will bring displays, and there will be a program to support spouses who are visiting the city. The world's most valuable and historic chopper, The Liberty Bike, will be on display along with artifacts from the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. All of these attractions, along with the viewing of all exhibits, are free and open to the public.

To register for the conference visit the web site at www.smdconf.org. For more information, call Giselle Bodin at 955-3889 or by e-mail giselle.bodin@smdc.army.mil. (SMDC release)

■ Association of U.S. Army salutes Army birthday

Birthday

continued from page 8

"Our Army will perform, they will perform to standard, and our enemy will be defeated," Pillsbury said.

But, as he spoke about his appreciation for today's Army, Pillsbury also recalled the retirees of yesterday's Army.

"We are proud to be in uniform because of those who went before us," he said. "My hat's off to the retirees."

Those retirees have helped to prepare today's Soldiers "to defend our nation against all enemies," he said. "We are in a knife fight with a vile, evil enemy that wants to kill you and me."

In signing the order to put Soldiers in harm's way, President Bush knows "he has committed America's treasures to that endeavor and we must make sure that endeavor ends successfully," Pillsbury said.

Toward the end of the evening, the winners of the first AUSA-sponsored 1st Sgt. John Ordway Leadership Award were announced. They are: Active Army – 1st Sgt. Jerry McIntyre; Army Reserve – 1st Sgt. John Kennedy; and National Guard – 1st Sgt. Keith Cottrell. They will be among the NCOs and Soldiers of the Year who attend this year's annual AUSA convention in Washington, D.C.

Five new AUSA officers and six chapter directors were also sworn in for the 2006-07 year. They were: Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates, vice pres-

ident of enlisted affairs; Bryan Henderson, vice president of Army recruiting; Mike Barefield, vice president of awards and recognition; Kris McBride, vice president of chapter support group; Donna Palumbo, chapter secretary; and chapter directors Mark Umansky, Rod Bissell, Mike Carden, Jake Jacobson, Bob Devlin and Will Webb. The Huntsville chapter of AUSA has more than 2,400 individual members and more than 240 corporate members.

"We have a very strong chapter," AUSA chapter president Emily Vandiver said. "Our chapter has been rockin' and rollin' this year. We are dedicated to doing even more to support our Army and to support all aspects of the Army."

Corporate sponsors of the dinner celebration were: AAR Mobility Systems, Aerojet, BAE Systems, Bell Helicopter, Boeing Company, Belzon, CAS Inc., COLSA Corp., Computer Sciences Corp., DESE Research Inc., Dynetics, Emerson Consulting Inc., General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products, General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems, The Huntsville Times, ITT, Lockheed Martin Corp., Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Miltec Corp., Northrop Grumman, Orbital Sciences Corp., Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation, Raytheon Company, Redstone Federal Credit Union, SAIC, Servis First Bank, SRS Technologies, Systems Studies and Simulation, Techni-Core, Teledyne Brown Engineering, Torch Technologies, U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Westar, and Bob Whiteford.

Bingo players have place of their own

Challenger center stays busy at night

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Bingo is the type of “poor man’s gambling” that Jack Byrd likes to play.

The 71-year-old retired sergeant major and former DoD civilian figures he’s been winning and losing at Bingo for nearly 50 years.

“I started playing Bingo in 1958 right here at Redstone Arsenal after my wife and I got married,” he said. “Then, we played Bingo in Germany and back here again at Redstone Arsenal ... Bingo, to me, is a lot of fun. This is one of my bad habits. I don’t smoke, but I play Bingo.”

Byrd is one of many Bingo players who are regulars at MWR’s Challenger Bingo, played five times a week at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road.

He’s also one of the game’s luckier players. He has won the \$10,000 jackpot in years past, and has also won about six other large jackpots.

“The winnings and losses all balance out,” he said.

Byrd sits in his favorite spot in the back of the Challenger Bingo hall when he plays Bingo. He’s usually there on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and some Saturdays. During football season, Byrd gives up some of his “Bingo dates” to watch football. When he isn’t playing, other regulars try to get his “lucky” seat.

“We’re just lucky to sit by him,” said Mario Ares, a retired sergeant first class and a SMDC employee who plays Bingo a



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SENIOR PLAYER— Jack Byrd, a 71-year-old retired sergeant major and former DoD civilian, marks both the traditional cards and the computerized Bingo cards during play on a recent Friday night at Challenger Bingo. Byrd has played Bingo on Army posts since 1958, experiencing both winning and losing streaks. His friends like to sit in his “lucky” seat whenever he is not playing at Challenger Bingo.

couple nights a week with his wife, Linda.

The couple has traveled to Tunica to gamble. But, Challenger Bingo is just as much fun and cheaper than their Tunica trips.

“If I left it up to her, we’d be here every night,” Ares said, pointing to his wife.

“When my dad was in the military and we traveled all over the world, wherever he was serving, he would play Bingo. I would go with him every once in a while and win.”

While Ares said he enjoys Bingo nights because of people like Byrd who have become his friends, he jokes that his wife forces him to play the game.

“Linda came one time here



Photo by Kari Hawkins

IT’S A WIN!— Robbie Moseley of Scottsboro is a \$200 winner during the consolation round for a Progressive Coverall Junior Jackpot. Moseley, whose husband served in the Marines, and four of her friends carpool to Redstone Arsenal five times a week to play Challenger Bingo. During the Progressive Coverall Junior Jackpot game, players tried to get a Bingo within the first 53 called numbers to win \$6,884. Since there was no winner in those first 53 numbers, the game reverted to a \$200 Bingo game.

with me and now she’s hooked. I have to come with her to make sure she stays out of trouble,” he said, laughing. “If I’m not here, she’d buy too many cards.”

Buying Bingo cards is how the game is played at Challenger Bingo. Players buy cards to play a package of games and then

they buy jackpot cards and additional packages, depending on their strategy for the evening’s games. Cards go on sale at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights, with the games beginning at 6:45. Cards go on sale at 12:15 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, with games



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CALLING LUCKY NUMBERS— Challenger Bingo employee Misty Sapp calls out numbers drawn during a night of Challenger Bingo. She and Darrell Cantrell are the callers for Bingo on Redstone Arsenal.

beginning at 1:45.

“Some get here as early as 4 on Bingo nights because they want to get a particular seat,” Connie Arnold, manager of Challenger Bingo, said. “Some of our players have favorite seats.”

Those who do come early spend time talking to friends, eating dinner (there is a Bingo snack bar) and getting their area arranged for a night of fast-paced Bingo.

Players who join the Challenger Bingo club pay \$15 a month and gain a 10 percent discount on all Bingo purchases, and several other discounts.

During the ongoing Morale Welfare and Recreation publicity campaign, Challenger Bingo staff members are getting the word out that the fun of Challenger Bingo is available to all active duty, National Guard and Reserve; Redstone/NASA civilians and contractor employees; military, civilian and contractor retirees; and their families. A new directional sign promoting

See Bingo on page 13

Fees for fun at Challenger Bingo

Players purchase a basic game package for \$14, which gives them cards to play 10 games. Players can add onto the basic package by purchasing cards for the jackpot games, with those cards ranging in price from \$1.75 each to \$3.50 each. They can also purchase additional packages. To play all 21 games offered during a night at Challenger Bingo costs about \$40. But some players spend even more because they purchase multiple packages or multiple Jackpot cards.

There is a guaranteed nightly payout of \$2,000 on the package games. Jackpots go for as high as \$10,000 if the Bingo is called within a certain amount of called numbers (for example, Double Coverall Jackpot Game played in 57 numbers or less). Once the jackpot game exceeds the amount of numbers to be called, it reverts to a \$100 or \$200 Bingo game and continues until a winner yells “Bingo!”

To play at Challenger Bingo, players must either be a member for \$15 a month or pay the

guest fee of \$3 per night. The membership fee provides a 10 percent discount on all Bingo purchases and other benefits, such as access to all four Redstone Arsenal Fitness Centers, 5 percent discount on services at the Child Development Center and School Age Services, 10 percent discount on dining at Soldatenstube German restaurant, 10 percent discount at the snack bar at Redstone Lanes, 5 percent discount at the Auto Skills Center, and Arts and Crafts Center class fees, \$2 off Outdoor Equipment rental fees and Redstone golf course green fees, \$3 off outdoor pool season passes, and a one-time gift of \$15 MWR bucks to spend on any Morale Welfare and Recreation activity.

Challenger Bingo also offers specials for its members each month, such as buy-one-get-one-free specials and free pack specials.

In addition, Challenger Bingo members receive VIP points for every dollar they spend at Bingo. When they reach 700 points, they can redeem them for free Bingo cards.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

UP AND READY— Many Challenger Bingo players use the latest in Bingo computer technology to play the old-fashioned game of Bingo. Whether using computers or Bingo cards, winning is still winning at Challenger Bingo. When there are multiple winners on a game, the winnings are split between the winners.

Motorcycle helmets can make difference

Motorcycle rider fatalities have been on the rise since 1997.

A report issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for 2003 said 3,661 motorcyclists died in 2003, a 12 percent increase from 2002 and a 74 percent jump from 1997. An additional 67,000 were injured, 4 percent more than those injured in 2002.

About half of all motorcycles involved in a fatal crash collided with another vehicle. A little over one-third of cyclists that died were speeding, approximately twice the rate for drivers of passenger vehicles or light trucks. Almost half of the fatal accidents showed alcohol involvement. One out of four motorcycle operators that were involved in fatal crashes had an invalid license. Helmets saved approximately 1,158 lives in 2003; another 640 lives could have been saved if helmets were worn.

The analysis indicated that during 1983-2003 the overall prevalence of elevated blood alcohol concentrations among motorcycle drivers who died in crashes declined; however, the peak rate of death

among alcohol-impaired motorcycle drivers shifted from those ages 20-24 to those 40-44. Strong enforcement of existing BAC laws, together with other public health interventions aimed at motorcyclists, might reduce the crash mortality rate, especially among the older drivers.

Motor vehicle accidents account for more deaths than all natural disasters combined. In fact in the United States your chances of being injured in a motor vehicle accident are better than one in a thousand, in any one year. If you are a male, then you are twice as likely to die in a motor vehicle accident than if you are a female. Yet, if you are a female you are slightly more likely to be injured. The ages of 16 and 24 are the most dangerous for both sexes. Between the ages of 16 and 64, alcohol figures into over 20 percent of all fatal accidents; and between the ages of 21 and 44 almost 50 percent of all fatalities.

Since 1997, U.S. motorcycle fatalities have increased over 90 percent, totaling more than 4,000 in 2004. (*Directorate of Emergency Services release*)

■ Challenger Bingo the venue for old-fashioned game

Bingo

continued from page 12

Challenger Bingo has recently been installed at the foot of Weeden Mountain.

"Anybody in the Redstone community can come in and bring as many guests as they want," Arnold said.

Bingo has been offered at Redstone Arsenal since at least 1957, and is a popular game on many military installations. But at Redstone Arsenal, the game is in a league of its own.

"Only four bases have full-time Bingo," Arnold said. "A lot of installations offer Bingo through their NCO Club, the Officers Club or the indoor rec center. Here, we have our very own program."

Many Redstone Arsenal Bingo players will play more than one night a week.

"Friday night is our best night for Bingo," Arnold said.

"The majority of our players will be here three or four nights. There are different reasons why people play Bingo here. It's social. It's their entertainment. Some just enjoy the game."

And winning can be pretty lucrative. On a recent Friday night, there was a chance at jackpots for \$10,000, \$6,800, \$5,500 and \$1,000. There were also several \$100 and \$200 games. In 2005, Challenger Bingo paid out \$982,604 to winners. In May of this year alone, Challenger Bingo paid out \$79,206 to winners.

Throughout an evening of Bingo, players play quietly and seriously, watching the television monitors and Bingo screens scattered around the large hall, and listening to the caller as they try to mark their cards faster than the other players. Players must mark their cards with an ink dauber, a marker designed especially for Bingo. Some also play on electronic Bingo daubing systems.

During the evening, there were many winners at games such as "Four Corners," "Coverall," "Diagonal Bingo," "Hatpin," "Small Picture Frame" and "Block of Nine." Many players play the games with multiple cards.

"We have some that buy two or three times the number of cards in a night in hopes of hitting a lucky streak," Arnold said. "We have two major and two minor jackpots a night. Our prize amount is never less than \$100."

Players also participate in Hotball and Quick Shot.

"The amount of Hotball is based on 70 percent of sales," Arnold said. "The first ball out for the night is a Hotball number and if you Bingo on that number you can win extra money. Last time, it went over about \$1,200."

Anyone on Redstone Arsenal can also participate in Challenger Bingo's Quick Shot anytime during the week. For \$1 a game, players purchase a sealed Quick Shot Bingo card. If the sealed number matches drawn numbers, the player wins cash immediately. Quick Shot Bingo numbers are drawn every Wednesday, and the game runs from 9 a.m. Thursday until close of business at Challenger Bingo on Wednesday night.

Quick Shot numbers can be purchased at the Challenger Bingo hall, the Links at Redstone golf course, Firehouse Pub, Redstone Lanes and any post restaurant cafeterias.

Many players see Challenger Bingo as a win-win situation for themselves and Redstone Arsenal. All profits from Challenger Bingo go back into services at Redstone Arsenal for the Soldier, DoD civilians and retirees.

"I was a Soldier so I like that the money goes back to the Soldier," Ares said. "Everybody benefits when I lose."

No matter who benefits from losing, though, winning is still fun.

"I love it. It's exciting," said Yolanda Jung, a disabled veteran who works in packaging for Integrated Materiel Management Center and plays Challenger Bingo twice a week.

"My daughter won \$1,000 last week on her first time here. I won \$1,000 at Redstone last month."

For more information on Challenger Bingo, call 837-0750 or 837-0751, or check out the MWR web site at www.redstonemwr.com.

Star-spangled sendoff for National Guard unit

Military police company departs for duty in Iraq

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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With words of patriotism and appreciation, retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet was among many community leaders who said a public “goodbye” to the National Guard Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company during a deployment ceremony in a packed Huntsville High School auditorium June 11.

But, Drolet’s public “goodbye” was also personal. The Soldier leading the 128th on their mission to Iraq is the husband of Drolet’s daughter and the father of Drolet’s grandson.

Describing the troop’s deployment as a family affair that involves both the Soldiers and their loved ones, Drolet rec-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHOWING THEIR PATRIOTISM— A huge flag flies high behind the guest speakers at a National Guard deployment ceremony as retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet gives a public “goodbye” to Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company. It is believed that the 170 Soldiers make up the largest Alabama National Guard unit deployed since 9/11.

ognized his son-in-law, 1st Lt. (promotable) Jeff Owen, commander of the 128th, as a competent, confident and compassionate leader who is “steadfast in his commitment to his troops.”

“I understand the range of conflicting feelings you are having,” Drolet, a Vietnam veteran, told the Soldiers and their families.

“But, through it all, you should stand proud and be proud of yourself, your mission and your country. War is brutal ... But, you will succeed. You are trained, you are ready, you are well-led.”

Owen will command about 170 Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company (Combat Support), headquartered on Johnson Road in Huntsville, on a 12-month mission in Iraq to perform the five major functions associated with the Military Police branch – area security, maneuver and mobility, police intelligence operations, internment and resettlement, and law and order. It is believed to be the largest deployment of troops from Alabama in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

But before going to Iraq, Owen and his troops will undergo intensive training at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and Camp Shelby, Miss. The unit has known about the deployment for several months.

“I was excited and I had my reservations when I first learned we would be deployed,” said Owen, who is leaving his job as a logistics engineer at Lockheed

Martin.

“We were an air defense unit that had to transition to military police, and we had to do that transition and training during the past year. These guys are well-trained and well-equipped ... We hope to leave good footprints using our abilities in Iraq.”

On hand at the deployment ceremony, sponsored by the Huntsville chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army and the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, were hundreds of family members, local veterans and



Photo by Kari Hawkins

A MOTHER’S HUG— Spc. Sophia Malone of Greenbrier gets a long hug from her mother, Vikki Richardson, after the Soldiers relax from formation. Malone’s mother and other family members will help her husband, Rex, care for their three children, 11-year-old twins Lacy and Lexy, and 7-year-old E.Z., who dressed in a smaller version of his mother’s uniform for the deployment ceremony. Malone continues a long tradition of five generations of family members who have served in the country’s military. Malone’s brother, Carl Richardson, couldn’t attend the ceremony because he was serving his weekend duty in the Army Reserves.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

TEARS OF FAREWELL— It is hard for Teresa Robinson of Riverside to hide her tears while her family participates in the deployment ceremony for the National Guard’s 128th Military Police Company. Sgt. Timothy Robinson said goodbye to his wife and four children before deploying last week for additional training and then a 12-month tour in Iraq. With the Robinson couple, are two of their children, 9-year-old April and 4-year-old Christopher. Their other children are 16-year-old Heather and 12-year-old David.

retired Soldiers, community well-wishers and Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal.

Many waved flags as Soldiers marched into the auditorium, and again during renditions of the national anthem, God Bless the U.S.A. and God Bless America song by local radio personality Bryan Cordell. The crowd cheered several times for the Soldiers and their families. Many spouses, including Owen’s wife, Karen, shed quiet tears dur-

ing the ceremony.

Although as a child she experienced her father’s absences during a highly decorated military career, Karen Owen was unable to hide her emotions as her husband spoke of the Soldiers’ and their family’s sacrifices. Yet, she shrugged off concerns expressed for her well-being while her husband is away serving the country.

“I’m more proud of him than worried about myself,” she said. “We all have to be supportive of what our Soldiers are doing.”

In the midst of the emotional goodbyes, the Owen’s 3-year-old son Nicholas ran and played with his older stepbrother, Jeffrey Alek Owen, unaware of the sacrifice he will make during the year his dad is deployed.

“We’ve told him his dad’s going on a long Army trip to help people,” Karen Owen said.

Many community leaders expressed their commitment to supporting the Soldiers’ families during their tour. They acknowledged the sacrifice that each family is making in support of the global war on terrorism, and said they would pray for God to protect the Soldiers and their families during the deployment.

“The proclamation I have for you today is totally inadequate for what needs to be said,” Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer told the audience.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

GIVING A LITTLE ADVICE— Spc. Kristina Smith, sitting, and Staff Sgt. Angela Nance-Woods get some advice concerning their tour of duty in Iraq from Sgt. 1st Class Robert Larkin. “They are battle buddies,” Larkin said of the two Soldiers, who he helped train. “It will be OK. I’m praying they will come home safely.”

Area students merit awards from women's club funds

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club has presented merit awards to seven graduating high school seniors and three college undergraduates.

Culminating a year of fund-raising, the club distributed \$10,000 in merit awards during a reception May 18 at the Challenger Activity Center. The awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,500.

Merit awards are one-time grants based on scholastic achievement, citizenship and a desire to further education. Each applicant submitted a 250-word essay, a transcript, an outline of his or her extracurricular activities and a letter of recommendation.

Graduating high school recipients included Jerry Lee Bradshaw III, \$1,000; Shane Fry, \$1,000; Katharine Johnson, \$1,000; Kaitlin Manning, \$1,000; Siobhan O'Reilly, \$1,000; Erin Sargent, \$1,000; and James Brandon Stevison, \$1,000. O'Reilly was the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from First Command Financial Planning.

Undergraduate recipients included Susan Ecklin, \$1,000; Alexandro Enriquez, \$500; and Meghan McPheeters,



Courtesy photo

AWARD WINNERS— From left are Meghan McPheeters, Siobhan O'Reilly, Kaitlin Manning, James Brandon Stevison, Jerry Lee Bradshaw III, Shane Fry, Erin Sargent, Katharine Johnson and Susan Ecklin. Not pictured is Alexandro Enriquez.

\$1,500.

Bradshaw will attend Auburn University. Ecklin will continue to attend Vanderbilt. Enriquez will continue to attend North Carolina State. Fry will attend Mississippi State. Johnson will attend Eckerd College. O'Reilly and Manning will attend Auburn. McPheeters will continue to attend Alabama. Sargent will attend Murray State while Stevison will attend Auburn. (OCWC release)

Skies unlimited for military youth program

Rotary Club donates toward scholarships

A donation from the Greater Huntsville Rotary Club has helped children of deployed Soldiers enjoy their summer vacation.

"Talk about excellent timing," said Mary Breeden, Relocation Assistance Program manager at Army Community Service.

"The Rotary Club approached me about how they could support military families," she said. "Dewayne Baldwin, Youth Education Support Services director, and I had just brainstormed ways to identify deployed families. We could not have planned anything better than this gift."

The organization donated funds to purchase five \$100 SKIESUnlimited scholarships from Child and Youth Services. SKIESUnlimited combines the acronym for "Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration & Skills" with the word "Unlimited" for the unlimited learning possibilities this initiative offers Army children and youth.

SKIESUnlimited is the Army's attempt to provide a sense of continuity to transitioning students. The program's goal is to fill the gaps in learning that military students inherently experience as a result of frequent moves from installation to installation. SKIESUnlimited also has an internal mandate to create programming that fosters a well-rounded student.

"It is our goal," Baldwin said, "to create a system where our students are stimulated and developed socially, academically and physically."

Retired Maj. Gen. Joe Bergantz and Robert "Jake" Jacobson presented a \$500 check to purchase the scholarships. The Greater Huntsville Rotary Club also pur-



Courtesy photo

CHECK PRESENTATION— Robert "Jake" Jacobson, left, and retired Maj. Gen. Joe Bergantz present a \$500 contribution from Greater Huntsville Rotary Club toward purchasing SKIESUnlimited scholarships. Missy Richards, SKIESUnlimited coordinator, accepts the donation on the program's behalf.

chased Commissary coupons to be given to deployed Soldiers' families identified through Army Community Service as needing assistance.

The winners submitted a reason for applying for the scholarship and the children's names were drawn from the submissions. Names will not be published to respect the families' privacy.

"There are several programs that are either low cost or free to military families," Breeden said. "We want to reach out to geographically separated families who might not be aware of what is available. We are grateful to any organization that wants to support families while their servicemember is in harm's way protecting our nation."

For more information about the program, call Breeden at 876-5397 or Baldwin at 876-7801. (Army Community Service release)

Couple experience Iraq deployment together

Spouses work in war zone with Corps of Engineers

By **ANDREA TAKASH**
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

One adventurous married couple from the Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Engineering and Support Center traveled to a dangerous part of the world to support the troops and witness history in the making.

Carol Steuart, project engineer in Huntsville Center's Electronic Security Systems section, and Terry Steuart, project manager in Huntsville Center's Ordnance and Explosives Directorate, left Huntsville five months ago to embark on a year-long journey in Iraq.

Even though they both work at Victory Army Base in Baghdad, they are in separate offices with different missions.

"I am the resident engineer at the Victory Area Office, South," Terry said. "I manage a variety of construction projects, such as schools, water networks and sewage networks, in the Baghdad vicinity."

"I work on the opposite side of the base as a construction representative for the Victory North Resident Office," Carol said. "I do quality assurance



File photo

SHARING MOMENT— Carol and Terry Steuart, a married couple from Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, enjoy their deployment to Iraq together.

for construction of several projects inside the base, such as canal pumping stations, canal cleanup and sewage pump stations."

Terry said he enjoys completing projects that directly affect the living conditions of the Soldiers and the Iraqi people, but

there are certain aspects he doesn't enjoy.

"My least favorite aspect of the job is having a project blown up by insurgents during the final stages of completion. Since I have been here, we have had two projects in the final stages of completion get blown up by

insurgents," Terry said. "It is very dangerous to go outside the base to look at my projects."

Carol, on the other hand, works on projects at the base and doesn't have the worries of going into hot zones.

"I can visit my sites daily, and I have a closer relationship with some of the Iraqi contractors," she said.

After a long and hard day of work, the couple reunite and unwind in their own living quarters. They both said the living conditions aren't bad.

"We lived in one room for about four months. Then, they finally got us moved into joint rooms. We have been able to move about a little better by sleeping in one room and using the other room to sit and watch TV," Carol said.

"When you compare our living conditions to the Iraqis, we have it pretty good," Terry said.

Carol and Terry shared some advice for others considering deploying to Iraq: It's hot; so bring some cool clothing and expect to work long hours. Be prepared for dorm living with public bathrooms. If possible bring your own battle buddy like they did. Also, be mentally prepared to be away from your families.

Despite the daily challenges,

Terry said the experience is very rewarding, and he is impressed with the resiliency and dedication of the Iraqi workers.

"Iraqis keep on plowing through the terror, deaths of family members, kidnappings, loss of property and all the things our forefathers went through to gain our independence. Sometimes we don't realize it because the media reports so much of the negativity of this war, but there are some good people here in Iraq that risk their lives daily in the attempt to acquire the same freedom that we take for granted. Our prayers are that they will stay the course. Their fear is that we will abandon them before they acquire this freedom," he said.

Even with the danger at the project sites and threat of insurgents, Terry said the Corps is making progress in helping rebuild Iraq.

"The Corps is completing many projects in Iraq. I have just closed out 14 contracts that include four sewer projects, three water projects, three council buildings and four schools. We are making great strides getting schools ready for the students," he said. "Once we get the infrastructure up and running, I believe the people will settle down and start making a life."

Shadow knows operations milestone in Iraq

Unmanned aircraft system logs 100K hours in flight

The Shadow tactical unmanned aircraft system has joined an exclusive 100,000 club.

The hours-of-operation milestone was recorded in the week of June 12 during a sortie flown by an Army unit supporting ground operations in the Global War on Terrorism in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Unmanned aircraft systems have achieved unprecedented acceptance into the Army's war fighting inventory," Tim Owings, deputy project manager of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, said. "We remain committed to providing the most capable, interoperable, and lethal fleet of unmanned systems to our fighting men and women."

UAS Project Office is fielding Army unmanned systems to every echelon of U.S. ground forces and working with joint partners to create an interoperable fleet between the Army, Navy, Air Force and

Marines. To achieve this milestone in such a short time is an unprecedented achievement in the UAS industry. UAS expects many more successes from Shadow in the future as they begin to outfit the Shadow with a more robust array of payload capabilities.

Since the deployment of the Shadow UAS to Iraq in early 2003, the Shadow has flown over 26,000 sorties and more than 95,000 flight hours in support of U.S. and allied operations, in which 89 percent of the total hours were operational hours in Iraq. So far in fiscal 2006, Shadow systems have flown over 42,000 hours alone.

"We have seen exponential growth in flight hours in the last year," Lt. Col. Keith Hirschman, product manager for Shadow TUAS, said. "Units in contact with the enemy are finding new and innovative uses for the Shadow every day. It has become a critical component of operations within the brigade combat team."

Shadow is designed and built by AAI Corporation. (*Unmanned Aircraft Systems release*)



Photo by Tarah Hollingsworth

CHASING SHADOW— A Soldier from TUAS Unit out of the 1st Armored Division recovers a Shadow tactical unmanned aircraft system after it lands in Iraq.

Flying flag for freedom while honoring sacrifice

Flag Day tribute transcends eras

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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The American flag took center stage at a Flag Day ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park on June 14.

And sharing that stage were Americans who know what it means to defend the flag and its liberties — veterans of World War II, and the Korean and Vietnam wars, the commander of a National Guard unit being deployed to Iraq, and the family of a Marine killed in the global war on terrorism. All had their own story of sacrifice.

“Throughout our nation’s history our flag has inspired and stood for the values that our veterans fought for,” said retired National Guard Sgt. David Carney, who organized and emceed the ceremony on behalf of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

“These are values that make us the most respected nation on Earth. The one single symbol of our nation is our flag. It stands for freedom, for hope and for prosperity to our nation and to oppressed nations around the world.”

World War II Navy veteran Stitts Waller remembered for the audience the day he was forced to step up in defense of the American flag. He was serving on a ship in Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

“That particular morning we didn’t realize we would be seeing two sunrises — the celestial sun and then the red sun of the Japanese,” he recalled.

“We were assembled on the rear of the ship waiting for colors to be raised at 8. At 5 to 8 we saw aircraft 500 yards to our rear being bombarded. Our first response was that it was a stupid maneuver going wrong. Then, we saw the big red balls. Those of us who ran for cover under the boat dock survived. Those frozen in disbelief died.”

He saw Battleship Row destroyed. Ships like the California, West Virginia, Colorado, Tennessee and Utah were sunk.

“By 15 after 8, we were ready. We flew our battle flag,” he said. “We were ready and armed, and the Japanese pulled away from us for easier targets.”

Two years and 10 months later, Stitts was among those Sailors who helped sink the last Japanese battleship and the Japanese “became a nonforce.”

Marine Corps veteran Vern Fornsberg continued the story of defending the freedoms of Amer-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

STANDING FOR OL’ GLORY— Alabama National Guard Staff Sgt. Steven Haynes stands proud as a Redstone Arsenal color guard prepares to march the flag to center stage during the Flag Day ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Huntsville.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REAL SURVIVOR— Pvt. Adam Borja of Bravo Company shakes the hand of Lindsey Jones, a 9-year-old cancer survivor whose father, Navy Sailor Keith Jones, is deployed to Kuwait. Jones sang “I Can Only Imagine” for the audience attending the ceremony sponsored by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

ica with his account of serving in the “Frozen Chosin” of Korea, where he earned a Bronze Star with “V” for saving the life of a wounded Marine who he dragged to safety on a sleeping bag.

“It’s never predictable what changes we see in war,” he said, recalling how U.S. troops fought to defend South Korea not only against the North Koreans but also the Chinese army.

Fornsberg ended his account by reading a poem he had written about the ultimate sacrifice that Soldiers make “for their country

and flag, for the love of family and the next generation.”

Other speakers during the ceremony included Army veteran Bill Hogan, who survived four tours in Vietnam and who was awarded with the Silver Medal, three Bronze Stars, Distinguished Flying Cross, three Purple Hearts and 66 Air Medals; and World War II Army nurse Maecille Beam.

With the history of sacrifice in mind, the flag ceremony then turned to those currently fighting for America and its freedoms around the world. Retired Col. Beam presented American flags to Army Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry, representing Soldiers of the 108th Division who were recently deployed; 1st Lt. Jeff Owen, commander of the Alabama National Guard 128th Military Police Company deploying to Iraq; and Rachel Ryan, who, as the wife of Spc. Jonathan Ryan of the Alabama National Guard Headquarters Company, 1169th Engineer Battalion, represented the spouses of Soldiers. The 1169th leaves next month for Iraq.

Lindsey Jones of Gurley, the 9-year-old daughter of deployed Navy Sailor Keith Jones serving in Kuwait and a survivor of a rare form of cancer that left her blind, sang “I Can Only Imagine” and Redstone Arsenal’s Sgt. Maj. Greg Knight sang “God Bless the U.S.A.”

Also during the ceremony, a Blue Star Service Banner was presented to representatives of Analytical Services. Banners are presented to local companies “to be flown and displayed until the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

IN GOOD HANDS— Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal get ready to hand out flags before the Flag Day ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Huntsville. From left are Pvt. Joseph Gilmartin and Pvt. Danelle Anderson of Charlie Company, and Pvt. Kaleb Ryan of Bravo Company. The ceremony was sponsored by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

war on global terrorism is won and our Soldiers are safely back home,” said coalition president Joe Fitzgerald.

Owen, commander of the 128th, said he will take two things from the ceremony with him to Iraq. The first is the American flag, which he will hang in the unit’s Operation Center.

“And, the young lady singing ... she’s another reminder of why I serve in the military,” Owen said. “Her voice will stay with me while I serve in Iraq.”

Owen expressed his appreciation for the veterans who have gone before him in defending America’s flag and the freedoms it represents.

“The biggest reason we are here is for the veterans of our country,” he said.

“I want to thank them for the path they’ve paved for our Soldiers who are the most well trained and equipped Soldiers ever. Often, they fought battles without equipment, without fire support and with man shortages. They came back and made sure we didn’t have those same problems.”

The ceremony closed with retired Marine Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti and Fitzgerald presenting a Gold Star Banner to Glenda Fales and Joan Jacobs of Cullman, the mother and grandmother of Marine Capt. Adam Robert Fales, who was killed in December 2005 while serving in Iraq.

“Mrs. Fales is a special lady,” Libutti said. “She has lost her son

See Flag on page 19



Photo by Kari Hawkins

STAR TO REMEMBER HIM BY— Joe Fitzgerald, president of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, presents a Gold Star Service Banner and other mementos to Joan Jacobs and Glenda Fales of Cullman, grandmother and mother of Capt. Adam Robert Fales, who was killed in December 2005 while serving in Iraq.

Technical library up to standards

Scientific information center ready to serve work force

By ELIZABETH LLOYD

Redstone Scientific Information Center

If you need a specific industrial or military standard to complete a project, the first place to check at Redstone should be the Redstone Scientific Information Center.

The library collection includes many of these standards and customers can request additional standards from the library. Among the standards most often requested by center customers are those published by the International Standards Organization and National Aerospace Standards.

ISO was formed in 1947 and includes the national standards of approximately 150 countries. The United States is represented by the American National Standards Institute. ISO publishes international standards on all subjects except the electrical and electrochemical industries.

NAS regulations were developed by the National Aerospace Standards Committee and include specifications on precision fasteners as well as aerospace hardware and other materials.

The center owns many standards published by these organizations as well as several others. To access these standards, or order ones from other organizations, Redstone employees and contractors must be registered customers with the center.

To find out if the center has the standard you need, check the online catalog at <https://rsic.amrdec.army.mil>. Standards are listed in the catalog by title and by the standard number, such as NAS 410 or ANSI B154.1.

If a specific standard is not in the catalog, the next step is to go to the Knowledge Portal section of the library catalog. Select "Standards and Specs" from the list of data bases. Next click on "Standards Infobase," then choose "Customer Login." From there you can search by title, standard number or keyword. A drop-down menu also allows you to limit

the search by the organization producing the standard.

Once you have found the standard you need simply place it in your shopping basket, fill in the required information, and click "place order" to complete the request. Once the order is received and processed by the library, it should normally take 24 hours or less for customers to receive it for checkout. Due to copyright restrictions, the standards are not available to customers in electronic format. Many military standards are also available in this data base and they can be printed for free at your desktop.

If library customers need a standard from the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers, these are available through the library's IEEE data base. To find these, simply go to the Knowledge Portal and select "IEEE Explore." Click on the standards link and then enter either the standard number or a keyword to find the full-text of the standard you need. In addition, the center's in-house collection includes a complete set of Society for Automotive Engineers standards on CD-

ROM. The SAE groups its standards into three sections: Ground Vehicle Standards, Aerospace Standards, and Aerospace Materials Specifications. All of these may be read and printed off in the library at a public access terminal.

The center's reference librarians can help with any questions about locating SAE standards. The center also has a CD-ROM collection of historical standards from several professional organizations including American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Underwriters Laboratories and IEEE. These standards are often used to verify whether a specific standard was followed on a previous project. The library also owns CD-ROMs containing historical DoD, government and military specifications.

Any member of Team Redstone who has questions about the standards at the center or needs assistance with registration should call the library at 876-5197 or 876-5195.

Editor's note: Elizabeth Lloyd is a reference librarian at Redstone Scientific Information Center.

Lean on me: Changes through eyes of workers

Corpus Christi Army Depot sees value in Lean Six Sigma

By JAMEY GIDDENS

Corpus Christi Army Depot publicist

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — A lot of people get nervous when asked to get up and speak before a crowd — especially if that crowd includes the likes of your depot commander.

But if Deborah Uhlenhaker was nervous while briefing a Value Stream Map of the UH-1N, she didn't show it. But then again, why should she be nervous? After participating in eight Lean events, Uhlenhaker is used to the pressure of providing her leaders with an accurate assessment of a system's processes and how those processes can be improved by implementing the revolutionary theories of Lean Six Sigma.

Uhlenhaker, Corpus Christi aircraft program manager, who oversees both the Pavehawk line — where a successful Lean Six Sigma journey began in March 2004 — and the UH-1N line, said she believes implementing Lean Six Sigma principles makes the work to be done at Corpus Christi easier for the workers who have to do it.

"Lean initiatives can be very beneficial to a process," she said. "It gives the people that are actually doing the work a chance to provide their much needed input and ideas, giving them a sense of ownership of the processes and the products."

Uhlenhaker believes the best ideas about process improvement come directly from the people performing the work and Lean Six Sigma gives them the tools to implement their ideas and see positive changes made.

Before implementing Lean Six Sigma on the HH-60 Pavehawk line, the program was overrunning costs by approximately

40 percent. The average turn-around-time for fiscal 2000 was 73 percent behind schedule. However, following Lean Six Sigma implementation and other Corpus Christi initiatives, the average time moved to 8 percent ahead of schedule — an improvement of 81 percent as of October 2005, according to the Corpus Christi Lean Office.

Lean Six Sigma principles were applied in addition to other initiatives that contributed to the success on the Pavehawk line.

"It takes more than just Lean Six Sigma to make major changes and improvements," Uhlenhaker said. "For example on both the Pavehawk line and the UH-1N line we have assigned an optimizer to assist with process changes and improvements."

Corpus Christi's partnership with Sikorsky was also cited as integral to the success of Pavehawk's improvements. Sikorsky assisted by having parts and kits readily available for the production process which reduced wait time.

While Uhlenhaker could be considered a veteran of Lean Six Sigma, aircraft mechanic Nicholas Allcott is a relative newcomer to the process. Allcott, who recently participated in his first Lean Six Sigma event in the Apache Main Disassembly Area, has been with Corpus Christi for about five years.

"My experience with Lean has really helped me to realize the most efficient way to use space," he said. "(After implementing Lean Six Sigma) instead of having to walk halfway across the shop to get tools, they're right there where we need them."

And thanks to Lean Six Sigma, instead of having to wait as much as half an hour for the necessary paperwork to complete a task to be signed off by the proper authorities, the paperwork is now coming back in only a few minutes.

"Lean Six Sigma has improved work

in our area fairly dramatically," Allcott said. "Older spaces where multiple components were getting cluttered were combined or done away with and the new space was designed around the Apache Main Disassembly. There is also a new building for the engines and transmissions that also came about as a result of Lean

Six Sigma."

Lean Six Sigma has helped the Apache Main Disassembly Area save time and unnecessary effort.

"We've cut down time in the Apache Main Disassembly area from 77 hours to 28 hours," Allcott said. "Lean Six Sigma taught us how to work smarter, not harder."

Juvenile review board conducts serious business

Panelists hear cases of youth misconduct

Juvenile crime takes place in all communities; and military communities, to include Redstone Arsenal, are not exempt. Examples of juvenile crimes occurring on Redstone Arsenal include shoplifting, damage to property, simple assault, and drug or alcohol offenses.

Public Law 93-415, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, encourages programs and services designed to prevent juvenile delinquency and the diversion of youthful offenders from the criminal justice system.

On Redstone Arsenal, the Garrison commander has established the Juvenile Review Board as a mechanism to determine whether diversion is appropriate. The board's objectives are to emphasize education of parents, sponsors and juveniles on their responsibilities to prevent crime in this community and to rehabilitate identified juvenile offenders. Juvenile offenders must appear before the board with their sponsors.

The board is chaired by Lt. Col. Brad Scofield, director of emergency services.

"The panel members consider the family, school and community environment when assessing each case of juvenile misconduct," Scofield said. "The board then recommends referrals to appropriate support activities and recommends appropriate administrative actions it believes are in the best interest of the juvenile and the military community. If the JRB determines diversion is appropriate, disciplinary sanctions will be recommended to the Garrison commander (Col. John Olshefski) for consideration."

Sanctions may include — but are not limited to — suspension of any or all installation privileges, community service, restitution, probation, removal from post housing, and barring from the installation.

Participation in the board process is voluntary; however, refusal may be considered in the decision whether to deny privileges or bar a juvenile from the installation. Refusal could also result in the case being referred to the criminal courts system for adjudication. (Garrison release)

Deployment

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"We know you, as well as your families, are making a sacrifice. I want you to know we will be there for you. From the stories I've heard during the past two or three years, I know the difference that you are making and that's the most important thing ever. We're here for you now and we're here for you when you come home because we're proud of you."

Though unable to be at the ceremony in person, Gov. Bob Riley spoke to the Soldiers via telephone, his words broadcast throughout the auditorium.

"You are about to do something that so many men and women have done for over 200 years for this country and that's called 'fighting for the American way of life' ... Like generations before you, you are protecting our freedom and liberty, and the freedom and liberty of other people in other parts of the world," he said.

Riley mentioned the state's Operation Grateful Heart program, which works to provide support to the families of deployed Soldiers.

"We will do our best to take care of your families while you're gone," he pledged.

During the ceremony, Emily Vandiver, president of the Huntsville chapter of AUSA, told the Soldiers that her organization was adopting all of their families during the deployment.

"This is what it's all about," she said. "It's about the Army family and our opportunity to be part of that."

Many of the ceremony's speakers commented that the U.S. had no choice but to fight terrorism on foreign soil.

In the war against global terrorism, "our country is standing up for our beliefs and our survival," said John Rogers, a civilian aide to Dr. Francis Harvey, the secretary of the Army.

The Soldiers of the 128th are continuing the work of Soldiers who fought in the nation's wars throughout history.

"You do the dangerous work of a free society," Rogers said. "What you do contributes to the liberties and the security of our free way of life ... For your service, your names will be forever recorded as heroes of freedom and the nation will be forever indebted for your sacrifices."

The U.S. is committed to the war against global terrorism for the duration, he said. And there are no quick fixes to the terrorist conflict.

"We know it's going to be a long war," said retired Maj. Gen. Mark Bowen, adjutant general of the State of Alabama. "But, we fight them here or over there. I prefer to fight them over there."

Since 9/11, Bowen said 12,700 Soldiers and airmen have been deployed from Alabama to fight in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or to assist with emergency efforts related to hurricane destruction in the Gulf. About 80 Soldiers from the 128th were deployed in fall 2005 to support emergency relief efforts following Hurricane Rita.

"We know we have interrupted your lives ... You've been there for us and we're going to be there for you ... We will pray every day that God puts his arms

around you, protects you and protects your family," Bowen said.

That interruption is well-worth it to protect the freedoms of Americans and to help others learn about freedom, Owen said in his comments.

"Soon we will leave the comforts of this wonderful community to help others achieve what Americans have long taken for granted," he said.

"The Soldiers of the U.S. Army are committed to liberate, protect and aid people around the world. Americans have always answered the call from those oppressed. On 9/11, we were thrust into the world of global terrorism. Because of Soldiers at the front, we can sleep peacefully at night."

A lot of preparation has gone into getting the Soldiers of the 128th ready for their tour of duty, said 2nd Lt. Chris Edward Franks, a platoon leader and public affairs officer. The Soldiers are looking forward to a couple more months of training and preparation at Fort Leavenworth and Camp Shelby before their tour begins

■ Flag Day brings memories, hopes to center stage

Flag

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and she has another son serving as a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

"It is fitting and proper today to come together as a community to celebrate our flag and what it means to Americans, and to reflect on the tens of thousands of heroic acts our flag has inspired."

Describing it as a "visual sign of the heart and soul of our country," Libutti said

in September or October.

"I'm excited. I'm ready to do our tour," Franks said. "We are well-trained. I feel comfortable with my platoon. We know what we have to do, we've prayed together, done training activities together and now we're ready."

Staff Sgt. Angela Nance-Woods, who is leaving her job as a police officer with the Huntsville Police Department, does have reservations about the dangers of the deployment.

"I think the best thing at least is we do know of other Soldiers in other units that have gone and everybody has come back," she said. "I think we'll do great if we look out for each other."

Following the ceremony, family, friends and well-wishers shook the hands of the Soldiers of the 128th, who stood in formation outside the auditorium. Pictures were taken, tears were shed, and appreciation was shown in hugs and "thank yous" before the Soldiers went their separate ways to spend a few days with their families prior to their departure.

the American flag symbolizes the country's heritage, national pride, freedom and compassion for the underprivileged and less fortunate.

"It was very nice for them to do this," Glenda Fales said after the ceremony. "It was so emotional. I didn't get to be there when my son was deployed. I hope they bring them all back. I just pray that happens. Coming here for this ceremony was a special way to remember my son. I will do anything for others to remember his sacrifice."

Marines making pitch for championship



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SPECIAL DELIVERY— Sean Newsom pitches the Marines to an 11-10 win over HHC 59th on June 12 at Linton Field.

Military retirees have golf classic

Pam Schwikert won the sixth annual Rocket City Retired Military Golf Classic Tournament held June 6-8 at the Links at Redstone, Huntsville Municipal, and Colonial Golf Course.

The three-day tournament for retired

military personnel drew 246 participants.

It collected about \$1,500 for Junior Golf, representing proceeds from a drive-a-Chrysler benefit. For every car driven, \$5 was donated to Junior Golf.

Preseason tourney winners hope to repeat feat in postseason

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Close games have been the norm lately for the Marines, who breezed through the preseason tournament and most of the regular season.

The Marines edged HHC 59th 11-10 on June 12 at Linton Field in the final week of the season. The postseason tournament begins June 22 with the championship scheduled June 29.

"There are a lot of teams starting to play better than they did at the beginning of the season," Marines coach Lee Burket said. "We're just going to have to come out and hopefully be there at the end."

"I think the two biggest teams we've got to look out for would be Bravo 832nd and HHC 59th," Marines left center Chris McCarthy said. "I think they're going to be the ones to give us the run in the post-season."

The Marines improved to 11-2 while HHC 59th fell to 6-6.

Marines pitcher Sean Newsom got the win and went 2-for-4 at the plate with a double and a grand slam.

"It was a tough one to lose, man," said 59th second baseman/leadoff hitter Michael Ortiz, who went 3-for-4.

The 59th includes permanent-party instructors who represented Headquarters & Alpha in winning the post championship last year. "I think we have about as good a chance as anybody (this year)," Ortiz said. He added that the keys are playing together, minimizing their mistakes and having fun without feeling pressure.

"I think there are a lot of good teams out there right now," he said. "And the playing field's wide open."

Last week's results included:

June 12 – Marines def. HHC 59th 11-10, NCO Academy def. Bravo 12-1 and Headquarters & Alpha won by forfeit over MEDDAC.

June 13 – NCO Academy won by forfeit over Headquarters & Alpha and HHC 59th def. Bravo 14-4.

June 14 – Marines def. Headquarters & Alpha 16-3.

June 15 – Bravo def. Headquarters & Alpha 8-7.

Final regular season standings were:
Eastern Conference — Bravo (11-3), HHC 59th (7-6) and MEDDAC (5-9).
Western Conference — Marines (12-2), Headquarters & Alpha (7-6) and NCO Academy (6-8).

Youth baseball Rockets repeat state champs

The North Alabama Rockets 9-and-under baseball team has won its second consecutive state championship.

Three of the players are sons of Redstone workers. They include Ryan Buford of Madison, son of Jim Buford, who works at building 5400; Brett Blailock of Huntsville, son of Jeff Blailock, who also works at 5400; and Tate Mathis of Hartselle, son of Ashley Mathis of Tech Management Directorate.

The Rockets went 6-0 in the state

championship weekend of June 2 and are 48-6 overall. The World Series is June 28 to July 2 in Alabaster.

Other members of the team include Sean Berry of Eva, Jordan Brown of Gunterville, Blake Coward of Madison, Mitch Davidson of Decatur, Colby Fisk and Zack Malone of Fayetteville, Tenn., Peyton Stracener of Muscle Shoals and Jared Travnicek of Town Creek. The coaches are Brian Berry, Ashley Mathis, Jim Buford and David Malone.

Defense gives update on theft from veterans' personal files

DoD to inform servicemembers of data loss on pay statements

By Sgt. SARA WOOD
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department will inform servicemembers who could be affected by the May theft of personal data from the Department of Veterans Affairs through their monthly pay statements.

DoD is in the middle of an analysis to determine how many active-duty, Reserve and National Guard servicemembers could be affected by the data loss, which occurred when a VA employee loaded personal data onto a laptop, which was then stolen from his home, according to Lt. Col. Jeremy Martin.

The VA initially reported that the data stolen included personal information on as many as 26.5 million veterans, and later updated the report to include as many as 1.1 million active-duty servicemembers, 430,000 National Guardsmen and 645,000 members of the Reserves as possible victims.

These numbers are preliminary, as the DoD and VA are still working to determine what data was on the

laptop.

When the analysis is completed in upcoming weeks, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will inform servicemembers who are determined to be vulnerable by putting a note on the bottom of their monthly leave and earnings statements, Martin said. The note will include phone numbers and web sites that will provide more information on identity theft and what troops can do to protect themselves, he said.

The VA has set up a special web site and a toll-free telephone number for those possibly affected by the data loss: www.firstgov.gov and (800) 333-4636. Each features up-to-date news and information on the data compromise. The web site provides steps on how to check credit reports, how to guard against identity theft, and who to call if an individual believes any fraudulent activity is occurring with his or her personal information.

Information relating to the defeat of identity theft is also available at the Military OneSource web site: www.militaryonesource.com.

Editor's note: Sgt. Sara Wood writes for the American Forces Press Service.

Disabled employees committee shows initiative

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski has signed a charter establishing the Individuals With Disabilities Program Committee.

The program initiatives include:

- Assist in the development of affirmative action goals and objectives relative to employment of individuals with disabilities.

- Promote better understanding to managers/supervisors of contributions that individuals with disabilities can make to the mission of Team Redstone.

- Encourage individuals with disabilities to develop skills that will improve their opportunities in hiring, advancement and training.

- Provide information to management officials about the concerns and needs of individuals with disabilities; for example, elimination of architectural, transportation or communications barriers.

- Increase awareness to individuals with

disabilities of available career development programs.

Both disabled and non-disabled employees make up the membership which consists of a representative from each organization located on Redstone Arsenal. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month in building 111, Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

Watch for details regarding the Team Redstone second annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month Luncheon scheduled Oct. 25. Dinah Cohen, director of Computer/Electronics Accommodations Program, is the scheduled featured speaker.

For assistance or information regarding the IWD program call Clarenza Clark, program manager/adviser, at 313-2825 or Luereen Phillips, committee chairperson, at 876-6942. (*IWD Program Committee release*)



Photo by Carol Smith

PROGRAM PANEL— Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski meets with members of the Individuals With Disabilities Program Committee.



Sports & Recreation

Boating safety

The Huntsville Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, a nationwide non-profit boating safety organization, will present a two-day "Boat Smart" course to anyone age 12 and up July 15 and July 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days in the Extreme Marine building at Riverwalk Marina in Decatur. The course is free. Optional study guide is \$20. The course includes Alabama laws, safe boating, docking/undocking, trailering, knots and lines, and more. Graduates receive a certificate qualifying them for "V" on Alabama driver's license. Free refreshments. Call Daryl 721-7599 to sign up.

Sergeants Major golf

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its annual golf outing Friday at the Links at Redstone. There will be a breakfast meeting that morning from 6:30-7:30 in the Regimental Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. Teams will be organized at that time with a tee time between 8:30 and 9. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Robert Johnson 842-9767 or retired Command Sgt. Maj. Michael McSwain 842-6778.

Fall soccer signup

AYSO Soccer at John Hunt Park is taking registrations for the fall 2006/spring 2007

season for ages 4-18 boys and girls. Cost is \$70 per player and includes the uniform. Fall season practice begins Aug. 7 and the fall season will end Oct. 29. Registration can be made online at www.ayso160.org or call 650-0739 to have forms sent to you. Forms are also available at John Hunt Park at the Information board at the corner of Airport Road and JC Way. (Registration fee covers both the fall and spring seasons.) For more information, call 539-6852.

Hiking trails

Burritt on the Mountain, "A Living Museum," has a series of mountain nature trails that connect the Huntsville Land Trust and the State Park, affording miles of hiking. But the most important trail may be the handicapped accessible trail that is paved for easy access. If visitors are using a wheelchair, stroller, or just need a smooth surface for walking, this paved trail has been used as a model across the nation. During the week of July 10, Armed Forces Week, Burritt is free to all military with identification. The rest of the year, Burritt offers military discounts. The Burritt Mansion and Historic Park are also handicapped accessible. For more information, call 536-2882.

Mud bog competition

On Saturday, the Rocket City Rock Crawlers in association with the Huntsville Speedway will host a mud bog competition for 4x4 vehicles (no ATVs). The price of admission is \$10 for adults;

kids 12 and under are admitted free as well as active duty military with ID card. Gates open at 9 a.m. and the fun starts at noon. For more information, logon to www.rocketcityrockcrawlers.com or call 883-1131.

Mud volleyball

The 18th annual CASA Mud Volleyball Tournament is July 15 at 9 a.m. at Swan Creek Park in Athens (on Highway 31, south of Athens High School). Proceeds will benefit Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound of Limestone County. Fee is \$15 per player. Team entry deadline is June 30 at 3 p.m. No admission charge for spectators. For more information, call coordinator Heather Meredith 232-5751.

Youth soccer

Youth sports is registering youth ages 5 - 13 for Youth Soccer through Aug. 4. The registration cost is \$45 plus \$18 CYS central registration fee if not already paid. Registration includes uniform. A copy of the child's birth certificate and a current sport physical is required at the time of registration. Call 313-3699 for more information.

Sports bar

The band Jake Weedz will perform at Brooklyns Sports Bar inside the Redstone Lanes bowling center Saturday night from 7-11. Jake Weedz members are Chris Carter, Tony Richards, Steve Burks, Tina Sadler and Micky Harper. For more information, call 876-6634.

Junior golf program

The Junior Golf Program is for ages 7-17, at 2 p.m. biweekly on Saturdays through Sept. 16 at the Links at Redstone. The cost is \$5, per child, per clinic, to be paid on the date of the clinic. Clinic dates are June 24, July 8, July 22, Aug. 5, Aug. 19, Sept. 2 and Sept. 16. And Sept. 16 will be the Junior Golf Club Championship. No registration is required for biweekly clinics. For more information, call 883-7977.

Golf classic

The Basketball Boosters of Johnson High School will have its inaugural Golf Classic on Aug. 11 with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. at Colonial Golf Course. This is a four-man-Scramble format, and individuals are welcome to sign up. Cost is \$75 per golfer. Gift certificates from Colonial Golf Course will be awarded to winners.

For more information call Wallace D. Steele 852-5158 or 682-0254, Jeffrey Garner 851-8095 or Dawn Lanier 656-8989.

Vipers football

Tennessee Valley Vipers will entertain South Georgia Wildcats on "Military Appreciation Night," July 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Von Braun Center. Tickets for this arenafootball2 game are available at the box office for \$5 off for seating levels with valid military ID. For ticket and game information, go to www.vipers.tv.



Conferences & Meetings

Toastmasters

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

Enlisted spouses

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

Helicopter technology

The Southeast Region and the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Helicopter Society and the Colonial Virginia Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America will sponsor a national conference on Helicopter Military Operations Technology, Oct. 24-26 at Fort Eustis, Va. "Global Operations: Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Military Aviation/Industry Team" is the theme. For information call Jerry Irvine, public affairs officer for the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, (757) 878-3272.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Air Force Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

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Fleet Reserve branch

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For information call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Friday 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 Guards and Reserves. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Greg Knight 876-8036.

Union town hall

AFGE Local 1858 will sponsor a town hall meeting today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The topic will be the National Security Personnel System with scheduled speaker Mark Gibson of AFGE National Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

Nondestructive testing

The Army Aviation Nondestructive Testing Center of Excellence is holding its annual workshop June 19-23 at the Radisson Suite Hotel, 6000 South Memorial Parkway. The objective of the workshop is to bring Soldiers and technicians from aviation support units together for refresher training, a review of current and future equipment needs and nondestructive testing issues/solutions. During the workshop, eight-hour radiographer safety refresher training will be conducted. Equipment manufacturers will display the latest nondestructive equipment.

Parents committee

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Committee will meet June 27 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room, Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 (phone 876-7952). All parents are encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent Participation Points are awarded for attendance – five points equals a 10 percent discount on child care fees. “Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Child and Youth Services facilities and to provide your ideas, opinions or concerns,” a prepared release said.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Spe-



Courtesy photo

Support appreciated

Rick Cantrell, executive director of Madison County Red Cross, thanks Donna Johnson, Local Federal Coordinating Committee chairman for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign, and LFCC board members for their support to the community. The Madison County Red Cross received \$59,451 from the 2005 CFC.

cialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or Chief Warrant Officer Robert Smith 955-9722.

Civilian deployment

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

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.

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.

Surplus sales

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

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-4 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. The shop is accepting summer clothing/items. The shop will be closed July 4. 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.

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Courtesy photo

Interns meeting

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone, meets two IMMC interns who had the opportunity to hear his speech at the recent Association of the U.S. Army Logistics Conference in Richmond, Va. From left are Integrated Materiel Management Center intern Michele Belo, Pillsbury and intern Rakeshia Ransaw. Both interns will graduate in July from the Department of Army Logistics Intern Training Program Course, Army Logistics Management College in Fort Lee, Va.

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.

Blood shortage

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers-North Alabama Region is in emergency need of blood donors. As of June 6, Huntsville Hospital had only five units of O-negative blood on hand. The hospital requires at least 16 units O-negative blood to treat patients each day, according to a LifeSouth release.

Job hunters

Army Community Service will have a local recruiter come in June 29 at 9 a.m. at ACS to assist people in their job search. Topics will include what local employers look for in a candidate and how to market yourself appropriately. Call 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

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 and all Ticketmaster locations. Cost is \$18 for general admission tickets. On the night of the concert, Redstone employees should use any gate other than Gate 10 (Patton Road); they will be routed to the concert venue. Gate 10 will open at 4 p.m. for motorists without decals or badges. Non-Redstone concertgoers should have valid driver's licenses, registration and proof of insurance. For more information, call 876-4531 or 876-5232.

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 or call Jenise Showers 457-4633.

Ordnance ball

The 59th Ordnance Brigade would like to invite all Ordnance Soldiers of the present, past and future to commemorate the gallantry of the Ordnance Corps and to promote "esprit de corps" during the Ordnance Ball (South), July 14 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is chief of Ordnance Maj. Gen. Vincent Boles, commander, Army Ordnance Center and Schools, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Lt. Col. Thomas Coburn 876-3508.

Jazz benefit

The Watters Brothers Group, featuring trombonist Harry Watters and trumpeter Ken Watters, will give two concerts at UAH Roberts Recital Hall on Saturday at



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Family outing

Shad Bridge, of Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, helps his 3-year-old daughter, Chloe, behind the controls of a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System during the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space "Family Day" on Thursday.

7:30 p.m. and June 25 at 3 p.m. with proceeds to benefit the Harry H. Watters Memorial Scholarship Fund for Excellence in Jazz. In addition to Harry and Ken, the Watters Brothers Group will include pianist Kevin Bales, bassist Neal Starkey and drummer Justin Varnes. Both concerts will be held at UAH Roberts Recital Hall, which has recently been renovated to include a handrail, among other improvements. Advanced tickets are available at Shaver's Bookstore, AB Stephens Music, Robbin's Music, and the UAH Department of Music. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and senior citizens. For more information, call the UAH Department of Music 824-6436.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for June include: unit - Charlie Company, building 3410; area 1 - Staff Sgt. Christopher Hanson, 522-B Magnolia Circle; area 2 - Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Sheff, 1044 Hof Circle; area 3 - Lt. Col. Larry Lawrence, 49 Ripley Drive; area 4 - Staff Sgt. Brian McArthur, 639-A Dyer Circle; area 4A - Sgt. 1st Class Henry Herrera, 611 Wesson Circle; area 5 - Capt. Peter Rangel, 453 Simpson Drive; area 6 - Staff Sgt. Loren Vigil, 373 Roberts Drive; area 10A - Staff Sgt. Fernando Puga, 477-A Cooke Drive; and area 10B - Lt. Col. Ronald Frye, 497 Cooke Drive.

Post Exchange news

The PX would like to thank its customers for being their first choice. In order to do that, it wants to help you buy a summer wardrobe for your vacation this year. Every Monday in June, the PX will give away a \$500 gift card to one of its valued customers. "This is just another way of saying thank you for shopping your AAFES Redstone PX," a prepared release said. ... Would you like to get the inside scoop on all the specials, sales new products and events at the PX? Join the PX Buddy List. Simply fill out the form

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