

Redstone Rocket

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July 19, 2006

Soldier story



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Fifty years of intelligence work

Missile and space center
celebrates its anniversary

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

High level missile intelligence is an everyday job for the employees of one of Redstone Arsenal's most prestigious military organizations – the Missile and Space Intelligence Center.

The center's contributions to the nation's defense can be traced back to the development of missiles under the leadership of Dr. Wernher von Braun, Maj. Gen. John Medaris and a team of German scientists in the late 1950s. It was instrumental in providing intelligence during the Cuban Missile Crisis, during and at the end of the Cold War, and during recent conflicts in the Middle East. Today, MSIC employees provide intelligence that is crucial in the Global War on Terrorism and in negotiations concerning recent North Korean missile firings.

On July 10, MSIC employees briefly stopped their work to recognize their center's 50 years of contributions. Helping them to celebrate the day was one of their staunchest supporters — Alabama's Sen. Richard Shelby.

Standing at the podium in a nearly full auditorium at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence, Shelby reflected on MSIC's coming of age — specifically on the \$33 million, 200,000-square-foot facility that has been home to MSIC employees since late 1999.

Describing MSIC employees as "a great force" appreciated by the nation's leaders but working in "poor facilities," Shelby recalled working to obtain the funding for MSIC's new office building. He said the building reflects the "quality contributions of the rocket scientists" that are crucial to MSIC's mission.

"You're in the front lines of analysis of missile intelligence," Shelby said. "I can't think of a more important mission in these times ... You save lives. You're helping this coun-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

A PARTY OF THREE— Sen. Richard Shelby walks to the auditorium at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence with two key players in the history of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center — Clyde Walker, left, its director, and Lt. Gen. Michael Maples, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, which oversees MSIC. The three officials shared in the 50th anniversary ceremony recognizing the contributions MSIC employees have made to the nation's defense since 1956.

try remain the number one military machine."

Shelby was joined in recognizing MSIC's 50 years by Lt. Gen. Michael Maples, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, which oversees MSIC, and by MSIC director Clyde Walker. The ceremony included a video that encompassed highlights of MSIC's 50 years.

In June 1956, the Army Ballistic Missile Agency established a special security office known as the Technical Intelligence Division that employed 10 people with the mission to obtain, analyze and report on foreign missile-related activities. In October 1962, when Soviet-built missiles were discovered in Cuba and pointed at the U.S., it was the division's

employees who provided President Kennedy with pertinent information to end the Cuban Missile Crisis. Since the 1960s, MSIC has worked to provide information on enemy threats that have improved the defense capabilities of combat aircraft and armored vehicles. MSIC also provided missile system analysis of the Russian-made Scud ballistic missile that threatened troops in the Gulf War and the Iraq War.

Today, more than 800 MSIC employees fulfill a mission that includes the production of scientific and technical intelligence assessments of the following systems: Short Range Ballistic Missiles, Surface to Air Missiles, Antitank Guided Missiles, Ground-Based Anti-

Satellite Weapons, Ground-Based Directed Energy Weapons and associated systems.

MSIC uses a comprehensive all-source approach to provide a wide range of products to customers such as U.S. weapons developers, tacticians and operational forces. MSIC's technical definitions of threat systems make an invaluable contribution to the battlefield survivability of U.S. forces and weapons systems throughout the world.

"It's important to look back on the contributions that have been made," Maples told the audience following the video presentation.

See Center on page 3

An open lane random survey

What are your plans for retirement?

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
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Will Dennis
DoD civilian
"I'll retire in two years with 50 years of federal service - 30 years military and 20 civilian. After 50 years, I'm not going to do anything. I'm going to enjoy life. I've got 14 grandchildren, so I'm going to enjoy the time I have left by spending it with them."



Carl Ghent
DoD civilian
"I've got 8 to 10 years before retirement. I'm an only child so when I do retire I plan to go back to my home state of Florida to look after my mother and father. I also plan to get involved in real estate."



Staff Sgt. Barbara Allen
NCO Academy
"I'm hoping to get a job with Northrop Grumman, but they don't know that yet. I'm a year out from retirement. I have a lot of options, but they deal with a lot of the systems I'm teaching."



Tyrus Edwards
DoD civilian
"I just want to sit at home, go on vacations and tour the world."



Satisfied commissary customer

Our commissary here at Redstone is to be commended. From the store director, store manager and staff, I have not in nearly 47 years both in the military and retired from, dealt with a better crew of folks. Been in a lot of stores around the world and throughout the states, ours is second to none.

I have never been put off from questions I have asked, inquiries I have made or requests for services or support for functions I am involved with. Profes-

Letters to the Editor

sionalism is an everyday occurrence at the store, courtesy the same, product availability, variety, cost, from the front of the store to the rear of it never varies.

I for one, as a customer, want to thank Sandra Edinger and Jim Strope for everything they do to see that the Redstone community is served well and I for one appreciate them.

Robert Davenport
retired Air Force

Legal assistance for credit

The article in the June 7 issue by Capt. Jason Williams of Legal Assistance is great, but he should have given a bit more detail.

Though not widely known, even by some U.S. senators, federal law controls credit card interest rates. The law is the National Banking Act of 1864. (Yes, that is 18, not 19.) This law provides that when a lender is in one state and the borrower in another, the state usury laws where the lender is located apply. So big banks arrange to locate in states where the borrower has virtually no protection against usury. Various Supreme Court decisions have upheld this law as to interest rates and penalties.

The only "safe" credit card to get is from a local credit union. Many banks have sold their credit card business to banks incorporated in no usury law states, though the local bank's name still appears on the plastic card. Credit card debt is unsecured, so less dangerous than say a home equity loan; so if a person is having a hard time financially, paying off a credit card debt with a home equity loan may be a very bad move.

As I understand, statute of limitations provisions of state law apply even to loans from out-of-state lenders, and the period starts again if a payment is made to a long-defaulted credit card debt. The new federal bankruptcy act makes it more diffi-

cult to declare bankruptcy if the borrower is above a particular financial threshold.

Perhaps you could ask the Legal Assistance people to confirm and expand on the issues. I am not a lawyer.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: Legal Assistance chief Capt. Jason Williams provided the following response. "The issues presented by the reader's comments involve fact intensive legal issues and policy arguments. Legislators are the only individuals who could potentially remedy the reader's concerns about the federal banking system. Any reader facing questions involving usury laws, default, or statute of limitations issues should speak to an attorney immediately. Because credit transactions involve an interplay between contract law, state law and federal law, a dispute relating to a credit transaction is complicated and requires individual attention. I welcome any eligible client with questions relating to usury laws to call legal assistance for an appointment at 876-9005. However, the reader's comments are directed toward policy issues rather than individual legal issues. I feel that a legal assistance attorney should refrain from commenting on policy; therefore, I will make no comment on the policy surrounding the federal banking system."

Quote of the week

'Don't give up, don't ever give up.'

— **Jim Valvano**
basketball coach

Letter policy

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

Honesty shines like diamond

I had an experience at the Commissary on July 13 that deserves to be shared. During the time I was in the Commissary, I lost a diamond bracelet that was given to me by my husband over the last few years of his life. He spent 22 years in the Army and died from Agent Orange exposure in November 2002. The bracelet was expensive but the sentimental value could never be replaced. I was completely distraught when I realized it was missing when I got home and I wasn't sure where I had lost it because I had been to several locations.

The next morning I called every place I had been and was told that a bracelet had not been found. At this point, I just knew I would never find my bracelet. When I called the Commissary, I had to leave a message and about 30 minutes later I received a call from the customer service desk and was asked to describe my bracelet. The lady told me she thought she had my bracelet. I immediately went over to the Commissary and the entire time I was so afraid a mistake had been made and it might not be my bracelet but it was. Someone found my bracelet and turned it in and I don't know who you are. You always hear about the bad things going on in the world around us; it is so great to know there are decent and caring people in this world.

If you read this letter, I just want you to know you have no idea what a wonderful deed you did and how grateful I am for your honesty and integrity. My feelings for servicemembers and their families is very special and this experience has shown me again what a joy it is to belong to such a wonderful "family." If you are the person who found my bracelet, call me at 679-3248 and describe the bracelet and I would love to thank you in person. If you remain a mystery, I will always remember you and wish you only the best that life can bring. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Connie David
"a proud military wife"

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

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

Name: Holly Hajari

Job: Summer hire in the Public Affairs Office

Where do you call home?
Huntsville

What do you like about your job?

I enjoy meeting people and gaining valuable skills for my future jobs.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Go to concerts. Go fishing.

What are your goals?

Manage rock bands. (A third-year business management major at Mississippi State University.)



What's your favorite type of music?
Rock 'n' roll

■ Senator says center's work force has saved lives

Center

continued from page 1

MSIC is important to the entire military community, he said, because of its impact on all Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and civilians who are working for the nation's defense.

"They've been depending on you. Whether they know it or not, you've saved their lives," Maples said.

Because of the "high quality analysis done right here at MSIC" there are systems in place today to protect U.S. armed forces and their allies.

In particular, "combat aircraft are successful because they are protected by counter measures that have been done because of your work on surface-to-air missiles," Maples said.

Another example of MSIC's work is the future combat system used by the Abram's tank that is reliant on MSIC analysis.

"All those who operate the system may not know or understand your contributions. But, I do and I thank you on their behalf," Maples said.

"Our leaders are depending on the products you produce. They are seeking them. They know who you are and what you do, and they know the quality of work of what MSIC is doing today ... You have good people who want to service this nation."

The demand for intelligence, particularly in light of recent North Korean missile launches, is more urgent now than ever, he said. Understanding the capabili-

ties of adversaries is more important than ever, and that's where MSIC makes a difference by providing military analysis that is used by the nation's decision makers. Maples said that the American intelligence community was not surprised by the North Korean missile launches because of earlier intelligence provided by MSIC.

"This nation is very fortunate to have MSIC and it is dependent on you for that understanding," Maples said.

Walker mentioned several people in the audience, including Redstone Arsenal commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer. He also recognized MSIC retirees, former directors, employees and contractors.

"We are lucky to have been in this community for many, many years," he said. "All of our 50 years has been in Huntsville. We benefit from all the interfaces and the technical skills in this area."

MSIC's analysis capabilities are at the "heart of missile defense," Shelby told local reporters following the ceremony. "MSIC is an integral part of the defense set-up to protect the American people."

Because of organizations like MSIC, "DIA is one of the premier defense agencies alongside the CIA and the FBI. It is an important cog in that wheel," he said, adding that the work done by DIA and MSIC often occurs under the radar screen.

"MSIC is part of an intelligence community that is not something you broadcast about every day," Shelby said.

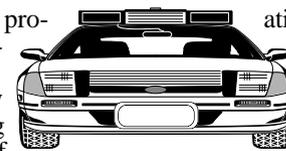
Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

July 7: Someone forcefully entered a government building and removed several items of computer equipment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

July 7: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. It was revealed that an outstanding warrant existed for him as issued by the Albertville Police Department. He was issued a violation notice and released to Albertville police.

July 10: An individual was found to be oper-



ating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

July 10: An individual who approached Gate 9 was found to be operating his motor vehicle while intoxicated. He was issued a violation notice and detained until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

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

Violation notices issued: 2 speeding, 1 driving with revoked license, 1 driving with suspended license, 2 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 failure to yield right of way, 1 driving while intoxicated.



Photo by Bradley Stephenson

Special presentation

Sharon Boclair receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service during a ceremony July 10 at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center. Boclair is chief of the newly formed Security and Intelligence Division, Center Support Directorate in AMRDEC. Making the presentation are AMRDEC deputy director Col. Tom Economy and executive director Dr. Bill McCorkle. "It was a unique award, given to an exceptional individual, and shared by those she is closest to at a professional presentation," Charlene Coke, AMRDEC senior intelligence specialist, said. "All in all, something special."

Defense personnel system enters next phase

More Redstone workers can expect notification

The Department of Defense plans to apply Spiral 1.2 of the National Security Personnel System, a new civilian human resources system, to more than 66,000 employees between October and January 2007.

This will include about 1,200-1,400 local Team Redstone employees and the notifications will be coming through the chain of command.

The human resources system includes classification, compensation, performance management, staffing, and work force shaping elements. The department will continue to implement NSPS to the DoD civilian work force in phases.

"NSPS is critical to the department's transformation to a results-oriented, mission-focused culture," said Michael Dominguez,

principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "The performance-based system will create an environment, where our employees will be focused on outcomes that support our national security mission and they will be rewarded for results."

Civilian employees from organizations throughout DoD, including overseas, are included in this group. Each component considered mission, organization and operations, wholeness of units and readiness to implement.

"Organizations have the discretion to convert their work force at anytime during the four-month period," Mary Lacey, NSPS program executive officer, said. "Training is critical to the successful transition to NSPS. We want to give organizations sufficient time to train employees, do it right and implement when they are ready."

Editor's note: This article was adapted from a Defense Department release.

Work pays off for NCO and Soldier of Year

Bevy of gifts goes to winners

By KARI HAWKINS
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Two Soldiers – one a mom of three applying for Officer Candidate School and the other an aspiring FBI agent – were recognized as Redstone Arsenal's NCO and Soldier of the Year for 2006, respectively, during the

annual Armed Forces Celebration Week.

Staff Sgt. Tina Paton, who works in MEDDAC's Optometry Clinic at Fox Army Health Center, was chosen from among four non-commissioned officers for the honor of NCO of the Year. Spc. Raymond Diaz of Headquarters & Headquarters Company AMCOM, who is a driver for commanding Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, was one of two Soldiers competing for Soldier of the Year.

A word for awards program sponsors

Sponsors of the NCO/Soldier of the Year awards include the following:

- Air Defense Artillery Association, Army Aviation Association of America, Association of the U.S. Army, Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, Bevill Conference Center and Hotel, Bill Penney Toyota, City of Madison, Chocolate Sensations, Country Inn Suites, David Gibson's Barbecue, Directorate of Morale Welfare and Recreation, Diane Campbell Recreation Center, Domino's Pizza, Enlisted Spouses Club, First Command Financial Planning, Four Points Sheraton, Geico Insurance, Guesthouse Suites Plus, Hampton Inn-Huntsville, Hampton Inn-Madison, Hampton Inn-South Parkway, Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites, Holiday Inn-Huntsville West, Holiday Inn-Research Park, Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association, Huntsville Embassy Suites Hotel;

- Huntsville City Council, Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau,

Lee's Magic Tunnel Car Wash, Madison Chamber of Commerce, Madison City Council, Marriott Huntsville, McDonald's, Military Officers Association of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart and Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart, Officer and Civilian Women's Club, Photography by Jim and Frieda, QTEC, R&S Custom Flooring, Radisson-Huntsville Airport, Radisson Suite Hotel, Ramada Inn and Conference Center, Red Lobster Restaurant, Officers and Civilians Club, Redstone Federal Credit Union, Regions Bank, Residence Inn by Marriott, Post Exchange, Science Applications International Corp., Servpro of Central Huntsville, Sergeants Major Association, State Farm Insurance, Suburban Extended Stay Lodge, Teledyne Brown Engineering, Teledyne Solutions Inc., The Select Hotel by Holiday Inn, Turner Beverage Co., Woody Anderson Ford (Anderson Properties) and Von Braun Center.

The two winners were announced during a luncheon in their honor July 10 which included a performance by the 82nd Airborne Chorus, a Soldier's Tribute by Soldiers of the 59th Ordnance Brigade and a keynote address by Pillsbury. The winners were presented with several gifts, including a statue of an eagle, cash, free hotel stays and free pizzas, from Huntsville-area sponsors.

"It's overwhelming what you do to support the Soldiers and NCOs at Redstone Arsenal," Pillsbury told the sponsors who were among the estimated 300 people in attendance.

"I've been in the Army for 33 years at 18 different posts, and I've never seen anything like this. It's incredible."

Pillsbury praised all the Soldiers in the audience for their commitment to defend the nation.

"You go and find the enemy and you kill them," he said. "That's what we've got to do. The Global War on Terrorism won't be over tomorrow. We are fighting idiots. You took an oath knowing full well you'll go into combat. It's up to us to provide you with the necessary training, tools and weapons to get the job done."

He made a promise to the Soldiers to make sure they are prepared for combat.

"We will not fail you because I know you will not fail us," he said.

Pillsbury said he was proud of the Soldiers who competed for the two awards. The competition was "fierce," showing that each Soldier cared about the outcome, he said.

The Soldiers had to compete in a written exam, undergo an interview with a board of Sol-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CONGRATULATING REDSTONE'S BEST— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of Redstone Arsenal and AMCOM, congratulates Staff Sgt. Tina Paton on winning the NCO of the Year award and Spc. Raymond Diaz on his win as Soldier of the Year. The two Soldiers were presented at an awards luncheon on July 10 during the annual community-wide Armed Forces Celebration Week. Paton and Diaz also led the pledge of allegiance later in the week at the Armed Forces Salute Luncheon at the Von Braun Center.

diers and complete a series of hands-on tests that showed their competency with Soldier skills.

"It was pretty stiff," Paton said. "The competition was really close. Anyone could have won."

Paton competed against Sgt. Jowanna Bush of MEDDAC, Sgt. Julie Kendrick of Charlie

Company and Sgt. Jennifer Moe of MEDDAC for NCO of the Year. Diaz competed with Spc. Charmel Foxx of MEDDAC for the Soldier of the Year honor.

"The board interview was the most challenging for me because

See **Best** on page 5



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Lost in space

These Marine Corps boots were found in the Sparkman Center parking lot Wednesday evening, July 12. Redstone police picked them up for safekeeping.

■ Community sponsors make Soldier awards special

Best

continued from page 4

there is so much information you have to retain and you don't know what they are going to ask," Paton said.

Paton, 35, and Diaz, 24, studied for the competition at their homes in the same neighborhood. Paton had to juggle her studies with her job and obligations to her family, which includes husband Leviticus Gadist and children, Charnell Lowther, 16; Trayvon Gadist, 11; and Jalonni Gadist, 5.

Diaz had to juggle his studies with work, time with his wife and playing video games, and the demands of the criminal justice courses he is taking at Columbia College.

But, studying wasn't what made the competition difficult for Diaz.

"What was hard about it was standing up in front of all those people and receiving all those gifts," said Diaz, who hopes to become an FBI agent once he completes his military service.

Diaz, whose military career has included overseeing finances for Army training battalions in Iraq, Kuwait and South Korea, has come a long way from growing up with five brothers on the "mean

streets of Queens, New York." He joined the Army when he was 18.

"There was no future where I came from. You couldn't do much," Diaz said. "I saw a future and a chance to get money for college tuition in the Army."

Paton agreed the Army also offered her opportunities 11 years ago that she couldn't have had any other way. "I wanted to go to college and see the world," she said.

Paton has also competed for the NCO of the Year among MEDDAC Soldiers. Diaz will go on to compete for Soldier of the Year in the Army Materiel Command in Washington, D.C. Both will be presented by the Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army at its annual conference in the nation's capitol in October.

"Recognition like this is always good," Paton said. "Anytime you win something like this your peers see what type of Soldier you are and what you've accomplished. It definitely means a lot to me."

It will also mean a lot when Paton applies for Officer Candidate School.

Paton's husband and son Trayvon attended the luncheon.

"I'm happy and proud of her," Gadist said of his wife while their son Trayvon said seeing his mom win was "fun" and "cool."

Army aviation soars because of Redstone

Armed Forces Salute speaker gives view from Pentagon

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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In recognizing Redstone Arsenal and its Soldiers, the Huntsville/Madison County community got its own round of applause.

“There is no community like this anywhere,” said Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, director of Army aviation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, and the keynote speaker at the Armed Forces Salute Luncheon held July 12 as part of the Armed Forces Celebration Week.

“Your leadership resonates ... I’ll tell you what your support has meant to us. What our Soldiers are doing each and every day can’t be accomplished without you ... Without the support of communities like Huntsville we would never be able to continue.”

Speaking to an audience of more than 1,000 business, community and military leaders at the Von Braun Center North Hall, Mundt said the work being done in Huntsville across multiple agencies is a key contributor to the nation’s military strength.

“Redstone and Huntsville both are extremely vital to the support of the Soldier – not just to me and Army aviation and missiles, but to the nation,” Mundt said.

The dividend to Huntsville and the nation for the work being done in military technology is peace, he said.

“If you want a strong nation and peace, then you have to have a strong defense,” Mundt said.

At the luncheon, which was presented by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, City of Huntsville, Madison County Commission and Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, Mundt gave a glimpse of what the Army force looks like today.

More than one-third of the Army’s 1-million member force is deployed at any one time in harm’s way. In today’s Global War on Terrorism, the Army has flown in excess of 1.1 million hours, which is up to five times the flight time during peacetime.

“That is not without cost,” Mundt said. “We have lost in excess of 130 airframes, which is almost \$2 billion.”

The Army is “meeting every expectation this country is asking for,” he said. “It takes a team to do that ... Because of you we are providing all the things needed to



Photo by Kari Hawkins

APPLAUDING HUNTSVILLE’S TECHNOLOGY— Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, director of Army aviation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, and the keynote speaker at the Armed Forces Salute Luncheon, speaks to about 1,000 community, business and military leaders about the importance of Huntsville technology to the military systems used by Soldiers. “There is no community like this anywhere,” he said at the July 12 luncheon, which was part of the community’s annual Armed Forces Celebration Week.

make sure when those kids go into combat they have what they need to be the best. Everyone has a part of that plan.”

Mundt praised the work being done at the Aviation and Missile Command under the leadership of Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, who communicates with Mundt on nearly a daily basis concerning aviation needs.

With AMCOM’s Life Cycle Management of systems, “there is no passing off in the relay,” Mundt said. “We need all of us running that relay from start to finish.”

He also commented on the Army Aviation Modernization Strategy, saying the 2004 termination of Comanche was done because of costs, and the need to put the money into upgrading Army aircraft and developing better wartime systems so the Army would be “ready to fight.”

The Army is now concentrating on building the next generation Huey, Chinook, Light Utility Helicopter, Joint Cargo Aircraft and other systems.

He praised the unmanned aircraft systems – Raven, Shadow and Hunter – that have been developed at Redstone Arsenal.

When the unmanned aircraft are returned from the battlefield in pieces, Mundt said he is reminded of the “countless lives” the systems have saved by keeping Soldiers out of the line of fire.

The question, though, for the future of these systems involves how to ensure their capabilities in a massive transition from 10 to 40 systems to in excess of 1,000 systems.

Mundt also mentioned the Hellfire missile, saying it is an example of Red-

stone Arsenal innovation. It was originally designed to attack Russian tanks. But, its laser guided technology now makes it valuable for getting “close up front and personal with the enemy. It’s important because you’ve got to make sure you know who you’re attacking ... That missile was designed here in Huntsville. It’s another testament of what comes out of this community,” he said.

He also mentioned the Advanced Precision Kill Weapons Systems and the Joint Common Missile as systems that are valuable to the Army’s mission.

“When you look at it (all the systems), you see what you’ve accomplished,” Mundt said.

See **Salute** on page 9

THAAD missile on target in test

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. — A successful test for the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense element was conducted July 12 at White Sands Missile Range.

Initial indications are that all planned flight test objectives were achieved. This was a fully-integrated flight test of all THAAD components, including the launcher, radar, fire control and communications, and interceptor. The primary objective was to demonstrate interceptor seeker

characterization of a ballistic missile target in the high-endoatmosphere (just inside the earth's atmosphere). A unitary (non-separating) Hera target missile was launched for the test and although it was not a primary objective, a successful intercept of the target occurred.

Other objectives included verifying integrated system operations in a high-endoatmospheric engagement and demonstrating the interceptor's kill vehicle's response to in-flight communication and its ability to

acquire and track an incoming ballistic missile target. The THAAD radar participated by acquiring and tracking the interceptor and target and providing in-flight target updates.

THAAD Soldiers from the 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade participated in this test with two Soldiers conducting radar operations, two Soldiers assisting contractors at the launcher, and one Soldier assisting contractors at the THAAD fire control and communications. Their

interaction with the complete THAAD system proved a valuable test experience for the Soldiers, and provided insight into overall system performance.

While the previous two THAAD flight tests, also conducted at White Sands Missile Range, were focused on interceptor fly-out and performance, the remaining flight test program is providing verification of the integrated THAAD element at increasingly difficult levels. (Missile Defense Agency release)

Redstone concert-goers idolize Carrie

Ticket sales set record for Friday night's event

By JULIE FREDERICK
For the Rocket

Her career might be in its infancy, but Huntsville apparently doesn't care. Carrie Underwood will be welcomed with open arms when she arrives to perform at Redstone's Activity Field on Friday night at 7:30.

The young, award-winning singer headlining this year's concert can already boast the highest ticket sales in the six-year history of Morale Welfare and Recreation bringing the Army Concert Tour to the Arsenal.

"Ticket sales are going exceptionally well," Adrian Baker, director of MWR marketing, said. "We expect a concert crowd of more than 10,000 inside the venue."

This year's concert features Underwood, the 2005 American Idol winner, as the headliner with guests The Lost Trailers and Josh Turner. They surpassed the ticket sales record set last year by Montgomery Gentry and Miranda Lambert. With prices ranging from \$18 to \$20 the day of the show, MWR hasn't been able to hold on to tickets.

"This is going to be a stellar three-act show," Baker said. "You can't beat a show like this for only \$18 or \$20 at any venue



Courtesy photo

HEADLINER— Carrie Underwood, 2005 American Idol winner, will perform at Redstone's Activity Field on Friday night at 7:30.

within 100 miles."

Last year's sales topped out at about 7,100 tickets sold, 1,500 of which were sold the day of the show. This year MWR had only 1,090 tickets left by last Friday.

"Tickets are moving fast," Baker said. "Currently we've still got them, but if you wait until the day of the show to buy one you might be out of luck."

The challenge is how to get more than 10,000 concert-goers on and off the Arsenal quickly and safely.

At 4 p.m. Friday, Patton Road between Aerobee and Hercules will be closed to all outbound traffic. As a result, Patton traffic

after 4 will be for in-bound concert-goers only. The venue gates will open at 6:30.

"The Arsenal will open up to concert-goers at 4 p.m.," Baker said. "With the number of people we are expecting to attend we highly recommend that people not wait until 6:30 p.m. to show up."

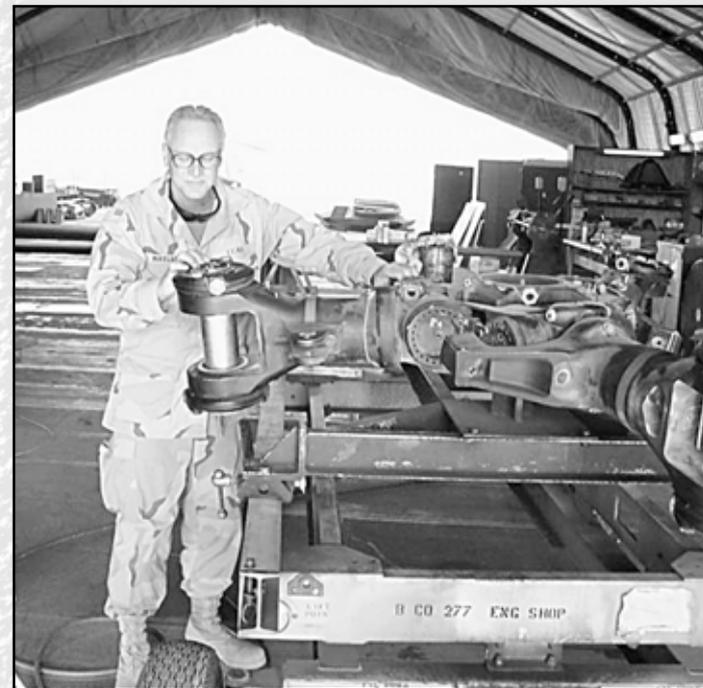
With Gate 10 being restricted to in-bound traffic only, all Redstone employees and people with badges/decals who wish to attend the concert are encouraged to enter and exit through any other gate than 10.

All non-badge/decal concert-goers are being asked to only enter through Gate 10 and will be required to show a driver's license. All other passengers 16 or older must also show a picture ID.

To accommodate on-post residents, Gate 8 will be open until the completion of the concert at about 12:30 a.m.

Redstone Arsenal MWR and Army Entertainment have joined with the Budweiser Army Concert Tour to bring this year's show to Redstone. All those interested in attending can purchase tickets through any Huntsville Ticketmaster location, the Sparkman Center Cafeteria, the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, Officers and Civilians Club, Post Exchange, and Outdoor Recreation. Prices are \$18 for advance tickets and \$20 the day of the show. For more information, call 876-4531.

Deployed from depot



Courtesy photo

ASSEMBLY CHECK— Deployed civilian Al Mirelez from Corpus Christi Army Depot inspects a main rotor head assembly for an AH-64 Apache helicopter at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Name: Al Mirelez

Job title: Supervisor, aircraft component repair

Duty station: Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas

Deployed as: Regional aviation support manager – Bagram, Afghanistan

Editor's note: Corpus Christi Army Depot provided this information.

Tucker takes command of Fox health center

Served as deputy for administration

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Lt. Col. Jessie Tucker never expected to become commander of Fox Army Health Center.

The assignment is normally reserved for a colonel, not a lieutenant colonel. He arrived a year ago as deputy commander for administration; and he became a lieutenant colonel about seven months ago.

But here he was Friday morning succeeding his former boss, Col. Bob Noback, as the Fox commander. Tucker is the center's commander for an unspecified period of time, meaning he could serve 6-10 months or maybe two years.

"I look at it as an enormous opportunity and a challenge," he said. The third generation veteran was born Oct. 16, 1967 at Food Hood, Texas.

Tucker came to Fox last summer after serving as commander of the U.S. Army

Health Clinic at Kaiserslautern, Germany. Noback called him his "right-hand man."

"Not only would I serve with you anywhere, I would work with you anywhere," Noback said during the change of command ceremony. "Great guy."

Noback, 53, from New York, is leaving for McDill Air Force Base, Fla., and then on to support Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He commanded Fox for two years.

"There've been a lot of challenges because there've been a lot of changes," Noback said. "But through the efforts of everybody here, working as a team, we've gotten through it."

He said he is content with the way things are at Fox and looks forward to Tucker's tenure as commander. "I know he'll do great things," Noback said.

Tucker's wife of almost 17 years, Patricia Kennedy-Tucker, is a doctoral candidate at Walden University. They have a 20-month-old daughter, Emily.

Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw, commander of the U.S. Army Southeast Regional Medical Command and Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Ga., served as reviewing officer for Friday's ceremony.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ACCEPTING CHALLENGE— Lt. Col. Jessie Tucker, 38, becomes commander of Fox Army Health Center during Friday's ceremony.

Salute

continued from page 6

The Army does face challenges with its weapon systems, Mundt said, and that challenge involves future technologies – and future generations.

“How are we going to do the technology that we’re going to need not today, but tomorrow?” Mundt said. “We need to challenge our youth to stay in math and science ... How many

students in our universities are studying the hard math and science that it’s going to take for us to continue to be innovative?”

Mundt also threw out a challenge to NASA to help keep the military on the cutting edge of technology.

“It’s neat to reach for the stars, but a piece of NASA says aeronautics,” he said.

Mundt also praised the area’s congressional delegation. “They are amazing. There are a lot of programs that have succeeded because of them,” he said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

ENTERTAINING A CROWD— Members of the 82nd Airborne Division’s All-American Chorus sing one of their selections for the crowd during the Armed Forces Salute Luncheon at the Von Braun Center. The luncheon, among several events during the community’s annual Armed Forces Celebration Week, was presented by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Huntsville, the Madison County Commission and the Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHARING THE RESET STORY— Sam Burns and Fred Pieper of the Army Aviation Reset’s Project Management Office at AMCOM share the Reset story with, from left, Staff Sgt. Gregory Whaley, Sgt. 1st Class Sonia Evans, Staff Sgt. Robert Fearn and Sgt. 1st Class Latoya Lowe, all instructors for the 108th Division at Redstone Arsenal who train ammunition specialists for the 89th Bravo Company. Aviation Reset does maintenance on aviation systems and their ground support systems, including trucks and tanks, when they come back from deployment. Each system receives 80 to 120 days of maintenance at one of several installations in the nation.

Military retirees have their day at Redstone

Annual appreciation event
in store for September

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Redstone has a large and varied retiree community. As the needs of that community have expanded and changed, so has the day that both celebrates and serves it. Retiree Appreciation Day 2006 looks to be bigger and better, offering more information and services than in previous years.

"We have some new things this year," Cynthia Anderson, retirement services officer, said.

Slated for Sept. 9, the all day event will be held in its usual location, Bob Jones Auditorium. Shuttle service from the parking lot to the door will be available to all attendees.

The day will begin with complimentary breakfast served in the Sparkman Cafeteria at 7 a.m. Retirees will have an hour to register and socialize before the formal opening at 8:10. The formal ceremony is slated to feature remarks by retired Col. George Sheppard and the national anthem performed by retired Maj. Gen. Grayson Tate.

The speakers are always a highlight of Retiree Appreciation Day and this year should be no exception. Currently on the schedule for the day is John Radke,



Photo by Kristi Foster

SIGN IN, PLEASE— Retired Staff Sgt. Donald Kraus, right, and his wife, Lorraine, register at Retiree Appreciation Day 2004 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Department of the Army retirement services officer, to discuss the Survivor Benefit Plan open season. John Benedict from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Cleveland Center, is also scheduled to answer questions or concerns with the SBP, retiree or annuitant pay.

"They're all going to talk about the survivor benefit open season and then they'll take questions on the financial aspects, how it works with your pay or just general questions about it," Anderson said.

Additional speakers will include financial experts, a Redstone Arsenal services panel and a state of the Arsenal address by Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski.

"This year it should be very pertinent with all of the changes BRAC (base realignment and closure) brings," Anderson said. "He'll talk about all of the things happening on the Arsenal now and what changes we can look forward to in the future."

Lunch will be served in the Sparkman Cafeteria. For the first time, attendees this

year will have a choice in their lunch menu. A traditional full lunch will be served featuring spaghetti and a salad for \$8.25 or diners may select a smaller lunch of a quarter-pound beef hot dog and chips for \$3.85. Lunch reservations must be made in advance.

After lunch, Fox Army Health Center representatives will be on hand to unveil their newest program, in conjunction with MWR and the Retirement Services Office, titled "NRG."

"It's a new health and fitness program for retirees," Anderson said. "We'll have all the details available that day."

The county fair style booths and services offered during the event are also getting some additions. As always, Fox Army Health Center will be ready to do basic medical screening, such as cholesterol, bone density and blood sugar. Various services and offices will have their stations set up to make their services available as well, one of the most popular of which is the legal assistance office. In addition to identification cards, Anderson hopes to be able to offer the retirees vehicle decal and registration services. The county fair offers one stop shopping for all of the basic services available to the retiree community of Redstone.

"It's always the busiest part of the day," Anderson said.

With the Redstone community encompassing such a broad geographical area, the Retirement Services Office has made arrangements for attendees. Those wishing to use guest housing may call the billeting office at 876-5713. RV hookups along Redstone's portion of the Tennessee River are available from Outdoor Recreation, 842-2188. Anderson also has a list of hotels in town offering discounted rates for those attending Retiree Appreciation Day.

For more information or lunch reservations, call the Retirement Services Office at 876-2022 or 842-2418.

Quality of Army recruits remains high

WASHINGTON — The Army has filled its ranks without sacrificing quality, DoD's top personnel official told reporters July 11.

Active-duty and reserve components met recruiting goals in June for the 13th month in a row, said David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

The Army reached 102 percent of its recruiting goal, enlisting more than 8,700 Soldiers. The National Guard recruited more than 5,800 Soldiers, 101 percent of its goal. The Army reserve also exceeded its goal by 21 percent, recruiting more than 5,600 members.

Chu called the fact that the military can fill the ranks of its volunteer force a testament to young peoples' desire to serve.

"I think it's an antidote to those who question the willingness of young Americans to put someone else before themselves, to put some larger cause first," he said.

More than 60 percent of the recruits came from the top half of mental-aptitude categories. More than 90 percent have a high-school diploma, which "is the best

predictor, we've found over many years of experience, that recruits will stay through their first enlistment," Chu said.

Chu said he is not disturbed by the increase in "category 4" personnel joining the Army. These recruits score in the lowest category of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery tests.

The Army recruits no more than 4 percent of its force from this category, meeting the DoD benchmark, explained Doug Smith, public affairs officer for U.S. Army Recruiting Command. For many years, the Army had a self-imposed 2-percent limit, he said, but raised it to 4 percent in 2005.

This stands in sharp contrast to the late 1970s, when as many as 45 percent of Army recruits could be drawn from category 4. Congress imposed a cap of 25 percent of new recruits in that category in fiscal 1981, then lowered the ceiling to 20 percent in fiscal 1983, according to Bob Clark, DoD's assistant director for accessions policy.

Editor's note: The Army News Service based this release on reports from the American Forces Press Service.

Prototype Integration Facility upgrades aviation fleet

Deploying units receive latest in command and control system

The Prototype Integration Facility has outfitted the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade with the latest Army Airborne Command and Control System capability.

The facility delivered two A2C2S aircraft ahead of schedule in support of planned deployment of the 36th CAB. The facility has now integrated six UH-60L Blackhawk helicopters with the most up-to-date, evolving A2C2S capabilities.

A2C2S is an on-the-move command and control system that transforms selected UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters into airborne command posts. The system includes five interchangeable workstations, large-screen displays, and an advanced voice/data communications suite. The latest configuration aircraft have design upgrades that enhance performance including Voice Over Internet Protocol, International Maritime Satellite communications, and supportability improvements.

Specifically, A2C2S provides aircraft with data and voice com-

munication capability with ground and air support, situational awareness, common view of the battlefield, over the battlefield mobility, and connectivity to other information/communication networks.

The government contributors included the A2C2S Product Office and the Utility Helicopter Program Management Office, AMCOM Acquisition Center and Legal, local elements of the Army Test and Evaluation Command and AMRDEC's Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Aviation Engineering Directorate, and Engineering Directorate. Contractor contributors included JVYS, the PIF prime contractor, along with ARINC, enGies, and Integrated Power Technologies.

Al Abejon, the A2C2S product manager, said the team's "truly professional efforts" are responsible for providing a critical Battle Command capability to the war fighter.

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center's Prototype Integration Facility is a government owned, government operated organization at Redstone Arsenal. *(Prototype Integration Facility release)*



Courtesy photo

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED— Completed aircraft leave Redstone Airfield on July 11.

School bus signup just around corner

All military personnel living on Redstone Arsenal who desire bus transportation to the four core schools for school year 2006-07 must register each child for transportation.

Registration continues through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Extended registration will be held at the Parent/Principal Night, July 27 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711.

Redstone will provide bus transportation to the following core schools: Williams Elementary School (grades K-5), Williams Middle School (grades 6-8), New Century Technology, and Columbia High School (grades 9-12).

The City of Huntsville has agreed to provide bus transportation for students residing on Redstone Arsenal to special needs (handicapped) and magnet schools in the city. No transportation will be provided students residing on Redstone who

attend private schools.

Registration for City of Huntsville bus transportation to the magnet schools and special needs schools will be conducted at the aforementioned location, dates and times.

To qualify for school bus transportation, each registrant living on post must show proof of active duty status. Department of Defense personnel living off post will show proof of active duty status or a Redstone Arsenal Employee identification badge, and enrollment in the School Age Service Program. Registration should be completed during this scheduled period to allow sufficient time to develop routes and establish bus stops.

For more information call Carl Pack, supervisor of bus operations for Northrop Grumman, at 876-3938 or Ray Boles, of transportation division, Directorate of Logistics, Garrison, at 876-3119. (*Garrison release*)

Boys State has Redstone connections

Two local youngsters who are sons of Redstone employees have attended Boys State at the University of Montevallo.

Quintin Lundy and Chris Martin were selected for this year's program which educates youth on the duties and privileges of citizenship.

Quintin, a Buckhorn High senior, is the son of Austin and Jasmine Lundy. Austin works at the Integrated Materiel Management Center, and Jasmine at the Software Engineering Directorate.

A summer hire at Redstone, Quintin maintains a 4.0 grade point average. At Buckhorn High he is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Government Association, marching/concert/jazz bands, golf team and is a student ambassador.

Chris, also a Buckhorn senior, is the son of Freddie Martin of Logistics Support Activity and Mae Martin of Benchmark Electronics.

He was accepted to the 2006 Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program at the Research Development and Engineering Center. At Buckhorn Chris is a member of the National Honor Society and is active in the Student Government Association, marching/concert/jazz bands, the drama department and E Club. The Eagle Scout with Troop 156 attends Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church where he is a member of the youth choir and drama ministry.



Chris Martin



Quintin Lundy

Engineer puts priorities at home

Devoted dad, volunteer named Father of Year

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Phil Patterson has worked on some pretty prestigious projects for the Army in the course of an engineering career that has spanned more than 20 years.

But, Patterson views his most important job as the one he has at home as the husband of a school teacher and the father of three daughters – Emily, an 18-year-old high school senior aspiring for a medical career; Katie, 21, a nursing student at the University of Alabama-Huntsville; and Molly, 23, a newly hired fifth-grade teacher at the Academy for Academics and Arts.

This West Point graduate has been putting his family first since turning down a career opportunity in Korea to be home with his wife JoAnne during her first pregnancy. Now, with those early years of changing diapers, refereeing sisterly squabbles, juggling family schedules, managing household chores, taking family vacations and volunteering countless hours to his daughters' interests nearly behind him, Patterson's commitment to be the best dad possible has won him recognition as the 2006 Father of the Year for Madison County.

His youngest daughter's simple statement – "I want to be like my dad" – written in an essay she completed during study hall last year at Catholic High School put Patterson in a field of 200 dads from Madison County who were nominated for the Father of



Photo by Kari Hawkins

OUR HOUSE— The 2006 Father of the Year Phil Patterson is surrounded by those he loves the most – his wife, JoAnne, and his daughters, Molly, back right, and, front from left, Emily and Katie. Patterson, who is an engineer with the Space and Missile Defense Command's Future Warfare Center, a West Point graduate, and a retired Reservist, was recently named Father of the Year by the Volunteer Center of Madison County. Emily, an 18-year-old high school senior, nominated her father for the award.

the Year honors through the Volunteer Center of Madison County. The field was narrowed to 10 top nominees – among them Army veteran Loren Vigil who served in Iraq and who works at Ordnance Munitions and Elec-

tronic Maintenance School, Coast Guard retiree Christopher Kolb and NASA hydrologist and remote sensing scientist Charles Layman. Patterson was chosen by a panel of judges that included Garrison commander Col.

John Olshefski.

"I was like shocked and a little embarrassed," Patterson recalled of the moment when his name was announced at the Father of the Year Gala in early June.

"There were so many good nominees, like Charles Harbin (who provided for his four daughters and who is still a big part of their lives even though he is in a wheelchair) and Sonny Rooks (who is an assistant principal and a coach). I was just sort of humbled to even be in that group."

But, Patterson, an engineer for the Space and Missile Defense Command's Future Warfare Center, more than qualified to be this year's award winner. Despite the demands of his career, raising three daughters and helping his wife as an ad hoc teacher's aide, Patterson also finds time to volunteer as his family's church, Aldersgate United Methodist, and at the Downtown Rescue Mission, CASA, Habitat for Humanity and Catholic High School. He has taught sixth-grade Sunday school for 12 years, and works with Christmas Charities, Aldersgate's Good Neighbors program and the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. He has coordinated the Combined Federal Campaign for SMDC for five years.

"I think he really deserved this award because of all the volunteer stuff he's done," said Emily, who nominated her father for the award.

"Besides volunteering, he helps all of us. He helps my mom in her class at University Place Elementary School. He's made late night Staples trips to make copies for her class. Someone once asked him if he was the janitor because he was always repainting a wall or taking out the trash. I've had friends at school tell me 'Your dad's here. He's up on the roof.'"

See **Father** on page 16

Good morning, America, from Iraq

Radio broadcast journalists see war front for themselves

By TOM CLARKSON
Gulf Region Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

BAGHDAD — They represent radio markets in five major U.S. cities with a cumulative population exceeding 4 million residents. Accordingly, it would be a monumental understatement to say that their impressions — shared with their respective, loyal, radio audiences — were merely significant for Americans eager to hear, firsthand, the facts from Iraq.

These five broadcast professionals represent an array of communities of substance from across the U.S. — Baltimore, Cleveland, Phoenix, Tampa and Wichita. Their stations — WCBM, WTAM, WKFI, WFLA and KZN respectively — listener-ship presented a unique opportunity for getting the most current and correct news out to a very broad audience.

The feisty fistful of game gentlemen came directly into the very heart of Iraq. Among their stops, one was with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — Gulf Region Division/Projects and Contracting Office in the International Zone.

While with GRD/PCO, they had the opportunity to visit Iraq Reconstruction projects and then talk to Soldiers, government service professionals and contractors

from their respective areas. Additionally, they met and interviewed Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division — whose Area of Operations is central and southern Baghdad — billeted at nearby Camp Prosperity.

“I can’t say enough about the job being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. No other organization in the world could do what they are doing under such trying and dangerous circumstances — 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”

—Tom Marr
Baltimore broadcaster

This, his first trip to Iraq, Baltimore’s Tom Marr has worked in that market since 1967. Among his many accomplishments in the broadcasting profession he was part of the Baltimore Orioles radio play-by-play team — his world championship ring clearly affirms that achievement.

“I can’t say enough about the job being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,” he said. “No other organization in the world could do what they are doing under such trying and dangerous circumstances — 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”

“From sewers to school, hospitals to roads ... power, water, you name it, they are getting this country on its feet and taking care of the needs of our troops as well.”

Pausing to look intently into the eyes of his listeners, he emphasizes, “It starts with leadership and boy do they have it! I spent an hour talking with GRD’s commanding general Maj. Gen. William McCoy and their Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Glen,” proudly adding, “from Baltimore.”

“They both get it. They understand what needs to be done ... how, and now! I was very lucky to get to spend time with these two as a great deal of their time is working ‘outside the wire.’ They lead by leading, not simply sending others out. That sort of commitment and professionalism is why we will prevail in Iraq.”

During this group’s visit to Baghdad, accompanied by a personnel security detail, they went beyond the relative safety of the International Zone into Baghdad, what some call the “most dangerous city in the world,” visiting the Aliwaya Children’s Hospital.

Wichita’s “Rockin’ Rich Regan, a 30-year veteran of the business, described how “an incredible Iraqi doctor who was in charge of the operation (told) me of the progress that has been made and that without the help of the American people many more children would have died. Anything we are doing here to help these

children is the right thing.”

Another visit, to Ibn Sina Hospital in the International Zone that attends to both U.S. and Iraqi casualties, was also an emotional one for these men. Obviously touched by the experience, Greg Saber of Cleveland spoke of how this, and the earlier Reconstruction site visits, left an impression on him he’d long remember.

In turn, Phoenix broadcaster Jim Sharpe who, during his broadcast career, has covered numerous major news events including Hurricane Andrew and the Northridge Earthquake, was no less impressed by what he saw. Following his site visits and interviews, he said he was impressed by the “tenacity, professionalism and commitment exhibited by U.S. military and civilians, as well as the exceedingly brave and committed Iraqis.”

Eban Brown, from Tampa Bay, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, echoed comments made by his professional associates. He said the GRD team “makes it hard for a journalist to ignore examples of American-Iraqi cooperation in rebuilding one of the planet’s most ancient and enduring civilizations. The engineers and their local national counterparts are busy building (projects as diverse as) hospitals and academic halls, despite the turbulence and threats by violent people.”

Editor’s note: Tom Clarkson is a member of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region Division/Project and Contracting Office public affairs team in Iraq.

■ Putting family first earns award from community

Father

continued from page 14

Emily knows her dad was in a group of very special dads who all qualified for the Father of the Year Award.

“What makes my dad special is he’s always there for us. That’s what being a dad is — being there for his kids,” she said. “He teaches by example.”

Patterson’s eldest daughter, Molly, calls her dad “Mr. Fix It” not just for the repairs he does around the house but also because of the time he takes to talk to his daughters about problems they are having in relationships with friends and boyfriends.

“When I was in college, he’d come help me fix up my room or help me with different things,” said Molly, who graduated from the University of North Alabama. “None of my roommates’ dads came up, but he was there.”

Patterson said he will always be a father to his daughters, no matter how grown up they are. He doesn’t believe he is doing anything special for them. He is just being the sort of dad that should be the norm for

all fathers.

“There are two important jobs in the world. The first goes to those good mothers out there,” he said. “Then, the most important job for a man is to be a dad and to set a good example. Kids are a product of their environment. It’s imperative for us to be good role models for our kids because everything comes from that.”

Patterson himself had a good role model while growing up. He was the oldest of six born to a Methodist minister and his wife in Nebraska. His dad taught him that the most important thing is to make the world a better place. Patterson learned how to do that through watching his own father and mother, who was a community volunteer, and through his experiences in Boy Scouts. He went on to graduate from West Point and serve in the military for five years. He then served in the Reserves, retiring earlier this year as a lieutenant colonel. He has been married for 27 years.

Patterson believes strongly in the theme written about by Steve Farrar, the founder and chairman of Men’s Leadership Ministries in Texas, in his book “Point Man: How a Man Can Lead His Family.”

“He said one person can have a huge

effect on society through the family organization,” Patterson said. “The memory of my dad being a good dad has helped me in caring for my family. The one thing I hope my daughters learn from me and their Christian environment is that family and others are important.”

Parenting has a snowball effect. Patterson said if children are taught to be responsible and respectful, then those children will grow up to have families and teach those same lessons and so on throughout future generations.

As a father, it is sad to Patterson to see other fathers walk away from their responsibility to their children, a prevalent theme in today’s societal problems.

“Kids don’t choose their parents,” he said. “It’s so selfish to focus on yourself when you have children who need you. To be a committed and caring parent should be the focus when you have a family. Parents are missing out on life and what God has given them if they don’t focus on their family.”

Patterson sees families struggling in a society that puts “me” first instead of others.

“We’re in a ‘let me entertain you’ world instead of a ‘let me be involved’ world,” he said. “There are so many activities available for kids and adults. You can be pulled

so easily from the things that are truly important.”

Many parents will sacrifice the family because of material things that seem, at first, to be good for the family — a bigger house, a nice vacation, the best school, private lessons. Society standards for success, though, often conflict with what families really need.

“The most important thing is spending time with family,” he said. “Not just quality time, but time. Kids want your time and they want your guidance, good wholesome guidance. They want a parent.”

Patterson volunteers, often with one or all of his daughters at his side, because of his sense of obligation to help others to become their best. He believes society can only get better if adults set examples of respect and love for all children. He finds that most true in church, where he has taught sixth-grade Sunday school for 12 years, and at his wife’s and daughters’ schools, where he offers a lending hand in many different areas.

“If we don’t ensure that there’s a good wholesome environment focused on love and caring for others then we can’t complain that we have problems,” he said. “We have to look at ourselves first. We set standards a lot of times ourselves without even knowing it.”

Soldiers blow up terrorist safe-route

Using would-be bombs represents 'poetic justice'

By Spc. EDGAR REYES
Army News Service

FOB KALSU, Iraq — An explosive ordnance disposal team used their detonation skills to cut off a terrorist safe-route in the northern Babil province early this month.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division and the 73rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment launched Operation Cobra Cutter July 8 to eliminate an escape route for terrorists placing roadside bombs on the roads in Haswah.

“We planned to remove the terrorists’ access in and out of the area, but the way we accomplished the mission was rather ironic,” said Capt. Aaron Scheinberg, platoon leader, Company B, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT. “We used the rounds found in weapon caches and would-be bombs to blow up the same routes the terrorists use to hide and emplace these munitions. It was actually poetic justice.”

Soldiers escorting and providing security for the EOD team took more than an hour to sweep the area in search of booby traps and command wiring used to detonate explosives.

“The hardest thing about the mission was trying to detect roadside bombs and booby traps. We had to make sure the site was secure before we started pulling perimeter security,” said Staff Sgt. Chris

Woodruff, section sergeant, Co. B, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT.

After leaders deemed the area safe, EOD Soldiers began preparing the area for demolition. The Soldiers laid artillery and mortar rounds acquired from terrorist caches in the middle of the pathway, then taped more than 300 pounds of C4 explosives on top of the materials and added extra explosives at the ends of the route to ensure its destruction.

The Soldiers also moved two families living nearby and their animals to safety. With Soldiers and civilians several hundred meters away from the blast site, the EOD team detonated the explosives.

“The explosion was pretty loud. The flames and the smoke looked really cool in the sky. It’s something you don’t normally see in the civilian world,” said Pvt. Chris Peer, tanker, Co. B, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT.

Initially, Soldiers placed barriers around the site to keep out terrorists, but they removed the blockades, Woodruff said. Coalition forces then decided destroying the entire entry and exit points would be the best deterrent against the terrorist threat.

“The barriers we used were being compromised after just a couple of weeks,” Peer said. “It’s going to be much harder for the terrorists to compromise because instead of blocking the route, we destroyed it. They could try to rebuild it, but it is going to take them a long time.”

Editor’s note: Spc. Edgar Reyes writes for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Public Affairs Office.



Photo by Spc. Edgar Reyes

JULY FIREWORKS— The 73rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal team destroys a path used by terrorists as an escape route during Operation Cobra Cutter July 8 in Haswah.

Guidelines apply to workers compensation

The Federal Employees Compensation Act is administered by the Office of Workers Compensation Program of the Department of Labor.

It provides benefits to civilian employees of the federal work force for disability due to personal injury sustained while in the performance of duty or for employment-related conditions or disease. The FECA also provides for the payment of benefits to dependents if the injury or disease causes the employee's death.

Procedure if injured at work

Report the injury to your supervisor right away and obtain medical treatment at the Occupational Medicine Facility as necessary.

Complete a written report (Form CA-1 or CA-2) with your supervisor, and sub-

mit it to the Injury Compensation Office within 48 hours.

If a traumatic injury has occurred and further medical treatment is needed beyond the Occupational Medicine Facility, obtain authorization (Form CA-16) from the occupational medicine staff for treatment by a physician of your choice.

If a traumatic injury has occurred, furnish the supervisor with medical evidence of any disability within 10 calendar days of your absence.

If an occupational condition or disease develops over a period of time, complete a CA-2 with your supervisor, and submit it to the Injury Compensation Office by appointment.

Certain requirements must be met under FECA. The employee must provide medical and factual evidence to establish

five basic elements:

- The claim was filed within the three-year time limit set by the FECA.
- The injured or deceased person was an employee of the federal government and a U.S. citizen.
- A fact of injury, or diagnosis, is medically established.
- The employee was in the performance of duty at the time of the injury.
- The injury was causally related to employment factors.

Medical benefits provided

Medical benefits include medical, surgical and hospital services and supplies needed for treatment of an injury as well as mileage reimbursement for obtaining care. The injured employee has initial choice of physician and may select any qualified local physician or hospital to

provide necessary treatment or may use agency medical facilities available.

Except for referral by the attending physician, any change in treating physician after the initial choice must be authorized by OWCP. The term "physician" includes surgeons, osteopathic practitioners, podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists and chiropractors within the scope of their practice as defined by state law. Payment for chiropractic services is limited to treatment consisting of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation as demonstrated by X-ray to exist.

For more information on workers compensation visit this local web site: <https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/wcww> or <http://dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/fecacont.htm>. (Civilian Personnel Advisory Center release)

Communications network still answering call

Military radio system made debut in 1925

By THOM WILLIAMS
Army News Service

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. — Mention the MARS Station to retired servicemembers and they'll probably tell you about how they were able to talk with loved ones back in the United States while serving overseas through this system of phone patches, high-frequency radios and volunteer radio operators.

The U.S. Army Military Affiliated Radio System is still going strong with morale and welfare phone-patching and MARS messages. Today, it's also a critically important back-

up emergency-communications system. "MARS has evolved into emergency-communications support not just for the Army, but for other government agencies, as well," said Kathy Harrison, chief of the Army MARS, which is part of the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command at Fort Huachuca.



Photo by Thom Williams

GETTING CONNECTED— Sgt. Daniel Morales, left, and Pfc. Wayne Murray, Huachuca Platoon, 518th Signal Company, 504th Signal Battalion, work on a connection outside the Fort Huachuca MARS Station.

The Army MARS system operates 24-7, and participates in the National Communications Systems Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program, a system designed to bring together federal, state and private-industry HF resources so emergency messages can be passed when normal communications channels are destroyed or unavailable.

Government agencies involved in the program include the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security and the State Department.

During Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Fort Huachuca MARS Station relayed messages that could not be passed in the affected area because the communications infrastructure was destroyed.

"We'd call in a rescue mission to the Coast Guard, and they would then dispatch the helicopters in New Orleans and rescue people," said Grant Hays, contract project manager and eastern area MARS coordinator.

Along with voice traffic, MARS can pass large files with bulk information, such as patient or supply lists, via computers.

MARS is made up of 2,500 member stations in the continental United States. Only 270 are military stations; the rest are civilian-volunteer stations. MARS relies almost exclusively on volunteer operators who donate time and buy their own equipment to make the system work.

"We have volunteers who have invested hundreds of thousand of dollars in communications gear," Hays said. "One volunteer has his own trailer and participates in the Grecian Firebolt signal exercise as a MARS player."

Equipment and antennas at the Fort Huachuca MARS Station also serve as training aids for 11th Signal Brigade Soldiers.

"We help Soldiers here at Fort Huachuca when it comes to knowing about HF communications and antennas," he said. "All our antennae work here is done by a team on post, and they get a lot of training just by using these towers to climb and repair the antennas."

The NETCOM/9th ASC manages two gateways for HF radio traffic into and out of the continental United States. Fort Huachuca takes care of the Western U.S. and Pacific connectivity, and Fort Dietrick, Md., houses the Eastern gateway into the U.S.

The U.S. Army Signal Corps founded MARS in November 1925 under the name "Army Amateur Radio System." It was shut down during World War II because of security concerns and later reemerged as Army MARS.

Hays predicts a bright future for MARS.

"I see a pretty good picture because of our involvement with emergency communications, and we can provide a service to both government agencies and non-government agencies," he said.

Editor's note: Thom Williams writes for the Scout at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Program helps deployed Soldiers nix the butts

Troops learn to lead smoke-free life

By KAREN FLEMING-MICHAEL
Army News Service

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq – Quitting smoking was the last thing Master Sgt. David Dulen expected to do when he deployed to Iraq last September.

The pack-a-day smoker for more than 20 years had considered quitting many times, but his “smoke ‘em if you got ‘em” habit endured. Then his wife quit last year.

“I kind of had an incentive then, or maybe it was just a challenge from my wife,” he wrote in an e-mail from Camp Striker, near Baghdad. “The opportunity to quit while deployed to Iraq never crossed my mind; in fact, I told my wife that I would have to wait until after the deployment to quit and come online with a smoke-free life.”

Long periods of downtime between missions and cigarettes being readily available – and at times even cheaper than

in the United States – pose an obstacle to anyone wanting to quit while deployed, said Capt. Amy Jackson, a physician assistant at Camp Striker.

“I encourage them to drink more water, play games on their smoke break, take a walk around their work area, exercise, read their smoking-aid handbook, put a toothpick in their mouth after chow instead of lighting up or take up a new hobby – anything to take their mind off their addiction.”

— Capt. Amy Jackson
physician assistant, who started
a smoking-cessation program

However, a few Soldiers in the camp of 4,500 troops paved the way for Dulen’s road to being smoke-free when they approached Jackson to ask if a smoking-cessation program was available. There wasn’t, so she started one.

“These guys were asking for something that I’m supposed to offer them as a provider,” she said. “I thought it was awesome that they asked.”

In designing the four-week program, Jackson used every possible tactic to help quitters quit. Soldiers can receive nicotine patches, gum and prescription drugs to help them stave off the symptoms of nicotine withdrawal. They attend classes on the health benefits of quitting, stress management and relaxation. They also have Jackson and her medics to turn to for suggestions on how to cope when the cravings come.

“I encourage them to drink more water, play games on their smoke break, take a walk around their work area, exercise, read their smoking-aid handbook, put a toothpick in their mouth after chow instead of lighting up or take up a new hobby – anything to take their mind off their addiction,” she said.

Word of the program quickly spread. So far 53 smokers have joined the program. Sixteen smokers who used tobacco for a total of 203 years quit for good; eight of them had smoked for more than 10 years.

Dulen quit Dec. 6. He expected to have withdrawal symptoms – and he did – so he sucked on hard candy and chewed a lot of gum. He also used the prescription aids.

“I used the patches and the pills religiously, though I don’t think that I needed them for the entire timeline that Captain Jackson had us on them, but I wanted to stay with whatever the program said to do,” he said.

Twenty-six Soldiers didn’t stick with the program, often bailing at the two- or three-month mark. Jackson thinks they’ll quit eventually.

“When I started the program, many of my peers recommended that I not be discouraged if I didn’t see any success given our environment, mission and stress level,” she said. “I am very pleased with the outcome and am still hopeful for those who attended the course, knowing that the seed has been planted and they may always try again to quit.”

Relapses are to be expected, and Dulen’s had just two cigarettes since quitting six months ago.

“I didn’t even smoke the whole thing,” he said. “I didn’t like the way it tasted or the effect it was having on my chest.”

Jackson plans to follow up with her quitters after they return to the United States to see how they’re managing during a time when they may be tempted to smoke.

“Getting back into the ‘old routine’ may include smoking in the car that they used to smoke in before they deployed. There will be some nights out on the town, and alcohol and tobacco go hand in hand,” she said. “If their spouse smokes, it will be difficult to avoid the temptation, but a support system may get them past the adjustment period to avoid slipping into old habits.”

Jackson’s work has made a real difference, said Maj. Edward McDaniel, a doctor at Camp Striker.

“Many Soldiers have come to me saying that she has given them a new start on life,” he said. “These Soldiers want to return home to their families happier and healthier. No doubt, this is a huge challenge, but many are up to the task.”

Dulen said he’s through with cigarettes.

“I no longer have the desire to smoke,” he said. “I have my days when I think I am a little stressed and say, ‘Boy, I could use a cigarette.’ But I don’t smoke, so I believe that I will be smoke-free the remainder of my life.”

Editor’s note: Karen Fleming-Michael writes for the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

Put safety first

The Garrison Safety Office provided the following advice:

Impress upon your family that all vehicle occupants must wear safety belts at all times, even if the vehicle has air bags (that means you too, Mom and Dad). Proper use of safety restraints reduces the risk of death and serious injury by 40-60 percent.

Don’t forget to buckle up.



Photo by Tarah Hollingsworth

Up and away

Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, director of Army aviation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, launches a Raven small unmanned aircraft during his visit to Redstone Arsenal July 12.

Troops and NASA renew softball rivalry

*NASA serves as host
for all-star game*

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

The NASA softball league wants pay-back.

The Redstone troop all-stars have beaten their NASA counterparts two straight years in their final at-bat. The troops batted last as the home team in the friendly confines of Linton Field.

But this year is different.

"NASA is going to host the game this year," troop sports director Gaylene Wilson said.

The troop all-stars will play the NASA all-stars in their third annual showdown at 6 p.m. July 27 at NASA field 3 at the corner of Martin Road and Rideout Road.

"Hopefully we'll be able to take advantage of having the home field this year and pull out a victory," NASA player/coach Victor Pritchett said. He's vice president of the MARS Softball League, Marshall Space Flight Center's version of the Army's Morale Welfare and Recreation.

Redstone has rallied to win in the bottom of the seventh inning the past two years. Last year Redstone trailed 15-14 entering its final at-bat but won 16-15. With one run in and the bases loaded and no outs, Rob Smith scored the game-winner when player/coach Michael Shambaugh reached on an infield error.

In 2004, NASA led 11-10 in the bottom of the seventh inning but the troops had the bases loaded with two outs. Guy Chanpuang, the Redstone pitcher, stepped to the plate and lashed a two-run single up the middle and Redstone won 12-11, earning the championship trophy.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PRIME TIME— Third baseman Lee Diaz bats for the troop all-stars during their 16-15 win over the NASA all-stars last August at Linton Field.

Sports & Recreation

Troop volleyball

Military units are invited to send a representative to an Athletic and Recreation Meeting for volleyball Thursday morning at 9:30 at Pagano Gym. Please bring team rosters to the meeting if you have them. Jerseys from unit-level softball should be returned to the sports office. For more information, call sports director Gaylene Wilson 842-2574.

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.

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 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.

Benefit tournament

The second annual Jimmy McDonald Memorial Golf Tournament is Aug. 7 at Hampton Cove's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail "Highlands Course." This event is sponsored by Huntsville West Kiwanis with proceeds to benefit ALS Association (Lou Gehrig's Disease) and other Kiwanis

projects in Madison County. Call Brian Jones 650-4042 or Jon Peters 228-0230 for more information.

Soccer camp

The Madison Soccer Club is conducting a soccer camp July 24-28 for boys and girls age 7-15. The camp will be held in Madison at Dublin Park from 8 a.m. until noon. The cost is \$95. For more information, or to register, visit the web site www.madisonsc.org.

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.

Fleet reserve

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.

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.

Space and missile defense

The ninth annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition will be held Aug. 14-17 at the Von Braun Center. The theme for this year's event is

"Global Missions ... Meeting the Challenge." For more information, call Giselle Bodin 955-3889 or John Cummings 955-1641.

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. The chapter will hold its monthly luncheon meeting July 26 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Joe Massaneli, Wal-Mart Superstore director, is scheduled speaker. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 at the Officers and Civilians Club, Regimental Room. The Sergeants Major 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.

Business professionals

Business Expo 2006 is set for Aug. 22 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. The kickoff lunch is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with nationally-renowned speaker Lou Heckler describing how to provide outstanding customer service. Exhibits open at 1 p.m. and will conclude at 6. For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County 535-2000 or visit www.huntsvillealabama.com.

Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as



Courtesy photo

Valued resource

Bill Matthews, AMCOM director of resource management, receives the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) fiscal 2005 Resource Management Award in Comptroller/Deputy Comptroller. The award is presented by Lt. Gen. Jerry Sinn, military deputy for budget for the assistant secretary of the Army (FM&C).

well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or Chief Warrant Officer Robert Smith 955-9722.

Civilian deployment

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

Surplus sales

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

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to

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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. For more information, call 881-6992.

Computer classes

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

Chapel services

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) – noon Catholic Mass. Saturday – 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday — 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11 a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

Volunteer opportunities

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

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 offi-

cer for tactical missiles and former TOW deputy project manager. Chuck Ruddy, of Raytheon marketing and business development, is co-chairman.

American Idol singer

Carrie Underwood, the 2005 American Idol winner, along with special guest Josh Turner, are coming to Redstone Arsenal Friday. 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 through Thursday. 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.

Heroes display

As the war in Iraq and Afghanistan continues, Team Redstone wants to continue to recognize the Soldiers serving this country. The Tradition of Heroes displays in building 5300 of the Sparkman Center and Garrison headquarters building 4488 serve that very purpose. If you would like to recognize a Soldier who has served or is currently serving in OIF or OEF by having his or her picture placed on the Tradition of Heroes display, call Julie Frederick 955-9174 or by e-mail julie.a.frederick@us.army.mil.

Youth reading

The summer reading program is an activity sponsored by Child and Youth Services and supported by the Huntsville City School System. The goal of the program is to provide students with the opportunity to read and receive recognition for their reading accomplishments while they are on summer break. The summer reading

program is the precursor to the Parent Principal Night that scheduled July 27. For more information, call 876-7801 or 876-3704.

MWR auction

Morale Welfare and Recreation is hosting a summer-long eBay auction. For more information or to see items, visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Aeronautical university

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is now registering for the fall term, Aug. 7 to Oct. 8. Classes offered include Aviation/Aerospace Psychology; Theory and Application of Managerial Communication; Macroeconomics; Business Statistics; and System Safety Management. The Embry-Riddle Huntsville Center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in Aviation/Aerospace and Management fields; as well as certificate programs in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Industrial Management, Occupational Safety and Health, Aviation Safety, Space Studies, and coming soon – Project Management. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is Aug. 4. Call 876-9763, visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222; the web site at <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>; or e-mail the center at huntsville.center@erau.edu for more information. Appointments may also be made to receive a free unofficial

evaluation of transfer credit/credit for prior military service.

Master's in management

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is now offering a Master of Science in Management program on Redstone Arsenal. Students applying for admission to the Master of Science in Management may choose from specializations in Management of Integrated Logistics; Aviation/Aerospace Industrial Management; and a General Management Option. Courses are offered in nine-week terms and are available online as well. For more information visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222, or the web site at <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>.

Dance classes

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center is registering couples for Fox Trot and Rumba Classes now through Aug. 1. The registration fee is \$66. Classes will be held Thursdays, Aug. 3 through Sept. 7 from 7:30-9 p.m. For more information, call 876-4531.

Calhoun registration

Calhoun Community College's pre-registration for fall 2006 is Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fall term begins Aug. 18. For more information, call 876-7431 or visit the web site www.calhoun.edu.

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Campaign volunteers

Combined Federal Campaign office is looking for enthusiastic individuals with leadership and organizational abilities to be a part of its 2006 Loaned Executive program. CFC is the federal community's single, comprehensive charity drive designed to help others in their time of need. This year's campaign will run from Oct. 9 through Nov. 16. CFC needs special people to do a special job — bright, energetic people who have the ability to get the job done successfully. You must be able to attend a one week orientation in August and be able to volunteer up to 20 hours per week during the campaign period. If you are interested in participating in the LE program or would like more information, call the CFC office 842-1037.

Health center phones

On Sunday, July 23, Fox Army Health Center will experience a total telephone outage from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. If you dial the Fox number you will hear the message, "We are sorry but you have reached a number that is disconnected or is no longer in service." The pharmacy refill number will be unavailable all day. However, to reach an Advice Nurse you may dial direct 1-877-836-0640. The telephone system will return to normal after 5 p.m. "We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our patients," a prepared release said.

Parents meet principals

Join Child and Youth Services for its Parent/Principal Night July 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Diane Campbell Recreation Center. Local



Photo by Julie Frederick

Courtyard get-down

Members of the 82nd All-American Chorus entertain a crowd in the Sparkman Center courtyard July 12. The Soldiers impressed the crowd with a show that blended tight harmony, patriotic songs and slapstick shtick. The "All-American" chorus' show included the national anthem, "My Girl" by the Temptations, Darryl Worley's "Have You Forgotten," and, of course, the 82nd Airborne Song, "All-American Soldier." During the performance of Lee Greenwood's "Proud to be an American," almost the entire crowd was on its feet. The chorus was at Redstone as part of Armed Forces Celebration Week where it performed at the Concert in the Park at Ditto Landing and the Armed Forces Salute Luncheon at the Von Braun Center. Though its primary mission remains serving the Soldiers of the Army and Fort Bragg, its off-post performances continue to increase, so much in fact that it has become one of the Army's greatest recruiting tools.

school principals and administrators will be on hand to answer your questions. This event also culminates the Summer Reading Program; and students who participated in the program will be given awards. Families will have the chance to register for CYC programs. For more information, call 876-7801 or 876-3704.

Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation to be held Aug. 1 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths, and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. If you have already attended a Newcomers' Orientation or you were re-assigned to a new unit at Redstone Arsenal, disregard this notice. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

Broadway shows

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring discounted Season Tickets for the Broadway Theatre League's 2006-07 Season. The shows this season are Hairspray, Nov. 3-5; Cirque Jungle, Nov. 24-26; The Producers, Jan. 12-14; On Golden Pond, March 2-4; and Wonderful Town, March 30 to April 1. Discounted CWFC prices for season tickets are Orchestra, \$209; Orchestra II, \$199; Orchestra III, \$154; Loge, \$154; and Balcony, \$109. (The CWFC prices reflect a \$25 savings from the regular prices.) CWFC is also offering discounted tickets for the BTL Bill Cosby

Season Special, Feb. 11. Regular price is \$50; and the CWFC discounted price is \$45. In addition, the CWFC is offering discounted tickets for the BTL Family Fun Package which consists of the Peking Acrobats, Feb. 8, and The Spencers Theatre of Illusion, May 5. The discounted ticket prices for adults/students are Orchestra, \$42/\$24; Orchestra II, \$38/\$20; Orchestra III, \$26/\$10;

Loge, \$26/\$10; and Balcony, \$16/\$6. All tickets must be ordered and paid for by Aug. 11. Contact charles.urban@redstone.army.mil to reserve your tickets. Visit www.broadwaytheatreleague.org for additional show and seating information.

Baby shower

A baby shower for Master Sgt. Tuynuykua Jackson will be held Aug. 19 at 3 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Help celebrate the arrival of Prentice and Tuynuykua Jackson's first child — a boy. RSVP by Aug. 11 with Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon 876-8648.

Infant development

The Family Advocacy Program is the Redstone contact for referrals to the Parents as Teachers Program. A PAT certified parent educator translates scientific information on early brain development into specific and practical advice for parents that can encourage their children's language development, intellectual growth, social development and motor skills. The parent educator provides services in the home, completes screenings to evaluate a child's overall development and links the family to other community resources. The program is a free service and is open to families living on and off post that have children from prenatal and birth to age 5. For more information, call Virginia Dempsey of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Latin dance

SaborLatino invites you to "Friday Latin Fever" Friday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Home Port International Bar and Deli, 2007-L North Memorial Parkway. Disc jockey "DJ Ed" will introduce a Latin

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File photo

Product manager

Lt. Col. Anthony Brown has succeeded Lt. Col. Troy Trulock as the PAC-3 product manager after Trulock retired. Brown arrives in the Lower Tier Project Office following an assignment as mission director for Targets and Countermeasures Program Office, Missile Defense Agency. He has also served as program integrator, Ballistic Missile Defense System, Initial Defensive Operations Task Force, Missile Defense Agency. He and his wife, Penny, have three daughters, Kirtsen, Karimah and Kimberly.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Community service

Celebrating 40 years of Army Community Service on Redstone Arsenal are, from left, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski; Redstone Arsenal commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and his wife Becky; Marilyn Phillips, wife of Brig. Gen. Bill Phillips; and Sue Paddock, chief of Army Community Service. ACS celebrated its birthday on July 10 during Armed Forces Celebration Week with a reception and open house. ACS is a community-oriented social service program that improves the lives of Soldiers, DoD civilians and contractors, military retirees, and their families by developing and providing services and educational programs to meet individual and community needs on Redstone Arsenal. Redstone ACS was the first in the Army Materiel Command and Armywide to receive accreditation. ACS is located at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The phone number is 876-5397.

Rocket Announcements

ambiance of dancing with a Latin retro vibe and old school mix. Cover charge is \$5 for age 19 and up; you must have a valid picture ID. For information call hostess SaborLatino 783-5756.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for July include: unit — Bravo Company, building 3411. Area 1 — Staff Sgt. Thomas Anzo, 501 Walnut Circle. Area 2 — Sgt. 1st Class William Plummer, 1026 Buffington Road. Area 3 — Maj. Christine Hackett, 43 Ripley Drive. Area 4 — Staff Sgt. Jonathon Jumper, 666-A Dyer Circle. Area 4A — Sgt. 1st Class Robert Shallbetter, 601 Wesson Circle. Area 6 — Spc. Maria Schofield, 355 Crowell Circle. Area 10A — Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Wilks, 467-B Tripp Drive. Area 10B — Lt. Col. Brian Tachias, 486 Cooke Drive.

Musical celebration

Grace United Methodist Church will hold "The Grace Summer Soiree" Friday night at 7 at the church, 2113 Old Monrovia Road in Huntsville (off Highway 72 between Jeff Road and Providence Main Street). Instrumentalists and vocalists will perform a variety of musical styles at this free event. For more information, call the church office 430-0003.

Employment briefing

The Federal Employment Briefing is designed to give an understanding of the federal application process. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct this session July 27 from 9-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Topics will include veteran and military spouse preference, recruitment sources, Resumix procedures, candidate evaluation and referral lists. Call ACS 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

Babysitting class

Child and Youth Services will hold a Babysitting Class for Redstone community youth, ages 11-18, July 26-27 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Challenger Activity Center, building 1500. Participants are required to attend both days. This class will cover diapering, feeding, safety, first aid and emergency procedures. The \$15 fee covers the cost of the class book, materials and the American Red Cross certification card. The certification card will be mailed to the students after they have completed the course. Babysitting class participants must be registered in Child and Youth Services before attending class. To register for this class, stop by Central Enrollment Office at building 1500, Weeden Mountain Road; or for

more information, call 313-3735 or 313-3609.

Health center day

Fox Army Health Center will close at 11 a.m. July 28 to allow personnel to participate in the

annual Organization Day. Care advice will be available by calling the health center 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531. Fox has no emergency room or emergency medical services. Dial 911 to activate EMS.

Women's club coffee

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will start the new club year with its Activities Signup Coffee at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 8 in the Officers and Civilians Club ballroom. The club has

several organizations and vendors participating in this event, offering a variety of choices to keep its members busy and active during the coming year. For more information, call Sharon Samuelson 880-1594.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?												
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U	
AS OF 13 July 06																				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																				
SCBK06253546R	Mechanical Engr	19-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0830	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06253546DR	Mechanical Engr	19-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0830	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06400633	Computer Eng	19-Jul-06	USAASC	NH-0854	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X												
SCBK06281145R	Secretary (OA)	20-Jul-06	corp of Engrs Huntsville	GS-0318	6	6	31,834 - 41,383	X												
SCBK06403540	Logistics Mgmt Spec	20-Jul-06	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	X												
WTST06406566	Intelligence Spec (Operations)	20-Jul-06	SMDC	GG-0132	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06395633	Inventory Mgmt Spec	21-Jul-06	IMMC	GS-2010	11	11	52,355 - 68,066	X												
SCBK06390444	Engrng Tech	24-Jul-06	AMCOM	GS-0802	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	X	X											
SCBK06400597	General Engineer	24-Jul-06	USACTC	GS-0801	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X												
SCBK06361683	Program Analyst	24-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0343	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X												
SCBK06393028	Program Analyst	24-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr	NH-0343	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X											
SCBK06339996	Mgmt Analyst	24-Jul-06	AMC	GS-0343	9	9	43,271 - 56,258	X												
SCBK06409613	Accountant	24-Jul-06	SMDC	GS-0510	11	12	52,355 - 81,572	X												
SCBK06373704	Acquisition Spec	25-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0301	11	11	52,355 - 68,066	X	X											
SCBK06363477	Budget Analyst	26-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0560	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X	X						X	X				X
SCBK06390147	Mgmt Analyst	26-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0343	9	9	43,271 - 56,258	X	X											
SCBK06403133	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	26-Jul-06	AMC	GS-0301	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	X							X					X
SCBK06413536	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	26-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DK-0303	3	3	35,375 - 50,929	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06412238	Budget Analyst	27-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DE-0560	3	3	47,652 - 81,572	X	X											
WTST06406547	Security Spec	27-Jul-06	SMDC	GG-0080	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06355570	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	29-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06355570D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	29-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375740	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	Acq Ctr	NH-1102	4	4	88,178 - 134,838			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375740D	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	Acq Ctr	NH-1102	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375745	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	AMC	NH-1102	4	4	88,178 - 134,838			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375745D	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	AMC	NH-1102	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06415759	General Engr	11-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06415759D	General Engr	11-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV																				
SCBK06253546DR	Mechanical Engr	19-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0830	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST06406547	Security Spec	27-Jul-06	SMDC	GG-0080	13	13	74,621 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06355570D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	29-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375740D	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	Acq Ctr	NH-1102	14	15	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06375745D	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	AMC	NH-1102	14	15	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06415759D	General Engr	11-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

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

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

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